

Disabilities Division Newsletter*

Volume 2, Issue 1

Fall 2009

Disabilities Division

- We need a name for our newsletter!!
- Send us a message if you have a suggestion.

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Statement from the Chair

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am thrilled to take on the role of chair of the Disabilities Division of SSSP. But before we start planning for the future, I must acknowledge our debt to our first chair, Carol Brooks Gardner. We would not be the small but vibrant division that we currently are if not for her hard work and perseverance. Carol garnered the required number of signatures, shepherded our division through the application process, and nurtured the division's growth over the past few years. Please join me in thanking her!

Over the next two years, I'd like to increase our division's presence and visibility, creating a real "home" for scholars and activists working on disability issues from a social problems perspective, and to promote graduate students' development within the field. This issue of the newsletter includes several opportunities for grad students, so please pass them along to your students.

One way that I'd like to increase our sense of community and connect- edness as a division is to change our leadership structure. A few years back, I was co- chair of the Health division and enjoyed sharing that role with two wonderful colleagues. Having a co- chair structure means that the division has institutional memory, as materials and informa- tion are handed down from co- chair to co- chair. It means that co- chairs share the work and each can use their own networks to bring new people into the division. And it results in a long chain of people who are connected to each other and committed to the division. So I am inviting you to run for co- chair this year. If you are interested in running, please contact me at valerie.leiter@simmons.edu. I look forward to working with you.

Best,
Val Leiter

Doctoral Fellowship Opportunity

Lurie Doctoral Fellowship in Disability Policy

Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University

The Lurie Institute for Disability Policy at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management is pleased to announce the availability of one Fellowship position for the Ph.D. program in Social Policy.

Applicants who demonstrate an interest in focusing their doctoral study in disability policy and demonstrate previous employment, academic, and/or advocacy involvement in the disability field will be eligible for

the Lurie Fellowship if accepted into the Ph.D. program.

Applications to the Heller School are due by January 4, 2010.

The 3-year Fellowship will begin in the 2010-2011 academic year. Full tuition plus a monthly stipend are provided. Fellows are required to participate in the Lurie Seminar series held approximately monthly throughout the academic year and partici-

pate in a research/evaluation/policy internship for approximately 10 hours per week. The internship will be developed around the interests and skills of the individual fellow.

Please visit the Heller School website (www.heller.brandeis.edu) for information about the Ph.D. program and application materials.

Congratulations to Jeremy Brunson!!

Jeremy Brunson was awarded the 2009 Irving K. Zola Award for Emerging Scholars in Disabilities Studies from the Society for Disability Studies for his paper titled "Visually Experiencing a Phone Call: The calculated consumer labor deaf people perform to gain access through video relay service." His abstract is below:

Feminist scholars have suggested a broader conceptualization of work to include paid and unpaid, visible and invisible labor. Employing this broader conceptualization, this paper examines a new form of service delivery for deaf people, video relay service, as an example of the growing trend in the United States that shifts labor from the service provider to service recipient. The data discussed in this paper were collected from two focus groups with deaf people who shared their experiences with and feelings about video relay service. The findings suggest that although video relay service is preferred to text relay service by deaf people, there are still misunderstandings that occur. And, in responding to those misunderstandings, deaf people must determine whether it is worth their time and energy to confront less than adequate sign language interpreters, hang up and call back in order to get another interpreter, or do nothing.

News of
Note!

Kerry Dobransky recently had an article, "The Good, the Bad, and the Severely Mentally Ill: Official and Informal Labels as Organizational Resources in Community Mental Health Services" about dealing with disability designation for people with severe and persistent mental illness published in *Social Science and Medicine* (Volume 69:722-728).28.

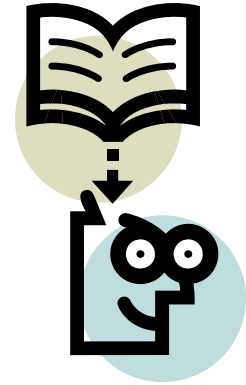
Ron Berger had an article "Hoops and Wheels," about wheelchair basketball that appeared in the summer 2009 issue of *Contexts*.

2010 Graduate Student Paper Competition

Deadline: May 1, 2010

The Disabilities Division is pleased to announce its 2010 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical or theoretical and may concern any social aspect of disability. Papers should not exceed 30 double-spaced pages and should be prepared for anonymous review. Current graduate students and recent graduates (who received their degrees after December 2009) may submit a paper if it was written while still a student. Papers based on theses or dissertations are acceptable. (Please do not submit the thesis or dissertation itself.) 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 2010 SSSP Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA. Thus it is strongly recommended that an abstract of the paper be submitted to any Disability Division session organizer 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: Professor Valerie Leiter at valerie.leiter@simmons.edu.



New Book from a member

On the Margins of Citizenship provides a comprehensive, sociological history of the fight for civil rights for people with intellectual disabilities. Allison Carey, who has been active in disability advocacy and politics her entire life, addresses the segregation of people with intellectual disabilities in schools and institutions, along with the controversies over forced sterilization, eugenics, marriage and procreation, and protection from the death penalty. She chronicles the rise of the parents' movement and the influence of the Kennedy family, as well as current debates generated by the impact of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

Carey draws upon a broad range of historical and legal documents and the literature of citizenship studies to develop a "relational-practice" approach to the issues of intellectual disability and civil rights. She examines how and why parents, self-advocates, and professionals fought for different visions of rights for this population throughout the twentieth century and the changes that took place over that time. Presenting the shifting constitutional and legal restrictions for this marginalized group, Carey argues that policies tend to sustain an ambiguity that simultaneously promises rights yet also allows their retraction.

Allison C. Carey is an assistant professor of Sociology at Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania. *On the Margins of Citizenship* is forthcoming August 2009 through Temple University Press.

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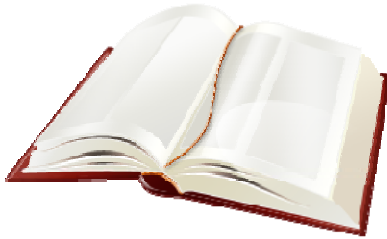
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Social Problems

Editorial Search -- Call for Applications

The Editorial and Publications Committee of the Society for the Study of Social Problems is seeking applications for the position of Editor of the Society's journal, *Social Problems*.



The Editor's three-year term will begin with the operation of the new editorial office at mid-year 2011. The new editor will be responsible for editing Volumes 59-61 (years 2012-14). Members of the SSSP are encouraged to apply for the position and/or nominate colleagues who are (or will become) members.

The Editor is responsible for managing the peer review process for approximately 300-400 submitted manuscripts per year, and preparing four issues of the journal (approximately 650 printed pages) annually. The editorial office manages the review process using the on-line services of ScholarOne/Manuscript Central and also has responsibility for copy editing and proofreading in accordance with customary publishing standards.

The committee seeks editorial candidates with distinguished scholarly records, previous editorial experience (e.g., service as journal editor or associate editor, editor of scholarly editions, etc.), strong organizational and management skills, and the ability to work and communicate well with others. A familiarity with, and commitment to, *Social Problems* and the SSSP are essential. The SSSP supports the operation of the editorial office with an annual budget and provides a modest stipend and travel expenses for the Editor. Support is also expected from the host institution. This may include office space, utilities, the use of computers and other office equipment, tuition waivers for office personnel (if appropriate), faculty release time, and other basic expenses. Each year the Editor will be expected to submit a budget to the SSSP to cover operating expenses that the host institution does not support. Individuals interested in applying for the editorship should submit their curriculum vitae with a cover letter detailing their relevant experience along with the support their institution is willing to provide. Letters from the applicant's department chair, dean, or other authorized university administrator confirming specific institutional support should also be included. Guidance in the preparation of applications is available from the Editorial and Publications Committee Chair as well as the current *Social Problems* Editor, the Executive Officer, and the Administrative Officer, if necessary.

Please direct all questions, inquiries, nominations, expressions of interest, and application materials to: Claire Renzetti, Chair, SSSP Editorial and Publications Committee, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, University of Dayton, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH 45469-1442. (937) 229-2428. Email: Claire.Renzetti@notes.udayton.edu.

Deadline for applications is February 12, 2010.

The Society for Disability Studies is pleased to announce a call for proposals for its 22nd annual conference.

Dates: June 2-5, 2010

Host: Institute on Disabilities, Temple University

Location: Howard Gittis Student Center, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Submission Forms: All proposals must use the SDS [CFP submission form](#) available at the [2010 SDS conference site](#)

Proposal Deadline: Midnight EST, December 15, 2009

THEME: DISABILITY IN THE GEO-POLITICAL IMAGINATION

While proposals for any topic are always welcome at SDS, we offer a suggested theme each year. This year's theme encourages submissions that attend to local conditions, including those in our host city of Philadelphia, within a global context and to cultures of empowerment and resistance within the complexity of global exploitation and opportunities.

Possible topic questions may include, but are not limited to:

- What is the relationship between disability studies and other critical studies of experience—cultural studies, critical race studies, gender, feminist, and women's studies, queer studies, trans-gender studies, subaltern studies—that critique social norms of embodiment, capacity, and aesthetic?
- How do we analyze and theorize around international disability experiences? How do we bridge the disjuncture between the global and the local?
- What is the role of disability in critical resistance to privatization, the penetration of neoliberal thinking and practice, the retrenchment of social/economic benefits, the ideas/practices of social entrepreneurship, all both nationally and internationally?
- What are the effects and affects of neo-liberalism on disability rights, service provision, policy, art, culture, and politics?
- How do transnational disability movements develop and what is their relationship to national borders?
- What is the role of disability in the public imagination as constituted through and within representation in media?
- What infrastructure best supports the production of new interventions and innovations in the realm of community-based rehabilitation and other services, new cloistered living schemes, and disability programming as a result of the UN convention?
- What is the relationship between new forms of labor and disability, informal and formal economies, and how they intersect with disability?
- What critical analysis is needed from disability perspectives on the development of new technology?
- What are the impacts of declarations of the suspension of social liberties in the context of arguments around a "state of exception" with respect to social justice for disabled populations?

2010 SSSP Call For Papers

For the full call for papers go to

<http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/374/fuseaction/ssspsession2.publicView>

21 Disability and Criminal Justice
Co-sponsored with Crime and Juvenile
Delinquency and Mental Health
Organizer, Liat Ben-Moshe
[lbenmosh@maxwell.syr.edu]

30 Disability, Voice, and Social Justice -
THEMATIC
Organizer, Linda J. Morrison
[morrison2841@duq.edu]

31 Disability as a Dynamic Social Factor
Organizer, Valerie Leiter
[Valerie.leiter@simmons.edu]

32 Disability Rights and Families
Co-Sponsored with Family
Organizer, Elizabeth R. Paré [er-
pare@wayne.edu]

33 Health and Disabilities
Co-sponsored with Health, Health Pol-
icy, and Health Services
Organizer, Alexis Bender
[alexisab@bellsouth.net]

34 Texts, Mental Health/Disability and
the Social Organization of Inequality
Co-sponsored with Institutional Ethnogra-
phy and Mental Health.
Organizer, Janet M. Rankin
[jmrankin@ucalgary.ca]

35 Persistent Inequalities: Considering
Intersectionalities
Co-sponsored with Labor Studies, Pov-
erty, Class, and Inequality, Racial and
Ethnic Minorities, and Sexual Behavior,
Politics, and Communities
Organizer, Kathleen Guidroz
[guidroz@mmary.edu]

36 Disability and "Independent Living"
Across the Life Course
Co-sponsored with Youth, Aging, and the
Life Course
Organizer, Brian Grossman
[BrianRGrossman@gmail.com]

26th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disabilities—

www.pacrim.hawaii.edu

April 12 & 13, 2010: Hawai'i Convention Center

Deadline: December 18, 2009

The Center on Disability Studies at the University of Hawai'i cordially invites you to submit a proposal to the 26th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disabilities on April 12th and 13th, 2010 in Honolulu, Hawai'i. In the tradition of Pac Rim, the 2010 conference will revisit familiar [themes](#) and explore new directions through scholarship, best practice, and international networking. Join us, and continue this extraordinary journey. We will have several pre and post conference forums, including the International Forum on the Rights of People with Disabilities, an international film festival, and much, much more.

We have a new Conference Design! The 2010 Pacific Rim International Conference program design has been reorganized into three broad, thematic, areas: Foundation, the topical areas the Center for Disability Studies has been or is currently engaged in; Exploration, probing topics that CDS has not previously addressed but have impact on the security and well-being of all people with disabilities; and Innovation which seeks to showcase new theories, concepts, solutions, ideas and applications that can benefit people with disabilities during this economic downturn.