

IE NEWSLETTER

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

Fall 2015

Vol. 13, No. 1



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

- George W. Smith Paper Award Winner
- Call for Nominations
- Members' news, notes and publications
- IE session planning underway for Seattle

From the Division Chair *Naomi Nichols*

Greetings fellow IE scholars!

It is with excitement that I write to you from my new academic home at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. Many of you know that it's been a long journey for me to get here. I want to formally thank all those within our circle who have offered their critical thoughts, mentorship, and encouragement over the last number of years, and extend a sincere invitation to graduate students and recent grads to reach out to me with any questions or concerns they may have about their own transitions.

Because I was moving to Montreal in August, I wasn't able to attend this year's annual meeting, but I heard that it was engaging and thought-provoking. I was pleased to hear how people are grappling with notions of embodiment in their work and investigating the ruling relations of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality. I also heard good things about this year's workshop. There are too few places for people to share works-in-progress, questions arising from our own and others' work, and/or ideas we are struggling to articulate. The seminar-style format offers a space for academic risk-taking and the establishment of a collegial culture in our Division that is not always supported in academic environments. Thank you to Lauren for imagining how this workshop could be designed to facilitate thinking together.

The line-up for 2016 IE sole- and co-sponsored sessions looks dynamic. It offers broad sessions that invite new and innovative approaches to institutional ethnographic scholarship as well as a number of thematically-focused sessions that invite contributions from people studying education, disability, migration, activism, law, and health. I am particularly interested in a session that Marie Campbell is organizing, which seeks to name and understand the violence that people experience in institutional settings. I think we need to continue to ask ourselves how IE scholarship can be used to promote justice. The ISA meets next summer as well, and there are a number of excellent IE sessions that I look forward to attending and participating in. It is important for us to meet and exchange ideas with colleagues whose research may help us trace from our own local or national contexts into the broader global relations within which the local unfolds.

With this in mind, in mid-October, I head to Bodø, Norway to share my research with the Nordic Network on Institutional Ethnography. I am grateful for this opportunity to connect with people doing IE in a different social-political context than where my own research has taken place. Hopefully this will also be an opportunity to extend our SSSP IE Network.

I hope your fall brings you what you need to be inspired and grounded.
Naomi

2015 George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Award Winner

Lisa Watt, McMaster University

Paper Title: “The textual account of ‘quality’: Institutional technologies that coordinate the scheduling of community nursing for students with diabetes in Ontario schools”

Abstract: Using institutional ethnography, this paper explores the social organization of the scheduling of community nursing for students with diabetes in Ontario Schools. The entry points of inquiry are my experiences of having several different and differently qualified community nurses delivering care for my child with diabetes at school, and of being routinely drawn in myself to provide supplementary healthcare work. Exploration begins thus as problems arise in situations where 'inconsistent' community nursing care is being delivered. The exploration moves beyond the local setting of the school to the office of a community healthcare agency where service coordinators are working competently to ensure that each *nursing visit* is fulfilled by a community nurse. The paper shows how their scheduling work is coordinated extra-locally via the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC). In particular it brings into view how an institutional technology, the Client Health Related Information System (CHRIS), mediates the routine work of service coordinators in community healthcare agencies, and shapes the conditions for community nursing as well as the experience of students with diabetes and their families. Further, information gathered by CHRIS about *service offers* accepted and rejected by the agency, is taken up by the CCAC quality and financial officers to monitor, evaluate and determine the allocation of ‘market share’ to the agency. Managers at healthcare agencies are thus organized to accept service commitments for which they cannot always provide a consistent nurse – directly affecting the quality of nursing care and the daily lives of children and families who rely on this care

Call for nominations

DOROTHY E. SMITH AWARD FOR SCHOLAR-ACTIVISM

Deadline: 5/1/16

The **Institutional Ethnography Division** is pleased to solicit nominations for the 2016 Dorothy E. Smith Award for Scholar-Activism. This award recognizes the activities of an individual or group who has made substantial contributions to institutional ethnographic scholar-activism in either a single project or some longer trajectory of work. The contributions may involve IE research conducted and used for activist ends, or it may involve activist efforts that have drawn upon or contributed to IE scholarship. The award committee invites members of the division to send a one-page statement describing the contributions of the nominee to Mathew Strang matthew.strang@gmail.com, Suzanne Vaughan at svaughan@asu.edu and Hans Peter de Ruiter hans-peter.de-ruiter@mnsu.edu by May 1, 2016.

GEORGE W. SMITH GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Deadline: 1/31/16

The **Institutional Ethnography Division** solicits papers for its 2016 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 (2016) SSSP meetings. The winner of the 2016 paper will be invited to sit on the adjudicating panel for the 2016 paper submissions. Please note that any paper submitted for consideration for the George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Award must also be submitted for presentation at the 2016 meeting of the SSSP. Send submission to ALL of the following members of the 2016 review committee: Frank Ridzi: ridzifm@lemoyne.edu, Lauren Eastwood: eastwole@plattsburgh.edu, and Lisa Watt: wattlh@mcmaster.ca. Please be aware that a paper submission may only be made to one division.

Notes and news from members

Daniel Grace recently published an IE piece. The citation is: Criminalizing HIV transmission using model law: troubling best practice standardizations in the global HIV/AIDS response. *Critical Public Health*, (2015). 25(4): 441-454.

Debbie Dergousoff submitted her dissertation titled, *An Institutional Ethnography of Women Entrepreneurs and Post-Soviet Rural Economies in Kyrgyzstan* to Central Asian Dissertation Reviews and received a considerable endorsement from the reviewer, Madeleine Reeves. The review is published at: <http://dissertationreviews.org/archives/11822>. Debbie defended her dissertation at Simon Fraser University, Department of Sociology and Anthropology in January 2014. SSSP member Ann Travers was her supervisor, and Dorothy Smith was on her committee.

Marj DeVault has retired from her position at Syracuse University, but she looks forward to staying active in the IE community. In October, she led an afternoon workshop on institutional ethnography at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA, in Fort Lauderdale, FL. She is now living in Brewster, MA and can still be reached at mdevault@syr.edu.

Welcome to new members

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

Jessica Borja
Cyndi Cook
Andy Dang

Sarah Dick
Linda Moss
Olga Trujillo

Institutional Ethnography Newsletter Position Opening

With Cheryl Zurawski's departure as the *IE Newsletter's* capable Correspondence and Copy Editor, Gina Petonito, the sitting Picture and Productions Editor, agreed to assume that post. As a result, the IE Newsletter has an opening for a new Picture and Productions Editor. The Picture and Productions Editor is primarily responsible for the layout of the newsletter. If you would like to serve the division in this capacity and you would like the scoop on the latest in IE news, please contact Gina Petonito at petonig@miamioh.edu.

Thanks to Cheryl for her service and a job well done!

Chicago 2015 Meeting Moments

Members of the Institutional Ethnography Division took a few moments to pose for photos.



Back Row (l to r): Janet Rankin (University of Calgary, Qatar), Lauren Eastwood (SUNY College at Plattsburgh), Daniel Grace (University of Toronto)
Front Row (l to r): Frank Ridzi (LeMoyne College), LaNysha Adams (University of New Mexico), Dorothy Smith (University of Victoria) and Maureen Sanders Brunner (Ball State University)



LaNysha Adams (University of New Mexico), Maureen Sanders Brunner (Ball State University), Marie Campbell (University of Victoria)

Confirmed Institutional Ethnography sessions at the SSSP 2016 Annual Meeting August 19-21, Seattle, Washington



Please consider sending your work to one of the below sessions. The deadline for submitting an extended abstract is Jan. 31, 2016. You must submit to the SSSP portal at: <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/655/fuseaction/ssspsession2.publicView>

1. Ethnographies in Education (Paper session co-sponsored with Educational Problems Division)
Organizer: Mollie Davis, Drexel University, mad432@drexel.edu

2. Methodological Innovations in Institutional Ethnographic Research
Division Sponsor: IE Division
Organizer: LaNysha Adams, lanysha@gmail.com

3. New Research in IE (Paper session with room for the grad student paper winner)
Organizers: Liza McCoy, University of Calgary, mccoy@ucalgary.ca
and Suzanne Vaughan, Arizona State University, suzanne.vaughan@asu.edu

4. “Connecting the Dots” in institutional ethnographic research (Critical Dialogue) (possible thematic session)
Organizers: Janet Rankin, University of Calgary in Qatar, jmrankin@ucalgary.edu.qa
and Lauren Eastwood, SUNY College at Plattsburg, lauren.eastwood@plattsburgh.edu

5. Scholarship Grounded in the Community- Scholarship, Activism and Community Research (Critical dialogue)
Organizer: Frank Ridzi, Lemoyne College, ridzifm@lemoyne.edu
Co-sponsored with Community research and development

6. Law, Policy and Institutional Ethnography in Local and Global Contexts (Paper session co-sponsored with Law and Society Division)
Co-Organizers: Naomi Nichols, McGill University, naomi.nichols@mcgill.ca
and Jay Borchert, University of Michigan, borjay@umich.edu

7. Wielding Wellness? The social organization of health and bodies (Paper session co-sponsored with Sport, Leisure and the Body Division)
Organizer: Matthew Strang, York University, matthew.strang@gmail.com

8. Exploring Disability Using Institutional Ethnography (Paper session co-sponsored with Disability)
Organizer: Marj DeVault, Syracuse University, mdevault@maxwell.syr.edu

9. Institutional Violence: a global problem in the 21st century (thematic) (Paper session co-sponsored with Social Problems Theory Division)
Organizer: Marie Campbell, University of Victoria, mariecam@uvic.ca

10. Interrogating Race, Ethnicity and Migration Using Institutional Ethnography (Thematic) (Critical dialogue session co-sponsored with Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division)
Organizer: Sarah Faude, Northeastern University, s.faude@neu.edu