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IE Newsletter

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

From the Division Chair: Nicola Waters

Hello IE people!

I hope 2018 has started well for you. As we continue to dig out from a record-breaking long, cold, and snowy winter here in Western Canada it has been a welcome distraction to help in planning the exciting line up of IE-related sessions for the upcoming SSSP meeting in Philadelphia. The abolitionist theme for this year's August conference has provided some great inspiration for established and novice IE researchers to showcase their work. A huge thank you to all who have been involved in organizing the sessions. Don't forget to check the full program for details of all the great papers and dialogues that will be shared.

The IE workshop (Monday August 13th) will again be a highlight of my SSSP experience. We are continuing the activist theme into the workshop and are also interested in hearing from members about any topics or areas of interest. Please email me your thoughts and we will do our best to include your ideas in this or future workshops.

Probably the best part of my role as division chair is the opportunity to hear about IE projects taking place around the world. I am continually inspired to hear how Dorothy Smith's work is being taken up in all corners of the globe and grateful for the chance to foster connections between like-minded students and academics. If you are currently working on a project and would like to get the word out please consider submitting a summary for the next newsletter.

Take care and see you in Philly!

Nicola

Call for Nominations: Dorothy E. Smith Award for Scholar Activism

Deadline: May 1, 2018

The [Institutional Ethnography Division](#) of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) is pleased to solicit nominations for the 2018 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 name and/or a one-page statement describing the contributions of the nominee to:

Naomi Nichols at naomi.nichols@mcgill.ca

Matthew Strang at matthew.strang@gmail.com

Alison Fisher at Alison.Fisher@edu.yorku.ca

Members News and Notes

Janet Rankin has two recent publications.

Rankin, J. (2017). Conducting Analysis in Institutional Ethnography: Analytical Work Prior to Commencing Data Collection. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 16(1), 1609406917734484. <https://prism.ucalgary.ca/handle/1880/106209>

Rankin, J. (2017). Conducting Analysis in Institutional Ethnography: Guidance and Cautions. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 16(1), 1609406917734472. <https://prism.ucalgary.ca/handle/1880/106208>

Janet also a co-authored publication with a former student **Olive Fast**

Fast, O. and **Rankin, J.M.** (in press) Rationing nurses: Realities, practicalities, and nursing leadership theories. *Nursing Inquiry*.

Susan Maret has one new publication. She uses IE as a platform to examine declassified records of the Psychological Strategy Board and the Central Intelligence Agency. She also states that IE members might be interested in the entire issue:
<http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/secretcyandsociety/>

Maret, S. (2018). Murky Projects and Uneven Information Policies: A Case Study of the Psychological Strategy Board and CIA. *Secrecy and Society* 1(2).
<http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/secretcyandsociety/vol1/iss2/6/>

Nicole Dalmer has one new publication:

Dalmer, N.K., Stooke, R. and McKenzie, P. (2017). Institutional Ethnography: A Sociology for Librarianship. *Library and Information Research* 41 (125).

Welcome New Members

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

Erin DeMuynck
Rutledge Dennis
Grainne P. Kearney

IE Workshop in Edmonton

MacEwan University in Edmonton, Alberta hosted Dorothy Smith for a public lecture on March 21 on The Politics and Practice of Feminist Research: A Sociology for the People

The event also included two Institutional Ethnography workshops. The morning session, involved an in-depth discussion of IE with Dorothy Smith. Participants had the opportunity to discuss theory, methodologies and methods, textual analysis, data collection and analyses used in Institutional Ethnography.

The afternoon session included a round table discussion where participants made brief presentations of their work. Dorothy and other participants discussed their work and made suggestions for next steps. This session was useful to individuals who are using IE in their research or interested in how they might use IE to think about and do their research differently. The session provided an opportunity to for novice researchers to gain valuable insight into the research process.



SSSP in Philadelphia



The following are some of the exciting sessions planned for the Philadelphia meetings

Critical Dialogue: Construction of Victims and Victimization

Sponsors: Crime and Juvenile Delinquency and Institutional Ethnography
Organizers: Karen G. Weiss and Colin Hastings

Critical Dialogue: Race, Colonialization and Decolonialization

Sponsors: Global, Institutional Ethnography and Race and Ethnic Minorities
Organizer: Henry Parada

Work Processes and Emotional Labor in Health Care

Sponsors: Health, Health Policy and Health Services and Institutional Ethnography
Organizers: Oyman Basaran and Cathy Ringham

New Directions in Institutional Ethnography

Sponsor: Institutional Ethnography
Organizer: Lauren Eastman

Critical Dialogue: Profiling George Smith's Work and Institutional Ethnography Activism

Sponsor: Institutional Ethnography
Organizer: Colin Hastings

Critical Dialogue: Methodological Conversations in Institutional Ethnography: Making the Visible the Invisible

Sponsor: Institutional Ethnography
Organizers: Naomi Nichols and Jayne Malenfant

Invisible Work as Part of the Job

Sponsors: Institutional Ethnography and Labor Studies
Organizers: Alison Fisher and Noreen M. Sugrue

Critical Dialogue: Social Organization of Knowledge

Sponsors: Institutional Ethnography and Teaching Social Problems
Organizer: Marie L. Campbell



Spotlight on the Institutional Ethnography Workshop

Date: August 13

Place: Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel

Time: 9:30am-4:00pm

The Institutional Ethnography Division is hosting an interactive workshop for all people who use or are interested in deepening their engagement with the alternative sociology, institutional ethnography (IE). This year, aligned with the conference theme (*Abolitionist Approaches to Social Problems*) and as a commitment to IE's roots in feminist and community organizing, the workshop offers structured opportunities to engage applications of IE by activists and community organizers, as well as academics.

Praxis International, founded by the late Dr. Ellen Pence, will open this year's workshop to discuss the vision and impact of Institutional Analysis (IA). The IA is a practical process of analyzing institutions that develops an agenda for change to guide the reform of institutional processes that don't work well for the people they're intended to serve. Applied initially, and extensively, to the criminal case processing of domestic violence, IA is increasingly sought by activists for systems change in the areas of child protection and welfare, criminal case processing of sexual assault, reduction of disparity of impact and outcomes for marginalized populations, and more. This opening plenary will provide an opportunity to learn about IA's roots in IE, its evolution as a tool for activists and practitioners to come together to identify and change problematic institutional practices, and successes and challenges in several recent IA projects seeking to make change in local communities.