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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 division members,

I just did a quick check and it is less than 4 months till the SSSP conference in August. On one hand, I'm excited that this officially means I may get to enjoy some warm Western Canadian weather soon! On the other it reminds me that another academic year has just flown by!

This year's conference theme **illuminating the SOCIAL in Social Problems** could have been created just for the IE division and it promises to be an engaging one. We received many abstract submissions and our division will be hosting several sessions some stand-alone and some co-sponsored with other divisions (included in this newsletter). You are also invited to join us at the co-hosted division reception and the IE business meeting. The meeting is an opportunity to learn more about the division and to get more involved. It is also where I will be handing over to LaNysha Adams, 2019-2021 chair elect. Welcome on board LaNysha!

We will also be hosting a day-long workshop following the meetings. Highlights of this year's workshop include guest speakers from Praxis International and small group discussions of projects in progress (more on this below).

One of the main questions I get asked as division chair is how and where people connect can to discuss IE. We are still working on better ways to boost communication between division members. Due to spam email regulations, we can only contact you directly with updates if you are a current member of the IE division of SSSP. So, we strongly encourage you join or renew.

For those who have not yet found us you are also welcome to join our flourishing Facebook page where members seek advice, share successes and generally keep us informed of all things IE. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/studentsofinstitutionalethnography/>

If social media is not your thing (or if it is!) perhaps we can interest you in sharing your work at the post conference IE workshop in New York. It has become somewhat of a tradition at these events for us to informally solicit work in progress from attendees for our small group sessions. Please consider submitting a chapter, proposal or manuscript you are working on (max 30 pages) and a small group of IE scholars will read and discuss your work with you. All levels of experience welcome to join in this unique opportunity to learn from each other in a no-pressure setting. Please send submissions to clringha@ucalgary.ca. I'm not going to add a deadline (I promised no pressure!) but the sooner you get it in the more chance there is that yours will be selected!

Look forward to connecting with you soon,

Warm regards,

Nicola Waters, IE Division Chair

George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Competition Announced

Hot off the press! We are pleased to announce that Sarah Lewington is this year's recipient of the George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Competition. Sarah will be presenting her paper entitled "Institutional Ethnography and Critical Race Feminism: Unlocking Institutional Policy" at the SSSP conference in New York. Congratulations Sarah and we look forward to hearing more about your work.

Two IE Workshops

Drs. Dorothy Smith and Susan Marie Turner are offering May IE workshops in Toronto (OISE/UT). Please register early as these workshops fill quickly. There are only a couple of spots left in the week.

1. 2-Day Working with Institutional Ethnography Workshop (Limit 8)

Date: May 6 and 7, 2019

Time: 9:30-5:00

Cost: \$450 CDN

The 2-Day Workshop translates the formulation of Institutional Ethnography (IE) as a method of inquiry and its approach to language and texts into a research practice for you to use and to know how to explain and justify it to others. The key to doing Institutional Ethnography is grasping its distinct social ontology, central concepts and forms of inquiry and description that make IE fundamentally a distinct sociology, and putting them to work. Understanding language and texts as integral to forms of social organization and how IE addresses these in its ethnographic practice, is central. The workshop will be of interest to those wanting to clarify their understanding of IE, and to learn and practice various analytic strategies for incorporating texts.

Monday will include presentations by Dorothy and Susan on IE and its range of practice followed by discussions of topics to concern to IEers as well as topics of concern to you.

Preparation

We will ask you to do some reading prior to arriving. Dorothy and Susan will be in touch with registrants prior to the weekend with detailed descriptions and information

2. IE Intensive Working Week (Limit 6)

Date: May 8 Through May 10, 2019

Time: 9:30 - 5:00

COST: \$675 CDN

The Intensive offers participants the opportunity to work closely with Dorothy and Susan and with co-participants on your own project. It is a practical working intensive, running daily from 9:30-5:00. Activities comprise group meetings, individual consultations with Dorothy and Susan about your own work, informal conversations and daily discussion sessions.

The 3-Day Working Intensive focuses on the specifics of the application of Institutional Ethnography to participants' projects. You can talk about issues, problems, and discoveries in your own project work, in conversation with others think through how to proceed, and discuss your own and the group's in-common questions on IE methods and any issues about Institutional Ethnography that have arisen in relation to your project as it is developing.

Preparation

Participants must have attended a weekend workshop OR have adequate experience with Institutional Ethnography (contact Susan at turnersusanm@gmail.com). Bring your laptop as you are provided co-working space where you can settle down to work.

In advance, you will be asked to write a short informal email to Dorothy and Susan, saying something about what you plan to be working on during the week. This may emerge for you in the 2-Day Workshop May 6-7 if you decide to attend both the 2-Day and the 3-Day.

Location for both workshops:

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto
252 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 1V6
6th Floor, Faculty of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education

This workshop has prerequisites and requires an application:

1. A previous Workshop taken with Dorothy and Susan or IE experience and preparation and approval of the instructors.
2. A brief description (1page maximum) of your work and what you plan to work on during the week to both Dorothy and Susan. Please do not send proposals, dissertation outlines, literature or published articles. Thank you.

Registrations for both workshops will be taken with full payment by e-transfer OR cheque and must be received by APRIL 26TH.

If you have questions, please email Susan at turnersusanm@gmail.com.

Members News and Notes

Eric Mykhalovskiy and Viviane Namaste, co-edited a volume *Thinking Differently about HIV/AIDS: Contributions from Critical Social Science*, (2019) UBC Press.

There are three chapters that engage directly with IE:

Daniel Grace--Institutional ethnography as a critical research strategy: Access, engagement, and implications for HIV/AIDS research

Mark Gaspar--Undetectable optimism: The science of gay male sexual risk-taking and serosorting in the context of uncertain knowledge of viral load

Colin Hastings--The social relations of disclosure: Critical reflections on the community-based response to HIV criminalization

The link and relevant info is: <http://www.ubcpress.ca/thinking-differently-about-hiv aids>

Suzanne Vaughn recommends Swedish scholar Maria Norstedt's IE work on "invisible disabilities" recently available in English. You can find it here:

<https://www.sjdr.se/articles/10.16993/sjdr.550/>

Agnieszka Doll and **Kevin Walby** published "Institutional ethnography as a method of inquiry for criminal justice and socio-legal studies" in *The International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy*, Vol 8, (2019) 147-160. <https://doi.org/10.5204/ijcjsd.v8i1.1051>

Nicole Dalmer has two new publications. The first, published in 2019 is: “A logic of choice: Problematizing the documentary reality of Canadian aging in place policies,” *Journal of Aging Studies*, 48, 40-49. The second published in 2018 is: “‘Add info and stir’: an institutional ethnographic scoping review of family care-givers’ information work,” *Ageing & Society*, 1-27.

Welcome New Members

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

Joanne Azevedo
 Andrew Robert Burns
 Alexa Rae Ferdinands
 Emily R. Haire
 Leslie E. MacColman

Shannon Morrissey
 Órla Meadhbh Murray
 Aron Lee Rosenberg
 Hagit Sinai-Glazer
 Seren Wendelken

IE Doctoral Defense

Nicole Dalmer defended her PhD thesis in 2018. It is titled: Informing care: Mapping the social organization of families’ information work in an aging in place climate. The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada. Her IE advisor was Roz Stooke. The thesis is available online at: <https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/etd/5948/>

IE at Congress 2019

Deborah Dergousoff from the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Simon Fraser University organized a roundtable at **Congress 2019**, to be held at the University of British Columbia, June 4-7, 2019. This event is with the Society for Socialist Studies co-sponsored with the Canadian Sociological Association. The Session title is: A Conversation about Accountability Circuits in IE.

Panelists:

Dr. Dorothy Smith
 Dr. Agnieszka Doll, Post Doctoral Research Fellow, Faculty of Law, McGill University
 Dr. Nicola Waters, School of Nursing, Thompson Rivers University
 Dr. Charlotte Ross, Dept. of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University
 Katie Wagner, MA Sociology

For more information please contact Deborah Dergousoff at: ddergous@sfu.ca

IE Sessions at SSSP in New York



THEMATIC

Session: Critical Dialogue: Community-Based Ethnographies

Sponsors: Community Research and Development; Institutional Ethnography; Social Problems Theory

Organizer & Facilitator: Colin Hastings, York University

Papers:

“‘Lock This Whore Up’: Information Converging to Circumscribe and Incapacitate Threats to Public Safety in the Canadian Context of HIV Criminalisation,” Alexander McClelland, Concordia University

“Ethnographies of Activism and Political Activist Ethnography: Tools for Community-based Research,” Devin Clancy, York University

“Gardening and Education for Social Ills,” Mitchell McLarnon-Silk, McGill University

“Institutional Ethnographies of and in Community-based Research,” Naomi Nichols, McGill University and Shivaani Selvaraj, Penn State University

“Institutional Ethnography as a Framework for Community-based Indigenous Research,” Annelies E. Cooper, York University

“Relationships and Power: Building an Ethical Framework for Research with and as the Homelessness ‘Community’,” Jayne Malenfant, McGill University and Charlotte Smith, Carleton University

“The Hidden Power Structures of America’s Largest Trade Gateway,” Emily H.A. Yen, Trinity College

“Volunteer Work as Moral and Emotional Labour among Newcomer Mothers in Canada,” Camilla Nordberg, University of Helsinki

Session: Health Work and Institutional Ethnography

Sponsors: Conflict, Social Action, and Change, Institutional Ethnography

Organizer & Presider: Matthew JP Strang, York University

Papers:

“Donorwork: The Health Work Living Organ Donors Do,” Matthew JP Strang, York University

“Mapping Care: Tracing Families’ Information Work in Dementia Care,” Nicole K. Dalmer, Trent University

“Rare Patient Healthwork in British Columbia,” Manda Ann Roddick, University of Victoria

“The Business of Managing Nurses’ Recovery from Substance Use Problems: An Institutional Ethnography,” Charlotte A. Ross, Simon Fraser University, Sonya L. Jakubec, Mount Royal University, Nicole S. Berry, Simon Fraser University and Victoria Smye, Western University

“Using Electronic Health Record Data to Achieve Quality: How Measuring Quality

Reorganizes Care Delivery,” Rosalie Winslow, University of California, San Francisco

Session: Disability and Labor

Sponsors: Disability; Institutional Ethnography; Labor Studies

Organizers: Jennifer D. Brooks, Syracuse University; Doron Dorfman, Stanford University; Alison Fisher, York University

Presider & Discussant: Jennifer D. Brooks, Syracuse University

Description:

The relationship between disability and labor is complex and multidimensional. Disability can be viewed as both a discursive category, and as a social relation that is actively organized and coordinated through relations of power, similar to race, class, and gender. Thus, disability, as a social category, shapes how individuals both produce and consume labor. Structural and individual-level barriers to the labor market participation of individuals with disabilities have led to their dramatic unemployment/underemployment rates. This lack of participation in the labor market has simultaneously resulted in and maintained the belief that individuals with disabilities are ‘unfit’ labor producers--furthering their occupational and social segregation. People with disabilities also rely on the labor produced by others (such as caregivers, personal assistants, family members, surrogate mothers, friends, partners, and others) to fully participate in social life. This type of labor is often unpaid and goes unrecognized. To examine the relationship between disability and labor, this session will cover a wide range of topics including: the exploration of structural and individual-level barriers to labor market/economic participation, intersectionality, dilemmas related to consumption of labor, the unpaid/unrecognized nature of care work, workplace experiences (both of people with disabilities as employers and as employees), and how policies and texts* shape the experiences of people with disabilities as both labor producers and consumers.

*We define text as both discourses (in the Foucauldian sense) and various other texts (collective agreements, codes of ethics, even mundane “texts,” such as bus schedules, computer interfaces, etc.).

Papers:

“Disabled and Poor in the Bay Area: How SSI and SSDI Beneficiaries Work around and within Current Labor Incentive Programs,” Katie Savin, University of California, Berkeley

“Micro and Macro Aspects of Disability and the Ethics In-between: Differential ‘Disabling’ Experiences Associated with Information and Communication Technology, and Political Economic Dimensions of Persons with Disabilities,” Dilshan L. Fernando, Clemson University

“Public Disability Benefits as Harm Reduction: Income as Part of Complex Care Management,” Ariana Thompson-Lastad, University of California, San Francisco, Mark D. Fleming, University of California, Berkeley and University of California, San Francisco, Meredith Van Natta and Sara Rubin, University of California, San Francisco,

Irene H. Yen, University of California, Merced and University of California, San Francisco, Janet K. Shim, University of California, San Francisco and Nancy J. Burke, University of California, Merced and University of California, San Francisco

“Self-determination in Transportation: The Route to Social Inclusion for People with Disabilities,” Jessica A. Murray, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Session: Sexual Politics, Abortion, and Health

Sponsors: Health, Health Policy, and Health Services, Institutional Ethnography

Organizers: Jayne Malenfant, McGill University; Emily Allen Paine, The University of Texas at Austin

Presider: Emily Allen Paine, The University of Texas at Austin

Papers:

“Choice and Freedom: Comparing the Messaging of Abortion Funds and Crisis Pregnancy Centers,”
Melanie Turner, Georgia State University

“Managing Abortion-related Emotions: A Feminist Perspective,” Derek P. Siegel, University of
Massachusetts Amherst

“Roe v. Religion,” Toby Lauren Wagner Klein, Brandon L. Crawford and Kristen N. Jozkowski,
University of Arkansas

“Roe v. Wade Knowledge and Beliefs among Latinx US Adults: Examining the Influence of Generation
and Language,” Alejandra M. Kaplan, Brandon L. Crawford, Danny Valdez and Kristen N.
Jozkowski, University of Arkansas

Thematic Session: Critical Dialogue: Writing the Social

Sponsor: Institutional Ethnography

Organizer & Presider: Naomi Nichols, McGill University

Papers:

“Anarchy in the I.E.,” Jayne Malenfant, McGill University

“Challenging Epistemological Privilege: Feminist Reflexivity and Accountability in Text-focused
Institutional Ethnography,” Órla Meadhbh Murray, University of Edinburgh

“Investigating Curricula as Components of Social Organization,” Shivaani Selvaraj, Penn State University

“Social Media as Theory: An Accessible Collaborative Form of Theory Production,” Penny Harvey,
Georgia State University

“Textually-mediated Helping Relationship in Social Work,” Hagit Sinai-Glazer, McGill University

“The Discursive Organization in Children’s Social Services of Mothers with ‘Trauma’,” Erika Ono,
University of British Columbia

“Transformation of Fathering in Contemporary Taiwan: Gender, Class and Social Policy,” Wen-hui Anna
Tang, National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan

“Writing on Agency and Precariousness: The Case of Domestic Violence in Parc Extension,” Emanuel
Guay, Université du Québec à Montréal

THEMATIC

Session: Illuminating the Social Through Institutional Ethnography

Sponsor: Institutional Ethnography

Organizer & Presider: Marjorie DeVault, Syracuse University

Papers:

“Materialist Matters: Revisiting the Social Ontology of Institutional Ethnography,” Liza McCoy, University of Calgary

“What I Learned about Canvassing,” Paul C. Luken, University of West Georgia and Timothy Diamond, Retired

“The Ruling of Weight: An Institutional Ethnographic Exploration of Young People’s Experiences Growing up in Bodies Labelled as Overweight or Obese,” Alexa Rae

Ferdinands, Tara-Leigh F. McHugh, Kate Storey and Kim D. Raine, University of Alberta

“How Youth Banning Policies Shape the Lived Experiences of Homeless Youth,” Cynthia Puddu, MacEwan University

“On the Possibilities of an Institutional Ethnography of Noise,” Eric Mykhalovskiy, York University

Session: New Directions in Institutional Ethnography

Sponsor: Institutional Ethnography

Organizer & Presider: Gina Petonito, Miami University

Papers:

“Mapping Institutional Relations for Local Policy Change: The Case of Lead Poisoning in Syracuse New York,” Frank M. Ridzi, Le Moyne College and Central New York Community Foundation

“Linking Institutional Ethnography with Participatory Visual Methods,” Mitchell McLarnon-Silk, McGill University

“Using Institutional Ethnography to Advance Implementation Science Research and the Study of Context: Case Study of an Online Sexual Health Service,” Daniel Grace, University of Toronto, Oralia Gómez-Ramírez, British Columbia Centre for Disease Control, Cathy Worthington, University of Victoria, School of Public Health and Social Policy and Mark Gilbert, British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

“Methodological Innovations in Institutional Ethnography: An Institutional History Approach,” Naomi Nichols and Jayne Malenfant, McGill University

“Dear Madame Speaker: I Have Some Concerns Regarding Voting,” Paul C. Luken, University of West Georgia

Session: Critical Dialogue: Turning It Upside Down: The Power of Race, Culture, and Ethnicity in Youth and Emerging Adulthood

Sponsors: Institutional Ethnography; Racial and Ethnic Minorities; Youth, Aging, and the Life Course

Organizers: Lauren E. Eastwood, SUNY College at Plattsburgh, Saher Selod, Simmons University

Presider: Lauren E. Eastwood, SUNY College at Plattsburgh

Papers:

“Blackness Renegotiated: Second-generation Haitians’ Identity Construction in Chicago,” Herrica Telus, University of Illinois at Chicago

“Institutional Ethnography and Critical Race Feminism: Unlocking Institutional Policy,” Sarah Lewington, McGill University, (Winner of the Institutional Ethnography Division’s Student Paper Competition)

- “Love and Care as Youth-led Structural Interventions for Racial Equity,” May Lin, University of Southern California
- “Negotiating Social Identities: The Experiences of First, One-And-a-Half, and Second- Generation South Asian Muslims,” Fatema Zohara, Loyola University Chicago
- “No Pork, No Way, No How: Boundaries and Assimilation for Muslim-Americans,” Bilal Hussain, Loyola University Chicago
- “Scaling Social Movements through Social Media: The Case of Black Lives Matter,” Marcia D. Mundt, Karen Ross and Charla M. Burnett, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- “School to STEM Corporate Pipeline: Examining High School Students’ Racialized Perceptions of a Computer Science Intervention,” Noemi Linares-Ramirez, University of California, Irvine
- “Youth of Color and the Neglecting of Explicit Race-gender Analysis of Criminalization and Health in the Life Course,” De Andre’ T. Beadle, University of Minnesota

Session: The Social Organisation of Knowledge

Sponsors: Institutional Ethnography, Social Problems Theory

Organizer & Presider: Christina D. Weber, North Dakota State University

Papers:

- “Activist Teacher Responses to Sexual Assault in Schools: Navigating Competing Risk Discourses to Support Youth Survivors of Sexual Assault,” Alison Fisher, York University
- “Contested Forms of Knowledge in the Criminal-legal System: Tracing the Evolution of ‘Evidence-based Practice’ and Front-line Worker Resistance,” Nicole Kaufman, The Ohio State University and Megan Welsh, San Diego State University
- “Resistance and Knowledge Production: Social Movements as Producers of Theory and Praxis,” Caitlin H. Schroering, University of Pittsburgh
- “The Missing Memphis School,” Ivy Ken, George Washington University
- “What Can Whiteness Research Offer the Study of Masculinity?” Freeden Blume Oeur, Tufts University, Tristan Bridges, University of California, Santa Barbara and Woody Doane, University of Hartford

Session: Reflexivity and the Self in Institutional Ethnography

Sponsors: Institutional Ethnography; Sport, Leisure, and the Body

Organizer & Presider: Jessica Braimoh, McMaster University

Papers:

- “More Than the Bare Minimum: How White Women Ethnographers Can Avoid Whitewashing Research,” Stephanie M. Baran, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- “School-based Ethnography: Building, Balancing, and (Not) Betraying Trust with Youth,” Pavithra Nagarajan, Teachers College, Columbia University, Nora Gross, University of Pennsylvania and Veena Vasudevan, American Museum of Natural History
- “Death and Institutions: Embodied Experiences of Grief in Participatory Work on Homelessness,” Jayne Malenfant, McGill University

“Reconciling with the Religion of My Father,” Amir Marvasti, Penn State Altoona

“The Self in Autoethnography,” Giovanna Follo, Wright State University

Session: Identity, Sexuality, and Health

Sponsors: Health, Health Policy, and Health Services, Institutional Ethnography

Organizers: Jayne Malenfant, McGill University, Emily Allen Paine, The University of Texas at Austin

Presider: Jayne Malenfant, McGill University

Papers:

“‘I’m Having My Fake Period?’ Experiential and Medical Definitions of Menstruation,” Zoe Caplan, Indiana University Bloomington

“Hidden Curriculum in Medical Education on LGBTQ Health,” Jessica Lauren Herling, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

“Mechanisms of Connection: Reproductive Justice and Social Change,” Meghan Daniel, University of Illinois at Chicago

“No Fats, Femmes or Blacks: The Relationship between Body-type, Gender Performance, and Race on Condom Usage in Online Hookup Profiles,” Jesus G. Smith, Lawrence University and Gabriel Amaro, The University of Texas at Austin

“Reproductive Rights on the Margins: Women’s Politicization around Reproductive Healthcare Politics,” Julisa A. McCoy, University of California, Riverside

Institutional Ethnography Workshop

Monday, August 12, 10:00am–4:00pm, Location: Roosevelt Hotel

The Institutional Ethnography Division is hosting an interactive workshop for researchers who use or are interested in institutional ethnography – the method of inquiry developed by Dorothy E. Smith. The workshop features a keynote presentation as well as opportunities for large and small-group discussion and learning. The workshop will provide people with opportunities to engage directly with institutional ethnographies in the proposal, analysis, and final writing stages. People who are interested in sharing and receiving feedback on a research proposal, article manuscript, conference paper, or other piece of writing during the small-group discussions should submit these documents to Nicola Waters nwaters@tru.ca and Cathy Ringham clringha@ucalgary.ca by July 1, 2019. Workshop fee includes morning coffee.