

Department News & Events

Fall, 2009

We are posting regular news of students and faculty here on our News & Events webpage in lieu of an annual newsletter. If you have news or an event that you would like us to post, please e-mail Becky Richards at rebecca.richards@umontana.edu. We welcome your contributions.

Welcome New Students!

We would like to welcome all our new and returning students! This fall, we have over 350 undergraduate majors and minors and 18 new and returning graduate students. Our current MA students this fall are:

Jenna Bjorgen

Lisa Bruce (BA, 2009)

Derek Emerson (BA, 2009)

Michael Fawaz

Tony Feuchter

Rebecca Goe

Marc Hatten

Erik Hurd (BA, 2009)

Marea Johnson

Diane Matthews

Carly Phillips

Lauren Richardson (BA, 2009)

Sara Shapiro (BA, 2009)

Kristina Skogen (BA, 2009)

Amanda Taylor

Alicia Telen

Kirsten Towgood

Cynthia Wolken

Welcome and we wish you all the best fall semester!

Welcome New Faculty!

This fall, **Daisy Rooks** (Assistant Professor) joins as a new faculty member. She earned her PhD in Sociology from the University of California in Los Angeles in 2007 and came to us from the School of Management and Labor Relations at the University of Rutgers spring semester 2009. We also want to welcome **Stacy Keogh** (PhD Candidate in Sociology, University of New Mexico) as our new adjunct lecturer. She is teaching undergraduate courses for us this year, particularly courses where enrollment is high. Please see "Faculty & Staff" on our department home webpage for more background on our new faculty. Welcome and we are glad you joined us!

Previous Graduate Student Theses Now Available

As of fall 2006, the Mansfield Library began hosting electronic versions of student thesis on their ETDP Collection site. Searches can be performed there by *Academic Department* or *Author*. The Sociology Department also has a collection of bound thesis available for browsing. You can find previous MA theses completed by MA students in the Department at http://etd.lib.umt.edu/ETD-db/ETD-browse/browse?first_letter=S;browse_by=department.

Events

For upcoming Criminology Club events, please see the "Criminology Club" link on the department homepage.

This fall, the Sociology Department and the Social Science Research Lab sponsored a presentation to faculty and students by Dr. Richard Catalano, one of the foremost researchers on the prevention of delinquency and other problem behavior by youths. Dr. Catalano is the Bartley Dobb Professor for the Study and Prevention of Violence and Director of the Social Development Research Group at

the University of Washington. His work has focused on discovering risk and protective factors, designing, implementing, and evaluating programs to address these factors, and using research to improve prevention services.

Student News

R. Patrick Bixler (MA, 2008) will be starting a Ph.D. program in Sociology at Colorado State University in Fort Collins this coming spring. He has also been awarded a teaching assistantship.

Lorianne Burhop (MA, 2009) has been hired as the Public Policy Coordinator for the Montana Food Bank Network in Missoula.

Jon Decker (BA, 2003) has extended his Peace Corps assignment in the Philippines another year. In the fall, 2010, he plans to begin an MA program in global management through the World Learning SIT Graduate Institute based in Vermont. He promises to send photos of his Philippine Peace Corps work so stay tuned!

Jeff Gutierrez (MA, 2009) has been hired by Adventure Life, a travel company in Missoula that provides "quality small group tours that have a positive impact on the local culture and environment". Jeff will be developing and leading tours in the Southern South America region, including Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, and Antarctica.

Marea Johnson (MA Candidate) and **Sarah Kester** (BA, 2006) conducted visitor surveys for Glacier National Park this summer. This fall, Marea will be completing her thesis on community economic development in rural South Dakota and Sarah will be conducting visitor surveys at Chaco Canyon National Monument in New Mexico,

Kendra Halverson (BA candidate) was awarded an Anna Davis and Gordon S. Watkins Scholarship for this academic year. She is using the \$2,000 award to investigate the influence of gendered language on implicit associations through 30 trials in the department's small group research laboratory. She is assisted by **June Ellestad** (Adjunct Assistant Professor) and **Kathy Kuipers** (Assistant Professor).

Cory Kamback (MA, Candidate), **Paul LaMantia** (BA, 2008), and **Samantha Puckett** (BA, 2009) have all been hired by the Billings Police Department. Cory and Paul completed the Montana Law Enforcement Academy training and are actively working with the department; Samantha is currently in her academy training, which she will complete in mid-December 2009 when she will join the Billings police as an active officer.

This fall, **Jeff Mascormick** (MA, 2006) is beginning an interdisciplinary PhD program in Technology, Environment & Society and Nonprofit Management at the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Delaware.

In addition to their thesis research, **Carly Phillips** and **Rebecca Goe** (MA Candidates) are conducting a program evaluation of the citizen science volunteer project to monitor mountain goats, pikas, and Clark's nutcrackers in Glacier National Park. The project is assisted by **Becky Richards** (Professor) and supervised by **Jami Belt** (Wildlife Biologist, Glacier National Park).

Jenni Rorbach (MA, 2006) is now an Assistant to the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations in New York City. She works with senior officials in planning, research, and reporting in general global affairs, international environmental politics, international development financing institutions, and humanitarian aid. She also organizes meetings and seminars to promote Finland's campaign to retain a rotating seat on the U.N. Security Council. She even helps manage

operational development programs funded by the UN through agencies including the UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM, and UNAIDS.

Wendy Running Crane (MA, Candidate) submitted a paper, “A Multiple Domain Investigation of Self-Reported Use Among a Sample of White and Native American Youth”, which was accepted for presentation at the 2009 American Society of Criminology annual meeting from November 3 through 6 in Philadelphia, PA.

Lisa Speegle (MA, 2008) is working as the Food and Nutrition Program Coordinator for the nonprofit resource and referral agency, Child Care Connections. She processes government payments made to child care providers who participate in a food program designed to educate providers and children on nutrition and general wellness. She also teaches classes to child care providers and reviews their programs.

This fall, **Jessica Ulrich** (MA, 2009) is starting a PhD program in the Department of Sociology at the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

Seth Whitfield (BA, 2007) is training African Union soldiers for peacekeeping operations throughout Africa, mostly for operations in Somalia and Darfur, but also for operations in Mali, Liberia, Congo, and Lebanon (UN/AU mission). This is a U.S. State Department program to train the soldiers that are sent into these disparate conflicts specifically for the environment to which they are deployed.

Faculty News

In April, **Jim Burfeind** (Professor) received the University of Montana’s “Most Inspirational Teacher Award” at the Faculty and Staff Awards Reception. This university-wide award is given to the faculty member who is selected by a vote of

the seniors who graduated the previous year. Silent Sentinel, a senior honorary society, administers the selection of this award.

Dan Doyle (Professor) has been appointed by the Attorney General of the State of Montana to serve on the Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission. The Fatality Review Commission seeks to reduce homicides caused by family violence by carefully reviewing closed domestic homicide cases. The review is designed to identify gaps in domestic violence prevention services and better coordinate multi-agency efforts to protect those most at risk of domestic homicide.

John Domitrovich (Adjunct Lecturer) was awarded a Fulbright-Hays grant through the U.S. Department of Education to take a group of teachers to China to study social issues and economic development. Among the participants were **Rob Balch** (Professor) and **Teresa Sobieszczyk** (Associate Professor). The group spent a month last July and August touring 11 cities, including Lhasa and Shigatse in Tibet. Besides visiting many historic sites, they attended presentations by a variety of professors and corporate officials on topics such as social and economic reform, education, ethnic minorities, environmental problems, internal migration, and Chinese culture and religion.

This fall, **Dusten Hollist** (Associate Professor) received promotion from assistant professor and was granted tenure with The University of Montana. He was also first author on a research article that was published. Joining him as co-authors were Lorine Hughes and **Lonnie Schaible** (MA, 1999). (See: Hollist, Dusten R., Lorine A. Hughes, and Lonnie M. Schaible. 2009. "Adolescent maltreatment, negative emotion, and delinquency: An assessment of general strain theory and family based strain." *Journal of Criminal Justice* 37:379-387.)

Kathy Kuipers (Assistant Professor) received a University of Montana merit award for research and service this fall. She is currently conducting experimental research in the Small Groups Lab on guilt and racial stereotypes with two current undergraduate sociology majors, **Casey Mitchell** and **Dylan McShane**. With support from the University of Montana's Bridges to Baccalaureate Program and with undergraduate student, **Tara Top Sky**, she completed a survey of Native

American identities on the Rocky Boy's Reservation in Montana and in the Missoula area. Dr. Kuipers also presented a paper, "Trust as a Cue for Leader Legitimacy: Women in Leadership Positions," at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association in San Francisco this past August, and she co-authored a research article that was published. (See: Sell, Jane and Kathy J. Kuipers. 2009. "A Structural Social Psychological View of Gender Differences in Cooperation." *Sex Roles: A Journal of Research*. 61:317-24).

Becky Richards (Professor) received sabbatical leave this fall semester to begin a research study focused on the opportunities and constraints that the U.S./Canadian border poses for residents in northwest Montana and southeast British Columbia communities. She is collaborating with **Minna Piipponen** (Director of Russian and Border Studies, University of Joensuu, Finland) who will be in residence with our department during spring semester 2010 on a Fulbright Junior Scholar research grant awarded by Finland and the U.S.

This past summer, **Daisy Rooks** (Assistant Professor) began a new research project that she is conducting with **Carolina Bank-Munoz** (Associate Professor, Brooklyn College). She and Bank-Munoz are interviewing teachers and administrators who work for charter schools in New York and Los Angeles. They are examining working and teaching conditions to assess the sustainability and potential of charter schools as tools for school reform. In August, she also presented a paper, "Making the Entrepreneurial Teacher: Teaching Accountability, Teaching Teachers", and she co-organized a session, "Activism in the Classroom", at the American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting in San Francisco.

Teresa Sobieszczyk (Associate Professor) has been named to serve on a statewide 2010 Census Complete Count Committee, chaired by Lieutenant Governor John Bohlinger. The Committee will focus on ensuring an accurate count of the people in Montana during the 2010 Census. A complete and accurate

count is particularly important because for each person counted, the state will receive a total of \$4,000 of federal money over the next decade. She will chair the committee's Education and Library Subcommittee, which will target outreach to schools, libraries, and campuses across the state.

Celia Winkler (Associate Professor) published an invited chapter on the development of feminist sociological theory in the non-profit, global on-line *Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems* sponsored by UNESCO. (See Winkler, C. 2009. "Feminist sociological theory" In *Historical Developments and Theoretical Approaches in Sociology* [Ed. Charles Crothers] in Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS) developed under the Auspices of the UNESCO. Oxford, UK: Eolss Publishers, [<http://www.eolss.net>].