



Volume 15 | No. 1
Fall, 2017

IE Newsletter

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

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From the Division Chair: Nicola Waters

Hello fellow IEers,

Firstly, thanks for voting me in as the new chair of the IE division 2017-19! I have been a division member since 2010 (I think!) and am always impressed by the unique ways this group comes together to encourage and support individuals with wide-ranging levels of IE experience, diverse disciplinary and research interests and varied geographical locations. A huge personal thank you to outgoing chair Naomi Nichols for all your hard work and for your ongoing mentoring as I find my way. My term as chair started with a hectic few days at conference in Montreal already planning for next year's meeting in Philadelphia. The activist theme of the 2018 event has generated some exciting session titles that I hope will inspire many of you to attend and present your work.

For those who do not know me, I am an Associate Professor in the School of Nursing at Thompson River University in Kamloops, BC, Canada. My background is as a registered nurse with a specialty in wound healing. My IE interests focus on the work of health care professionals and patients at the frontline of today's health care systems. I have just returned from a visit to the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) where I was invited to speak on my IE research in the Faculty of Medicine. It was certainly an interesting time to visit this beautiful city and to discuss social and ruling relations with people whose way of life is being organized so profoundly by extra-local political agendas.

Over the next two years I am committed to promoting networking between members. If you have any great ideas about better ways to collaborate about the opportunities and challenges of conducting and disseminating IE research, please feel free to email. I look forward to connecting and working with each of you.

Take care,

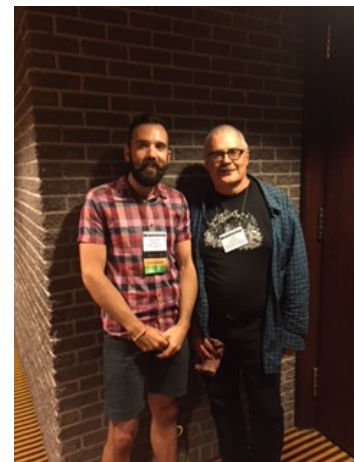
Nicola Waters

Remembering Montreal

Dorothy E. Smith Scholar Activist Award Winner

This year's winner of the Dorothy E. Smith Scholar Activist Award is **Dr. Gary Kinsman**, Professor Emeritus from Laurentian University and a long-time scholar activist.

Gary Kinsman (pictured right) is a queer liberation, anti-poverty, anti-racist and anti-capitalist activist living on Indigenous land. He studied with Dorothy Smith at OISE/Uof T and worked with George Smith in the Right to Privacy Committee, the Canadian Committee Against Customs Censorship, and in AIDS ACTION NOW! He is currently a member of the AIDS Activist History Project and the We Demand an Apology Network. He is the author of *The Regulation of Desire: Homo and Hetero Sexualities*, co-author of *The Canadian War on Queers: National Security as Sexual Regulation*, and co-editor of *Sociology for Changing the World* and, most recently, of *We Still Demand! Redefining Resistance in Sex and Gender Struggles*. He is a professor emeritus in the Sociology Department at Laurentian University, Sudbury. His website is radicalnoise.ca



Here is an excerpt from Gary's nomination letter, by his nominator Eric Mykhalovskiy: "Gary was among the group of students who worked with Dorothy Smith during her early years at the Ontario Institute of Studies in Education. While many students who worked with Dorothy came to identify themselves as "institutional ethnographers", Gary oriented to Dorothy's work in a slightly different way. Gary drew on Smith's interpretation of Marx's approach to ideology and her ideas about the social organization of knowledge and ruling relations to fashion historically-informed analyses of the regulation of LGBTQ sexualities.

Gary is perhaps best known within IE circles for his co-edited collection *Sociology for Changing the World*. The book grew out of a conference he organized that was focused on political activist ethnography and is a tribute to the scholarly and activist work of George Smith. The collection is unique for how it combines scholarly and activist voices in the collective project of considering how political activist ethnography, broadly conceived, can contribute to progressive social transformation. Gary's longstanding commitment to forging collaboration between social movement activists and academics is further demonstrated by two of his most recent projects. The first is the online archive of Canadian HIV activism—the AIDS Activist History Project—an initiative funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada that Gary developed with his colleague Alexis Shotwell. The second is his co-edited collection *We Still Demand*, which brings together contributions on Canadian sex and gender activism from the 1970s to the present.

Gary has been an inspiration to generations of students and scholars looking for examples of a productive, important and meaningful scholarly-activist life. Throughout his career, he has traversed the boundaries between the halls of academe and sites of

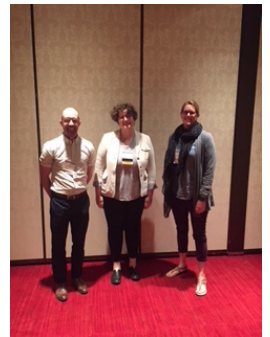
social movement activism with incredible ease. He has been crucially involved, as an activist, in LGBTQ, trade union, anti-racist, student, HIV/AIDS and other movement politics, while also making an indelible contribution to national and international scholarship in queer history. Subtending all this work is Gary's unwavering commitment to using knowledge about how the world is put together to contribute to progressive social change."

Congratulations Gary!

George W. Smith Student Paper Award Winner

This year's winner of the George W. Smith Student Paper Award is Nicole Dalmer (pictured center) is a doctoral student at the University of Western Ontario. The title of the paper she delivered in Montreal is: Ruling Texts Intersect: An Institutional Ethnographic Scoping Review and Policy Analysis of Family Caregivers' Information Work.

Congratulations Nicole!



Call for IE Division Awards

George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Competition

Deadline January 31, 2018

The **Institutional Ethnography Division** solicits papers for its 2018 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 2018 SSSP meetings. The winner of the 2018 paper will be invited to sit on the adjudicating panel for the 2019 paper submissions. Please note that any paper submitted for consideration for the George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Award must also be submitted to be presented at the 2018 meeting of the SSSP.

Send submission to **ALL** of the following members of the 2018 review committee:

Nicole Dalmer: ndalmer@uwo.ca
Lauren Eastwood: eastwole@plattsburgh.edu
Jayne Malenfant: jayne.malenfant@mail.mcgill.ca

Please be aware that a paper submission may only be submitted to one Division.

Dorothy E. Smith Award for Scholar Activism

Deadline: May 1, 2018

The 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 either *send nominee suggestions* and/or send a one-page statement describing the contributions of the nominee by May 1st, 2018 to:

Naomi Nichols: naomi.nichols@mcgill.ca
Matthew Strang: matthew.strang@gmail.com
Alison Fisher: Alison.Fisher@edu.yorku.ca .

Members News and Notes

Naomi Nichols recently published three papers:

(2016). Investigating the social relations of human service provision: Institutional ethnography and activism, *Journal of Comparative Social Work* 11 (1), ISSN: 0809-9936 (Online).

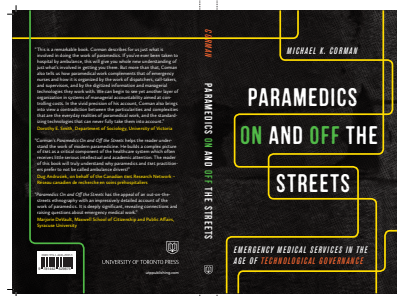
(2017). Technologies of evidence: An institutional ethnography from the standpoints of 'youth-at-risk,' *Critical Social Policy* 37(4):604-624. DOI: 10.1177/0261018317690664

(2017). Youth 'out of sync:' Revealing the intersectional social relations of educational inequality. *Journal of Youth Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/13676261.2017.1344773

Michael K. Corman's new book, *Paramedics On and Off the Streets*, was published by University of Toronto Press (2017).

From Amazon: Corman's comprehensive research includes more than 200 hours of participant observation ride-alongs with paramedics over a period of eleven months, more than one hundred first hand interviews with paramedics, and thirty-six interviews with other emergency medical personnel including administrators, call-takers and dispatchers, nurses, and doctors. At the heart of this ethnography are questions about the role of paramedics in urban environments, the role of information and communication technologies in contemporary health care governance, and the organization and accountability of pre-hospital medical services. *Paramedics On and Off the Streets* is the first institutional ethnography to explore the role and increasing importance of paramedics in our healthcare system. It takes readers on a journey into

the everyday lives of EMS personnel and provides an in-depth sociological analysis of the work of pre-hospital health care professionals in the twenty-first century.



Welcome New Members

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

Arlynn R. Brodie
Lisa Covington
Rachel S. Edens
Laura Obernesser
Natalie Stake-Doucet

IE Papers Published in 2017

A regular feature of the Fall *IE Newsletter* is to compile a list of recent publications involving IE for our members. If you know of any papers, articles or books that you would like to see posted here in future issues, please contact Gina Petonito at petonig@miamioh.edu.

Malachowski, C.K., K. Boydell, P. Sawchuk and B. Kirsh (2016). The “work” of workplace mental health: An institutional ethnography. *Society and Mental Health* 6(3):207-222. DOI: 10.1177/2156869316642265

Miley, Michelle (2017). Looking up: Mapping writing center work through institutional ethnography. *The Writing Center Journal* 36(1):103-129.
<http://www.jstor.org.proxy.lib.miamioh.edu/stable/44252639>

Ng, Stella L., Laura Bisailon and Fiona Webster (2017). Blurring the boundaries: Using institutional ethnography to inquire into health professions education and practice. *Medical Education* 51: 51-60. DOI: 10.1111/medu.13050

Øydgard, Guro Wisth (2017). The influence of institutional discourses on the work of informal carers: An institutional ethnography from the perspective of informal carers. *BMC Health Services Research* 17: 631. DOI: 10.1186/s12913-017-2591-7

Rudrum, Sarah (2016). Institutional ethnography research in Global South settings: The role of texts. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods* January-December 2016:1-8. DOI: 10.1177/1609406916637088

Future SSSP Meetings

68th Annual Meeting

Program Theme: Abolitionist Approach to Social Problems

August 10-12, 2018

Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel

Philadelphia, PA

69th Annual Meeting

Program Theme: TBD

August 9-11, 2019

Roosevelt Hotel

New York City, NY

70th Annual Meeting

Program Theme: TBD

August 14-16, 2020

Park Central Hotel

San Francisco, CA