

SocNotes: ISU Sociology

Spring 2002



Sociology at ISU

The first years of the 21st century have seen continued praise for the teaching, research, and outreach contributions of members of ISU's Department of Sociology. Additional awards have been given to our colleagues, teaching efforts and research reports have received kudos, and those affiliated with Extension are requested to apply sociological expertise far more frequently than is possible.

Because of our productive staff, our department has an excellent base for future projects. Many of you—our M.S. and Ph.D. graduates—contributed the groundwork necessary for the success observed within the department today. We appreciate hearing from so many of you about your successful efforts to spread ISU sociology throughout the United States and the world. Learning about your activities brightens our days; I encourage you to continue to send notes to the department and your former instructors.

As I write this, however, we are in the midst of difficult decisions regarding our department's budget. Each unit at ISU has been required to develop contingency plans regarding potential decreases for the next fiscal year. And these reductions are in addition to those that occurred in 2001. Obviously, this is not a pleasant situation and we hope that the news will be more positive in another year. That will be on another person's watch, however, because I will complete my term as chair of the department this June.

As always, please let us know if you plan to visit ISU. We enjoy those occasions and hope that you'll stop in whenever you're in the area.

Robert Schafer
Chair

Cornelia Flora Named Distinguished Professor

The greatest honor that a university can bestow upon a faculty member is to be named a distinguished professor. In the spring of 2001, it was announced that Cornelia Butler Flora had been given the title of Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Agriculture. That's in addition to being a Professor of Sociology and the Director of the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development. Part of the statement published in the awards bulletin follows.

Cornelia Butler Flora has conducted groundbreaking sociological research on the



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mutual impacts of human communities and the ecosystem, community processes, and gender and social institutions. Her research has changed the way that national and international agencies work with and view rural community, and many of her articles have been widely used by nonprofit organizations that work with farm groups, particularly in sustainable agriculture, to build stronger communities and a stronger economic base.

A number of honorary societies have recognized her work and have elected her to positions of authority. Her doctoral students are employed in liberal arts colleges, major land-grant universities, and international development organizations.

Neal's work has made a difference in the discipline. Her articles frequently are cited by established scholars and serve as guides for those new to academia. As importantly, her publications have influenced federal programs, especially those that deal with rural communities. In one case, her monitoring of a new USDA program led to a policy change so that funding became a new approach to community economic

development. Two other federal agencies changed the way they work with rural communities because of her efforts; so have not-for-profit organizations not only in the United States but throughout the world.

Members of the department and Neal's colleagues around the globe were delighted for her when they heard the news. Of course, this is not the first time that she has been honored. And it's not even the first time that she was named a distinguished professor; she also received that honor while on the faculty at Kansas State University, thus marking her as one of the few individuals who have served as a distinguished professor at two institutions.

Neal is the second member of our department to receive the Curtiss distinguished professor title. The first was George Beal, who was granted that honor in 1973. He's now a distinguished professor emeritus and splits the year between Hawaii and Colorado.

Lorenz Given Title of University Professor

Fred Lorenz, who holds appointments in our department and in the Department of Statistics, was awarded the rank of university professor in ceremonies held in the spring of 2002. This competitive honor is given to only a few ISU professors each year. It recognizes senior faculty members who have had significant impacts on departments and the university in the areas of teaching, research, and professional service.

Lorenz has a strong record in all areas in which he has responsi-

bilities. He has authored or co-authored more than 60 refereed journal articles; his research areas are broad, dealing with issues of family structure in the United States and elsewhere and with a variety of methodological points. Much of his research has been supported through grants and contracts; he's been the co-principal investigator on projects totaling more than \$8 million, with much of the funding coming from highly competitive sources.

His teaching also is superior; he receives excellent evaluations from students, even in required courses that are perceived to be difficult. Fred succeeds because he takes time with students to make sure that they have a firm grasp of the material. He has upheld the strong methods/statistics program in which this department has taken pride for decades.

Fred also excels in his service to the university. For example, he has been on the program-of-study committees for more than 150 students who have completed advanced degrees in sociology, statistics, or other disciplines. He works as an effective member of a committee; Lorenz takes the



time necessary to consult with each student (and often the major professor as well). This assistance is greatly valued by students; the mentoring that he provides helps them not only on their theses and dissertations but also in the positions that they accept after graduation.

Fred is the second member of the Department of Sociology to be named a university professor. His colleagues and students are pleased that he has been recognized for his superior contributions to ISU.

Dillman Recipient of ISU Distinguished Achievement Citation

In the spring of 2001, Don Dillman was selected to receive the Distinguished Achievement Citation by the ISU Alumni Association. This award was established in 1961 to recognize ISU alumni who are nationally and/or internationally recognized for preeminent contributions in their fields. It is the highest honor given to alumni by ISU through the association. Last fall, Don was the guest of the university during the ISU Homecoming 2001



celebration and was honored at the university-wide awards ceremony one evening and at the football game the next day.

Dillman received all of his degrees from ISU, topped by a Ph.D in sociology in 1969. Early in his career, Don tested methods of increasing respondent cooperation in social surveys; the results led to changes throughout the world in how sociological data are gathered. For example, his contributions were of such importance that they affected the manner in which the U.S. Bureau of the Census conducts its surveys. And it led to Don being given the coveted Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics from the American Statistical Association; he was the first person outside the federal government to receive this honor.

His *Mail and Telephone Surveys: The Total Design Method* (Wiley-Interscience) has been named a "citation classic" by the Institute for Scientific Information. He has authored or co-authored eight other books, including *Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design Method* (Wiley) and *Against All Odds: Rural Community in the Information Age* (Westview). The latter indicates his interests in the diffusion of new technologies and in the impacts of information technologies on rural people and organizations. He has more than 170 other publications, numerous grants and contracts, many special projects, and various international experiences, which began in 1963 as an ISU undergraduate when he spent six months in Poland as an International Farm Youth Exchange Delegate.

Don was the president of the Rural Sociological Society, is the

president of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, and is an elected fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Statistical Association. By virtue of his many accomplishments, he became Thomas S. Foley Distinguished Professor of Government and Public Policy at Washington State University, where he continues to serve the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center and the Departments of Rural Sociology and of Sociology.

Our department was pleased that Don gave a university lecture on his 37 years of conducting sample surveys when he was here last fall. And we hope that he'll make more stops rather than "fly-overs" on his many trips between the Washingtons (Washington State University and Washington, DC).

Faculty Members Win Prestigious ISU Awards

Simons Receives Outstanding Achievement in Research Award

Ron Simons has been named a 2002 recipient of the Outstanding Achievement in Research Award at ISU. This honors his exceptional scholarship across the 25 years that he's been a member of our department.

Currently, he directs the Institute for Social and Behavioral Research; he was part of the institute at its inception and has played a major role in its development. Ron has authored/co-authored three books, including *Understanding Differences Between Divorced and Intact*

Families (Sage), and more than 90 refereed research articles. He's a prolific (and successful!) grant-writer; his projects have generated more than \$21 million in funding. These research efforts have been important for the department as well, because they often have funded the programs of graduate students, many of whom have been given the opportunity to publish with Ron and others affiliated with the institute.

His remarkable performance has resulted in a national reputation in family studies. He is widely recognized in a variety of areas, including the pathways through which adolescents develop delinquent careers, the inter-generational transmission of domestic violence, and the nature of the link between family violence and other types of deviant behavior. It's good to know that ISU recognizes his activities by giving him this competitive, university-wide award in the area of research.

Mazur Given International Service Award

Few individuals in our department have had the extended international experiences that Bob Mazur has enjoyed the last few decades. In recognition of those efforts, he received ISU's International Service Award in 2002. Actually, his global efforts began well before he joined our faculty in 1985. He had been a Fulbright Lecturer and a researcher in Zimbabwe, for example. Since coming to Ames, he's held visiting positions at three universities in South Africa and two in India. And he's conducted research in several other countries, with funding from the Rockefeller Foundation among others.

Bob has developed an international reputation as an expert on social development. He's a key person on studies of international refugees, an area in which he has played an important role in developing a professional organization of scholars dealing with extremely thorny issues. In addition, he has engaged in policy-related research with colleagues from diverse disciplines and countries on issues of health and population, land reform, urbanization, and housing.

Undergraduates in Mazur's classes are treated to his international research and consulting experience. And graduate students frequently have an opportunity to work on the data that he has obtained. He'll have a chance to bring additional details to his students in the future, because his award includes funding to assist in conducting another internationally-related activity.

Dobratz Wins LAS Mid-Career Award for Excellence in Research

Betty Dobratz recently was informed that she is the recipient of a 2002 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Mid-Career Award for Excellence in Research. She has made a major contribution to the study of the white supremacist movement, in part because her research has added so much to the understanding of the activities of various extremist groups. Betty's co-authored book on *White Power, White Pride—The White Supremacist Movement in the United States* (Twayne) now is in its second printing (Johns Hopkins).

What is most impressive about Betty's work is how she gathers

her data, which involves field studies and interviews with participants of supremacist groups. She has an ability to gain the confidence of those whom she interviews even in difficult circumstances. The January/February 2002 issue of *Visions*, an ISU magazine, labeled Dobratz a "faculty adventurer" because of this work. Of course, Betty has contributed to research in a variety of other manners (see another article in this issue). Together, these efforts merited the award that she was given by the college.

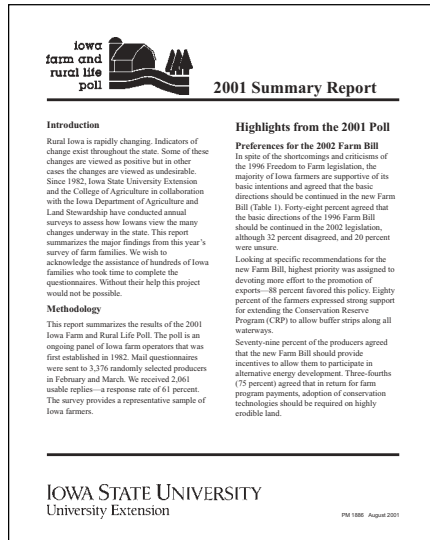
Morton Given Ag Early Achievement in Research Award

In February, Lois Wright Morton was given the 2002 College of Agriculture Early Achievement in Research Award. Since joining our department in 1999, she has had considerable success in acquiring grants and in initiating innovative interdisciplinary research projects. Her research integrates themes related to civic structure, food systems, and human health and well-being, as indicated in a recent book (see another article in this issue).

Among her grants is one for more than \$1 million on which she works with a group that is studying nine Iowa cities; the focus is on the development of citizen performance teams and documents resident interactions with governments. In addition, she won a USDA National Research Initiative grant to convene a multidisciplinary group of researchers from across the United States; this group discussed research linking agriculture, food systems, and community systems to population health. Another

planning grant proposal emerged from this workshop and has been accepted. It's obvious that Lois will continue to be a productive colleague and deserves the honor granted by the college.

Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll Examines Trends



In 1982, Paul Lasley initiated a statewide survey of farm operators in Iowa. For the first three years, it was conducted twice a year. That schedule was reduced in 1985 so that contacts occurred annually. And in 2001, the sample was enlarged so that rural residents not engaged in farming also were included. The results from this effort, jointly funded by ISU Extension and the Iowa Agriculture Experiment Station, have provided the state with a steady stream of data on changes occurring in agriculture and rural life in general; they also help target research and Extension programs to the needs of farm families.

Lasley works in concert with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship to draw a statewide random sample of

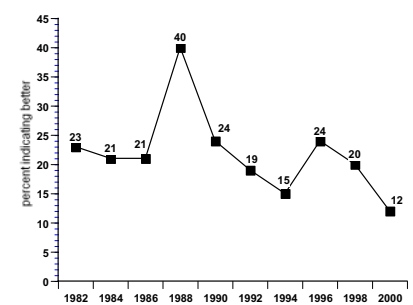
about 5,000 farm operators, with at least 60 percent responding each year. Established as a panel study, the same respondents are queried each year. To correct for potential bias that may arise because of sample maturation or selective attrition, periodically a new subsample is contacted. Certain questions are repeated on a set schedule so that trends can be observed, while new areas of inquiry are added whenever topics arise.

Panel designs allow trends to be monitored, which are particularly useful when dealing with decision-makers setting policy. One of the items included every other year since the first survey asks whether the overall economic prospects for Iowa farmers will become better, remain the same, or become worse in the next five years. Except for one year, less than a quarter of the respondents felt that economic prospects would improve each time the question was asked (see figure). In 1988, operators felt the farm crisis of the early 1980s finally had passed; unfortunately, opinions after that year returned to the previous level. The most pessimistic point was reached in the 2000 survey. Lasley explains this pessimism as a reflection of chronic low prices and sagging farm incomes that occurred at the same time as the general economy was robust in the 1990s. The widening gap between the farm and nonfarm economy has resulted in this pessimism about the future.

Providing current data to those determining state and national policy is a major function of the project. As an example, Lasley organized a Congressional

Legislative Briefing as part of the Iowa Rural Summit; this briefing brought together ISU researchers and federal/state representatives who work on policy. Data gathered by Lasley on farm operators' views of needed directions in the 2002 Farm Bill were unveiled at that time; comments from Congressional staff members were positive, because the 24-page report provided a glimpse into the preferences of Iowa producers.

As a frequent guest on state and national media programs, Lasley often draws upon findings from the Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll to help the public better understand the complexity of rural issues. When available, results from the 2002 survey will be placed on a web site where previous summaries already reside. Check them at www.extension.iastate.edu/pubs/, scroll down to Community and Business Interests, click on Community Development, and look for the Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll summaries.



Overall economic prospects for Iowa farmers will improve in the next five years

Grants/Contracts Continue to Arrive

Here are a few examples of the grants and contracts that were received by faculty members in 2001.

Bell Part of Multidisciplinary USDA Grant

Mike Bell joined Joe Colletti (Forestry), Mark Honeyman (ISU Research Farms), and Wendy Powers-Schilling (Animal Science) on a successful proposal to study shelterbelts and livestock odor mitigation; it is funded by the USDA's National Research Initiative program. Mike's participation on this \$350,000 grant involves socioeconomics affecting pork producers and consumers.

With expected economic benefits from expansion of pork production come potential environmental and social costs from odor. Evidence suggests that tree barriers can be cost-effective buffers that reduce odor from pork production at all scales of operation. The researchers will study producer attitudes regarding market-based incentives for odor control, identify producer and consumer values regarding odor management involving the use of shelterbelts, provide bio-physical evidence of shelterbelt efficacy to reduce odor, and assist producers and consumers on the use of market-based incentives and socially preferred practices.

Besser, Miller, and Korsching Receive USDA Grant

Rural community economic welfare is bound to the prosperity and survival of the businesses that provide the goods, services, jobs, and tax revenue that residents need to maintain a good quality of life. Terry Besser, Nancy Miller (Department of Textiles and Clothing), and Pete Korsching won a \$450,000 grant from the USDA's Fund for Rural America to

study how enduring business networks are created and sustained, develop five new rural business networks, and produce materials and workshops to make their findings available to community leaders, developers, and businesses.

While networking enhances business innovation, most small businesses are unaware of its benefits. Results from interviews with more than 2,000 business members of 30 networks will be used to document what makes such groups work. The researchers then will create networks of retail store owners, pharmaceutical crop growers, food chain participants, and community-based groups of farmers and business people, among others. Finally, they intend to draft blueprints for developing and sustaining business networks.

Padgitt, Morton, and Flora Obtain EPA Funding

Recently, Steve Padgitt, Lois Wright Morton, and Jan Flora received more than \$50,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for their project on building and sustaining resident-led watershed management in at-risk watersheds in Iowa. They'll work with two members of the Extension to Communities staff, Jeff Zacharakis-Jutz and Sandra Scholl.

The goal of this project is to provide community development support to citizens who want to form watershed groups that engage in solving local water quality problems and related land use issues. Support includes a training seminar for people who want to mobilize their community

to form a watershed group, develop and implement an action plan with the help of natural resource experts and public officials, and monitor water quality and other changes in their watershed. In addition to workshops in this Extension effort, products will include a guide to building such groups and publications on strategies and techniques for gathering data about the physical, social, economic, and political relationships of people and the watershed.

Woodman Has Joint Iowa College of Medicine/IDPH Support

Bill Woodman won a contract for \$170,000 to carry out a study titled "Clinic in Every Home," funded by the National Library of Medicine and carried out jointly with the Iowa College of Medicine (Department of Rural Telemedicine) and the Iowa Department of Public Health. Bill worked with Kerry Agnitsch, a member of our Professional and Scientific staff, and members of ISU's Statistical Laboratory on perceived advantages of and barriers to yet-to-be developed new home-based medical technologies for underserved rural populations.

The researchers selected study counties according to their distance from medical facilities, examined existing needs assessment databases, and then used focus groups made up of health care consumers and providers to study the medical informational needs and potential barriers to new technologies to providing remote medical triage and care in real time. Finally, a telephone survey of Iowa citizens was

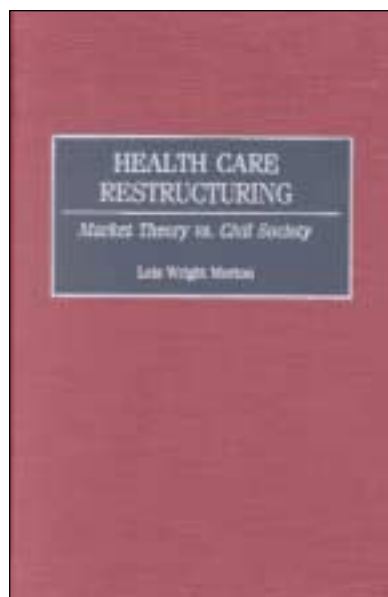
carried out by the ISU Statistical Laboratory based on the first two parts of the study, with the recommendations for both development and implementation of the new technologies to be found in the project report (“The Clinic in Every Home: Needs Assessment, Barriers and Opportunities”) issued in December of 2001.

Contributions to Books by Faculty Members in 2001

Faculty members contributed in a variety of ways to several books that appeared in 2001. Highlights are included in the paragraphs that follow.

Morton Covers Restructuring in Health Care

As Lois Wright Morton writes in the preface, “On the surface, this book is about U.S. health care, but the underlying theme is markets and civil society.” That sets the tone for her 214-page volume on *Health Care Restructuring: Market Theory vs. Civil*

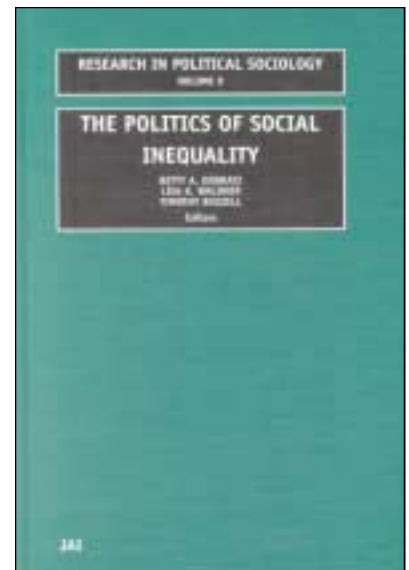


Society (Auburn House). She is concerned about the extent to which free markets can solve key health-care issues (e.g., cost, access) and indicates that civil society can play an important role in alleviating potentially negative effects arising from unconstrained markets.

Competitive health care markets generally respond only to the biomedical model of health care service. They cannot alter structural characteristics of poverty, disease, and injury that are the root sources of health care costs and health status outcomes. Civic community offers a way of restructuring health care by addressing shortcomings in the current system. Empirical findings, case studies, and archival documents support Lois’s contention that the civic community model can provide governments with a plan for setting regulations, monitoring them, and enforcing practices related to baseline health care as well as the behaviors of providers and insurers. Until that occurs, the health status goals Americans have set for themselves will not be achieved.

Dobratz, Waldner, and Buzzell Edit Volume on Politics of Social Inequality

The 9th volume of *Research in Political Sociology* (JAI Press) was edited by Betty Dobratz and two associate editors, both graduates of our department (Lisa Waldner, Ph.D., 1992; Timothy Buzzell, Ph.D., 1991). This collection of research articles serves as an example of how aspects of social status, social class, and ideology are connected to contemporary questions related to “who wins” in struggles for

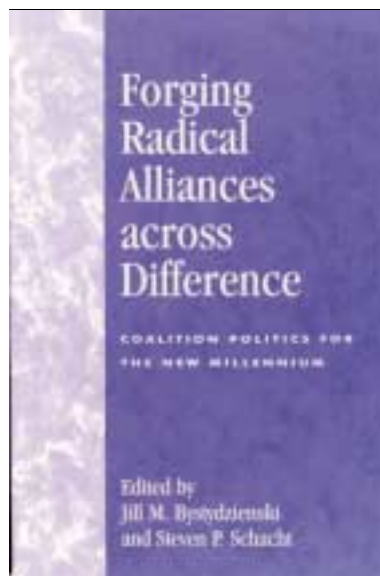


civic, economic, and individual citizenship. The politics of inequality are placed within literatures on political groups and associations, the role of law and the state, social movements, and terrorism and violence. Waldner contributed a chapter on “Lesbian and Gay Political Activism: An Analysis of Variables Predicting Political Participation,” while Buzzell wrote about “Gay and Lesbian Activism in American Protestant Churches: Religion, Homosexuality, and the Politics of Inclusion.”

Currently, Dobratz serves as the series editor of *Research in Political Sociology*. The primary objective of this annual publication is to increase understanding of political sociology and to help strengthen the skills that political sociologists bring to their profession and others.

Bystydzienski Co-Edits Volume on Alliances

Scholars, activists, and others concerned with social change increasingly realize that, in order to transform society, effective



coalitions among different groups working for social justice need to be created and maintained. However, much of the research on coalitions provides limited approaches to radical alliances, or those whose goals are to fundamentally change interpersonal relations and social structure in order to achieve equality and true social justice. The anthology edited by Jill Bystydzienski, a professor of sociology and director of ISU's Women's Studies program, and Steven Schacht on *Forging Radical Alliances Across Difference: Coalition Politics for the New Millennium* (Rowman and Littlefield) challenges dominant approaches of explaining social movements and coalition building. The 18 chapters cover theoretical perspectives, barriers to forming coalitions, community-based and international coalitions, and feminist and student coalitions.

On the flyer for the book, Nancy Naples is quoted: "In examining organizing efforts designed to protect the environment, to end the devastation of AIDS, to fight violence against women, and to gain economic security for workers and their families...., the

contributors provide exciting new evidence about the possibilities of coalition building for social, environmental, and economic justice." Members of our department will recall that Naples, who currently is at the University of Connecticut, graced our department as a faculty member for several years in the early 1990s.

Korsching Contributes New Information to Previously Published Volume

In 1993, a book initiated by Frederick Fliegel on *Diffusion Research in Rural Sociology* (Greenwood Press) was published. It was part of a series called "Classic Studies in Rural Sociology" commissioned by the Rural Sociological Society in honor of its 50th anniversary. Unfortunately, Fliegel passed away before the volume was completed and James Zuiches helped get it published.

In 2001, the volume was reprinted (Social Ecology Press) with a new chapter provided by Peter Korsching. His preface and updated research on diffusion research in the 1990s is given authorship billing on the volume: Frederick C. Fliegel With Peter F. Korsching.



This came about because Pete wanted to use the initial book in a graduate course but hesitated because of cost. When it went out of print, the opportunity emerged for another press to obtain the rights and publish an inexpensive paperback version. Those associated with that press thought an additional chapter updating the literature would be appropriate and Korsching was asked to do it. That 30-page chapter reviews the most recent studies and offers comments about future directions such research should take. Pete suggests that one major direction in the field ties the classic diffusion of innovations model to new research methods and analytical techniques; a second thrust involves the creation of new models. Korsching's contribution yields an enhanced volume, one that should lead to additional studies in the field if readers follow his advice.

Faculty Honors and Awards in 2001-2002

Jill Bystydzienski served as president of the Association for Humanist Sociology in 2001.

Betty Dobratz was given the 2002 Mid-Career Award for Excellence in Research by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (see article elsewhere).

Cornelia Flora became a Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Agriculture in 2001 (see article elsewhere). She was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (2001) and serves as the co-president of the International Farming Systems Association (2000-2002).

Clare Hinrichs continues in her three-year term on the governing council of the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society (2000-2003). Also, she received the Team Award (with seven others) from the College of Agriculture; she worked with the "Hoop Group" (Alternative Swine Production Systems Initiative Team) in 2002.

Andrew Hochstetler was recognized by ISU's Inter-fraternity and Pan Hellenic Councils (Greek community) as an outstanding faculty member in 2001.

Joe Hraba was a VEISHEA 2001 nominee for Outstanding Faculty Member at ISU.

Gloria Jones Johnson was appointed to the Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Sociology (2001-2003) of the American Sociological Association. In addition, she received a NAACP Vanguard Award for faculty excellence in leadership (2001) and was recognized by ISU's Inter-fraternity and Pan Hellenic Councils (Greek community) as an outstanding faculty member (2001).

Fred Lorenz was named a university professor (see article elsewhere).

Robert Mazur received the International Service Award (see article elsewhere).

Lois Wright Morton received the Early Achievement in Research Award by the College of Agriculture (see article elsewhere).

Ed Muñoz was given the Bogardus Award for Excellence in Teaching by our department's graduate students in 2001.

Steven Padgitt was the co-chair of the ISU Extension Performance and Evaluation Committee, which received the Vice Provost for Extension's Special Citation, an award given to members of an Extension committee for significant contributions to the improvement of how the organization functions. Also, he was given Exceptional Support Recognition by student scholars/leaders in 2001 as an ISU faculty member who had been especially helpful.

Ronald Simons was given ISU's Outstanding Achievement in Research Award in 2002 (see article elsewhere).

Kathleen Waggoner was given Exceptional Support Recognition by student scholars/leaders in 2001 as an ISU faculty member who had been especially helpful.

Graduate Student Honors and Awards in 2001-2002

Jensine Anahita received a 2001 Scholarship Development Award from the Midwest Sociological Society to partially fund her dissertation research.

Shaun Keister received the Academic Excellence Award from ISU's Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Student Services in 2002.

Gail Wallace was the recipient of a Predoctoral Minority Fellowship given by the American Sociological Association for mental health research training in 2001-2002. In addition, she received the Gerald and Eileen Klonglan Scholarship Award in 2001.

Scholarship Contributors Continue Generosity

Two scholarships received additional donations from their sponsors in the last year. A scholarship in the names of Gerald and Eileen Klonglan received substantial additional gifts from the Klonglans. Interest from the fund that was established in 1995 provides a much appreciated stipend for the graduate student that wins this scholarship.

In addition, Nancy Bohlen made another generous donation to a fund that bears her husband's name. The Joe Bohlen Scholarship, first awarded in 1999, recognizes the work of graduate students involved with the adoption and diffusion of innovations. The additional funds given to this scholarship will greatly assist future graduate students in the coming years.

Support Appreciated for Two Departmental Funds

We want to thank those who contributed to the Sociology Development Fund or the Sociology Department Achievement Fund the last two years. The former has existed for years and helps with small projects for which funds are needed by faculty, staff, or students, especially those for which travel expenses are incurred. The Achievement Fund was initiated in 1998 through a \$20,000 contribution by Irving Spaulding, who received his bachelor's degree in rural sociology in 1941. The interest from this fund will be available for use by the depart-

ment to help with special projects undertaken by students and faculty. You'll find an insert that gives you an opportunity to contribute to these funds.

Staff Moves in 2001

In 2001, one member joined the department and three others left for positions elsewhere.

Michelle Frisco Joins Faculty as an Assistant Professor



In the fall of 2001, Michelle Frisco joined the department and began teaching courses in family sociology. She completed a Ph.D. at the University of Texas-Austin, M.A. at Baylor, and B.A. at Penn State. Michelle has published in the *Journal of Family Issues*, *Research on Aging*, and the *Journal of Mental Health and Aging*, has two book chapters, and has been active in presenting papers at professional meetings. Much of her research has been on the causes and consequences of adolescent sexual initiation, particularly how sexual debut influences academic achievement and how family structure, relationships, and school context influence timing of sexual initiation and contraceptive choices among adolescents and young adults.

Rand Conger Takes UC-Davis Position

After 12 years as a faculty member in our department, the warm sunshine of the West attracted Rand Conger. And it didn't hurt that a position at the University of California-Davis was included! Rand is a professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. Although efforts to keep him here were not successful, we wish him success with this major transition. The many manners in which he aided the department have been noted and will be difficult to replace.

Dan Hoyt and Les Whitbeck Accept University of Nebraska-Lincoln Offers

Dan Hoyt and Les Whitbeck also moved West last year. Their moves were much shorter than Rand's, however. Both accepted positions in the Department of Sociology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. While overtures were made to retain their services at ISU, Nebraska succeeding in wrenching them from Ames. They contributed greatly to our department and are missed. And we know they will continue their excellent work in Lincoln.

Undergraduate Advisor: Kettner Leaves, Hagley Arrives

Kevin Kettner served as our advisor to undergraduate sociology majors from 1992 to 2001. Our department and our undergraduate majors and minors were fortunate to have him in that role. Our students and recent alumni uniformly gave high praise to his advising and its impact on their educational and occupational

success. He had a wonderful way of balancing his student contacts with his department and university responsibilities. His good cheer was tested in more than a few instances, but he always solved difficult problems for students and faculty members. Before Kevin left, he received the Norm Boyles Service Award, which is given to the person on campus who, according to student athletes, is most instrumental in helping them balance their academic and athletic responsibilities. In 1996, he received the Ruth Swenson Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Advising from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Kevin, Valrey, and their daughter moved to Fargo when Valrey was offered the position of assistant vice president in sponsored programs administration at North Dakota State University. Kevin plans to continue working in the area of student services.

Mark Hagley replaced Kettner as our undergraduate advisor in the summer of 2001. He majored in sociology here as an undergrad (Kevin was his advisor!) and then obtained a master's degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in ISU's College of Education. His first position involved advising students in the College of Engineering who had not declared a particular area of emphasis ("undeclared" majors). While he enjoyed that work, the position in sociology is a much better fit with his background and the department is pleased that he has returned fulltime to East Hall.

Klonglan Retires from ISU



Gerald (Jerry) Klonglan retired from an administrative position in ISU's College of Agriculture in June of 2001. He had been with the college from 1990 to his retirement after being a member of the faculty of the Department of Sociology since 1962. He completed his Ph.D. here in 1963 and thus was part of the faculty before finishing his dissertation. He moved through the ranks and became a professor in 1969 and chaired the department from 1977 through 1990.

Klonglan's teaching, predominantly at the graduate level, involved theory construction, social change, and development. His research efforts were related to communication, the adoption and diffusion of innovations, organizational effectiveness, and interorganizational relations. The 24 students for whom he directed graduate programs are scattered throughout the world; many continue to communicate with him at least annually.

Jerry was the president of the Rural Sociological Society in 1985-1986 after holding several other offices over the years. His "behind-the-scenes" efforts to increase the visibility of rural

sociology and the RSS have been constant. While he'd been doing this for several years, his efforts increased dramatically when he spent much of 1991-1993 in Washington, D.C., as a staff research sociologist with what then was known as USDA's Cooperative State Research Service. These months were spent creating contacts throughout federal agencies and on Capitol Hill, efforts that sparked additional interest in roles that rural sociologists could play at national and state levels.

Many of you will recall that Jerry participated in initial studies on Civil Defense that were conducted in the department. One of our colleagues (okay, it was the editor) had saved a Fallout Shelter sign that was removed during one of the renovations of the hallways of our building. If Jerry ever retired (whether that would occur was widely debated within East Hall), perhaps we could "honor" him with the sign. And that's what we did, but we doubled his pleasure. After we gave him the first sign,

which included a note acknowledging the many years he gave to the department, we added a second one. That plaque was identical except that "(Copy)" was added at the bottom, which was our way of recognizing that Jerry not only made copies of everything but he kept them. He still has them. Just send him a note if you're missing a memo from the last 40+ years! His wife, Eileen, would be more than happy to send you an entire box; she'll send two if you'd like.

We wish Jerry and Eileen much enjoyment in retirement.



From the Archives

Lloyd Young, who holds a Ph.D. (1957) from the department, ransacked his files from long ago, found an important document missing for decades, and sent it to the department recently. A brief explanation may be necessary and Young provided that as well.

Perhaps the situation remains, but in 1955 there was a good deal of (for the most part friendly) rivalry between the rural sociologists and the rest of the department. The regularly scheduled May 6 department faculty meeting time arrived and by coincidence the three primary rural sociologists—George Beal, Joe Bohlen, and Ray Wakeley—were gone from campus. Bill Kenkel presided and the group spent most of the meeting as a committee of the whole drafting the minutes of the meeting.

Minutes: Sociology Staff Meeting—Monday, May 6th

It was decided by the group that a topic of major importance was "The New Role of Rural Sociology at Iowa State College." The following are the major group decisions concerning this admittedly vital issue:

1. The name of the department shall be changed to "Department of General, Industrial, and Family Sociology and Social Welfare."
2. It is only fitting that office accommodations reflect the new status of rural sociology. Accordingly, it was decided that the three-office suite on the first floor be turned over to the rural sociologists. In addition to its convenient location next to the drinking fountain, this new office is relatively private and well ventilated. Each cubicle has its own water supply and adjacent to the comfortable chair there is a shelf for storage of books or tape recorders.
3. The name of Ag Annex (editor's note: now East Hall) shall be changed. Criteria for a suitable name were developed, including (1) it should, as far as possible, have relevance both to sociology and economics and (b) it should reflect the new role of rural sociology. Final selection of the building's name will be made from the two most popular suggestions, "Marx Hall" and "Urbiculture Annex."
4. Everything possible should be done to establish in the near future an Urban Experiment Station. It is hoped that it will be organized simultaneously with the City Extension Service.
5. It was decided that all disagreeable jobs, unpleasant duties, onerous tasks, and the like, whatever else their nature, be assigned to staff members on a strictly rotation basis. The period for such assignments would be 10 years and staff members are to be assigned in alphabetical order. The group felt that after an initial trial period of 20 years the matter should come up for re-evaluation and possible revision.
6. The meeting closed on a pleasant note. Members of the group joined hands in a true friendship circle and sang two verses of "How Are You Going to Keep Them Down on the Farm?"

(Editor's Note: The "three-office suite" next to the water fountain on the first floor still exists, although one "office" was lost during a recent renovation project. Yep, someone's now out in the cold!)

By the way, Lloyd Young retired in 1997 after 44 years of teaching and administration. He lives in Springfield, MO, after his years on the faculty of Southwest Missouri State University. Young earned the 15th Ph.D. granted by the department. Last December, the 296th was awarded.

Ph.D. Degrees Granted in the 1940s and 1950s

Our department has granted nearly 300 Ph.D. degrees in sociology. Here are names of the first 18, who completed their degrees from 1946 through 1959.

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|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. William Tudor, July 1946 | 10. Carl Ortmeyer, July 1954 |
| 2. Neal Gross, December 1946 | 11. Robert Dimmit, August 1954 |
| 3. Robert Clark Jr., June 1950 | 12. Charles Chandler, June 1955 |
| 4. Donald Fessler, July 1951 | 13. Hugh Ghormley, December 1955 |
| 5. Paul Jehlick, June 1952 | 14. Everett Rogers, March 1957 |
| 6. George Beal, June 1953 | 15. Lloyd Young, August 1957 |
| 7. Albert Shafter, December 1953 | 16. John Harp, June 1958 |
| 8. Joe Bohlen, June 1954 | 17. Mohammed Nasrat, June 1958 |
| 9. Kenneth Cannon, June 1954 | 18. Orlando Goering, February 1959 |

M.S. Degrees Given from the 1920s through the 1950s

The first M.S. degree in Sociology at ISU was earned more than 80 years ago. Here's a list of those receiving this degree through the 1950s.

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Charles Hoffer, June 1921 | 35. Bertha Whitson, July 1945 |
| 2. Constance Griffith, June 1922 | 36. Carl Ortmeyer, March 1948 |
| 3. John Thaden, August 1922 | 37. Kenneth Cannon, June 1948 |
| 4. Marion Deyoe, June 1923 | 38. Lowell Dunigan, June 1948 |
| 5. Harlin Loomer, August 1923 | 39. George Robinson, June 1948 |
| 6. William Weaver, June 1924 | 40. Joe Bohlen, December 1948 |
| 7. Cato Young, August 1925 | 41. Elise Boulding, June, 1949 |
| 8. Howard Oxley, June 1926 | 42. Robert Schmidt, June 1949 |
| 9. Laura Reynolds, June 1928 | 43. Leonard Heideman, June 1950 |
| 10. Gertrude Corfe, August 1928 | 44. Douglas King, June 1951 |
| 11. Minne Allen, June 1929 | 45. Charles Robbins, December 1951 |
| 12. Maude Von Tungeln, June 1929 | 46. Marvin Judy, June 1952 |
| 13. Paul Adams, June 1930 | 47. Darwin Clupper, August 1952 |
| 14. Charles Mantle, July 1930 | 48. Dean Harper, June 1953 |
| 15. Mamie Greenfield, August 1930 | 49. George Boehnke, December 1953 |
| 16. Wilford Fasold, July 1931 | 50. Verona Jones, July 1954 |
| 17. Lawrence Loy, July 1931 | 51. Louis Facto, August 1954 |
| 18. Chang Hsi Ku, September 1931 | 52. Melathathil John, August 1954 |
| 19. Macklin John, June 1932 | 53. James Allen, December 1954 |
| 20. Chao Hsi Fan, August 1932 | 54. Doreen Mitchell, March 1955 |
| 21. Walker Davis, August 1933 | 55. Everett Rogers, March 1955 |
| 22. Ralph Miller, June 1934 | 56. John Wilson, June 1955 |
| 23. Edgar Graff, March 1936 | 57. Orlando Goering, August, 1955 |
| 24. Donald Trauger, July 1936 | 58. Hilda Skott, December 1955 |
| 25. Frank Forsythe, August 1936 | 59. Maurice Voland, July 1956 |
| 26. James Losey, December 1936 | 60. John Harp, December 1956 |
| 27. Melvin Brooks, August 1937 | 61. Norman Cleary, December 1957 |
| 28. Lawrence Bee, December 1937 | 62. Carleton Smith, August 1958 |
| 29. Harold Templeton, July 1938 | 63. Donald Koontz, November 1958 |
| 30. Marvin Lind, March 1939 | 64. Philip Miller, February 1959 |
| 31. Zaneta Eager, June 1939 | 65. Gerald Parsons, February 1959 |
| 32. James White, December 1940 | 66. Herbert Campbell III, August 1959 |
| 33. J. Allan Beegle, July 1941 | 67. Charles Mulford, August 1959 |
| 34. Neal Gross, August 1942 | 68. Chester Carpenter, November 1959 |

Alums in the News

Here are more updates on our alums. Let us know what you are doing so that we can add information about you in a future newsletter. *Please use the form enclosed to let us know more about you.*

Jay Beaman (Ph.D., 1990) is the Director of Institutional Research at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, OR.

J. Alan Beegle (M.S., 1941) died in East Lansing, Michigan, in September of 2000. According to family members, he always considered his training and associations at Iowa State to be an important part of his preparation for teaching and research. He obtained a Ph.D. at Louisiana State University and then joined the faculty at Michigan State University in 1945, from which he retired in 1988. His many contributions to the discipline, especially those in rural sociology, have been praised for decades.

Roslyn (Boyd) Scheideman (M.S., 1992) worked in ISU's Minority Student Affairs Office and then the university's International Institute of Theoretical and Applied Physics, where she matched international scientists with ISU faculty hosts. She is married to a commercial photographer; they live in Des Moines, where currently she cares for a baby born last year.

Richard Davis (M.S., 1975) is the president of the Washington Research Council, which is located in Seattle.

Joan (Jody) Derosier (M.S., 1989) died in April of 2001; she had been teaching at Des Moines Area Community College.

George Dillmann (M.S., 1999) advanced to Ph.D. candidacy in sociology at the University of Buffalo.

Jack Geller (Ph.D., 1986) is president of the Center for Rural Policy and Development at Minnesota State University, Mankato; the center was established in 1997 by the Minnesota State Legislature to conduct nonpartisan collaborative policy research; check the web site (www.mankato.msus.edu/dept/ruralmn/) for more information.

Carol Gosselink (Ph.D., 1987) recently joined the gerontology program at Southwest Missouri State University as an assistant professor. She held a similar position at the University of Northern Colorado. Earlier, she had research positions in public service or medical organizations located in Denver and Chicago.

Martin Hansen (Ph.D., 1994) is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology at St. Ambrose University (Davenport, IA); in the summers of 1995, 1998, 2000, and the coming one, he has held a visiting scholar/professor position in technology assessment at the Institute for Sociology associated with the University of Klagenfurt in Austria.

Hajime Hirai (M.S., 1982) is an associate professor at Shiga University, which is located in Ohtsu, Japan.

Jan (Hass) Wilson (M.S., 1983) is the president of Gestalt, Inc., an international market research consulting firm she started in 1991. She has enjoyed great success applying the sociological imagination to the marketing realm.

Kathleen (Hill) Bock (M.S., 1985) accepted a position at the Institute for Character Development, which is located at Drake University in Des Moines. This institute is a statewide program that recognizes, enhances, and sustains positive personal qualities by promoting civility through character development.

Christopher (Chris) Johnson (Ph.D., 1981) is a professor of gerontology at the University of Louisiana in Monroe; he's twice been honored as the Researcher of the Year in Liberal Arts and is a Gerontological Fellow in the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. The master's program in gerontology that he developed was designated as an Area of Excellence by the Louisiana governor.

Everett Laning (Ph.D., 1965) retired in 1996 as a professor of sociology and applied social science from Simpson College in Indianola, IA. He's the executive director of Habitat for Humanity in his county and continues active involvement in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, which he has assisted for more than 25 years. In his last decade at Simpson, he was the International Student Advisor; that explains his great love of travel, domestic as well as international.

Motoko Lee (Ph.D., 1969) retired as a faculty member in our department a few years ago and is enjoying life as a professor emeritus. Traveling (four trips to Italy), ballroom dancing, bridge, and photography (including acceptance of her work in juried exhibitions) keep her busy.

Lin Jenn-Yeu (M.S., 1979) is the director of the Department of Labor Inspection in the Ministry of

Labor Affairs of the Republic of China in Taipei, Taiwan; he has held several other civil service positions, including director of the Department of Research and Planning, the Department of Labor Welfare, and the Department of Labor Management Relations.

Marilyn Nouri (M.S., 1967) earned a Ph.D. in sociology from Syracuse University and then joined the Department of Sociology at the State University of New York-Oneonta, where she developed and became the director of the Center for Life Course Studies. When her husband retired, they moved to Cape Cod where she is an education researcher for the Barnstable Public Schools in Hyannis.

Carl Ortmeier (Ph.D., 1954), who holds the 10th Ph.D. given in sociology at ISU, retired from the U.S. Public Health Service in 1988. He lives in Des Moines, but it's the one in the state of Washington rather than Iowa. He's nearly completed the first draft of a family history and is interested in helping others write about experiences similar to those he shared with his four brothers, all of whom majored in the social sciences at ISU from 1935-1954.

Brian Pendleton (Ph.D., 1977) received the Outstanding Researcher Award at the University of Akron in 2001. He had received the Outstanding Teacher Award in 1993 and is only the second person in the history of the university to have received both awards. He and his wife, Marcie (many will remember her as a secretary in the department in the 1970s; she's also had an exceptional career), now have four grandchildren.

Gregory Peter (Ph.D., 2001) accepted a position as an assistant professor of sociology in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at James Madison University (Harrisonburg, VA). He's enjoying a new neighborhood in a new part of the country and indicates that he has a great job.

Sangeeta Parashar (M.S., 2000) is in the Ph.D. program in sociology at the University of Maryland-College Park.

Rodrick Rolston (Ph.D., 1966), though retired as a sociological educator with the Indiana Department of Corrections, continues to teach courses in sociology and criminal justice at Purdue University-North Central, Indiana Vocational Technical College, and Ancilla Domini College.

Liu Qiang (M.S., 1997) is an associate professor and chair of the Department of Corrections at the Shanghai University Law School in the People's Republic of China. He teaches courses in comparative criminology and in comparative corrections.

Nate Terrell (Ph.D., 1993) is an associate professor and chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Emporia State University in Kansas. He co-edited *Readings in Deviant Behavior* (2001, with Robert Meier, former ISU faculty member and chair) and was appointed by the governor to the Kansas Board of Indigents' Defense Services. He's also on the Kansas ElderCount project and is active in various campus committees and organizations.

Julie Tranquilla Sharp (M.S., 1999) is a Ph.D. candidate in geography at Ohio State University.

Jacob Voh (Ph.D., 1980) is the director of the Institute for Agricultural Research and is a professor at Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria; he's a member of the University Management Committee and the Bureau of Public Enterprises (agriculture subcommittee) and he is the socio-economist in the Legumes Research (cowpea) Program.

K. A. S. Wickrama (Ph.D., 1992) joined ISU's Department of Human Development and Family Studies as a tenured associate professor; he continues to be affiliated with the university's Institute for Social and Behavioral Research as well.

In Memory of Greg Huggard

It is with sorrow that we note the death of Greg Huggard, the husband of Janet Huggard, who has been our graduate secretary for the last 17 years. Greg died suddenly of heart failure at the age of 51. He and Janet had been married since 1972. Family and friends gathered to celebrate Greg's life, and Janet was grateful for the support that current and former students and staff provided.

(Editor's Note: I particularly appreciated the tranquility that I sensed from Greg. When I was chair, I'd be rushing out of the office and then see Greg sitting on a bench in the hall waiting for Janet. I would slow, talk with him for a few minutes, and always leave with less of a feeling of urgency and more of an understanding that whatever I was facing would work out for the best.)

Bell and Miller Participate on National Public Radio Program

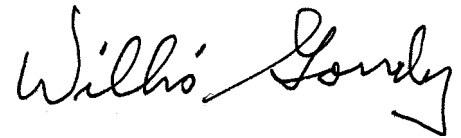
When Garrison Keillor's popular public radio program, *A Prairie Home Companion*, aired from Ames recently, two sociologists—Mike Bell and Marty Miller—participated as part of the "Barn Owl Band." They joined others affiliated with various departments at ISU. The group had submitted a CD earlier but didn't learn until two weeks before the event that they would play on this weekly show heard nationwide. The band normally plays for dances in the Ames area. Mike, an associate professor in the department, is third from the right in the picture. And Marty, who is a professor emeritus, is second from the right.

Editor's Comments

Renea Miller and I have enjoyed putting together another departmental newsletter for you. Well, maybe the joy is more mine than hers. I draft the sections, with much help from those about whom the articles are written. Renea does the layout and printing. She's a wizard at putting together such reports and uses a variety of software programs to make sure that what is sent to you looks great.

It's possible to do this because we have such excellent staff members here at ISU and productive graduates of the program located throughout the world. Hearing from you makes it so much easier to complete these newsletters. This time, we had

notes from one person who obtained a Ph.D. in 1954 and another who received that degree in 2001. That span indicates how much our graduates have enjoyed their connections with ISU in the past as well as the present. Please take a moment now to complete the form enclosed to tell us about your activities or go to the department's web site (www.soc.iastate.edu/home.htm) and send us a note in the manner indicated. That may be all we need to insure that another issue of SocNotes will be published!



Willis Goudy

The Barn Owl Band



Photo by Helen D. Gunderson