



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Department of Sociology



Ph.D. Program Reaches New Milestone

By: Victoria Babcock

Dr. Hilary Dotson, visiting faculty in the Department of Sociology, is the first graduate of the University of South Florida's Sociology Ph.D. program. The program has existed for six years and is now home to 26 doctoral candidates.

"I've been a graduate student for seven years, five at USF and two getting my Master's," said Dotson. "It's definitely different, but it's an exciting change."

Dr. Maralee Mayberry and Dr.

Donileen Loseke created the department's Ph.D. program. They're both extremely proud to see the first graduate of their creation.

"Although I wasn't Hilary's mentor or even on her committee, I think of her as the 'first born' child of our program and I am very proud," said Loseke. "She is an excellent sociologist and the first of many who will come from the USF sociology family."

(Continued on page 3)



Sociology Ph.D. student Hilary Dotson is hooded at this summer's graduation ceremony on August, 9, 2014 at the Sundome. Dr. Dotson is the first graduate of the Sociology Department's Ph.D. Program, implemented in 2009.

SocioFeed

The Official Newsletter
of the Department of
Sociology

**Volume 2, Issue 1
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Welcome to Our Department!

Dr. **Kiri Gurd** received her Ph.D. in Sociology from Boston University. She joins us as one of the Provost's Post-Doctoral Fellows.

Ms. **Shani Garza** joins the department as its academic advisor for Sociology majors. She also will be advising students from Humanities and Cultural Studies.



Ms. Shani Garza will be advising undergraduate Sociology and Humanities students.

Career Moves

Dr. **Emelda Curry** has accepted the position of Permanent Instructor in Sociology as well as Program Development Coordinator.

Ms. **Fransheska Andaluz** joins the department full-time as an Academic Program Specialist.

Dr. **Hilary Dotson** joins us this year as a Visiting Instructor. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from USF in 2014.

Dr. **Mustafa Gurbuz**, Provost's Post-doctoral Scholar from 2012-14 is now a Research Fellow at the Center for Global Policy at George Mason University and Fellow at Rethink Institute in Washington, D.C.

Announcements

Outstanding Senior in Sociology Award 2014-2015

The Outstanding Senior in Sociology Award is given to a senior sociology major who has distinguished him/herself while attending the University of South Florida. **The \$500 award is presented to the recipient in their last year of undergraduate work. The winner's name will appear on a plaque in the Sociology Department's main office for years to come.**

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Declared major in Sociology
2. Currently enrolled at USF (during the semester in which application is made)
3. Senior Status (have completed 90 hours prior to semester in which application is made)
4. USF GPA of 3.00 or higher
5. Overall USF Major GPA of 3.00 or higher
6. Completed at least 12 hours of Sociology coursework at USF prior to the semester in which application is made

Application Process:

1. The application and supporting documents (documents including PDF of your DegreeWorks audit) must be submitted electronically by e-mail to Professor Maralee Mayberry at mayberry@usf.edu by the **deadline of 5:00pm, Friday, November 7, 2014**. Please give the e-mail the subject heading "OSS your name." These documents can be found on the department's website.
2. A member of the Sociology Department must sign as the sponsor of the application and write a letter of recommendation which should be submitted to Professor Maralee Mayberry by e-mail at mayberry@usf.edu or included with the application.



In spite of the rain, members of the Sociology community came out to Riverfront Park to celebrate the beginning of the 2014-15 academic year. As usual, we had plenty of cake!

Calling All Alumni!

The Sociology department is starting a new alumni organization comprised of Sociology and ISS graduates. If you are interested in joining, please email Jessica Shoenfeld at ms.jessica.arts@gmail.com. Our first activity will be a professional mixer on Tuesday, Nov. 18th at 6:30p.m. Stay tuned to our Facebook page for more details.

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Ph.D. Program (cont'd. from page 1)

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In addition to newly minted Dr. Dotson, the department also graduated eight M.A. students, all receiving their degrees at commencement ceremonies held in May and August of this year.

Of the graduating M.A. students, several went on to Ph.D. programs around the country. Blake Martin received full funding from North Carolina State University and Kaitlyn Robison will be attending Old Dominion University this fall—also with full funding. Michael Sette, also an M.A. graduate, was accepted

Dr. Dotson successfully defended her dissertation, "More to Love: Obesity Histories and Romantic Relationships in the Transition to Adulthood."

into the Sociology Ph.D. program at USF. He is one of four students who comprise the 6th cohort admitted to the doctoral program since 2009. We wish our new alumni much success and welcome the new Ph.D. students to USF!



Dr. Dotson after her dissertation defense, with Drs. Elizabeth Vaquera and Sara Green, co-chairs of her dissertation committee.

Two Cohorts of M.A. and Ph.D. Students Join the Department this Fall!

The 2014/2015 academic year welcomed 11 new graduate students, most of them with full funding. Seven new students joined the M.A. program and another four make up our 6th cohort of Ph.D. students! We were pleased to welcome them all during a department picnic at Riverfront Park in late August. It was an electric afternoon with lightning and showers drenching attendees. Festivities were moved to

the Copper Top Bar where faculty, students, and staff came together to get dry and share cake.

New students joined us this year from several countries including India and Brazil, and from various parts of the U.S., such as Illinois and Texas.

We are excited to have the students named below join USF Sociology. The new Ph.D. cohort



Graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, staff, and faculty enjoy the rain at this year's welcome picnic.



consists of Justine Egner, Rodrigo Santana de Jesus, Michael Sette, and Erik Withers. We also welcome M.A. students Jessica Altice, Monica Heimos, Melinda Maconi, Silpa Satheesh Wenonah Venter, Carley Stevens, and Jeffrey Hill! These two new cohorts of students have brought much energy to the department and we are lucky to have them as part of our Sociology Community!

M.A. students at Spring Commencement, May 3, 2014 at the Sundome. (From left to right): Amber Gregory, Jennifer Dean, Dina Vdovichenko, Veronica Doughman, Blake Martin, and Kaitlyn Robison.

Dr. John Skvoretz Organizes The International Sunbelt Social Network Conference

Social networks and the network perspective are relevant and important in many areas of inquiry. The International Sunbelt Social Network Conference is the official conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA). Dr. John Skvoretz is in his second three year term (2013-2016) as President of INSNA.

The 2014 conference, Sunbelt XXXIV was held at the TradeWinds Resort in St. Pete Beach, FL, from February

18 – February 23, 2014. The conference provided an interdisciplinary venue for social scientists, mathematicians, computer scientists, ethnologists, epidemiologists, organizational theorists, and others to present current work in the area of social networks. Dr. Skvoretz was also one of the co-organizers of this conference along with colleagues from the University of Florida, Professors H. Russell Bernard and Christopher McCarty. Jasmón Bailey, a USF

Sociology Ph.D. student, assisted with conference management. A number of USF faculty and students from other colleges and departments presented work at the sessions. The conference was attended by over 600 scholars from the USA and many foreign countries. It was the third time in the last nine years that it has been held in the Tampa Bay area, organized all three times by Dr. Skvoretz and his University of Florida colleagues.

Faculty Engage Undergraduate and Graduate Students in Research

Drs. Laurel Graham and Jenny Friedman have been active in mentoring graduate and undergraduate students this past year. Their two-year research project, “Managing Family Food Consumption,” examines the strategies local families use to select, prepare, and negotiate family food choices in a context of public health warnings and an industrialized food system. To expose students to hands-on research, in the 2013/2014 academic year, they involved five undergraduate students and one graduate student in their research by training them in qualitative methods and having them complete interviews with parents. The



Students presented findings from the “Managing Family Food Consumption” project at the 2014 Sociology Open House.

training began as part of Dr. Friedman’s Research Experience Course in fall of 2013, and continued into the spring with weekly research meetings where students learned a broad array of analytical skills. Of the students involved with the research, three went on to complete Undergraduate Honor’s theses and one wrote her Master’s thesis based on the data. Several students have presented their work at events on campus, and more than half are now accepted in competitive graduate programs. The project will continue throughout this academic year with a new set of students.

Drs. Kusenbach and Crawley bring Couch Stone Symposium to St. Pete in 2015

The current broad popularity of qualitative work in academic departments around the world has produced new challenges and opportunities for symbolic interactionists as well as others working within interpretive traditions. The conference, “Tools of the Trade: Advancing Qualitative Inquiry and Analysis” aims to explore innovations and new collaborations in qualitative methods of research and how scholars might further advance the quality and relevance of their work,

both inside and outside sociology and academia.

The conference is sponsored by the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interactionism, of which Dr. Kusenbach is president, and will be held on March 13 & 14 at the Hampton Inn & Suites in St. Petersburg, FL. Extended abstracts of proposed papers (400-600 words) must be emailed to **Maggie Cobb** at usfcouchstone@gmail.com. On a cover page, include the paper title, name and

rank (faculty or student) of all authors with affiliations, and contact information. The submission deadline is November 15, 2014. Notifications of acceptance will be given by December 1, 2014.

Information about hotel accommodations, student travel stipends, the conference program, and so on is forthcoming on the conference website: http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/couch_stone.

Faculty and Staff Awards, Publications & Service

Congratulations to the following faculty and staff for their accomplishments and service to the University and the Sociology communities:

- Dr. Sinem Adar published an opinion piece on the recent elections in Turkey titled, "Turkey: A Future of Anxiety and Unknowns." Her article was published on Al Jazeera's website.
- Dr. Robert Benford was featured on WFTS-TV last May for his insights on the effectiveness of trending hashtags for advancing social causes.
- Dr. James Cavendish was a panelist at USF's Office of Community Engagement's Poverty and Inequality Forum on Research, Action, and Community Engagement held in fall, 2013.
- Dr. Sara Crawley published an opinion piece on Michael Sam, masculinity, and the NFL in the London School of Economics U.S. American Politics and Policy Blog last April.
- Dr. Emelda Curry has started a blog about her experiences teaching a service learning course. Her blog can be found on the USF Office of Community Engagement website.



Ms. Sheela Fernandez accepts the 2013 Outstanding Staff Award with President Judy Genshaft and Provost Ralph Wilcox.

- Ms. Sheela Fernandez was a recipient of the 2013 Outstanding Staff Award. This is the second time Ms. Fernandez has been awarded with this honor.
- Dr. Cecil Greek presented "From Philadelphia to the Globe: Race and Place in the Criminology of W.E.B. Du Bois" at the conference, "Race and Place: Cultural Landscapes of Black Life in America," sponsored by the USF Institute on Black Life, February, 2014.
- Dr. Sara Green and Loren Wilbers (with R.B. Darling) published "Has the Parent Experience Changed Over Time?: A Meta-Analysis of Qualitative Studies of Parents of Children with Disabilities from 1960-2012" in an edited volume.
- Dr. Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman was awarded the 2014 USF Diversity Award for Faculty at USF's Diversity Summit on March 31, 2014.
- Dr. David Jacobson authored an opinion piece on Boko Haram drawing from his research in West Africa on cnn.com on May 11, 2014. He also published "The Us End Game in Afghanistan" in *Foreign Policy* with Derek Harvey.
- Dr. Margarethe Kusenbach was appointed Vice-President (North America) for the Research Committee 21 of the International Sociological Association. She also presented

two papers at the Association's meetings in Japan this summer.

- Dr. Donileen Loseke was awarded the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interactionism's 2014 George Herbert Mead Award for Lifetime Achievement.
- Dr. John Skvoretz published "Diversity, Integration, and Social Ties: Attraction versus Repulsion as Drivers of Intra- and Intergroup Relations" in the *American Journal of Sociology*.
- Dr. Erica Toothman, Dr. Elizabeth Vaquera, and Dr. Elizabeth Aranda were awarded Fall 2013 College of Arts and Sciences Research and Development Awards to support their research.
- Dr. Will Tyson was the only social scientist selected to be on the National Academy of Engineering's Committee on Engineering Technology Education—part of the National Academies of Sciences.
- Drs. Elizabeth Vaquera and Elizabeth Aranda published an opinion piece on the issue of in-state tuition for undocumented students in the May 1st edition of the *Orlando Sentinel*.



Dr. Kusenbach at the International Sociological Association XVIII World Congress of Sociology, July 13-19, 2014 in Yokohama, Japan.



Dr. Hordge-Freeman accepts the 2014 Diversity Award for Faculty.

Ph.D. and M.A. Student Awards and Service

Sociology graduate students have been busy at work! Congratulations to the following for their impressive accomplishments:

- Elaina Behounek was awarded a USF NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Female for her service in 2013/2014.
- Amber Gregory (M.A. 2014) was awarded best poster in her category for the research she presented at the Sixth Annual Graduate Student & Postdoctoral Scholar Research Symposium on March 17, 2014.
- Loren Wilbers received an Honorable Mention for the Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching



Loren Wilbers, Ph.D. Student, begins her term as Student Council Representative this year.

by a Graduate Assistant in the Education/Business/Social Science Category. She also was elected Student Council Representative of the Disability & Society Section of the ASA.

- The USF Graduate Assistants United selected Maria Duenas to be a UFF Senator/FEA Delegate for 2014/15. She also was elected to a two-year term as Graduate Student Board Member for the ASA's Student Forum Advisory Board.



Amber Gregory was the recipient of an award for her research.

Graduate Students Host Community Group for a Day of Learning

By: Elaina Behounek

The Sociology Graduate Student Association (SGSA) and Community Engagement Committee were happy to host the "Day at USF" event with a local non-profit organization — Pay it Forward Farm (PIFF). The event represents an effort to make connections with organizations in the Tampa Bay area and engage with the community's various constituencies.

Pay it Forward Farm is an organization that works to assist single mothers in reaching their goals and achieving success in their lives. The SGSA and Community Engagement Committee invited six PIFF members to experience what a day in the life of a USF student was like.

They began the day with a welcoming breakfast at the Marshall Center in which students from the SGSA and their guests participated in a meet-and-greet that facilitated exchanges between these groups and allowed the graduate students to get to know the young women in attendance. Throughout the day PIFF members sat in on four different courses offered by the Sociology department and taught by USF graduate students. They also toured the campus and ended the day with a debriefing where graduate students shared with the women narratives about their experiences in higher education.

The day's events were both uplifting and informative for both PIFF and SGSA members alike. The day represented a fresh beginning for the new SGSA organization engaging with the community and working toward promoting social change.

Sociology graduate students take their invited guests from the Pay it Forward Farm (PIFF) to tour USF's Tampa campus.



Sociology Students Gather for the 2nd Bi-Annual Open House

By: Victoria Babcock

The Sociology Department at the University of South Florida gathered students, faculty, and staff to celebrate their 2nd bi-annual open house and first 50 years at USF.

The open house kicked off at 12:00 pm on April 11, 2014 with snacks, games, and educational tools provided by both students and professors. Research posters from undergraduate and graduate students alike covered the walls of Cooper 119.

"I love sociology first and foremost, but I am here to educate for social change," said Brianna Vice sociology undergraduate.

Vice was awarded the Wallace Scholarship by the department. She was recognized at the event and also displayed her poster, "The prison industrial complex," which discussed the number of problems happening inside of the U.S. prison system.

Students enrolled in sociology courses attended the event to display their work and to experience for themselves what their peers were researching. The event not only attracted Sociology and ISS majors, but also students from other majors as well.



Dr. Graham shows off a project by Leslie Kinard, illustrating global pollution.

Beth DeVoll is a biology major who plans on going to medical school. "I'm taking a course with Professor Hadi and he's really inspired," DeVoll said. "I want to see what else the department has to offer."

The open house also was a wonderful opportunity for students taking courses online to come to campus and interact with faculty, students, and staff.

As Dr. Laurel Graham played sociology jeopardy with students, she confirmed that this was one of the biggest turn outs in the last four years. She paused to show a student her favorite poster before continuing another round of jeopardy.

The projects all differed in presentation and issues. Some addressed pollution, unfair wages, exploitation, and social injustice.

One project, by Caitlin Nelson, described the harsh lives of migrant workers in Immokalee Florida. Nelson grew up in the small town that had witnessed an influx of migrant workers, documented and undocumented alike.

Other projects took to challenging social norms and stereotypes. Joy Fuller, also a Wallace scholarship recipient, presented her project on bodies and the social experience of being tall.

"A lot of people aren't comfortable with their body type, but being tall is amazing," said Fuller. "I just want people to acknowledge height and other body types without being rude or acting coy."

Outside of the room filled with posters sat members of the Sociology club. Students played games, sold mugs, and offered snacks to those passing by.

"The fact that the department takes time to put on events like this makes me consider changing my major," said DeVoll. "If I weren't so far into my biology degree I would make the switch."



Junior Brianna Vice discusses her poster with other students.



First 50 Banquet Celebrates Student and Alumni Accomplishments

On April 11, 2014, the Department of Sociology hosted its first 50 Banquet marking the department's semi-centennial and honoring students and alumni for their accomplishments. Faculty, students, staff, and alumni gathered to celebrate this momentous occasion.

The evening began with welcoming remarks from Elizabeth Aranda, chair of the department, and a brief historical overview of the department.

After the dinner portion of the banquet, several faculty and staff were recognized for their years of service to the department. Dr. Michael Kleiman

was recognized for 35 years of service to USF, Dr. Jenny Friedman and Ms. Joan Jacobs for 25 years, Dr. Chris Ponticelli for 20 years, Dr. Margarethe Kusenbach for 10 years, and Dr. Shawn Bingham for 5 years of service.

Dr. Maralee Mayberry, Undergraduate Program Director, then presented the Richard J. Wallace scholarship to four outstanding undergraduate students: Elizabeth Joy Fuller, Olivia Johnson, Brianna Jane Vice, and Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez.

Two inaugural awards were established to recognize the important teaching and research that graduate students engage

in. Dr. Elizabeth Vaquera, member of the department's graduate committee, presented the 2014 Distinguished Teaching Award for graduate students who (cont'd. on p. 9)



Recipients of the 2014 Distinguished Teaching Award.

Graduate Students Organize Forum on Disasters

By: Jasmón Bailey

As part of the many activities that promote professional development among graduate students, the 2012 and 2013 cohorts of Sociology doctoral students organized and facilitated a critical dialogue about the benefits, implications, and consequences of utilizing the various sociological epistemologies in social research. The objective of the critical dialogue was to clarify, create awareness, and exemplify how professional sociologists think and converse with each other about natural disasters on a global scale.

On March 20, 2014, Drs. John Skvoretz, Margarethe Kusenbach, Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman, and Cecil Greek were invited to be speakers at this panel, each representing a different sociological perspective: positivism, interpretivism, critical theory, and post-modernism, respectively. Dr. Skvoretz discussed how social network analysis could be used to identify emergency contacts during natural disasters. Dr. Kusenbach addressed how various groups may have different conceptualizations about natural disasters. Dr. Hordge-Freeman spoke about the inequalities pertaining to the distribution of natural disaster relief funds. Lastly, Dr. Greek discussed the fragmentation and diver-

gent framing of natural disasters by the media.

A number of social scientists and natural scientists were in attendance. During the open dialogue portion of the panel discussion, a lively, professional, and intellectually stimulating interdisciplinary debate ensued. Some asked questions and made comments

about the physical aspects of natural disasters emphasizing an approach that treats these phenomena as solely determined by nature, while others argued for utilizing a social science framework for understanding natural disasters. The exchange resulted in achieving common ground, in which natural disasters could be understood as both social and natural occurrences.

Faculty Organize Job Market 101 for Graduate Students

By: Sara Crawley

Because the department of Sociology is deeply committed to helping our Ph.D. students succeed on the job market and attain jobs at fine universities, in April, Drs. Maralee Mayberry and Sara Crawley hosted a full-day workshop about preparing for the job market.

Throughout the day these faculty engaged in critical appraisals of students' prepared written materials. They covered topics such as assessing jobs at various types of institutions, the "do's" and "don'ts" of phone interviewing, illustrated sam-

ples of model job application letters, gave advice about preparing for job talks, and organized a forum in which general questions about the job search process could be posed and addressed. Their goal was to actively coach these excellent students through what can be a grueling process in the hopes of providing them with a strong advantage on the job market.

This coming year the department will host another workshop that will provide guidance on the academic job search process as well as preparing for non-academic jobs. Stay tuned for more information to come.

Four Undergraduate Students Receive Richard J. Wallace Scholarship Award

Four undergraduate students who are majoring in Sociology were the recipients of the Richard J. Wallace Scholarship awarded in spring, 2014.

Joy Elizabeth Fuller was born and raised in Tampa. She will be graduating this year with a concentration in Identity and Community. She would like to attend graduate school to pursue an M.A. in Gender Studies and an M.A. in Sociology. Joy intends to complete her doctorate degree in Sociology and would like to go into Academia to teach and do research.

Olivia Johnson is a native of Pensacola, Florida, and is working toward a concentration in Inequality and Social Justice. She will graduate in December and would like to attend



Student scholarship recipients (from left to right): Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez, Brianna Vice, Joy E. Fuller, and Olivia Johnson.

graduate school for Applied Sociology or Social Work..

Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez, a native of Colombia, in addition to majoring in Sociology, is also pursuing a minor in Women's and Gender Studies. He plans to go to graduate school for Sociology and aspires to be the future Director of the Florida Immigrant Coalition.

Brianna Vice, a native of Lakeland, FL, will graduate this year and aspires to attend graduate school for Sociology. She is also interested in entering the field of Human Resources.

First 50 Banquet (cont'd.)

(continued from p. 8)

demonstrated excellence in teaching during the previous calendar year. The awardees were: Maggie Cobb, Damien Contessa, Katie Kassner, Mary Catherine Whitlock, and Loren Wilbers.

Dr. Will Tyson followed by presenting the Ph.D. Student Research Grants. Aimed to support dissertation research, two students received this award: Maggie Cobb, and Loren Wilbers.

The awards segment of the banquet concluded with past chairs of the

department recognizing the outstanding alumni that were honored that evening. The following alumni were recognized for their achievements upon graduating from the department's various degree programs: Robyn Sagal, Marc Settem-



Graduate students, faculty, and alumni gather for food and conversation.



Faculty, students, and their partners enjoy the First 50 banquet.

Graduate students Jasmón Bailey, Matilde Ippolito, and Pangri Mehta.

brino, Jarin Eisenberg, Aloknath Pandya, Whitney McGinniss, Andrew Wagganer, Natalie Rosado, Ilir Disha, William Force, Bryce Merrill, Danielle Schwied, Karen Fox, Tom Warren, Kimberly Miller, Michael Flaherty, and Roberto Potter. We were honored that many of these outstanding alumni joined us for the celebration.

Topping off the evening was an invited speaker, Dr. Joel Best, who spoke about the topic, "Should Sociologists be Teaching Sociology?" Dr. Best delivered a compelling talk that encouraged the guests to reflect on how sociologists can best disseminate their work and all that the discipline has to offer.

Overall the evening brought together students, alumni, staff, and faculty for a celebration of 50 years of accomplishments in the Department of Sociology at USF!

Undergraduate Student Awards & Accomplishments

Our undergraduate students are representing the department in remarkable ways! Congratulations to these amazing students:

- Elizabeth Joy Fuller and Pierce Dignam were awarded Excellence in Undergraduate Research Awards. They participated in the 2014 Undergraduate Research and Arts Colloquium. Ms. Fuller was mentored by Dr. Erica Toothman.
- Nia Jackson was awarded the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) to study advanced beginning Arabic in Tangier, Morocco for eight weeks this past summer.
- Jena Keenan and Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez received the first place award for their paper, "Undocumented Youth: Identity Negotiations and their Impact on Personal Well-being" presented at the 2nd Annual Interdisciplinary Conference of the Graduate Association of Political Scientists, USF.
- Michael Meyers was featured in the USF Office of Community Engagement and Partnerships newsletter for his valuable contributions to community engagement efforts. Upon graduating from USF, he took a position as Digital Marketing Coordinator for DataMentors, LLC.

USF in Brazil for 2nd Year!

In June 2014, Dr. Hordge-Freeman directed the second year of the USF in Brazil program to Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. Excited about how the energy of the World Cup would impact their experience, nine masters and undergraduate students from USF were enthusiastic about learning about race and gender in

Afro-Brazilian Culture and Society. Hoping to foster community partnerships and intellectual exchanges that would have concrete impacts on disadvantaged Afro-Brazilian communities, Dr. Hordge-Freeman was awarded the 2014 Office of Community Engagement Program (OCEP) mini-grant for

service-learning in partnership with Brazil Cultural, *Instituto Steve Biko*, and *Quilombo Ilha*. With the grant, USF in Brazil students worked with over ten Afro-Brazilian language students from *Instituto Steve Biko* and engaged in interactive activities with nearly 100 students from Quilombo Ilha! Rather than simply serving as language partners, Afro-Brazilian students from Instituto Steve Biko provided presentations and organized activities so that they would be empowered to teach USF students about what they believed was valuable about Afro-Brazilian Culture. With the mini-grant, Afro-Brazilian students accompanied the group on cultural excursions and visited locations that they would not have otherwise been able to visit, all while participating in mutually beneficial language practice. Overall the program was a success. Featured in an article in USF news, Dr. Hordge-Freeman explains that balancing service-learning with cultural experiences is important because the goal is to help students develop into "global citizens, rather than simply global tourists."



In the summer of 2014, Dr. Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman directed the 2nd USF in Brazil program! Students attended the FIFA World Cup events and with a service-learning grant, they learned about Afro-Brazilian Culture through their studies with local students.

Alumni Corner

- Robyn Sagal (B.A. 2012) was awarded a Fulbright Student Partnership Award from the University of Sheffield in UK. She is pursuing a Master of Public Health degree in International Development.
- Herrica Telus (B.A. 2008, M.A. 2011) received full funding from the Department of Sociology at University of Illinois—Chicago to pursue her Ph.D. Her research interests involve the role of ethnic organizations in the lives and identities of immigrants.
- Marc Settembrino (B.A. 2008, M.A. 2010) is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Southeastern Louisiana State University. He recently published an article based on his M.A. thesis, "Values Over Structure: An Ethnographic Study of Volunteers Participating in a Juvenile Diversion Program" in *Justice Policy Journal* (2013).
- Jarin Eisenberg (B.A. 2007, M.A. 2009) received the Florida Institute of Technology's Joan Bixby Award which recognizes individuals who enhance the climate for women's participation and development on campus. She works in the online Undergraduate and Graduate Business programs.
- Alexander A. Hernandez, (B.A., 2007; M.A., 2009) recently completed his Ph.D. in sociology at Boston College. Alex's dissertation was titled "Adapting to technological change in the workplace: An assessment of the effects of information and communication technology on older workers." His committee was composed of Dr. John B. Williamson (chair), Dr. Brian Gareau, and Dr. Sara Moorman. Alex is currently a visiting lecturer at Rutgers University-Newark.



Robyn Sagal, (B.A. 2012)

Sociology and ISS Students make the Dean's List!

Students who make the Dean's List enrolled in at least 12 hours of graded coursework in a given semester and earned a GPA of 3.5 and above. The following Sociology and ISS majors made the Dean's list during the 2013/2014 academic year:

Dean's List, Fall, 2013:

Sociology Majors: Robin Farkas, James Gilleon, Leslie Haire, Alexis Lewis, Sharon Miller, Carrie Murawski, Megan Myers, Kareem Rifai, and Pierce Dignam.

ISS Majors: Juliana Buonanno, Katrina Corcoran, Samantha Holland, and Carolyn Wagner.

Dean's List, Spring, 2014:

Sociology Majors: James Gilleon, Ariel Hermitt, Alexis Lewis, Victoria Musco, Jennifer Murphy, Steven Ocasio, Manuel Ramirez, Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez, Evan Willis, and Dianna Matarazzo.
ISS Majors: Katrina Corcoran and Brittany Draper.

Congratulations to these stellar undergraduate students!

Interested in Giving Back?

Support our continued efforts to help fund the Department of Sociology's student scholarships, study abroad, faculty research, and programmatic needs.

Donations can be made online by visiting <http://sociology.usf.edu> and clicking on "Make A Gift," or by sending a personal check made out to the USF Foundation with Fund #420066 in the memo line and mailing it to the Office Of Development, College of Arts and Sciences, 4202 E. Fowler Ave, CPR 107, Tampa, FL 33620.

Thank you for your support!

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@USFSociologyBulls



Sociologists Relax Together During their Down-Time!



Back Row, Left to Right: Drs. Vaquera, Hordge-Freeman, Gurbuz, Green, Graham, Friedman; Front Row, Left to Right: Drs. Bingham, Partin, Crawley, Mayberry, Kusenbach, Aranda, Greek, Ms. Andersen, and Dr. Kleiman

