



UCA Sociology Club: Full Speed Ahead

Notices:

Sociology Club
meets during
X-period in Irby 308
on the first
and third Thursday
of each month.

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The UCA Sociology Club completed the Fall 2014 semester with an incredible list of accomplishments. One of the first activities occurred on August 21 during the first meeting of the semester when President Shay Stout, Vice-President Frank Benton, member Jennifer Speaks, member Chandler Gaines, and Professor Gordon Shepherd accepted an ALS Ice Bucket Challenge to have buckets of ice water poured on them. Although the challenge was done in fun to raise awareness for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (“Lou Gehrig’s Disease”), club members and faculty/staff donated over one hundred dollars.

On September 22, club members celebrated International Day of Peace in the Student Center Courtyard. The UCA community was invited by club volunteers to discuss world peace, register to vote, tie-dye t-shirts, or just enjoy a cookie. Also in September, a new club logo was adopted and t-shirts were printed for members. The logo, which was designed by student Daniel Grayling, has received very favorable feedback. Extra t-shirts are available for purchase for ten dollars in the sociology department.

In mid-October, the club began a two-week campaign to sell Hershey chocolate bars to support National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Members raised one-hundred eighty dollars, which they donated to three organizations: *Living Beyond Breast Cancer*, *Unite for Her*, and *The Breast Cancer Research Foundation*.

Sociology Club CONTINUED

Share-A-Bear was another successful community service project, held the last week in October in conjunction with National Domestic Violence Month. The Sociology Club approached the UCA Police Department with the idea and ultimately partnered with them, the Conway Police Department, and the Log Cabin Democrat newspaper. The four organizations set up collection boxes in several locations on the UCA campus and in the city of Conway; the drive collected a total of 441 teddy bears for children who are affected by domestic violence. The Share-A-Bear drive was featured in the UCA Echo newspaper, the Log Cabin Democrat newspaper, and on KTHV Channel 11 television news.

On October 30 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., along with the Department of Sociology, the club co-hosted a Sociology Major Meet & Greet. This gave newer majors a chance to visit with faculty and advanced majors about the sociology program, the anthropology minor, careers, graduate school, and club activities.

The November project was a food drive held to coincide with Veteran's Day. Club members donated food and personal care items; these items were shipped to the Pat Tillman Veterans Center at Arizona State University, where care packages were assembled for the USO to distribute to the troops. On November 14, the club teamed with the Department of Sociology to host the Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association 44th Annual Meeting held in the UCA Student Center.

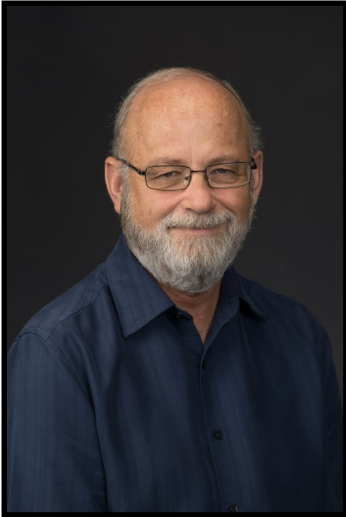
The final semester event was the Fall 2014 department awards luncheon. Approximately fifteen members attended, enjoying food and conversation with departmental faculty and staff.

Any UCA students who are interested in social issues may join the Sociology Club. Stop by the sociology office in Irby Hall 306 for more information.



FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Shepherd Publishes



Dr. Gordon Shepherd, UCA Professor of Sociology, has a book manuscript accepted for publication by the University of Utah Press: *A Kingdom Transformed: Early Mormonism and the Modern LDS Church*. The book is co-authored with his brother, Dr. Gary Shepherd, Oakland University Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Anthropology. The brothers also have two book chapters in press: "Patriarchal Blessings in the Prophetic Development of Early Mormonism," in *The Expanded Canon: Perspectives on Mormonism and Sacred Texts*. BYU Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship (forthcoming, 2015) and "Statistical Content Analysis of Historical Documents: A Case for Social Science Analysis in Mormon Studies," in *Mormon Studies in the 21st Century*. University of Utah Press (forthcoming, 2016). Additionally, in 2014, they published "Civic Tolerance among Honors Students." *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council* 15: 85-113.

Dr. Shepherd also published two book reviews in 2014: *How Prophecy Lives* (Brill), by Dianna G. Tumminia and William Swatos, Jr., (Eds.) in *Sociology of Religion* 75: 171-172 and *Shifting Borders and a Tattered Passport: Journeys of a Mormon Intellectual*, by Armand L. Mauss (University of Utah Press) in the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* (December, 2014).

Hall Researches in Italy



Dr. Alison Hall, Lecturer in Anthropology, returned to Italy in the fall of 2014 to finish research and to write a book that she first conceived in 1972. For 18 months, between 1971 and 1974, she performed anthropological fieldwork in Northern Italy studying the world's oldest "make work" oriented cooperative farms. Her dissertation was completed in 1977. In the summers of 2011 and 2012, as a follow up to her previous research, she returned to Italy to find out what had happened to the cooperatives and the families she lived with 35 years ago. Her goal is to write what will be the only English language book about how destitute farm workers joined together in the 1880s to reclaim a vast swamp and turn it into something they could depend upon for their livelihood. They developed a strong three-part cooperative, political, and union movement to put pressure on large landowners to sell land in what they called a "strike in reverse" in which they moved machines onto idle land. The cooperative movement grew over the years and then when the fascists took over they became essentially work camps to support Mussolini's fascist partnership between large businesses and government that dismantled any and all attempts by workers to join together to improve their lot.

During World War II, the former members of the cooperatives fought as partisans against the Germans, helping the allies to prevail in battles that devastated their towns. Partisan warfare on an open plain is usually impossible, but the Germans failed to get anyone to inform on where the partisans were hiding. After the war, with the vacuum left by the defeat of Mussolini's government, the towns were destroyed, there were no jobs, there was no social safety net, no utilities, the roads were destroyed, and there was no health care or any other quality of life amenities. Faced with this situation, the class of day laborers, the lowest of the low, banded together again and re-built their cooperatives to provide livelihood for their families.

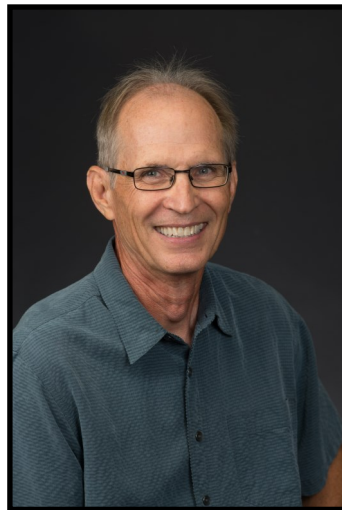
By the 1970s when 25-year-old Hall arrived, she saw many prosperous towns with mostly women still working in the agricultural cooperatives. The economy had grown, and many of the men had gone to work in industry or other jobs. The children were attending school and preparing for other careers. She found an admirable success story, a group of people doing what many of us think we need to do in the United States, which is to somehow make jobs for people. So, Dr. Hall has returned to Italy thrice in the last few years in order to study a successful example of cooperation and the effect of economic and cultural change. Much has changed. The cooperatives no longer employ a large number of farm workers. The farm workers she knew 35 years ago are retired now. They own their own homes outright, and live good, healthy, active lives still growing their own food. Their children and grandchildren do not live in poverty. Because of globalization, the prices for agricultural products are the same as they were 35 years ago and there is no way the cooperatives could survive by "making work." The only hope for Italian agriculture is to develop a brand of food that is produced in a clean and fair way. The "Slow Food" movement began in this area of Italy.

If you are considering a major in sociology, please set up an appointment to speak with Dr. Doug George, dougg@uca.edu

Toth, George, Powers on Panel

Dr. John Toth, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology, **Dr. Douglas George**, Associate Professor of Sociology, and **Dr. Edward Powers**, Associate Professor of Sociology, held a panel discussion on Monday, October 20, 2014, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the UCA Student Center, Room 215. The panel, "Intergenerational Social Mobility" was part of The Norbert O. Schedler Honors College Challenge Week 2014 that took place from October 20 through October 24. The year's theme was entitled, "Is Work Working? Meaning, Making, and Mobility in 21st Century America."

Other Challenge Week speakers included Dr. Juliet Schor, Professor of Sociology at Boston College, and author of *Plenitude: The New Economics of True Wealth* (2010), and Dr. Matthew B. Crawford, Research Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia, and author of *Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry into the Value of Work* (2009).



George Publishes

Dr. Douglas George, Associate Professor of Sociology, published "Organizing a Coincidence: Identity Work and Activism among Local Critical Mass Enthusiasts" in *The Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, September 2014. The article may be viewed online at <http://jce.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/09/12/0891241614546554>.

Dr. George serves as the Undergraduate Coordinator for the department. Students who wish to declare a major or minor in sociology, have questions about careers in sociology, are interested in Sociology Club or Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society should contact Dr. George during his office hours, which are posted outside of his office, Irby Hall 306C.

Powers, George, Toth Present

Dr. Edward Powers, Associate Professor of Sociology, and **Dr. Douglas George**, Associate Professor of Sociology, co-presented two papers, "The Gridiron Cage: Examining School Experiences of College Football Players" and "Just Say None: Changes in American Commitment to Organized Religion" at the 94th Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association in San Antonio, Texas, in April of 2014.

Dr. John Toth, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology, presented his paper, "Racial Variations in Community Attachment Among Adolescents."

Akhter Publishes and Presents



Dr. Rifat Akhter, Associate Professor of Sociology, had both a peer-reviewed article and a book chapter published in 2014. "Women's Status and Fertility Differential in the World-System: A Cross-National Analysis" appears in the February 2014 issue of *Perspective on Global Development and Technology*, Volume 13, Issue 1-2. Her "Population" textbook chapter appears in *Introduction To Sociology: A Collaborative Approach*, 4th Edition, Ashbury Publications.

Dr. Akhter also served on a panel discussion at the Domestic Violence Forum "Worth Talking About" hosted by the UCA Department of Communication on the UCA campus in October. She presented a paper, "Domestic Violence in the Workplace and Beyond."

Additionally, in December, she spoke to the Conway Morning Rotary Club where she presented a talk titled "Sanitation Status of Bangladesh." She has been invited by members to present this lecture again at a different venue in 2015.

Rich and Wilson Co-Author Articles



Dr. Lynne Rich, Assistant Professor of Sociology, and **Dr. Janet Wilson**, Associate Professor of Sociology, have two co-authored articles accepted for publication. "Having 'The Talk': Individual, Family, and Partner Factors on Unprotected Sex among Female Adolescent Offenders" appears in *Deviant Behavior*, 35: 4, 311-322. "The Impact of Abuse Trauma on Alcohol and Drug Use: A Study of High-Risk Incarcerated Girls" is forthcoming in the *Journal of Child & Adolescent Substance Abuse*. Dr. Angela Robertson, Associate Director and Research Professor, Social Science Center, Mississippi State University is also a co-author of this article.

Additionally, during the summer of 2014, Dr. Rich taught a six-week community course, "The Problem of Inequality in the Richest Country in the World." The course was offered on Thursday evenings at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Conway, Arkansas.

Powers and Wilson Co-Author Book

Dr. Edward Powers, Associate Professor of Sociology, and **Dr. Janet Wilson**, Associate Professor of Sociology, have co-authored a book to be released in 2015. The book, *Arkansas's Criminal Justice System*, is forthcoming from Carolina Academic Press. The book examines policing, courts, juveniles, victims, corrections, and crime trends in Arkansas. The publication is part of a fifty-state series which will serve as a stand-alone text, but will also be used to complement a criminal justice introductory textbook.

Dr. Rifat Akhter and **Dr. Janet Wilson** also have an article accepted for publication in the *Journal of Family Violence*, "Using an Ecological Framework to Understand Men's Reasons for Spousal Abuse: An Investigation of the Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey 2007."



Meet the New Faculty

Mr. Desmond Jones



Mr. Desmond Jones, Visiting Lecturer in Sociology, has taught at UCA for three semesters. He received his Bachelor of Arts in History and his Masters of Arts in gerontology from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. His area of interest is gerontology. He chose this program because he was interested in problems and issues involved in the aging process, and he said that he has always enjoyed interacting with older adults and learning the wisdom that they may offer.

In addition to teaching Principles of Sociology and Social Problems, Mr. Jones will offer SOC 3381, Death and Dying, in the Spring 2015 semester. This elective for majors and minors is an examination of death and dying as social processes, including the rites, practices, and social meanings associated with death and dying in this society as well as cross-cultural observations of death practices. This class will be taught as a community service-learning class. Students will study this important topic and also perform meaningful community service while working with the community partner Hospice Home Care in Conway.

Was your internship experience exceptional? Would you be willing to share your experience in a future newsletter? If so, please stop by the sociology office to let us know.

Dr. Duncan McKinnon



Dr. Duncan McKinnon, Lecturer in Anthropology, joined the department in Fall 2013. He received his B.A. in anthropology from Texas State University and his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Arkansas. His research is focused on settlement landscapes and distributional studies of Woodland and Mississippian groups with additional interests in environmental and humanistic geography, archaeogeophysics, prehistoric architecture, Caddo ceramics, Native American ritual and religion, and southeastern iconography and cosmology. His dissertation, "Battle Mound: Exploring Space, Place, and History of a Red River Community in southwest Arkansas," examines how the Battle Mound site (ca. A.D. 1200-1500) is organized in terms of architectural variability and how differential use areas, such as Caddo community structure and landscape use and change over time. He has published peer-reviewed articles in *Southeastern Archaeology*, *Caddo Archaeology Journal*, and *Arkansas Archeologist*. Dr. McKinnon compiled and published a volume of *Arkansas Archeologist* articles on Caddo Archaeology in Arkansas and has a co-authored chapter in the recently edited volume, "The Archaeology of the Caddo."

In addition to his experience in the southeastern and eastern United States. He has conducted archaeological investigations in the Plains, Great Basin, Northwest, and Mid-Atlantic as part of larger research programs. Recently, he participated as a geophysical specialist in episodes for the second season of the PBS television show, *Time Team America*. In addition to his position as Lecturer of Anthropology at UCA, he is a Research Associate at the Center for American Archeology (CAA) as a member of a project examining Middle and Late Woodland communities using geophysical and GIS methods in the Lower Illinois River Valley and as a co-instructor at the annual CAA archaeology field school. Dr. McKinnon is also an active participant in the annual Texas State University-San Marcos Mississippian Iconographic Workshop.

Dr. McKinnon teaches a variety of classes, including ANTH 2310 Biological Anthropology, ANTH 2325 Archaeology of North America, ANTH 2300 Peoples and Cultures, and ANTH 3315 Native American Cultures.

Dr. Stacy Lom

Dr. Stacy Lom, Assistant Professor of Sociology, joined the department in fall 2014. She received her B.A. in sociology from Connecticut College and her M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from Northwestern University. Dr. Lom's research is on cultures of evaluation (shared meanings, values, and practices surrounding evaluation), with a focus on how they develop and their effects in different contexts. Her broader interests include organizational decision-making, the creation and development of rules, boundary construction, and the politics of knowledge production and consumption.

Dr. Lom teaches SOC 1300 Principles of Sociology, SOC 2360 Self and Society, and SOC 4395 Sociology of Culture.



Dr. Sherry Skaggs

Dr. Sherry Skaggs, Assistant Professor of Criminology, began teaching classes at UCA during the summer session of 2014. Dr. Skaggs received her B.S. with a double major in communication and sociology from the University of Kentucky. She received her M.S. degree in criminal justice from Eastern Kentucky University and her Ph.D. in criminology with a concentration in police behavior and methodology/statistics from the University of Delaware.

Dr. Skaggs said that she has always been interested in Juvenile Justice. "Coming from a family background of law enforcement, it was natural for me to also develop an interest in Policing. During my studies at the University of Delaware, I chose to integrate these two for my dissertation research. This has directed me into my field of passion which is Police Interaction with Juveniles in Rural Communities."

Dr. Skaggs teaches SOC 2300 Foundations of Criminal Justice, SOC 2361 Deviance and Society, and SOC 4395 Correctional Systems. She also teaches a class on policing.



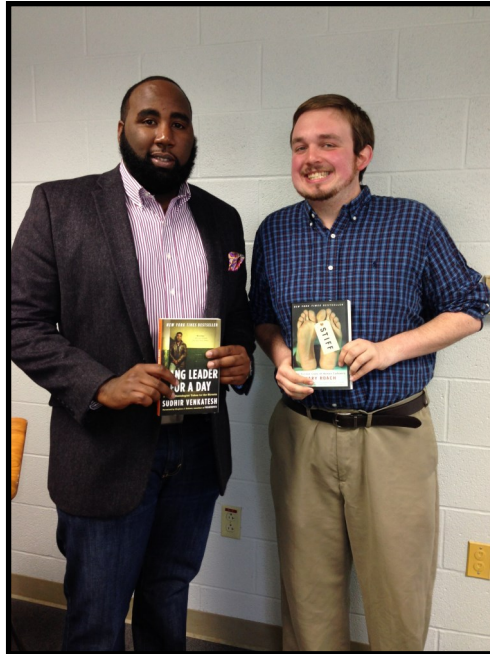
Dr. Eric Bowne

Dr. Eric Bowne, Visiting Lecturer in Anthropology, received both his B.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Georgia. In April 2014, he was the recipient of the Walter L. Brown Award for his article "Arkansas's Ancient South" presented each year by the Arkansas Historical Association for the best article published in a local or county journal. His paper, "Dr. Henry Woodward's Role in Early Carolina Indian Relations," was included as a chapter in *Creating and Contesting Carolina: Proprietary Era Histories* (University of South Carolina Press, 2013). Dr. Bowne is also the author of two books: *The Westo Indians: Slave Traders of the Early Colonial South* (University of Alabama Press, 2005) and *Mound Sites of the Ancient South: A Guide to the Mississippian Chiefdoms* (University of Georgia Press, 2013). He has also contributed chapters to three other edited volumes—*Light on the Path: The Anthropology and History of the Southeastern Indians*, *Mapping the Mississippian Shatter Zone: The Colonial Indian Slave Trade and Regional Instability in the American South*, and *Native American Adoption, Captivity, and Slavery in Changing Contexts*. In addition to the culture and history of Southern Native Americans, Dr. Bowne's scholarly interests include early American history, environmental studies, and the anthropology of food. He is currently developing a summer field school that focuses on America's National Parks.

Dr. Bowne most recently taught Anthropology of Pirates and he will teach Environmental Anthropology in Spring 2015.



Spring 2014 Outstanding Students



Seniors **Damian Robinson** (left) and **Colby Qualls** (right) were recognized at the Spring 2014 departmental awards luncheon in Irby Hall on Friday, April 25th.

Damian Robinson received the Spring 2014 Dr. Carl Redden Outstanding Sociology Intern Award for his excellent performance during his internship as a Faulkner County Juvenile Volunteer Probation Officer.

Colby Qualls received the Spring 2014 Katherine Hinson Outstanding Sociology Student Award for his exceptional performance in sociology throughout his college career. He presented "Father Knows Best: The Social Construction of Fatherhood in Law" at the College of Liberal Arts 2nd Annual Student Research Symposium on April 24, 2014. He also published "The Social Construction of Fatherhood in Law: Providing the Building Blocks of a Family" in the 2014 UCA College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Student Research Journal, 2: 42-61.

Fall 2014 Outstanding Students



Seniors **Chandler Gaines**, **Anthony Frizzell**, and **LaToya McCoy** were recognized at the Fall 2014 departmental awards luncheon in Irby Hall on December 5, 2014.

Chandler Gaines (left) received the Fall 2014 Katherine Hinson Outstanding Sociology Student Award. She was recognized for her excellent work within the department. She most recently presented a paper, "The Symbolic Forms of Oppression of Women in Television," at the College of Liberal Arts 2nd Annual Student Research Symposium on April 24, 2014.

Anthony Frizzell (center) and LaToya McCoy (right) each received the distinction of Summer 2014 Dr. Carl Redden Outstanding Sociology Intern for their professional and outstanding performance during their internships. Frizzell was honored for his work with the United States Postal Inspection Service. McCoy was honored for her work with the Victim Service Center of the Faulkner County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Undergraduate Scholars

Do you want to push yourself beyond class-based exercises?

The Undergraduate Scholars Program allows high-achieving, motivated juniors or seniors to work with sociology faculty on independent research projects.

If you have a 3.5 GPA in the major and 3.25 overall, talk with your advisor about this exciting opportunity to push academic boundaries beyond the classroom.

Alpha Kappa Delta Honor Students Inducted



Seven sociology majors were recently inducted into the international sociology honor society, Alpha Kappa Delta. New members are (from left) **Nneka Love**, **Jennifer Speaks**, **Chandler Gaines**, **Amanda Cross**, **Ashton Wills**, **Lindsey McKee**, and **Trevor Peacock** (Not pictured).

Around the Department



Dr. John Toth (left), **Dr. Edward Powers** (left center), and **Dr. Douglas George** (far right) dined and visited with **Dr. Juliet Schor** during the 2014 Honors College Challenge Week.



A few graduates pose for a photo at the May 2014 graduation commencement exercise: (Back row, from left) **Holly Williamson**, **Ashton Wills**, **Blake Adcock**, **Nalley Smith**, **Emily Beane**, **Amanda Lawson**. (Front row, from left) **Kevin Davis**, **Allison Rubio**.



Sociology Club Treasurer **Lindsey McKee** (left), President **Shay Stout** (center), and Vice-President **Frank Benton** (right) greeted members at the 44th Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association Conference on November 14, 2014 in the UCA Student Center.

HOW ARE ALUMNI APPLYING



Matt Knudtsen (2013). I am a graduate student in the Ph.D. program in Sociology at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. Since I've been there I have been lucky enough to work with some great professors on a variety of things. The past few semesters I have been a part of a research team for the Jackie Robinson diversity initiative for Major League Baseball. I have also been a research and teaching assistant for a variety of classes, ranging from 60 to 300 students per class. This spring, I will graduate with my Master's degree, writing my thesis on postmodernism and fantasy sports.

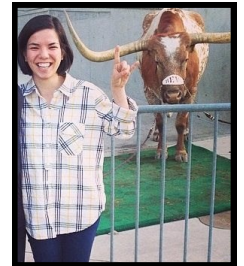
Don Willis (2010) and **Kara McGhee** (2009). They are also doctoral students at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Ms. McGhee was the featured presenter at the Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association Undergraduate Symposium in Spring 2014.

Tisha Noonan (2011). I am still working at DHS as a Program Eligibility Specialist for public assistance programs. I work in the Saline County Division of County Operations office in Benton. I really love my job, but I am planning to leave soon. I have taken the LSAT and plan to attend Bowen School of Law — UALR starting in the fall. I still have to apply of course, but those are my plans so far. I am also starting the process to commission in the US Air Force Reserves and hope to attend Officer Training School at some point in 2015.

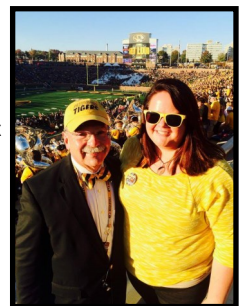


Tanya Petrovic (2011). I finished my M.A. in Sociology in May 2013 from UW-Milwaukee and have been working on a graduate certificate in applied data analysis using SAS also from UWM, and I will be done with that this coming spring. I am still living in Milwaukee and started working for We Energies (the gas and electric company here) as an analytics intern after I graduated and then got a full-time position there this past April as an Analytics Specialist.

Kathy Hill (2012). I am in my second year in a Ph.D. program in Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. I am currently working on my master's thesis which focuses on Asian immigrant low-wage workers in Austin and another exciting project which analyzes social media communication to examine gender, intimate markets, and neoliberal capitalism. I'm enjoying Austin's warm weather, delicious eats, and diverse community. Hook 'em! For now, I'm hoping to follow in the footsteps of the inspiring professors in the UCA Sociology Department. Also, I keep in touch with Fulbright friends whom I met while serving as a Fulbright scholar in South Korea in 2013. They are spread out across the U.S. and give me continuous support and a place to sleep when I visit. I also keep in touch with my Korean host family and former students through Facebook.



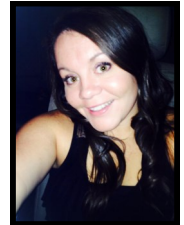
Desiree Shay (2013). I am a second year law student at the University of Missouri— School of Law, with a planned graduation date of May 2016. Come that July, I will take the bar (likely in Missouri) and hopefully have a job lined up. In the meantime, I continue to work my way through school. I have worked for the Director of Communication my entire time at the Law School and I also picked up tutoring for first year students and research for a professor my second year. I am an Associate Member of the Journal of Dispute Resolution, Historian for Phi Delta Phi Honor Society, and Secretary for the Tax and Transactional Law Society. Upon graduation, I will be receiving a certificate in tax, with a transactional focus. My ultimate goal is to end up with a job "in house" as general counsel for a corporation, although it is unlikely to get such a job straight out of graduation. To prepare for my goal, I have been taking a combination of business and tax based legal classes. Transitioning from UCA to Mizzou was an experience, mostly because the testing style is so entirely different from law school. I have learned to adapt and I really enjoy my time in Columbia, Mo (known as CoMo to locals). When not working on school, there's always something to do. The last two years have been pretty exciting to go to football games and I've been to nearly every game. A change from Conway, and especially from Russellville, is all the shopping and restaurant choices. No matter what you are in the mood for, you can be sure to find something that hits your craving. Even though it is a larger city, I can travel about 10 minutes south of town and enter a national park with hiking trails. The biggest adjustment has been the weather – I was not prepared to have to drive on a foot of snow to get to class, but I invested in the right clothing and have managed to not freeze. Another plus is being right in the middle of the drive from Kansas City and St. Louis – whenever there are major concerts, it isn't a far drive from me and my friends and I can always escape and find something new.



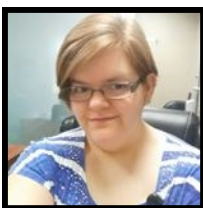
THEIR SOCIOLOGY DEGREES?



Sarah Smith (2014), Yolanda Wheeler Patterson (2014), Matt Tucker (2010), and Cody Fitzhugh (2011). These four alumni are patrol officers with the Conway Police Department. Fitzhugh also serves warrants as a S.W.A.T. officer. Tucker and Fitzhugh work adjoining beats in west Conway and work together often.

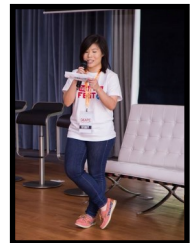


Laura Hanna (2010). I'm still working for Arkansas Community Correction as a probation/parole officer II where I have been employed for 3 years. I am currently living in Texarkana. I will be receiving my agent certification in January.

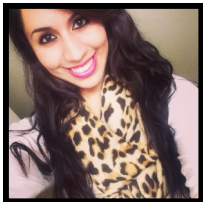


Kortnee Kalberer (2012). Since I graduated, I've had to do my fair share of retail related work—gotta pay those bills, you know. Sidenote: Everyone should have to do retail and restaurant work. You want to know how people really are? Pay attention to how they treat people in customer service positions, but I digress. I was in retail management for a year and a half, until last July when I got offered a position with the University of Central Arkansas Police Department. Finally, something somewhat related to my field! It's nice to be able to use what I learned as a student in everyday life. My degree is in general Sociology, but if I had chosen the criminology concentration, working at UCA's Police Department would have been an even greater opportunity than it is for me now.

Natalie Leong Mitchell (2012). I recently completed one year of work at *SCAPE, a non-profit program that has programs for Singaporean youth. (Editor's note: According to their website, *SCAPE supports talent and leadership development for Singaporean youth by providing facilities and resources for co-created programs and events. The organization also focuses on helping youth build social capital through networking opportunities.)



In January, I begin working at the Community Justice Center here in Singapore, which is a non-profit that helps people who have to represent themselves in court cases due to lack of funds, etc.



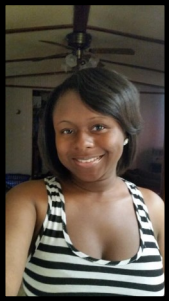
Yazzmin Del Toro (2014). I work as a paralegal at the Monterrey & Tellez Law Firm. I mainly work on Personal Injury, Traffic, and Criminal cases. This is a small firm but growing really rapidly with the Hispanic Community. I really never thought I would be doing this with a Sociology degree. It was hard at first, but I learn something new everyday, and the best part is that I love it!

Alexendra Denton (2012). In August I left my job of 2 1/2 years as a Juvenile Officer in Lonoke County, and now I am a Child Abuse Investigator for the State of Texas. I had four months of training for my job in Texas called The Academy where I traveled every day to Arlington from Denton, where I live and where my office is. I graduated The Academy on December 3rd and now I have my own cases that I investigate. We investigate anything from the mental health of a parent who might be putting a child in danger, to methamphetamine use and manufacturing around a child, physical abuse and neglect, to sexual abuse and some high profile cases (or as we call them "Media Cases"). I already have some interesting stories! My coworkers are amazing and we play pranks on each other pretty frequently, which is great because this job is so emotionally taxing that it is nice to be silly and let out some steam. In fact, we are decorating sugar cookies today at our Unit Meeting! We are able to work from home some as well (when we are doing our documentation), which is awesome and my dog LOVES having me at home! I LOVE living in Texas; it's like its own country! The town I live in is super cool and is really big into environmental causes and dogs/animals (which of course, so am I). There is even a dog festival here! On a different note, I am working on my Master's Degree in Forensic Criminology through the University of Massachusetts. Last semester I took a class on Criminal Profiling and a class on Criminal Mind and Behavior. This coming semester I am taking Victimology and Homicide, and I am really glad that I took both of those classes as an undergrad at UCA! After that I will be taking some classes on domestic violence, sex offenses, and child maltreatment.





Ashton Wills (2014). After graduation I worked as a field organizer in northeast Arkansas with the Democratic Coordinated Campaign. I then moved post election to work on the Keep Fayetteville Fair campaign, fighting against the repeal of the anti-discrimination ordinance in Fayetteville. I am currently job hunting and networking in Washington D.C.; I hope to be employed by February.

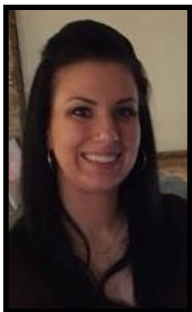


Shaunice Cartright Pattillo (2011). I graduated UCA and moved to Texas in 2011. My first job was working as a case manager for at-risk youth ages 16-21. I had the privilege of working with youth of all ethnicities. I provided them with education, job search, and resume writing skills. It was the most rewarding and challenging thing at the same time. I remember being in Seminar my last semester and Dr. Powers said that we should learn, most of all, how to work with common measures and data entry. At the time, I was thinking, "I'll never work with that." He finished up the story by telling us one of his former students called him and told him that was exactly what his job duties were. I laughed at that time, but I couldn't believe that I was now doing the same thing. This was exactly what I had to do as well when I worked with youth and had to input their information. I miss those days. I recently resigned to become a school teacher. I am married to my wonderful husband and I have an awesome daughter. I will never forget UCA. By being the first in my immediate family to graduate, I admire being able to work with people who believed and still believe in me. Miss you guys!

Lorraine Stiger (2011). I recently accepted a position at the Girl Scouts— Diamonds Council as their membership specialist. I formerly worked at the University of Arkansas Agricultural Research and Extension office in Little Rock. I am living here in Conway with my partner and two children. I am also a community organizer and board member of a local nonprofit, the Arkansas Transgender Equality Coalition. I'm in the process of applying to the Masters of Public Health program at UAMS and plan on starting in the fall of 2015. I'm very active in social issues and participate in marches, rallies, and other community events on a regular basis. I've had the opportunity to meet a lot of amazing people and plan on continuing my work in the nonprofit and grassroots sector. I'm very excited to see where this road takes me and I'm looking forward to impacting my local community in a positive way.



Holly Williamson (2014). I am currently in the Sociology of Education MA program at NYU. I spend my days in Greenwich Village, and will be working on a master's thesis soon. I hope to work towards a Ph.D. and a career as a professor.



Kristen Sobba (2011). Currently, I am in my 2nd official year as a doctoral student and graduate assistant at University of Arkansas at Little Rock. I will hopefully be on the job market this time next year, but that is very dependent upon how successful I am next semester.

After completing my Master's in Criminal Justice at UALR a couple of years ago, I started the PhD program in Criminal Justice. I primarily do a lot of research. My research areas include Juvenile Delinquency, Corrections, and Life-course Criminology. I have completed extensive research on cyber-bullying and its effects on bullies, victims, and bystanders. I also like to study Biosocial criminology when time permits.

As part of my assistantship, I teach classes including: Introduction to Criminal Justice, Crime and Behavior (theory-based course), and will hopefully be able to teach Research Methods starting next year. My first year as a doctoral student, I was an evaluator on a grant with Arkansas Community Corrections and the Bureau of Justice Assistance called "Beyond the Walls" Second Chance Act Adult Offender Comprehensive Statewide Recidivism Reduction Demonstration Program.

In addition to research and teaching, I am also part of reentry programming in AR. This reentry program is dedicated to helping prisoners reintegrate into society successfully after they get released from prison. My part is speaking to prisoners on various topics such as consequences, goals, and life-long aspirations. I recently became a board member of the Pine Bluff reentry program. As a board member, you have the authority to select which prisoners can participate in the program. There are always several individuals who want into the program, but only a select 25 are able to participate.

When I'm not working, which is rare, I love to catch up with my friends and family: Shopping, Starbucks, Girls Night Out, you name it.... They are definitely the best forms of stress relief.



Jamie Martinez (Minor 2012). I am working for DHS in the Division of Childcare and Early Childhood Education. My title is Program Eligibility Specialist and I am basically a caseworker who works with low-income families receiving childcare vouchers. I am at the central office in Little Rock and I work with **Nalley Smith** (2014)! I am planning on getting some casework experience here and then applying to grad school after defining what I want to do more specifically.



Kevin Davis (2014). I have been working at Arkansas Crime Information Center since late June. My job is working data entry and data collection on criminal histories. If there are missing criminal dispositions I go to the courts and collect them. I was hired on full time from a grant position and will move to strictly doing data entry after I have my replacement trained. My replacement is **Sierra Harris** (2013). Since Graduating I have completed 6 triathlons and am in training for my first half marathon.



Bailey Winterrowd (2011). I am currently in Shreveport, LA - followed my husband here for his job. I got the very first job that I applied/interviewed for! I am employed by Volunteers of America, Northwest Louisiana as the Program Coordinator for an academic after-school program serving 1st-12th grade students who live in a government-funded housing complex. It is challenging work but I enjoy a great amount of autonomy and freedom to tailor the program however I'd like. I am thankful for the opportunities to continue learning and problem solving each day.



Nalley Smith (2014). I am a caseworker for DHS Division of Childcare and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE). I am the childcare worker for all of Faulkner county. I conduct interviews, manage cases, and oversee interactions with daycares as well as making sure they are doing what they are supposed to be doing.

I also have to do a lot of community outreach efforts in order to provide clients with resources outside of government assistance.

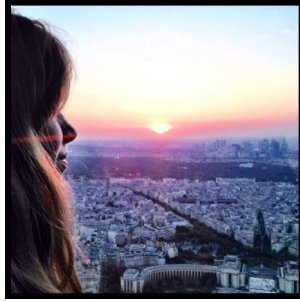


Karen Ross (2010). I am currently in Brattleboro, Vermont, working for United Way Windham County (UWWC) as their Research & Impact Analyst, while also finishing my MA thesis on Myanmar's development systems. At UWWC I analyze and compare data while evaluating partner and stakeholder organizations to see if or how United Way is impacting the area. I've been in Vermont since mid-October and will be here until May when I graduate from the SIT Graduate Institute.

Prior to Vermont, I had been in Mandalay, Myanmar for the past year where I worked for a monastic school and the Institute for Political and Civic Engagement (iPACE). At the monastic school, I was a program consultant for different departments, and also a trainer for their pre-college program's Global Citizenship & Awareness course. In the evenings, I'd tutor young ethnic girls. At iPACE, I was a trainer in Civic Engagement, as well as Advocacy, to leaders in 47 different organizations in Upper Myanmar. I also helped coordinate and run events at iPACE-Mandalay in conjunction with local civil society needs and conflict transformation initiatives.

A few weeks ago, I met up with former UCA Sociology classmate **Holly Kirby** (2009) in southern Vermont to help with her social justice campaign Locked Up & Shipped Away. I attended a press release where Holly presented her report on state governments' practice of transferring incarcerated people out of their home states to for-profit private prisons across the US. Along with other campaign advocates, we collaborated and brainstormed ideas to further advance the campaign in Vermont, calling for states to reduce their prison populations and lawmakers to pass legislation that bans the exportation of incarcerated people from their home states, particularly to for-profit private prisons.

Alumni CONTINUED



Sharon McBeth (2013). After I graduated from UCA I went on to earn a Global M.A. in International Nongovernmental Organizations (INGOs) from Webster University. Although the school is located in St. Louis, I spent almost the whole time studying at overseas campuses, such as Thailand, England, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. I had such a great experience and found that my sociology background benefited me in many ways. This past summer of 2014 my graduation was held in Washington, DC and I was nominated to be the student speaker for my class (fun, but nerve racking). My next step was a D.C. internship; I worked as the Humanitarian Policy and Practice Intern for an organization called InterAction. The temporary internship recently ended, and I am now currently on the job hunt in D.C.! The D.C. community is competitive and fast paced. I'm not sure how long I'll be able to stand it, but for now I'm loving it. I have been applying to positions that concern gender relations, human rights, and poverty alleviation, which also happened to be my favorite topics studied in sociology classes.

Attention Alumni!

If you are applying your sociological or anthropological skills in your current job, please contact us. We would love to feature you in an upcoming newsletter. Do not be shy; what you share may inspire someone else.

Interesting connection - my best friend and fellow M.A. graduate is completing an internship with the Syrian Emergency Task Force (SETF) here in D.C., and the founder/executive director is a UCA graduate. I spoke with Mouaz Moustafa and we shared our memories of classes in Irby Hall!



Cathrine Schwader (2012). I graduated in May from the Clinton School of Public Service with a Master's of Public Service. After finishing up an internship with Heifer International in their Program Monitoring and Evaluation Department, I began working at the Arkansas Foodbank as the Children's Services Coordinator. I help facilitate our children's programs including the Afterschool Snack and Meal program, Summer Feeding program, and School Pantry program. I am living in Little Rock.



Holly Kirby (2009). I am a criminal justice organizer with Grassroots Leadership, a national social justice organization that fights to end for-profit incarceration and reduce reliance on criminalization and immigrant detention through direct action, organizing, research, and public education.

Originally from Jacksonville, Arkansas, I graduated from the University of Central Arkansas in 2009 with a B.A. in Sociology with a minor in Cultural Anthropology. In 2011, I moved to Austin, Texas to pursue a Master's of Science in Social Work at the University of Texas at Austin. Through the school of social work, I landed an internship with Grassroots Leadership and was hired as a full-time organizer shortly after I graduated.

(Editor's note: As the coordinator of the Locked Up and #ShippedAway Campaign, Ms. Kirby has authored two major reports examining the interstate transfer of state prisoners to private, for-profit prisons. She supports state advocates to prevent and end this practice, to fight for sustainable solutions to over-incarceration, and to bring prisoners home. Ms. Kirby's work and writing on this issue have been featured in *Al Jazeera America*, *Salon.com*, *The Week*, *Business Insider*, and *Truthout*.)



UCA ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENTS PIECING TOGETHER CONWAY'S PAST

During the fall 2014 semester, UCA anthropology students gained glimpses into Conway's past by examining archaeological artifacts excavated from Cadron Settlement Park, a National Historic Site located west of Conway along the Arkansas River. The students, enrolled in the Archaeology of North America course offered by the Department of Sociology, evaluated the Faulkner County Museum collection to learn about some of the earliest Euro-American settlers who ventured into the western frontier of central Arkansas in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Megan Stane, a student in the class, enthused, "I've learned a lot about the process it takes to record artifacts by working on the project. This experience makes me want to intern at the Faulkner County Museum to help record more of the county's history."



The project is planned as a multi-semester, collaborative effort between the UCA Department of Sociology and the Faulkner County Museum under the instruction of Dr. Duncan P. McKinnon, UCA anthropology lecturer, and Lynita Langley-Ware, the Director of the Faulkner County Museum. Through an analysis of artifacts housed at the Museum (ceramics, glassware, armaments, buttons, beads, nails, etc.) and analysis of literature and historical documents, students are using these data in their final projects to address questions related to trade, exchange, identity, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and cultural change at this important site in the history of Arkansas. As Ms. Langley-Ware explains it, "Through the process of examining small, seemingly insignificant objects and referencing historic documents relevant to the settlement of this area, UCA students are gaining a better understanding of the global influences on the early development of today's Faulkner County and the importance of history to inform on the present."



UCA

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The degree of Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in sociology requires the completion of 120 hours, including the general education component, special degree requirements, major requirements, a minor worked out with a minor advisor, 40 upper division hours, and a minimum 2.0 GPA overall, in the major, and in the minor. Students may declare a major in sociology after they have completed SOC 1300 with a grade of C or better.

We are on the web!
www.uca.edu/sociology/

Olson-Beal Speaks on Mormon Feminist Activism



Dr. Heather Olson Beal, Associate Professor of Secondary Education at Stephen F. Austin State University, spoke at 5:30 p.m., October 27, in the Doyme Health Sciences Center auditorium about a religious activist organization, Ordain Women. The group, founded in March 2013 by a small group of Mormon women, aims to petition Latter Day Saints' church leaders to ordain women to the lay priesthood in Mormonism.

The lecture was co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology, the Department of Philosophy and Religion, and the Gender Studies program. Approximately 75 students, faculty, and guests attended. Dr. Olson Beal also guest-lectured in Dr. Gordon Shepherd's Sociology of Religion class.