

# News from the Hill

Utah State University  
Department of Sociology, Social Work & Anthropology

## Fall 2007: From the Department Head



Richard S. Krannich

Dear SSWA Alumni and Friends,

Greetings from all of us in the USU Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology! Whether you are a recent graduate, an alumnus from many years ago, a past faculty member, or a friend with some other connection to our programs, we hope that this latest version of our annual newsletter will help to keep you updated and informed about the activities and accomplishments of our faculty and students and the many new developments in the Department.

As you page through this newsletter, I hope that you will get a feeling for the high levels of energy and excitement that characterize each of the programs in our department. For example, Anthropology program faculty are actively engaged in planning efforts for a proposed new Master's degree that would provide advanced, specialized training with a focus on cultural resource management. Social Work faculty are working hard to prepare for the arrival next fall of the first cohort of students in our newly-approved Master of Social Work degree program, that will be offered both at the Logan campus and at several of the USU branch campus locations. During the past year faculty in Sociology conducted a comprehensive review of the undergraduate curriculum, and are now implementing new courses and other changes that will significantly enhance the educational experiences of Sociology students. Our faculty are regularly recognized both by their USU colleagues and national organizations for their excellence in teaching, research, and outreach. Students from each of our programs are actively engaged in a variety of innovative learning activities that occur both within and extend far beyond the classroom – examples include service learning and internship experiences with numerous local community organizations, archaeology field school experiences that occur across the Rocky Mountain West, ethnographic field school experiences in Peru, and active collaboration with faculty in a broad range of research activities. For more about our teaching endeavors, or just to learn more about the department, visit the department's web site (<http://www.usu.edu/~sswa>).

As you may already know, USU President Stan Albrecht is leading a major campaign this year to generate new sources of funding that will allow all USU programs to become even more effective in providing quality educational experiences for our students. I hope that you will consider taking part in this campus-wide effort by joining the ranks of those who contribute and help us to further strengthen the learning environment that we provide for students in Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology. A form for use in making tax-deductible contributions to any of our departmental scholarship or fellowship funds is included at the back of this newsletter.

We really enjoy hearing from our alumni and friends, and I hope that you will take a moment to drop me a note or give me a call. You can reach us at the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology, Utah State University, 0730 Old Main Hill, Logan, Utah 84322-0730; [Voice/TTY] (435) 797-1230; [FAX] (435) 797-1240. You can also reach me by e-mail at [Richard.Krannich@usu.edu](mailto:Richard.Krannich@usu.edu).

Sincerely,

Rick Krannich, Department Head

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News

## Demographic Trivia

Remember last year's newsletter with all those new assistant professors who had joined the department and all those professors who had retired? There have been demographic ramifications to those events. The first of the ramifications occurred four years ago when Dr. Bonnie Pitblado and her husband Joe Dulin added a son to their family. What no one realized at the time was that first demographic change would be only the beginning of an increasing cascade of similar events. Three years ago, to no one's surprise except maybe hers, Dr. Peggy Petrzelka married Jim Goodwin. Then the ball really got rolling. In March, Dr. Sandra Marquart-Pyatt and Pat Pyatt added Samantha to their home. In May Dr. Susan Mannon, who swore that she would never go camping, wed Bart McDermott, a river guide from Wyoming. And after a long hot summer, Renata and Dr. Kelly Hardwick welcomed Aidin while Drs. Maki Hatanaka and Jason Konefal added Kai to the SSW&A family.

And that was just the faculty! There have also been three babies among graduate students this year and at least one wedding. Yikes! There must be something in the water!

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## A Green Meeting in Park City, Utah



Many of our faculty and graduate students helped organize a large international conference this past spring. The 13th International Symposium for Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) took place June 17-21 in Park City, Utah (see [www.issrm2007.org](http://www.issrm2007.org) for more details). ISSRM is the premier meeting for a wide variety of disciplines focused on the intersection of social and natural resource use issues. The five-day event drew close to 700 participants, including attendees from government agencies, nonprofits, and the private sector, in addition to academic departments from around the nation and world.

Meeting organizers, with Douglas Jackson-Smith (Associate Professor in Sociology) serving as organizing chair, placed a strong emphasis on making the meeting as environmentally responsible as possible, including initiatives to reduce waste at the meeting, encourage re-use of tote bags, and provide recycled mugs and organic T-shirts for purchase. A substantial effort was also made to collect carbon-offset dollars to be donated to causes that support both carbon sequestration and positive community development initiatives.

The on-campus highlight of the conference was the ISSRM Student Forum, designed and managed by USU students. Over 90 students from around the world attended the Forum, networking with other graduate students in the areas of natural resource and environmental sociology while receiving training in fundraising, career choices, and presentation skills. Other sponsoring departments on campus included Environment and Society, Economics, and Landscape Architecture.

SSW&A Department Head Rick Krannich is the Executive Director of ISSRM's parent organization, the International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR)



**Terry Peak** was recognized as the **2007 Robins Award Faculty Advisor of the Year**. The Faculty Advisor of the Year Award is given each year to recognize quality academic and extracurricular advising as judged by faculty and students.

Dr. Peak exemplifies the qualities of the Robins Award through her dedication to preparing students for a successful career in Social Work. As the first point of contact for a student entering the program, she will work with students to determine their suitability for the program and will even explain other programs if those will better fit that student's career goals. As students progress, she continues to be involved by monitoring their performance, providing guidance regarding career planning, and serving as faculty advisor to several undergraduate students engaged in research activities.

Dr. Peak is known for both her availability and approachability. She gets to know her students personally which enables her to provide them with relevant information and opportunities as they arise. Despite all her fine qualities, Dr. Peak does not seek recognition for herself, but rather for those around her. She expends her energies on helping others succeed.



**Susan Dawson** received the **2006-2007 Professor of the Year Award** from the Disability Resource Center. Professor Dawson, who has been at USU, in Social Work, since 1988, was both very surprised and very honored to be chosen.



**Diane Calloway-Graham** received the **2006-2007 HASS Social Science Teacher of the Year Award**. Dr. Calloway-Graham has been at USU in Social Work Since 1999 and loves teaching.

## Excellence in Teaching



**Mike Toney, center, receives award from USU President Stan Albrecht**

**Michael B. Toney** was presented with the **2007 University Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award**. The purpose of this award is to recognize faculty excellence in advising graduate students to prepare them for productive careers. Dr. Toney was nominated for this award by peers, students, and administrators for the outstanding commitment he has shown to graduate students at Utah State University over the past 34 years. He has chaired the committees of nearly 30 Sociology graduate students and served as a member of over 50 thesis and dissertation committees. Over half of the research articles, chapters and reports that Dr. Toney has published have been co-authored with graduate students. He is known for being generous with his time, spending hours working with students, often outside regular work hours. He requires a lot from his students, from insisting they check and double check their work to encouraging them to publish manuscripts and present at professional meetings. In the words of one of his former students, Dr. Toney is “demanding yet patient, challenging yet compassionate, rigorous yet fair.” These requirements allow his students to be confident in their abilities. Dr. Toney works with students until they are refined into quality professionals themselves, but his mentoring doesn’t stop at graduation. Dr. Toney helps his students acquire employment in a broad spectrum of academic and non-academic settings. As his students go out and find their own way in the world, he maintains contact with them because he is genuinely interested in their success.

## Anthropology Program

The Anthropology Program is bursting with activity this year as we pursue several initiatives begun in 2006-2007. We are in the process of developing a Master’s Program in Applied Anthropology with an emphasis on Archaeology and Cultural Resource Management. Our goal is to train and certify students to serve the Mountain West in the area of Cultural Resource Management archaeology. In a related effort spearheaded by Steve Simms, the Program is developing an archaeology firm at the Innovation campus. With \$80,000 start-up funds from a USU Innovation Fund Grant and the private donation of an SUV, USU Archaeological Services is scheduled to open its doors in the summer of 2008. The Program also achieved its first full-time position for anthropology in distance education and began offering courses out of the San Juan campus of the College of Eastern Utah this fall. Jon Moris will be leading our efforts to encourage students in the Southeast and Uintah Basin to take anthropology courses focused on Indian topics, which are relevant to San Juan county and Blanding, and then come to the main campus to complete a major.

Another new development this year is the arrival of the journal *Anthropology of Consciousness*, which has come to USU under the editorship of Bonnie Glass-Coffin. This is the flagship journal of the Society for the Anthropology of Consciousness (a member society of the American Anthropological Association), and will reside in our Program for the next three years.

## Anthropology Cont.

The Museum of Anthropology continues its highly successful outreach efforts in 2007-2008 with a new program called "Saturdays at the Museum." The program is led by Museum Coordinator Sara Lundberg and student interns, and offers fun and innovative activities every Saturday to visitors of all ages. It was funded by prestigious grants from the Utah Office of Museum Services and the Utah Humanities Council. A mark of our success in statewide outreach efforts is the recent appointment by Governor Jon Huntsman of our Museum Director Bonnie Pitblado to a four-year term on the Utah Museum Services Advisory Board. Also in Museum news, the Museum received a complete overhauling last spring that was celebrated at a grand "reopening" ceremony in April. Thanks to all who came and celebrated with us! The Museum would like to acknowledge private donations that help keep it running in the absence of a permanent annual budget.



Archaeology Field School in the Gunnison Basin

In field school news, Bonnie Pitblado led another successful archaeology field school this summer in the Gunnison Basin, where she and her students were featured regularly in the local paper. With funds from the Shipleys, top field school students this year received stipends to participate in a follow-up survey in southeastern Idaho aimed at identifying future field school sites closer to home. The ethnographic field school led by Bonnie Glass-Coffin every other year in Huanchaco, Peru, inspired the development this year of a College of Business (COB) "spin-off" program with 46 students and 5 COB faculty. Participants traveled to Huanchaco for nine days in June to initiate a micro-lending project with the ethnographic field school's community partners.

Beyond these activities, our faculty members have continued to be active in research, publication, and professional service. A few highlights are included here. David Lancy published an article, "Accounting for Variability in Mother-Child Play" in *American Anthropologist*, which provoked popular media articles in the *Boston Globe* and *Salt Lake Tribune*, feature articles in two Brazilian magazines, and several interviews on radio feature programs. Bonnie Pitblado received a \$180,000 grant from NSF in July to study how ancient people of the Rocky Mountains used natural quartzite deposits to manufacture stone tools. This March, Steve Simms' popular volume *Ancient Peoples and Place: A Great Basin – Colorado Plateau Prehistory* will be published by Left Coast Press. It should also be noted that Steve rode his bike over 3,500 miles, and placed 5th in the Iron Horse Classic, Durango-Silverton, Colorado, 2nd in the Moab Hill Climb, and 5th in the Snowbird Hill Climb. Steve continues to serve as President of the Great Basin Anthropological Association, and Program Director Patricia Lambert continues her service on the Editorial Board of the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, the Executive Committee of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, and the Physical Anthropology panel of the National Science Foundation.

Finally, and most importantly, we wish to acknowledge our student scholarship and award winners. Annette Grove was selected last spring as the Anthropology Student of the Year for 2006-2007. Annette received the Kathryn Wanlass Scholarship award last year, and is now a graduate student in Consumer Finance at USU. The Kathryn C. Wanlass Anthropology Scholarship was awarded to seniors James Young and James Meservy, and senior Coralee Lewis received the Gordon and Dolores Keller Anthropology Scholarship. The Anthropology Program would like to thank our generous donors for supporting some of the best and brightest of our students in their quest to earn their degrees and move a step closer to achieving their long-term professional goals.

## **Social Work Welcomes the New Master of Social Work (MSW) Program**

Approved by Utah's Board of Regents in March, 2007, new MSW students will begin enrolling at the Logan, Tooele, Ogden, and Brigham City campuses of Utah State University. Dr. Derrick Tollefson is the newly-hired MSW Coordinator who will travel among all four sites. Five additional new social workers will join the program next year to connect the four sites.



**Dr. Derrick Tollefson, MSW Coordinator**

### **Meritorious academic performance**

In Spring 07 the Social Work Program awarded three scholarships to six social work majors.

Amber Bown, Abbey Mangus and Jason Hill are sharing the Evelyn Hodges and Theodore R. E. Lewis Scholarship, Carma Carlsen and Erin Mehr split the Frances Handwerker Memorial Scholarship (endowed by Terry and David Peak in honor of Terry's mother). Heather Rich received of the Social Work Trust and LuAnn M. Hamilton Memorial Scholarships. Sara Farb is the Social Work Undergraduate Teaching Fellow for the 07-08 academic year. Incoming freshman and Undergraduate Research Fellow Jylisa Doney is working with Dr. Peak on her new research project with Dr. Frank Ascione of the Psychology Department on the connections between animal abuse and elder abuse.

Heidi Anderson Appolonie, who graduated with honors, was the Social Work student of the year for 2007 and was accepted into the highly competitive Advanced Standing Master's program in Social Work at the University of Utah. She had worked as a highly respected peer advisor in social work, while also serving as an undergraduate teaching fellow, mentoring multi-cultural students at a local high school, and serving a practicum at CAPSA, the center for victims of domestic violence and rape.

In addition, a new scholarship to benefit MSW students has been endowed by Drs. Terry and David Peak.

The Social Work program continues to be active in scholarship as well as service via a partnership with the College of Social Work at the University of Utah and the U.S. Children's Bureau to train undergraduate social work majors. Students receive specialized training in child welfare issues beyond our standard child welfare electives. For example, students take classes in Forensic Child Welfare, Child Welfare Practice, and Advanced Child Welfare Practice. Carol Mohar, whom many of you may remember because of her long-standing dedication to our program, and Shannon Browne, are teaching some of those extra courses. Further, during their practicum year, students are placed in a child welfare agency (e.g. Division of Child and Family Services) in exchange for an agreement to work in a child welfare setting for two years after graduation.



## Sociology Program Update

As always, the year in Sociology has been fun, challenging, and lively. Eighty-two students graduated with a major in Sociology last year and approximately five times that many graduated with a minor in sociology. There are 208 majors in sociology this year, with more students adding the major almost daily. Two new colleagues joined us this year: Dr. John Allen, Professor of Sociology, and Dr. Jason Konefal, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Sociology. Sociology program faculty spent much time assessing our effectiveness in training students and implementing revisions to the undergraduate curriculum during this past year.



John Allen, formerly with the Western Rural Development Center, has joined SSW&A as Professor of Sociology. His areas of teaching and research include rural sociology, survey methods, community response to change, community and economic development, applied sociology and natural resource management-environmental- sociology.



Jason Konefal is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from Michigan State University in 2007. His areas of research and teaching include the environment, food and agriculture, social movements, political economy, and science and technology.

In response to interviews with graduating sociology Bachelor degree students we have implemented senior capstone seminars in which students either participate in research or develop community-based service projects that allow the student to work within the community using their skills as sociologists. More and more students in various classes, ranging from introductory sociology to political sociology, environmental sociology, and sociology of aging, are participating in service-learning projects in the community, including learning how to implement recycling projects; learning about the sociological factors associated with aging; and learning about the changes in the labor force that occur with a rapid influx of international immigrants.

In 2005, the American Sociological Association included USU graduating sociology seniors in a nationwide survey of all students. Their findings indicated the following:

	(% indicating 'somewhat' to 'strongly agree')
•As part of my major I learned:	
•To create a hypothesis with independent and dependent variables	100%
•To evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different research methods	100%
•To gather information to make an argument based on evidence	95%
•To interpret the results of different types of data gathering	95%
•To identify ethical issues in sociological research	100%
•Current sociological explanations about a variety of social issues	100%
•Basic theoretical perspectives or paradigms in sociology	100%
•Basic concepts in sociology	100%
•Important differences in the life experiences of people	100%
•To view society from an alternative or critical perspective	95%

## Sociology Graduate Program

### WHERE DID THEY GO?

What do you do with a graduate degree in sociology? To find out, we recently spent time tracking the post-graduation careers of many of our alumni. We were impressed by the breadth and diversity of jobs that our MS and PhD graduates have attained since leaving Logan.

For example, of the 25 PhDs granted since 1997, 15 are in tenure track faculty positions, 5 work for state or national statistical agencies, and the others work in important positions for voluntary organizations or other public sector agencies.

Of the 31 MS graduates since 2001, 13 pursued PhDs, 13 are working as research analysts in state or federal agencies, and most of the rest work in the nonprofit sector.

To keep our records current, we encourage alumni to send a quick email alerting us to their current job and career trajectories.

If you know students interested in Graduate Studies in Sociology, please have them contact Doug Jackson-Smith, Director of Graduate Studies ([doug.jackson-smith@usu.edu](mailto:doug.jackson-smith@usu.edu)). (For students interested in the BA or BS in Sociology, please have them contact E. (Eddy) Helen Berry, Director of Undergraduate Sociology Program ([eddy.berry@usu.edu](mailto:eddy.berry@usu.edu)).



**Sociology Service Learning**



**Sociology Graduate Seminar**

### HOW WE DO IT

Running programs that emphasize both research and teaching at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels graduate program requires a significant annual investment by the department, the university, outside funding agencies, and our generous scholarship and fellowship fund donors. In the 2007/2008 year, for example, the department spent over \$200,000 to support our current graduate students. Of this total, \$90,000 was secured from external faculty research grants, \$70,000 was from institutional support for teaching assistantships and lecturership appointments, and \$45,000 was obtained from fellowships and scholarships at the university and departmental level.

This last category has been critical in enabling us to improve our graduate student compensation packages and to attract and reward the top students. If you valued your education at USU (and want to help the program grow and improve), we encourage you to donate to a targeted student fellowship fund today!



## News from Old Friends:

- Jesse Weiss (Ph.D. 2004) was voted Teacher of the Year at the University of the Ozarks where he teaches Sociology.
- Tracy Lynn Williams (Ph.D. 2006) moved to the Washington D.C. Government Accountability Office.
- Krista Lynn Minnotte (Ph.D. 2004) has been appointed assistant professor of sociology at the University of North Dakota where she will be joining the same department where Daphne Stevens (Ph.D. 2002) serves as Assistant Professor of Sociology.
- James Rice (M.S. 1999) is Assistant Professor at New Mexico State University.
- Ken Landra (Ph.D. 1999) is a Visiting Professor at the University of Portland this year.
- Lori Hunter, former Assistant Professor at USU, now Associate Professor of Sociology at the U of Colorado, recently served a year internship at the Population Research Bureau in Washington D.C. and South Africa.
- Beth A. Wilson (Ph.D. 2005) moved to an Assistant Professorship at Metropolitan State University in Denver.
- Luisa Engracia (Ph.D. 1981) recently retired from the United Nations Fund for Population Affairs and is now in North Korea as an advisor for the United Nations.
- Gordon Jensen, who completed an undergraduate degree in Sociology at USU in the 1950s, recently completed a Masters degree in Sociology at Belford University.
- Ji-Youn Lee (Ph.D. 2002) is working in the Vital Statistics Division of the Korea National Statistical Office.
- Chung-Won Lee (Ph.D., 2001) is an epidemiologist at the HIV Prevention Branch in the Global AIDS Program, Centers for Disease Control.
- Brandon Chapman (MSS 2004) is a doctoral student in anthropology at Washington State University.
- Michael Sanderson (MS 2003) has moved to New York City and is working as a researcher with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, helping to conduct the New York Community Health Survey.



**SSW&A FACULTY**

## Student Highlights

### Really Cool Stuff!

Social Work students remain highly committed to academic excellence with 39 students in the Phi Alpha Social Work National Honor Society, a record high number. With members of our National Association of Social Workers Student Chapter these students participated in many service projects including

- \* working the concessions at USU home basketball games and donating those proceeds to the Child and Family Support Center,
- \* planting pink tulips in honor of breast cancer victims and survivors and
- \* supplying five Thanksgiving baskets to needy families

Cathy L. Mason has just received her first A pin, an honor given to those students at USU who work to give back to the community as well as strive to excel in academics. Cathy is a sociology major, accompanied by the Law and Society Area Studies certificate, and a double minor in Psychology and Family and Human Development. Cathy has been awarded a Hansen scholarship and a Lillywhite Foundation scholarship, has served as president of both NSCS (National Society of Collegiate Scholars) and AKD (the Sociology honors organization) at Utah State, and is a member of the Pinnacle honor society. Cathy has earned a spot on the Dean's List twice. We are very proud of her.

Susan Dawson, Professor of Social Work, Gary Madsen, Emeritus Professor of Sociology, and John Allen, Professor of Sociology, along with C.-Y. Chang, a Sociology grad student, presented a paper titled, "Understanding rural community conflict using network analysis: A case study of a proposed coal-fired power plant in the Southwestern United States" at the 6th Global Conference on Environmental Justice and Global Citizenship at Mansfield College, Oxford, England.



**Monthly Demography student picnic in Black Smith Fork Canyon**



**Students Mapping a Survey**

# Let us hear from you!

*We want to hear from you about your activities*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

If Alumna/alumnus, degree, major, & year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

News to share: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Contribution to: *The Department of Sociology, Social Work & Anthropology*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Cont.) \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed in the provided envelope is my contribution of: \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Please make checks payable to: **Department of SSW&A**

**OR** \_\_\_\_\_ Charge my Visa Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Charge my MasterCard Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Charge my Amex Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please designate my gift for the following:*

\_\_\_ Department Development Fund (gifts will be directed to the area of greatest need)

\_\_\_ Evelyn Hodges & Theodore Lewis Scholarship (Social Work)

\_\_\_ Wade & Kathryn Andrews Fund (Sociology)

\_\_\_ Carmen Fredrickson Fellowship (Sociology)

\_\_\_ Yun & Wendy Kim Fellowship (Sociology)

\_\_\_ Edward O. Moe Scholarship (Sociology)

\_\_\_ Rex & Virginia Ashdown Fellowship (Sociology/Social Work)

\_\_\_ Gordon & Delores Keller Scholarship (Anthropology)

\_\_\_ Frances Handwerker Memorial Scholarship (Social Work)

\_\_\_ Kathryn C. Wanlass Anthropology Scholarship

\_\_\_ R. Welling Roskelley Fellowship (Sociology)

\_\_\_ Anthropology Scholarship

\_\_\_ Joseph & Grace Geddes Fellowship (Sociology)

\_\_\_ LuAnn Hamilton Scholarship (Social Work)

\_\_\_ Lowry Nelson Fellowship (Sociology)

\_\_\_ Don & Iris Sparks Scholarship (Sociology)

\_\_\_ Calvin & Janet Maurer Fellowship (Sociology)

\_\_\_ Terry & David Peak Scholarship (Social Work)

News from the Hill is the newsletter of the Department of Sociology, Social Work & Anthropology at Utah State University. It aims to keep alumni, current and future students and their families, and department friends up to date about the department and faculty. You can reach us at: 0730 Old Main Hill • Utah State University • Logan, Utah 84322-0730

**Check out our informative Web site at <http://www.usu.edu/~sswa/>**