

# Disabilities Division

Society for the Study of Social Problems

## Statement from the Chair

Laura Lorenz

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope that the Spring semester is going well for you. Boston experienced an especially mild winter – a nice break from the mountains of snow last year!

I look forward to connecting and reconnecting with many of you in Denver for our annual meeting in mid-August. Program participants, please remember to pre-register by May 31<sup>st</sup> and send a copy of your papers to your session presider or discussant by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Consider participating in the conference walking tour (handicap accessible) of two Denver neighborhoods on Saturday afternoon, and the all day Institutional Ethnography Workshop on Sunday.

For the second year in a row, SSSP is accepting donations to support accessibility services at the annual conference. Consider making a donation when you pre-register.

March is Brain Injury Awareness Month – a topic close to my heart! This month especially, reach out to family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and students living with brain injury. For more information, check out <http://usodep.blogs.govdelivery.com/2012/03/16/march-is-brain-injury-awareness-month-2/>, and [www.brainline.org](http://www.brainline.org).

Again, 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.

## Expanding Economic Self-Sufficiency for People with Disabilities

Maine recently hosted an Asset Summit to create greater awareness of the options for economic self-sufficiency for people with disabilities. Panel members included representatives from One-Stop Career Centers, vocational rehabilitation, Bangor Savings Bank, Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community, Maine's Community Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Program, and Penquis CAP/CA\$H Coalition. A consumer also shared her experiences accessing many of these economic programs.

Through small group participation, attendees were able to identify opportunities for community collaboration, additional partners to call to the table, and outreach strategies. Watch the video and get in on the discussion!

<https://disability.workforce3one.org/page/tag/1001133536448617820>

### **HOT OFF THE PRESS!**

**NEW BOOK BY OUR VERY OWN VAL LEITER!**

*Their Time Has Come: Youth with Disabilities on the Cusp of Adulthood* published by Rutgers University Press. She will be doing an "author meets critics" session about the book at SSSP this year.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO VAL!**

## Apply to be a Fall 2012 White House Intern

We are reaching out to remind you that the application for the Fall 2012 program is now open. If you or anyone else you know is interested in the program, we encourage you to forward this information and apply by **April 1, 2012** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/internships/apply/application>

White House Interns have the chance to work with government officials in offices such as the Office of the First Lady, the Office of the Chief of Staff, the Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs, the National Economic Council and the Domestic Policy Council. Assignments vary dependent on an intern's office, but interns conduct research, attend meetings with officials, write memos and requests, participate in speaker series' with senior staff members, engage in service projects, and staff and plan events. By dedicating their time, talents, energy and service, interns become part of the White House team and work to improve the community and the nation.

For full details on the program, please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/internships>.

There you can find a detailed application process, a timeline with deadlines, and all the departments that participate in the program. A complete application includes: short answers, two essay questions, a one-page resume, and two letters of recommendation. Again, the deadline to apply for Fall 2012 is **April 1, 2012** so apply now and don't miss out on this incredible opportunity.

If you would like to be added to the White House Disability Group email list, please visit our website at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/disability-issues-contact> and fill out the "contact us" form in the disabilities section, or you can email us at [disability@who.eop.gov](mailto:disability@who.eop.gov) and provide your full name, city, state, and organization.

## Call for Nominations

**URGENT!** We seek a Disabilities Division co-chair to serve for 2012-2014. Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for this great opportunity for professional service. As co-chair, you will get connected with SSSP colleagues and leadership, and support the field of disabilities research, practice, and policy. Contact me with nominations or questions: [llorenz@brandeis.edu](mailto:llorenz@brandeis.edu). We seek at least two nominations, which must be complete and submitted by May 1.



### **First Journal Issue Alert! Canadian Journal of Disability Studies**

<http://cjds.uwaterloo.ca/index.php/cjds/issue/current>

This is a free, open-access journal devoted to cutting edge research in the field, from Canada and around the world.

Please have a look at this outstanding collection of articles, consider contributing your work to the journal in the future, and spread the word!

## Calls for Papers

### **Special Issue of Disability Studies Quarterly**

“Growing Disability Studies: Academic (Dis)Locations, (Anti)Disciplinary Positions, and Institutional Collaboration”

Guest Edited by Michelle Jarman and Alison Kafer

This special issue invites collaborative essays exploring the most promising, compelling and even transgressive ways of growing the field. We see this as a timely and important topic because while disability studies is expanding in terms of degree programs, courses, and general recognition, it is still located in isolated or marginalized spaces in many university settings. In *Cultural Locations of Disability*, Sharon Snyder and David Mitchell suggest that institutionalizing disability studies “comes fraught with difficulties in that the field situates itself as a force of destabilization” (192). Because disability studies has grown out of disability rights and activism, this destabilizing quality seems integral to the field itself. In this spirit, the editors welcome contributions that address historical, existing, and potential tensions between carving out institutional support and encouraging transgressive perspectives, methodologies, and research.

Please email a one-page proposal to Michelle Jarman ([mjarman@uwyo.edu](mailto:mjarman@uwyo.edu)) and Alison Kafer ([kafera@southwestern.edu](mailto:kafera@southwestern.edu)) by May 15, 2012. Finalists will be notified by June 25, 2012, and full manuscripts will be due on February 1, 2013.

**Hypatia: Journal of Feminist Philosophy:** Special Issue on New Conversations in Feminist Disability Studies, August 15, 2013 deadline, Edited by Kim Q. Hall

Seeking new work for a special issue on disability with the general theme of New Conversations in Feminist Disability Studies. In 2001 *Hypatia* published its first special issue on feminist philosophy and disability. Since that time, there has been a great deal of disability scholarship in feminist and queer theory. A new special issue provides the opportunity to consider interventions, innovations, and transformations in feminist theory occasioned by theories and concepts that animate feminist disability studies, disability studies, queer disability studies/crip theory.

Please submit your paper to manuscript central (Wiley-Blackwell)

website: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/hypa>.

Make sure to select “Disability” as your manuscript type, and also send an email to the guest editor, Kim Q. Hall: [hallki@appstate.edu](mailto:hallki@appstate.edu), indicating the title of the paper you have submitted.

## Calls for Papers

Call for papers: Special themed issue of Ethnicity and Inequalities in Health and Social Care: Disabled people, ethnicity and inequalities  
Guest editor: Stephen Hodgkins Deadline: end March 2012

This themed issue will take a unique user-led focus covering user perspectives and user-led organizations that are involved in social change activities and relating to multiple inequality issues of primarily ethnicity and disability. Papers will cover current outsider views, including the following:

- the experience of multiple inequalities
- theoretical perspectives
- personal 'leadership' histories
- involvement in user-led, disabled persons services.

Papers should be 3,000-4,000 words. Submissions should be made to the guest editor: Stephen Hodgkins at [stephen.hodgkins@disabilitylib.org.uk](mailto:stephen.hodgkins@disabilitylib.org.uk)

About the journal: Ethnicity and Inequalities in Health and Social Care promotes equality in health and social care. A key area of interest is the relationship between ethnicity and other forms of inequality often now referred to as intersectionality.

### White House Champions of Change: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) for people with disabilities

The White House Office of Public Engagement, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Education are partnering to highlight individuals doing great work to increase STEM opportunities in education and employment and we need your help in finding those Champions! Please submit nominations by midnight on April 7 by utilizing this form: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/webform/white-house-champions-change-science-technology-engineering-and-math-stem-people-disabilitie> If you'd like to learn more about the program, previous, Champions of Change, or nominate someone for a future event, you can visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/champions>

## 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](mailto:llorenz@brandeis.edu)

### VIDEO OF INTEREST

This video shows what happened when Carly, a girl with autism, started communicating using a computer:

<http://m.wimp.com/autisticgirl/>

SDS annual conference information!!

<http://disstudies.org/annual-conference/2012-conference/>

Have you published an article lately?

**LET US KNOW!**

## More Division Member Accomplishments

Michelle Maroto and David Pettinicchio will present a paper titled "**The Failure of Equal Rights Policy? Declining Economic Wellbeing of People with Disabilities**" at the ASA this year in Denver at a session on "Disability and Social Policy in Times of Fiscal Austerity."

David will also be presenting a working paper from his broader dissertation project at ASA titled "**Institutional Entrepreneurs and Social Movements: Explaining Disability Rights**" in a session called "Elites in Social Movements."

Good luck to David & Michelle!

**Daniel Morrison will join the faculty of Pepperdine University as Assistant Professor of Sociology this fall.**

Congratulations to Daniel!

Laura Lorenz's 2011 paper published in the journal *health: An Interdisciplinary Journal for the Social Study of Health, Illness and Medicine* has been selected for inclusion in a Sage visual methods series of volumes to be published in June. Here is the citation: Lorenz, L. S. (2012). A Way into Empathy: A 'Case' of Photo-Elicitation in Illness Research. In J. Hughes (Ed.), *SAGE Visual Methods*. London: SAGE Publications.

She also received the 2010 Best Workshop Award from the Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse (AMERSA) for "Talking with Pictures: Concepts and Hands-on Experience" at AMERSA's 2011 annual conference.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO LAURA!**