

## Sociology at Illinois Turns 100 in 2007

By JoAnn Jacoby, Anthropology and Sociology Subject Specialist, the Library

As the Sociology Department prepares to celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the time is apt to reflect on the history of the Department and acknowledge the achievements and the challenges faced by the Department and its faculty over the last century. To that end I have compiled a brief history of the Department, focusing on dates, names and administrative changes during the formative years of the Department and limiting myself to oblique insights gleaned from the detritus of official correspondence and the minutes of administrative meetings. The following draws heavily on "An Informal Historical Sketch of the Department of Sociology at the University of Illinois, Urbana" written in 1968 by James Edward Hullet, Chair of the Sociology Department from 1953-1960, as well as departmental newsletters and the correspondence files of University Presidents, Deans and Department Heads held in the University Archives.

The first sociology course at the University of Illinois was offered in 1893, when David Kinley was appointed assistant professor of political economy and social science. Kinley was an economist, but he also taught two courses ("Sociology" and "Social Pathology") in response to student demand. Sociology courses continued to be listed under the Department of Economics until 1907, when the Board of Trustees created the first professorship of sociology and began listing courses under a

Department of Sociology. For the next four years, the "department" consisted of one man, Edward Carey Hayes, who taught all five undergraduate and two graduate classes in sociology (with titles such as "Social Conditions and Problems in the U.S." and "Comparative and Genetic Sociology"). Like many sociologists of that time, Hayes was a former minister who went on to earn his doctorate under Albion Small at the University of Chicago, the first accredited department of sociology in the U.S.

The first graduate degree in sociology at Illinois was an M.A. awarded in 1912. The Department announced that work toward the Ph.D. was available in 1913, but nearly thirty years passed before the first doctorate in sociology was awarded in 1941. In the intervening years, sociology classes continued to be in high demand and the staff headcount grew to a high of eight



Edward Carey Hayes, Head of the Department of Sociology, 1907-1928.  
Courtesy of the University of Illinois Archives.

faculty in 1928. In the late 1920's, the undergraduate registration in sociology courses was nearly 2,000 students (out of a student body of 11,000). By the mid-1930's, Illinois was known as one of the largest sociology departments in the country, "particularly as measured by the number of students enrolled in undergraduate classes" (unattributed quote in Hullet, 1968). Despite the success of the undergraduate curriculum and the presence of notables such as E.H. Sutherland and E.B. Reuter on the faculty, the position of the department was somewhat tenuous. University President Kinley (the same Kinley who taught the first sociology course on campus) had by the 1920's come to the view that "sociology was promulgating socialistic doctrine. It was well known on campus that he felt sociology should be curbed or at least carefully watched" (Hullet 1968: 7).

Student enrollment increased only slightly between 1928 and the late 1940's, a period Hullet refers to as a "painful interregnum" marked by personal conflict and a vacuum of leadership. Howard Odum was brought in for a visiting position in hopes he would take over leadership of the department. Indeed, the department invited him to be head and he seriously considered the offer. Hullet suggests that Odum's appointment was blocked by an unnamed official at the University, but the frank and friendly correspondence between Odum and President Chase

# Jim Kluegel Retires From the University

By Gray Swicegood

The Department of Sociology is different this fall. Professor Jim Kluegel has retired after more than two decades on the faculty. It's not clear if he was the oldest member of the Department at his retirement but certainly he was the most senior. Jim served as Department Head for twelve years from 1984 through 1996 and with reprisal during the 2003-2004 academic year when he served as Acting Head. In April, the Department joined together with several of Jim's former graduate students, colleagues and collaborators from across the country, including Arne Kalleberg, now President-Elect of the American Sociological Association, to honor Jim's distinguished scholarship



and his many contributions to the University of Illinois.

In remarks at the luncheon celebrating Jim's career Professor Gillian Stevens illustrated his important role in department life and wellbeing and why he will be missed. She notes "His tenure covered

some difficult times for the campus; organizational realignments, rapid technological change, and real and consequential budget cuts. Most of you will not remember this but when Jim became the head of the Department, we had to make long distance telephone calls from the closet in the copy room! Throughout his headship, he protected his faculty in small and large ways and developed the infrastructure to support their research productivity and deliver quality instruction to an expanding and diversifying student population. He also allowed us to start making long distance phone calls in our offices.

## Sociology Centennial continued from page one

(in University Archives R.S. 2/7/1) shows that the real sticking point was Odum's reluctance to relocate full time to Urbana due to family considerations.

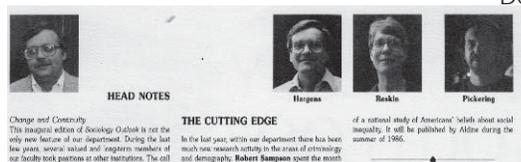
Anthropology was administratively connected to Sociology starting in 1928 when A.R. Kelly was hired into the sociology department to establish a course of study in anthropology. Kelly left in 1933 and no anthropology classes were again offered until the mid-1940s, when new staff were hired and a full program in anthropology was finally established. From 1948 to 1959, the Department was reorganized as a joint Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Although the two departments were jointly administered during this period, the faculties remained largely distinct.

Following WWII, the Department of Sociology grew rapidly. The number of senior faculty rose to 17, supplemented by nearly as many teaching assistants and lecturers. Florian Znaniecki was hired in 1940 and served until his retirement in 1951. After Znaniecki was elected American Sociological Association president in 1953, the September 1954 ASA Meeting was held here on campus with more than 1,200

people in attendance. Also on the faculty during the postwar period were Robert Bierstedt, Richard Dewey and Robert W. Janes. The first statistical laboratory was set-up 1954 by Joseph E. Bachelder, a polling specialist. During this postwar period the Department finally established a vigorous program of graduate education. Twenty-one doctorates were awarded in the 1950's and nearly forty during the 1960s. The Department continued to grow

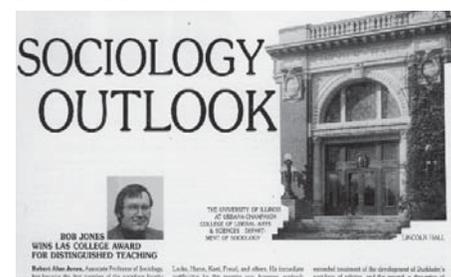
and took a leadership role in founding the Social Science Quantitative Lab, a precursor of today's ATLAS. The sheer size of the Department precludes listing all of the significant figures who contributed to the department during this period—in 1977 there were 37 members of the faculty—but a partial list of notable faculty at Illinois during the 1970's includes Rita Simon, Joan Huber, Kenneth Land, Guenther Lueschen, Harvey Choldin, Bob Jones and Norm Denzin.

Clark McPhail is currently writing a history of the Department since the 1970's that will provide cover recent developments within the Department. In the meantime, the excerpts from inaugural issue



through the 1960's and 1970's, and the instructional and research programs were further strengthened. Under the leadership of Louis Schneider, and Daniel Glaser in the 1960s, the Department moved to the position it has continued to maintain in the top quartile of doctorate-granting programs and attracted high profile faculty like Mark Field, Gunther Roth, Bernard Phillips, Louis Schneider and Cesar Grana. In the 1970's, the Department built an active program in Applied Social Statistics

of *Sociology Outlook* reproduced here provide a glimpse into the Department in the mid-1980's.



*Kluegel Retires continued from pg. 2*

Despite this administrative load, Jim maintained a research portfolio that placed him among the discipline's most productive and influential scholars in the areas of race and ethnic relations and comparative political attitudes. His contributions to the development of survey research methods through service with NORC and the Survey Research Laboratory have benefited several generations of social scientists.

Less well known is the significant impact Jim has had in the classroom. His seminars on applied research methods were always big draws attracting students from at a dozen different programs all across campus, ranging from organizational behavior to landscape architecture to hotel and restaurant management. It has not uncommon for these students to report that his was the most valuable course in their graduate training. Of course he directed his share of sociology students on to Ph.D.s and productive careers as well.

Recently Jim discussed some of the highlights of his career and current thoughts on the state of sociology over coffee. Most significantly he characterized his work as a sociology professor as a "pretty grand ride." With regard to scholarly achievements, Jim cites three major projects that he is most proud of. In his book, *Beliefs about Inequality*, he and Elliot Smith helped define a coherent area and research program within social stratification. Their work laid out a broad description of American attitudes about inequality in its many guises and related programs and policies. They also advanced an explanation of these patterns and addressed the personal and political consequences of these attitudes and beliefs. In a series of important papers with Larry Bobo, he demonstrated the centrality of such attitudes and beliefs in the relationship between race relations

and policies that impact economic opportunity. This work helped break down old paradigms that viewed race relations largely as a function of racial prejudice and thus left the economic status quo unchallenged.

In the International Social Justice Project, Jim took his concerns with the social psychology of inequality to a global scale. He and colleague Dave Mason developed and executed a large-scale comparative study of the perceptions of economic and



political justice in thirteen countries. The project began with a special focus on the newly emerging countries of Eastern Europe following the breakup of the old Soviet Union. Professor Kluegel has published the two volumes from the project, *Social Justice and Political Change: Public Opinion in Capitalist and Post-Communist Nations* (edited with Mason and Wegner) and *Marketing Democracy: Changing Opinion About Inequality and Politics in East Central Europe* (with Mason). The social justice project is a living legacy to Jim's scholarly contributions. The investigation of these issues is ongoing, and the project has expanded to more countries in Latin America, Israel and China. The latter country provides an interesting illustration of the pace and nature of social and political change in the post-Cold War era. A young Chinese scholar who attended the initial organization meetings of the project in London had his participation withdrawn in

the wake of the Tiananmen Square movement. Now that same scholar is directing the Chinese phase of the project with the full support of the government.

How does Kluegel view the discipline of sociology after twenty-seven years in the field?

In some ways he sees the field as less distinctive than it once was. Core sociological issues have been taken up by other disciplines. Economics for example, has turned attention to status attainment and residential segregation. Multi-disciplinary fields like communications and area studies have grown, and journalism has brought the language and theories of social science into reporting.

Nevertheless Professor Kluegel still considers the practice of sociology to be a "noble profession" with its own unique contributions. It is sociologists, he says, who are still willing to engage with the "sloppy, messy, complicated" world of human institutions and behaviors with "pragmatic imprecision". Kluegel cites the recent family project out of the University of Chicago as a good example. In that study the complexity of modern family structure and dynamics was analyzed with a focus how family life was woven into (a product and a producer) of specific and widely varying neighborhood contexts. According to Kluegel, the success of this project illustrates why the pursuit of "grounded theory" remains a valuable enterprise. As you can tell, Jim still enjoys talking sociology.

These days you are more apt to bump into Jim on the putting green at Savoy or Stone Creek than in Lincoln Hall. If you do, say hello, talk some sociology, but be careful about betting on the golf game. It is not a big surprise that in a short time, he has quietly, efficiently become a very good player.

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## From the Head's Desk

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By Tim Liao

Seeing the corn and soybeans on the South Farm almost all harvested reminds me that it's been a year since I reported to you past departmental events in the previous newsletter. In the academic year that has just passed, we witnessed some important personnel changes and saw the Department grow.

During the past year, three junior faculty, Zsuzsa Gille, Moon-Kie Jung, and Anna-Maria Marshall, went through the tenure and promotion process successfully, and were formally promoted to Associate Professor of Sociology with indefinite tenure last summer. Congratulations!

Also in the past year, we bid farewell to Delores Jean Hill, who retired at the end of August after years of service as a secretary and won LAS's 2006 Nancy J. McCowen Distinguished Service Award earlier in the year, to Eileen Diaz McConnell (PhD Notre Dame), who came to the Department in 2003 and moved to Arizona State University in the summer, and to James Kluegel (PhD Wisconsin), a longtime member of the Department and a former head, who decided to retire though his youthful looks remain unchanged over the years (see the special story on Jim by Swicegood in this newsletter). We will miss their presence.

This semester we welcomed five new faculty and one staff members to the Department, four in the junior and one in the senior rank: Ilana Redstone Akresh, who has a PhD from the University



of Pennsylvania and does research on immigration and was in a visiting role last year, formally joined us this year. Both Ruby Mendenhall and Ray Muhammad have a 50% employment in Sociology with the other 50% in the African American Studies & Research Program. Ruby received her PhD from Northwestern University, and before coming was a Postdoctoral Scholar at the Harris School of Public Policy, the University of Chicago. Her research interests include race and residential housing patterns, poverty, wealth accumulation, and economic mobility. Ray's PhD is also from Northwestern University, he has expertise in race and sociology of the American family with his research focused on fatherhood. Before joining us, Ray was Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Iowa. Markus Schulz received his PhD from New School for Social Research, and taught last year as Assistant Professor of Theories and Processes of Globalization at Virginia Tech prior to coming to Illinois. His research focuses

on social movement, the media, and transnational sociology.

Joining us at the senior rank is Jorge Chapa (PhD UC-Berkeley, 1988), who for the past seven years was Professor and Founding Director of the Latino Studies Program at Indiana University, Bloomington, and now is the Director of Center on Democracy in a Multiracial Society at the University of Illinois with a 25% employment in Sociology. He has taught and published extensively in the areas of race and ethnicity, Latina/o studies, and community development, and has a wide range research interests including diversity in higher education and Latina/o immigration. Our new staff Jarrod Routh, who came and passed the test for Secretary III with flying colors, now sits at Delores's old desk. Our heartfelt welcome to all!

In a year's time, the Department will celebrate its centennial (see the front-page article for a brief review of the history of the Department). We are all excited about the anniversary, and plan to throw a big party for it. We would like to invite you to come back for a full day's celebration on September 7 (Friday), 2007, when the festivities will include panels reflecting on our past and looking forward to the future of not just the Department but also the discipline, to be followed by our photo shoot and evening reception. Please mark your calendar and plan to come back for the reunion. I hope to see you on the Quad next September!

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## Director of Undergraduate Studies Update

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By Kimberly Kendall



This is an exciting time for our undergraduate program. We are currently serving more than 500 undergraduates as majors and minors with faculty and instructors who are consistently named on the University's List of Teachers Rated as Excellent by their Students. The Spring 2006 list included a record number of our excellent teachers with a grand total of 15! In addition, our Department continues to be well regarded in the profession for the quality of research published by its members. You can find specific award and publication information in the "Grants and Awards" section of this newsletter. You will also find an interesting feature profile on a recent undergraduate Sandra Weissinger. She is one of the many undergraduate success stories we have. And, we hope you take the opportunity to tell us YOUR story by contacting us. Please take a moment to send us the information indicated on the back page and contact me directly by emailing [kkendall@uiuc.edu](mailto:kkendall@uiuc.edu) if you would like to be featured in future newsletters. One final thought from Henry Steele

Commager: "Change does not necessarily assure progress, but progress implacably requires change. Education is essential to change, for education creates both new wants and the ability to satisfy them."

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# Director of Graduate Studies Review

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By Gillian Stevens

It's been a banner year for our graduate program! First, after the 2006-07 Admissions committee carefully winnowed down the 60+ applications to our graduate program and offered admission only to the only the most highly qualified, almost all of the applicants who were offered admission accepted our offer. The 2006-07 entering class consists of fourteen highly qualified incoming students who arrive with Bachelor's degrees, and in some cases, Master's degrees, from universities scattered around the world.

Meanwhile, an even dozen of our current graduate students presented papers at the 2006 Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association (ASA) in Montreal, Canada and three of them won ASA section awards for their research! **Lisa Asplen** won an "Honorable Mention" from the ASA Section on Environment & Technology for her paper "Decentering Environmental Sociology: Lessons from Post-Humanist Science and Technology Studies." **Douglas Grbic** won the James E. Blackwell Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award from the Section on Race & Ethnic Minorities for his paper "Social and Cultural Meanings of Tolerance: Immigration, Incorporation, and Identity in Aotearoa New Zealand." **Erin Murphy** won the Graduate Student Paper Award from the Section on Asian and Asian America for her paper "'Prelude to Imperialism': Whiteness and Chinese Exclusions in the Reimagining



of the United States." Only two other graduate programs in the United States had as many section awards as the Sociology Department at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Finally, a year that saw a large number of students enter the program also saw a large number of graduate students graduate with their PhD in hand. Our newest PhDs include **Zakia Salime**, whose dissertation is titled *Between Islam and Feminism: New Political Transformations and Movements in Morocco* and who accepted a job as an assistant professor at Michigan State University. **Diana Mincyte** wrote a dissertation titled *Small-Scale Farms, Large-Scale Politics: The Changing Landscape of Rural Lithuania*. She is currently a visiting assistant professor in the Department of Advertising at UIUC. **Jin-Ho Jang's** dissertation is titled *Between Neoliberalism and Democracy: The Transformation of the Developmental*

*State of South Korea, 1993-2002*; he is currently a postdoctoral student in Korea. **Michelle White's** dissertation is titled *Using the Independent Living Transition Measure to Predict Relapse and Recidivism among Adolescents in Alcohol and other Drug Treatments*. She is a researcher at Chestnut Research Organization in Bloomington, Illinois. **Srirupa Prasad** wrote a dissertation titled *Social Production of Hygiene: Domesticity, Gender and Nationalism in Late Colonial Bengal and India* and she is currently an assistant professor at University of Missouri at Columbus. **Keith Guzik** accepted a job at Bloomfield College in New Jersey. His dissertation is titled *Governing Domestic Violence: The Power, Practice, and Efficacy of Presumptive Arrest and Prosecution against the Violent Subjectivities of Intimate Abusers*. **Hiromi Ishizawa's** dissertation, which focused on non-English language communities in three American cities, was titled *Diversity and Dynamics in Minority Language Communities: Changes over Time and Space*. Hiromi is currently a Post-doctoral Research Associate at the Population Center of the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Our most recent PhD, **Heather Downs**, finished her dissertation *Putting the Pieces Together: Scrapbooking and the Lives of Women* late in the summer of 2006 and because she is such an excellent instructor, the UIUC Department of Sociology asked her to remain for an extra year as a Visiting Assistant Professor.

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## Grants and Awards

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This is a partial listing

2006 Department student awards

LISA ASPLEN: the Choldin Graduate Paper Award "Going with the Flow: Living the Mangle through Environmental Management Practice"  
 MICHELLE SCHMIDT: the Sociology Undergraduate Paper Award "A Fictional Response from Vandana Shiva Refuting Claims made by the World Bank official of 'Third World' Apathy towards Environmental Degradation"  
 ERIN MURPHY: the Znanieski Graduate Publication Prize "Prelude to Imperialism: Whiteness and Chinese Exclusion in the Reimagining of the United States" published in the *Journal of Historical Sociology*

National awards:

Three students won a 2006 ASA graduate student paper award (see column above)  
 DIANA MINCYTE, the Rural Sociological Society, 2006 Graduate Student Paper Award

Grants:

GILLIAN STEVENS: Trajectories of English Acquisition among US Immigrants, 2004-7, National Institute of Child Health & Human Development, \$147,700  
 DAVID HOPPING: Generations of Hope, Kellogg Foundation, 2006-8, \$57,600 (Sociology portion of the grant)  
 SHIN KAP HAN: To Harness an Outbreak: A Microstructural Account of Mobilization for the March First Movement, 2006-7, University of Illinois Research Board, \$8600.  
 RUBY MENDENHALL: Investing in Enduring Resources with the Earned Income Tax Credit 1060-0161, The Brookings Institute Ford Foundation, 2006-8, \$57,600 (Sociology portion of the \$850,000 total)

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## Undergraduate Feature Profile

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By Sandra E. Weissinger

It was not so long ago that I was a student in the sociology undergraduate program. Now that I am out of the program, it is difficult to imagine that I actually spent years earning my degree. It seems like just seconds ago. How is it that my years became seconds? I would argue that this was simply the result of too many options and too little time. The wonderful thing about Sociology and UIUC is the extent to which students are encouraged to investigate their own ideas. A claim like this really does require evidence. I can only tell of my experience, but certainly others who have gone through the program can speak to this as well. Shortly after declaring Sociology as my major I enrolled in a small class for curious undergraduate sociologists. In my Junior honors thesis course I was encouraged to investigate a social issue of interest to me. To guide me, I was given interesting literature which examined the myriad ways sociology is manifested in everyday, taken for granted ideas and cultural exchanges. We read Dick Hebdige, Tricia Rose, and the very influential (at least for me) Paul Willis. Even though I already believed in the

relevancy of sociological thought, it was these authors who showed me the range of sociological inquiry. I could study consumption patterns, appropriation of style, hip-hop, and class reproduction and be taken seriously! Finding so many subjects of interest made me consider what issues I thought were in need of a sociological critique. I started to examine educational attainment, class reproduction, and the off shoring of working class jobs from the United States. Though I started this research during the spring semester, I was encouraged to continue this inquiry over the summer. I mention this not to deter you from showing too much interest in your class projects, rather to demonstrate the support system available to students.

I graduated from the sociology department in 2005. Many of my peers entered the workforce. Many decided to continue their studies and can be found at other institutions or in other programs at UIUC (Social Work seems to be a destination for many Sociology graduates). Some former sociology undergrads are now sociology graduate students



as well. I am among the latter category. Long before I graduated I had decided that I was still curious and had many ideas that I wanted to examine further.

While I am always in the process of narrowing and refining my research questions, I can look back to my time in undergraduate sociology courses and see how the root of my academic curiosity lies in eye-opening courses such as the Sociology of Law, my Junior honors thesis course, my introduction to methods course, and the independent study I did during the summer of 2004.

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## Graduate Feature Profile

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By Zakia Salime

I consider the years I spent in the department of Sociology at Urbana-Champaign as the most exiting and productive years of my academic career. I joined the department with the ambition of getting a Ph.D. I left the department with a Master in the area of Women in International Development, a Ph.D in sociology, many publications, awards and fellowships and was fully prepared to compete on the job market for positions in research institutions.

It was the truly international community of students and faculty in the department that helped me



build a broader sense of belonging. The stimulation I received from both faculty and students will always remain a source of inspiration. I joined the sociology department with many credentials as an activist

who has been working on women's rights issues in Morocco for more than a decade. I left the department with more credentials as a scholar/activist who can ground theory into practice and reflect on both.

I am currently negotiating a book contract that came out of my dissertation research on women's movements in Morocco with a leading academic press. My next project is to look at the U.S. policies in the Middle East, notably the War on Terrorism, in relation to questions of gender and women's rights.

I was initiated to the true meanings of critical thinking in a highly politicized academic environment, during my

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*Grad profile continued from pg. 6*  
undergraduate education at the University of Fez. After a doctorate degree in sociology of education from the University of Toulouse-Le Mirail, I joined the Ecole Normale Supérieure of the University of Fez where I have been teaching while pursuing my Ph.D at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I was fortunate to benefit from the funding support of many academic programs at this university including the Graduate College, which awarded me both a scholarship and a fellowship, the Women's Studies program from which I received the Feminist Scholarship Award for two consecutive years, the WGPP program which has been my major

source of funding and the African Studies Program.

The Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program (WGPP) enabled me to be eligible to the Goodman Fellowship for three consecutive semesters and to the Kathleen Cloud scholarship. In my current position as an assistant professor in the sociology department at Michigan State University, I have been working toward promoting the department's new theme of Global Transformations. I contributed through teaching and research and benefited from the tremendous resources available about Africa at the African studies program in my new school.

## Lincoln Hall Links



Photograph by Sarah Arciaga

OUR DEPARTMENT WEBPAGE:  
[www.soc.uiuc.edu](http://www.soc.uiuc.edu)

UIUC ALUMNI: [www.ocd.uiuc.edu](http://www.ocd.uiuc.edu); [www.uiaa.org](http://www.uiaa.org)

## Our Alumni

The Alumni below reported their achievements since the last newsletter

David E. Bauer (BA 1988) is Vice President of Fifth Third Bank in Florida.

Chloe E. Bird (PhD 1992) is Senior Sociologist at RAND Corporation, California.

David Bott (PhD 1997) is Health Insurance Specialist (Research) in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, United States Department of Health and Human Services. His work involves evaluating the Centers' demonstrations (where innovations and payment/policy changes are tested) and conducting intramural research focused on access to care and the impact of organizational change on patterns of health care utilization. After his first daughter Langley born in 2002, he had his second daughter Lilian, born in October 2006.

Kent Fairfield (BA 1966) is Assistant Professor of Management, and published "Whose side are you on? Interdependence and its consequences in healthcare delivery" in *Journal of Healthcare Management* (2004) & "Turning into the music in groups: Music as metaphor in teaching teamwork" *Journal of Management Education* (2004).

Michael G. Flaherty (PhD 1982) is Professor of Sociology at Eckerd College, Florida. In 2005 he published "Variation in the Perceived Passage of Time: A Cross-National Study" in *Social Psychological Quarterly*.

Scott Harmon (BA 1976) is a designated broker in real estate in the state of Washington.

Jay Johnson (BA 1980) is Faculty Associate at University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston, and has served as Program Director on grants for randomized trials of theory-based prevention intervention in Houston, TX funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Kirk Johnson (PhD 1999) is Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology & Anthropology at the University of Mississippi. His research focuses on news images of African Americans, and he recently received two grants to study news depictions of African Americans during hurricane Katrina.

Jon Knudson (BA 1965) is a self-employed attorney who went to law school after Illinois and practices law in Seattle.

Jessica Koplos (BA 1983) is an animation producer. Her most recent film for Disney had been submitted for consideration of Best Animated Film for the Academy Award (as of late 2005).

Maxim Kupovykh (PhD 2005) is Lecturer and Visiting Scholar in the Department of Sociology at University of Pennsylvania. He published "Politics of the Web" in 2005 in *Media, Culture & Society*.

Stephanie Levenson (BA 1995) is Director of Admission at Elmhurst College, and recently had a daughter, Hannah Kathryn, born August 11, 2005. Husband Marc is a UIUC history graduate.

Teresa J. Mahoney (BA 1974) works as a school social worker in Kankakee, IL after receiving MSW from UIUC in 1978.

Ron Maris (PhD 1965) is a forensic suicidologist, and has done research on the role of FDA drugs in suicide. He has published 20 books and has investigated the crash of EgyptAir Flight 990.

Michael C. Lotspeich (BA 1996) is a proud stay-at-home dad who does rental market analysis while wife Ellin Sue is pursuing a doctoral degree in educational administration and leadership at Western Illinois.

Leslie Vernick (BA 1983) is Author and Counselor with her own practice. She has published numerous articles and four books, including her recent books, *Getting over the Blues: A Woman's Guide to Fighting Depression* (Harvest House) & *How to Find Selfless Joy in a Me-First World* (WaterBrook).

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# We Would Like to Know about You

We would like to know about your current activities and the developments in your life and career that you would like to share with others in future editions of this newsletter. You may include pictures for use in future issues. Also, if you know of someone who would like the newsletter and is not receiving it, please send us their address.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution \_\_\_\_\_  
Major Milestones and Achievements \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Other News \_\_\_\_\_

We are grateful to everyone who has given to the University. If you wish to contribute directly to the Department, giving is easier than ever. The University Foundation has online giving opportunities at [www.uif.uillinois.edu](http://www.uif.uillinois.edu) (or link from our homepage) as well as phone and mail options. Your giving is not limited to cash or credit; we can accept securities, property, and gifts-in-kind. The Foundation will assist you with directing your gift to a specific scholarship or our general fund, providing important tax forms and notifying us of your giving. Your gifts are tax deductible. You may mail your gifts directly to the Department if you would prefer--ATTN: Julie Higgs Woolsey at the address below.

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