



# Society for the Study of Social Problems

*In Pursuit of Social Justice*

Disability Division  
Summer Newsletter  
June 2015

## Welcome from the Disability Division Co-Chairs

Greetings!

Our division has had quite a busy spring! The first thing you will notice is our new name! In our most recent election, our membership voted to change the name of our division from “disabilities” to “disability.” This name change is intended to capture the social meaning and construction of disability as a broader concept and social category/status, rather than using disabilities, which suggests a focus on different types of conditions. We think this a positive way forward for our division!

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Our members have also been very busy organizing the numerous panels we have lined up for the annual meetings in August! We have a great group of presentations lined up for the meetings. We will have two Critical Dialogue sessions, which include brief presentations intended to foster discussion and debate. We are also sponsoring five panel sessions and one thematic session. Check out the timing, topics, and paper titles of division-sponsored sessions in this newsletter. And, as a reminder, if you are presenting a paper, please send a copy of your paper to your session organizer by June 30<sup>th</sup> to facilitate any sign and voice interpretation during the meetings. Some other key dates include our Division meeting, which will take place on Friday, 12:30 to 2:10 pm – please join us! Last year’s meeting laid the foundation for our excellent array of sponsored



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sessions this year. On Saturday, August 22nd join us for the Division-Sponsored Reception from 7:15-8:15. More than 20 divisions have joined together to sponsor! Come enjoy the good food and good company.

We would also like to recognize Tara Fannon as the winner of our division's student paper competition. More information about her paper and presentation can also be found in this edition of the newsletter.

And finally, it is with sadness as well as a little sigh of relief that I will end my tenure as co-chair this summer. I am very excited to welcome Deborah Little as our new co-chair! See the election announcement in this newsletter for more information about Debora—and thank you for voting. As I complete my last few months as co-chair, I have to thank Laura Mauldin, Disabilities Division Co-Chair, for all of her work over the past year. I could not have made it through the year alone! As well as our newsletter editors, Rob Gould (2014) and Ashley Volion (2015) for their collaboration and keeping us all informed.

I look forward to seeing some of you at this summer's annual meeting in Chicago!

Alexis Bender

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Happy Summer to all the Disability Division members!

I am so delighted to have served as Co-Chair of the Division with Alexis Bender. She has done a wonderful job these last two years and I have benefitted from her guidance and as we close out her last year of being Co-Chair, I hope you will all join me in expressing appreciation for her hard work. The incoming Co-Chair is Deborah Little and I am so excited to work with her!

I want to remind folks to register for SSSP and to join the Facebook group and share info that other members of the Division might be interested in -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/417098568399508/>

I look forward to seeing everyone in Chicago!

Laura Mauldin

Greetings,

I am delighted to be joining Laura Mauldin as Co-Chair of the Disability Division of the SSSP. The people in this division are fantastic and the scholarly work is rich and important. I've had a checkered past – legal services attorney to sociology grad school at Berkeley, back to law to make money while I finished my dissertation, a post-doc doing research on disability identity, and then my academic job at Adelphi University on Long Island, NY. After working as a lawyer representing folks trying to get social security disability benefits I began research at a Center for Independent Living. In both worlds I observed the active social construction of disability and its intersectionality with other social categories, particularly race and gender. Now I work on the intersection of care theory and disability studies and I love the dialogues that take place. Since disabled people are the largest minority group in the country, and since disability touches us all, I don't know why everyone isn't in our division! Thanks so much to Alexis for her wonderful work over the past 2 years. See you in August.

All the best, Deb

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### **Congratulations to Our Student Paper Winner: Tara Fannon**

Our student paper award winner is Tara Fannon (PhD Candidate, National University of Ireland - Galway) for her paper titled "Out of Sight Still in Mind: visually impaired women's embodied accounts of ideal femininity." In this paper she explores how body constructs like the feminine ideal, which rely heavily on the use of visual imagery, are experienced and interpreted by women with visual disabilities. Congratulations to Tara!

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### **SAVE THE DATE: Saturday evening, August 22, 2014 - ASA/SSSP Disability Reception @ Access Living**

Please join us for the first-ever celebration of disability scholarship shared across both the American Sociological Association (ASA) and the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP). The reception will be held at Access Living (115 W Chicago Ave), Chicago's Center for Independent Living and home to a gallery of Tom Olin's (<http://www.adalegacy.com/sponsors/tom-olin>) photography. The event will include free food, alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks, access to an accessible rooftop view, and recognition of the accomplishments of both the Disabilities Division of SSSP and the Disability and Society Section of the ASA.

Funding for this reception has generously been provided by the University of Illinois at Chicago's Department in Disability and Human Development and Doctoral Program in Disability Studies. Beverages will be sponsored by the ASA Section on Disability and Society. Other sponsors include Roosevelt University Department of Sociology.

Faculty, graduate students, staff, and people with disabilities who wish to discuss disability scholarship or pursue graduate studies in the sociology of disability are encouraged to attend. To encourage attendance, more information about accessible transportation (PACE), public transportation, and shared rides (free and taxis) will be forthcoming.

For questions, please contact Brian R. Grossman at [brg@uic.edu](mailto:brg@uic.edu)

## **SESSIONS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**Friday, August 21**

### **Session 35: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Genders, Sexualities, and Bodies**

Time: 2:30 PM - 4:10 PM

Room: Atlantic D

Sponsors: Disability, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Sport, Leisure, and the Body

Organizer & Presider: Kiera D. Duckworth, University at Buffalo, SUNY

### **Session 47: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: 25 Years after the Americans with Disabilities Act**

Time: 4:30 PM - 6:10 PM

Room: Atlantic D

Sponsor: Disability

Organizer & Presider: Ashley Volion, University of Illinois, Chicago

**Saturday, August 22**

### **Session 72: Disability and Care**

Time: 10:30 AM - 12:10 PM

Room: Baltic

Sponsors: Disability and Family

Organizer, Presider & Discussant: Deborah L. Little, Adelphi University

### **Session 89: Disability Across the Life Course**

Time: 12:30 AM - 2:10 PM

Room: Baltic

Sponsors: Disability and Youth, Aging, and the Life Course

Organizer & Presider: Valerie Leiter, Simmons College

### **Session 102: Social and Contextual Determinants of Health Care Access, Utilization, and Outcomes**

Time: 2:30 PM - 4:10 PM

Room: Baltic

Sponsors: Disability, Health, Health Policy, and Health Services, Poverty, Class, and Inequality, and Sociology and Social Welfare

Organizer & Presider: Shannon Monnat, Penn State University

**Date: Sunday, August 23**

### **Session 124: Race, Class, Gender, and Disability: Intersectional Perspectives**

Time: 8:30 AM - 10:10 AM

Room: Pacific 3

Sponsor: Disability

Organizer, Presider & Discussant: Kate Caldwell, University of Illinois at Chicago

### **Session 140: Health, Disability, and Incarceration**

Time: 10:30 AM - 12:10 PM

Room: Black Sea

Sponsors: Crime and Juvenile Delinquency, Disability, and Health, Health Policy, and Health Services

Organizer, Presider & Discussant: Art Jipson, University of Dayton

### **Session 163: Disability and Education**

Room: Bering

Sponsors: Disability Educational Problems

Organizer & Presider: Justine Egner, University of South Florida

Presider: Justine Egner, University of South Florida

# Congrats and Farewell!!

On behalf of the Disabilities Division we would like to welcome Dr. Deborah Little as the incoming co-chair of the Disabilities Division. Deborah is a longtime member of SSSP and we welcome her with great anticipation.

We also want to thank the outgoing co-chair Dr. Alexis Bender for her service. Alexis' leadership has been outstanding and we know that she will continue to serve and stay active with the Division! Thank you, Alexis!

## YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Disability Division Business Meeting  
Friday, August 21, 2014 from 12:30-2:10pm

We will discuss

- \* Division-sponsored sessions for the 2016 Annual Meeting
- \* Possibilities for co-sponsored sessions for the 2016 Annual Meeting
- \* Exploring Disability in Seattle for the 2016 Annual Meeting
- \* Future of the Disabilities Division

We hope to see you there!

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### Call For Papers

Sociology and Disability: What did we know and when did we know it?  
*Research in Social Science and Disability*, Volume 9. Edited by Sara Green and Sharon Barnartt

**Statements of Interest Due: April 30 2015.**

**Please Note: You should still submit statements of interest!**

This call for papers is seeking articles which review and evaluate literature in sociology which explicitly view disability through a non-medical, sociological lens.

Current research in Sociology of Disability and in Disability Studies has a tendency to assume that there was very little written in this area until the last 20 or so years. In part the lack of awareness of older writing occurs because of the ease of computerized searching for recent references or a sense that newer is better. It also reflects the assumption that Sociology as a field has ignored either disability as a social phenomenon or treated it solely as a medical phenomenon.

While it is true that theorists and introductory textbooks tended (and still tend) to ignore disability as a non-medical phenomenon and especially as a structured source of inequality, that does not mean that no attention was paid to disability in the earlier years of sociological thinking. Rather, interest in disability from a sociological point of view exists in the literature as early as the late 1800s, and some very profound articles were written in the mid- 20th century.

The purpose of this volume is to explore that literature, with an eye towards encouraging current scholars not to ask "the same old" questions but to be able to use the older writings as a basis for revolutionary as well as evolutionary thinking. What do the older writings tell us about what questions we should be asking, and what research we should be doing, today?

Papers may be framed in a variety of ways in order to address these questions. Papers could, focus on how specific sociological questions or concepts were applied to the general area of disability; sociological aspects of specific impairments; be based upon the work of a specific person; look at the sociological writing which appeared during a specific time period; and many more.

We are seeking expressions of interest and commitments to write a paper on an appropriate topic. The due date for us to receive such statements is **April 30, 2015**. This volume will be published at the **beginning of 2016**.

**Please send all communications to Sara Green ([sagreen@usf.edu](mailto:sagreen@usf.edu)) and Sharon Barnartt ([sharon.barnartt@gallaudet.edu](mailto:sharon.barnartt@gallaudet.edu)).**



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## **ISSUES IN HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE FOR SPECIAL GROUPS, SOCIAL FACTORS AND DISPARITIES**

Papers dealing with macro-level system issues and micro-level issues involving special groups, social factors and disparities linked to issues in health and health care are sought. This includes examination of health and health care issues of patients or of providers of care especially those related to special groups, social factors including education, family, income, government, or neighborhoods or social networks or health beliefs and attitudes. Papers that focus on linkages to policy, population concerns and either patients or providers of care as ways to meet health care needs of people both in the US and in other countries are solicited.

Volume 34

Papers sought For Research Annual, Research in the Sociology of Health Care published by Emerald Press

The volume will contain 10 to 14 papers, generally between 20 and 35 pages in length. Send completed manuscripts or close to completed papers for review by February 1, 2016. For an initial indication of interest in outlines or abstracts, please contact the same address no later than November 15, 2015. Earlier inquiries are welcome and will be responded to when sent (in the summer, for example). Send as an email to: Jennie Jacobs Kronenfeld, Sociology Program, Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics, Box 873701, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-3701 (phone 480 965-8053; E-mail, [Jennie.Kronenfeld@asu.edu](mailto:Jennie.Kronenfeld@asu.edu)). Initial inquiries by email are encouraged and can occur as soon as this announcement is available.



## Accessible Chicago

Below are a few transportation resources for getting around the city of Chicago:

### 1. Accessible Taxis

More than 20 taxi companies in Chicago currently operate wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVs) equipped with ramp, wheelchair securement and shoulder and lap belt. Open Taxis, the centralized dispatch service run by Open Doors Organization, is open 24/7 to take your reservation or to dispatch a WAV for immediate pickup. Call Open Taxis toll-free at 855.WAV.1010 (855.928.1010) or email [Dispatch1@opendoorsnfp.org](mailto:Dispatch1@opendoorsnfp.org).

### 2. Pace Paratransit

800-606-1282  
TTY 888-847-0093  
Fax 847-228-2329  
E-mail: [Passenger.Services@pacebus.com](mailto:Passenger.Services@pacebus.com)  
[www.pacebus.com/sub/paratransit/ADA\\_guide.asp](http://www.pacebus.com/sub/paratransit/ADA_guide.asp)

Registered paratransit riders who would like to extend their eligibility to Chicago while visiting must present documentation that they are ADA paratransit eligible for the jurisdiction in which they reside. ADA paratransit certification (with expiration date) and a photo ID should be sent to Pace to arrive at least 7 days before the first desired day of travel. Pace will then issue an RTA paratransit pass good for 21 days per 365-day period and provide a list of phone numbers for the various paratransit operators. Once certified, visitors can set up arrival and departure paratransit rides, if desired. Certification also allows visitors to use the Taxi Access Program.

### 4. CTA

For routes and trip planner information, go to:

[http://www.transitchicago.com/travel\\_information/trip\\_planner.aspx](http://www.transitchicago.com/travel_information/trip_planner.aspx)

### 3. Taxi Access Program (TAP)

800-606-1282  
TTY 888-847-0093  
[www.pacebus.com/pdf/paratransit/TAP\\_User\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.pacebus.com/pdf/paratransit/TAP_User_Guide.pdf)

The Taxi Access Program allows RTA certified paratransit customers to travel in taxis at reduced rates for trips within the City of Chicago. TAP Swipe Card trips, good for a one-way taxi ride valued up to \$13.50, may be purchased for \$5.00 each. Riders must pay the difference if the taxi meter exceeds \$13.50. Trips may be purchased online, by mail or in person at Chicago & LaSalle Currency Exchange, 777 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60610. Up to 30 trips may be purchased per week but only 4 used per day. An application form for a TAP Swipe Card is included at the website listed above

**Comments? Contributions?  
Please email the newsletter  
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