

Arkansas State University

Arkansas State University Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Newsletter

CSG Convocation of Scholars Awards Night



Congratulations!

We want to commend Kelly Mendes for receiving the Distinguished Service Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Communications. She was a finalist for the Wilson Award.



Tuesday, April 11, at 6.30pm in the Arkansas River Room, the Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Department held its Awards Reception during the A-State Convocation of Scholars.



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CSG Convocation of Scholars Awards Night



Kaylee P. Lewis
Best Undergraduate Student Sociology



Tomomi Hashimoto
John C. Osoinach Scholarship



Chris B. Hankins
Best Graduate Student Criminology

Other Students Recognized
Justin X. Sims—Best Undergraduate Student Criminology
James A. Luht—Best Graduate Student Sociology





A Letter From The Chair:

The spring semester is almost over and summer is just around the corner. It has been a busy and a positively eventful past three and a half months. We have over 50 students who will have fulfilled all the requirements and will be ready to walk to receive their undergraduate degrees in the upcoming Commencement Ceremony on May 13. Also, on the same day we have three students who will be conferred upon the masters degree in Sociology or Criminal Justice. We are proud of all these students and of the four amongst them who were recognized as the best students at the Annual Convocation of Scholars Ceremony on April 11. The four students are Kaylee Lewis for BA Sociology, Justin Sims for BA Criminology, James Luht for MA Sociology and Chris Hankins for MA in Criminal Justice. This year's awardee of John C. Osoinach Scholarship prize is Tomomi Hashimoto. Further three of our students received college and university level recognitions. Kaylee Lewis who will be joining Law School at University of Saint Louis is the recipient of the college level 4.0 Undergraduate Student Award. Anita Marshall received the Outstanding Graduate Student award from the Graduate Student Council and Kelly Mendes was one of the eight finalists for the prestigious Wilson Award. Congratulations!! On the research front, the departmental Annual Research Symposium was an informative and an interesting affair with half a dozen research presentations by faculty and graduate students and panel sessions on preparing for graduate school and job market. Several of the faculty members presented their ongoing research at a plethora of reputable platforms across the nation too. Additional applause is due to Rebecca Barrett-Fox, Sarah Kendig and Joe Rukus. Rebecca is the recipient of the New Scholar Award from the National Education Association. Sarah is the Program-Level Assessment Committee Professor of the Month and Joe's application for grant to the Faculty Research Awards Committee was favorably assessed. The news on faculty hiring is a good one as both the Sociology and Criminology search processes have concluded successfully. Two promising teachers and scholars, Drs. Turgut Ozkan and Matthew Wright will be joining us in the Fall. The enrollment for the forthcoming Fall semester looks robust and the graduate and undergraduate curricula revisions that I had spoken about in the Fall 2016 Newsletter have been approved. So we have reasons to look forward to Fall 2017. In the meantime, I would like to wish you a very pleasant and a productive summer.



Interested In Graduate School?

Are you interested in graduate school at Arkansas State University? The department of Criminology, Sociology, and Geography has two great graduate programs! You can get a Master's in Sociology or Criminal Justice. There are many benefits to graduate study including:

- Better job prospects
- Now more than ever upper-level jobs are requiring graduate degrees.
- Small class sizes
- Greater interaction with professors.
- A chance to get real world experience in academia with a graduate assistantship.

Contact Dr. Joseph Rukus (jrukus@astate.edu), Director of Graduate Programs for Criminology, Sociology, and Geography for more information. The deadline to apply for Fall 2017 is May 1st.

The 5th Annual Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Research Symposium

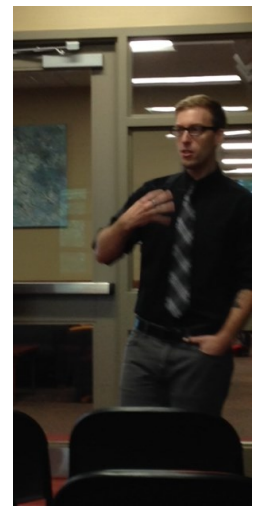


The Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Department held their 5th annual Research Symposium in the Multicultural Center at the Arkansas State University Reng Student Union on Friday, April 21st. Four faculty members of the department presented their scholarly research papers at the symposium. A panel of faculty members spoke on jobs and professionalism. Two graduate students and three undergraduate students also presented papers at the symposium. A panel of graduate students and faculty spoke on graduate school.



Undergraduate Presentation:

Tarnisha Tilson — “Does Recidivism Vary by Crime Type?”



Faculty Presentation:

Dr. Todd Fuist – “We Fight for the Next Seven Generations: Constructing Authority Among Anti-Coal Activists in Whatcom County, Washington”



Graduate Student Presentation:

Amanda Cross — “Who Steps in To Defend People Online?”



Undergraduate Presentation:

Kelly Bass - “Are We Being Fair Yet? Women, their Work, & Progressing Towards Equality in the Workplace”



Panel on Graduate School

Dr. Matthew DeGarmo, Kelly Mendes, Anita J. Marshall, Amanda Cross

The 5th Annual Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Research Symposium



Faculty Presentation:

Dr. Matthew Costello – “Who Produces Online Hate Material? An Assessment of Individual Attributes”



Faculty Presentation:

Dr. Veena Kulkarni – “Educational Assortative Mating: Exploring the Patterns among Legal Immigrants to the United States”



Undergraduate Presentation:

Evelina Eriksson - “Sexual Torture at Abu Ghraib: As a Systematic and Pivotal Module of Power Relations”



Panel on Jobs & Professionalization

Dr. Mary Donaghy
Dr. William Hinkle
Dr. Sarah Kendig



Faculty Presentation:

Dr. Joseph Rukus - “We Don’t Like Your Type Around Here: Regional and Residential Differences in Exposure to Online Hate Material Targeting Sexuality”



Graduate Presentation:

Anita J. Marshall – “Domestic Violence and Women’s Economic Status: A Study of the Correlation Across States Between Economic Empowerment and Intimate Partner Violence”

The 5th Annual Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Research Symposium

Honor Society Inductions

Alpha Kappa Delta

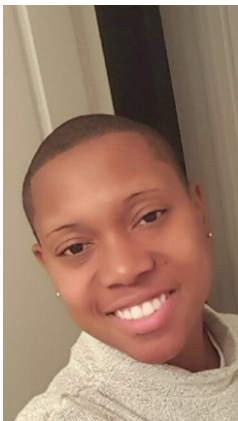


Alpha Phi Sigma



Student Spotlight

Criminology major, **Tarnisha Tilson**, is researching recidivism. Recidivism is the tendency for an inmate to re-lapse into criminal behavior after their release from prison. Tarnisha is looking at the literature published on recidivism compared to findings in two databases: The Prisoner Recidivism Analysis for 1994 and the Prisoner Recidivism Analysis for 2005. Her study will compare the recidivism rate for white males, black males, and Hispanic males for drug possession, drug trafficking, and burglary. She will look at inmates that were between 21 to 25 years old and those 31 to 35 years old at the time of their release. Other criteria include that they served 13 to 24 months with two or less previous arrests. Her study will examine changes in these rates for both the 1994 and 2005 data.



Recent Faculty Publications

Dr. Matt Costello:

Costello, Matthew. "Oil Ownership and Domestic Terrorism" Forthcoming in *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts, and Change*.

Hawdon, James, Matthew Costello, Thomas Ratliff, Lori Hall, and Jessica Middleton. "Conflict Management Styles and Cybervictimization: Extending Routine Activity Theory" Forthcoming in *Sociological Spectrum*.

Costello, Matthew, Joe Rukus, and James Hawdon. "We Don't Like Your Type Around Here: Regional and Residential Differences in Exposure to Online Hate Material Targeting Sexuality." Under Review at *Deviant Behavior*.

Jenkins, Craig J. and Matthew Costello. "Oil Wars or Rentier Peace? The Effects of Oil Rents on Political Rebellion" Under Review at *American Sociological Review*.

Bernatzky, Colin, Matthew Costello, and James Hawdon. "Who Sees Violent Hate Online?" In Progress.

Dr. Rebecca Barrett-Fox:

Her essay "Constraints and Freedoms in Conservative Christian Women's Lives" appears in Oxford University Press's new *Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Interdisciplinary and Inter-sectional Approaches*.

On April 13, Dr. Barrett-Fox presented a lecture at the Lincoln Cottage, President Lincoln's summer home and the place where he drafted the Emancipation Proclamation. A National Parks Site, the Lincoln Cottage is a museum of "Big Ideas." I was part of a speaking event called Hate of the Nation that featured Civil Rights hero Dorie Ladner and speakers from the Southern Poverty Law Center and the Cato Institute. My presentation, "Measuring Hate by its Consequences: Love and Hate in Westboro Baptist Church Pickets?," was delivered in President Lincoln's bedroom (which comfortably seats 70!), which was a real treat. Those interested in the talk can find it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CU3fJrRMo4>

Dr. Veena Kulkarni:

Kulkarni, Veena S. and Douglas F. Barnes. 'Education in Rural Peru: Exploring the Role of Household Electrification in School Enrollment', *Journal of Research in Rural Education*, Forthcoming.

Dr. Bill Stroud:

Stroud, Hubert B. and Mary K. Kilmer, "Innovative Potable Water Saving Techniques at Cape Coral," *Florida Water Resources Journal*, April 2017, pp. 12 – 16.

Congratulations To Our Faculty!



Kendig is April Professor of the Month

Congratulations to Dr. Sarah Kendig, Assistant Professor of Sociology, who has been named April Professor of the Month by the Program-Level Assessment Committee and Office of Assessment. In an online video, she discusses how the Sociology program used curriculum mapping techniques to improve the overall program and how graduate students have helped develop a survey for gathering data to evaluate the undergraduate program.



Barrett-Fox Wins NEA New Scholar Prize

The National Education Association has awarded Dr. Rebecca Barrett-Fox, Assistant Professor of Sociology, its New Scholar Prize for her article, "The 4th R: Encountering Conservative Christianity in the Classroom," which appeared in the journal *Thought & Action*. The article, based on her experiences at A-State, touches on the ways messages about higher education can shape what students expect and how they interact in the classroom

Current Research

Dr. Matthew Costello: Current research focuses on online hate material. In particular, I am working on one project that examines factors associated with exposure to online hate material that advocates violence, and a second project that seeks to understand the processes that lead individuals to produce online material that would likely be interpreted as hateful.

Dr. Matt DeGarmo: Program evaluation of a local not-for-profit, Men on a Mission; Ethnographic interviews of active drug dealers in the Ozark Mtns.; Analysis of paradigm shifts within Criminology in the mid-twentieth century.

Dr. Sarah Kendig: Paper presented "Teenage Mothers Time Spent with Children" at Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2017. Co-authors include Kate C. Prickett, and Stefanie Mollborn.

Dr. Veena Kulkarni: Comparison of Foreign Born Asian and White Households Earnings; Educational Assortative Mating among Legal Immigrants to the U.S.; Aging and Morbidity in Rural India; and Comparison of Asian and White Households' "Secondary" Earners.

Dr. Joseph Rukus: Working with Craighead and Poinsett County Sheriff's Departments to do a study on the mental health needs of jail inmates.

Dr. Bill Stroud:

Paper presented: "Water Woes within Amenity-based Subdivisions" at the American Association of Geographers annual meeting on Saturday, April 8, 2017 in Boston, MA.

Water resources issues associated with pre-platted communities; burrowing owl habitat within urban and suburban locations of South Florida; hurricane threats to coastal cities in Southwest Florida; and the urban growth boundary (UGB) in Oregon as a means to protect rural land.



Alumni

We Want To Feature You

Our department would not be where it is without all of the alumni who have graced our classrooms over the years. If you are a recent or not so recent alumnus of the Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Department we want to feature you in our next edition of the newsletter. Please send us the following information so that we can share your story with current, future, and past students of the program.

- Your name
- Your graduation year
- A brief write-up about what you have been up to in the Criminology, Sociology, or Geography world lately.
- A square photo of yourself to feature alongside your snippet.

Please send all this infor-

CSG Welcomes New Assistant Professors



Dr. Turgut Ozkan started his graduate education at The University of Texas at Dallas and obtained Masters and PhD degrees in 2014 and 2017, respectively. His research interests include recidivism, machine learning, data science, developmental criminology, and policing. He is widely published with his work appearing in journals such as *Crime & Delinquency*, *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, and *Journal of Criminal Justice*. Dr. Ozkan will be teaching Social Research Methods and Institutional Corrections in the Fall of 2017.



Dr. Matthew Wright completed his Ph.D. in Sociology in 2017 from Bowling Green State University. His research and teaching interests include family, aging, and demography. Matthew's research, which has appeared in *Journal of Marriage and Family* and *Journals of Gerontology*, examines the implications of family change in later life, with a focus on marriage, divorce, and cohabitation. His current projects examine the well-being and social relationships of older cohabitators and adults who have experienced divorce after age 50. Another line of research investigates family attitudes among older adults, both in the U.S. and internationally, and how they have changed over time.

CSG Welcomes New Department Secretary

In August 2016, the Department of Criminology, Sociology, and Geography welcomed a new administrative assistant, Miyah Washington to our department. Miyah is a native of Jonesboro. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science from Arkansas State University. She has a one year old daughter, Paris. Her favorite hobby is DIY projects.



Congrats CSG Students!



Kaleigh Cochran, nominated for Best Student Worker Award

Kaleigh is an undergraduate Disaster Preparedness major with a Criminology minor. A native of Conway, Kaleigh enjoys playing soccer and spending time with her family. She will graduate in May 2018.



VanKevia Garner, nominated for Best Student Worker Award, won Outstanding Student Award from TRiO Program

VanKevia is an undergraduate, double majoring in Criminology and Psychology. A native of Jacksonville, VanKevia enjoys shopping (especially Dillard's) and watching YouTube videos of Rob Dyke. She will graduate in May 2019.



Anita J. Marshall receives Outstanding Graduate Student Award from Graduate Student Council

Anita is a Sociology graduate student. A native of Hot Springs, Anita enjoys growing herbs, reading, and cooking. She will graduate in August 2017.

CSG Department's Christmas Party

We met on December 6th for a fun time with our annual Christmas party.



Faculty, staff, graduate assistants, and student workers brought a potluck lunch and lots of great desserts to enjoy.



The room was decorated with Christmas lights and some wonderful conversation was enjoyed by all.



CSG Department's Christmas Party



Kiarra Simpson caramelized the Crème Brulee.



Dr. Donaghy going back for seconds???



Like any good Christmas Party, there was lots to eat and drink!



Alpha Kappa Delta

Learn More About Alpha Kappa Delta

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) is the International Sociology Honor Society.

The Mission Statement: Alpha Kappa Delta seeks to acknowledge and promote excellence in scholarship in the study of sociology, the research of social problems, and such other social and intellectual activities as will lead to improvement in the human condition.

The purpose of Alpha Kappa Delta is to seek to acknowledge and promote excellence in the scholarship in the study of sociology, the research of social problems, and such other social and intellectual activities as will lead to improvement in the human condition.

Alpha Kappa Delta is a non-

secret, democratic, international society of scholars dedicated to the ideal of Athropon Katamannthanein Diakonesin or "to investigate humanity for the purpose of service."

Membership is open to undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty members from active chapters who meet the minimum standards. Currently, there are more than 120,000 members in Alpha Kappa Delta and over 660 chapters.

Dr. Todd Fuist is the Faculty sponsor for the Alpha Kappa Delta Chapter at Arkansas State University.

The Beta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta, here at ASU, sponsors many activities for students, such as faculty/student celebra-



Alpha Phi Sigma

Learn More About Alpha Phi Sigma

Alpha Phi Sigma recognizes academic excellence of Undergraduate and Graduate students of Criminal Justice, as well as Juris Doctorate students.

The goals of Alpha Phi Sigma are to honor and promote academic excellence, community service, educational leadership, and unity.

Alpha Phi Sigma is the only Criminal Justice Honor Society which is a certified member of the Association of College Honor Societies and affiliated with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

Dr. Matthew DeGarmo is the Faculty advisor for the Alpha Phi Sigma chapter at Arkansas State University.