

Section on Mental Health

IN THIS ISSUE

1 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Teresa L. Scheid

2-5 ASA ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE OF MENTAL HEALTH SESSIONS

6-7 ANNOUNCEMENTS

7-10 PROFILES OF GRADUATE STUDENTS ON THE JOB MARKET

10-11 GRADUATE STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

11 MESSAGE FROM NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Richard E. Adams

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

While I will turn the reins of the Sociology of Mental Health Section to Ginnie Aldige Hiday at the close of our Section Business meeting on Monday August 12th, I will still need to write the annual report for the ASA in September. Let me give you a preview. It has been a mixed year for us. After years of relative financial stability, we actually went into the red in December. This was due to declines in book royalties and the student subsidy we were paying for the "Society and Mental Health" journal. Unfortunately we are no longer able to offer those subsidies. However, the journal is certainly at the cutting edge, and I am hopeful subscriptions will continue to grow. Encourage your students to continue to subscribe.

While we are again in the "black" I had hoped to start a separate fund from our royalties to pay for student section associated costs, but we would need a surplus of \$10,000.00. We've got a ways to go and I encourage you to use the Section sponsored books in your classes, even as optional readings.

Monday is clearly Mental Health Day at the ASAs. We start at 8:30am with the roundtables, and the Business meeting and Awards Ceremony is at 9:30am. We have three excellent sessions with a break for lunch, and the reception to follow at 6:30pm. Also look for the Medical Sociology session on the DSM-V; we are co-sponsors. I have been reading "Saving Normal" by Allen Frances (Chair of the DSM IV Task Force) and it's really well written and interesting in its critique of the expansion of psychiatric diagnosis and medicalization.

Finally, if you don't know me, do introduce yourself as that is the reason we come to these meetings - to meet new and old friends and learn about the research advances in our field. See you in New York.



Teresa Scheid,
Professor
UNC-Charlotte

ASA Mental Health Sessions**Business meeting Monday Aug 12th 9:30 after Roundtable session****23. Regular Session: Mental Health 1**

Time: Saturday, Aug 10th 8:30 -10:10 am

Session Organizer: Alex E. Bierman, University of Calgary

Presider: Alex E. Bierman, University of Calgary

Overeducation and mental health: employee level and labour market level effects. Piet Bracke, Ghent University, Vera van de Straat, Ghent University, Sarah Missinne, Ghent University, Elise Pattyn, Ghent University

Country of Origin, Time, and the Stress Process: The Mental Health Adjustment of Immigrants to Canada. Shirin Montazer, Brock University

The Impact of Community Resource Availability on Work-Family Conflict and its Mental Health Consequences. Marisa Christine Young, McMaster University, Blair Wheaton, University of Toronto

Please Call Me Back: Race and Class Disparities in Access to Mental Health Care. Heather Kugelmass, Princeton University

Discussant: Alex E. Bierman, University of Calgary

55. Regular Session: Mental Health 2

Time: Saturday, Aug 10th 10:30 am-12:10pm

Session Organizer: Alex E. Bierman, University of Calgary

Presider: Alex E. Bierman, University of Calgary

Poverty, Financial Strain, and Adolescent Mental Health: Exploring Sensitive Periods and Chains of Risk. Michael Jason McFarland, Princeton University

Parents' education and the risk of major depression in early adulthood. Amelie Quesnel-Vallee, McGill University, Alison Park, INSPQ, Rebecca Fuhrer, McGill University

The Relationship between Perceived Control and Distress in the Context of Job Insecurity. Paul Glavin, McMaster University

Chronic Conditions and Distress within Marriage: A Dyadic Approach. Mieke Beth Thomeer, University of Texas-Austin

Discussant: Jessica A. Kelley-Moore, Case Western Reserve University

356. Sociology of Mental Health- Race and Place: Consequences for Mental Health

Time: Monday, Aug 12th 10:30am-12:10pm

Session Organizer: Jack K. Martin, Indiana University

Depression at the Intersection of Gender, Race and Education: Evidence of Triple Jeopardy in Minnesota. Sirry Alang, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Donna D. McAlpine, University of Minnesota

Filipino American Psychological Distress: Structure, Culture, and Mental Health in Hawaii and California. Leighton Kenji Vila, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Michael Hughes, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Home Ownership and Health among African Americans: The Moderating Role of Household Income and Neighborhood Characteristics. Susan Roxburgh, Kent State University

Discussant: Pamela Braboy Jackson Indiana University

396. Section on Sociology of Mental Health Paper Session. Public Sector Mental Health: Policy, Services, and Research

Time: Monday, August 12th 2:30-4:10pm

Session Organizer: Teresa L. Scheid, University of North Carolina-Charlotte

Presider: Teresa L. Scheid, University of North Carolina-Charlotte

An Organizational Analysis of Homeless Services: The cultivation of additional stigmas. Curtis Smith, University of Texas-El Paso; Ernesto Castaneda, University of Texas-El Paso

Bureaucracy and Classification Challenges: Veterans' Disability Claims for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. Mollie K. Rubin, Vanderbilt University

The Contested and Evolving Idea of Recovery: The Intellectual Field. Ann L. McCranie, Indiana University at Bloomington
The Right Person for the Job: Institutional Fragmentation in Staffing Public Mental Health Services. Kerry Michael Dobransky, James Madison University
Discussant: Marian L. Katz, University of California-Los Angeles

428. Sociology of Mental Health-Social Support, Social Networks, and Social Capital: New Directions for Research

Time: Monday, Aug 12th 4:30-6:10pm

Session Organizer: Helen Rosenberg, University of Wisconsin-Parkside

Racial Inequalities in Marriage Outcomes for Single Mothers. Maja Francisca Falcon, Stanford University

Racial and Ethnic Variation of Family Social Support's Main Effects in a Physically Disabled Population. Peter Vielehr, Vanderbilt University

Mental healthcare use among recently cohabiting and newlywed couples: the role of social control. Elien Colman, Ghent University

Socio-demographic Differentiation of Social Support in South Korea. Sinn Won Han, Korea University

The Bright Side of Positive Perceptual Bias: Children's Estimations of Network Centrality and Aggression. Jennifer Watling Neal, Michigan State University, Elise Cappella, New York University

319. Section on Sociology of Mental Health Roundtable Session (one-hour).

Time: Monday, Aug 12th 8:30-9:30am

Session Organizers: Teresa L. Scheid, University of North Carolina-Charlotte Dawne M. Mouzon, State University of New Jersey-Rutgers

Table 01. Race, Ethnicity, and Mental Health
 Table Presider: Elbert P. Almazan, Central Michigan University

Discrimination, Racial Group Identity and Depressive Symptoms: Consequences of Within Group Variation among Black Americans. Erika Leslie, Vanderbilt University

Does Social Support Buffer the Stress of Discrimination among Latinos and Asian Americans? Krysia Mossakowski, University of Hawaii-Manoa; Wei Zhang, University of Hawaii-Manoa

Examining the Utility of the Stress Process Model Among Young Adult African Americans. Taylor Hargrove, Vanderbilt University

Physical-Psychiatric Health Comorbidity: Exploring Differences across Race, Ethnicity, and Immigrant Status. Christy LaShaun Erving, Indiana University-Bloomington

You Just Don't Understand Me: Family Context and Language Proficiency Determinants of 2nd Generation Self-Esteem. Emerald Thai Han Nguyen, University of California-Davis

Table 02. Gender, Family, & Mental Health
 Table Presider: Gail Wallace, University of Alabama-Birmingham

Gender Differences in Neighborhood Effects on Depressive Symptoms: U.S. Adults Over Age 50. Eliva Ambugo, State University of New Jersey-Rutgers; Carol S. Aneshensel, University of California-Los Angeles; Richard G. Wight, University of California-Los Angeles

Gender and Mental Health Revisited: A Critical Analysis of Three Propositions. Terrence D. Hill, Florida State University; Belinda L. Needham, University of Michigan

Gender and the Importance of Close Friendship for Life Satisfaction and Happiness. Brian Joseph Gillespie, University of California-Irvine; Janet Lever, ; Tracy Royce, University of California-Santa Barbara; David Frederick, Chapman University

Idealized Motherhood and Constrained Motherhood: The Class Dimensions of Perinatal Mood Disorders. Carrie L. Wendel-Hummell, University of Kansas

Mental healthcare use among single parents: the role of work-family conflict, social support and conflicts. Elien Colman, Ghent University

Table 03. Masculinity, Femininity, and Mental Health

Table Presider: *Alexander Lu*, Indiana University

Men's depression as a public health issue: In search for gender equality? Elianne K. Riska, University of Helsinki

Playing Like a Girl. Sarah Jean Hatteberg, Indiana University

The Effects of Masculinity on the Rates of Gendered Self-Harm Engagement. Frank Deryck, University of Portland

Real Men Don't Cry: Masculinity, Mental Health, and the Illness Experience of Men. Danielle Nicole Bernat, Case Western Reserve University

Table 04. The Mental Health Consequences of Economic Transformation

Table Presider: Donna D. McAlpine, University of Minnesota

Debt, Sense of Entitlement and Reasons for Consumption: Effects on Depression.

Patricia Drentea, University of Alabama-Birmingham; Lingfei Guo, University of Alabama-Birmingham

Middle-Class Woe, Working-Class Pain?

Job Insecurity, Social Class, and Workers' Well-Being around 'The Great Recession'.

Jack Lam, University of Minnesota; Wen Fan, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; Phyllis Moen, University of Minnesota

The Great Recession and Mental Health: Protective Effects of Individual Coping versus Collective Political Engagement.

Judith A. Richman, University of Illinois-Chicago; Robyn Lewis Brown, DePaul University; Kathleen M. Rospenda, University of Illinois-Chicago

Losing a Home to Mortgage Foreclosure: Chronic Stress as a Persistent Social Problem. Ariane I. Prohaska, University of Alabama; Bronwen Lichtenstein, University of Alabama

Mental Health in the Foreclosure Crisis.

Jason N. Houle, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Table 05. Marriage and Relationships: Consequences for Mental Health

Table Presider: Marieke M. Van Willigen, East Carolina University

A Life Course Investigation of Differences in Psychological Distress of Mothers by

Family Structure Trajectories. *Jason Novick*, University of Calgary

Associations between Romantic Relationships, Relationship Quality, and Mental Health among African American Young Adults. Ellen M. Granberg, Clemson University; Ronald L. Simons, Arizona State University; Mary Elizabeth Bond Edmond, University of Georgia

Depression as an emerging property of couples' triadic relationship. Yoosik Youm, Yonsei University, South Korea; Jina Lee, Yonsei University, South Korea

The Association between Marital Status and Mental Health: Variation across Age Groups and Psychological Well-being. TzeLi Hsu, FloridaState University

Ties received, support perceived: An examination of the relationships among support, networks, and mental health.

Matthew K. Grace, Indiana University; Jane Schlapkohl VanHeuvelen, Indiana University

Table 06. Sociological Analyses of Mental Health Conditions

Table Presider: Claudia Kowalchuk

Performance of Health Fears: Towards Interdisciplinary Theoretical Integration of Living with Hypochondria. Isabelle Christine Beulaygue, University of Miami; Linda Liska Belgrave, University of Miami

Social Attachment, Health, and Well-Being in a Rural Youth Sample: The Role of Personal Mastery.

Karen T Van Gundy, University of New Hampshire; Meghan L. Mills, The University of New Hampshire; Michael Staunton, University of New Hampshire; Cesar Rebellon, University of New Hampshire; Erin Hiley Sharp, University of New Hampshire; Corinna Jenkins Tucker, University of New Hampshire

Stigma, Self-Concept and Stigma Resistance among Individuals with Mental Illness.

Natalie Bonfine, Northeast Ohio Medical University

Symbolic Interaction and the Experience of Social Anxiety among Young Adults.

Brian Christopher Kelly, Purdue University

Table 07. Considerations of the Social Causes of Suicide

Table Presider: Colwick Mervyn Wilson, Loma Linda University

Social Cohesion and Suicide in Global Contexts: A Multilevel Analysis. Ning Hsieh, University of Pennsylvania

Suicidal Behavior during Economic Hard Times: Qualitative Analysis of Narrative Data. Marta Elliott, University of Nevada-Reno; Barbara Kohlenberg, University of Nevada; Dara Elizabeth Naphan, University of Nevada-Reno

The Trend of Suicide Rate Changes between 2002 and 2011 in China. Jie Zhang, State University of New York-Buffalo

Table 08. Sociological Analyses of ADHD and OCD

Table Presider: Richard Adams, Kent State University

Non-Medical ADHD Stimulant Use & High-Stakes Testing. Iris Chan, Yale University; Marissa King,

Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder in the Media. Dana Fennell, University of Southern Mississippi

Re-thinking black-white differences in parental reports of ADHD. Jessica L. Streeter, State University of New Jersey-Rutgers

Table 09. Immigration and Mental Health

Table Presider: Owen Whooley, University of New Mexico

Immigrant Generation Differences in Mental Health among Latinos and Asian Americans. Anastasia S. Vogt Yuan, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

The Psychological Well-being of Undocumented Mexican Young Adults. Deisy Del Real, University of California-Los Angeles

Immigration Status and Children's Mental Health. Julia Gelatt, Princeton University

Neighborhood Social Cohesion, Disorder and Psychological Distress among Legal and Unauthorized Brazilians. Louisa M. Holmes, University of Southern California; Enrico A. Marcelli, San Diego State University

Navigating the Therapeutic Landscape of Rural Kenya: social capital and responses to depression among women. Erin Peacock,

Table 10. Consultation and Diagnosis of Mental Health Conditions

Table Presider: Adam T. Perzynski, Case Western Reserve University

A Sociological Consideration of Hoarding Behavior. Megan Kathleen Shaeffer, Kent State University

Centering the Process: Deconstructing Psychiatric Diagnostic Procedures. Courtney A. Cuthbertson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Medical shaping of age related expectations. An ethnographic comparison between geriatric and adolescent psychiatric consultations. Baptiste Brossard, Centre Maurice Halbwachs

Understanding Harm Reduction: Service Provider Perspectives and Their Implications for Service Delivery. Marian L. Katz, University of California-Los Angeles

Co-Sponsored Paper Session

202. Sociological Perspectives on the DSM-5

Time: Sunday, Aug 11th 10:30am-12:10pm

Session Organizer: Owen Whooley, University of New Mexico

Presider: Kristin Kay Barker, University of New Mexico

Categorical Reflections: The Implications of the DSM-5 for the Sociology of Mental Health. Owen Whooley, University of New Mexico

Diagnostic Domain Defense and the DSM-5: The Case of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Kristin Kay Barker, University of New Mexico, Tasha Randall Galardi, Oregon State University

From Sickness to Badness: The De Facto Demedicalization of Borderline Personality Disorder. Sandra Sulzer

Putting "Culture" in its Place: The Cultural Formulation Interview in the DSM-5. Lauren Olsen, University of California-San Diego

Discussant: Michael First, Columbia University

**Please Encourage
Membership in our Section!**

Mental Health Sessions at SSSP

SSSP Annual Meeting, August 9-11, The Westin New York at Times Square.

Friday August 9th

Session 12: **Family Dynamics and Mental Health**

Session 22, 12:30-2:10pm: **Space Place and Mental Health in Reimagined Institutional Settings**

4:30-6:10pm, Divisional Meeting and Awards

Saturday August 10th

Session 51, 10:30am-12:10pm: **Critical Dialogue: Stress, Coping, and Mental Health Disparities**

Session 73, 12:30-2:10pm: **Social Forces and Mental Health**

Session 94, 4:30-6:10pm: **The Social Construction of Veterans with Mental Health Issues**

Sunday August 11th

Session 113, 8:30-10:10am: **Moving the Conversation forward on Trauma, Lifecourse Development, Delinquency and Crime**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Books

William C. Cockerham's *Sociology of Mental Disorder* has just been published in a new 13th edition by Pearson Prentice-Hall. It includes discussion of DSM-5.

Liah Greenfeld, (2013) *Mind, Modernity, Madness: The Impact of Culture on Human Experience*, Harvard University Press.

Awards:

Peggy Thoits is the 2013 James R. Greenley Award for distinguished contributions to the sociology of mental health given by the Society and Mental Health Division of the SSSP. With this award, the Division seeks to recognize individuals who have distinguished careers and made a significant impact on the field through their scholarship, teaching, and community involvement.

Caitlin Patler (PhD Candidate, UCLA Department of Sociology) was awarded a Community Action Research Award from the ASA Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy for her project "Assessing the Educational and Economic Trajectories, Civic Engagement, and Health Status of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program Applicants." This is a collaborative project with Dream Team Los Angeles.

Dr Martyn Pickersgill, a medical sociologist at the University of Edinburgh, has been awarded funds from the Leverhulme Trust for a two-year project on 'Neuroscience and Family Life: The Brain in Policy and Everyday Practice'. This research, integrating medical sociology, family sociology, and science & technology studies, will investigate the extent to which specific policies (and the services they drive) - relating to the early years, adolescence, and older adulthood - use neuroscientific ideas and/or concepts in policy documents, guidelines for practice, and in existing or proposed services. It will then, using family interviews, analyse how the individuals/family groups who figure within these discourses and/or are targeted by related services understand and engage with neuroscientific evidence and concepts. In so doing, the research will render into sharp relief the complex and multifaceted ways in which neuroscience is translated into policies and services, and shapes family life.

Other News of Interest to Section Members

Beginning August 16, Shelia Cotten will be a Professor in the Department of Telecommunication, Information Studies, and Media (TISM) at Michigan State University

A paper by Stacy Marlana Torres, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at New York University, "Where Everybody May Not Know Your Name: The Importance of Elastic Ties," received graduate student paper awards from the ASA sections on Aging and the Life Course and the section on Community and Urban Sociology

Papers sought For Research Annual, Research in the Sociology of Health Care published by Emerald Press

Volume 32: Papers dealing with macro-level system issues and micro-level issues involving technology, communication, disparities and government options linked to health and health care are sought. This includes examination of health and health care issues of patients or of providers of care especially those related to technology, communication, disparities and government options. 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 40 pages in length. Send completed manuscripts or close to completed papers for review by February 3, 2014. For an initial indication of interest in outlines or abstracts, please contact the same address by January 7th, 2014. Send to: Jennie Jacobs Kronenfeld, Sociology Program, Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics, Box 873701, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-3701 (phone 480 965-8053; E-mail, Jennie.Kronenfeld@asu.edu). Initial inquiries by email are encouraged and can occur as soon as this announcement is available.

Graduate Students on the Market



**Lauren Michelle
Kaplan, Ph.D.**

Goethe-Universität
Department of
Sociology

laurenkaplan@stud
.uni-frankfurt.de

My work focuses on a range of research topics within the areas of medical sociology and criminology. Using different research methodologies, I have worked on projects on domestic violence and child abuse, homicide, drug use, mental health, and health. My

experience working in an interdisciplinary context on a national and international level has further deepened my interest in interdisciplinary and mixed methods research. My dissertation is a transcontinental comparison of people living with HIV in Frankfurt, Germany and in Miami, the United States of America. The experience of establishing a research base in Frankfurt, designing, and conducting interviews on-site at an international health center have been invaluable in developing my skills at research design, implementation, and analysis.

I have applied a range of methodological approaches. My first project, a mixed method analysis of turning points and spiritual transformations among people living with HIV was published in *AIDS Care*. I am proficient in HLM and in growth curve analysis which I continue to apply in my current work as a research consultant with the University of Miami. I manage and analyze data collected over a 10 year period for this project which includes biomarkers of immune function, disease progression, and stress. I linked this data to the US census to create measures of neighborhood disorder in order to predict health trajectories using neighborhood conditions and biomarkers of stress. In my work on race/ethnicity and immigration, I worked with the US census, toxicology reports, medical examiner reports, and homicide logs. I have worked with other national and regional survey data on research focusing on stigma and mental illness, interpersonal violence and its relationship with psychosocial resources, mental health, health outcomes, and alcohol use. I have utilized a range of analytical tools in these research projects such as structural equation modeling and multi-level modeling.

To further develop my qualitative methodological skills, I transferred from the University of Miami to Goethe-University in Frankfurt, Germany. I gained the invaluable experience of learning the biographical method in my analysis of interviews in the US and in Germany. This training strengthened my ability to work qualitatively and to work independently as I designed, initiated, and

managed my work which focuses on the German and American health care systems and patients' adjustment to HIV. My research using the biographical method in comparative perspective focuses on the development of approaches to prevent negative physical and mental health outcomes.



**Christy L.
Erving**

Indiana
University,
Bloomington

cerving@indiana.
edu

Title of Dissertation: Physical-Psychiatric Comorbidity: Patterns, Mechanisms, and Theoretical Explanations of Racial Health Disparities

Christy L. Erving is a Ph.D. candidate in Sociology at Indiana University, and a Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellow. Her research is focused on the following substantive areas: mental health, medical sociology, race/ethnicity/immigration, and social psychology. She specifically examines the social factors that produce and maintain disparities in health, with a focus on how race, ethnicity, immigrant status, and gender impinge upon physical and psychological well-being. She has received extensive training in research methods at Indiana University as well as supplemental training through the Summer Program in Quantitative Methods at the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) and an internship at National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at University of Chicago. She has also received training in qualitative methods through serving as a research assistant for a mixed methods study with Dr. Peggy Thoits.

Her dissertation, *Physical-Psychiatric Comorbidity: Patterns, Mechanisms, and Theoretical Explanations of Racial Health Disparities*, investigates racial, ethnic, and

nativity distinctions in comorbidity, or the co-occurrence of physical and mental health problems. She addresses the following research questions: (1) what are the patterns of comorbid health across racial, ethnic, and nativity groups; (2) what social factors predict the most prevalent forms of comorbidity; and (3) do physical-psychiatric comorbidity patterns map onto theories of racial inequality? Data are drawn from National Comorbidity Survey-Replication (NCS-R), National Latino and Asian American Survey (NLAAS), and National Survey of American Life (NSAL). Her dissertation work contributes to the growing body of literature on comorbid health by offering a sociological perspective, and has implications for meeting the needs of the racially and ethnically diverse US population in formal systems of health care.

Christy's work has been or will soon be published in *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Handbook of the Social Psychology of Inequality*, *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior, and Society*, and *GPS for Graduate School: Students Share Their Stories*. She has received paper awards from the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Association of Black Sociologists, North Central Sociological Association, and the Indiana University Sociology Department.

Christy has taught Sociology of Mental Illness at Indiana University, served as a graduate assistant for Social Problems and Policy, and mentored undergraduate students through the McNair Scholars Program. Beyond the classroom, she has served on department committees, participated in student campus organizations, and volunteered at a local high school in Bloomington.



**Michael J.
McFarland, PhD**
Postdoctoral Fellow
Center for Research on
Child Wellbeing and
Office of Population
Research

mjm11@princeton.edu

Dissertation: "Poverty and the Early-Life Origins of Mental Health: A Biosocial Perspective"

Michael McFarland is a National Institute of Child and Human Development Postdoctoral Fellow at the Bendheim-Thoman Center for Research on Child Wellbeing and Office of Population Research at Princeton University. His work focuses on the intergenerational and multigenerational origins of mental and physical health. The early life course is a key component of this agenda and ranges from pre-birth to adolescence including socially and developmentally sensitive periods such as infancy. Accordingly, Michael's work pays careful attention to issues of timing, exposures, and shared lives. He is currently engaged in several studies focused on the inter- and multigenerational impact of poverty for infant health, child behaviors, child cognitive skills, and adolescent health. Michael's work highlights the importance of biosocial interplay for understand the early-life origins of health and wellbeing. For example, one study introduces and tests an early-life origins of family-stress framework and shows that poverty experienced in infancy and early childhood has lasting effects on adolescent mental health that operate via a series of chains of risk. This study has strong policy implications as it identifies windows of vulnerability and the corresponding pathways by which these early-life experiences operate. He is also interested in life course processes more broadly and their relationship with health throughout adulthood. His articles have been published or are forthcoming in several outlets including: *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, *Social Science Research*, and *Society and Mental Health*, among others.

Michael grew up in Arizona and graduated from Arizona State University with a B.S.E in mechanical engineering. He earned his Ph.D. in sociology in conjunction with the Population Research Center and a portfolio in applied statistics through the Division of Statistics and Scientific Computation from the University of Texas at Austin. Michael has taught undergraduate quantitative methods as well as

algebra at the Garden State Youth Correctional Facility through the Princeton Prison Initiative.



David A. Skubby,
Ph.D.
University of Akron,
Postdoctoral Fellow,
Northeast Ohio College
of Medicine

dskubby@neomed.edu

I recently completed the doctoral program in sociology at the University of Akron, graduating in May, 2012. As a graduate student, my primary scholarly interests were in the areas of medical sociology, the sociology of mental health and illness, and the family. In addition, I taught numerous sections in *Introduction to Sociology*, three sections in *Sociological Theory*, and a course entitled *Autism and Society*, which I developed. Finally, I was an active AKD member, serving one year as President of the Akron Chapter, and helping to raise a record amount of donations to the local women and children's shelter.

Currently, I am beginning my second year of a two year post-doctoral research associate position in the Psychiatry Department at the Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED). I am a team member on three different projects that are presently: 1) Interviewing family members of young individuals in the early stages of schizophrenia about their experiences finding medical treatment for their child; 2) Investigating the incidence of First Episode Psychosis (FEP) across the state of Ohio, and evaluating an innovative program that treats those with FEP; 3) Researching the course of psychosis through reviews of the literature.

Dissertation: Entitled *A History of Medical Practices in the Case of Autism: A Foucauldian Perspective Using Archaeology and Genealogy*, I described, and analyzed medical documents to reveal how psychiatric discourse and scientific power produced what we know, or what we think we know, about autism in the present day. I show that this truth of autism

was not produced by a progression of objective clinical studies, but rather through a sudden shift from psychoanalytic thought in psychiatric medicine to behaviorism. I conclude by suggesting that theories of medicalization should be broadened to include Foucault's notions of discourse and power.

GRADUATE STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

Developing an Academic Plan for the Semester

Christy L. Erving and Amy Irby-Shasanmi

The summer is coming to an end and upon most of us loom many new and ongoing tasks to complete such as, creating syllabi, coding data, and reviewing materials for prospective job applicants. Though we haven't completely figured it out ourselves, here are some tips that we've found useful for creating an academic plan to accomplish research, teaching, and service tasks:

Before the semester

1. List all your research, teaching, and service tasks for the semester. For example, one might have the following responsibilities as a graduate student:
 - Prepare two lectures each week
 - Data collection for dissertation: Conduct 15 interviews
 - Transcribe 15 interviews
 - Analyze data for research project
 - Rewrite draft of a paper
 - Send paper to a peer-reviewed journal
 - Prepare a research presentation for an upcoming conference
 - Set a time each day to write (minimum, 30 to 60 min)
 - Attend graduate student association meeting each week
2. Arrange tasks by month, (put things with deadlines on the calendar first).
3. Next, place each task into a designated month and assign a week for them to be initiated.
4. After developing a weekly plan, review what you can do, delete, defer, and

delegate. Prepare to place deferred items on next semester's calendar.

Once the semester starts--Implement

Arrange the above tasks by the hour each week. We use Google calendar because it allows us to schedule time by month, week, day, and specific hours of the day. On Sunday, we both plan out our week, schedule in meetings, teaching, and research tasks. Every hour of the workday is largely accounted for. Amy, personally, does leave 30 minutes blocks open between some tasks to address issues that might arise impromptu, to grab a cup of tea, or to work a bit longer on a task. Overall, sticking to the plan is most important, but maintaining flexibility is key.

Challenges to implementing the semester plan

Amy: For me, as it relates to implementing the semester plan my biggest distraction is my cellphone. For others it might be Facebook, YouTube, or Google Scholar (for the purpose of reading one more article before writing). This year, I intend to turn off my cell phone for 30 to 60 minutes during my most crucial time--writing--when self-distractions are most likely to occur. There are programs available that help you to stay productive or like me you can implement your own strategies.

Christy: For me, I've struggled with spending too much time on one task while neglecting other aspects of my to-do list. For example, the first time I taught a sociology course as an independent instructor, I spent much of the week preparing for class. This summer, I've learned to set aside an amount of time for teaching-related tasks. After devoting my full attention to it during that time period, I move to another task on my to-do list for the day.

In sum, many of our ideas have been inspired by Dr. Kerry Ann Rockquemore and Dr. Tanya Golash-Boza. For more information about these scholars, see their websites: <http://getalifephd.blogspot.com/> and http://www.facultydiversity.org/?About_Us.



About the authors: Amy Irby-Shasanmi and Christy L. Erving are Ph.D. candidates in the Department of Sociology at Indiana University, Bloomington. Amy's research and teaching interests are in the areas of medical sociology, mental health, race/ethnicity, and aging/life course. Christy's research and teaching interests are in medical sociology, mental health, race/ethnicity, and immigration.

MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I want to remind everyone that I am always interested in ideas that you have which will improve either the Section's newsletter or website. In this edition of the newsletter, there is a listing for all of the ASA sessions for our section and information on mental health related sessions at the Society for the Study of Social Problems, a Graduate Student Perspectives article and profiles on several graduate students, or recent graduates, who are on the job market this coming year. I want to than thank them for their submissions.

Please take a moment to visit the Section's website. If we have missed your department in our listings of those with a mental health specialization, or if you see other problems with the website, please send me an email and I'll correct the issue as soon as possible. Struther and I are still working to add datasets to the Resources directory that might be of interest to sociologists of mental health and illness. Please send me links to datasets that should be included on the webpage. Finally, I'm still looking for submissions about works in progress, preliminary findings, new or emerging research problems, links to publically available data, emerging issues with Institutional Review Boards, or other topics of interest to members issues. We ask that you

keep submissions brief (no more than 500 words).

Finally, since I have the room, here is a list of possible contributions for future newsletters:

- Upcoming conferences, calls for papers, special issues of journals or grant opportunities.
- Reviews of conferences that would be of interest to section members.
- Newly published books by section members. Please include publication date and publisher information.
- Graduate students who are currently on the market and would like to be profiled (self-nominations are welcome). Please send your picture, title of your dissertation, email address, affiliation, and a brief statement of your work (200-300 words).
- Congratulatory information about section members (e.g., promotions, new jobs, awards, honors, grants).
- Recommendations for classic or new works that should be in the personal library of researchers interested in the sociology of mental illness. We welcome suggestions for titles of your own works or those of others, along with a few sentences about why you view the book as essential or how it has been useful to you.
- 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.
- Other items of relevance to section members

Thanks to everyone for their contributions to this issue and see you in New York City.

SMH

Society and Mental Health

The Journal of the ASA Section on the Sociology of Mental Health

Editor William R. Avison, The University of Western Ontario
Deputy Editors Carol S. Aneshensel, UCLA; Carol A. Boyer, Rutgers University; Scott Schieman, University of Toronto
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, contact:

William R. Avison, Editor
Society and Mental Health
Aging & Health Research Centre
Department of Sociology
The University of Western Ontario
Telephone: (519) 661-2111 Ex. 84717
e-mail: smhasa@uwo.ca



Richard E. Adams
Newsletter Editor

Struther Van Horn
Graduate Student Editor

AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Section on Mental Health

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Richard E. Adams

Kent State University

Editor

radams12@kent.edu

Struther Van Horn

Kent State University

Student Editor

svanhor2@kent.edu

SECTION OFFICERS

Teresa L. Scheid

University of North

Carolina, Charlotte

Chair

tlscheid@uncc.edu

Kristen Marcussen

Kent State University

Secretary-Treasurer

kmarcuss@kent.edu

Virginia Aldige Hiday

University of North

Carolina,

Chapel Hill

Chair-Elect

ginnie_aldige@ncsu.edu

Michael Hughes

Virginia Tech University

Past Chair

mdh@vt.edu

