

Disabilities Division

Society for the Study of Social Problems

Statement from the Chair

Laura Lorenz

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Fall is flying by, and it is time to start thinking about papers to submit for next year's annual meeting! Our members have developed an interesting range of panels for next year, including roundtable session to allow scholars whose work may not fit into one of the panels to have an opportunity to present. Please see page 11 for our detailed call for papers. Thank you to everyone who helped to develop the call for papers.

We seek a co-chair to replace Jeremy Brunson (Val Leiter's previous co-chair) as he unfortunately had to resign mid-way through his two-year term. Please consider nominating yourself; alternately, send me suggestions of colleagues who might be good candidates, and I will reach out to them directly. Being a SSSP Disabilities Division co-chair is a great opportunity for professional service. You will share the work with me, your co-chair, and the responsibilities are not too onerous. The position provides

opportunities to get connected with SSSP colleagues and leadership, oversee the graduate student paper award, and help support the field of disabilities research, practice, and policy. The upcoming term will run from 2012-2014. If you have any questions about running, please e-mail me at llorenz@brandeis.edu. I look forward to working collaboratively with whoever is elected!

We have some interesting news items in this issue -- please check out the new White House disability blogs, among other news.

Good luck with the rest of the semester, and I hope that you all enjoy a well-deserved mid-semester break. Please join me in thanking Laura Mauldin for taking on the role of division newsletter editor!

Best,

Laura Lorenz

Renewing your SSSP membership soon? There is now an opportunity to make contributions to the SSSP accommodations fund, to help pay for accommodations for participants with disabilities at the annual meetings. Look for this new way to contribute to accessibility on the on-line renewal system.

Stay in the Know!

Follow the White House Blog on Disabilities

We encourage you to follow our various disability-related blog posts at WhiteHouse.gov/blog/issues/disabilities, where you can keep up with what the Administration is doing for Americans with disabilities.

Some recent posts are below and include blogs from:

- Kareem Dale (Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy)
- Michael Strautmanis (Deputy Assistant to the President and Counselor for Strategic Engagement to the Senior Advisor)
- Richard Devylder (Senior Advisor for Accessible Transportation at the U.S. Department of Transportation)
- Marcie Roth (Director, Office of Disability Integration and Coordination at the Federal Emergency Management Agency)
- Kathy Martinez (Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy)
- Sue Swenson (Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office on Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in the Department of Education)
- Alexa Posny (Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services at the U.S. Department of Education).

If you'd like to be added to the White House disability distribution list, email us at disability@who.eop.gov.

Have you been to a conference lately?

Did you or anyone else present a disability-themed paper?

If so, we invite you to be our conference paper scouts and let us know! Send us the title and presenter and the name of the conference and we can share this with the division.

Laura.mauldin@gmail.com //OR// Llorenz@brandeis.edu

SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming Conference: Race, Ethnicity & Disabilities

Race, Ethnicity and Disabilities: State of the Science Conference will be held next year in Arlington, Virginia on March 1-2, 2012. Registration and poster submission forms can be found at the link below.

Note the important deadlines associated with the conference:

- The deadline to submit a poster abstract is December 15, 2011.
- The deadline for early registration is December 15, 2011.
- The final deadline to register is February 8, 2012.
- The deadline to book the hotel at a discount rate is February 8, 2012.

CHECK IT OUT AT: <http://www.vcu-projectempowerment.org/>

Recent Conference Presentations of Interest to Section Members

The annual meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) was held in Cleveland, OH on November 2-5th. Here is a brief selection of the disability themed papers. See www.4sonline.org to contact presenters for their papers and/or to view more titles.

--Rethinking Disability/Rethinking the Social: From Models to Concepts by Michale Schillmeier (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

--Past Fox & Limbaugh: Disability in Stem Cell Research by Emily Laurel Smith (University of Minnesota)

--Human Hardware: When Artificial Legs Become Legitimate Body Parts by Cynthia Schairer (University of California, San Diego)

Money for Students!!

Call for Papers Graduate Student Paper Award

Deadline: May 1, 2012

The **Disabilities Division** is pleased to announce its 2012 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical or theoretical, may concern any social aspect of disability, and should not exceed 30 double-spaced pages. They should be prepared for anonymous review. Current graduate students and recent graduates (who received their degrees after December 2011) may submit a paper if it was written while still a student. Co-authored papers are acceptable as long as all the listed authors are current graduate students. Double submission to other SSSP award competitions will be disqualified. The award recipient will be required to present the winning paper at the 2012 SSSP Annual Meeting in Denver. Thus it is strongly recommended that an abstract of the paper be submitted to a Disabilities Division session by the January 31st deadline. The recipient will receive a monetary prize of \$100, student membership in SSSP, SSSP conference registration, and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet. Send an electronic copy of the paper (in Word format) and a cover letter identifying your graduate program to: Laura Lorenz at llorenz@brandeis.edu.

Check it out! The latest issue of
**DISABILITY STUDIES
QUARTERLY**
features articles by division
members.
Visit DSQ online at:
<http://dsq-sds.org/>

Have you published an article
lately?

LET US KNOW!

Apply Today for the White House Internship Program!

White House Interns work in one of sixteen [White House departments](#) where they conduct research, manage incoming inquiries, attend meetings, write memos and staff events. To learn more [read the full blog post here](#).

Call for Papers/Proposals
Society for Disability Studies
25th Annual Conference
Denver, CO June 20-23, 2012

Collaborations, Cultures, and Communities

Submission system will open November 1, 2011 at www.disstudies.org -- Deadline for submissions: December 1, 2011. The complete call and instructions can also be found at www.disstudies.org

The terms collaborations, cultures, and communities express many meanings on many different levels, ranging from the most intimate personal and familial relations to the broadest global and virtual arrangements. With this year's theme, we seek to challenge potential presenters to explore the rich and varied ways in which people with disabilities are shaped by and in turn form their own collaborations, communities, and cultures. At the same time, we must also be mindful of the ways in which the larger, nondisabled population has -- through common, dominant cultures and collaborations of power -- worked both to exclude and to include disabled people in community and cultural formation and development. In addition, we hope presenters will explore the ways in which disabled people themselves have sometimes restricted access to their own communities and cultures and worked to form limited collaborations with one another. We believe that this is a time for members of SDS to consider the many ways in which we might strengthen our communities and express our dynamic cultures by recognizing not only our many commonalities, but also our tremendous and incredibly valuable diversity. Our hope is that this year's theme will encourage members to foster spaces that value diverse expressions and analyses of class, race, gender, sexuality, sub-culture and national status within SDS and the broader communities of people with disabilities.

For more information, contact Allison Carey at accare@ship.edu<mailto:accare@ship.edu> or Michael Rembis at mrembis@gmail.com<mailto:mrembis@gmail.com> .

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Recommended Reading:

The Caring Self: The Work Experiences of Home Care Aides
by Clare L. Stacey

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

12th Annual Second City International Conference on **Disability Studies in Education**

Friday, May 25th - Sunday 27th May, 2011
Hunter College, City University of New York.

Over the past eleven conferences, Disability Studies in Education (DSE) has emerged to grapple with important issues that include: its dissatisfaction with the self-imposed limitations within the field of special education research and practice; the need to articulate our standpoint as a discipline that provides a reframing of disability from an individual deficit to one primarily viewed as the result of inflexible social systems; its relevance in terms of practical application to the lives of teachers and children; disability and law; a focus on individual and family experiences and perspectives; the need to cultivate academic and political alliances, and, the perpetual challenges of increasing access to all aspects of society for people with disabilities. While engaged in this work to date we have, perhaps rightly so, largely focused on K-12 education in schools and teacher education programs.

The purpose of our 12th international conference is to focus upon the growth of disability studies in education (DSE) in K-12 classrooms *and* beyond. By adding the focus of “life after school,” we seek to extend and build upon our focus of K-12 classrooms while also contemplating how DSE is pertinent to, and can be used throughout life of individuals with disabilities. We encourage submissions related to theory, research, pedagogy, policy, and practice that may include, but are not limited to inquiry into:

- K-12 classroom settings
- Teacher education
- Schools as organizations
- Continuing education college programs for students with disabilities
- Issues of accessibility in college
- Community services including independent and assisted living
- Issues of accessibility in the workplace
- Social and recreational services/opportunities for people with disabilities
- Rights and responsibilities
- Self-advocacy groups
- Self-governance
- Professionals who work with people with disabilities
- Rehabilitation
- Veteran’s issues
- Legislation and litigation around disability
- Representations of disability throughout the media

For more information and the full CFP visit the following link:

http://aera.net/Default.aspx?menu_id=162&id=1288

Tenure-Track Assistant Professor Position in Sociology/Criminology

Department of Sociology
Gallaudet University
Job Number: UF-11092890436

Gallaudet University serves deaf and hard of hearing students from many different backgrounds and seeks to develop a workforce that reflects the diversity of its student body. Gallaudet is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer and actively encourages deaf or hard of hearing people, members of traditionally underrepresented groups, people with disabilities, women, and veterans to apply. The Department of Sociology seeks candidates for an anticipated tenure-track position beginning in August, 2012. Completed Ph.D. is required for Assistant Professor rank. Position is contingent on funding

Qualifications:

Ph.D. in Sociology with specialization or strong course background in criminology, preferably with a quantitative emphasis. Undergraduate teaching experience required. Candidates must be interested in working with students with a wide range of abilities. The candidate must be able to teach and communicate fluently in American Sign Language or be willing to learn, including participating in paid summer classes and continuing to take classes until acceptable proficiency is reached. Acceptable proficiency must be reached by January of the third year. Candidates without such skill may be provided with an interpreter in classes and have a reduced course load for up to two years.

Responsibilities:

Candidates should expect to teach courses in Criminology and Sociology, including at least the following courses which are required for the Major in Sociology with a Concentration in Criminology and for the Minor in Criminology:

SOC 151 Introduction to the Criminal Justice System

SOC 243 Sociology of Deviance

SOC 315 Juvenile Delinquency

SOC 405 Current Issues in Criminology

The candidate will teach other courses in the department as needed. Additionally, the candidate is expected to be involved in student advising and internship supervision, to engage in scholarly activities and research, and to participate in service activities. The normal course load is three (3) preparations per semester.

Application Information:

Review of applications begins immediately and continues until the position is filled. Send a letter of application outlining your fit with the job description and requirements, curriculum vitae, and list of three references to:

Dr. Sharon Barnartt
Department of Sociology
Gallaudet University
800 Florida Avenue, NE
Washington, D.C. [20002-3695](tel:20002-3695)

The full announcement can be found at:

<http://jobs.gallaudet.edu/?select=University+Faculty>

Email: sharon.barnartt@gallaudet.edu

The Culture Pages I

Follow Carey Gabriel Costello's blog: **The Intersex Roadshow**

I want to explain a division in our community, between intersex advocates and partisans of the terminology of "DSDs." Every day, intersex children are born to parents who are shocked, lost at sea. "How can this be happening," they cry, "I've never even heard of such a thing." And this, this is the crux of the problem. It's this problem of being born as strange little changelings to our parents that perpetuates infant sex assignment surgery, despite the ever-mounting evidence that the results are frequently unsatisfactory. And it is the issue of how to approach infant sex assignment that lies behind our division into two warring camps: those who say the term "intersex" is overpolitical and imprecise and that the "proper" term is "Disorders of Sex Development," and those of us who say we are not disordered, and take pride in calling ourselves intersex people....

Consider the organized Deaf community, which centers around institutions and locales where signing, ASL, is the norm. This Deaf community experiences itself as a linguistic minority, rather than "disabled." Members of such Deaf communities are not impaired in their daily lives. Able to communicate in their rich language with those around them, they are enabled to study and grow, and develop a strong culture, literature, and traditions.

The problem is that children who cannot hear are born to hearing parents all the time. And those parents are shocked, at sea. Some hearing parents don't want to give up on the future they had imagined for their children, and say, "I just want my child to be normal!" And "normal" for them means having their child live and go to school in a "mainstream" hearing context, and focus on learning to speak. It means getting cochlear implants and focusing everything on trying to make sense of a bit of sound. It means that these deaf children spend their days isolated, surrounded by people who can't understand them, and spending countless hours both in school and out trying to learn how to speak words they cannot hear, instead of quickly and easily learning a visual language they have the sensorium to perceive, and spending their hours at school learning math and history....

HOOKED? TO CONTINUE READING VISIT:

<http://intersexroadshow.blogspot.com/2010/09/deaf-children-intersex-children-and.html>.

The Culture Pages II

The last couple of months have been full of disability in the news... The following are links to stories in the media on disability.

[Mom, Nurse, Two Others Charged in Death of 28-lb 14-year-old with Cerebral Palsy in Ohio](#)

news.gather.com

An Ohio mom was charged in her 28-pound teen daughters death along with the girls nurse. A total of four people were charged in her death....

[Just Stimming: Quiet Hands](#)

juststimming.wordpress.com

TW: Ableism, abuse Explaining my reaction to this: means I need to explain my history with this: 1. When I was a little girl, they held my hands down in tacky glue while I...

[USA Today: Will the USA cull people with Down syndrome?](#)

www.usatoday.com

Brian Skotko: A new test just 10 weeks into a pregnancy can identify the genetic disorder.

[About.com: Positive Sexual Representations of Disability](#)

sexuality.about.com

The idea of a positive sexual representation of disability raises questions about what is a positive as opposed to a negative image of disability, and who decides which is which?

[Tackling disability discrimination takes more than wheelchair ramps](#)

www.guardian.co.uk

Let's challenge the 'us and them' attitude towards people who have disabilities that don't conform to society's norms.

[Disability Terminology: A Starter Kit for Nondisabled People and the Media — Feministe](#)

www.feministe.us

Over at FWD/Forward, Anna recently linked this article on the media's problem with coming up for terms to discuss disability. This problem is not limited to the media; a lot of people struggle with disability terminology. People want to use the right word, but they're not really sure what the right ...

Don't miss it! The latest volume of *Disability & Community* features Disabilities Division members!

Allison C. Carey and Richard Scotch (Eds.) announce the forthcoming publication of *Disability and Community* (Vol 6. of the series *Research in Social Sciences and Disability*, Emerald Press, series editors Barbara Altman and Sharon Barnartt).

Coming December 2011: This edited volume includes contributions from both established and emerging disability scholars who explore the complexity, opportunities, and challenges of community, community-building, and community participation related to people with disabilities. It includes contributions by Liat Ben-Moshe; Pamela Block, Eva L. Rodriguez, Maria C. Milazzo, William S. MacAllister, Lauren B. Krupp, Akemi Nishida, Nina Slota, Alyssa M. Broughton and Christopher B. Keys; Allison C. Carey; Vandana Chaudhry; Stephen Gilson and Elizabeth DePoy; Sara E. Green, Julia Barnhill, Sherri Green, Diana Torres Hawken, Loretta Sue Humphrey and Scott Sanderson; Brian R. Grossman; Valerie Leiter; Mansha Mirza and Joy Hammel; Preethy S. Samuel, Karen L. Hobden and Barbara W. LeRoy; Cynthia E. Schairer; and Richard K. Scotch.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Proteus: A Journal of Ideas

Representing the Body in Culture and Society

Proteus: A Journal of Ideas seeks submissions for our upcoming issue, "Representing the Body in Culture and Society." We are soliciting articles and creative works from a wide range of disciplines that reflect upon the issue's theme. We are particularly interested in work that focuses on the body from a Disability Studies perspective, though submissions from all disciplines are welcome. We are looking for broad theoretical inquiries, individual case studies, and traditional scholarly articles on the subject of the body, as well as theme-related photographs, poetry, and creative writing.

Full Essays Due by January 15, 2012. Submit them electronically (MS Word preferred) to proteus@ship.edu

SSSP 2012 Annual Meeting

Disabilities Division Call for Papers

Division Sessions

1) Title: “Disability Activism: The Art of Grassroots Movements” – THEMATIC SESSION

Organizers: Timothy Lillie (tillie@uakron.edu) and Laura Mauldin (laura.mauldin@gmail.com)

2) Title: “Disability, Voice and Power”

Organizers: Thomas Horejes (Thomas.horejes@galludet.edu) and Valerie Leiter (valerie.leiter@simmons.edu)

3) Title: “Bioethics, Eugenics and Disability”

Organizers: Alexis Bender (alexbender@gmail.com) and Brian Grossman (BrianRGrossman@gmail.com)

Co-sponsored Sessions

4) Title: “Care Work in the Home” (joint with the Family Division and Youth, Aging, and the Life Course)

Organizers: Ebonie Cunningham-Stringer (e.cunninghamstringer@wingate.edu) (Family division chair) and Laura Lorenz (llorenz@brandeis.edu) (Disabilities division co-chair)

5) Title: “Health, Imagery, Metaphor and Representation” – THEMATIC SESSION (joint with Health, Health Policy, and Health Services)

Organizers: Christina Barnon (cebarmon@gmail.com) (Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Division member) and Deborah Little (LITTLE@ADELPHI.EDU)



Call for Co-Chair of the Division Nominations

We are currently soliciting nominations for the position of Co-Chair for the Disabilities Division. Co-Chairs serve overlapping two year terms, and are jointly responsible for: developing the Division program (identifying sessions and organizers) for the annual meeting; running the Division business meeting at the annual meeting; working with the newsletter editor to assure publication of the annual newsletter; and other Division business.

If you are interested in learning more or in nominating yourself or another individual for this rewarding position, please contact Laura Lorenz at Llorenz@brandeis.edu