

## Chair's Corner: Dr. Chad Smith

I would like to welcome you to the Department of Sociology newsletter, "The Promise." Our goal in this newsletter is to provide information on recent events, accomplishments, and achievements by the department's faculty and its current and former students. Although the focus of each volume of the newsletter may change, our goal is to provide a window into the department and to provide a means to keep your pulse on all the great things we are doing here at Texas State University.

The [sociology faculty](#) engage in [cutting-edge research](#) on some of society's most pressing issues. Our faculty are leaders in their fields and are recognized for their important contributions to sociological knowledge. Although we highlight our faculty publications, awards, and achievements, in this issue of the newsletter we have chosen to focus upon current and former students.



To this end, we spotlight our inaugural winners of the Undergraduate and Graduate Alumni Awards: Kiara Nicholson and Dr. Pamela Meyer. Please join me in celebrating not only the achievements of these award winners, but the accomplishments and accolades of all of the current faculty and students and former students whom we highlight in this newsletter. I would also like to take this opportunity to bring to your attention some changes in the department. Since 2015, we have added three new faculty members, Dr. Seoyoun Kim, Dr. Matthew Clement, and Dr. Xi Pan, who have added expertise and energy to the department. We are especially excited about our newest interdisciplinary graduate degrees that are housed in the department: the M.S. in [Dementia and Aging Studies](#), the only degree of its kind in the United States, and the M.A./M.S. in [Sustainability Studies](#). On behalf of the Department of Sociology, I want to thank you for reading "The Promise" and I greatly appreciate your interest in the department. Please do keep us apprised of any of your accomplishments.

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## **Graduate Alumni Award: Dr. Pamela Meyer**

### **Dr. Meyer is also a 2017 College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Alumni Recipient**



I am so honored by this recognition. The Texas State University (formerly Southwest Texas) Sociology Department holds a special place in my heart and I have many fond memories of my time here. Enjoying my high school sociology course, I decided to enroll in a sociology course here. One of my first classes was Sociology of the Family with Dr. Clarence Schultz. Although it was a large class, his warm smile and interesting lectures hooked me, and I signed up for more... I learned to think critically, analyze data, and consider the issues of the day. After 2 years, however, I embarked on another adventure where I transferred to one of those northeastern colleges. Our plan had always been to return to Texas and so we did. One day, a friend of mine called me to tell me about the master's of teaching in sociology. Although I never thought about teaching, I liked the idea of getting a master's degree and assumed I would end up being a number cruncher in a back room somewhere. So, I applied. I was called for an interview by the sociology department. I am (and was) basically a shy person and you can imagine how nervous I was to be interviewed by a table full of former professors including Drs. Newsom and Matlock among others. Anyway, I got into the program and the position to teach. I was very excited about this new opportunity as I loved being a student, but I didn't know if I could handle being a classroom teacher. Then, I thought about my many talented instructors: Dr. Schultz's organized outlines on the board and his warm, kind smile. Drs. Newsom and Matlock's challenging questions. Dr. O'Connell's technique that required us to explain our answers as we wrote the solutions to problems on the board. They became my role models. I loved all of my graduate courses. The seminar format and discussions about the latest research was invigorating. In particular, Dr. Newsom's Medical Sociology opened my eyes to how sociology could directly contribute to society. Even after graduation, I continued to read epidemiological studies and about health disparities. In addition to being great teachers, the sociology faculty members were very nurturing. As part of socialization process, they found ways for us to go to conferences, including the national ASA meeting. They established the Friday Afternoon Leisure Learning Club, where we would meet at a restaurant or bar and discuss social issues, sociological theories, teaching issues, or whatever. I was delighted to be treated like a peer. I was happy at Texas State. I never wanted to leave. Then, I completed my course work and thesis, meeting all of the requirements for graduation. At one of the regional conferences, there was an opportunity to learn about job openings. I found a full-time, temporary position at Lamar University for a year. Eventually, I found a full-time position at a community college. I taught there for 7 years, had a daughter, Leslie, and was somewhat content. I really started thinking about getting a Ph.D. I always knew I could ask for advice from the faculty when I faced a difficult situation. They were my safety net, my academic home. Was I smart enough to get a Ph.D.? Could I leave a professional position for this pursuit? So, I talked with Dr. Newsom about it. He told me I was smart enough, but that the "P" in Ph.D. really stood for perseverance. I applied to several universities in Texas. I was accepted to all of the universities to which I applied, but chose to attend the University of Texas - School of Public Health in Houston. I appreciated its pragmatic approach to the social sciences. In the process of competing course work, having another child, Jon, I added a new mantra, "Perseverance."

With the support of my husband, my family and the sociology faculty, I completed my Ph.D. After moving to Corpus Christi, I continued to teach at the local community college and university when needed. I continued to draw upon my role models in the sociology program while teaching as an adjunct and completing my Ph.D. My first position after completing my Ph.D., however, was as field office director for the Corpus Christi Heart Project associated with the School of Public Health. Funded by the NIH, this research project was one of the first studies of myocardial infarctions among Mexican Americans and non-Hispanic Whites. As the project ended and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi developed, I found myself with a new professional home.

I landed a tenure track position as an assistant professor of sociology at TAMUCC. I always say that luck is being prepared when opportunity knocks. At TAMUCC, I had the opportunity to teach a variety of courses, including Medical Sociology and Social Research Methods. It was an exciting time on campus as we were expanding from an upper-division 2-year college to a 4-year university with graduate programs. In addition to teaching, I also served in several administrative positions including chair of the department of social sciences and interim director of the core curriculum program.

As the university grew, so did my research agenda. I tried to include my undergraduate students in the projects whenever possible and with pay. Over time, I found myself gravitating toward working with community organizations such as the local chapter of the American Diabetes Association, Homeless Issues Partnership and the Colonias Initiative. In 2010, 2013, and 2016, I served as the PI for the Coastal Bend Health Needs Assessment. The project used multiple methods such as community surveys, focus groups, and hospital and ER data to gain an understanding of the health status and needs of the residents in 15-19 county area. The resulting reports are used by social service agencies, hospital administrators, and health care providers to develop programs to address the identified community needs. The data provided in the reports also are used by agency grant writers to document community needs. Of course, a project like this involves many people – colleagues from various disciplines, community representatives, and student researchers. We even started mapping our results by recruiting a GIS professor, Lucy Huang. Lucy and I just submitted a paper entitled, “Spatial Access to Healthcare and Neighborhood Socioeconomic Disparities in Potentially Preventable Inpatient Hospital Admissions and Emergency Department Visits for Older Adults.” Now I am working with colleagues from the Harte Research Institute to examine the relationship between red tide events and hospitalizations for respiratory conditions.

In all, I have had a good career and it all started here in the Sociology department who provided me with the confidence and necessary skills to face new challenges. Soon after I left the department for fulltime employment, the Sociology department was recognized by the American Sociological Association for its exemplary program. I was so proud to have been a part of it. I learned to help students from those who helped me. I sincerely appreciate the opportunities the department allotted me. Thank you so much for the privilege of being a part of this department. Thank you for this recognition. I look forward to learning what new things the department will accomplish in the future.

## Undergraduate Alumni Award: Kiara Nicholson



I started my internship at the Hays-Caldwell Women's Center in the Fall of 2010, during what would prove to be the most difficult semester of my college career. I started college as an interior design major and after many, many art classes and a few electives I learned that I couldn't draw and was interested in a field that involved working with people. Here I found psychology, anthropology, and sociology and settled into psychology and anthropology before transferring to Texas State. During my second semester I took Dr. Giuffre's Men,

Women, and Society class and felt like I had found my home. Psychology gave me insight into the individual and anthropology fostered my love for culture, but sociology appealed to my belief that individuals exist in communities and societies they create. I knew this was where I wanted to be and what I wanted to do, but I didn't know how I wanted to do it until the last day of Dr. Watt's Drugs and Society class.

She finished by saying something that will stick with me for the rest of my life: "You don't want to be one of those people who, 30 years from now, looks back and sees social change and knows they weren't a part of it." This shaped my decision to go into nonprofit work because I knew I wanted to spend the rest of my life as an activist and advocate, a career I didn't know was possible until I found sociology.

As I prepared to finish my last semester before starting my internship, I found myself with incomplete qualitative and quantitative research papers and no thought to where I would intern. Depression left me with no drive to finish a degree I worked tirelessly and passionately for. With the help of my family and a few of my incredibly compassionate and understanding professors, I received support and extensions on research papers I needed to complete to finish the semester and later graduate. I found an internship placement at HCWC after remembering a prevention educator who presented on the dynamics of domestic violence in Ms. Hickman's Family Problems class, a presentation I have been doing myself now every semester for the past 3 years after being hired as a prevention educator a month after graduating. Through HCWC I found my passion for working with youth, empowering them and supporting them as they create futures where violence is not tolerated or perpetrated. I found a career that is more than just work, but the foundation from which I live my life.

As an educator my job is to work primarily with middle school and high school-aged youth, as well as college students and community members who live and/or work in Hays and Caldwell counties. My job began doing the primary prevention of sexual violence, which is best described as "going upstream". It is the work of seeing people "drowning in a river" and needing assistance, and knowing that to truly prevent them from drowning we have to address why they are in the river in the first place - to go upstream. It is helping people recognize researched risk factors for sexual violence perpetration, including adherence to strict gender roles and community tolerance of sexual violence across a spectrum, and building preventative protective factors like empathy and connectedness.

My position has since expanded to include dating violence prevention education, a passion driven by personal experience. While there are days where my job can be stressful and feel like work, ultimately it feels like I've been given the opportunity to share what I love. I wholeheartedly believe that violence can end with younger generations and that they are capable of doing it now, as long as their voices continue to be respected and heard. I see this in the students I work with every day, in the Dating Violence Awareness and Advocacy Board I help advise at Dripping Springs High School, in the student-led No Place for Hate groups I work with at middle schools in our two counties, in the youth who inspire my dream to start a youth advisory board for HCWC. Over the past few years, I have been fortunate to share my passion with other prevention educators and advocates across the state while presenting on webinars hosted by the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault and the Texas Council on Family Violence on facilitating discussions about race and racism with young people as a means of violence prevention. Sociology provided me with the framework for intersectional violence prevention work - recognizing that victims, survivors, and advocates have a multitude of identities that influence the way they interact with the world and the way the world interacts with them. It helped me to recognize that violence prevention work must be intersectional, and address all forms of societal and institutional oppression to be truly effective. My work at HCWC has also highlighted the importance of self-care, and provided me with the opportunity to learn more about and practice the concept of self-compassion, as well as an opportunity to facilitate an activity on practicing self-compassion with middle school girls at the Girls Empowerment Network's "We Are Girls" conference.

I've been fortunate enough to present at and help organize other girls' empowerment conferences, supporting girls while they radically love and support themselves and each other in a society that values them less. I am able to share my passion with the interns I supervise and the advocates I help train. I have been given opportunities I would have never imagined like being appointed to the Texas Primary Prevention Planning Committee - working with representatives from the Office of the Attorney General, Department of State Health Services, and Texas Association Against Sexual Assault to guide sexual violence prevention efforts for the state - and co-presenting on a webinar for the American Sociological Association on how I've utilized my Applied Sociology degree.

I came to Texas State with a different major and vision for my life and not only left with a career, but a life-long passion and family I truly love and will never forget. When talking to current Bobcats considering the switch to sociology, I always highlight that the department is unlike any other I've been a part of. Every professor and grad assistant has a drive to see you succeed, and supports you in every step of the way in getting there. It really does feel like a family, a family I've considered going back to for graduate school to continue research on dating and domestic violence in LGBTQIA+ communities. I am eternally grateful for all of the growth, knowledge, opportunity, and community I have found in this department. I could never say it enough: THANK YOU.

# Recent Sociology Student Accomplishments 2016 - 2017

We are proud of our current and former students' impressive work! We highlight some recent successes of our students and alumni below. Alumni: Please send us your news for the 2018 newsletter ([socigrad@txstate.edu](mailto:socigrad@txstate.edu)).

Read more about our student accomplishments [here](#)

## AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND HONORS

### Graduate Students:

**2017 Outstanding Graduate Student in Sociology:** Kami Rutherford (MA Sociology 2016)

**Graduate Program Award for Outstanding Contribution:** Maggie Chamberlain (MA Sociology 2017) Maggie was selected to be a graduate student representative (one of only two master's students!) on the Graduate Council in 2017.

**Graduate College Merit Fellowship recipients for new fall 2017 graduate students:**

Sara Caldwell (MS Dementia and Aging Studies); Jasmine Hernandez (MS Applied Sociology); Hayden Prince (MA Sociology); Rachel Harvey (MA Sociology); Colton Coiner (MS Sustainability Studies); Aspen Navarro (MS Sustainability Studies)

**Bobcat Pride Academic Achievement Scholar Scholarship:** Danni Rogina-Lopez (MA Sociology 2017)

**Graduate College Thesis Research Support Fellowship:** Danni Rogina-Lopez (MA Sociology 2017)

**Rainbow Award for LGBTQIA+ Leadership:** Alexis Hinojosa (MA Sociology 2017)

**Megan Curran Award for LGBTQIA+ Advocacy at Texas State University:** Madison Tabersmith (MA Sociology 2017)

**Geoff Wood Memorial Scholarship:** Courtney Brown (MA Sociology)

**2017 Texas State University Excellence in Diversity Award:** Jesse Silva (MA Sociology 2011). Jesse is the Assistant Director of the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion.

Milad Mohammadalizadehkorde (MA Sustainability Studies 2017) received a summer 2016 internship position and Climate Corps Fellowship with the Environmental Defense Fund and Staples-our first ever recipient at Texas State! He is a recipient of the best paper awards at the November 2016 Eighth Annual International Research Conference for Graduate Students.

Kelly Gourluck (MA Sociology) serves as a Liberal Arts Representative for the Graduate House of Representatives

Amy Kirwin (MS Sustainability) serves on the board of the Texas Alliance for Recycling

### Undergraduate Students:

**LBJ Outstanding Senior:** Fatima ("Toomi") Al-Dhahi (BS Applied Sociology 2017)

**Outstanding Undergraduate Alumni Award:** Kiara Nicholson (BS Applied Sociology 2013)

**Geoff Wood Memorial Scholarship:** Dezerae Reyes (BS Applied Sociology)

**Shelby Renee Newman Memorial Scholarship:** Marissa Sanchez (BS Applied Sociology)

**Charlotte McCord Non-Traditional Student Scholarship:**

Jessica Martone (BS Applied Sociology 2017)

Jose Luis Rodriguez (BS Applied Sociology)

**A.A. Grusendorf Award-Outstanding Graduating Sociology Major** Larissa Slota (BA Sociology 2017)

**Outstanding Undergraduate Student** Larissa Slota (BA Sociology 2017)

**Herman Spirit Award:** Stephanie Villanueva (BA Sociology 2017)

**Newsom/Matlock Scholarship:**

Austin Garza (BS Applied Sociology)

Courtlynn Noack (BS Applied Sociology)

Larissa Slota (BA Sociology)

Samantha Smothermon (BS Applied Sociology)

Mason Villarreal (BS Applied Sociology)

**Clarence Schultz Sociology Scholarship:** Ryan Kessinger (BS Applied Sociology)

In 2017, **Ryan Kessinger** (BS Applied Sociology) received the Texas State University Office of Diversity Inclusion Lavender Award for long-time commitment to Texas State LGBTQIA community, Alliance of Texas State University Outstanding Intersectional Inclusion Student Leader of the Year for transforming Texas State University's inclusion, education, and dedication to LGBTQIA lives, Leadership Institute Medal of Hope, Underrepresented Student Advisory Council and Student Diversity and Inclusion Student Leadership Award, Texas State University Student Organization Council Boko Awards, AND Student Organization Leader of the Year

# New Jobs

**Madison Tabersmith** (MA Sociology 2017): Career Advisor at Texas State Career Services

**Lindy Knowles** (MA Sociology 2016): Graduate programs specialist, Dept. of Sociology, Texas State University

**Jasmine Johnson** (MA Sociology 2017): Adjunct faculty member, Alamo Colleges, San Antonio TX

**Meagan Richard** (MS Applied Sociology 2015): Evaluation Analyst with Resources for Learning. Meagan is conducting quantitative and qualitative program evaluations for education programs at schools in Texas.

**Cheryl Rollman-Tinajero** (MA Sociology 2015) begins a new position this fall. She will be a social scientist with the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies Division, located in Austin, TX on campus at the University of Texas. She will be running a branch of the Federal Statistics Research Data Center

**Kiara Nicholson** (BS Applied Sociology 2013): Prevention educator at Hays-Caldwell Women's Center

**Dr. Patricia Morton** (BS Applied Sociology 2009): Postdoctoral researcher at Rice University

**Kellen Begin** (MA Sociology 2016): Community School Coordinator at the non-profit organization, Austin Voices for Education and Youth

**Candy Cantrell** (MA Sociology 2017): Managing Editor at the Journal of Research on Women and Gender, Center for Diversity and Gender Studies, Texas State University

**April Hudson** (MA Sociology 2015): Data Specialist for Seton's Seton Heart Specialty Care and Transplant Center as a Cardiac Program. April is also an adjunct instructor at St. Edward's University

**Shannon Jacobs** (MS Applied Sociology 2015) became the first social science instructor in the history of the Escoffier School of the Culinary Arts. He is teaching "World History and Culture from a Culinary Perspective."

**Kelly McGauhey** (BS Applied Sociology 2012) works as graduate research assistant at the Center for Health Promotion and Prevention, and is designing cancer prevention programs.

**Alicia Ybarra** (MA Sociology 2012): Office Manager/Development Associate, Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR).

**Katherine Casarez** (MA Sociology): Adjunct professor at Austin Community College in the Sociology Department

**Jamilatu Siller** (MA Sociology 2012): City of Austin Fire Department Business Systems Analyst

Several sociology alumni are on the Bobcat Pride Scholarship Fund Board of Directors

(<http://www.bobcatpridescholarship.com/leadership-team>): **Jeanne Heinen** (MA Sociology 2014) is Executive Director and Director of Donor Relations, **Kiara Nicholson** (BS Applied Sociology 2013), is Director of Community Outreach, **Madison Tabersmith** (MA Sociology 2017) is Director of Student Programming, and **Maria Wasley-Valdez** (MA Sociology 2013) is Director of Operations

## **MS in Dementia and Aging students and alumni are working in aging-related jobs:**

**Marcus Mercer** (MSDA 2017; our first student accepted to the MSDA!): Director of the Ranch at the Marbridge Foundation

**Erin Van Landingham** (MSDA 2017): Health Policy Analyst, 2016-2017 Co-Chair of the Aging Services Council of Central Texas as a Community Health Champion through Central Health in Austin, Grants and Contracts Manager at Family Eldercare, Be Well MD as a Research Assistant for Geriatrics.

**Doug Laws**, Chaplain for Supportive Medicine (Palliative Care, non-hospice) at Memorial Hermann Health System

**Heather Macchiatt**, Executive Director for Dancing Rivers Assisted Living in Grapevine, TX

**Michele Nation Wood**, Director of Financial Services for Brookdale Broadway Cityview

**Nichole F. Pozanac Johnson**, Director of Financial Services for Brookdale Lakeway

**Alycia Temple**, Marketing Director for Legacy Living Memory Care in Arlington, Texas. She is also a Certified Dementia Practitioner.

**Terry Vannoy**, Regional Developer - Central Texas for SYNERGY HomeCare

**Kathy McMains** (MSDA 2016), Social Services Coordinator/Discharge Planner at Brookdale Westlake Hills Skilled Nursing.

**Christine Haynes**, Caregiver and CNA for Comfort Keepers

**Cosmo P. Cecilia**, Discharge Planner and Social Services Coordinator

**Kimberly Nichols**, Regional Dietitian in Long Term Care

**Helen Hays** (MSDA 2015), Touchstone Communities and will be moving into an Administrator, LNFA role

**Heather Beaver** is working as a Licensed Nursing Facility Administrator

**Breanna Nicholson** (MSDA 2015) is working for Adult Protective Services

## **Current and former Sustainability students are working in “green jobs”:**

**Shaun Marie Auckland**, LEED Green Association, Conservation Coordinator Senior for Travis County

**Rebecca Wilson**, Community Relations Coordinator for the San Antonio River Authority

**Kaitlin Grable**, Galveston Bay Foundation, Water Quality Marketing and Outreach Coordinator

**Maddie Morgan**, Waste Diversion Planner for Austin Resource Recovery for the City of Austin

**Joshua Newton**, Farm Assistant for Rio Blanco Gardens at Montesino Ranch

**Amy Kirwin** is the Solid Waste Program Coordinator for the City of San Marcos

**Shaun D. Payne**, HCP Coordinator at the Habitat Conservation Program

# CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION, PUBLICATIONS, AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES:

Jasmón L. Bailey (MA Sociology 2012), doctoral candidate at the University of South Florida, is the recipient of the American Sociological Association Minority Student Fellowship for 2017-18. He is currently serving as the student liaison for the new Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Diversity Task Force. His recent publication:

Skvoretz, John, and Jasmón L. Bailey. 2016. "Red, White, Yellow, Blue, All Out but You': Status Effects on Team Formation, an Expectation States Theory." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 79(2): 136-155.

Rhonda Smith (BA Sociology 2009) wrote a recent blog on aging: <http://www.everydaysociologyblog.com/2016/10/un-equal-aging-in-america.html>

Katherine Casarez (current student, MA Sociology) is a member of the Indigenous Peoples Summit and the Women & Gender Research Collaborative, and helped develop and coordinate two Spring 2017 symposiums at Texas State. She served as a guest editor for the *Journal of Research on Women & Gender* for a special issue on gender identity. She organized a documentary viewing and discussion panel on "Not Enough Time" in 2016. She presented a lecture in the Philosophy Dialogue Series, entitled, "We are Made to Do this Work.": The 'Responsible Subversion' of Neotraditional Birth Practices" (2016). She gave the invocation for the 3rd time at the Texas State Multicultural Graduation in December 2016, and the 2nd time at the Texas State Annual MLK Celebration in January 2017.

Rev. Douglas Laws (current student, MSDA): As part of his chaplaincy work in Palliative Care, he created an Alzheimer's/Dementia Resource Guide aimed at people in the early to moderate stages of dementia. This Resource Guide is for use of our Palliative Care Teams (physicians, nurses, social workers, chaplains) who see patient/family in the Outpatient Clinics.

Jonafa Banbury (MA Sociology 2014) and Thaddeus Atzmon (MA Sociology 2015) have published chapters in *Symbolic Interactionist Takes on Music*, published by Emerald Press in 2016. Jonafa's chapter is "The Church and the Streets: An Ethnographic Study of the Christian Hip Hop Music Scene in Central Texas," and Thaddeus' chapter is "Musical Pastiche: The Case of Matisyahu." The book is a collection of papers from the international symposium on music sponsored by the Department of Sociology in 2014.

Jon Beaubien (MA Sociology 2017). 2017. "Save the Damsel: Depictions of Gender in Independent Video Games." Paper presented at the Southwestern Social Science Association conference, Austin, TX

Charley Henderson (current student, MA Sociology) and Dr. Atsuko Kawakami. 2017. "Hepatitis C and the Social Hierarchy: How Stigma is Built in Rural Communities." Paper presented at the American Sociological Association conference, Montreal, Canada.

Christopher Johnson (faculty), Jordan Kelch (current student, MA in Sociology), and Dr. Roxanna Johnson. Forthcoming. "Dementia at the End of Life and Family Partners: A Symbolic Interactionist Perspective on Communication." *Behavioral Sciences*.

Jonathan Cronin (current student, MA Sociology) was interviewed for the San Marcos Daily Record (March 1, 2017) about the VOCES Oral History project) \*<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/voces/>. Jonathan's late grandfather and San Marcos native Andres Ybarra was interviewed by VOCES in December 2002.

Majumdar, Debarun (faculty) and Cheryl Rollman-Tinajero (BS Applied Sociology 2013, MA Sociology 2015). "A Comparative Examination of Unhealthy Behaviors and Negative-LGBT Experiences among Individuals in Legal Same-Sex Marriages and in Committed Same-Sex Relationships." 2017. *Journal of Social Sciences*. DOI: 10.3844/jssp.2017.

Alexis Hinojosa (MA Sociology 2017) co-facilitated Bobcats DeColores Discussion sessions in 2017

Kiara Nicholson (BS Applied Sociology 2013) was featured in the 2017 American Sociological Association webinar “Building Your Career with a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology”

Alyssa Haney (MS Applied Sociology 2017). 2016. “Consequences of Community: Service Year Alumni Share their Stories.” Paper presented at the Association for Research on Nonprofit and Voluntary Action’s Conference.

Danni Rogina-Lopez (MA Sociology 2017). 2016. “Lyrical Monsters: Analyzing How Rap Music Explores Mental Health.” Paper presented at the NAAAS & Affiliates Conference.

Marcus Mercer (MSDA 2017) was interviewed about the MSDA for the spring 2016 issue of Hillviews

Sara Rafael García (BS Applied Sociology 1998; MFA Creative Writing 2015) is a 2017-2018 visiting artist at Texas State University’s Center for the Study of the Southwest. She has published a book, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, an oral history project that integrates community-based narratives to create contemporary fairytales and fables that represent the history and stories of Mexican/Mexican-American residents of Santa Ana.

Deborah A. Harris (faculty), Whitney M. Harris (MA Sociology 2016) and Kristi M. Fondren (faculty at Marshall University). 2015. “Everybody Eats: Using Hunger Banquets to Teach about Issues of Global Hunger and Inequality.” *Teaching Sociology* 43:115-125.

Courtney Caviness (MA Sociology 2013), Patti Giuffre (faculty), and Maria Wasley-Valdez (MA Sociology 2013). 2016. “They Don’t Get It: The Promise and Problem of Using Student Resistance as a Pedagogical Tool,” in *Teaching about Sex and Gender in Contemporary America*, edited by Kristin Haltinner and Ryanne Pilgeram. New York: Springer Publishing.

Patti Giuffre (faculty) and Courtney Caviness (MA Sociology 2013). 2016. “Desexualization.” *Encyclopedia of Gender and Sexuality Studies*, edited by Nancy Naples. New York: Wiley Blackwell.

Patti Giuffre (faculty) and April Hudson (MA Sociology 2015). 2016. “Reflexivity.” *Encyclopedia of Gender and Sexuality Studies*, edited by Nancy Naples. New York: Wiley Blackwell.

Kelly McGauhey (BS Applied Sociology 2012 and 2012 LBJ Outstanding Senior Award recipient) is enrolled in the University of Houston’s Masters in Public Health Program. She’s worked on several research projects and co-authored a book chapter:

Maria E. Fernandez, Natalia I. Heredia, Lorna H. McNeill, Maria Eugenia Fernandez-Esquir, Yen-Chi L. Le, and Kelly G. McGauhey. “Special Issues in Conducting Community-Based Participatory Research Studies with Ethnic and Racial Minorities.” From *The Handbook of Community-based Participatory Research* edited by Steven S. Coughlin, Selina A. Smith, and Maria E. Fernandez. Oxford University Press.

Hooks, Gregory, Michael Lengefeld (BS Applied Sociology 2008; MA Sociology 2011), and Chad L. Smith (faculty). “Recasting the Treadmills of Production and Destruction: New Theoretical Directions.” Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Meetings, Montreal, Canada, August 2017.

Hooks, Gregory, Michael Lengefeld (BS Applied Sociology 2008; MA Sociology 2011), and Chad L. Smith (faculty). “Treadmills and Unsustainable Development During and After the Colombian Civil War: Illegal Commodity Chains, Militarism, and Environmental Degradation in the Andean Region.” Paper presented at the European Research Group on Military and Society Conference, Athens, Greece, June 2017.

Hooks, Gregory, Chad L. Smith (faculty), and Michael Lengefeld (BS Applied Sociology 2008; MA Sociology 2011). “Treadmill Dynamics and Unsustainable Development: Drugs, Militarism, and Deforestation in the Andean Region.” Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Meetings, Seattle, WA, August 2016.

# Alpha Kappa Delta

The Texas State University chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta had a very successful year as we welcomed new members. The students were inducted into AKD at our annual awards banquet held on March 30, 2017 at the Embassy Suites of San Marcos. We also welcomed Rachel Harvey as our new student chapter president. We look forward to a very active 2017-2018 academic year.

Faculty advisor: Professor Tina Villarreal.



# In Memoriam

## **Dr. Don Matlock**

Donald Thomas Matlock was born in 1943 in Shreveport, Louisiana and passed away on March 7, 2017 in New Braunfels, Texas. Don was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Thomas "C.T." Matlock and DeLane Watts Smith, and his step-father Raleigh W. Smith. He is survived by his wife Kathy Matlock; his son Dale Matlock (Vickie); daughters June Hood (Jimmy), Heather Springs (Kenya Barney), and Shannon Springs; brother Eddy Smith (Helen); grandchildren Courtney McClendon (Bryant), Troy Matlock, Kayla Matlock, Katie Gash, and Jaeden Barney; great grandson Daxton McClendon; and numerous nephews and nieces and other extended family. He was a professor of sociology at Southwest Texas State University (later Texas State University) from 1968 until his first retirement in 2000, serving as chair of the department for many years. Due to his step-father's career as an Air Force photographer, Don and his parents lived in Mississippi, California, Louisiana, and Texas. And once he arrived in Texas, he never wanted to leave. Don exemplified the bumper sticker, "I wasn't born here but got here as fast as I could." He was never happier than when he was home on the banks of the Guadalupe river. Don's interests included photography, woodworking, computers, traveling, camping, fishing, and reading--always reading. He loved his family and friends, and his best buddies, his yorkies. As he struggled with the effects of a stroke for the last two years, his extended family grew to include his caregivers, therapists, nurses, physicians and finally the Hope Hospice staff. The family wants to thank these talented professionals who brought caring support and critical skills. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Newsom/Matlock Sociology Endowed Scholarship at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas, 512-245-2396, or the following link: [donate.txstate.edu](http://donate.txstate.edu)

## **Dr. Douglas Forbes**

Douglas Forbes, 66 of Stevens Point, passed away peacefully while surrounded by family on Thursday September 8, 2016 after living with cancer for 14 years. Doug is survived by his beloved wife and soulmate, Tracy Hofer. He is further survived by siblings Peg (Tom) Janssen, Goodyear, AZ; Connie (Dr. Len) Rybak, Springfield, IL; Scott (Debbie) Forbes, Speedway, IN; Jodi (Jack) Cotter, Ridgeville, IN; Mary Pat (Josie) Forbes, Indianapolis, IN and many nieces, nephews, and Godchildren. Doug was born May 26, 1950 in Philadelphia, PA. He is preceded in death by parents, Robert and Margaret Forbes and siblings Mary Beth, Lisa, Jeff and Steve Forbes. Doug graduated from Union City Indiana High School then briefly attended Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terra Haute IN as an undergraduate before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force. After completion of his service, he completed his undergraduate and Master's degree in sociology at Southwest Texas State University (now Texas State University). He then received a Ph.D. in sociology/demography at the University of Texas at Austin. Doug was a man of many enthusiasms and passions. He loved riding his bike, playing guitar, cooking and baking, writing songs and poetry, studying the stars, ancient Japanese and native American art, and coloring using many mediums. First and foremost, Doug was an educator and a mentor. He taught at Texas State University, University of Wisconsin-Marshfield and retired from United of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 2012. Doug never let cancer define him or limit him in any way. He served as an inspiration on how to live life to the fullest to everyone who met him. He lived by the motto "(o)nly as long as we can laugh at ourselves are we no one else"... e.e. cummings. He will be remembered with love by all his family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Douglas Forbes Memorial Scholarship Fund at UW- Stevens Point awarded to sociology students interested in demography and/or considering graduate school in sociology, the MACC Fund for childhood cancer in honor of Alex Dierking, the Doug Forbes Fund at the University of Texas Population Research Center (<http://liberalarts.utexas.edu/prc/Giving-to-the-PRC.php>) for the support of graduate students in demography or a local cancer charity of your choice. The family would like to thank the staff at Ministry Health Care Hospice for their loving care and compassion. Online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.shudafuneral.com](http://www.shudafuneral.com)

Our thoughts are with those of you who were affected by the recent hurricanes and flooding.

**Newsletter editors:** Professor Lillian Dees, Professor Patti Giuffre, Lindy Knowles, and Charley Denise Henderson(graduate assistant editor).  
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*This information is available in alternate format upon request from the Office of Disability Services.  
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