ALTRUISM, MORALITY, AND SOCIAL SOLIDARITY FORUM

The Newsletter of the AMSS Section of the American Sociological Association
SPRING 2019

From the Chair's Desk

Christine Horne, Washington State University

Hello all,

Please join me in congratulating our new section officers and our award winners. Our new officers are:

1. Chair-Elect: **Patricia Snell Herzog**, IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy

2. Council Members:
Bin Xu, Emory University
Mary R. Rose, University of Texas at Austin
Brad Fulton, Indiana University SPEA

3. Student Representatives:
Ji Hye Kim, University of Iowa
Aisha A. Upton, University of Minnesota

Thank you to everyone who was willing to run. Running is a service to the section, and we appreciate it.

Our award winners are:
1. Distinguished Career Award: **Neil MacKinnon**, University of Guelph
2. Outstanding Published Book Award: **Sefan Bargheer**. 2018. *Moral Entanglements: Conserving Birds in Britain and Germany*. University of Chicago Press. Honorable Mention:

Chandra Russo. 2018. *Solidarity in Practice: Moral Protest and the US Security State*. Cambridge University Press.

3. Outstanding Published Article Award: **Brandon Gorman** and **Charles Seguin**. 2018. "World Citizens on the Periphery: Threat and Identification with Global Society." *American Journal of Sociology* 124(3):705-761.
4. Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award: **April Hovav**. 2019. "Producing Moral Palatability in the Mexican Surrogacy Market." *Gender and Society* 33(2): 273-295.

Please check them out – they are well worth reading! Thank you to everyone who served on the nominations and awards committees. We appreciate all the thought and work that went into these efforts.

Also, please look forward to our session activities during the upcoming ASA meetings in New York. Hope to see you all there!

Christine Horne

About our new section officers…

Chair-Elect:
Patricia Snell Herzog, IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy

Patricia Snell Herzog, PhD is the Melvin Simon Chair and Associate Professor of Philanthropic Studies in the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI. Prior to joining IUPUI, Herzog was an Associate Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of the Center for Social Research at the University of Arkansas. Herzog's interests include social scientific investigations of charitable giving, youth and emerging adults, and religiosity, including the books *American Generosity: Who Gives and Why* (Herzog and Price 2016, Oxford University Press) and *Souls in Transition: The Religious Lives of Emerging Adults in America* (Smith and Snell 2009, Oxford University Press).

Council Members:
Bin Xu, Emory University

Bin Xu is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Emory University. His research interests lie at the intersection of politics and culture, including collective memory, civil society, cultural sociology, and social theory. He is the author of *The Politics of Compassion: The Sichuan Earthquake and Civic Engagement in China* (Stanford University Press, 2017), which won the 2018 Best Book Prize for Culture and Honorable Mention for Asia from the American Sociological Association. He is currently finishing a book and a few related articles on the collective memory of China's "educated youth" (*zhiqing*) generation—the 17 million youth sent down to the countryside in the 1960s and 1970s. His research has appeared in leading sociological and China studies journals.

Mary R. Rose, University of Texas at Austin

Mary Rose received an A.B. in Psychology from Stanford University and a Ph.D. in social psychology from Duke University. She is currently an associate professor of sociology at the University of Texas at Austin, where she teaches courses on social science and law as well as social psychology and research methods. Her research examines lay participation in the legal system and perceptions of justice. She writes on the effects of jury selection practices on jury representativeness, citizens' views of justice, jury decision making, and public views of court practices. She has served on the editorial boards of *Criminology, Law & Social Inquiry, Law & Society Review, and Law & Human Behavior.* In 2005, her research on the peremptory challenge was cited in the U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Miller-el v. Dretke* (Breyer, J., concurring) and her work on punitive damages was cited in the 2008 decision *Exxon Shipping Co. v. Baker*.

Brad Fulton, Indiana University SPEA

Brad R. Fulton is an assistant professor at Indiana University in the O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. His research draws on organizational theory and network analysis to examine the social, political, and economic impact of community-based organizations. Fulton is the PI for the National Study of Community Organizing—a multi-level study that examines the causes and consequences of racial, socioeconomic, and religious diversity within grassroots advocacy organizations. He is also the Co-PI for the Observing Civic Engagement project and the National Study of Congregations' Economic Practices. Fulton's research has been published by the University of Chicago Press and in journals including the *American Sociological Review* and *Sociological Methods & Research*,receiving coverage by media outlets including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Huffington Post*, and earning awards from the American Sociological Association, American Political Science Association, the Academy of Management, and ARNOVA.

Student Representatives:
Ji Hye Kim, University of Iowa

Ji Hye Kim is a PhD student in sociology at the University of Iowa. She obtained her BA in Sociology and Public Administration at Korea University, a MPhil in Sociology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and a MA in Sociology at the University of Iowa. Her research is at the conjunction of culture and cognition, social psychology, social stratification, and morality. More specifically, she is interested in understanding how individuals perceive their social surroundings and opportunities differently within and between societies, as well as how such perceptions are related to individuals' social positions and shape other life-course outcomes.

Aisha A. Upton, University of Minnesota

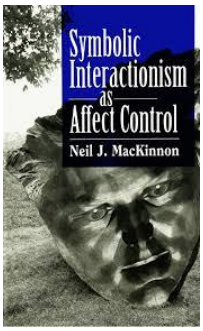
Aisha is a Ph.D candidate in sociology at the University of Minnesota. Broadly, her research is historical in method and focuses on race and gender, social movements, organizations, and civil society/civic participation. Her dissertation examines the ways that mainstream organizations

respond to radical movements through exploring the mechanisms through which Black Greek-Letter Organization sororities responded to the Black feminist movement from 1968-1980. In addition, Aisha addresses Black civic engagement in areas like Twitter and the Black Lives Matter movement. Aisha holds a BA in African American Studies and a MA in Sociology from Ohio University.

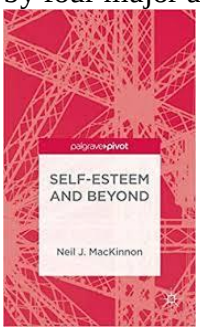
About our award winners…

From the Distinguished Career Award Committee:

Neil J. MacKinnon is the recipient of the 2019 Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity Distinguished Career Award. Dr. MacKinnon's theoretical and empirical scholarship has contributed greatly to the field by shaping our understanding of moral, altruistic, and solidary behavior, by clarifying the role of emotions, identities, the self, institutions, and culture underlying this behavior. Among his many contributions to the field is his work pioneering cross-cultural examinations in affect control theory, illuminating the process by which people evaluate the suitability of their own and others' situated behavior to the situation at hand.



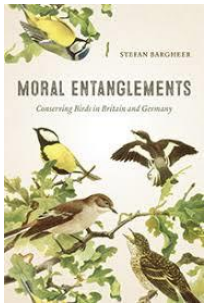
Dr. MacKinnon is the author of three influential books: *Symbolic Interactionism as Affect Control* (1994); *Self, Identity, and Social Institutions* (2010); and *Self-Esteem and Beyond* (2015). Throughout his career, Neil has also collaborated with students and colleagues on scholarship that uses affective meanings and affect control theory in new ways. This scholarship reveals, for example, how affective meanings can be used to illuminate the structure of emotions, occupational prestige scores, the gendering of traits, and cultural change. Dr. MacKinnon's work has appeared in highly visible outlets such as *Social Forces*, *Canadian Journal of Sociology*, and *Sociological Methods and Research*. He has also published in top specialty journals, such as *Social Psychology Quarterly*, *Advances in Group Processes*, and *Journal of Mathematical Sociology*. His research has been funded by four major awards from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. He has served three three-year terms on the editorial board of *Social Psychology Quarterly*, organized conference sessions and served on committees for the ASA Sections on Social Psychology and the Sociology of Emotions.



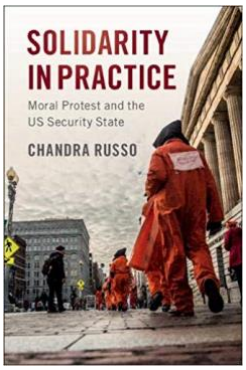
Further, as his colleagues attest, Neil MacKinnon exemplifies an altruistic approach to academia by being a mentor, official and unofficial, to many people. Dr. MacKinnon is also the recipient of the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award from the ASA Section on the Sociology of Emotions. Dr. MacKinnon is an Emeritus Professor at the University of Guelph.

Committee members: Maureen Eger (Univ. of Washington), chair; Edward Lawler (Cornell University) - **ejl3@cornell.edu**; Lynn Smith-Lovin (Duke Sociology) - **smithlov@duke.edu**

From the Best Book Award Committee:



The AMSS Book Award Committee was unanimous in its decision to give the 2019 AMSS Book Award to **Stefan Bargheer** for his 2018 book titled *Moral Entanglements: Conserving Birds in Britain and Germany* (University of Chicago Press). Bargheer's outstanding work contributes to scholarship on altruism and morality by investigating how values change over time and how individuals develop specific moral commitments. Using extensive life-history and archival data, he shows how convention wisdom attributing conservation to the environmental movement of the 1960s is misguided. Instead, his comparative and longitudinal research of bird conservation across England and Germany shows that practices and institutions emerging in the early nineteenth century gave rise to bird conservation as a value-based social action, but in different ways. Specifically, his findings demonstrate how bird protections derived from their associations with leisure and play in England, while in Germany, these practices were embedded in the world of work since birds were used as economic tools. He then masterfully shows how Britain's play-based framing of bird conservation came to dominant the European Union over time. Thus, by developing a pragmatist theory of valuation, Bargheer demonstrates that nature is not simply a socially-constructed phenomenon, but that the values and meanings we attach to the natural world are embedded in context-specific experiences and practices that, in turn, create moral and emotional attachments. The Committee enthusiastically agrees that this book has widespread theoretical implications for the study of morality, altruism, culture, and organizations, and that it will be widely read and cited in the years to come.



The Committee is also very pleased to award **Chandra Russo** an Honorable Mention for the 2019 AMSS Book Award for her 2018 book titled *Solidarity in Practice: Moral Protest and the US Security State* (Cambridge UP's Studies on Contentious Politics series). This book makes an important theoretical intervention into the study of altruistic collective action and solidarity by showing how rational-choice theories of collective action are woefully inadequate to explain social movement mobilization on behalf of victims of US militarism, torture, and xenophobia. By conducting extensive ethnographic fieldwork with radical activist groups who seek to bridge social divides of wealth, power, and geography, her work shows how solidaristic and high-risk practices--such as the art of "witnessing" in political protest against US violence in Guantanamo Bay or along the US-Mexico border--make violence committed by the US visible and "morally proximate" to audiences who can otherwise turn a blind eye to abuses committed in their name. Furthermore, Russo's in-depth comparisons masterfully demonstrate how the rituals, testimonies, and embodiments of activist practices go beyond mere symbolism, signifying instead how social groups strive to divest themselves of their privileges, albeit in ways that can never fully erase the divides that exist between them and the persecuted. Thanks to her innovative exploration of how power is both globally-constructed and contested, the Committee enthusiastically endorses Russo's book as a must-read.

Committee members: Dana Moss (Univ. of Pittsburgh), chair; Steve Hitlin (Univ. of Iowa); Sofya Aptekar (Univ. of Massachusetts, Boston).

From the Outstanding Published Article Award Committee:

Reilly, Patrick. "No Laughter among Thieves: Authenticity and the Enforcement of Community Norms in Stand-Up Comedy." *American Sociological Review* 83, no. 5 (2018): 933-958.

Drawing on rich ethnographic data, Reilly's paper demonstrates how norms function as a framing device rather than as hard-and-fast rules and how actors' perceived authenticity shapes the enforcement of norms, and thus expands our understanding of norms, especially their role in sustaining morals in communities.

Gorman, Brandon and **Charles Seguin**. "World Citizens on the Periphery: Threat and Identification with Global Society." *American Journal of Sociology* 124, no. 3 (2018): 705-761.

Gorman and Seguin' s paper builds on research on collective identity as a potential source of personal security and tests a claim that marginalized groups in weak and repressive states are more likely to identify as "world citizens" than relatively powerful and securely positioned groups. They test this somewhat counter-intuitive claim using comprehensive and innovative approaches, offering both between- and within-country evidence that supports the claim.

The committee were deeply and equally impressed by both papers, especially for their empirical rigors and theoretical contributions on important topics.

Committee members: Chaeyoon Lim (University of Wisconsin), chair; Blaine Robbins (NYU Abu Dhabi); Andrew C. Cohen (Yale Univ.).

From the Best Student Paper Award Committee:

Hovav, April. "Producing Moral Palatability in the Mexican Surrogacy Industry" *Gender & Society* 33, no. 2 (2019): 273-295.

In the article, "Producing Moral Palatability in the Mexican Surrogacy Industry," April Hovav analyzes tensions between altruism and commercialism in the Mexican surrogacy industry. She deftly argues that surrogacy agencies draw on a rhetoric of altruism, that is shaped by gender, race, and class, to facilitate the surrogacy market in two key ways: by rendering it morally palatable to consumers and by disciplining surrogates to create a docile and compliant labor force.

Committee members: Ko Kuwabara (INSEAD), chair; Landon Schnabel (Indiana University); Monica Whitham (Oklahoma State University).

Generations in Dialogue program in the Sociology of Religion

Call for applications

The Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies at the University of Southern California (USC) is seeking applications for its Generations in Dialogue (GID) program about the Sociology of Religion.

The GID program involves a widely-recognized senior Catholic scholar sharing his or her time, expertise, and wisdom with several junior scholars in the same or related disciplines. Over a two-year period these scholars convene for four weekend dialogues that include discipline-specific discussions, personal reflection, shared prayer, and presentations from distinguished scholars and public intellectuals. Besides benefitting from two years of mentorship, junior scholars will establish relationships with other dedicated scholars in their field.

A generous stipend is included. Early-career (pre-tenure and dissertation stage) social scientists are eligible. Applications are welcome from anyone interested in a substantive and critical engagement with Catholicism's multiple intellectual traditions

For more information and an application:
https://ifacs.com/programs/generations-in-dialogue/ . Applications are due **August 15, 2019.**

Thematic Symposium of the *Journal of Business Ethics: The promise of the new sociology of morality for business ethics research*

Call for submissions

Guest Editors:
Masoud Shadnam, MacEwan University, Canada, shadnamm@macewan.ca
Ajnesh Prasad, Royal Roads University, Canada; Tecnologico de Monterrey, Mexico, ajnesh_prasad@yahoo.ca
Andrey Bykov, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russia, a.bykov@hse.ru

Introduction to the Thematic Symposium

While morality was once at the heart of the writings of the "founding fathers" of sociology (Durkheim 1973, 1982; Weber 2002), it was largely abandoned by the subsequent generations of sociologists. The last few years, however, have witnessed a renaissance in the sociology of morality (Abend, 2010; Bykov, in press; Shadnam, 2015). During this period, scholars across the wide spectrum of the discipline of sociology revisited the question of morality. The renewed interest in the sociology of morality—and in moral phenomena, more broadly—has gained momentum, in part, following the publication of the first anthology devoted to the topic, *Handbook of the Sociology of Morality* (Hitlin and Vaisey, 2010), and the establishment of a section in the American Sociological Association (ASA) labeled, Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity. The scholarship emanating from the new sociology of morality has brought forth unique perspectives through which to conceptualize the complex dynamics of moral phenomena; in the process, they have identified,

documented, and theorized the variation of morality under different conditions, its dynamics over time, and its politics in relation to the material and the social (Hitlin and Vaisey, 2013; Lukes, 2010; McCaffree, 2016).

Since its very inception, the new sociology of morality has contributed to studies of morality in various contexts, including business organizations. Accordingly, sociological writings have investigated corporate morals (Anteby, 2013; Anteby & Anderson, 2017; Brophy, 2014) and examined the interplay between moral rules of conduct and the authority structures and bureaucratic ethos of organizations (Jackall, 1988, 2010; Shadnam, 2014; Shadnam and Lawrence, 2011; Shamir, 2008). There are also several sociological studies that have shown markets are inherently moral projects (Fourcade and Healy, 2007, 2017; Zelizer, 1979, 1985) and examined the moral order underlying market valuations and evaluations (Anteby, 2010; Lamont, 2012; Quinn, 2008; Wherry, 2010). In the same vein, sociologists have uncovered the moral meanings and vocabularies that underpin our understanding of several business-related notions such as money (Harrington and Kemple, 2012; Wilkis, 2018; Zelizer, 1989), work (Blair-Loy, 2010; Sayer, 2011; Watson, 2012), consumption (Grauel, 2016; Pellandini-Simányi, 2016; Warde, 2015), advertising (Cohen and Dromi, 2018), and risk (Roth, 2010).

We believe that future business ethics research can be meaningfully enriched by many of the developments that have transpired within the new sociology of morality. To be sure, a small and disparate body of work in business ethics have, either explicitly or tacitly, benefited from insights of the new sociology of morality. For instance, the new sociology of morality has illuminated how even our theorizing of moral questions pertaining to organizations and organizing is substantively informed by embodied experiences (Prasad, 2014; Pullen and Rhodes, 2014; Segarra and Prasad, in press). Likewise, recent studies published in this journal have engaged with timely questions that are at the crux of the new sociology of morality—such studies have, for example, accounted for the role of religion in either propagating or negating economic inequality (Bapuji and Chrispal, in press; Rauf and Prasad, in press). As researchers who are interested in moral phenomena in the context of organizational and professional life, we believe that business ethics can benefit from (and contribute to) this context-sensitive approach that is at the heart of the new sociology of morality. Considering the vast areas of common interests between sociologists and business ethics scholars (see the list of possible themes and topics below), there are numerous ways by which to bridge research on the new sociology of morality with myriad extant research agendas within the purview of business ethics.
In sum, business ethics research has always been a pluralistic domain where insights from multiple disciplines enrich one another (Brenkert and Beauchamp, 2010; Prasad and Mills, 2010). At this juncture, it seems timely for researchers of business ethics to take note of recent developments in the new sociology of morality. We suggest that making more explicit connections between the sociology of morality and business ethics would significantly advance both fields, as well as facilitate the ongoing interdisciplinary dialogue about the role of morality in organizational and social life.

<u>Possible Themes and Topics</u>
We welcome both theoretical and empirical papers that contribute to the further integration of the new sociology of morality into business ethics research. The list of possible themes and topics includes, though is not limited to, the following:
· Which theoretical models can be developed in order to advance our understanding of the moral and normative aspects of business organizations, especially given the contradiction between ethical

norms and the logic of efficiency and profit maximization? What is the relation of business ethics studies to larger social theory? (Heckscher, 2009)
· Why are some people more inclined than others to make sense of business situations in moral terms? Why some organizational members are more inclined than others to act morally? Which factors explain this variability of individuals in organizations and markets? Where does the moral self/identity of individuals come from? (Stets and Carter, 2011, 2012)
· What distinguishes the morality of those who are required to do emotional labor and those who are not? How do the emotional experiences of people in different organizations or societies inform their moral understandings (Hitlin and Harkness, 2018)? What is the relationship between emotions and moral meanings and rules? (Harkness and Hitlin, 2014; Turner, 2010)
· When do processes of thinking, articulating, analyzing, and deliberating lead professionals toward making moral decisions and when do they drive them away from morality? How is organizational morality influenced by our discursive and practical consciousness (Vaisey, 2009, 2014)? What is the relationship between cognitive schemas and moral choices? (Boudon, 2010; Firat and MacPherson, 2010)
· How do business people maintain their morals and integrity in organizations or fields that push them in the opposite direction? How do workers resist the managerial pressures to act immorally? What strategies do people use to maintain their morals in an immoral social environment? (Barnard, 2016)
· What aspects of business ethics have remained out of sight because they have not been easy to investigate using our current research methods? Which aspects of morality in organizations, professions, and markets do not lend themselves to quantification and experiments? (Abend, 2011, 2013)
· How do morals in business workspaces appear, disappear, and change over time? How do the moral boundaries and definitions of trade and exchange change over time? (Alexander, 2002; Alexander and Smith, 2001; Shadnam, 2014)
· What explains corporate giving and philanthropy? Why do some business owners or managers decide to give away their resources with expectations of little or uncertain return? (Bykov, 2017)
· What is the role of moral motivation in considering wide ecological consequences of organizational and business decision-making? (Bebbington and Gray, 1993; Lambert, 2000)

Paper Development Workshop

Potential contributors are strongly encouraged to participate in the Paper Development Workshop (PDW) that will be held on April 26th, 2019 at MacEwan University in Edmonton, AB, Canada. All three Guest Editors of the Thematic Symposium as well as the JBE's Section Editor for 'Business Ethics and Sociology' will be present at the PDW, and will share their vision, insights, and expectations with the audience. The participants get to present their ideas and receive feedback from the editors and other colleagues in the field on how to improve their work. To register for the PDW, please send an abstract to shadnamm@macewan.ca by March 1st, 2019.

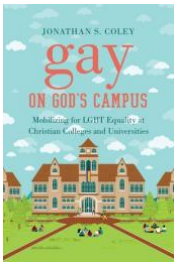
Submission Process and Deadline

Authors should refer to the Journal of Business Ethics website and follow the author instructions when submitting a paper. For more information see: http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/applied+ethics/journal/10551. Manuscripts should be submitted through the Editorial Manager at: http://www.editorialmanager.com/busi/ . Upon submission, please indicate that your submission is to this Special Issue.

The submission deadline is **September 1st, 2019**.
Cited references are available on our website.

Gay on God's Campus: Mobilizing for LGBT Equality at Christian Colleges and Universities, by Jonathan S. Coley

New book announcement



Although the LGBT movement has made rapid gains in the United States, LGBT people continue to face discrimination in faith communities. In this book, sociologist **Jonathan S. Coley** documents why and how student activists mobilize for greater inclusion at Christian colleges and universities. Drawing on interviews with student activists at a range of Christian institutions of higher learning, Coley shows that students, initially drawn to activism because of their own political, religious, or LGBT identities, are forming direct action groups that transform university policies, educational groups that open up campus dialogue, and solidarity groups that facilitate their members' personal growth. He also shows how these LGBT activists apply their skills and values after graduation in subsequent political campaigns, careers, and family lives, potentially serving as change agents in their faith communities for years to come. Coley's findings shed light on a new frontier of LGBT activism and challenge prevailing wisdom about the characteristics of activists, the purpose of activist groups, and ultimately the nature of activism itself.

The book received the **Mid-South Sociological Association's Stanford M. Lyman Distinguished Book Award** in 2018. For more information please see **The University of North Carolina Press**'s website.

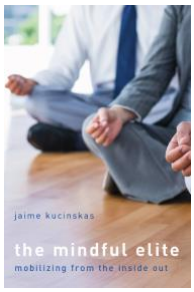
Jonathan S. Coley is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Oklahoma State University. Coley's research focuses on social movements, particularly movements for minority-group inclusion in conservative settings. Coley's research primarily addresses questions related to social movement participation, culture and social movements, and religion, social inequality, and social change.

The Mindful Elite: Mobilizing from the inside Out, by Jaime Kucinskas

New book announcement

The Mindful Elite examines how a movement of countercultural professionals seeks to implement progressive social change by bringing mindfulness meditation programs into a variety of professional institutions. Based on over a hundred interviews with top scientists, contemplative religious leaders, educators, business people and investors, the book shows how mindful leaders' choices to spread meditation through elite networks in unobtrusive, collaborative ways both facilitated the rapid spread of mindful meditation across powerful institutional fields, yet undermined meditators' intentions to make society more just, democratic and less materialistic.

By analyzing the advantages and weaknesses of this elite movement, the book reveals the tensions between the movement's lofty promises to enhance mental, physical, and spiritual well-being, and increase a moral social consciousness, and their use of elite networks to promote their 'interventions'. Ultimately, due to their focus on individual transformation and commitment to cater to targeted institutions' preferences and needs, mindful interventions did little to alter the organizations they were embedded within.



The book offers a critical reflection on how elite institutional insiders can use the many kinds of social and economic power at their disposal to advance their social and moral causes, yet remain constrained by the institutions they are a part of. As such tensions unfold and surface, movement organizations can face such challenges directly through collective processes of reflection and authenticity building. By focusing on the mechanisms which led to the successes and shortcomings of this elite spiritual movement, this case offers lessons for other movements seeking change across institutional fields through elite insiders.

Read more about the book on **Oxford University Press**'s website.

Jaime Kucinskas is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Hamilton College and a Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Maryland - College Park (2018-2019). Kucinskas' research interests span the sociology of religion, inequality, social movements, cultural and organizational change and field development. Kucinskas is researching the mainstreaming of Buddhist meditation and lived religion in secular institutions in the West.

Member announcements

Patricia (Trish) Snell Herzog recently joined the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy as the Melvin Simon Chair of Philanthropy and Associate Professor of Philanthropic Studies and as an affiliated faculty with the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving.

New publications:

Dromi, Shai M. and Samuel D. Stabler. 2019. "Good on paper: Sociological critique, pragmatism, and secularization theory." *Theory & Society* 48(2): 325-250.

Dromi, Shai M. and Liron Shani. 2019. "Love of land: Nature protection, nationalism, and the struggle over the establishment of new settlements in Israel." *Rural Sociology* Online ahead of print.

Dromi, Shai M. and Gülay Türkmen. 2019. "What does trauma have to with politics? Cultural trauma and the displaced founding political elites of Israel and Turkey." *The Sociological Quarterly* Online ahead of print.

Evans, M.D.R. and Jonathan Kelley. 2019. "Prejudice against immigrants symptomizes a larger syndrome, is strongly diminished by socioeconomic development, and the UK is not an outlier: Insights from the WVS, EVS, and EQLS surveys." *Frontiers in Sociology* volume 4, Feb 26 2019.

Firat, Rengin B., Hye Won Kwon, and Steven Hitlin. 2018. "A Novel Measure of Moral Boundaries: Testing Perceived In-Group/Out-Group Value Differences in a Midwestern Sample." *Socius*, 4: 1-11.

ASA Annual Meeting Sessions – New York City

Section sessions and events

Paper session: Norms, Culture, and Cooperation
Tue, August 13, 8:30 to 10:10am, Sheraton New York, Lower Level, Columbus Circle

This panel will consider empirical and theoretical approaches to questions about pro-social group behavior from the perspective of the sociology of culture and group dynamics. The panel will highlight questions of the conditions under which cooperative group norms emerge and change, and the implications of cooperative norms within groups. Are there asymmetries in the group dynamics relevant to norms that support cooperation and those that undermine it? Under what conditions do deliberate attempts by groups or outsides to change pro-social norms work or fail to work? The session will also consider how social norms interface with current theorizing about culture.

Session organizer: ***Hana Shepherd***, Rutgers University

Papers:

Communication Breakdown: The Importance of Status Coordination Norms for Group Cohesion
Nicholas Heiserman, University of South Carolina
Lynn Gencianeo Chin, Washington and Lee University
Jon Overton, Kent State University

It is a classic sociological paradox that status hierarchies generate struggles over status (Bendersky & Hays 2017) and inequality in emotions (Lovaglia and Houser 1996; Tiedens, Ellsworth, and Mesquita 2000) yet are extremely stable (Berger et al. 1977; Anderson & Brown 2010). How can people in status-differentiated groups feel emotionally attached to their groups when some members are granted less respect and value than others (Lovaglia and Houser 1998; Tiedens, Ellsworth, and Mesquita 2000; Ridgeway and Nakagawa 2017)? We propose a simple, but powerful answer: the organizing rules of status help groups smoothly coordinate task interactions, and that successful coordination creates good feelings, which promotes group members' commitment to their group. In other words, status hierarchies are associated with norms that help groups get on "the same page" and allow them to coordinate effectively as a social unit rather than as disparate individuals. We examine this proposition in two ways. First, by qualitatively examining participant accounts of group interaction on shared tasks for the existence of coordination norms, and second, by running a vignette experiment to test whether people actually hold norms that associate status hierarchies with smooth coordination more than they do for non-status differentiated groups. In doing so, we generalize insights from Expectation States Theory (Berger et al. 1977; Berger, Wagner, & Webster 2014) and the Theory of Social Commitments (Lawler, Thye & Yoon 2009) to analyze the role of status hierarchies themselves as well as individual status positions.

Getting from Trust to Cooperation: The Moderating Role of Cultural Social Trust
Joshua Franklin Doyle, Duke University

The consequences of environmental problems like climate change will likely cause numerous social problems if they go unaddressed, making understanding support for interventions a concern for social scientists. Because these problems are public goods problems, characterized by uncertainty and free-riding fears, social trust, a belief in the trustworthiness of people in general, is an important predictor of willingness to support protections. In this paper, I draw on cross-disciplinary theory and research to argue that whether social trust leads to willingness to pay for this public good depends on the widely-held beliefs about social trust in a person's culture. I test this proposition in two studies. The first, using cross-national data from the International Social Survey Programme's Environment III survey, the second, using an online experiment in which participants must decide whether to cooperate to form a public good in real-time. I show that whether social trust leads to willingness and cooperation depends on widely-held beliefs about social trust in their information environment. My findings highlight cultural trust as a factor in addressing environmental problems, and more broadly, as a factor in individual decision-making in social dilemmas.

Generalized or Parochial Altruism? Evidence from a Nationwide Lost-Letter Experiment
Delia Baldassarri, New York University

What explains variation in levels of prosocial behavior across communities? And what is the relationship between ingroup and outgroup prosociality? According to theories of generalized altruism, market integration should lead to greater levels of prosociality: Market exchange forces people to interact with unknown others, thus creating the conditions for the extension of prosocial behavior beyond close-knit circles to include outgroup members and strangers. In contrast, according to the parochial altruism approach, norms of solidarity are confined within the group and do not extend to outgroup members: In-group favoritism, and possibly out-group hostility, should lead to systematic differences in the way individuals are treated. The current study takes advantage of an ideal setting to test both hypotheses. It reports results from the first, nationally representative lost-letter experiment in which 5,980 letters were dispersed in a sample of 188 Italian communities. The study confirms the primacy of market integration in accounting for differences in levels of prosociality: in areas where market exchange is dominant return rates are high, and, in general, return rates for both in and outgroup recipients move hand-in-hand. The generalized altruism approach is thus supported, while there is no evidence in favor of the parochial altruism hypothesis: return rates for in and outgroup recipients are the same, they vary together, and ingroup returns are highly predictive of outgroup returns at the community level.

Powered Down: The Micro-foundations of Organizational Attempts to Redistribute Power
Amanda Barrett Cox, Bryn Mawr College

Through phenomena such as "doing gender," "doing difference," managing emotions, and the labeling of deviance, interactions often produce and reinforce inequalities. This paper focuses on the other side of the interactional coin: What types of interactions facilitate the balancing of power across institutional roles? This paper investigates how actors attempt to shed power they might otherwise possess—that is, how they seek to minimize or erase role-based inequalities. I draw on ethnographic data from two sites engaged in deliberate attempts to shift power relations within their respective organizations: a private philanthropic foundation seeking to transfer control over its grant-

making to a community-based board, and a democratic school designed to give students and adults an equal voice in decisions. To understand how individuals who would otherwise be in positions of power and authority attempt to balance power across institutional roles, I analyze interactions between foundation representatives and grant recipients and between staff and students. I offer a typology of power-balancing encounters and focus on two types of encounters that facilitate the balancing of power relations—symmetrizing encounters and encompassing encounters. I show how encounters of these types include interactions in which organization staff at each site interactionally deflect any authoritarian role, monitor and minimize their own influence, emphasize their own and others' accountability to the organizations' collectively created rules and procedures, and facilitate the participation of community members and students in decision-making processes. I argue that the sustained, power-balancing potential of these types of encounters is based on their being embedded in institutionalized, power-balancing structures within the organization. Drawing on Giddens' structuration theory, I argue that these power-balancing encounters and structures are mutually reinforcing.

When Virtue Becomes Obligation: Competitive Morality and the Overproduction of Prosocial Behavior
James Y. Chu, Stanford University

To successfully operate in low-resource or authoritarian settings, organizations often must motivate members to pursue collective aims often at the expense of material self-interest. Although research has focused on identifying mechanisms that produce prosocial behavior, this study explores the neglected possibility that organizations struggle equally with the overproduction of prosocial behavior. In living with and interviewing teachers over a five-month period, I describe how prosocial behavior was overproduced at the "Sunshine School," a Chinese nonprofit organization serving low-income students migrating from rural to urban areas. I find that teachers endowed their work with moral significance through perceptions of students as helpless victims of government policies. Furthermore, the principal framed status competitions around moral virtue rather than competence. Thus, when teachers volunteered for additional duties, other teachers felt that unwillingness to participate would threaten their moral status, fueling runaway cycles of moral competition that culminated in high rates of teacher burnout. Leveraging this ethnographic case, I develop a theory of when prosocial behavior is likely to be overproduced: 1) when prosocial behavior is seen as related to an individual's moral worth, and 2) individuals' levels of prosocial behavior are evaluated relative to their peers. In such settings, the same mechanisms that enable organizations to accomplish collective aims may also lead to cycles of competitive morality that are unsustainable for individuals. By exploring when individual interests are overly constrained, this study invites further work to explore a more nuanced dilemma: one that is not merely about producing prosocial behavior but how to balance production and overproduction.

Paper session: Open Topic on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity
Tue, August 13, 12:30 to 2:10pm, Sheraton New York, Lower Level, Columbus Circle

Session organizer and presider: ***Alexis Pang***, Consortium Research Fellows Program

Papers:

Avoiding intimacy: On beneficent boundaries and new civic management in virtual voluntary social work

Ane Grubb, Aalborg University

Over the past decades, politicians across western welfare states and ideologies have taken a keen interest in voluntary social work and the potential related to the special kind of care provided by social volunteers. Third sector scholars observe with concern how this interest entails instrumentalization, rationalization, marketization or hybridization of third sector organisations, which can work to the detriment of the beneficiaries. Despite the intensified focus on the potentials and perils related to the interaction between volunteers and beneficiaries, few studies provide detailed accounts on what such interaction looks like in practice and how it is influenced by logics and technologies in the organizational and institutional environment. Based on an in-depth case study of "Project Virtual Tutoring" that provides virtual voluntary tutoring for at-risk youth, this paper shows how an organization that must navigate the current, turbulent, institutional environment, created a form of interaction between volunteer and beneficiary that is efficient, activity-focused and user-oriented. Contrary to studies that show how the hybridization and marketization of the third sector works to the detriment of the beneficiary as it allows for destructive “plug-in” volunteers to gather experiences of instant intimacy with at-risk-users without influence, this paper demonstrates how a pronounced rationalization and market-orientation - in interdependence with ICT - can work to the benefit of the users. The combination of ICT-based interaction and constant need for positive external branding replaces the roles as “beneficiary in need” and “resourceful volunteer stooping down to help” with the roles as “critical user” and “voluntary social service provider”. The need for providing a user-oriented kind of volunteering (“volunteering on demand”) thus limited the risk of philanthropic paternalism, enabled both

Borders of Compassion: International Migration and Parochial Altruism

Alexander Kustov, Princeton University

Widespread opposition to immigration among educated and racially egalitarian voters is hard to explain using existing frameworks of self-interest or prejudice. I address this puzzle by developing a theory of parochial altruism, which argues that many people are willing to help others at a cost, but they want to help their fellow citizens first. Thus, most altruistic voters who are partial toward their compatriots are expected to oppose globally beneficial policies that forgo their national interest. As a result, voters tend to favor immigration restrictions that they perceive as necessary to secure the well-being of compatriots. To test my theory against alternative explanations, I conduct a population-based UK study with incentivized games and choice experiments. First, using a novel measure of elicited preferences, I find that most altruists who choose to donate to domestic as opposed to global charities are as anti-immigration as those who choose not to donate at all. Second, using a pre-registered conjoint experiment of policy choice, I demonstrate that, despite ethnic biases, most voters can support increasing immigration from non-European countries if they believe it benefits themselves and their compatriots. As indicated by similar findings from my studies in other countries, the dynamic of parochial altruism generalizes across contexts.

Understanding the Social Science Effect: An Intervention in Life-Course Generosity

Patricia Snell Herzog, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
Casey Taggart Harris, University of Arkansas

Shauna A. Morimoto, University of Arkansas
Jared L. Peifer, Baruch College

Does interacting with social science data in early adulthood promote generosity? To investigate this question from a life-course development perspective, two distinct samples were drawn for a survey with an embedded experimental design. The first sample is of emerging adult college students (n=30, median age=20). The second sample is of young adults who were selected to participate based on their prior participation in a nationally representative and longitudinal study (n=170, median age=31). Toward the end of the survey, participants were randomly selected into a website interaction with either: (a) data on charitable giving, (b) data on social inequality, or (c) data about weather (a control condition). The key outcome of interest is a behavioral measure of generosity: whether participants elected to keep their study incentive or donate their incentive to a charitable organization. The donation decision occurred after the randomly selected website interaction. Interacting with charitable giving data resulted in greater generosity than interacting with weather data, across both samples. Interacting with social inequality data had mixed results. Moreover, emerging adult college students gave at a considerably higher rate overall than the national sample of young adults, net of treatment type. Implications are discussed.

Invited session: Solidarity and Morality in the Age of Trump
Tue, August 13, 10:30 to 11:30am, Sheraton New York, Lower Level, Columbus Circle

From the Women's Marches to the March For Our Lives, large numbers of people have taken to the streets in local communities across the United States to protest President Trump and his administration. How have these communities mobilized? What is the basis of their solidarity? On what moral frameworks have they drawn? To what extent are they changing the nature of political discourse and public debates? This session will address these and related questions to understand solidarity and morality in the age of Trump.

Session organizer and presider: ***Kraig Beyerlein***, University of Notre Dame

Papers:
Protest, Organizing, and the 2018 Midterm Election
Kenneth (Andy) Andrews, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Neal Caren, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Tax Resistance, Morality and Political Community in the Age of Trump
Ruth Braunstein, University of Connecticut

After the March: Using Instagram to Perform and Sustain the Women's March
Rachel L. Einwohner, Purdue University
Elle Rochford, Purdue University

Beyond Motherhood: Gun Violence Prevention Activism in the Age of Trump
Mary Bernstein, University of Connecticut
Jordan McMillan Rees, University of Connecticut
Elizabeth Eileen Charash, Queen's University, Belfast

Section on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity Business Meeting
Tue, August 13, 11:30am to 12:10pm, Sheraton New York, Lower Level, Columbus Circle

Joint Reception: Section on Sociology of Emotions, Social Psychology, Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity
Mon, August 12, 6:00 to 9:00pm, Offsite, Haswell Green's, 240 W 52nd St, New York, NY 10019, USA

We hope you will join us in New York!