

THINK

SPRING 2023

SOCIOLOGY



Graduate student Sarah Connelly and her daughter Alice, sliding down the bouncy house at the 2023 Spring Picnic

NEWSLETTER

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BY THE NUMBERS

58

**Faculty &
Student
Publications**

74

**Undergrad
Degrees
Earned**

12

**Graduate
Degrees
Earned**

22

**Graduates
with
Distinction**

4

**Graduates
with Special
Distinction**

#1

**Sociology
Department
EVER**

Chair's Corner



We have awesome energy in OU Sociology right now! Thanks to you, our alumni and friends, we can award scholarships and research opportunities to our students. Now that the pandemic is lifting, Kaufman Hall has sprung back to life; our students and faculty are engaging in field work and presenting research at conferences. Thank you for taking the time to reconnect with our vision, which is more critical than ever. Visit our website [www.ou.edu/cas/soc] to learn more about the exciting work being done in OU Sociology. If you would like to get involved or host an intern (even remotely!), contact me. Please consider supporting our deserving students by exploring the giving page in this newsletter.

Looking forward, I will step down as chair in August and move to D.C. for a one-year fellowship at USAID. It has been a pleasure to serve our students and faculty through six years. During this time, we had seven new faculty hires, the creation of a new five-year B.A./M.A. sociology degree and a new graduate certificate in Applied Research and Program Evaluation, and we now house the online M.S. in Criminal Justice program. We also created a new opportunity for our students to study on the OU campus in Arezzo, Italy. With your help and support, we created the Grasmick scholarships to support summer research and the endowment for the Inside-Out prison-teaching program. So many good things in OU Sociology.

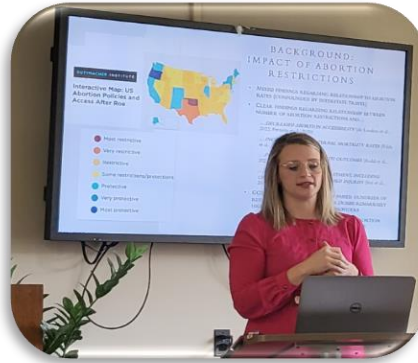
My best,

Loretta Bass, Ph.D.

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Bria Schwartz presenting at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting (November 2022)



Darci Schmidgall presenting at the Annual Stats. II Presentations (May 2023)



Dialogues of Contemporary Sociology [DOCS] end-of-year party (May 2023)



Emily Bonner presenting at the Spring 2023 3-Minute Thesis Competition (April 2023)

OU Sociology Spring 2023 Picnic



**Grasmick-Riddle Summer Research Fellowship
Award Winners, Spring 2023**

FACULTY EXCELLENCE



Mitchell Peck, Ph.D.

Regents' Award for Superior Teaching

OU Sociology Associate Professor Mitchell Peck was named a 2023 recipient of the University of Oklahoma Regents' Award for Superior Teaching. The award recognizes faculty who have contributed significantly to the core mission of the university in the area of teaching and mentoring students. Professor Peck was noted for providing "the best possible educational experience for our students through excellence in teaching, research and creative activity, and service to the state and society."



Professor Sam Perry was interviewed by the OU Daily for his expertise in religion, white supremacy, and dog-whistle politics, following the 28th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing.



Associate Professor Constance Chapple accepted the role of faculty director of the Carceral Studies Consortium, officially assuming the position in the Fall 2022 semester. The consortium director oversees transdisciplinary research and community engagement in Carceral Studies.



Associate Professor Martin Piotrowski was invited to present at a panel discussion on *Migration Processes in Ukraine During the Russian Invasion of 2022*, hosted by the Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology at the University of Washington.

Loretta Bass has been named a 2023-24 Jefferson Science Fellow. This prestigious national award is administered by the National Academies of Sciences and builds capacity for science expertise within the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development. Loretta will spend one year doing applied sociology in Washington, D.C. working in the Democracy Rights and Governance Center at USAID and may also work at U.S. embassies abroad.



GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



OU Sociology Representatives at 3MT

Congratulations to OU Sociology M.A. student Emily Bonner (far left), who won first place in the 2023 campus-wide 3-Minute Thesis (3MT) competition. Emily presented her research titled *The Price Is Not Right. Grocery Taxation and Food Insecurity in the Pandemic*. Emily represented the University of Oklahoma at the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools 3MT competition in Chicago. In addition to Emily, Sociology's 3MT Finalists include Ph.D. candidate Joshua Davis (middle left), B.A./M.A. student Tess McGee (middle right), and Ph.D. candidate Elizabeth McElroy (far right).

Outstanding Ph.D. Student



Rin Ferraro
Interests: Child Abuse & Neglect, Quantitative Methods

Outstanding M.A. Student



Emily Bonner
Interests: Race and Ethnicity, Environmental Justice

Graduate Dean's Distinguished Thesis Prize

Sally Wiser
Illicit Masculinity: Examining Gender Differences in Adolescent Drug Use



Nancy L. Mergler Dissertation Completion Fellowship

Rin Ferraro
The Effect of Child Welfare Involvement on Youth's Well-Being and Expectations for their Futures



DFCAS Graduate Finishing Fellowship

Elizabeth McElroy
Interests: Sexuality, Religion, Gender Development, Social Contagion



DFCAS Graduate Research Fellowship

Carrie Leslie
Haifan Xiao



Grasmick-Riddle Summer Research Fellowship Recipients

Rin Ferraro (Dan Wang)

Counting on Peers: How Peer Support Mediates the Effects of Child Maltreatment on Behavioral Issues

Lauren Fishel (Stephanie Burge)

Another Side of Fatherhood: How Fathers Cultivate Emotional Connection and Engage in Emotional Labor

Taylor Gamble (Chris Garneau)

The New Ecological Paradigm and Terminology Sensitivity Dysphoria: A Sociological Examination of Climate Change

Heather Lepper-Pappan (Erin Maher)

Supporting the Future: An Evaluation of How Social Support Shapes Future Expectations for LGBTQ Youth in Child Welfare

Tacey Shurtliff (Julie Gerlinger)

Influential Academics: Educational Achievement as a Moderator of Adolescent Victimization and Detrimental Outcomes in Adulthood

UPSTANDING UNDERGRADUATES



Tania Ramirez, Emily Murphy and Dr. Loretta Bass
(Spring Picnic 2023)

The department awarded two \$1,000 alumni scholarships, the Academic Excellence Award in Sociology to Tessa Barman-Flannigan and the Academic Excellence Award in Criminology to Tatum Hayes. These students have done great work and caught faculty attention.

Outstanding Sociology Research Award

Emily Murphy

America's Next Cop Model: A Moderated Mediation Analysis of Media-Driven Support for Police Body-Worn Cameras



Outstanding Graduating Senior - Sociology

Tania Ramirez
Sociology

Outstanding Graduating Senior - Criminology

Emily Murphy

*B.A./M.A. Criminology, Economics
Minor: International Security Studies*



David T. Wright Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)

Leigh Turner
Sociology



John Carl's Inside-Out class, final meeting
at The Mont (May 2023)

INSIDE-OUT

@ Mable Bassett Women's
Correctional Facility

"The OU Inside-Out program has been everything I expected and more. I look forward to reading the articles and discussing in class each week. You gain a connection with students across many paths of life who are interested in similar topics. I am forever grateful for Dr. Carl, the program, those who make it possible, and every student."

- Madison (Outside student)

"I have absolutely loved this class and the overall dynamic of the group. I love the subject matter, but more than that, I love that those of us on the 'Inside' can intellectually connect with those on the 'Outside' despite any situational or generational difference. These classes have been the most enjoyable, hopeful, and inspiring part of my week for sure."

- Cassandra (Inside student)

SUPPORTING OU SOCIOLOGY

Your investment in resources for sociology students and faculty provides them with the support they need to further their research and better understand our world. The link to the OU Foundation page below provides paths to give online, by check, by bank or wire transfer, and by matching or planned giving. Below are the accounts that support OU Sociology at the foundation. If you would like to give, you may designate your gift to a specific segment of our Vision. If you have ideas or would like to get involved in other ways, please let us know. We want to hear from you! What you give to the department stays in the department.

www.oufoundation.org/portal/Giving/Giving-Mega-Page



Specify one of these codes to make sure your gift goes where you want it:

42830 – Sociology Development Fund – This fund is to be used to provide support for the Department of Sociology. Appropriate expenditures include, but are not limited to, travel for students to present papers or conduct research, food and beverages for department events, purchasing resources to facilitate faculty research and teaching, and supplementing scholarships and awards for students.

33301 – David T. Wright Memorial Scholarship – This award honors the life of David T. Wright, an Army first lieutenant who was killed on September 14, 2009, while serving in Afghanistan. He majored in sociology-criminology at OU and graduated in 2006. In his memory, this scholarship is awarded to students who serve or have served in the U.S. military or who are planning a career in military, law enforcement or public service.

33163 – Grasmick Award/Scholarship – This award honors the memory of OU Sociology Professor Harold Grasmick through summer fellowships to graduate students who engage in mentored research with a professor. Grasmick served as chair of the OU sociology department from 1982-1988, helped develop our Ph.D. program, and taught statistics and criminology to budding sociologists. Grasmick's attitudinal scale is still key to measure self-control in the discipline.

43094 – Inside-Out Endowment Fund – This fund supports our "Inside-Out" program at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, a women's prison in McLoud, Oklahoma. With this educational program, Outside OU students go to the prison site for a college class they take together with Inside students.

To learn more: www.ou.edu/cas/soc/undergraduate-program/inside-out-program

33566 – Sociology Alumni Scholarships – Every year, these merit-based awards honor our full-time sociology and criminology undergraduates.



We are organizing a Sociology Alumni Board. If you would like to get more involved, please contact us at soc@ou.edu

The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution. www.ou.edu/eoo

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