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And more!
The end of this academic year brings many transitions in our department. Two of our esteemed colleagues Lynne Goodstein and Richard Rockwell have retired. Lynne came to UConn in 2002 to Direct the Honors program, see a tribute to her work later in the newsletter, and to the department in 2013. She served as the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) for three years and with her enthusiasm, energy, and experience in the Honors program reversed the decline in our majors, which have slowly begun to climb. Richard came to UConn in 2000 as the Executive Director of the Roper Center for Public Opinion, a tribute to him follows later in the newsletter as well, and came to the Department in 2004, where he served as DUS and Associate Head. He also served the university in many leadership capacities including in UConn AAUP and the Environmental Studies program. Andrea Voyer who came to the department in 2016, and was on a Russell Sage Foundation Fellowship this year, will be leaving UConn to take up a tenured position at the University of Stockholm. In the short time in the department she left her mark through her teaching and mentoring. We wish her and her family the best in Sweden.

We will also see new leadership in the department. Elizabeth Holzer, who did a superb job as Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) for the past two years will be shifting her focus to her NSF PIRE grant on Water and Food Security in Ethiopia. Responding to student needs, Liz spear headed several professional development initiatives, including a MA thesis writing course that enabled several students to complete their thesis ahead of our scheduled time frame. She was joined in these efforts by Christin Munch and Daisy Reyes who offered a semester long Writing for Publication workshop that saw three graduate students submit a journal article at the end of the course. Liz also reached out and encouraged several students to reengage and complete their dissertations. (Four of our students received their Ph.D. this year). She leaves behind large shoes to fill. But, in Nancy Naples, our incoming DGS, we have a seasoned colleague who will have no trouble furthering the ground work laid by Liz.

Our new DUS, Simon Cheng, promoted to Full Professor this year, built on Lynne’s efforts to increase our majors. With his enthusiasm and tireless support, we now have an undergraduate Sociology Club, Student Empowerment Through Sociology, which has already been active in providing our majors and other interested sociology students with a home for intellectual and social engagement. To enhance our teaching and mentoring, Ruth Braunstein, Bandana Purkayastha, and Daisy Reyes organized a workshop, that featured our own recent alum Nicolas Simon, on Teaching and Advising First Generation college students.

This year we also completed an eight-year self-study of the department. Liz and Simon compiled data and wrote major sections of the report. They were aided by the self-study committee, Ralph McNeal, Nancy Naples, and Daisy Reyes.

We could not have accomplished what we did without the commitment of our staff, Kathy Covey, Katie Upson, and our newest member Aaron Rosman.

Thanks to everyone for all that you do. Congratulations to our majors, minors, graduate students, and Simon!
UConn Sociology provides undergraduate students with a rigorous program of study that prepares them to understand and meet the challenges of a rapidly changing society. On average, we teach 35 lecture classes at the 1000-level and 52 lecture classes at the 2000-level or above. The Department regularly offers 20 to 30 W-classes.

2017-2018 was a good year for the Sociology Undergraduate Program. First, we now have a student -run undergraduate Sociology Club on campus, Student Empowerment within Sociology (SES). Through this club, our undergraduate students will have the opportunity to discuss different social issues happening in today’s world with one another, have panel discussions with Sociology professors, form connections with Sociology clubs at other colleges, have study hours and share books with one another, and take field trips to places students would like to go! This is a great opportunity for students to get involved with the Sociology Department, and to see where Sociology can take you in the world. If you are interested in joining the club or have questions, please feel free to email the E-Board members of the club at the following email addresses.

SES-E-Board uconnses@gmail.com
Kara Golembeski, President kara.golembeski@uconn.edu
Cheyenne Holliday, Vice President cheyenne.holliday@uconn.edu
Jenna Hansen, Secretary jenna.hansen@uconn.edu
Ireland Gilmore, Treasurer ireland.Gilmore@uconn.edu

Second, our undergraduate majors had many great achievements this year. Among others,
- Eight Sociology students were named to Phi Beta Kappa in 2018
- Akshayaa Chittibabu was selected as a Truman scholar. The Truman Scholarship is the premier graduate fellowship in the United States for students who pursue careers as public service leaders.
- Caroline Brooks presented her research at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) in Baltimore. Caroline has received offers from several top-ranked Sociology graduate programs with full scholarship, and will join the graduate program at Indiana University in Fall 2018.
- Savannah-Nicole Villalba presented her research at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) in Baltimore. She received the Best Undergraduate Poster Award from the ESS. Savannah has accepted a scholarship to become a new graduate student in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts University.
Our Graduate Program: An Overview
By Dr. Elizabeth Holzer and Kathy Covey

Ph.D.’s Awarded:
Malaena Taylor 11/29/17 (Bernstein)
Nikki McGary 2/8/18 (Naples)
Devon Goss 3/5/18 (Hughey)
Erika Del Villar 4/16/18 (Glasberg)
Kamryn Warren 4/16/18 (Holzer)

MA’s Awarded:
Carol Ann Jackson 10/03/17 (Hughey)
Zachary Kline 10/19/17 (Pais)
Stuart Riepl 10/19/17 (Pais)
Nabil Tueme 4/16/18 (Holzer)
Kevin Zevallos 4/27/18 (Desai)
Amy Lawton 5/2/18 (Braunstein)

Analysis of placement

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<th>Comparison of Sociology Employment Patterns, 2009 - 2018</th>
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<td>Temporary academic</td>
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Erika Del Villar, Lecturer, Sociology, Clark University

Devon Goss, Assistant Professor, Sociology, Emory University

Ruth Hernandez, Lecturer, Sociology, Skidmore College

Joonghyun Kwak, Postdoctoral Scholar, Sociology, Ohio State University

Nikki McGary, Assistant Professor, Sociology, Naugatuck Valley Community College

Nicolas Simon, Assistant Professor, Sociology, Eastern Connecticut State University

Malaena Taylor, Research Analyst, Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services

Todd Vachon, Postdoctoral Scholar, Labor Studies and Employment Relations, Rutgers University

Kamryn Warren, Assistant Professor, Sociology, University of Northern Iowa

PhD Graduate Placements
Welcome the New Cohort

Incoming Graduate Students

Asmita Aasaavari holds an MA and BA in Sociology from University of Delhi. She is leaving her position as Research Associate at one of India’s premier social science research institutes, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies to return to her studies. Her research at UConn will explore the emergence and everyday practices of the 21st century developmental state.

Cara Cancelmo received her BA in Political Science at Skidmore College. She is leaving her position as Director of Development and Communications at the CT Veterans Legal Center to pursue her research on white racism. Her earlier work on the 1994 Crime Bill, which challenged the public narrative that racial consequences of the Crime Bill were “unforeseeable.”

Emily Mason holds an MA in Sociology from University of New Hampshire and a BA in Sociology from Castleton State College. She plans to continue her research exploring the intersection of family, gender and sexuality in the context of social media.

Manuel Ramirez holds an MA and BA in Sociology from University of South Florida. His earlier work explored race, gender, and cultural capital in the context of cosplay. He plans to continue his research on race and racism to examining how discourses related of worth, deservingness, and rights of undocumented and documented Latinx immigrants reproduces systems of inequality. He joins the Sociology department as a Harriott Fellow.

Kylar Schaad received his BA in Sociology from Penn State University. His earlier work surveyed transgender individuals, identifying unique ways they learned and came to understand gender. His current research continues to explore the transgender studies. He joins the Sociology department as the Jorgensen Fellow.
New Workshops

The Politics of Social Change

During the 2017-2018, Professors Mary Bernstein, Ruthie Braunstein, and Daisy Reyes launched “The Politics of Social Change Workshop”. The workshop, open to faculty and graduate students working broadly in the areas of politics, social movements and social change efforts, held 5 meetings. In each of these meetings the author received detailed feedback from both a faculty and graduate student discussant, as well as comments from the entire group. The papers discussed included works-in-progress, including: drafts of articles and “R&R” revisions. Approximately 15-20 faculty and graduate students participated in the workshops over the course of the semester.

From left and right, Professor Daisy Reyes, Professor Christin Munsch, Kathleen Ragon, and Cristina Khan are pictured here in this photo.

Publishing and Professional Development

This past semester, three graduate students (Cristina Khan, Kate Ragon, and Trisha Tiamzon) participated in a publication and professional development workshop, led by Assistant Professors Christin Munsch and Daisy Reyes. The purpose of the workshop was twofold. First, it guided participants through the writing and publication process with the principal goal of submitting an article for publication at the end of the semester. Participants met weekly, experimented with different accountability models, and checked in with one another to ensure their projects were on track for submission. Second, the workshop provided participants with information to improve their professional knowledge and skills as writers and academics.

Munsch and Reyes also hosted two all-day writing retreats. The workshop culminated in all five participants submitting their respective articles for publication. After all of their hard work, workshop participants enjoyed a celebratory happy hour at Barcelona in West Hartford, CT.

From left and right, Professor Daisy Reyes, Professor Christin Munsch, Kathleen Ragon, and Cristina Khan are pictured here in this photo.
As part of this workshop, Munsch and Reyes brought in two outside speakers. The first was Dr. Scott Long (Indiana University) who conducted a 4-day workshop this past January on workflow, reproducible results, and the process of quantitative research from planning through publication. This event was co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology, The Department of Communications, Educational Psychology, and the Office of the Vice President for Research. Over 50 people attended this event.

In addition, Dr. Brian Powell (Indiana University) also visited UConn as part of the workshop to participate in a fireside chat. Dr. Powell is the architect of the Preparing Future Faculty program and has a reputation of being an exceptional mentor to graduate students and faculty. A “fireside chat” is a structured conversation between a moderator and guest that is conducted “interview-style” and graduate students submitted questions ahead of time that they wanted Dr. Powell to answer. Thus, unlike traditional research talks, the event was tailored to address topics of interest to students. Approximately 15 graduate students attended, as well as several undergraduates.
This year the Sociology Department supported a series of events that drew on sociological research and the experiences of our community members in order to help us think more deeply about how we can better serve our First-Generation College Students as teachers and advisors.

Recent UConn Sociology PhD, Nicolas Simon (Assistant Professor of Sociology, Eastern Connecticut State University), kicked off the series of events with a talk on October 18 in Manchester Basement Lounge, entitled, “Promoting First-Generation College Students in American Institutions of Higher Education.”

This talk was followed by a workshop on November 30 that was attended by several faculty members and graduate students. The workshop, on "Teaching and Advising First-Generation College Students," included three sessions:

SESSION 1: THE UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE – IN THE CLASSROOM
"Rigor Revisited: Scaffolding College Student Learning by Incorporating Their Lived Experiences"
Milagros Castillo-Montoya, Ed.D., Assistant Professor of Higher Education and Student Affairs

SESSION 2: THE UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE – BEYOND THE CLASSROOM
Kim Gorman, Counselor, Student Support Services, UConn Center for Academic Programs

SESSION 3: THE GRADUATE STUDENT EXPERIENCE
Panel discussion featuring current graduate students in sociology, organized by Carol Ann Jackson and Jessica Yorks

Panelists: Ruth Hernandez, Carol Ann Jackson, and Jessica Yorks, Graduate Students, Sociology Department

Discussant: Daisy Verduzco Reyes, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & El Instituto: Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean & Latin American Studies

This series of events was coordinated by Ruth Braunstein, with support from several other members of the department, including Bandana Purkayastha, Simon Cheng, and especially Daisy Reyes, who co-organized the November 30 workshop.
Honors and Awards

- **Dr. Andrea Voyer** received 2018 Mentorship Excellence Award from the Office of Undergraduate Research.

- Emma Lesser received 2018 Arnold and Sandra Dashefsky

- The 2018 Ronald Taylor Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper went to Abbey Willis for her paper, “One Among Many”: Relational Panopticism and Negotiating Non-

- The 2018 Faculty Mentoring Award goes jointly to Dr. Daisy Reyes (left) and Dr. Christin Munsch (right)

Joseline Tlacomulco (middle), from Ruth Hernandez’s class (right) on “Introduction to Latin America and the Caribbean,” was awarded the 2018 “Undergraduate Social Action Award” by Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), a national nonprofit professional organization dedicated to efforts related to feminist action, including promoting social justice through local, national, and
Grants, Fellowships, and Visiting Scholars

- **Dr. Marysol Asencio** returned from a year-long sabbatical where she was conducting fieldwork and interviews across the east coast for her research project on Latina Lesbian-Queer Visibility and Social Equity. The project was awarded funding from the UConn Collaborative to Advance Equity Through Research on Women and Girls of Color Fellowship.

- During summer 2018, with support from the Margaret W. Moore and John M. Moore Research Fellowship, **Dr. Ruth Braunstein** will spend two weeks at the Swarthmore College Peace Collection collecting additional archival material related to her new project, "The Moral Meaning of Taxes. Moreover, with support from a Sociology Department SHARE Award, an undergraduate Sociology major, Megan Villanova, has been assisting Ruth Braunstein with data collection and other research tasks related to her new book project, “The Moral Meaning of Taxes.”


- **Bianca Gonzalez-Sobrino** received 2018 Multicultural Fellowship from American Sociological Association.

- **Dr. Matthew Hughey**: Visiting Fellow, Institute of Advanced Study, University of Warwick (Coventry, United Kingdom) Spring 2018.

- **Roseanne Njiru** has been awarded a highly competitive 6 months fellowship to the University of Cambridge, UK. This fellowship allows her time to write up her research. She will be located at the Center for African Studies.

- **Caner Hazar** and **Jordan Rees** were each awarded a 2018 Wood/Raith Living Trust summer fellowship for $4,000.

- **Dr. Bandana Purkayastha**: Global Religion Research Initiative grant (2017-2020). Global Religion Research Initiative: Women Living Hinduism and Islam. Funded by a Templeton award. Multicountry, interdisciplinary collaboration to work out appropriate methodologies and theoretical frameworks that are not based on Western Judeo-Christian theoretical frameworks. The project includes looking at groups that are religious majorities and minorities in three countries, the US, India, and Pakistan. Collaborations between sociologists, religion scholars, philosophers, and psychologists in these three countries.

- **Chriss Sneed**: visiting scholar, Sociology & Anthropology Department, St. John’s University (Queens, NY), 2017-2019.

- **Chriss Sneed** received 2018 HRI Graduate Research Grant; Human Rights Institute – University of Connecticut; 2017 Tinker Field Graduate Research Grant for Latin America and the Caribbean, El Instituto, Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies – University of Connecticut; 2017 Pre-Doctoral Award, El Instituto: Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies – University of Connecticut; 2017 UCHI Conference Funding for Borderlands: A Critical Graduate Symposium; Humanities Institute – University of Connecticut; 2017 Working Group Grant; El Instituto: Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies – University of Connecticut; 2017 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship; Department of Sociology – University of Connecticut; Certificate of Participation for XIII Meeting on Human Rights: Rethinking Gender (June 2017) – El Instituto de Democratia y Derechos Humanos, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP); American Sociological Association (ASA) Student Forum Travel Award.

- **Dr. Andrea Voyer** is a current research fellow at the Russell Sage Foundation. Her current research, “The Etiquette of Inequality in Democratic Spaces,” is closely aligned with the Russell Sage Foundation’s Social Inequality and Cultural Contact programs, will observe the mundane behaviors and codes of conduct that lead people to view and treat class-cultural differences as intractable group boundaries.

- **Adane Zawdu** received Summer Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Connecticut, Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life (Spring 2018).

- **Kevin Zevallos** applied and received at $1500 Grant (Mellon Mays Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant) from the Social Science Research Council (SSRC).
Invited Talks/Presentations

Dr. Ruth Braunstein's book, Prophets and Patriots, was the subject of two Author-Meets-Critics sessions this year, and she gave several invited talks about the book, including at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, University of Notre Dame, Baylor University, University of Pennsylvania, University of California - Berkeley, and The Fetzer Institute.

Dr. Ruth Braunstein also presented preliminary findings from her new project, "The Moral Meaning of Taxes," at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill and CUNY Graduate Center.

2018. Undergraduate Research and Women’s Studies Annual Speaker, University of Massachusetts. Dartmouth. March 28th.


2017. Seminar on Transnational Feminist Debates and Directions, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil, Aug. 8-9.


- Global Trumpism and Race to the Bottom. Invited (Presidential) plenary speaker. Southern Sociological Society, April 7, 2018
- Feminist Scholarship and Activism: Remaking the Ivory Tower. Invited Presidential Panelist at the Sociologist for Women in Society annual conference, Atlanta, January 2018:
- Other SWS presentations:
- Workshop: Teaching About Feminist Responses to Right Wing Political and Religious Movements in Local and Global perspectives


Bianca Gonzalez-Sobrino: invited Lecture “Hartford in Times of Crisis: Racial Identity, Space, and Threat.” Department of Urban Studies, Trinity Col-

Farhan Navid Yousaf has invited by the UN to share his expertise on trafficking at a conference in South Korea on victim-centered approaches to trafficking. He has also been contacted by the US Department of State to contribute to the US-Trafficking in Persons report (country report on Pakistan).

Chrisk Need:


Kevin Zavallos: DREAM into Action: Mobilizing for Immigrant Rights.” Invited Speaker for program organized by the Division of Institutional Equity and Inclusion at Connecticut College, New London, CT. March., 2018
Publications (Peer-Reviewed Articles)

- Gonzalez-Sobrino, Bianca. “Puerto Rico’s Politics of (Un)belonging.” Contexts 17(1): 80-81
Publications

Books and Book Chapters

- Dr. Marysol Asencio’s chapter with colleagues on Male Patients with Male Caregivers was published in the volume, *Gender in Psycho-Oncology* (Oxford University Press, 2018).
- Purkayastha, Bandana Human trafficking: Trade in Sex, Labor and Organs. With Farhan Navid Yousaf. Polity Press. Expected publication August 2018

Other Writings


Editorship

- Kevin Zevallos promoted from Assistant Managing Editor to Managing Editor of the *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity.*
- Emma Lesser serves as the Managing Editor for *Humanity & Society.*
### Presentations/Conferences

**2018**
- Desai, Manisha. Seminar on Transnational Feminist Debates and Directions, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil, Aug. 8-9.
- Hughey, Matthew W. Panel. “Time is of the Essence: Racial Essentialism and White Temporality” for “Rac(e)ing Time: The Intersection of Temporality, Race, and Inequality.” Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Baltimore, MD.
- Sneed, Chriss. “Floating under Moonlight: Racialized Bodies, and Ruptures in the Black Studies Project,” presentation for Movements at the End of the World: Inhumanist Kinship and Care as Minoritarian Performance Working Group organized by L. Mengesha (Brown University), Patricia Gomes (NYU), and James McMaster (NYU). Hemispheric Institute Graduate Student Initiative 5th Convergence. Toronto, Canada. October.


Wu, Qiong (Miranda), and Michael E. Wallace. 2017. “The Consequences of the Creative Class during the Great Recession: Was the Creative Class Recession-Proof?”. Paper Session, Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada (August).


Service

- Marysol Asencio, part of the organizing committee for the interdisciplinary conference, Race, Sex, and Power 2018 held in Chicago.
- Kim Price-Glynn, Member, the Carework Network Steering Committee.
- Kim Price-Glynn, the Eastern Sociology Society, Mirra Komarovsky Book Award Committee member, 2017-18.
- Kim Price-Glynn, Co-chair, CLAS Foundation Fund Wood/Raith Living Trust for the Study of Gender, University of Connecticut – Storrs,
- Kim Price-Glynn, UCONN Hartford Faculty Council, Member
- Bianca Gonzalez-Sobrino, 2017-2018 Graduate Student Representative, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association
- Emma Lesser, Student Advisory Board member for Social Problems
- Chriss Sneed, Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) Student Representative on Council (2017-2018 | 2018-2019)
- Todd E. Vachon, Member, Nominations Committee, ASA Section on Labor Movements, 2017-18
- Todd E. Vachon, Member, National Steering Committee, Labor Network for Sustainability, 2017-2019

Misc./Media/Public Sociology

- Dr. Ruth Braunstein was interviewed about Prophets and Patriots on the New Books in Political Science Podcast, hosted by Heath Brown, September 21, 2017.

Ruth Braunstein was an invited speaker in the following two UConn graduate courses:
  - Religious Pluralism course (Graduate), Dr. Richard Sosis, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut, February 12, 2018
  - Nature of Political Inquiry course (Graduate), Dr. Cyrus Ernesto “Ernie” Zirakzadeh, Department of Political Science, University of Connecticut, November 2, 2017

- Dr. Bandana Purkayastha participated in a policy collaboration for World Health Organization.

- Chriss Sneed participated the Reading & Discussion Group: Black Feminisms in Latin America, hosted by Afro-Latin American Research Institute at the Hutchins Center, Harvard University; will be a research Associate at Five College Women’s Studies Research Center, (South Hadley, MA), 2018-2019.
Top Leadership Positions within National Organizations

- Dr. Ruth Braunstein was elected Chief Operating Officer, ASA Culture Section (2017-2020).
- Dr. Bandana Purkayastha will complete her four-year term as American Sociological Association’s national representative to the International Sociological Association. This appointment recognizes international scholarly stature among American sociologists. ISA has members from 167 countries, and I served at the meetings of the National representatives, over the years and collaborated and contributed to the directions sought by the national representatives. In addition, she also serves as a committee member of Program Committee (2017-2019) for the 2019 ASA program; Program committee (2018-2019) for the ESS 2019); SWS Publication Committee. Elected position. (Oversight over all publications including Gender & Society); SWS’s Chow-Green dissertation award committee; ASA / Asian American section book award committee (and Chair of this committee).

University Promotions

Dr. Simon Cheng
Promoted to Full Professor

Our New Administrative Assistant
Aaron Rosman

Aaron joined the Dept starting Sept. 15, 2017 as the new administrative assistant for the Depts of Sociology and Philosophy.
Lynne came to UConn in 2002 as the Director of the Honors Programs and Associate Vice Provost for Enrichment Programs. She was asked to expand the number of students served by the programs. The Honors Program and University Scholars Programs were longstanding (Honors celebrated its 50th anniversary this year). Programs also under her supervision included Study Abroad, Undergraduate Research, and the Individualized Major (IMJR) Program (Lynne hired me in 2004 as IMJR director). Lynne understood that all programs served many of the same students. She sought to construct a broad, inclusive umbrella (“Enrichment Programs”) to emphasize the connections and provide a structure to enhance achievements through closer working. Very much part of Lynne’s plans was implementation and reinforcement of the high impact practices that educational researchers (George Kuh and others) had documented made big differences to higher education student engagement, retention, and learning. Lynne was rightly proud of the increases in Honors Program retention and completion rates during her decade as director.

Lynne was an innovator. She introduced an Office of National Scholarship and Fellowships (Kay Ratchiff was its first director). Under her leadership, the Holster Scholars Program, the Rowe Scholars Program, special programs for medicine and law, the Pre-Med/Pre-Dental Center, and the Pre-Law Center were created to serve cohorts of students with shared interests and to focus existing advising resources. In Honors, she facilitated a wider range of curricular offerings. Leadership and peer mentoring were developed as co-curricular foci within the Honors student community. In Study Abroad, she encouraged the broadening of study abroad - to a wider range of locations and for a more diverse group of participating students. In Undergraduate Research, she supported development of the SHARE Program in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. The growth in the size of the annual Frontiers in Undergraduate Research exhibition is testament to how successfully this area of student-faculty endeavor grew during Lynne’s period as Associate Vice Provost.

As one of Lynne’s staff members in Enrichment Programs, I appreciated that she sought to learn from and share with other programs on campus and elsewhere. She was active in the National Collegiate Honors Council and encouraged her staff to engage with this and other networks from which we could learn and improve our programs. She demonstrated warmth and caring for her students, alumni, and staff and truly helped create community around her. A deep respect for learning, equity, and justice underpinned her leadership and how she lived.

Richard Rockwell retired in December 2018 after a career as a sociologist and data archivist. Richard grew up in Texas and received a BA in Zoology from the University of Texas—Austin in 1964. He stayed at the University of Texas for graduate studies and received his PhD in sociology in 1970. He was assistant professor of sociology and director of the social science data library at the University of North Carolina from 1969 to 1976. He was then a fellow at the Boys Town Center for Youth Development, after which he spent a decade on the staff of the Social Science Research Council.

In 1991, Richard became Executive Director of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, and 2000, came to the University of Connecticut as Executive Director of the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research. Richard’s time at ICPSR and the Roper Center was one of enormous change for data archives. When it began, researchers searched for data sets using printed catalogues, ordered them through their campus representatives, and waited for them to be delivered on tapes, which were stored in the computer center and analyzed using mainframe computers. Richard helped ICPSR and the Roper Center make a successful transition to the era of online searches and direct download that we now know, and social scientists around the world benefit from his efforts every day.

After 2004, Richard taught full-time in the Department of Sociology, where he also served as Associate Head and later Director of Undergraduate Studies. Bandana Purkayastha recalls him as “an excellent colleague, supportive, helpful and willing to step up and take on things even when he had no need to do so.” She particularly notes his work on a grant to help bring students of color to UConn. Richard was also an excellent cook, and his contributions to potluck gatherings were always appreciated. Davita Glasberg recalled that he “introduced me to the art of making a good tagine, and is the source of my long-running quest to find the perfect tagine pot,” but admits that hers “are still a pale comparison to the one that Richard made.” Noël Cazenave sums it up this way: “three words describe Richard best: a gentleman, a scholar, and a friend.” His colleagues and
Family Updates from Todd Vachon

I am pleased to report that the Vachon family is doing well. Genea continues to serve as the Chief Legal Officer for Community Health Services, a community health center in Hartford. The Vachon kids are one grade older, with Marley finishing up 6th grade where she has written and directed a student play about sustainability; Toliver finishing the 4th grade and enjoying playing the saxophone in the school band and jazz band; and Ebba completing 3rd grade and continuing to excel at gymnastics, just finishing her season by winning the NJ Level 7 State Championship where she broke two state records! We are excited to be moving to NJ for my new job at Rutgers and to continue Ebba’s gymnastics training, but we will miss CT and all of our friends in the department and at UConn. It has truly been a great pleasure being a part of this dynamic group for these past 8 years. Best wishes to all! - Todd

Josef (Kuo-Hsun) Ma, who received his PhD in May 2017, is now an assistant professor at the Department of Social Psychology, Shih Hsin University in Taiwan.
There is a fund at University of Connecticut Foundation which makes it possible to contribute directly to the Department of Sociology.

To contribute to the fund:
You may make a tax-deductible donation to the department by making a check payable to the “UConn Foundation” or “University of Connecticut Foundation” and writing “Sociology Department—Unrestricted Fund 22735:* in the memo field or on the face of the check. You may also give through the UConn Foundation’s website by using the name and number of the fund.

*22735: Sociology Department—Unrestricted Fund: “To be used for the unrestricted support of the Sociology Department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.”