

# SOCIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023

## Message from the Chair

As the fall begins we are excited to welcome a new cohort of graduate students. It is wonderful to welcome folks back to the department this fall. It is the first fall in a number of years that feels “normal” and we will transition back to fully in-person classes and events.

As a department we continue to have tremendous impact on pressing social issues and debates as can be seen with the selection of publications featured in this newsletter. We also have colleagues and students taking on significant leadership roles, publishing in our disciplines top journals, and regularly engaging media on a wide range of issues such as housing, race, care, work, families, aging, or the environment to name but a few examples.

We have also seen students and faculty recognized through external awards as well as success at pursuing Social Science and Humanities Research Council grants and scholarships. In addition, a number of students have defended their dissertations and we have seen students and faculty take on leadership roles in journals and professional associations.

As we move into the fall, we look forward to seeing you and hope that you stay in touch.

## New Members of the Department



We are very pleased to welcome Lora Phillips who joined the department as an Assistant Professor. Lora investigates issues of inequality, precarity, vulnerable populations, health and well-being, as well as urban sociology.



Kamila Kolpashnikova has joined as an Assistant Professor and researches time use, gendered division of labour, east Asia, demography, and quantitative sociology.



Brenda Kobayashi has also joined the department as an Assistant Professor. Brenda's interests focus on youth justice, youth and society, punishment, socio-legal issues, law and order, and criminology.



## Awards and Recognitions

Kate Choi has been elected as a Council Member for the ASA Family Section and has joined the editorial board of the American Sociological Review.

Patrick Denice has been appointed as a Deputy Editor of the journal [Sociology of Education](#).

Jasmine Ha was successful in being awarded a SSHRC Insight Development Grant.

Anders Holm won the Innovation award for the KHB method of comparing coefficients across models.

Kaitlynn Mendes was named as a Western University [Faculty Scholar for 2023](#) in recognition of her significant scholarly achievements in teaching and research.

Kaitlynn Mendes was part of a team that won a SSHRC grant on synthesizing knowledge on tech-facilities sexual violence.

Michael Haan is the recipient of the 2023 Metropolis Canada Researcher Award of Excellence.



Teresa Abada



Lauren Barr



Kate Choi



Patrick Denice



Wolfgang  
Lehmann



Anabel  
Quan-Haase



Howard  
Ramos

## Taking the Lead

Teresa Abada is the Director of the Collaborative Graduate Program in [Migration and Ethnic Relations \(MER\)](#), an interdisciplinary program for graduate students to study migration, ethnic relations, cultural diversity, conflict, acculturation, and the integration of migrants. She is also the Acting Director of the Statistics Canada Research Data Centre at Western. The [Research Data Centre \(RDC\)](#) enables scholars at Western to access secure data from Statistics Canada for research, provides training, and assists in the dissemination of research results.

Tracey Adams has been elected President of the Research Cluster on Professional Groups (RC52) in the [International Sociological Association](#).

Lauren Barr is the Learning Administrator at the [London Health Science Centre](#).

Kate Choi is the Director of the Centre for Research on Social Inequality, part of the [NEST group of research centres](#). The Centre for Research on Social Inequality is a community of scholars working and collaborating on research and methods that advance the scientific understanding of social inequality. She has also been appointed as Child Health Research Institute (CHRI) Scientist at [LHSC's Division of Children's Health and Therapeutics](#).

Patrick Denice has taken on the role of Graduate Chair for the next three years.

Wolfgang Lehmann is the Assistant Dean, Student Experience for the Faculty of Social Science.

Anabel Quan-Haase is the Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies in The Faculty of Information and Media Studies.

Howard Ramos is the Chair of the [Canadian Statistics Advisory Council](#) which advises the Chief Statistician and Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry.

PhD student Yue Teng has been elected as the student representative for the [Canadian Population Society](#).

## Graduate Student Achievements

### The following students completed a Masters Degree in Sociology in 2023:

Yvonne Adeku  
Emily Branov  
Jillian Douglas  
Samar El Masri  
Xena Elghazali  
Alessia Franco  
Marouna Gomes

Brittany Gordon  
Emily Hans  
Tayma Hayek  
Kristina Ibrahim  
Trent Lebens  
Paris Mcfarlane  
Stephanie Pongracz

Sheridan Shenkin  
Harkiran Singh  
Jackie Tan  
Devon Way  
Tian Yi Xu

Kaitlin Wannamaker successfully defended her MA Thesis “Matters of Measurement: Investigating the Universal Welfare State.”

### PhD Completed

Shahar Dangur-Levy successfully defended her PhD Thesis “Mathematics Self-Efficacy and its Relation to STEM Education.”

Cliff Davidson successfully defended his PhD Thesis “Disengaged or Differently Engaged? Students’ Motivations, Expectations, and Engagement in the Multi-Expectational Undergraduate Experience.”

Katelyn Mitri successfully defended her PhD Thesis titled “The World Awaits! An Audit Study Measuring Employment Outcomes of Study Exchanges.”

Vesna Pajovic successfully defended her PhD Thesis “Examining long-term change in employment across men’s and women’s life course using the PSID: Employment stability, multiple jobholding, and women’s labour force participation.”

Syna Thakur successfully defended her PhD Thesis “Finding Azadi: South Asian Canadian Women’s Experiences of Sexual Well-Being”.

Julie Young successfully defended her PhD Thesis “Neoliberalism, Race and Empowerment: A Study of Microenterprise Programs in Toronto and Los Angeles.”

### Award Winning Graduate Students

Maria Ahmed (PhD candidate) was recognized as part of Western’s [Inspiring Minds Showcase](#) and was awarded a SSHRC doctoral fellowship.

Kamma Andersen was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

Matthew Arkininstall was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

Sophia Attema was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

Melissa Elliott was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

Meaghan Furlano was awarded a SSHRC Canada graduate scholarship, masters.

William Hollingshead was awarded a SSHRC doctoral fellowship.

Melissa Knowles was awarded a SSHRC Canada graduate scholarship, masters.

Nicholas Langdon was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

Yuchen Li was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

Shannon Mok was awarded a SSHRC doctoral fellowship.

Ina Palii was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

## Graduate Student Publications

Postdoctoral researcher Manfred Asuman published book chapter "[Livelihood Improvement Through Participatory Mass Communications: A Study on Community Radio and the Lives of Women in Northern Ghana](#)" in *Indigenous African Language Media*.

PhD Student Elena Draghici, Anders Holm and Michael Haan published "[Employment success of social assistance recipients: A provincial analysis by industry](#)" in the *Canadian Review of Sociology*.

Laura Huey with PhD student Lorna Ferguson published "[It's all about covering your . . .](#)": The unintended consequences of police accountability measures" in *Criminology and Criminal Justice*.

Masters Alumnus Georgina Chuatico, Michael Haan with PhD student Lindsay Finlay and others published "[Forms of Capital in the Economic Integration of Immigrants in Canada](#)" in the *Journal of International Migration and Integration*.

Anna Zajacova led a team, including PhD student Merita Limani, published an article on "[Prevalence and correlates of prescription opioid use among US adults, 2019–2020](#)" in *PLOS ONE*.

Michael Haan and PhD student Taylor Paul, with others, published "[The Geographic Mobility of Journeypersons in Canada: Evidence from Administrative Data](#)" in *Population Research and Policy Review*.

Phd student Estefania Reyes and Kaitlynn Mendes were part of a team that published "[Young people need more support coping with online sexual harms](#)" in *The Conversation*.

PhD Student Matthew Stackhouse led a team, with Howard Ramos, that published "[Perceptions of local environment change and ecological habitus](#)" in *Environmental Sociology*.

Kaitlyn Wannamaker (MA student) published a [book review](#) in the *Canadian Journal of Sociology*.



## Undergraduate Student Achievements

Gold Medal Winners for highest module average were presented to the following students:

Kylie Frankfort	Honours Specialization Sociology
Georgia Blumberger	Honours Specialization Criminology
Danielle Friedman	Honours Double Major Criminology
Anjali Bhaherratha	Honours Double Major Sociology

The Sociology Undergraduate Award was given to Emily Bunch

CSA Awards winners: Laura Hinatsu (non-honours) and Christine Taylahardat (honours)

## Recent Faculty Publications

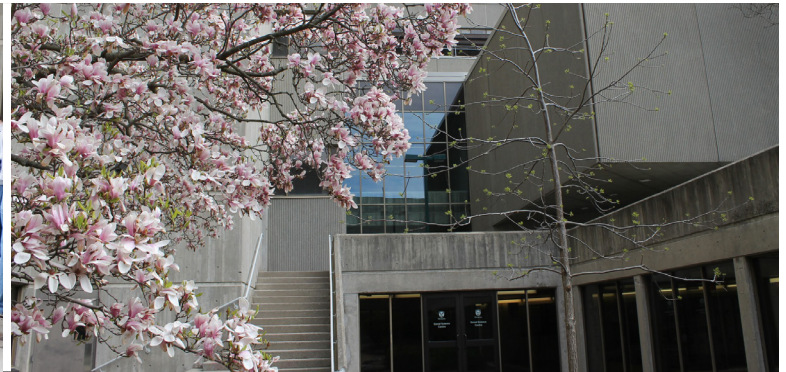
### Health and the Life Course

Tracey Adams published "[Professions, Knowledge, and Workplace Change: The Case of Canadian Engineers](#)" in *Professions and Proficiency*.

Kate Choi and Patrick Denice published "[The Pandemic played into ageist stereotypes, but intergenerational contact and co-operation can overcome them](#)" in *The Conversation*.

Rachel Margolis was part of a team that published "[The Changing Demography of Late-Life Family Caregiving: A Research Agenda to Understand Future Care Networks for An Aging U.S. Population](#)" in *The Gerontologist*.

Anna Zajacova led a team that published "[Chronic pain among U.S. sexual minority adults who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or 'something else'](#)" in *PAIN*.



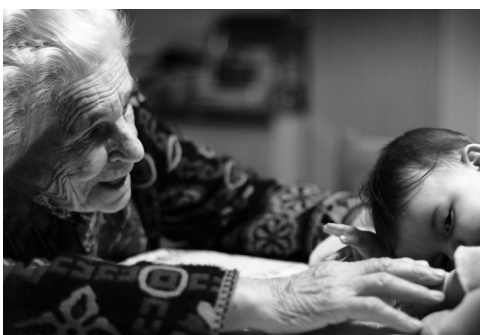
### Power and Justice

David Calnitsky just published "[A Class Functionalist Theory of Race](#)" in the *Du Bois Review*.

Laura Huey published "[The ethics of using deception to gain institutional access](#)" in an edited collection on Ethical Dilemmas in International Criminological Research.

Kaitlynn Mendes co-wrote "[#ButNotMaternity: Analysing Instagram posts of reproductive politics under pandemic crisis](#)" in the *European Journal of Cultural Studies*.

Anabel Quan-Haase was part of a team that published "[Women-Focused Nonprofit Organizations and Their Use of Twitter During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Characterizing a Gendered Pandemic Through Information, Community, and Action](#)" in *Social Media + Society*.



## Social Demography and Migration

Kate Choi published "[The rise of the childless single in South Korea](#)" in the *Journal of Family Theory & Review*.

Patrick Denice's paper on "[Spatial mismatch and the share of Black, Hispanic, and White students enrolled in charter schools](#)," published in *Sociology of Education* received an Honorable Mention for the Best Post-PhD Paper Award from the Sociology of Education Association.

Anders Holm was part of a group that published "[What cultural hierarchy? Cultural tastes, status and inequality](#)" in the *British Journal of Sociology*.

Howard Ramos, with Suzanne Staggenborg published [Social Movements](#) book with Oxford University Press. It is the 4th edition with significant updates and more international comparisons.

## Work and the Economy

Tracey Adams was part of a team that published "[Place matters: Midwives' interprofessional relations in rural and urban institutional contexts](#)" in *Social Science & Medicine: Qualitative Research in Health*.

Patrick Denice co-authored "[The law vs. salary secrecy: Why the age-old taboo against revealing your salary is proving impossible to break](#)" in *Business Insider*.

PhD Alumnus Vesna Pajovic, Sean Waite with Nicole Denier, published "[Sexual orientation and self-employment: New evidence](#)" in the *Canadian Review of Sociology*.

Anna Zajacova was part of a team that publish "[U.S. state policy contexts and mortality of working-age adults](#)" in *PLOS ONE*.

## Examples of Making Headlines and Driving the Agenda

Tracey Adams was quoted in the *Globe and Mail* on [how women surgeons are treated from the operating room to hospital boardroom, women surgeons aren't treated equally](#).

Kate Choi was part of a discussion with Alan Shepard and Eric Arts on [equity issues and the pandemic](#). She met with the Speaker of the House Anthony Rota and other Parliamentarians on Parliament Hill to [showcase the impact of her SSHRC-funded research](#).

Rachel Margolis' work was cited in the economist's recent film "[The cost of having children](#)." Myrskylä and Margolis 2014: *Happiness Before and After the Kids*.

Michael Haan was interviewed by CBC News about the release of the [1931 census](#) and spoke with the *Toronto Star* about [why many new immigrants are leaving Canada](#).

Anabel Quan-Haase spoke with CBC Afternoon Drive [about the amount of time people spend on their devices and how apps work to retain people's attention](#).

Howard Ramos was interviewed by *Canadian Press* about [conservative voters less likely to say they're proud to be Canadian](#), survey suggests.

Anna Zajacova's research on [LGBTQ+ adults higher rates of pain](#) was featured in *Western News*.

## Alumni News

MA Alumna, Emily Branov started a job at Western in the Employer Relations Unit as the Accessibility Coordinator for Work Intergrated Learning.

MA Alumna, Emily Orr started a job as a Research Associate at the University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford (part of the University of Illinois Chicago system) with the Division of Health Research and Evaluation.

PhD Alumna, Jennifer Silcox, started a position as an [Assistant Professor at King's University](#).

Laura Wright (Alumnus PhD) has been appointed as a council member to the [Canadian Population Society](#).

Huijing Wu, a postdoc in our department working with Rachel Margolis, landed a position as a researcher at the National Health Research Institute in Taiwan - The Center for Geriatrics and Welfare Research. This is a new center and she'll be the first demographer or sociologist there!

## Upcoming Events - hope to see you there!

Our Sociology Colloquium Series features a diverse series of speakers this fall and winter. Full details of the series can be found on the [colloquium series webpage](#) and all are welcome. Please make a point of joining us. Would you like to be included in the email notification list for this speaker series? Contact [socevent@uwo.ca](mailto:socevent@uwo.ca).

### **Balakrishnan Distinguished Lecture - Shelley Clark**

Thursday, September 28th - 3:00pm-4:00pm  
Weldon Community Room

### **Colloquium Series - Koji Chavez**

Friday, October 20th - 11:00am-12:00pm  
Social Science Centre 5220

Teresa Abada has arranged for interesting guest speakers for the [Migration and Ethnic Relations Collaborative Specialization Colloquium Series](#). These talks bring together scholar and practitioner experts in real-world issues in implementing policy or providing services to immigrant and refugee populations. These colloquia are open to students, staff and faculty across Western, and to local community members.

## Lets stay in touch!

Please share your news and all that you  
have been up to:

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