At the 2012 SURE showcase more than 400 undergraduate students presented their research. Among those students were twenty Sociology students. Sociology faculty served as faculty mentors and judges at the event and several Sociology students were awarded scholarships.

Above: Kate Griffin stands next to her poster. Her research is titled “Dividing America?: The role of ‘Division Streets’ in residential segregation.”

Above: President Hitt speaks with Ida Eskamani (blue shirt) about her research on the impact of economic pressures on youth civic involvement.

Above: Jerian Benwell-Lybarger presents her research titled “Eatonville Food Access”.

Left: Rachel Sewell presents her research on sex and race differences in perceptions of attractiveness of women.

Right: Shawn Gaulden explains his research on the effects of higher educational experiences on religiosity and spirituality to Doctoral Student Denise Crisafi.
Congratulations to all Spring 2012 Sociology Graduates!

Sociology BA Grads

Steven Addington
David Ashby
Paul Baker
Juan Barredo
Anthony Bellamy
Richard Bouthillier
Parker Brown
Lisa Chiapputo
Krystal Christopher
Savannah Cotton
Jacquelyn Coward
Carla Cox
Allison Cummins

Clinton Dillard
Christina Eisenberg
Ida Eskamani
Elaina Gray
Kate Griffin
Marie Gualtieri
Michelle Higgins
Valarie Hill
Eric Irizarry
Jessica Johnson
Kayli Keough
Nichole Krause

Lionel Lambert
Joanna Leonard
Keith Louden
Elizabeth Lucht
Andres Lues
Joannivette Malave-Matias
Daphney Marc
Stacy Martin
Tiffany McDaniels
Vanessa Morales
Grace Nicholl
Shantelle Ortiz
Ariadna Pena
Rebecca Perez-Espejo

Colleen Powers
Rachel Renkens
Maria Roman
Howard Sanders
Rachel Sewell
Nicole Stark
Monica Steady
Adrienne Tegreeny
Jacob Van Valkenburg
Dawn Vedera
Alexandra Vega
Kelly Worthen
Madison Zierk

Social Sciences B.S. Grads

Naresh Ganesh
Kathryn Hart
Brittni Hernandez
Samuel Liberatore
Giulietta Maresca
William Wharton

Applied Sociology M.A. Grads

Sara Afflerback
Melissa Henson
William Mader
Marlenys Rojas-Reid

To celebrate the accomplishments of all Sociology graduates the Sociology Department began the first of what will hopefully become a tradition at the end of each term. Graduates were invited to stop by the department to be congratulated by faculty and to share some refreshments.

Left: Dean Johnson congratulates Dr. Timothy Colyer at the COS Doctoral Celebration.

Sociology Ph.D. Grads

Timothy Colyer
Megan Duesterhaus
Debra Marshall
Earl Mowatt
The annual data analysis research symposium was held on the afternoon of April 17th. This year Sociology students presented more than eighty posters representing topics such as food security, domestic violence and volunteerism.

Right: Dr. Lin Huff-Corzine (blue shirt) speaks with a student about her research while Dr. David Gay (tan shirt) looks on.

Right: Dr. Warren Waren (in the background) speaks with a student about her research. Dr. Liz Grauerholz (in the foreground) speaks with Katie Beckmann about her research.

Above: Nichole Krause (left), Bridget Besoner and Maria Akinwolere show off their hard work.
Every spring students in the Sociology Data Analysis classes get together and present their yearlong research projects to each other and the faculty. Posters line the walls of the fourth floor in Howard Phillips Hall and faculty judges spend several days reviewing all the posters. This year there was a tie for first place. Lisa Chiapputo was a 1st place recipient for her project titled “Perceptions of obesity in the workplace”. Nichole Krause was also a first place award winner for her project titled “Student’s awareness of Victim Services”. Emmanuel Jackson received 3rd place for his project titled “Blending in: Downplaying homelessness in society”.

Above: Dr. Amy Donley stands with this years research symposium award winners. From left to right: Nichole Krause, Lisa Chiapputo, and Emmanuel Jackson.

Recognition of Student Achievement

On April 23rd, the Sociology department held our annual recognition of student achievement and AKD induction ceremony. Dr. Jason Ford served as the master of the ceremonies with Dr. Amy Donley presenting awards to the winners of the undergraduate data analysis research symposium and Dr. Amanda Koontz Anthony delivering the keynote address for the AKD induction.

Fourteen students were inducted into the Sociology Honor Society, Alpha Kappa Delta. The three greek words that comprise the name of our honor society mean “To investigate humanity for the purpose of service”. Ten students were able to attend the ceremony. Below, they are from left to right in the photo below: Mindy Weller, Gary L’Hommedieu, Rebecca Knox, Jessica Chase, Kristie Afonso, Shawn Gaulden, Alexandra Minnick, Nicole Owens, Richard Webster, and Stacey Yount.

Departmental Awards

The Department of Sociology offers two awards for graduate students each year. One award is for excellence in graduate student teaching and the other is for the best student paper. This year Xavier Guadalupe Diaz is the recipient of the Graduate Student Teaching Award and Anne Bubriski-McKenzie is the recipient of the Graduate Student Paper Award.
Sociology was well represented at SURE this year with twenty students presenting their research. Four of these students were awarded scholarships. At the awards breakfast held on April 13th these students were recognized. At the “Sociology” table (above) from left to right: Dr. Jason Ford, Dr. Betsy Swart (winner of the COS Dissertation Award), Dr. Jana Jasinski, Marie Gualtieri (SURE Honorable Mention), Dr. Amy Donley (Faculty Mentor Extraordinaire), Emmanuel Jackson (SURE First Place), Rachel Sewell (SURE Second Place), and Genee Glascoe (SURE Honorable Mention).

**COS Excellence Award Recipients**

Left: Dr. Betsy Swart, the 2012 College of Sciences Recipient of the Award for Outstanding Dissertation shown with her adviser Dr. Jana Jasinski.

Right: Dr. Liz Grauerholz was honored at this year’s Founder’s Day ceremony. Liz is the recipient of the College of Sciences Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award.

**Honors in the Major**

Kate Griffin, Marie Gualtieri, Colleen Powers, Rachel Sewell, Kelly Worthen
Sociology students are active in speaking out against violence while they are students and after they have graduated. Shown in the photo above and left Master’s student Abigail Malick, Harbor House Staff, Soc alumni Kelly Borling, and Soc alumni Drs. Betsy Swart and Monica Mendez participating in an anti-violence event at UCF. Abigail also starred in the UCF production of the Vagina Monologs. She is shown here with the rest of the cast.

The Sociology Club/AKD participated in Relay for Life at UCF on April 13th, 2012. The Relay for Life was at Memory Mall and lasted 18 hours. We walked many laps and sold bracelets, baked goods and raffled off gift baskets. Our team raised $518.50 and consisted of nine members. The nine members were Alexandra Minnick (President), Monica Steady (Vice-President), Katelynn Messer (Secretary), Sarah Burda (Treasurer), Kayla Ward, Melanie Avila, Destiny Ferrell, Trudy Fletcher, and Kathleen Ortiz.

In addition to the Relay for Life the Sociology Club also participated in the Knights Helping Knights Food Drive and the Cystic Fibrosis Walk. The Club motto is Small Steps = Bigger Steps.
Research Accomplishments: Meetings and Workshops

We had great attendance at professional meetings this year!

Southern Sociological Society

Undergraduate Students
Juan Barredo
Jerian Benwell-Lybarger
Krytal Christopher
Brittney Dennis
Shwan Gaulden

Graduate Students
Kristi Afonso
Anne Bubriski
Candice Campanaro
Jessica Chase
Xavier Guadalupe-Diaz
Stephanie Guittar

Matthew Hiesterman
Wendi Kane
Andrew Latinsky
Nicole Owens
Marc Settembrino
Melissa Tetzlaff Bemiller
Tangela Towns
Mindy Weller

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
Abigail Malick
William Watkins

Southwestern Social Sciences
Candice Campanaro
Melissa Henson
Mindy Weller

Graduate Research Forum
Kristie Afonso
Brittany Minnick
Hanson
Nicole Owens

UCF/USDA Community Disaster Resilience Workshop

On May 29 and 30, 2012, Dr. Fernando Rivera and Marc Settembrino, a doctoral student, participated in an interdisciplinary workshop on Disaster Resilience. The workshop was co-hosted by the Departments of Sociology and Public Administration and Planning and featured top international and domestic disaster researchers. The two-day workshop was part of an on-going USDA funded research project studying community disaster resilience in Central Florida. Workshop participants will be featured in a forthcoming edited volume titled “Disaster Resiliency: Interdisciplinary Perspectives” and will be available in December 2012 from Routledge. Dr. Rivera and Marc presented their paper “Toward a Sociological Framework of Community Resilience” which proposes using social capital measures to assess pre and post-disaster facilitators and barriers to community resilience.

For more information on the workshop or edited volume, please visit the links below:

http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415626897/
http://www2.cohpa.ucf.edu/pubadm/workshops.shtml
Student Publications


UCF MA student **Ashish Patel** and his advisor Jim Wright recently published “Rap and the Glorification of Guns and Violence in Inner City Youth Culture” in Dee Wood Harper, Lydia Voigt, and William E. Thornton (eds), *Violence: Do We Know it When We See It?* A Reader (Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press), 2012.


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*Graduate Students Present Their Research at the Annual Graduate Research Forum*

Three Sociology graduate students presented their research at the Graduate Research Forum. Shown above master’s student Brittany Minnick Hanson speaking with Provost Waldrop about her research titled “Growing health: An evaluation of community gardens in Winter Park, Florida. Brittany’s faculty mentor is Dr. Jim Wright. Shown right is master’s student Nicole Owens talking to faculty judge Dr. David Gay about her research titled “Medicine is the easy part: Emotion work in the veterinary profession”. Nicole’s faculty mentor is Dr. Liz Grauerholz.

Shown left is master's student Kristie Afonso. Her research is titled “Childhood mistreatment and later offending: A test of Agnew’s General Strain Theory”. Her faculty mentor is Dr. Jason Ford.
### News from the ISBS

#### Going my Way?
ISBS has just completed a multi-pronged research effort to assess public opinion and ridership intentions concerning metro Orlando’s new commuter rail system, SunRail. Slated to open in 2014, SunRail is intended to relieve rush hour congestion on I-4 by getting commuters out of their cars and into the train. SunRail stations are already under construction in a number of communities along the route, which will run initially from Deland through downtown Orlando and terminate at Sand Lake Road, and ultimately to Poinciana in Osceola County. The research effort was four-pronged: A telephone survey of 520 persons residing in Zip Code areas adjacent to or intersected by the planned route; an Internet “clone” of the phone survey open to anyone and ultimately completed by 2,248 respondents; a parking lot “intercept” survey of about a hundred commuters parking in downtown parking garages or suburban (park and ride) lots; and a series of focus groups with various target populations. All methods showed highly favorable opinions towards the commuter rail system and higher-than-expected ridership intentions. There will never be smooth sailing on I-4 during the morning and evening rush hours, but SunRail might well achieve some modest reduction in the overall commuter flow.

#### You Owe Yourself a Drink
In the past months, ISBS has also completed a combined phone and face to face survey of alcohol retailers in East Orange County, many of them near Valencia, Rollins and UCF and all of them face with issues about how to reduce sales to underage people. Overall, more than 130 establishments were surveyed: 50 restaurants, 29 bars and package stores, 43 convenience and drug stores, and nine groceries. Nearly all of them were found to post signs concerning illegal sales of alcohol to minors, and most even thought that these signs did increase awareness of customers and employees to underage drinking laws. Most also felt that underage drinking was a “very” or at least “somewhat” serious problem in Orange County. On the other hand, surprisingly large percentages (one in five) thought it was true that authorities consider underage sales near college campuses to be a less serious offense than elsewhere (this, assuredly, is false) and an equal percentage said they didn’t know. Most outlets say they check IDs for anyone who looks under 30; a few say they check IDs for all patrons; very few leave this to the discretion of employees. And large percentages provide training to their staffs on responsible alcohol service and sales. On the other hand, a surprisingly large percentage (again, about one in five) did not have written policies concerning alcohol sales and service that employees could refer to.

#### What’s next?
Data collection is currently underway for a survey of lawn maintenance and fertilizer behaviors among residents in the Tampa Bay Estuary. Later this spring, we will be starting a survey of recreational boaters in Brevard County. Other proposals and projects are also pending.
Doctoral Student Wins Teaching Award

Doctoral Student Xavier Guadalupe Diaz was this year’s recipient of the Sage Innovations and Professional Development Award. This award provides financial support to attend the ASA’s Section on Teaching & Learning’s pre-conference workshop “The Art at the Heart of Learner-Centered Teaching” in Denver. He will be honored at both the Section’s business meeting and at the Sage reception.

Sociologist find that women pay more.

Study by Sociology faculty and students shows gendered pricing costs women more. A recently published article by Megan Duesterhaus, Liz Grauerholz, Rebecca Weichsel and Nicholas Guittar found that women pay more than men for products and services such as deodorant, dry cleaning, and haircuts.

Sociology Student Athlete Shines.

Sociology student Jackie Coward (photo right) recently won the 100meter hurdle even at the Conference USA outdoor championship. She medaled and recorded times among the NCAA’s top 25 in the 100 hurdles.

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