

# IE NEWSLETTER

Institutional Ethnography Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems

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Lauren Eastwood

**Division Chair**

State University of New York  
College at Plattsburgh

[lauren.eastwood@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:lauren.eastwood@plattsburgh.edu)

**Send correspondence to:**

Cheryl Zurawski

**Correspondence and Copy Editor**

[cdz@arialassociates.com](mailto:cdz@arialassociates.com)

**Send photos and other images to:**

Gina Petonito

**Production and Picture Editor**

[petonig@muohio.edu](mailto:petonig@muohio.edu)

Lindsay Kerr

**Proofreader and Editor**

[lindsay.kerr@utoronto.ca](mailto:lindsay.kerr@utoronto.ca)

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*From the Division Chair*

*Lauren Eastwood*

Greetings everyone.

I would like to congratulate Naomi Nichols who will serve as our Division Chair from 2015-2017. I'm very much looking forward to working with her this summer at the SSSP meetings, and to passing the gavel to her in 2015. She brings an exciting mix of academia and activism to the Division, which is truly central to the foundation of institutional ethnography (IE).

It's an exciting time as many of us finish up the spring semester and get our ducks in a row for summer. IE will be well represented at the International Sociological Association conference in Yokohama in July as well as at the upcoming SSSP conference in San Francisco (see pages 4-10). In addition, we will continue the tradition of holding an IE workshop the day after the SSSP meetings (August 18). This year, the workshop is to be organized around several concurrent working sessions where people using IE will have the opportunity to receive feedback on their work. Workshop registration is available through the SSSP website. Registered participants will receive further details about the options for submitting work to be discussed, serving as "seasoned" participants providing feedback and leading discussion, or participating as observers of the working sessions. We are hoping that this format will provide a fruitful opportunity for IE mentoring for people at all stages of work, from those who are contemplating the applicability of IE to their research and to those who are engaging in projects that are fairly well developed.

I hope to see all of you in San Francisco in August, and look forward to my annual inspiration boost as I reconnect with institutional ethnographers who are engaging in fascinating, important, and multi-disciplinary research. **–Lauren**

## IE teaching resource

*Eric Mykhalovskiy submits the item below to draw attention to a video for use as an IE teaching resource.*

“I think Division members may find the video *Stopped and frisked for being a f\*\*king mutt* on racial profiling and the stop and frisk policy of the New York City Police Department (NYPD) of potential interest as an IE teaching resource. The video features a voice recording secretly made by a young man, named Alvin, who, in 2011, was stopped and questioned by NYPD for looking ‘suspicious.’ It also includes interviews with veteran and retired NYPD police officers as well as audio material from a police performance appraisal. The video documents the dramatic increase in the number and frequency of police stops since the policy was established and includes video coverage of a news program that put the number of stops in one year at 686,000. It further estimates that over 87 per cent of people stopped in the last decade were Black or Latino and that 90 per cent were ‘innocent of any wrongdoing.’

What is particularly interesting from an IE perspective is how the video offers a view into internal police accountability relations that encourage officers to conduct such stops. The video shows how the police use aggregate data on stops in a public relations campaign meant to show that the police force is ‘doing something’ about crime. Viewers get a glimpse at a portion of the police ‘Stop, questions and frisk report worksheet’ and learn about a monitoring apparatus that evaluates the performance of officers through data produced on the number and frequency of stops they conduct. We get to see how racial profiling and violating the rights of racialized minorities are supported through a monitoring and performance appraisal system that pressures officers to ‘keep their numbers up’ and that links individualized data on stops to a system of career promotion and punishment.” Access the video via the link below:

<http://www.upworthy.com/meet-the-17-year-old-who-blew-the-lid-off-racial-profiling-with-his-ipod?c=reccon1>

## Turner and Smith book available in August

*Incorporating texts into institutional ethnographies*, a 344-page book edited by Dorothy E. Smith and Susan Turner, will be available in August 2014. IE Division members attending the SSSP annual meeting in San Francisco will be able to pick up a copy while there. If you prefer to preorder a copy from the University of Toronto Press, here’s the link to follow:

<http://www.utppublishing.com/Incorporating-Texts-into-Institutional-Ethnographies.html>

Reproduced from the publisher’s website is a short description of the book.

“In *Incorporating Texts into Institutional Ethnographies*, Dorothy E. Smith and Susan Marie Turner present a selection of essays highlighting perhaps the single most distinctive feature of the sociological approach known as Institutional Ethnography (IE) – the ethnographic investigation of how texts coordinate and organize people’s activities across space and time. The chapters, written by scholars who are relatively new to IE as well as IE veterans, illustrate the wide variety of ways in which IE investigations can be done, as well as the breadth of topics IE has been used to study.

Both a collection of examples that can be used in teaching and research project design and an excellent introduction to IE methods and techniques, *Incorporating Texts into Institutional Ethnographies* is an essential contribution to the subject.”

## Gender, Work and Organization conference includes IE stream

The 8<sup>th</sup> biennial Gender, Work and Organization conference to be held at Keele University in the United Kingdom (June 24-26) includes a stream on discovering gender relations in people's conduct of organizations. A number of institutional ethnographers responded to a call for papers that employ "any form of analysis that moves beyond categorical understandings of gender to expand our knowledge of how people are organized to relate to each other, especially through the textually-mediated institutional technologies of large organizations". Presenters and paper titles are listed below.

**Bente Rasmussen (Norwegian University of Science and Technology):** "Internationalization and changes in recruitment in a Norwegian University."

**Elena Kim (American University of Central Asia):** "The conceptual practices of development and replicating gender inequality in a water management project in Uzbekistan."

**Eva Zedlacher and Sabine Köszegi (Vienna University of Technology):** "'If you can't take the heat...' – The normalization of violence in the conduct of organizations."

**Lisa Watt (McMaster University):** "'I shouldn't be babysitting the child to finish eating': The invisible and trivialized work of feeding children with diabetes in schools."

**Rebecca Lund (Aalto University):** "Gender relations in the work of 'boasting'."

**Marie Campbell (University of Victoria) and Janet Rankin (University of Calgary-Qatar):** "Looking into gender through IE analysis of the computerized coordination of nurses' work."

**Mirjam Koster-Wentink (Saxion University of Applied Sciences):** "Looking for look-a-likes."

**Nicola Waters (University of Calgary):** "Exploring ruling relations in the social organization of nurses' outpatient wound clinic work."

**Emily Portschtz (Keene State College):** "Women and young professionalism: The social organization of gender in regional economic development."

**Jonathan Tummons (Durham University):** "Other ways of knowing: vernacular literacies and everyday knowledge in a Canadian medical faculty."

## Dorothy Smith to be awarded honorary degree

As part of a celebration of 50 years of sociology at the University of Edinburgh this summer, Dorothy Smith will be awarded an honorary degree. Other special events are also planned. For more information, please go to [http://www.sociology.ed.ac.uk/events/50th\\_anniversary/dorothy\\_smith\\_awarded\\_honorary\\_degree\\_events\\_series](http://www.sociology.ed.ac.uk/events/50th_anniversary/dorothy_smith_awarded_honorary_degree_events_series)

Over the longer term, a new UK-based institutional ethnography network that started up at the University of Edinburgh in May is expected to expand to include other UK researchers engaging with institutional ethnography. To follow the network's blog where information about network events and other information will be posted, please go to <http://institutionalethnographynetwork.blogspot.co.uk/>.

## Notes and news from members

**Randol Contreras**, who will be at the University of Toronto as of July 1, sends word about his recent book. *The Stickup Kids: Race, Drugs, Violence and the American Dream* (2013) was published by the University of California Press.

**Craig Dale** is the 2013-2014 winner of the CQ Award for Methodological Excellence in a Qualitative Doctoral Dissertation. The award is given to recognize exemplary qualitative research in the health sciences at the University of Toronto. Craig's dissertation is titled: *Locating critical care nurses in mouth care: An institutional ethnography*.

Here is the citation of a new article by **Kathleen Benjamin** and **Janet Rankin**. Benjamin, K., & Rankin, J. (2014). Reflections of a novice institutional ethnographer. *Canadian Journal of Nursing Research*, 46(1), 87-101.

Earlier this year, an article by **Ann-Marie Urban** was published in *Nursing Inquiry*. The citation follows. Urban, A. (2014). Taking for granted: Normalizing nurses' work in hospitals. *Nursing Inquiry*, 21(1), 69-78.

## Welcome to new members

Eight new members have joined the IE Division since the publication of our last newsletter. Welcome all!

Katherine Egan  
Julia Gruson-Wood  
Alexandra Ornelas

Rebecca Penn  
Emily Philipp  
Fatima Sattar

Carolyn Schellenberg  
Joshua Stout

## The program for San Francisco



*Sessions that the Institutional Ethnography Division is sponsoring alone and in cooperation with other divisions are highlighted below.*

**Friday, August 15**

***Time: 8:30 - 10:10 am***

### ***THEMATIC***

***Session 5: The Social Organization of Families Under Scrutiny***

***Room: Foothill G1***

***Sponsors: Family and Institutional Ethnography Divisions***

***Organizer/***

***Presider: Elizabeth L. Brule, York University***

***Discussant: Kamini Grahame, Pennsylvania State University-Harrisburg***

***Papers:***

***'Autistic Youth and the Home-Clinic: How Hybrid Spaces and the Ideology of 'Family' Rule the Social Organization of Autism Services in Ontario,' Julia F. Gruson-Wood, York University***

“Families on Trial: Race, Immigrant Generation, and Managing the Bronx Family Court System,” Vikki Katz, Rutgers School of Communication and Information

“Just Like A Nightmare: Coping among Mixed-Status Couples,” April M. Schueths, Georgia Southern University

“Provider Perspectives on Family Child Care Quality,” Kimberly D. Lucas and Megan P.R. Madison, Brandeis University

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**Time: 12:30 - 2:10 pm**

**Session 27: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Institutional Ethnographers Organizing for Change: Making Change from Below**

*Room:* Foothill E

*Sponsors:* Conflict, Social Action, and Change and Institutional Ethnography Divisions

*Organizers/Presiders:* Marie L. Campbell, University of Victoria; Cheryl Zurawski, Athabasca University/University of Calgary

*Papers:*

“Activism Without Activists: How Ruling Relations Shape (Non)Activist Identities,” Jaime McCauley, Northern Kentucky University

“Are You New to Town? How Young People Connect Others to Social Service Organizations,” Jessica A. Braimoh, McMaster University

“Developing a Web-Based Toolkit for Formerly-Incarcerated People and Front-Line Workers,” Megan Welsh, CUNY Graduate Center/John Jay College of Criminal Justice

“Strategic Partnerships and Alliances for Change,” Naomi Nichols and Alison I. Griffith, York University

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**Time: 2:30 - 4:10 pm**

**Session 38: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Methodological Innovations in Institutional Ethnography**

*Room:* Foothill E

*Sponsor:* Institutional Ethnography Division

*Organizers:* Liza McCoy, University of Calgary; Suzanne Vaughan, Arizona State University

*Presider:* Suzanne Vaughan, Arizona State University

*Papers:*

“How Do We Know We Are Getting It Right? Explicating Ruling Relations in Our Own Research,” Alison Fisher, York University

“Institutional Ethnography and Engaged Research: Some Methodological and Political Challenges,” Eric Mykhalovskiy, York University

“Investigating Social Relations Over Time,” Paul C. Luken, University of West Georgia

“Making Space for History: Unpacking the Ideological Uses of HIV Test Counseling in the Canadian Immigration System,” Laura Bisailon, University of Toronto Scarborough

“Mandatory Professional Development & Institutional Governance to Improve Teacher Quality in New Mexico: Integrating IE and Quantitative Analysis,” LaNysha Adams, University of New Mexico

“Torture Survivors Reclaim Their Voice,” Orlando P. Tizon, Catholic University of America

“Transforming Caring into Bytes: An Institutional Ethnography examining the impact of the Electronic Health Record on Care delivery,” Hans-Peter de Ruiter, Minnesota State University, Mankato

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**Saturday, August 16**

***Time: 8:30 - 10:10 am***

***Session 63: New Directions in Institutional Ethnography Research***

Room: Foothill F

*Sponsor:* Institutional Ethnography Division

*Organizers:* Sophie Pomerleau, University of Ottawa; Annie Carrier, Université de Sherbrooke

*Presider:* Annie Carrier, Université de Sherbrooke

*Papers:*

“(Un)Safe at School: Parent’s Work of Securing Nursing Care and Coordinating School Health Support Services Delivery for Children with Diabetes in Ontario Schools,” Lisa Watt, McMaster University

“Language, Disability, and Accessibility Implementation,” Timothy P. Ross, University of Toronto

“Ten Years and No End in Sight: An Institutional Autoethnography of My Experiences as a Documented Individual in the United States,” Samit Dipon Bordoloi, Western Washington University

“Using Institutional Ethnography in Community Based Research: Schools, Safety, and the Urban Neighbourhood,” Naomi Nichols, York University

“Yes, No, Maybe So: Young People’s Understandings of ‘Youth-At-Risk’ in Terms of their Lives and the Services They Are Using,” Jessica A. Braimoh, McMaster University

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***Time: 10:30 am - 12:10 pm***

***Session 79: Bodies of Knowledge: Technologies of Embodiment and Social Organization***

Room: Club Room

*Sponsors:* Institutional Ethnography and Sport, Leisure, and the Body Divisions

*Organizer/*

*Presider:* Matthew Strang, York University

*Papers:*

“Challenging the Racial and (Hetero)sexual Subtexts of ‘Ruling Relations’: Institutional Ethnography, Decolonization and Queer Theory,” Alison Fisher, York University

“Fucking Bodies and Entangled Feelings – An Inquiry Into the Relationship(s) Between Sex, Work, Intimacy, and Money,” Katherine Van Meyl, Carleton University

“Make Me a Match!: The Social Organization of Becoming a Living Organ ‘Donor’,” Matthew Strang, York University

“Ontological Diversions? Intersectional Analysis of Oppression and the Social Organization of Antiracist Feminist Activism,” Sobia Shaheen Shaikh, Assistant Professor School of Social Work St. John's College

“Survivors of Prostitution and Neoliberal ‘World-Making’ in Fields of Prostitution Intervention,” Valerie Feldman, UC Davis

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**Time: 12:30 – 2:10 pm**

**Session 93: Power, Knowledge, and the Politics of Reality**

Room: Club Room

*Sponsors:* Institutional Ethnography and Social Problems Theory Divisions

*Organizer, Presider and Discussant:* Jared Del Rosso, University of Denver

*Papers:*

“Mental Health and Epistemic Cultures: The DSM in Research and Practice,” Michael Halpin, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“Demedicalizing Kink: Activism, Institutional Reflexivity, and the Vindication of Social Problems,” Kai Lin, University of Delaware

“Bonafide Illness? The Indexical Nature of Bifurcated Consciousness of Mental Disability in the Workplace,” Cindy Malachowski, Peter Sawchuk, Katheryn Boydell and Bonnie Kirsh, University of Toronto

“DSM 5 as Panopticon,” Lara B. Birk, Wesleyan University

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**Sunday, August 17**

**Time: 8:30 - 10:10 am**

**Session 119: The Social Organization of Health Professional Work**

Room: Club Room

*Sponsor:* Institutional Ethnography Division

*Organizers/*

*Presiders:* Nicola R. Waters, University of Calgary; Karen Melon, University of Calgary

*Papers:*

“Where the Nurse Gets Hurt: Understanding the Social Organization of Injury Management in Ontario Hospitals,” Laurie Clune, University of Regina

“The Clinician as Problem and Solution: Activations of Medical Education Texts,” Patricia Thille, University of Calgary

“‘Standardization’ of Community Occupational Therapists’ Work: Mapping the Referral Form through Actual Work and Decision Processes,” Annie Carrier, Université de Sherbrooke, Mélanie Levasseur, Université de Sherbrooke, Québec, Canada, Andrew Freeman, Département de réadaptation, Université Laval and Johanne Desrosiers, École de réadaptation, Université de Sherbrooke

“The Unintended Consequences of the Social Organization of Warriors in Transition Units (WTUs),” Alexis A. Bender, Shelley Schmissrauter Kay, Christine Lagana-Riordan, Sheba King, Amanda M. Jungels, Amber Wilson and Amy M. Millikan-Bell, Army Institute of Public Health

“Who’s on the Team? Nursing Auxiliaries, Cross-training, and the Changing Division of Labor in Hospital Nursing Care,” Grace E. Scrimgeour, Loyola University Chicago

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**Time: 10:30 am – 12:10 pm**

***THEMATIC***

***Session 131: Are You Being Served?: Institutional Ethnographies of Social Services and Frontline Workers in an Age of Austerity***

Room: Club Room

*Sponsors:* Institutional Ethnography, Labor Studies and Sociology and Social Welfare Divisions

*Organizer/*

*Presider:* Matthew Strang, York University

*Papers:*

“Eligible for Service? Immigrant Women’s Experiences of Ruling Relations: Findings from an Institutional Ethnography of an Employment and Leadership Skills Program,” Heather Holroyd, University of British Columbia

“Human-Animal Welfare in the Age of Austerity,” Katja M. Guenther, University of California, Riverside

“Prison Realignment and Front-Line Reentry Work,” Megan Welsh, CUNY Graduate Center/John Jay College of Criminal Justice

“Vicarious Trauma and Sexual Assault Crisis Work: A Focus on Structural Forces,” Amanda B. Moras, Sacred Heart University

“Women Empowering Women: An Institutional Ethnography of Subaltern Resistance and the Politics of Identity in Iran,” Fae Chubin, University of South Florida

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**Time: 12:30 - 2:10 pm**

**THEMATIC**

**Session 143: Are You Being Served?: Institutional Ethnographies of Social Services and Frontline Workers in an Age of Austerity II**

Room: Club Room

*Sponsors:* Institutional Ethnography, Labor Studies and Sociology and Social Welfare Divisions

*Organizer/*

*Presider:* Matthew Strang, York University

*Discussant:* Eric Mykhalovskiy, York University

*Papers:*

“It’s all about the people:’ Immigrant Identity among Managers in the Retail Sector,” Ilana Demantas, University of Kansas

“Emotional Work and Labor in U.S. Refugee Resettlement Programs,” Fatima Sattar, Boston College

“Engineering Medicine: The Deployment of Lean Production in Healthcare,” Will Attwood-Charles, Boston College

“Resident and Staff Experiences of Service Utilization and Delivery: An Exploratory Study of a Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Youth,” Susanna R. Curry, University of California, Los Angeles

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**Time: 2:30 - 4:10 pm**

**Session 155: Technology and Its Impact on the Everyday: Institutional Management of Risk**

Room: Pacific E

*Sponsors:* Environment and Technology and Institutional Ethnography Divisions

*Organizer/Presider:* Hans-Peter de Ruiter, Minnesota State University, Mankato

*Papers:*

“Echoes in a Storm: Exploring the Media Amplification Effect of Twitter During Super-Storm Sandy,” Andrew J. Prelog, Alan Steinberg and Clayton Wukich, Sam Houston State University

“Fractured Risk: Communicating the Risks of Unconventional Energy Development,” Cameron Thomas Whitley, Michigan State University

“Place-Based Conservatisms? Political Culture, Science Beliefs, and Education in Idaho Communities,” Leontina Hormel and Laura Putsche, University of Idaho, John Mihelich and Debbie Storrs, University of North Dakota

“Technological Impacts on Environmental & Community Advocacy: Electronic Surveillance & Public Participation,” Patricia Widener, Florida Atlantic University

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Time: 4:30 - 6:10 pm

**Session 161: The Organization of Trans-Local/Global Governance, Law, and Policy**

Room: Foothill G1

Sponsors: Global and Institutional Ethnography Divisions

Organizer/Presider/Discussant: Lauren E. Eastwood, SUNY - Plattsburgh

*Papers:*

“Dual Marginalization: Governance of Work, Family Life, and Housing of Young Undocumented Mexicans in New York,” Stephen P. Ruzsczyk, CUNY Graduate Center

“Education Database Management Systems, Accountability & Privacy Legislation in Canada,” Lindsay A. Kerr, University of Toronto

“Spreading the Truth: How Truth Commissions Address Human Rights Abuses in the World Society,” Saskia Nauenberg, University of California, Los Angeles

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**IE Workshop (limit 50)**

The day after the SSSP meetings, what has become an annual full-day IE Workshop will be held. IE Division members interested in attending the workshop can register for it at the same time as they register for the annual meeting.

Date: Monday, August 18

Time: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Location: The San Francisco Marriott Marquis

Cost: \$100 for employed registrants or \$70 for unemployed/activist and student registrants

This workshop will be of interest to researchers who are using or planning to use IE. The program will use an interactive format to provide participants with opportunities to discuss their work and to build on questions and innovations that arise. Somewhat informal, the workshop will involve variously experienced IE researchers who will be invited to consult and discuss various issues that arise when planning and conducting an IE. As in prior years, doing *analysis* in IE will be core to the proceedings.