



Volume 14 | No. 1
Fall, 2016

IE Newsletter

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

Naomi Nichols
Division Chair
McGill University
naomi.nichols@mcgill.ca

Send correspondence to:

Gina Petonito
Correspondence and Copy Editor
petonig@muohio.edu

Lindsay Kerr
Proofreader and Editor
lindsay.kerr@utoronto.ca

On the Inside

- Burning Question
- Members News & Notes
- Call for New Division Chair
- Remembering Seattle
- Welcome New Members!
- Becoming a meeting mentor

From the Division Chair: Naomi Nichols

Hello my IE people!

As much as I love writing these greetings, it is time to pass on the torch to a new IE Divisional Chair! Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for this important position. As I sit in my backyard enjoying the last lingering bits of warm weather, there have yet to be any nominations. The role of Divisional Chair is an important one, in part, because institutional ethnographic scholars from outside our own networks reach out to make connections through the Divisional Chair. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with and learn from people working with IE all over the world.

Having just returned from giving a talk about IE to the Women's Studies Department at the University of Western Ontario, I am struck by a few things: 1. IE remains a radical departure from traditional qualitative research approaches in the social sciences; 2. We need to keep talking about the ways IE approaches and knowledge differ from traditional social science work because otherwise IE continues to be read (and misunderstood) from within the discourses and frames or reference of traditional social scientific research and writing; and 3. Because our studies illuminate modes of social organization – “ultimately not of our own making, which give rise to our experience” (Bannerji, 1995), IE remains one of few methods of inquiry, which enable analyses that are practical and useful to the people we claim solidarity with as researchers. While my bias is clear, I am convinced that IE is the most effective way to mediate (and investigate) tensions between our political and academic commitments – using our research to do more than meet our tenure and promotion benchmarks.

It's almost Canadian Thanksgiving as I write these notes – although it will have passed by the time you read them. Nevertheless, I wish you all: *bonne fin de semaine!*

Remembering Seattle

A Note from Alison Griffith

I would like to thank all those who came to the Divisional Meeting in Seattle. As usual, the Meeting was full of surprises as well as plans for next year. This year the Meeting included a round of appreciations for me. A lovely surprise and one that warmed the cockles of my heart. I was pleased and rather taken aback by the nice things people had to say. Thanks again. A moment of joy for me.

Alison

George W. Smith Student Paper Award Winner



This year's winner of the George W. Smith Student Paper Award is Colin Hastings of York University in Toronto. The title of the paper he delivered in Seattle is: The Social Relations of HIV Disclosure in the Context of Criminalization in Canada: Reflections on an Objectifying Discourse.

Congratulations Colin!

Reflecting upon and Remembering Seattle

IE Workshop Participants

Smiling faces of some of the IE post conference workshop at the Seattle Meetings, 2016.



IE Division Chair Call for Nominations

The IE Division needs to elect a new Division Chairperson for a two-year term. In 2017, the individual will serve as Incoming Chair and the term will end in 2019. The responsibilities of Division chairpersons include attending a handful of meetings at the annual meeting during your term, disseminating at least one newsletter per year (there is money in the division budget to pay a newsletter editor to do this, and we have an excellent IE Division newsletter editor currently), facilitating the creation of annual meeting session topics for our division, coordinating the division awards by appointing division members to the awards committees, coordinating the IE workshop by establishing a workshop committee, and facilitating the annual Divisional meeting at SSSP annual meeting.

Our Division needs at least two nominees to move forward. We are looking for nominees at all professional levels, including Assistant Professors and Graduate Students. Please consider nominating yourself for this important role. If you have additional questions about roles and responsibilities, please feel free to email me at naomi.nichols@mcgill.ca

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else in the Division, please email me directly with your name and your email address by Friday November 4th, 2016. The Institutional Ethnography Division is very important to SSSP and to the vitality of Institutional Ethnography as a sociological approach.

IE Division Student Paper Award

Deadline January 31, 2017

The [Institutional Ethnography Division](#) solicits papers for its 2017 George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Competition. To be considered, papers should advance institutional ethnography scholarship either methodologically or through a substantive contribution. For an overview of institutional ethnography and the purposes of the IE Division, see <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/pageid/1236/m/464>. Authors must be currently enrolled graduate students or have graduated within the last 12 months. Submissions are to be 25 pages long or less, excluding notes, references and tables, and be submitted in Word-compatible format, in 12-point Times New Roman font. An electronic letter from the student's supervisor attesting to the lead author's student status must accompany the submission. The recipient will receive a monetary prize of \$100, a plaque of recognition, student membership, conference registration, and an opportunity to present the winning paper at the 2017 SSSP meetings. The winner of the 2017 paper will be invited to sit on the adjudicating panel for the 2018 paper submissions. Please note that any paper submitted for consideration for the George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Award must also be submitted to be presented at the 2017 meeting of the SSSP.

Send submission to **ALL** of the following members of the 2017 review committee:

Samit Bordoloi diponbordoloi@gmail.com,
Lauren Eastwood eastwole@plattsburgh.edu,
Colin Hastings colinh@yorku.ca.

Please be aware that a paper submission may only be submitted to one Division.

Activist IE Applied to Create Social and Institutional Change!

Since 1997, [Praxis International](#) has guided communities in the use of Institutional Analysis (IA) methods to engage in institutional reform on behalf of survivors of violence against women. By focusing on how workers are organized to act on cases, Praxis IA uncovers how complex institutions and systems either meet the needs of or produce negative outcomes in the lives of real, everyday people. Maren Woods, Program Manager and the IA Team at Praxis compiled data to produce the [Institutional Analysis Impact Map](#). The map includes a sampling of communities that have implemented this process in the United States with support from Praxis, Battered Women's Justice Project, Mending the Sacred Hoop, and/or Center for the Study of Social Policy. The methodology has also been applied internationally: Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, and New Zealand. Currently, the map contains the year the project was completed, the project's scope and focus, team membership, and a link to the report (if public). More projects and impact information will be posted as it's compiled. Contact us for more information: safetyaudit@praxisinternational.org.

Members News and Notes

Nichols, Naomi & Jessica Braimoh, (2016). Community safety, housing precariousness and processes of exclusion: An institutional ethnography from the standpoints of youth in an "unsafe" urban neighbourhood. *Critical Sociology*. doi: 10.1177/0896920516658941

Rankin, Janet (2015). The rhetoric of patient and family centred care: an institutional ethnography into what actually happens. *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 71(3), 526–534. doi: 10.1111/jan.12575

Call For Papers

Abstract Submission Deadline November 28, 2016

The 38th Annual Hawaii Sociological Association Conference will be held at Windward Community College on Oahu on Feb. 25-26, 2017. This year's theme is "Land, Sea, and Food: Sociology and Environmental

Change." Submissions are open to all sociological related topics and they do not have to be related to the conference theme.

For more information on how to submit and abstract go to:
<http://www.hawaiisociologicalassociation.org/>

IE Papers Published in 2016

A new feature of the Fall *IE Newsletter* is to compile a list of recent publications involving IE for our members. If you know of any papers, articles or books that you would like to see posted here in future issues, please contact Gina Petonito at petonig@miamioh.edu.

Brideson, Genevieve, Eileen Willis, & Diane J. Chamberlain (2016). Images of flight nursing in Australia: A study using institutional ethnography, *Nursing and Health Sciences* 18, 38–43 doi: 10.1111/nhs.12225

Billo, Emily & Alison Mountz (2016). For institutional ethnography: Geographical approaches to institutions and the everyday, *Progress in Human Geography* 40(2) 199–220. doi: 10.1177/0309132515572269

Caspar, Sienna, Pamela A. Ratner, Alison Phinney, & Karen MacKinnon (2016). The Influence of organizational systems on information exchange in long-term care facilities: An institutional ethnography. *Qualitative Health Research*, 26 (7), 951-965. doi: 10.1177/1049732315619893

Comber, Barbara (2016). Poverty, place and pedagogy in education: Research stories from front-line workers. *Australian Educational Researcher* 43 (3). doi: 10.1007/s13384-016-0212-9.

Dunn, Mary E. (2015). *Reclaiming Opportunities for Effective Teaching: An Institutional Ethnographic Study of Community College Course Outlines*. New York: Lexington Press.

Norstedt, Maria & Janne Paulsen Breimo, (2016). Moving beyond everyday life in institutional ethnographies: Methodological challenges and ethical dilemmas, *Forum: Qualitative Social Research* 17(2), <http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:0114-fqs160238>.

Rosabal-Coto, Guillermo (2016). Costa Rica's SINEM: A perspective from postcolonial institutional ethnography. *Action, Criticism, and Theory for Music Education* 15 (1): 154–87.
act.maydaygroup.org/articles/RosabalCoto15_1.pdf

Talbot, Debra (2016). Evidence for no-one: Standards, accreditation, and transformed teaching work. *Teaching and Teacher Education* 58: 80-89.

Be A SSSP Meeting Mentor

A Note from Joel Best

Each year, SSSP has lots of students and new members sign up for its meeting mentoring program. But the only way people can offer to be mentors is when they register for the meeting, and it's easy for folks to forget to do that, so there aren't enough volunteers. Because there aren't enough mentors, it is hard to match the interests of willing mentors with people who want mentoring.

I'm chairing the Lee Student Support Fund Committee (the group in charge of the mentoring program). I want to locate willing mentors from all of SSSP divisions. If you are planning to attend next year's meeting in Montreal, and if you'd be willing to serve as a mentor, please send me an email message (joelbest@udel.edu). In your message, list the divisions that interest you. I'll save your information and, next summer, I'll try and identify (hopefully no more than one or two) mentees who share your interests.

I've been a mentor every year since the program started, and I continue to keep in touch with some of those people. It is a great program, but we need your help to make it stronger.

Thanks,
Joel Best

Welcome New Members

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

Jeffrey L. Sternberg	Erika Ono
Bethany Callan Nelson	Michael Shane Casello
Karly Ann Burch	Marjo Kuronen
Eli R. Wilson	Doron R. Shiffer-Sebba
Elizabeth Whalley	Shekinah Hoffman
Manda Ann Roddick	Melanie Turner
Paula Kelly	Nerida J. Spina

Future SSSP Meetings

Planning Ahead

67th Annual Meeting

Narratives in the World of Social Problems: Power, Resistance and Transformation

August 11-13, 2017

Montreal Bonaventure Hotel

Montreal, Quebec Canada

68th Annual Meeting

Program Theme: TBD

August 10-12, 2018

Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel

Philadelphia, PA

69th Annual Meeting

Program Theme: TBD

August 9-11, 2019

Roosevelt Hotel

New York City, NY