

# *Field Notes*

A newsletter of the Sociology and Anthropology Department, Middlebury College

Summer 2014

Number 10

Editor: **Michael Sheridan**



*SOAN grads at 2014 commencement*

Front row: Caroline Roos, Feliz Baca, Sade Williams, Janey Ames, Sarah Marcus, Toby Israel, Vince Mariano

Second row: Luke Brown, Anna Mack, Anna Flinchbaugh, Cooper Redpath, Jiayi Zhu, Molly Benedetto, Grace Wildermuth, Emily Bensen, Callie Bullion

## *Letter from the Chair*

We enjoyed another full year in the Sociology/Anthropology department. As always, the most important news comes from our students, who continue to live and learn at exceptional levels. Our graduating seniors impressed with their work in our

classes and in their senior work research projects. Speaking for all the members of the department, it is the wonderful students and teaching experiences that make it so special to be faculty at this college in this department. Alas, we have only two awards to give, not enough to recognize all the achievements of our students. In the end, after much (sometimes heated!)



debate, we selected two very worthy recipients. **Luke Brown** received the **Blum & Company, Inc. Award**, which is awarded to a graduating senior in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology for high academic achievement or leadership in student and community activities. A fixture in all our classes (he took 19 SOAN courses!), as well as at the White House, Luke was also extremely active on campus,



*Prize-winners and senior project advisors*

helping start the “It Can Happen Here” campaign to fight sexual violence on campus. We split the **Lank Prize in Sociology and Anthropology**, awarded to a graduating senior in the department for academic excellence and contributions to international understanding, between **Anna Mack** and **Cailey Cron**. Anna worked on disability rights in China and recently won a Fulbright to return to China and continue her research. Cailey wrote her thesis on the changing forms of Arabic in computer-mediated communication, presenting her work at the national linguistics conference. Whether you won award or not, we are proud of all our majors and minors, and wish them the best of luck with whatever they chose to do next with their lives.

Department life was busy behind the scenes. We welcomed (maybe a better word would be tolerated) a new chair this year, who helped (along with everyone else in the department) smooth the transition to significant changes in the major. This year we instituted the tracks system, which allows for students to decide whether they want to specialize in either anthropology or sociology within the SOAN major. As with any new program, there were a few growing pains, but overall, students and faculty are excited about the new opportunities to explore more deeply one of the disciplines. Of course, we continue to offer the original interdisciplinary option, for those who want the best of both worlds.

As we are prone to do, faculty members racked up accomplishments over the course of the year. **Jamie McCallum** passed his pre-tenure review, in addition to publishing his first book (which has already started to receive awards). **Peggy Nelson** showed that even though she is on associate status, she is far from retiring, as she is very active with a research project on the making of new families through gamete donation. In addition, **Michael Sheridan**, **Jamie McCallum**, and **Laurie Essig**, won important grants to develop their research.

It was a year of comings and goings. Our newest department member, **Marybeth Nevins**, is a linguistic anthropologist. Immediately upon arriving at Middlebury, she started making contributions to both SOAN and the burgeoning linguistics program on campus. She introduced new courses, “Language and the Environment” and “Native North America,” took over the course “Language and Power,” and taught the intro course for the linguistics sequence, “Language, Culture, and Society.” Marybeth is committed to carving out a space for linguistic anthropology on campus, through nurturing and creating student interest. The first year proved the viability of such a goal, and with her tireless efforts, we expect the interest to continue to grow with time.



We also had the pleasure of hosting a temporary visitor to the department. **Ilgin Yorukoglu** (left) received her PhD in Sociology from the Graduate Center at CUNY, and joined us this spring to teach two courses, “Deviance and Social Control” and “Sociology of Culture.” Students and faculty alike appreciate all she provided during her brief stay, and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

We also bid farewell to **Laurie Essig**, who has been with the department since 2006. She has chosen to devote her full attention to developing the Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies program. Laurie has been a towering presence in the department since the first day she set foot on campus, and her departure is significant and will be felt by all.

**Linus Owens**  
Chair 2013-2014

## *Faculty and Staff Updates*

### **Svea Closser**

I'm currently working on an NSF-funded research project in Ethiopia, learning about their new Community Health Worker program. While I've studied Community Health Worker programs in other places, getting to know Ethiopia has been fascinating. I'm fortunate to be working with experienced collaborators at Oregon State University and Addis Ababa University on this project. I'm also lucky to have talented undergraduate students working on the project as well; I'm looking forward to bringing some of those students to Ethiopia in the summer of 2015. I'm also still studying the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. I just finished a piece about the reasons people refuse polio vaccines, drawing on a project where we conducted fieldwork at eight sites across South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Also, with the help of two Urdu-speaking students who are doing an amazing job working through many hours of interview tapes, I'm writing an article about the current situation in Pakistan.

### **James Fitzsimmons**

It's been a busy year. I've been putting the finishing touches on two edited volumes, one on the Andes and another on Maya political units; both are currently in press and expected out next year. I've settled on a new site for an archaeological project, this time in Belize. The site is called Cuello, and it is one of the oldest—if not the oldest—village center in the Maya area. The department has also purchased all sorts of things for the archaeology lab, from hominin replicas to stone tools, so I look forward to sharing these goodies with students this coming academic year. Perhaps the biggest change, however, has been on a more personal note: my wife and I adopted a baby girl, Ella, who spent the last couple of weeks of the Spring semester auditioning for the title of cutest baby in the Munroe basement! I think she just might have won.



*Ella Bennette-Fitzsimmons*

### **Chong-Suk Han**

It's been a great sabbatical, although I began missing Middlebury towards the end of the Spring semester so I'm looking forward to getting back, 18 months is a long time to be away from my office. And anyone who has been there knows that I keep all of my knick-knacks from my various travels to flea markets and thrift shops there. I managed to get the absolutely final version (who knew there would be three "final" versions?) of my book to NYU Press and it has now gone into production! I also began work on my second book and managed to get three manuscripts out for review during my leave, so I'm feeling a little accomplished. During my leave, I also managed to finally get to the revisions of three other articles and finish up the commitments I had for two book chapters. I am happy to report that all three papers were published during the 2013-14 academic year and the book chapters should be published sometime during this coming academic year!

### **Jamie McCallum**

This year I published a book with Cornell University Press, *Global Unions, Local Power*. The book examines the ability of low-wage workers to exercise power across national borders. I co-taught a new class with Professor Kacy McKinney in the Geography Department and am co-editing a book on youth unemployment with other Middlebury faculty. With the assistance of **Molly Stuart** and **Nicolette Amber**, both Sociology and Anthropology majors, I have continued research on my next book, and will be visiting archives in California and Japan this summer. But the truly important accomplishment is that I began raising chickens. They will soon be housed in their new residence—a backyard coop I constructed with materials scavenged from Professor **Mike Sheridan's** old roof. After three years at Middlebury, Vermont is beginning to feel like a home.



### Peggy Nelson

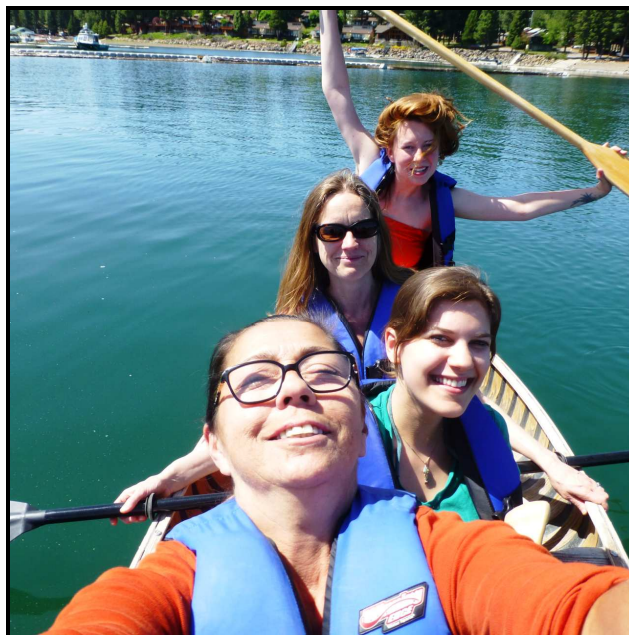
This has been a good year. I enjoyed teaching my two courses in the fall and I have (also) enjoyed my time away from teaching this spring and summer. I spent a lot of research time writing a grant proposal for a project with a colleague at Wellesley College (Rosanna Hertz) we call “Donors, Donor Siblings, and the Making of New Families. We have posted a survey for parents of donor-conceived offspring, children/adults who are donor-conceived, and donors (both sperm and egg). We are also beginning to conduct interviews with people in families affected by donor conception (and if anyone who fits into that category wants to be interviewed, please let me know). My other project, tentatively called “Making Kin,” is poking along and I conducted about 30 interviews for that this spring. Finally, I am pleased that my edited collection (with co-editors Rosanna Hertz and Anita Garey), *Open to Disruption: Time and Craft in the Practice of Slow Sociology* is in a bookstore near you.

### Marybeth Nevins

This has been a big year for me. Summer 2013 saw my family, kids, parents, dog and hermit crabs, undertake an epic cross-country “relocation vacation.” We drove from Nevada to Vermont, stopping at Great Basin National Park, Dinosaur National Monument, Cahokia Mounds and Niagara Falls before landing in our new home here at Middlebury. My book, *Lessons from Fort Apache: Beyond Language Endangerment and Maintenance*, came out, as well as two research articles. The book, drawing upon three years of fieldwork on the Fort Apache reservation, proposes an ethnographic “rethink” of the problem defined as language endangerment, and of the language documentation and maintenance programs that are often posed as solutions to that problem. My articles are published the *International Journal of Folklore Research* and *Language and Communication*. Summer 2014 has me working with Middlebury



students and the Susanville Indian Rancheria on a book project. Our aim is to repurpose a set of creation stories recorded in 1903 for use in the contemporary Maidu community. **Maddie Gilbert '14** (below left) has helped to refine the Maidu-English translation. And, **Anna Mullen '15** and **Sophie Bufton '15** (pictured below) traveled with me to Susanville to conduct interviews, explore research archives and photograph Maidu and settler landscapes (canoeing on Lake Almanor with project director Donna Clark was part of the latter). Great students and interesting work!



### Linus Owens

I spent my first year after getting tenure as Chair of the department, which managed to keep me busy, engaged, frustrated, and distracted all at once, as I learned the ropes on how to help the department navigate through the college bureaucracy. This did not leave much time for my own work, but I did manage to start two new research projects. With the first, I am exploring contemporary practices of celebrating Halloween, with a particular focus on the role of technology and urban spaces, as a way to explore new forms of identity and belonging. Secondly, I continue my work on urban squatting. After presenting my current research at conferences in Amsterdam and Rome, I returned to the US and spent some time in New York City to do preliminary investigations into the squatting and housing movements of the 1980s through today. I also attended a conference at Vassar College, with fellow SOAN member **Rebecca Tiger**, on prison education programs, with an eye towards starting a similar program at Middlebury.

### Ellen Oxfeld

I came back from sabbatical (writing in Vermont and research in China) to a full year of teaching, including a new J-Term course on food and culture in China



("From Famine to Feasting").

Returning from sabbatical is a lot easier when you have some wonderful

students, and I was incredibly fortunate to be in that boat. I really enjoyed my senior thesis students this year, and am impressed by the ever more challenging fieldwork they are doing – everywhere from southwest China, to African townships to the Middlebury campus. On the publication front, my article, "The Moral Significance of Food in Reform Era Rural China" was just published in a new volume, *Ethical Eating in the Postsocialist and Socialist World* (University of California Press, 2014). I am spending the summer finishing up a book manuscript that I almost finished on sabbatical, but which I put aside during my busy teaching year. I don't have a title yet, but it is an ethnography of food in rural China looking at its local meanings from several interrelated angles: labor, memory, exchange, morality, emotion. In my free time, I'm still working on getting a single payer system (publicly funded health care for all) implemented in Vermont. I will let you know how far we get in the next Newsletter!

### Mari Price

This summer has already become very busy! I spend as much time as possible in our vegetable and flower gardens between canoeing, kayaking and bicycling trips. I have two annual trips to Bar Harbor, Maine, in July and September and will be travelling to Wyoming in August. I'm also very excited for my son who will be attending grad school at the Savannah College of Art and Design this coming fall!

### Michael Sheridan

The last year before a sabbatical can feel a bit like running the last miles of a marathon, but it was a lifesaver to have such great students handing me GatorAde every 500 yards. That's a metaphor pushed too far, isn't it? This year was about finishing up my work on agricultural change in sub-Saharan Africa and pivoting toward a new focus on climate change and

ethnobotany. This coming year is going to be a crazy fieldwork rollercoaster – Cameroon, Tanzania, St. Vincent, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Tahiti. The project is about the plants I wrote about in previous editions of this newsletter, looking at how property rights regimes and plant symbolism interact with social history in colonialized agrarian societies. I also did a bit of pre-pre-fieldwork (a.k.a. 'tourism') in Iceland this summer. This photo is me with the so-called "Dwarf Stone." Icelanders socialize their landscape with a variety of 'hidden people,' who have



their own towns, churches, and markets. The story behind this photo is that when the people of Seyðisfjörður moved their church across the fjord, the admittedly interesting-looking stone church of the 'hidden people' followed the wooden church across the water to mysteriously appear at the new site. More stories to follow next year!

### David Stoll

This year I've continued looking at the relationship between low-wage migration and indebtedness. I hypothesize that, contrary to American Dream mythology, our low-wage labor market has the same impoverishing effect on immigrants that it has on the poorest Americans. I've also been catching up with sociological research on informalization, that is, the growth of off-the-books employment to evade labor laws and taxation. Here I hypothesize that informalization from above - employers cutting costs through subcontracting chains - is being reinforced by informalization from below - the willingness of the most desperate workers to accept jobs under any conditions. I've also been sucked into the genocide debate in Guatemala. In May 2013 a Guatemalan court convicted ex-dictator Efraín Ríos Montt of genocide against the Ixil Mayas. Hauling a former chief of state into court on these grounds was quite an





*Efraim Rios Montt at his trial, April 2013*

accomplishment. Also quite an accomplishment was persuading nearly a hundred Ixil and K'iche' Maya witnesses to testify against him. What the prosecution was never able to demonstrate was that Rios Montt intended to exterminate the Ixils as an ethnic, racial, religious or national group. What the witnesses did demonstrate is that troops under Rios Montt's administration regularly killed noncombatants, often in large numbers in non-combat situations. So I've concluded that a more viable indictment would be command responsibility for violations of the Geneva Convention, i.e., war crimes, which was the charge against the Nazi commanders at Nuremberg. The conviction of Ríos Montt was soon overturned on a technicality; he may be tried again, as may some of his subordinates.

### Rebecca Tiger

I'm writing this update from sunny Lisbon, Portugal (below) where I'm spending a week studying their country-wide system of drug decriminalization. It's very inspiring (and also difficult to imagine the political feasibility of a similar policy in the US). This past year, I taught two new courses – a first year



seminar and "Logics of Sociological Inquiry." I really enjoyed both of them and hope to teach them again at some point soon. I've been doing several podcast interviews about my book *Judging Addicts* (NYU Press, 2012). When I get back to the US, I'll continue working on my second book *Rock Bottom*, about celebrity and the media culture of addiction (I've published a few articles on this topic in *Contexts* and *New Media & Society*). I also started a longer-term project about the moral panic over opiates in Vermont, centered in Rutland (where I live). I recently attended a workshop, hosted by Vassar, about prison education programs at liberal arts colleges and am looking forward to developing such a program (with students) at Middlebury over the next few years. In my spare time, I sew – I make my own clothes now! - and play tennis.

## Senior Project Abstracts

Mary Ames

### "Pretending to Be Poor:" Social Mobility and Government Policy in Township Housing

Within the township of Langa, South Africa, low-income families live primarily in informal settlements, shipping containers and government housing. As of now, there is not enough adequate housing for township residents, and people continue to wait in the backlog of applicants for government houses, which was estimated at over three million in 2003. Because families and individuals cannot expect consistent support from their government, they move between different spaces as their circumstances change. They also innovate within these spaces to accommodate other social and economic elements of their lives. All of these forms of housing have both positive and negative aspects for families, with varying material and psychological implications. Through interviews with residents in Langa and leaders in township communities familiar with the discourse around the South African housing dilemma, my thesis uncovers some of these implications. Moreover, it suggests that people's



*Janey presents her research at the 2014 Spring Student Symposium*

narratives can and should be implemented in development planning and government policy. Both research and policy involving low-income residents in Cape Town caters to a macro perspective, which creates a vulnerable and dysfunctional housing system. Beginning to understand residents' motives and strategies sheds light on how the micro-level perspective must inform macro-level action to make for more effective and efficient housing policies.

**Feliz Baca**

**An Archaeology of My Kitchen Table: The Construction of the New Mexican Identity Through Traditional New Mexican Cuisine**



When I first came to college I proudly proclaimed my identity as New Mexican, but many did not understand how I could claim an identity to a state. I would engage in long conversations about the history of my people in the United States, only to have it brushed off as insignificant, and to be categorized as a Latina, a term I had never identified with. However, these experiences began to make me reevaluate my identity and its place within the larger notion of *Latinidad*, a relatively new concept created by sociologist Felix Padilla as a means to describe a Pan-Latino identity. My senior project is the result of these experiences and reflections. The essay explores how the New Mexican identity has been constructed in terms of traditional New Mexican cuisine and its relation to the extensive and complex history of the land and its people. I argue that throughout the history of New Mexico, the many cultures within the state have all contributed to the formation of this “mestizo” identity, and by doing so New Mexican cuisine has become a method of expressing and claiming this unique identity through food.

**Molly Benedetto**

**Emergency Department Tensions: Social Use and Institutional Design**

In this senior project I focus upon the hospital emergency department in order to address the dynamic and sometimes fraught relationship between the social problems of underserved populations in the United States and the systems designed to support them. Emergency departments in the United States were originally established as centers for patients with acute health problems. Starting with the financial stratification in the 1980s, and particularly through the passage of the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act in 1986, ever-increasing numbers of uninsured Americans use emergency departments as primary care providers. In my essay I examine the changing usage of emergency departments to show the intertwining of medical care and the social safety net. I argue that social uses of the emergency department, while cast as problematic by some, are important expressions of agency and constitute an expression of political voice on the part of the underserved and disenfranchised. I argue that listening to these voices has implications for policy regarding emergency departments and social services.

**Emily Bensen**

**The Dynamics of Social Capital: A Study of Town Clerks as Key Participants in Exchange Relationships in Addison County Communities**

This paper examines social capital in Addison County, and looks specifically at town clerks as key agents in the formation and preservation of this social connectedness in Vermont. Oral histories of current and retired town clerks shed light on how exchange relationships in these communities are created, maintained, and deconstructed over time. Bourdieu's theory of individual social capital and Putnam's theory of communal social capital were both useful in





analyzing the complexity of exchange relationships in Addison County. Town clerks are analyzed as soft bureaucrats and emotional laborers, demonstrating their integral role in cultivating social capital. Finally, this paper studies how the job has changed over time. The professionalization of the town clerk and the de-personalization of town government processes are eroding social capital - relationships that town clerks value greatly and work hard to foster. Although this disengagement is eliminating the part of their job town clerks value the most, this paper ends on a hopeful note. Town clerks have the capacity to exist as both emotional and professional beings, while participating in the construction of social capital in their respective towns.

*Emily's project won the 2014 George B. Bryan award from the UVM Center for Research on Vermont for being the best paper on a Vermont topic.*

**Caroline Bullion**

### **Out of Step: Negotiating Identity and Experience as a Cadet of the Reserve Officer Training Corps**



The US military has been written about extensively across all fields of study; however, the majority of the research done about this organization has focused on the active duty, full time military. Very

little has been written about the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), resulting in a rich and little explored opportunity to better understand all aspects of the military experience. Cadets occupy a unique position of liminality between the military and civilian life. Simultaneously members of both groups, cadets learn to negotiate their two very disparate worlds through various performances. Rituals, language, and clothing are all important pieces of the performances through which they manage their dual identities every day. By carefully selecting and contextualizing various roles between their two worlds, cadets both unite and divide these domains in the way that is most advantageous to their managing of an often difficult position caught between two such different groups. Through their performances they shape not only the way in which they interact with their own world, but also the way in which the world as a whole views them. This experience of liminality and performance

crafts singular interactions between cadets and those on the outside looking in at a world which they often do not fully understand.

**Luke Carroll Brown**

### **Creating Steubenville**

This paper examines media responses to the 2012 Steubenville rape case, a sexual assault investigation that involved three high school students in rural Steubenville, Ohio. After being featured in a



December issue of *The New York Times*, the Steubenville rape case came to dominate national news media for months in 2013. With one in four women experiencing sexual violence before graduating from college, this paper evaluates why this particular case received such immense media attention. Through a content analysis of three types of news media, I find that the national news media constructed Steubenville as a pathological, athletics-obsessed, blue-collar town in an attempt to project the problem of sexual violence onto one community, and therefore to NOT focus on the broader pattern of sexual violence in America.

*Luke was the winner of the 2014 Blum & Company, Inc. Award, see page 2*

**Veronica Coates**

### **Loud and Proud: Social and Academic Experiences of Black Women Voiced**

This project explores the complexity and struggle, but also the strength, that comes from being a woman of color at predominantly white liberal arts colleges. I argue that the

minority status of Black women has defined their social and academic lives at these





colleges, focusing on Middlebury, Pomona, Wellesley, Hampshire and Bowdoin Colleges. This project is highly personal, but also deeply necessary for both Sociology and Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies as a means for Black women to have a voice, to show their multiplicity in experiences, to show how being a Black woman may offer a sense of pressure and violence at an institution that is supposed to uplift and educate. But the constant refrain from students of color has been who is educating whom? I want to write these stories for colleges like Middlebury, for students who attend these schools, and for those who are staunch advocates of diversity, but often times don't see its traumatizing results. I interviewed eight self-identified Black women about their experiences at small elite liberal arts colleges with predominantly white and wealthy student bodies. Their experiences reveal tales of isolation, confusion, anxiety, and alienation, but also a sense of empowerment, security and solidarity. Their stories speak for themselves.

### Cailey Cron

#### Less Arabic, but still Arabic: Identity, Ideology, and the Arabizi Phenomenon

In this paper I explore the language ideologies that contextualize the use and deliberate nonuse of "Arabizi," a Latinized written representation of Arabic dialects used by native Arabic speakers primarily in computer-mediated communication (Facebook, Twitter, chat rooms, texting, etc.). I first provide an

<b>North Levantine Arabic</b>	كيف صحتك، شو عم تعمل؟
<b>Araby transcription</b>	kif/keef sa7tak, chou/shu 3am ta3mil?
<b>ALA-LC</b>	kīf ṣaḥtak, šū 'am ta'mil?
<b>IPA</b>	[kiːf 'sʰahtak fuː ʕam 'taʕmil]
<b>English</b>	How is your health, what are you doing?

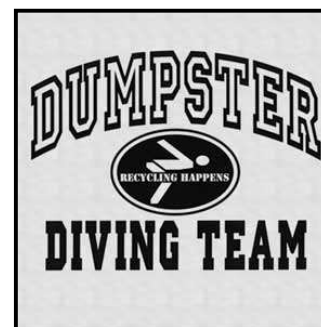
overview of Arabic sociolinguistics and computer-mediated discourse analysis (CMDA) and demonstrate how my study combines and builds on both fields. I consider how studying language in an emergent context presents a unique challenge and necessitates a third-wave approach to linguistic variation. I give a brief profile of Arabizi and then, through analysis of semi-structured interviews with native Arabic speakers at a liberal arts college, I discuss Arabizi both in terms of its technological and social functions, and also as a window into native Arabic speakers' broader language ideologies. I argue that native Arabic-speaking college students ideologize Arabizi with respect to a larger constellation of language varieties, including English, FusHa, and regional dialects, and the relations between them.

*Cailey was the co-winner of the 2014 Lank Prize in Sociology and Anthropology, see page 2*

### Anna Flinchbaugh

#### Garbage World

Despite widespread fascination with the phenomenon of dumpster diving as a political act, little space has been given to the way in which their anti-consumer activities affect the position that divers occupy within the city, both literally



and in relationship to social structures. This project supplements participant observation with existing accounts of dumpster diving and freegan activities to explore these questions, as well as to posit possible connections between mainstream alternative food movements such as local and organic and dumpster diving. In an attempt to bridge gaps not only between localvores and freegans but also between the academic community and dumpster divers at large, the findings are presented in a zine format, comprised of a combination of essays and comics.

### Zöe Isaacs

#### "As Long as We Have Supper:" Urban Food Behaviors in Post-Apartheid South Africa

This thesis describes the unique aspects of post-apartheid dietary change in South Africa's impoverished urban areas. Using interviews and observation carried out in Ekurhuleni, Johannesburg, this paper seeks to shed light on the complexities and repercussions of food insecurity and nutrition transition in South African townships. Ultimately post-apartheid migration and urbanization catalyzed dietary shifts among the urban underclass. These transitions were paralleled by a rise of diet-related non-communicable diseases, as well as cultural shifts in food preparation and consumption. Nutrition transition in South Africa is ultimately defined by the homogenized diet which bridges the traditional with the modern; the global South with the West.



## Toby Israel

### **“I’m a Jew and That Says Something:” Narratives of Female Jewish Identity at Middlebury College**

How does Jewish identity manifest for young Jewish women at Middlebury College? How do these students navigate the frequently cited distinctions between religion and culture, the boundaries between the Jewish community and the wider student body, and the shifting contexts of home, school, and abroad? How do they define their *Jewish* identities by elements



like Israel, the Holocaust, nationality and gender? Fifteen semi-structured interviews, supplemented by several months of participant observation in the campus Hillel and other Jewish activities, began to provide answers to these questions. The narratives represent a variety of students by class year,

background, and attachment to Judaism; together, they offer a patchwork image of the nature of female Jewish identity in a certain generation, in a certain place, at a certain time. Interestingly, I found that women do not define their Jewishness along lines of religiosity, nor does gender explicitly impact the narration of these identities; rather, tradition, community and schemas of persecution arise as some of the core themes of my subjects’ identity narratives.

## Eli King

### **A Review of the Effects of Shifting Interfaces on Text Production and Fan Culture: Temporality, Identity Formation, and the Permanence of Fan Interactions in the Age of Tumblr**

This essay examines the ways in which highly volatile and constantly evolving social media platforms influence television media. Inspired by fan studies scholars such as Louisa Stein, I study the ways in which young platform users - in particular those from marginalized groups - use these interfaces to network more quickly and more intimately than previous iterations of Internet fandom. Creatively using the



existing functions of these platforms and innovating new uses for them, marginalized youth are

finding ways to insert themselves into mainstream television canon.

## Anna Mack

### **One Hundred Million People Equal: Experiences of Nongovernmental Disability Advocacy in Modern China**

The study of disability in global contexts is fundamental to the field of Disability Studies. Despite growing awareness of the importance of cross-cultural studies of disability, little research has been done on disability in modern China. The United Nations Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), signed by China without reservation in 2008, lends itself to analysis of internalization of international disability discourse in modern China. Through a case study of Chinese rights advocacy organization Zhengzhou Yirenping, I show how nongovernmental organizations draw on the CRPD and its social model of disability to challenge biomedical definitions of disability instituted by the Chinese state. Using data from interviews with Yirenping clients and advocates and participant observation field notes, I argue that nongovernmental disability advocacy in twenty-first century China is a form of political resistance for persons in civil society. Utilizing the rhetoric of disability rights as human rights in the CRPD, disability advocates in civil society petition for state recognition of the human rights of all Chinese citizens.



Anna was the co-winner of the 2014 Lank Prize in Sociology and Anthropology, see page 2

## Sarah Marcus

### **There's a Riot in My P\*ssy**

This paper examines the Riot Grrrl movement and the art collective Pussy Riot to better understand the emergence of radical feminist discourses at different moments in time. This paper explores the similarities and differences in how both the members of the Riot



Grrrl movement and Pussy Riot have attempted to free themselves from the limits and constraints of a dominant societal discourse. Further, I explore how the reaction of societies to these movements in turn coopts the critiques they presented. I find that particular moments in subcultures and capitalism open the door to the very emergence of, and then the impacts of certain waves of feminist performance. Though Riot Grrrl influenced the emergence of Pussy Riot, the latter's popularity has in turn breathed a second life into the Riot Grrrl movement.



**Vince Mariano**

### **The Body and Christ: How De La Salle University Medical Center (DLSUMC) uses Christ's Passion Narrative to Create Meaningful Suffering and Redemptive Death**

In the De La Salle University Medical Center (DLSUMC) located in Cavite, Philippines, belief in the interconnectedness of body and soul, Catholicism, and medicine combine to create a unique environment that inform how Filipino patients, their families, and the medical personnel react to suffering and death. This ethnography explores how Christ's Passion narrative is symbolized within DLSUMC and how it allows patients to create "meaningful suffering" and a "redemptive death." It also examines how religion can help a patient's family cope with grief. Lastly, it investigates how religion augments the provision of care that DLSUMC doctors and nurses give to the sick and dying.

**Jessica Munyon**

### **The Rights of Children in Nicaragua: An Anthropological History**

The prevalence of chronic poverty in Nicaragua undermines the country's ability to provide sufficient protection for the nation's children. Their rights can be strengthened with greater accessibility to social resources. These resources include microfinance systems, alternative aid contracts, and education and

health care systems, and can alleviate some of the pressures causing segments of the population to experience conditions of sustained economic hardship, effectively threatening the strength of children's rights. Nicaragua has a longstanding history of political and economic difficulties that leave the governing institutions unable to protect the rights of children under both local laws like the Code of Childhood and Adolescence, and international laws like the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child. Where local institutions lack the capabilities to provide for these rights, non-governmental and civil organizations take their places or try to fill in the gaps. However, despite fluctuations in economic hardship and political stability, what is most necessary is the coordination and cooperation of local, national, and international state actors and organizations that can help provide resources and access to resources necessary to strengthen children's rights. Without this cooperation, several attempts to strengthen the status of children's rights in Nicaragua have failed. This analysis helps establish a temporal model over which a trend of political control and manipulation can be juxtaposed. The comparison of trends in economic and political stability highlight the specific structural weaknesses of the institutions that do not support children's rights in Nicaragua.

**Rachel Nuñez**

### **"We Can't Stop:" Analyzing the Media's Immense Response to Miley Cyrus's Performance at the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards**

In this study, I analyzed the media response to Miley Cyrus' performance at the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards, which prompted an immense media response in the months following the show. I chose to focus on three different sources—one mainstream news source, one feminist-oriented blog, and one black womanist oriented blog. In analyzing the discourses regarding

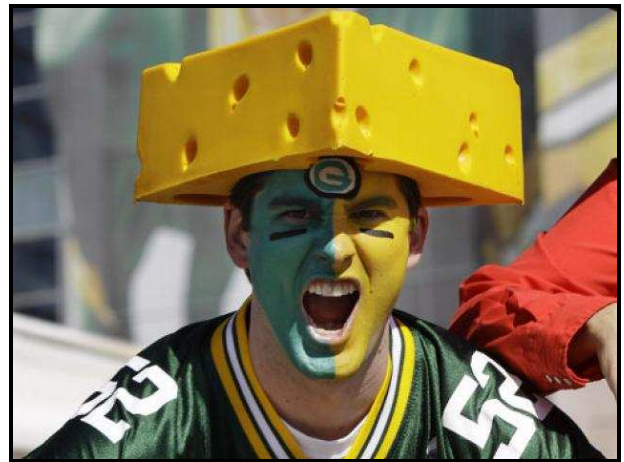


Miley Cyrus's performance within each of these sources, I found that, though all of the sources were reading the same cultural text, they were projecting very different social concerns and anxieties onto the performance. It seemed that, although they were all talking about Miley, her performance

## The Local Factor: Symbol of Solidarity or Model for Change? An Examination of Popular Perceptions and a Flawed Social Movement



## Cheeseheads: Examining the Identity of Green Bay Packers Fans in Wisconsin



This essay examines whether the ideological context of Middlebury College serves to cultivate a





commitment to social responsibility and service in its students, as the mission statement of the College suggests. Specifically, this research explores whether Middlebury students emerge with an awareness of and desire to address environmental issues, social injustices and inequalities, and global, systemic problems. Through discourse analysis of the College's 'rhetoric of recruitment,' I construct an understanding of Middlebury's ideology, which I explain as one of global enviro-social responsibility and leadership. In order to determine whether or not the College teaches the lessons it claims to, this data is supplemented with content analysis of five interviews with Middlebury College seniors, and an analysis of Middlebury graduates' career choices. I conclude that the College fails to make good on its commitment to social responsibility and service. Instead, the meritocratic ideals of the institution promote an ideology of individualism, in which hard work, personal success, and competition in pursuit of any goal trumps a commitment to working in pursuit of the common good. Institutional ideologies shape individual ideologies, and I suggest that the overwhelming majority of Middlebury students choose not to 'care' about working to make the world a better place as a result of the ways in which the institution shapes their choices. Rather than inspiring a commitment to social responsibility and service, I conclude that Middlebury College reinforces the status quo, bestowing additional privileges upon the elite and furthering social and economic inequity.

**Ella Sorscher**

### **Applying Ethics in a Time of Panic: The Social Sequelae of Employing Fetal Rights during the "Crack Baby" Scare**

This essay addresses the limitations of the fetal personhood argument, when it was used to protect the unborn child during the "crack baby" epidemic of the late 1980s and early 1990s. Amidst the cultural anxiety of the War on Drugs, the discovery of the "crack baby" catalyzed a moral panic among people



who believed that "crack babies" would grow into a "biological underclass," dangerous not only because of their developmental and social disabilities, but also as a result of their concentration in already marginalized communities. However, this epidemic never developed, and widespread fear was revealed to be based upon media magnification, flawed science, and pervasive prejudice. This essay shows how the fetal personhood movement used this opportunity to set a precedent for fetal rights, harnessing pervasive fear of an impending bio-underclass to create a novel argument for the public's responsibility to ensure the future status of the fetus. Yet this crusade harmed both mothers and children—justifying pervasive disenfranchisement of women, disintegration of families, and stigmatization of "crack kids." While the fetal rights movement might have gained temporary legal realization, the negative externalities of its courtroom success serve as a cautionary tale both of how moral discourse can be manipulated and its fundamental inability to consider social complexities - illuminating how the language of ethics can consistently be a poor way to enforce social morality.

**Andie Tibbetts**

### **Increasing Female Power Through Legitimate Negotiation Agency: An Analysis of the Effects of the Millennium Villages Project on Women in Potou, Senegal**



This work investigates the relationship between women's individual agency and the structural limits of society and culture and how it is affected by a development project. Using qualitative data from the Millennium Villages Project (MVP) in Potou, Senegal, I examine economic and political empowerment as sociocultural processes. Senegalese women's ability to participate in the market economy and local politics is heavily constrained by a structure that limits their

legitimate access to the public domain. The MVP has provided extensive gender education and augmented economic and political infrastructure within the project site, which has led to increased legitimate female access to both the economic and political realms, but only in the project area. I argue, therefore, that one viable strategy for empowering Senegalese women is to increase their legitimate access to the public sphere by changing local-scale economic and political institutions and exposing patriarchal ideologies as false consciousnesses. With increased economic agency, Senegalese women are able to negotiate new social positions, which then legitimize less restrictive ideologies.

**Isabella Tudisco-Sadacca**

**When the Circle Opens: Movement and Meaning in Post-Colonial Senegal**



When dance shifts from ritual to performance, the role of the body in that dance becomes more of a social actor. In the emergence in post-colonial Senegal of traditional ballets, African contemporary dance, and hip-hop I will examine the role of the audience and how performance dance allows for dance to be a social force. Following the historical timeline and social shifts from the 1960's to today, I will show how the changes in dance align with those social changes. I will be using post-modern theories, which understand the body as something that is constantly being shaped by its surroundings and then recursively shapes its surroundings through dance. There is a tension between conserving tradition and constructing a new art, and tradition does not fade out, but instead adapts to its changing social context. My methods for this thesis involved two research trips to Senegal. I did mostly participant observation and interviews about the role of dance in Senegalese society, and I experienced the ways that people engage, connect, and communicate with dance. I also looked at how different dance styles are performed in the two main

festivals in Senegal, Kaay Fecc and DuoSolo, as well as the festival Urban Scenos. These dance festivals serve as the central concrete part of my research and are the lenses through which I analyzed how these different dance forms coexist and assert themselves in front of an audience. I argue how each one of these dance forms reflects the social climate out of which they came and how they today not only continue to show the complexities of our global society that we carry in our bodies but also speak of the social relations that construct our bodies.

**Sara Ugalde**

**Lady Panthers: Feminine or Masculine? A Study of the Effects of Culture on Gender Performance**

In this study, I analyzed how Women's Lacrosse and Women's Basketball players at Middlebury are affected by the culture, in terms of femininity and masculinity, surrounding their respective sports. First, I focused on the culture surrounding each sport: whether it is considered feminine or masculine, how it is passed down, how it compares to the culture surrounding other female sports at Middlebury, and the differences and similarities between the Women's and Men's sports of Lacrosse and Basketball. In order to collect my research I conducted eight interviews, three with Women's Lacrosse players, four with Women's Basketball players, and one with an athlete who played both Lacrosse and Basketball. Through the analysis of my interviews I found that four major themes arose through the discussion of femininity and masculinity surrounding their respective sports. The sections consist of what they wear on and off the field, who they tend to hang out with and the relationship with the Men's team of their sport, the pressures and attitudes towards body type, and finally how they perceived their teams' sexuality and how they believed others perceived it. Overall, I found that the culture surrounding Women's Lacrosse is very feminine, while the culture surrounding Women's Basketball is also feminine, but not to the same extent. I found that the culture surrounding Women's Lacrosse and the pressure to keep it hyper-feminized

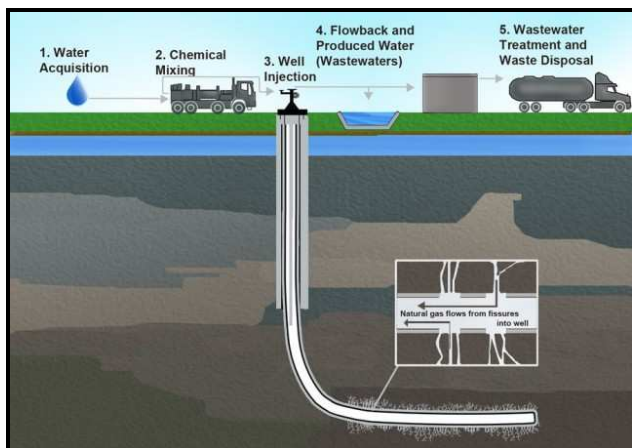




affects many aspects of the Lacrosse players lives, while the culture surrounding Women's Basketball did not have as much of an effect. I found that Women's Basketball players are more shaped by the pressure of societal norms in general and more specifically on the Middlebury campus.

**Grace Wildermuth**

### **Voices Not Heard: A Case Study of the Natural Gas Discourse in Wayne County, Pennsylvania**

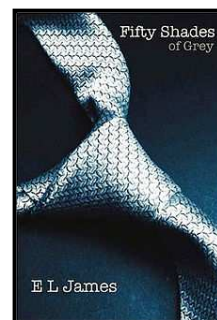


As members of the American urban and suburban population continue to migrate to rural areas in search of a beautiful landscape and quiet way of life, conflict over the meaning of and ownership over the landscape emerges. New and already established populations tend to have dramatically different conceptions of landscape and environment, leading to struggles in local environmental policy. This research focuses on Wayne County, Pennsylvania and uses a current and polarizing issue, hydraulic fracturing for natural gas, to illuminate these tensions. The prevailing rhetoric put forth predominantly by those who have moved to the area from urban centers and those who come to the area for recreation has dominated the debate due to abundant resources and access to national and local media. This research was conducted in an effort to elevate an alternative rhetoric absent from the political discourse surrounding this issue. I conducted in-depth interviews with predominantly longtime residents who live and work on the landscape in order to understand the meanings they ascribe to hydraulic fracturing for natural gas on the landscape and the conflicts with new or part-time residents the issue has revealed. The interviews were supplemented with a review of blog comments and media sources. Overall, I argue that the perspective of those who have not been heard is informed, nuanced, and must be acknowledged in order to accurately meet the needs of the area and allow for a more democratic and equitable discourse.

**Sade Williams**

### **50 Shades of Grey, A Love Story: Neo-liberal, Racist, Anti-feminist Bondage**

*Fifty Shades of Grey* took the publishing world by storm in 2011. Although romance novels remain the most read fiction in the US, this erotic fan fiction of the *Twilight*-series-turned-blockbuster-bestseller has quickly outsold even its vampiric source material. Based on a close reading of the three books in the series as well as primary research in



Portland and Seattle, I argue that a huge part of the series' popularity was not just the kinky sex, but the way in which the relationship between Anastasia Steele and Christian Grey present the naturalness of white wealth, and imagine a future "whitetopian" space for the series' protagonists to reproduce wealth, whiteness and normative gender roles. This space not only exists in the fictitious world from where it was imagined, but translates and maps itself on to real-life places and bodies; it works to both quell actual social anxieties as well as to reproduce neo-liberal, heteronormative, white relationships in American society.

**Jiayi Zhu**

### **National Parks in Chinese Context: Pudacuo National Park in Shangri-La and the Life of Local Tibetans There**

"National park" is a rather new concept in China. The area of Shangri-La, in Yunnan Province, became the first place to adopt this form of conservation by establishing Pudacuo National Park in 2007. With the help of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and local scholars, Degen Tibetans Autonomous Prefecture and its state-owned enterprise founded the park. However, does national park mean the same thing in China as in other places? Pudacuo National Park is also the home



to Khampas Tibetans. The rapidly growing tourism business in the region brings opportunities and at the same time challenges to both the local government and Tibetans. How has tourism impacted the locals and the environment they are living in? This thesis is an ethnographic study examining these questions related to Pudacuo National Park and the life of local Tibetans who live there.

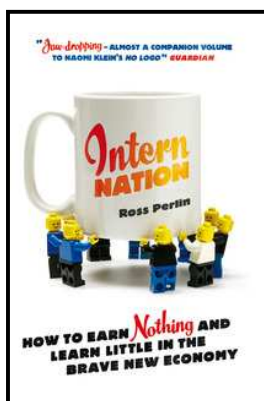


SOAN graduates and faculty at the senior reception, May 2014

## ***The Middlebury College SOAN Department Review of Books*** (a.k.a. Beach reading for SOAN majors)

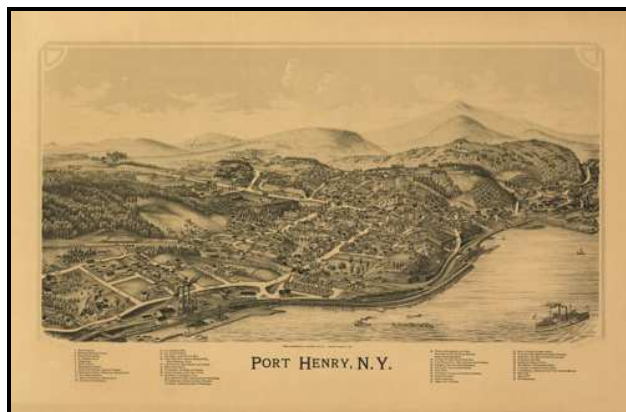
By David Stoll

Ross Perlin's *Intern Nation: How to Learn Little and Earn Nothing in the Brave New Economy* is a must read for anyone who has doubts about this latest rung on the ever-longer ladder to a career. Perlin's book is not a guide to how to get a juicy internship, nor does it argue that all internships are exploitative. But he does explain the rise of internships as part of the wider shift toward "contingent" labor, the brave new world in



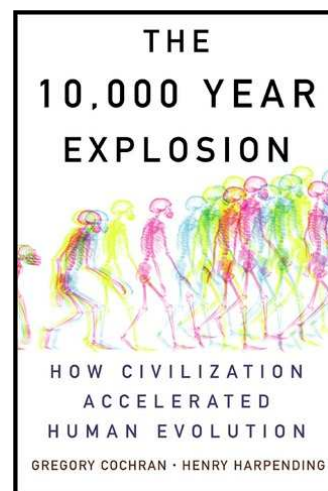
which a growing fraction of the population will never have a stable job. One pearl is the chapter on internships in Washington, D.C., as a new expression of the old spoils system for politicians and their cronies. If you've felt used and abused, this is the book for you, which includes a slate of common-sense reforms.

Ever wonder about Port Henry, the down-at-the-heels lakeshore town where you get on the train to New York City? Believe it or not, until the 1970s it was the



most prosperous milltown in the eastern Adirondacks, with a huge lakefront facility for loading iron ore onto railcars. *The Iron Ore Eaters: A Portrait of the Mining Community of Moriah, New York* is a dissertation by Valeri Rosenquist that you can obtain from University Microfilms, the college library, or me. Starting in the 1800s, the surrounding township of Moriah attracted Yankee capitalists and Irish, Italian and Eastern European miners. An astonishing number of miners died in accidents, there was a big strike in 1913, and also at least one murder by the Black Hand. The final owner of Moriah's many mines, Republic Steel, shut them all down in 1971. Now they are flooded but still contain lots of high-grade ore. Mining will resume if it ever becomes economical to bring in the same technology being developed for deep-sea ocean-floor mining.

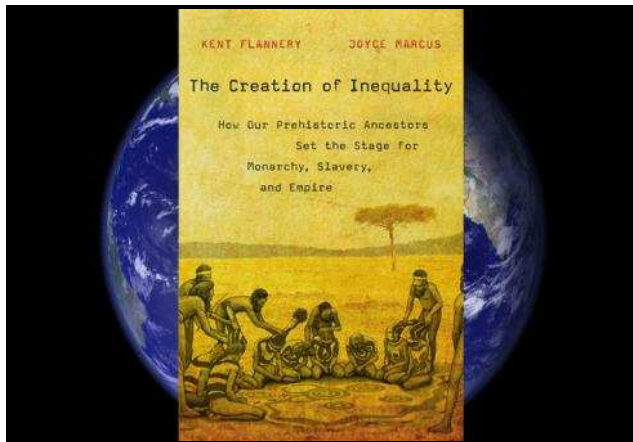
We often assume that, mind over matter, human cultural evolution has virtually replaced human genetic evolution. Such that, genetically, human beings haven't changed much in the last 30,000, 3,000 or 300 years. Geneticists Gregory Cochran and Henry Harpending argue this is far from the case in *The 10,000 Year Explosion: How Civilization Accelerated Human Evolution*. If you sense a gap in your education on human evolution, this is a good place to start.



In human social evolution, the central mystery is how we could have "started out equal" but become so unequal. For a learned stroll through archaeological and anthropological evidence from around the world,



see Kent Flannery and Joyce Marcus's *The Creation of Inequality: How our Prehistoric Ancestors Set the Stage for Monarchy, Slavery and Empire*. Flannery and Marcus are archaeologists known for their ability to get the big picture. They argue that inequality



began to be institutionalized long before the rise of state society:

- even the most egalitarian foragers assume that individuals differ in virtue, that some have seniority over others, that first-arrivers have more rights than latecomers, and that one's cronies have more pressing claims than outsiders.
- even foragers can be sufficiently driven by religious enthusiasm and status competition to erect labor-intensive ceremonial complexes—one example being the 50-ton monuments at Gobekli Tepe in modern-day Turkey.
- Even before the emergence of agriculture, failure to repay certain kinds of obligations, such as high payments for brides, could lead to debt peonage. Flannery and Marcus argue that debt peonage was widespread in pre-state rank societies even though private property was not.



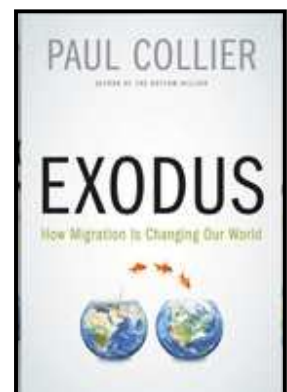
And much, much more. *The Creation of Inequality* begs for comparison with David Graeber's *Debt: The First Five Thousand Years*. Graeber is one of the intellectual authors of Occupy Wall Street: his book is a witty anarchist argument to the effect that, no, you don't have to pay your debts,

because financial obligations ultimately stem from military conquest and other power grabs. His history of debt also destabilizes our conventional definition of capitalism as dating back only to the industrial revolution—could capitalism instead have originated in the much earlier phenomenon of financial booms and busts? On at least a few points Graeber is glib—for example, he glosses egalitarian societies as “baseline communism” in order to minimize the role of balanced reciprocity and the obligation to give equivalent return.

Another big-picture is Paul Collier's *Exodus: How Migration Is Changing our World*. The wealthiest countries are attracting ever-larger migration streams that are transforming the demography and could also change much else. This is the only book I know that calmly compares the experiences of the U.S., Britain and other European countries.

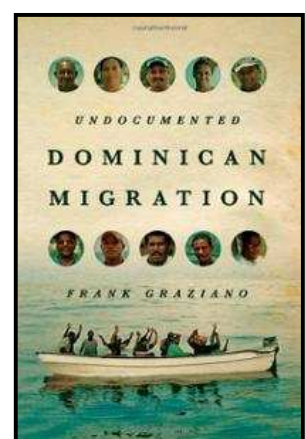
Collier acknowledges that high levels of migration lower social trust and can be very destabilizing, especially for the most vulnerable native workers (in the U.S., inner-city black Americans are among the most affected).

While most economists and social scientists are firm advocates for open-door migration possibilities, Collier explains the benefits of restricting international migration, not least to earlier cohorts of immigrants who benefit from tightening up the labor supply.



Many Americans have heard about Cuban and Haitian boat people but not about Dominican boat people. They're trying to get across the Mona Passage, a narrow but treacherous strait, to Puerto Rico and the U.S. labor market. The failure rate, from drowning or interdiction by the U.S. Coast Guard, is very high.

But even making it to Puerto Rico can be a Pyrrhic victory - this judging from Frank Graziano's *Undocumented Dominican Migration*, which tells the stories of the migrants in their own words. Their grim uphill struggle has many



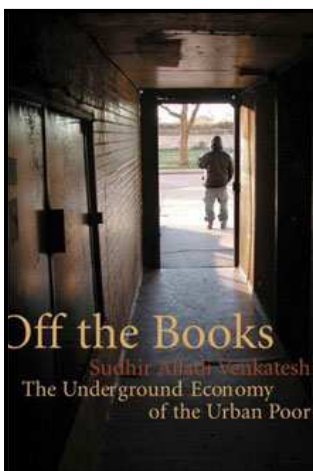
parallels to the Guatemalan migrants with whom I have been working. Because Graziano is a humanities scholar, not a social scientist, his book is far more readable than most migration scholarship, and it includes wonderful black-and-white photos of the migrants.



In the U.S. immigration debate one lurking fear, often going unstated, is fear of Latino youth gangs. Most assessments of youth gangs, even by social scientists, convey a certain hopelessness because there seem to be no real answers. The only hopeful book I have found is Edward Orozco Flores' *God's Gangs: Barrio Ministry, Masculinity, and*

*Gang Recovery*. Orozco argues that segmented assimilation theory, which explains why 2<sup>nd</sup> generation immigrant youth join gangs, is too pessimistic about their later lives. The reason it's too pessimistic is that it ignores how religion, Catholic as well as evangelical Protestant, helps former gang members adopt a more constructive definition of masculinity. In this vision, barrios that might appear to be poverty traps, because of the constant arrival of new immigrants, are actually launchpads.

You will never look at inner-city ghettos as economic dead-zones after you've read Sudhir Venkatesh's *Off the Books: The Underground Economy of the Working Poor*. Now at Colombia University, Venkatesh is a sociology hot-shot who allegedly has taken liberties with his highly-readable books and his office accounts. But *Off the Books* is less sensationalistic



than Venkatesh's *Gang Leader for a Day*. The underground economy, which most social scientists now call the informal economy, consists of off-the-books employment to avoid taxation and regulation. I was fascinated by the ceaseless negotiations between a block committee, neighborhood pastors, gang leaders, and other businessmen.

Venkatesh analyzes street hustlers in terms of their overlapping roles as traders, regulators and predators. Because of all the energy and intelligence he documents, *Off the Books* is an antidote to the usual despairing analyses of the American inner city.

## Faculty Publications, 2013-2014

### Svea Closser

2014 "The Impact of Polio Eradication on Routine Immunization and Primary Health Care: A Mixed-Methods Study," with Kelly Cox, Thomas M. Parris, R. Matthew Landis, Judith Justice, Ranjani Gopinath, Kenneth Maes, Hailom Banteyerga Amaha, Ismaila Zango Mohammed, Aminu Mohammed Dukku, Patricia A. Omidian, Emma Varley, **Pauley Tedoff '06**, Adam D. Koon, Laetitia Nyirazinyoye, Matthew A. Luck, W. Frank Pont, Jr, **Vanessa Neergheen '13**, Anat Rosenthal, Peter Nsubuga, Naveen Thacker, Rashid Jooma and **Elizabeth Nuttall '12**. *Journal of Infectious Diseases*. Open access:

<http://jid.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2014/04/02/infdis.jit232>

2014 "Listening to Community Health Workers: How Ethnographic Research can Inform Positive Relationships between CHWs, Health Institutions, and Communities," with Kenneth Maes and Ippolytos Kalofonos. *American Journal of Public Health*, 104(5): e5-e9.

2014 "Measuring the Health Systems Impact of Disease Control Programs: Critical Assessment of the WHO Building Blocks Framework," with Sandra Mounier-Jack, Ulla K. Griffiths, Helen Burchett, and Bruno Marchal. *BMC Public Health* 14: 278. Open access: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/14/278>

2013 "Why We Must Provide Better Support for Pakistan's Female Frontline Health Workers," with Rashid Jooma. *PLOS Medicine* 10(10): e1001528. Open access: <http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1001528>





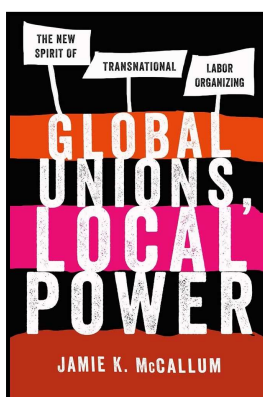
### Chong-suk Han

2014 "I Know a lot of Gay Asian Men who are Actually Tops: Managing and Negotiating Gay Racial Stigma," with Kristopher Proctor and Kyung-Hee Choi. *Sexuality & Culture* 18(2): 219-234.

2014 "We Pretend like Sexuality doesn't Exist: Managing Homophobia in Gaysian America," with Kristopher Proctor and Kyung-Hee Choi. *Journal of Men's Studies* 21(1): 53-63.

2014 "You're Better Respected when You Carry Yourself as a Man: Black Men's Personal Account of the Down Low Lifestyle," with Scott E. Rutledge, Lisa Bond, Jennifer Lauby, and Archana Bodas LaPollo. *Sexuality & Culture* 18(1):89-102.

### Jamie McCallum

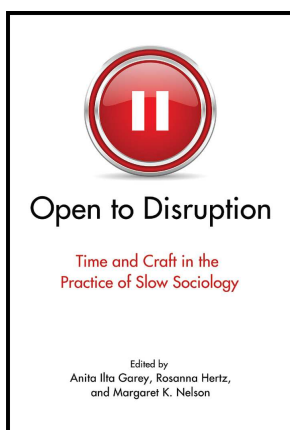


2013 *Global Unions, Local Power: The New Spirit of Transnational Labor Organizing*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press and ILR Press.

2013 "The International Division of Labor" in *Sociology of Work*, V. Smith, ed., pp. 450-452. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE.

### Peggy Nelson

2014 *Open to Disruption: Time and Craft in the Practice of Slow Sociology*, with Anita Iltis Garey and Rosanna Hertz (eds.). Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.



2014 "A Serendipitous Lesson: Or, How What We Do Shapes What We Know," in *Open to Disruption*, A. I. Garey, R. Hertz, and M. K. Nelson, eds., pp. 205-233. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.

2014 "Hollywood Sperm Donors," *Contexts* 13(1): 58-60.

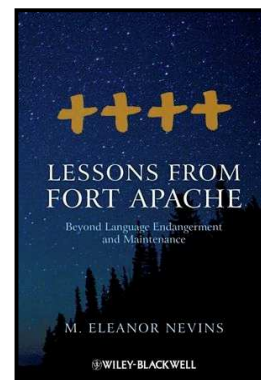
2013 "Making Sense of Donors and Donor Siblings: A Comparison of the Perceptions of Donor-Conceived Offspring in Lesbian-Parent and Heterosexual-Parent Families," with Rosanna Hertz and Wendy Kramer, in *Visions of the 21st Century Family: Transforming Structures and*

*Identities (Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, Volume 7)*, pp. 1-42. P. N. Claster and S. L. Blair (eds.). Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

2013 "Fictive Kin, Families We Choose, and Voluntary Kin: What Does the Discourse Tell Us?" *Journal of Family Theory & Review* 5: 259-281.

### Marybeth Nevins

2013 *Lessons from Fort Apache: Beyond Language Endangerment and Maintenance*. Chichester, West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell.



2013 "Speaking in the Mirror of the Other: Dialectics of Intersubjectivity and Temporality in Western Apache Discourse," with Thomas J. Nevins, *Language & Communication* 33(3): 292-306.

2013 "Grow with That, Walk with That: Hymes, Dialogicality, and Text Collections," *Journal of Folklore Research* 50(1-3): 79-116.

### Ellen Oxfeld

2014 "The Moral Significance of Food in Reform-Era Rural China," in *Ethical Eating in the Postsocialist and Socialist World*, Y. Jung, J. A. Klein, and M. L. Caldwell, eds., pp. 44-68. Berkeley: University of California Press.

### Michael Sheridan

2014 "The Social Life of Landesque Capital and a Tanzanian Case Study," in *Landesque Capital: The Historical Ecology of Enduring Landscape Modifications*, N. T. Håkansson and M. Widgren, eds., pp. 155-171. Walnut Creek, CA: Left Coast Press.

### David Stoll

2013 "Guatemala: Hubo Genocidio?" *Contrapoder* (Guatemala City), December 6, 2013.

<http://www.contrapoder.com.gt/es/edicion31/actualidad/913/Guatemala-%C2%BFHubo-genocidio.htm>

### Rebecca Tiger

2013 "Celebrity Drug Scandals, Media Double Standards," *Contexts* 12: 36-41.

2013 "Celebrity gossip blogs and the interactive construction of addiction," *New Media & Society* online first.

<http://nms.sagepub.com/content/early/2013/09/19/1461444813504272.abstract>

## Alumni News

**Carolyn Barnwell '07** makes television shows and movies for National Geographic, and recently got engaged. Warning (or, as they tell me, an enticement)



to would-be couch crashers: she and Paul Jensen have a python named Celeste.

**Lydia Beaudrot '05** has received her doctorate in ecology from UC Davis (congratulations!) and is starting a postdoc with Conservation International.

**Emily Bensen '14** is in Togo, West Africa, working on public health issues with Princeton In Africa. Write her at Association Espoir pour Demain, BP 124, Kara, Togo.

**Rowan Braybrook '10** is starting a MA program in at Johns Hopkins University, and is also managing international policy issues for Conservation International.

**Lila Buckley-Lim '04** is in Beijing with her husband Simon and her baby girl, Sage, while on sabbatical from the International Institute for the Environment and Development.



**Elissa Bullion '10** is doing a PhD in Archaeology at Washington University with a focus on Central Asia. She's on track to be Middlebury's first SOAN-to-PhD in Archaeology!

**Sophia D'Ignazio '12** will be starting a Medieval Studies program at the University of York this fall.

**Lisa (Gerstenberger) Strauss '08** is working for Cornell Career Services in Ithaca NY. Her dog is a 'blue heeler' a.k.a. an Australian cattle dog.

**Andrea Hamre '05** will soon be getting her PhD in Urban Planning from Virginia Tech, and she just

published her first lead-authored peer-reviewed article in the *Journal of Public Transportation*.

**Mindy Harvey '12** is teaching here in Middlebury at the Aurora School.

**Jasmin Johnson '05** recently got married to Micha Glaeser, and is now working in South Africa for the Malaysian Prime Minister's office.



**Donna-Marie Peters '75** teaches sociology at Temple University. She has recently published about African-American women on Martha's Vineyard.

**Jeff Reinhardsen '72** was a cabinetmaker for 13 years before joining a manufacturing company. He encourages current SOAN students to think broadly about how to turn their education into a career: "A certain percentage [of you] will undoubtedly be drawn to a clinical side of sociological theory, and we certainly need some to do that, but developing an ability to observe functional human interaction in a business context - understanding the significance of social norms where perspectives collide - and adapt one's tasks and approach to successfully effect change, is a valuable skillset in any company."

**Melissa Shapiro '13** is in the joint JD/MELP program at Vermont Law School. Her senior project (on wind energy conflicts in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom) was required reading for a 2014 J-term class.

**Tshering Yudon '13** is getting her Master's Degree from the Clinton School of Public Service at the University of Arkansas. Right now she's doing a project in Cambodia with Habitat for Humanity.

### Future Issues

As always, please send us more newsletter material at [msherida@middlebury.edu](mailto:msherida@middlebury.edu)! We love to hear from you. And as you may have noticed, we really like photos of rites of passage involving marriages and babies. Hint, hint.

**Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
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Middlebury VT 05753  
<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/soan>**





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 Page 4 – Photos from Marybeth Nevins  
 Page 5 – Buns and dumplings from <http://english.sina.com/life/2012/0704/483103.html>; Dwarf Stone by Mike Sheridan  
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