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Congratulations Sociology Graduates!

Sociology PhD Graduates

Spring 2009
Christa Polczynski Olson
Rae Taylor



Master's in Applied Sociology Graduates

Fall 2008
Patrick Burt
Shirley Dames
Nicole Bauer



Spring 2009
Meagan Arrastia
Jennifer Diaz
Hilary Dotson
Wendi Kane
Andrew Lash
Leslie Maloney
Janel Rabinowitz
Tangela Towns

Fall 2008 Sociology Bachelors Graduates

John Blasi
Jezielyn Cintron
Jonathan Colen
Jennifer Cork
Rodrigo Guillen
Lindsay Hemphill
Nicole Kushner
Brian McClary
Allison McKee

Spring 2009 Sociology Bachelors Graduates

Ryan Anderson	Justin McCullough
Crisy Brutus	Jean Nicolas
Lucia Castresana	Michael Palermo, Jr.
Amanda Craig	Danalyn Prokopowicz
Alake Davis	Leonard Ross
Erin Frank	Erin Ruff
Jennifer Hall	Courtney Struble
Kelly Hilvar	Thomas Welsh
Adam Maldonado	Doris Wilkinson
	Katrina Wilson

Undergraduate Student Accomplishments

Sociology was well represented at this year's SURE showcase. The following students presented their research:

- Eda Abolfathi
- Deborah Bernacett
- Katie Bishop
- Jennifer Hall
- Lisa Fedrowitz
- Jessica Johnson
- Stephen Silber
- Lindsey Singer
- Tina Trunzo

Courtney Struble

Two students also won awards at the Showcase:

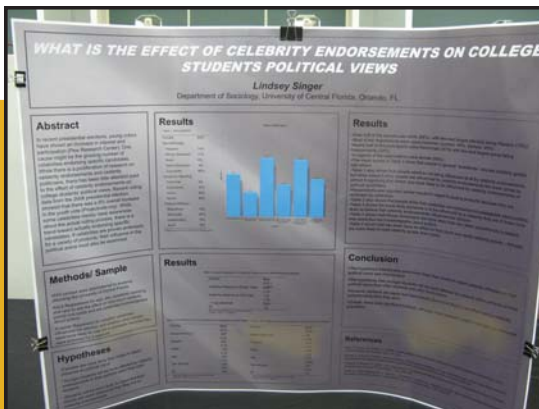
2nd Place: Lindsey B. Singer

What is the Effect of Celebrity Endorsements on College Students' Political Views

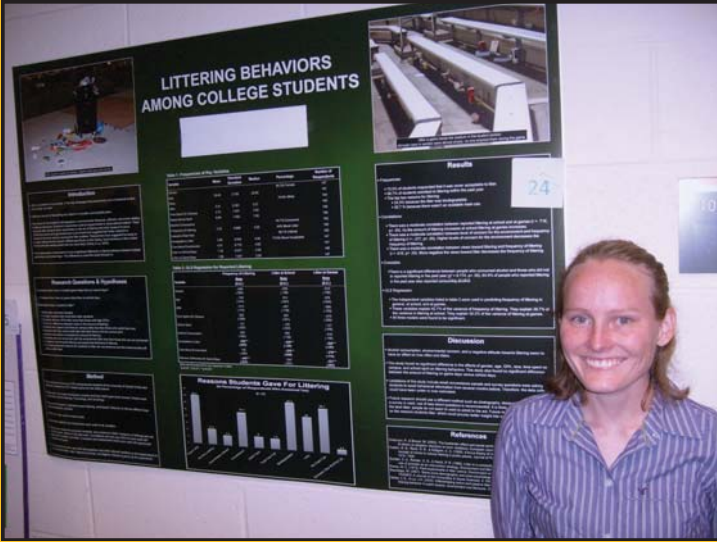
Honorable Mention: Lisa J. Fedrowitz

Stalking Advice by Law Enforcement Agencies: An Examination of Police Department Web Sites

Lisa Fedrowitz also presented her research at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Meeting in Boston.

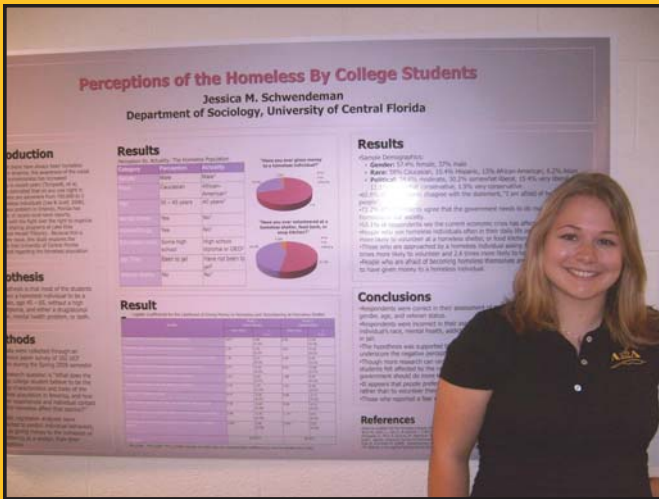


2009 Annual Data Analysis Research Symposium



Every spring Sociology majors spend an afternoon sharing their research projects with faculty, staff and each other at the annual undergraduate research symposium. At this event students present posters representing their year long projects to the faculty who then rate each poster and select the top posters. This year the first place winner was "Littering Behavior among College Students" by Samantha Snyder, second place was awarded to Jessica Schwendeman's "Perceptions of the Homeless by College Students" and third place was awarded to the team of Hilda Remh and Tina Trunzo for the project titled "Do College Women Know What Rape and Sexual Assault Is?"

Above: Samantha Snyder stands next to her first place project
 Below: Jessica Schwendeman and her project on the homeless



Tina Trunzo (left) and Hilda Remh (Right)

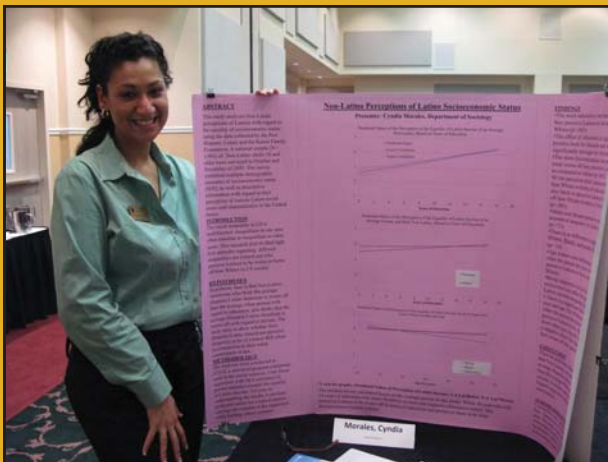


Graduate Student Accomplishments

Sociology Graduate Students were very active this year. Presentations were made at the following conferences:

- * American Society of Criminology
- * Southern Sociological Society
- * Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
- * Mid South Sociological Association
- * Southwestern Social Science Association
- * Homicide Research Working Group
- * Society for the Study of Social Problems
- * American Sociological Society
- * Puerto Rican Studies Association
- * National Association for Hispanic Scholars

- ◆ Doctoral student **Christian Bolden** was the recipient of the College of Sciences Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching Award.
- ◆ Doctoral student **Melanie Carlson** was the recipient of the Sociology Graduate Student Teaching Award.
- ◆ Doctoral student **Jenna Truman** authored the paper that received the Sociology Graduate Student Paper Award.
- ◆ Doctoral Alumni **Dr. Michael Bachmann** was the recipient of the College of Sciences Dissertation Award.
- ◆ Doctoral student **Chastity Blankenship** was awarded the SAGE/Pine Forge Teaching Innovations & Professional Development Award to attend the ASA Teaching and Learning workshop
- ◆ Incoming Doctoral Student **Tangela Towns** and incoming master's student **Deneisha Legget** received a FAMU Feeder Fellowships.
- ◆ Incoming Doctoral Student **Meng Ke** and incoming Master's Student **Katelan Smith** are the recipients of a UCF Provost Fellowship.
- ◆ Doctoral student **Christian Bolden** received the Delores Auzenne Fellowship.
- ◆ **Melanie Carlson** accepted a tenure track position at the College of Mt. St. Josephs in Cincinnati, OH.
- ◆ **Minna Laurikkala** accepted a tenure track position at Shenandoah University in Winchester, VA
- ◆ **Dr. Christa Polczynski Olson** accepted a tenure track position at Bridgewater State College in Bridgewater, MA.
- ◆ **Dr. Rae Taylor** accepted a tenure track position at Loyola University New Orleans.
- ◆ **Rachel Rayburn** was elected to be the student representative for the Southwestern Social Science Association (Sociology affiliate)



Doctoral Student Cyndia Morales presented her research at the Graduate Research Forum.



At a College of Sciences reception for graduate award winners Christian Bolden (left) accepts the Graduate Teaching Award from Dr. Panousis.

News from the ISBS

AASRO: ISBS has recently joined the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations (AASRO). AASRO was formed in March 2008 with a mission to promote excellence and integrity in the conduct of survey research in academic settings.

The Arts in Orlando: In December 2008 we completed a survey for the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission on popular attitudes about the Arts in Orlando. We found that Central Floridians value a strong and vibrant arts community and a range of artistic and cultural opportunities.

Metroplan Orlando: We also recently completed our fifth major study for Metroplan Orlando, our regional transportation planning agency. Less than one Central Floridian in four agreed or strongly agreed that what is now being done to improve our transportation system is adequate. (Four years ago, it was one resident in three.) The study also showed strong support for the SunRail commuter rail project and, more generally, greater investments in mass transit and less reliance on highways.

New Projects: Projects now underway or in the planning stages include a survey of public opinion about the United Way, an update of our 2004 survey of housing conditions in Orlando, and a survey of popular perceptions of the homeless and local agencies that serve them.

Faculty Accomplishments

- ◇ **Dr. Ida Cook** was elected to be the Chair of the Faculty Senate. She is now known as The Honorable Dr. Ida Cook.
- ◇ **Dr. Jay Corzine** was appointed to the Program Committee for the 2009 American Society of Criminology Annual Meetings.
- ◇ **Dr. Tracy Dietz** was the General Program Director for the Southwestern Social Science Association.
- ◇ **Dr. Lin Huff-Corzine** was promoted to Associate Vice Provost.
- ◇ **Dr. Lin Huff-Corzine** was elected to be the program chair for the Homicide Research Working Group Annual Meeting.
- ◇ **Dr. Jana Jasinski** received a Teaching Inventive Program (TIP) Award.
- ◇ **Dr. Jana Jasinski** was elected to be Chair of the Harbor House Advisory Committee.
- ◇ **Dr. John Lynxwiler** is beginning his second term as the editor of *Sociological Spectrum*.
- ◇ **Dr. Libby Mustaine** was elected to be the Program Chair for the 2009 Southern Criminal Justice Association Annual Conference.
- ◇ **Dr. Fernando Rivera** was elected as council member for the ASA Latino section. He is also the chair for the American Sociological Association's Latino/a Section Distinguished Career Award.
- ◇ **Dr. Fernando Rivera** was accepted to participate in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Connections Third Annual Symposium.
- ◇ Three books written by **Dr. Jim Wright** were reissued this year: *Armed and Considered Dangerous: A Survey of Felons and Their Firearms*; *The State of the Masses*. And *Address Unknown: The Homeless in America*.
- ◇ **Dr. Jim Wright** was elected to be Chair of the Orlando Area Trust for the Homeless.

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Undergraduate Director: Libby Mustaine
Graduate Director: Jana Jasinski
Coordinator of Administrative Services:
Tami Pullin
Program Assistant: Tonya Walker



AKD Induction

In Fall 2008 twenty students were inducted in the Sociology Honor Society Alpha Kappa Delta.

Undergraduate

Natoya Aird
Tristen Anderson
Sandra Cordova
Sheiletta Fisher
Elena Lovina
Kimberly Kampe
Adam Maldonado
Karlie Schaefer
Lindsey Singer
Shelley Thompson

Graduate

Donavan Bowers
Melanie Carlson
Lucretia Cooney
Hilary Dotson
Adrienne Horne
Jason Levine
Leslie Maloney
Ashely McGrath
Christa Polczynski Olson
Brandon Presley
Marlenys Rojas
Tangela Towns

Summer 2009 Course Offerings

Summer B

SYD 3800 Sex & Gender in Society
SYD 3700 Race & Ethnicity
SYG 2000 Introduction to Sociology
SYG 2010 Social Problems
SYP 3511 Sociology of Murder
SYP 3520 Criminology
SYP 3530 Juvenile Delinquency
SYP 3650 Sports and Society

*For more information about these offerings, and for our course schedule for Fall 2009 and Spring 2010, see your Sociology Advisor.



Ashley McGrath (l) is shown here with Dr. Libby Mustaine after the induction ceremony.

News from our Alumni

Kristina Dzara, a sociology masters alumni just successfully defended her dissertation at Southern Illinois University—Carbondale.

This fall, the AKD Induction Ceremony will be on Wednesday, September 30 from 2:30-4pm.

Look for your invitation to join AKD coming to your mailbox soon!

To be invited, you need a UCF CUM GPA of 3.4 and be a junior Sociology major. If you feel you qualify and do not receive an invitation by June 30, please contact Dr. Libby Mustaine at: emustain@mail.ucf.edu.

Newsletter Editors:
Dr. Jana Jasinski and Dr. Libby Mustaine

