Society for the Study of Social Problems

Newsletter

Youth, Aging, and the Lifecourse Division

Happy Summer!

The 2017 annual meeting is right around the corner. We have so many great sessions and papers on the program, which speaks highly of the vibrancy and scholarship of the YALC division. Our division is sponsoring or cosponsoring 9 sessions on the program this year. Wow! Please check out page 2 of the newsletter to see all of the session and paper titles. I want to thank everyone for submitting papers and serving as session organizers.

Congratulations to the YALC 2017 division award winners!

• The 2017 Graduate Student Paper Award goes to **Jasmin Sandelson**, doctoral student in Sociology at Harvard University, for her paper "Relational Resources: Poverty, Peer Support and Adolescent Wellbeing." Jasmin will present her paper at the annual meeting and will be recognized during the awards ceremony on Saturday August 12. See page 3 for more information on Jasmin's award winning paper. A big thank you to the selection committee: **Jason Houle, Michelle Janning**, and **Jennifer Karas Montez**.

• The 2017 Maggie Kuhn Scholar-Activist Award goes to **Mary Erdmans**, Associate Professor of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University, for the exemplary interplay of public engagement and critical scholarship in her life and work, most notably her scholarship and activism focused on teenage motherhood. See page 3 for more information about Dr. Erdman's work. A big thank you to the selection committee: **Miriam Boeri** (chair), **Joseph D. Wolfe**, and **Tracy Dietz**.

The summer newsletter contains three sections.

- 1. See page 2 for a list of sessions and paper titles on the 2017 meeting program.
- 2. See page 3 for more information about our two division award winners.

3. See page 4 for our Member Spotlight (**Miriam Boeri**, Associate Professor of Sociology, Bentley University) and Emerging Scholar Profile (**Emily Allen Paine**, doctoral student in sociology, University of Texas at Austin).

I want to thank **Margeret McGladrey** for serving as our division's amazing newsletter editor. This is such an important contribution to our division I look forward to seeing you all in Montreal for a great conference!

Best wishes, Jennifer Karas Montez, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Syracuse University

June 2017



See you at the 2017 annual meeting of SSSP!

67th Annual Meeting August 11-13, 2017 Montreal Bonaventure Hotel Montreal, Quebec Canada Theme - Narratives in the World of Social Problems: Power, Resistance, Transformation

The Youth, Aging, and the Lifecourse (YALC) Division is sponsoring a wide-ranging roster of sessions at this year's annual meeting of the SSSP (see page 2). Other events of interest at this year's SSSP annual meeting include:

- YALC Divisional Meeting Saturday, August 12 12:30 p.m. to 2:10 p.m. Hampstead

Presidential Address
Saturday, August 12
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Westmount

- Awards Ceremony (including Divisionals) Saturday, August 12 6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Westmount

- Division-sponsored Reception Saturday, August 12 7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Salon Ville-Marie





Please join us for the SSSP annual meeting sessions sponsored and co-sponsored by the YALC Division:

Division Sessions

Title:	Papers in the Round: Ongoing Debates and New Frontiers in
	Life Course Research
Organizers:	Casey L. Albitz and Kaitlyn Barnes Langendoerfer, Case
	Western University
Date:	Friday, August 11, 8:30-10:10 p.m., Ourtrement

Roundtable #1 Papers: Aging and Well-Being

Discussant: Casey L. Albitz, Case Western Reserve University

- "A Checklist for Death: Predicting Completion of Advance Directives Among Older Adults," Joanne Tompkins, University at Buffalo, SUNY

- "Aging and the Homeless Population," Nestor Arcia, Old Brewery Mission, Katherine Maurer, McGill University and Annie Duchesne, Old Brewery Mission

- "Falling through the Cracks: How Older Women Negotiate their Movement through Homelessness," Judith G. Gonyea, Boston University and Kelly Melekis, Skidmore College

- "Shortchanged in Retirement, The Continuing Challenges to Women's Financial Future," Jennifer Erin Brown, National Institute on Retirement Security

Roundtable #2 Papers: Life Course Transitions

Presider: Kaitlyn Barnes Langendoerfer, Case Western Reserve University

- "Does Order Matter?: Role Sequencing and Resource Availability," Pamela Braboy Jackson, Jasmine Davis, Muna Adem and Anna Russian, Indiana University Bloomington

- "Emerging Adult Capabilities: The Role of Social Agency in the Pathway(s) to Adulthood for Low-Income Emerging Adults and Emerging Adults of Color in Rhode Island," Perri S. Leviss, University of Massachusetts Boston

- "Family, Education, and Tolerance: Does Parents' Education Have an Effect on Opinions About Homosexuality?" Michael Branch, Syracuse University

Roundtable #3 Papers: Life Course and Health

Discussant: Jennifer Karas Montez

- "An Examination of the Life Histories of Serious Offenders: Accumulating Disadvantage," Tamara A. Nerlien and Erin Gibbs Van Brunschot, University of Calgary

- "Contextualizing the Social Determinants of Health: Educational Disparities in Disability across U.S. States," Jennifer Karas Montez, Syracuse University, Anna Zajacova, Western University and Mark D. Hayward, University of Texas at Austin

- "His Service, Her Service: Do Own and Spouse's Military Service Affect Variation in Overweight and Obesity?" Theresa A. Yera and Andrew S. London, Syracuse University

- "Reconciling the Insights of Gender Order and Sex Role Theories in Explanations of Gendered Mental Health Outcomes," Margaret McGladrey University of Kentucky

Title:

Narrating Illness and/or Disability Across the Life Course

Organizer/Presider: Scott Landes, University of North Florida Date: Saturday, August 12, 10:30 a.m.-12:10 p.r.

Date: Saturday, August 12, 10:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m., St-Lambert Papers:

- "Chaos and Continuity: Constructing Narratives of Recovery from Spinal Cord Injury," Alexis A. Bender, Emory University and Elisabeth O. Burgess, Georgia State University

- "Episodically (In)visible: Examining Formula Stories about Health, Illness, and Disability in the New York Times," Melissa Jane Welch, University of South Florida

- "Childhood Cancer and Adult Health: A Life Course Perspective," Dorothy Kou and Andrew S. London, Syracuse University

- "One or Many Wounded Healer Identities?': The Content and Rhetorical Function of Taiwanese Folk Healers' Discursive Construction of Personal Experiences of Illness and Recovery," Hwa-Yen Huang, Rutgers University

- "They Sprayed Us Like Mosquitos': Gulf Coast Residents' Attributions of Responsibility for the Lingering Effects of the BP Oil Spill," Jeannine A. Gailey and Lisa K. Vanderlinden, Texas Christian University

Co-sponsored Sessions

Title:	Youth and Health
Organizer/Presider:	Margaret McGladrey, University of Kentucky
Date:	Friday, August 11, 12:30-2:10 p.m., Verdun
Divisions:	YALC; Sport, Leisure, and the Body
Title:	Using Photos and other Visual Media in Community Research and Action
Organizers:	Amanda Michelle Jones, University of Chicago
Presider:	A. Javier Treviño, Wheaton College
Date:	Friday, August 11, 4:30-6:10 p.m., Longueuil
Divisions:	YALC; Community Research and Development
Title:	Geography and Human Capital
Organizer/Presider:	Rebecca Wang, Syracuse University
Date:	Saturday, August 12, 8:30-10:10 a.m., St-Lambert
Divisions:	YALC; Environment and Technology
Title:	Social Class and Access to Higher Education
Organizer/Presider:	Elizabeth Seton Mignacca, Cayuga Community College
Date:	Saturday, August 12, 2:30-4:10 p.m., St-Lambert
Divisions:	YALC; Educational Problems; Sociology and Social Welfare
Title:	Community Living and Institutionalization
Organizer/Presider:	Brian R. Grossman, University of Illinois at Chicago
Date:	Sunday, August 13, 12:30-2:10 p.m., Verdun
Divisions:	YALC; Disability; Family
Title: Organizer/Presider: Date: Divisions:	Changes in the Family across Generations Hyeyoung Woo, Portland State University Sunday, August 13, 2:30-4:10 p.m., Verdun YALC; Family
Title: Organizer/Presider: Date: Divisions:	Mental Health, Juvenile Delinquency, and Crime Teague O'Neil Schoessow, Miami University Sunday, August 13, 4:30-6:10 p.m., St-Pierre YALC; Crime and Juvenile Delinquency; Society and Mental Health

Graduate Student Paper Award

Congratulations to Jasmin Sandelson for receiving the YALC Division's 2017 Graduate Student Paper Award. Her paper, "Relational Resources: Poverty, Peer Support and Adolescent Wellbeing," will be presented at the annual meeting. The abstract of the paper is provided below. Jasmin will be recognized at the SSSP awards ceremony, held on Saturday August 12 from 6:45-7:45pm. The Division-Sponsored Receptions will immediately follow from 7:45pm-8:45pm. We hope to see you all there!

And finally, a big thank you to the paper award selection committee (Jason Houle, Michelle Janning, and Jennifer Karas Montez)!

Jasmin Sandelson is a doctoral student in Sociology at Harvard University. Originally from London, UK, she earned a B.A in Politics, Psychology, and Sociology from the University of Cambridge in 2011, where she was a Foundation Scholar. Her primary research interests encompass urban sociology and cultural sociology.

Here is the abstract of the award winning paper:

Adolescence is a critical window in the life course, when teenagers face several turning points that can fundamentally influence their social trajectories. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork with lowincome teenaged girls in Cambridge, Massachusetts conducted over three years, this paper shows how the peer group operated as an unlikely but important factor promoting adolescent wellbeing. Although viewed as a risk factor in much extant scholarship, the peer group provided multiple dimensions of support that helped meet teens' basic needs, compensating for family and neighborhood disadvantage. Through flows of material, social and emotional goods, and by helping one another manage risk and crises, teens together navigated pathways through adolescence and to college. This adds to research about adolescent wellbeing in contexts of urban poverty.



Jasmin Sandelson, 2017 Graduate Student Paper Award Winner



Congratulations to Mary Erdmans for receiving the YALC Division's 2017 Maggie Kuhn Scholar-Activist Award. Dr. Erdmans is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University. She earned her Ph.D. in Sociology from Northwestern University.

Dr. Erdman's areas of interest include immigration and ethnicity (with research on Poles and Polish Americans), the intersection of gender, class, and race (with research on immigrant home health care workers, white working-class women, adolescent mothers, and, currently, aged auto workers), and narrative research methods (e.g., life stories and oral histories).

Maggie Kuhn Scholar-Activist Award

Mary Erdmans, 2017 Maggie Kuhn Scholar-Activist Award Winner

Dr. Erdman's recent award-winning book, On Becoming a Teen Mom: Life Before Pregnancy (coauthored with Tim Black) is a superb example of the interplay of public engagement and critical scholarship in her life and work. It had its origins in her involvement in the evaluation of a home visitation program for first-time mothers. Her work on the program helped to prompt the development of new services to address many of the issues the women faced in their transition to motherhood. The book, based on 108 life story interviews with teen mothers, redirects the focus away from the teen pregnancy and toward the structural inequalities that predated and possibly precipitated the pregnancy in the teens' lives. Through national media and speaking engagements, Dr. Erdman's has passionately shared these insights and sought to change the narrative on teen motherhood.

Congratulations again to Mary Erdmans for this welldeserved honor! And finally, a big thank you to the award selection committee (Miriam Boeri [chair], Joseph D. Wolfe, and Tracy Dietz) for their hard work!

Member Spotlight

Each newsletter will spotlight two YALC members to give a glimpse into the work and non-work lives of our section members. As I approach the next phase of my career, I plan to continue to address urgent social The "Six Questions for..." asks members to reveal interesting and little-known fun facts about themselves. The "Emerging Scholar Profile" showcases our graduate students and postdocs who are, or will soon be, on the job market. Please nominate yourself, a student, or a colleague for an upcoming issue.

Emerging Scholar Profile

Emily Allen Paine, Doctoral Candidate in Sociology, University of Texas at Austin Email: e.paine@utexas.edu

I am a doctoral candidate in Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. At UT, I am a Graduate Student Trainee of the Population Research Center, an Urban Ethnography Lab Graduate Fellow, and a candidate for a Graduate Portfolio in LGBTQ/Sexualities Studies. I study the interplay among sexual, gender, and racial identities, social institutions like the healthcare system and the family, as well as how stress, stigma, and discrimination shape health across the life course. Currently, I explore these issues in two ways: by studying how married people understand midlife events to shape spousal relationships, as well as how spousal relationships are understood to shape health; and by analyzing experiences of and access to healthcare among sexual and gender identity minorities in young and middle adulthood. Uniting my research interests is my combined use of intersectional and life course perspectives.

My work on multiple studies as a research assistant as well as a project coordinator at the Population Research Center enabled me to learn from and collaborate with experts in my field; now, I also train, supervise and mentor undergraduate students. I am the lead author of one study (under review) attending to gaps in our knowledge of women's sexual experiences in the midlife. In this study, my coauthors and I use a gender-as-relational lens and a life course perspective to analyze data from interviews with women in same-sex and different-sex marriages. Our findingsincluding that across union types, women similarly understand health, caregiving, and aging related events common to the midlife to impact sex through multiple pathways—nuance knowledge of sexual change in relationships over time and contribute to debates about how cultural schemas work to distress women's interpersonal relationships. I am extending this line of research as the lead on another study examining the meaning of sex among midlife married women using dyadic survey data. Concurrently, I am working with an undergraduate student mentee to analyze dyadic interview data to reveal how Mexican American married couples managing type 2 diabetes mellitus negotiate adherence to recommended diet and exercise regimens amidst competing time demands, with an eye toward gendered family dynamics and levels of acculturation.

Over the summer, I am finishing dissertation data collection as a Scholar in Residence at the CLAGS: Center for LGBTQ Studies in Manhattan, with the support of a National Science Foundation dissertation grant. In this project, I examine the healthcare experiences of sexual minority women and transgender men across health settings. I seek to understand why these two subgroups of the larger LGBTQ population are less likely to seek care compared to their peers—in a partial reversal of the trend found in the general population. Additionally, I ask how organizational factors shape patients' experiences and decisions to seek or delay access to care. To answer these guestions, I interview LGBTQ patients at typical and specialized LGBT health settings and conduct an ethnography of a LGBTQ healthcare organization, including interviews with staff and providers. Interviews with patients attend to healthcare histories, and findings suggest that patients understand early healthcare

interactions as well as healthcare turning points to importantly shape attitudes about and decisions to seek or avoid healthcare in adulthood.

problems by asking relevant questions about how social identities, institutions and contexts intersect to shape health—using intersectional and life course approaches. I expect to graduate in Spring of 2018, and will soon seek a position as a professor, so that I may continue doing the work I find most rewarding: conducting research, teaching, and mentoring students.

6 QUESTIONS FOR: MIRIAM BOERI

Associate Professor of Sociology, Bentley University

What do you consider to be your hometown? 1.

It depends on what one means by hometown? Conventional answer is Philadelphia, where I was born and lived off and on. However, I moved around a lot as a kid, and I did not live in one town for more than a year until high school, when my mother settled in Lancaster, PA—a town that left me the impression of being my hometown.

2. What is a typical day like for you?

There is no typical day, but more or less typical. During the school year I teach, prepare lessons, meet with students, go to meetings, write manuscripts, review manuscripts, answer email incessantly, and try to fit in some fieldwork for one of my research projects. During summer months there is much more focus on researchcollecting data—and writing. A 24-hour period of my life as a researcher is chronicled in Chapter 2 of my book Women on Ice. If you ask my husband, which I just did, he says a typical day for me is "getting up at 5 am and starting work immediately and then working until dark—sometimes later." That might be true if you consider that my work is also what I do for pleasure. And I do try to fit in a run every day.

3. What is one thing that many people do not know about you?

People that do not know me personally probably do not know that I went back to school at 38 years as a single mother with five kids. Most people who know me more than a few weeks know almost everything about me since I am very open about my life—as I want others to be with me.

What is your favorite movie and why? 4.

I have a few favorites. Movies I can never get out of my mind and recall vividly are three movies I was impressed with at different times in my life: A Hatful of Rain (viewed as an adolescent), Barfly (viewed as a young adult), and Tideland (viewed more recently as an older adult). All show the depressing reality of vulnerable people whose lives are impacted by substance use, which apparently influenced my life course and career. For relaxation purposes, my favorite movie is The Big Lebowski-another movie with drug using characters but with very different perspectives on life.

5. What is one item on your bucket list?

Based on findings from my research and my recent book, Hurt: Chronicles of the Drug War Generation, I am starting a nonprofit organization to promote alternative solutions to contemporary problems related to drug use-a clearing house/ navigation/support service for individuals needing targeted resources rather than standardized drug treatment. The mission of this nonprofit organization has been emerging in my writing for years, and I hope to get the time and funding needed to give Social Recovery, Inc. a good chance to succeed in its goal.

What is the best piece of professional advice you have received? 6. Never give up! Not said in those exact words but this was the essence.



Contribute to the YALC Facebook Page!

Do you have professional and publication news to share with your YALC colleagues between newsletter issues? If so, then sign up to serve as a contributing editor for the YALC Facebook page! Email newsletter editor Margaret McGladrey at margaret.mcgladrey@uky.edu for details.

