Department of Sociology

CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARSHIP

April 17, 2018
Welcome to Georgia State University Department of Sociology’s second annual Celebration of Scholarship!

Sociological scholarship offers a unique lens through which to understand complex social processes, systems of inequality, community institutions, and dynamic patterns of group interaction, whether present in our backyard of metro-Atlanta or in the other corners of the globe.

Today, we take a moment to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments and contributions made by our outstanding undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, alumni and community partners over the past academic year.

Thank you for joining us and for your support of Sociology at Georgia State!

Eric R. Wright
Professor and Chair
WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS  
Eric R. Wright, Ph.D.  
Chair, Department of Sociology

RECOGNITION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
UNDERGRADUATE
Margaret L. Andersen Scholarship  
Outstanding Undergraduate Award  
Community Service Award  
Undergraduate Awardees

GRADUATE
Teaching Associate  
Outstanding Graduate Student Award

ALUMNI
Outstanding Undergraduate Alumnus  
Outstanding Graduate Alumnus

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Community Partners of the Year

RECEPTION
DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

SAMANTHA N. HORWITZ
Margaret L. Andersen Scholarship

AMBER LEVISTER
Outstanding Undergraduate Award

KOUNNATHUM ELI SOUVANNARATH
Community Service Award

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS

MADISON HIGBEE, OLIVIA MALEY
Undergraduate Research Conference
Georgia State University

GRADUATE

DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

CHRIS VIDMAR
Teaching Associate

JORDAN F. MILLER
Outstanding Graduate Student Award
ACHIEVEMENTS

GEORGE R. GREENIDGE, JR.
2018 George M. Sparks Award
President’s Office and University Events
Georgia State University

2017-2018 Innovation Fellowship
Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning
Georgia State University

2018 Study Space XI Singapore Fellowship
Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth
College of Law
Georgia State University

2017 Royal Flame Award
Outstanding Large Scale Campus Program - Greatest MINDS Society
Office of Leadership Development
Georgia State University

LEANNA GREENWOOD, PENNY HARVEY, ASHLEY ROCKWELL, CHRIS VIDMAR
“An Assessment of Learning: Understanding Empathy Change in Sociology Undergraduates.”
Student Paper Competition—Winners
Teaching Social Problems Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems

ANA LABOY
Staff Development Fund
Georgia State University

JEFFREY LENTZ
Faculty Exchange Program
National Association of Independent Schools

ZURI CROSON MURPHY
Managing Editor
City & Community Journal
American Sociological Association

CHRIS VIDMAR
SAGE Teaching Innovations & Professional Development Award
SAGE
LEANNA GREENWOOD
“The Social Impacts of Transportation Access for Refugees in Atlanta.”
Clark Atlanta University

JEFFREY LENTZ
“The Relationship Between Minority Stress and Functional Limitation Between Older Gay and Lesbian Adults 50 Years and Older.”
Association for Gerontology in Higher Education

ZURI CROSON MURPHY
“Pleasure Activism: A New Approach”
The Sex, Race and Power Conference
Roosevelt University
MASTER’S DEGREES AWARDED

PENNY HARVEY
"It's Camp": Summer Camp Culture, the Renegotiation of Social Norms and Regulation of Gender and Sexuality.

ANA LABOY
“(I Want to) Change the World”: An Analysis of Future Orientation of Homeless Youth in Atlanta.

HERSHEDA PATEL
“Diversity ‘versus’ Quality”: How Public Liberal Arts Universities Manage Pressures to Increase Ranking, Selectivity, Access, and Diversity.

EBONY TOWNSEND-REPRESS
“Truffle Butter”: Examining Heterosexual Anal Sex and Risk for Sexually Transmitted Infections Among Black Americans.

DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED

KAYLA CHARLESTON
“But Some of Us Are Brave”: Race, Rape Culture and Sexual Violence on College Campuses.

DESMOND GOSS
“Big Black Beasts”: Race and Masculinities in Gay Pornography.

STEPHANIE P. HALL

KELSEY SCHWARZ
“Everybody Has It But No One Knows Much About It”: How Patient-Provider Communication & HPV Knowledge Impact the Lived Experience of Having HPV.

CHANDRA WARD
“Broken Bonds”: The Role of Place Based Social Bonds in Shaping Public Housing Relocation Outcomes.
PROMOTIONS
BEN KAIL
Associate Professor

ACHIEVEMENTS
ELISABETH BURGESS
Secretary
Behavioral and Social Sciences Section, Gerontological Society of America

ELISABETH BURGESS, JENNIFER CRAFT MORGAN
Civil Mooney Penalty (CMP) Funds Grant
“Building Resources for Delivering Person-Centered Care in Georgia Nursing Homes”
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services & Georgia State Survey Agency

MATHEW GAYMAN
2017 Distinguished Faculty Award
Gerontology Institute, Georgia State University

JUNG HA KIM
The Faculty International Partnership Engagement (FIPE) Grant
Office of International Initiatives, Georgia State University

The Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grant
The State of Georgia

DEIRDRE OAKLEY
Editor in Chief
City & Community Journal, American Sociological Association

DANIEL PASCIUTI
American Bar Endowment Opportunity Grant
Center for Access to Justice
College of Law, Georgia State University

AMY SPRING
Research Initiation Grant
Migration, Gentrification, and the Residential Integration of Same-Sex Couples: An Analysis of Census Microdata.
Georgia State University

MINDY STOMBLER
Council Member
Teaching and Learning Section, American Sociological Association

2017 Carla B. Howery Award (for Developing Teacher-Scholars)
American Sociological Association

Outstanding Teaching Award
College of Arts & Sciences, Georgia State University
PUBLICATIONS

KATIE ACOSTA


ELISABETH BURGESS


TOMEKA DAVIS

MATHEW GAYMAN


*Denotes Graduate Student*
BEN KAIL


JUNG HA KIM


DEIRDRE OAKLEY


*Denotes Graduate Student*
DANIEL PASCIUTI


DONALD REITZES

“Dietary Patterns among Vietnamese and Hispanic Immigrant Elementary School Children participating in an After School Program,” Megan A. McCrory, Charles L. Jaret, Jung Ha Kim, and Donald C. Reitzes, Nutrients 9,460, (5) Special Issue on Dietary Intake and Behavior in Children; (2017).


ERIN RUEL


WENDY SIMONDS

AMY SPRING


*Denotes Graduate Student


Eric R. Wright


Jenny Zhan

Sandra, L. Barnes, Ph.D., is a joint appointed Sociology Professor in the Department of Human and Organizational Development in Peabody College and the Divinity School at Vanderbilt University. She has also been the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion since July 1, 2016. Dr. Barnes is the first female African American Assistant Vice Chancellor in the history of Vanderbilt University. Prior to joining Vanderbilt in 2008, Dr. Barnes was an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University (2007-2008) and an Assistant and subsequently an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology and the African American Studies Research Center at Purdue University (2000-2007). Dr. Barnes earned her B.S. from Fisk University in mathematics and economics where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa, M.S. degrees from Georgia Institute of Technology and the Interdenominational Theological Center, and Ph.D. in Sociology from Georgia State University in December 1999.

Her research and teaching areas include: sociology of religion, urban sociology, inequality, statistics, and African American studies. She is engaged in quantitative and mixed-methodological research on race and religiosity, in general, and the Black Church, in particular. Her scholarship also considers ways in which poor and working class individuals are adaptive and resilient. Dr. Barnes’ academic record includes: 8 books, 3 edited volumes, about 50 peer-reviewed articles, 8 book chapters, two documentaries, role as editor of Issues in Race & Society: An Interdisciplinary Global Journal, and PI or Co-PI on grants totaling over $2 million dollars.


Dr. Barnes completed a one-hour documentary, “Gary, Indiana: A Tale of Two Cities,” examining what churches are doing to empower citizens in an urban space. She serves as principal investigator of a $1.5 million five-year HIV/hepatitis prevention study supported by the Department of Health and Human Services (SAMSHA) targeting young black sexual minorities. Dr. Barnes also served as President of the Association of Black Sociologists (ABS). She is the only woman to be elected President twice in the history of the organization. She has been fortunate to present her research internationally in places such as Beijing, China; Curitiba, Brazil; Dublin, Ireland; and at the Congressional Black Caucus of the Congress of the United States, Washington, D.C.
James Yancey graduated from Georgia State University in 2002 with an undergraduate degree in Sociology. He currently serves as the Founder and CEO of CloudTags, a global retail technology and analytics platform, with clients including Timberland, Crate and Barrel, Dyson, and others in the US and Europe. He is also the Founder of Belong.LGBT, a non-profit peer coaching organization that provides free life coaching, advocacy and community building across the LGBT community via hundreds of volunteers and participants. He has spent the past decade working with marketers across countries and businesses focusing on connecting and understanding online and physical world digital data.

Most recently he served as VP of Global Strategy for IgnitionOne where he oversaw the direction of the technology and services across all country markets focusing mostly on the US and Europe. Residing in London for five years, he served as Managing Director of the European division of IgnitionOne where he launched and led the business from the UK starting in January 2009.

Yancey spent the early years of his career focusing on search and digital strategies for major brands. Prior to IgnitionOne, he served as Managing Director of award winning US digital agency 360i, residing in Atlanta and New York, where he managed senior agency relationships with the company’s top clients and oversaw a large team of over 100 digital marketing specialists.

While in college at GSU, he was Founder and CEO of his first start-up, a social networking platform, Meople, seeking to monetize people’s time and attention in new ways. James is active in the tech and non-profit communities, actively advising several start-ups and initiatives around Atlanta. He lives in Ansley Park with his husband, Ant Dobson, and his wonderful dog, Winnie.
2018 COMMUNITY PARTNERS OF THE YEAR

FOREVERFAMILY, INC.
SANDRA BARNHILL, JD
Founder & National President

CHILDREN READ, INC
MARLENE ZEILER
CINDY JARET

2017-2018 INTERNSHIP SITES
Agape Community Center
Ahimsa House
American Red Cross
Atlanta Regional Commission
Children Read, Inc.
City of Atlanta Watershed Management
City of Decatur
Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee
Editorial Office of City and Community Journal
Enable of Georgia, Inc.
Empathy Project—Department of Sociology
Feminist Women’s Health Center
Foreverfamily, Inc.
Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Georgia Community Action Association
Georgia Department of Veteran’s Services
Hands on Atlanta
International Rescue Committee
NAACP
Kate’s Club
Points of Light
Salvation Army
Stacey Abrams for Governor Campaign
Skyland Trail
Office of Fulton County District Attorney
YMCA, Atlanta