James Burk: President of the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society

Dr. James Burk was has been elected to be President and Chair of the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society for a two-year term beginning now.

Morris Janowitz founded the seminar in 1960 with two main aims, which it pursues to this day. One is to promote interdisciplinary and comparative historical studies of civil-military relations and related topics. The other is to provide a scholarly forum that operates as a bridge for connecting civilian and soldier-scholars, breaking down stereotypes and promoting a better understanding between the two spheres.

The seminar sponsors a biennial scholarly conference so its members can read and discuss current research in the field. It established and still publishes the journal, Armed Forces & Society, in 1973. The journal is now ranked eighth among military science journals according to the latest Google Scholar rankings.

Gemeinshaft
NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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IUS is headquartered at Loyola University Chicago, but has Fellows in over 35 countries.

Coming up: Thursday, Oct 10th 2:30-4:00pm @ Rudder 501
Dr. Buffy Smith (University of St. Thomas)
“Envisioning a Diverse Future: The Importance of Mentoring in College” (reception to follow in Academic Building Rotunda)

Past speakers:
1) Dr. John Eason: "Finding Beauty in the Hideous: Prison Placement as Reputation Management"
3) Dr. Sam Cohn “Genocide and Economic Development Plus Three Warm Up Bands”

In Spring (exact dates TBA), we expect at least two outside speakers:

1) Dr. Steve Hitlin (Associate Professor, University of Iowa). Steve Hitlin’s interests include social psychology, self and identity, values, morality, social theory, and gender.

2) Dr. Chong-suk Han (Assistant Professor, Middlebury College). Chong-Suk Han’s areas of expertise are race and sexuality, particularly the ways that categories of race and sexuality are socially constructed and the way multiple identities intersect.
Welcome New Faculty!

Dr. John Eason

John Major Eason begins this fall as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Texas A&M University. While teaching in the School Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University he was the recipient of the 2012 Rural Sociological Society Young Scholar Award.

Before serving as the Provost’s Postdoctoral Associate in the Department of Sociology at Duke University he received his Ph.D. from the Department of Sociology at the University of Chicago.

Professor Eason’s interests include crime, race, rural sociology, sociology of punishment, and urban sociology. Professor Eason, a native of Evanston, Illinois received a B.A. in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 1995 and a M.P.P. from the Irving B. Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago in 2002. Before entering graduate school, he worked as a church-based community organizer focusing on housing and criminal justice issues. He also served as a political organizer most notably for then Illinois State Senator Barack Obama.

Dr. Art Sakamoto

Arthur Sakamoto is Professor of Sociology. He was previously a faculty member in the sociology department at the University of Texas at Austin for over two decades. Sakamoto is originally from St. Louis, Missouri.

He has graduate degrees in sociology from the University of Wisconsin (Ph.D. in 1989 and M.A. in 1985).

His bachelor's degree is in economics from Harvard in 1981. His areas of research interest include political and economic sociology; demography; racial and ethnic relations; and Japanese society. His hobbies include classical music, coin collecting, and chess.

Dr. Warren Waren

Warren Waren received his PhD from Texas A&M University in December, 2008. His research areas are the social demography of inequality and the sociology of music. He has published papers on residential segregation, childfree men and women, wage differences between same-sex and opposite-sex households, wage theft among Latino day laborers, and the role of music in the Estonian revolution.

At Texas A&M he is working on multiple research projects with the Census Research Data Center. He currently teaches undergraduate research methods and statistics and is developing a course on the sociology of music.

Dr. Heili Pals

Heili Pals is an Assistant Professor. Her research focuses on social psychology of the life course, social psychological explanations behind the development of deviance, and inequality due to sexual orientation.

She works in collaboration with the Howard B. Kaplan Laboratory for Social Science Research and is an associate editor of the journal population Review.

Dr. Pals received both her doctorate and master’s degrees in Sociology from Stanford University. She is a native of Estonia and received her Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology from Tartu University in Estonia.
**Book**


In a interdisciplinary collection of nine essays, the book explores how Western armed forces can protect and sustain democratic values in the current era of terror and asymmetric war. Following the 9/11 attacks, a war against al Qaeda by the U.S. and its liberal democratic allies was next to inevitable. But what kind of war would it be, how would it be fought, for how long, and what would it cost in lives and money? None of this was known at the time. What came to be known was that the old ways of war must change—but how?

Now, with over a decade of political decision-making and warfighting to analyze, How 9/11 Changed Our Ways of War addresses that question. In particular it assesses how well those ways of war, adapted to fight terrorism, affect our military capacity to protect and sustain liberal democratic values.

The book pursues three themes: what shaped the strategic choice to go to war; what force was used to wage the war; and what resources were needed to carry on the fight? In each case, military effectiveness required new and strict limits on the justification, use, and support of force. How to identify and observe these limits is a matter debated by the various contributors. Their debate raises questions about waging future wars—including how to defend against and control the use of drones, cyber warfare, and targeted assassinations. The contributors include historians, political scientists, and sociologists; both academics and practitioners.

*“To learn from both political and sociological perspectives why and how this chastening has changed Western ways of war, this is the volume to study and to teach. On this topic James Burk and his international colleagues are in a league by themselves, and this book shows why.”—Don M. Snider, Professor Emeritus, West Point*

**Book Chapters**


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**Legend:**

- **Faculty**
- **Graduate student**

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**Encyclopedia Entries**


Articles


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Dr. Heili Pals was awarded the Outstanding Paper Award at Southern Criminal Justice Association for her paper titled “Long-Term Effects of Adolescent Negative Self-Feelings on Adult Deviance: Moderated by Neighborhood Disadvantage, Mediated by Expectations” co-authored with Dr. Howard Kaplan and published in 2013. This paper demonstrates that adolescent negative self-feelings increase adult deviance only in middle status neighborhoods and not in the most disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Sociology in News:

Dudley Poston participated in a Voice of America panel discussion on “China’s one-child policy” that was broadcast worldwide on May 15, 2013.

Dudley Poston was interviewed live on July 2, 2013 by London (England) radio station Monocle-24 about China’s new law that adult children in China must visit their parents.

Dudley Poston was interviewed by ABC-News on July 10, 2013 about China’s so-called “left-over women.”

Conference Presentations

Dudley Poston and his students Layton Field, Cristina Cruz, Helen Juyin Wong, Kate Qian Xiong and Fabian Romero traveled to South Korea last month to present six research papers at the 27th Congress of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population in Busan, South Korea, 26-31, 2013; their papers are as follows:

- **Dudley Poston** and **Cristina Cruz**, “Voluntary, Involuntary and Temporary Childlessness in the United States”
- **Fabian Romero** and **Dudley Poston**, “The Hispanic Epidemiological and Criminological Paradoxes”
- **Layton Field** and **Dudley Poston**, “Subnational Depopulation via Natural Decrease in the Countries of Europe and in the States of the United States in the Early 21st Century”
- **Dudley Poston** and **Kate Qian Xiong**, “The Urban Systems of China and the United States”
- **Dudley Poston** and **Yuting Chang**, “Patterns of Gay Male and Lesbian Partnering in the Metropolitan Areas of the United States”


Ricco, Brittany, Wm. Alex McIntosh, Sandra Evans. 2013. “Frequency of Parental Participation in the Family Meal and Confidence in Cooking Skills and Vegetable Preparation.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Food and Society; Michigan State University. June 22.

Kainer, John and Wm. Alex McIntosh etc. 2013. “Children’s Perception of Meals and Their Control over What They Eat.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Food and Society; Michigan State University. June 22.


Rico, Brittany and Alex McIntosh. 2013. “Determinants of fruit and vegetable availability and accessibility in the home.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, New York, NY, August 7th.


Montes de Oca, Verónica, Janet Juanico, Concepción Arroyo, Ana Luisa Sosa, Isaac Acosta, and Jennifer C. Guillén. "Urban Social Environments in Mexico City and Tlalpan. Contexts for the Cases of Don Juan (case 11), Don Píoquinto (Case 9) and Don Salomón (case 5)." Presented at the 2013 INDEP Qualitative Research Meeting, London, UK.


AWARDS

Jennifer C. Guillén

Graduate Student Fellowship, Race and Ethnic Studies Institute, Texas A&M University, awarded Spring 2013.

Graduate Student Dissertation Fellowship, Women's and Gender Studies, Texas A&M University, awarded Spring 2013.

Graduate Student Travel Award, Women's and Gender Studies, Texas A&M University, awarded Spring 2013.

TRANSITIONS

Fabian Romero is permanently hired (after 3 internships) at the US Census Bureau's headquarters in Washington, DC as a Survey Statistician in the Ethnicity and Ancestry Branch.

UNDERGRADUATE CORNER

Want to…
…connect with professors?
…learn about society?
…make long lasting friendships?

Join Sociology Club!

All majors welcome
Every first and third Tuesday of the month in
Academic Building Room 326 at 7pm