Dr. Joe Feagin named a University Distinguished Professor

Dr. Joe Feagin, the Ella C. McFadden Professor in Sociology, has been named a University Distinguished Professor – the highest academic honor awarded at Texas A&M – in recognition of his pre-eminence in the field. Along with the title, which is bestowed in perpetuity, Feagin will receive an annual award provided by the Texas A&M Foundation of $5,000 for five years.

The 2014 university distinguished professor honorees join a select group of more than 70 current faculty members that hold the prestigious title. This designation denotes a faculty member who is pre-eminent in his or her field, has made at least one seminal contribution to the discipline, and whose work is central in any narrative of the field and is widely recognized to have changed the direction of scholarship in the field.

“University Distinguished Professors represent the highest level of achievement for our faculty,” said Dr. Karan L. Watson, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. “They are recognized as pre-eminent authorities in their fields and their accomplishments are exemplified by outstanding teaching, mentoring, discovery and service. They demonstrate to the world the high quality of scholarship underway at Texas A&M University.”

Texas A&M Interim President Mark Hussey and the Texas A&M Foundation will host a reception on April 30 recognizing the six new university distinguished professors and honoring all of the University Distinguished Professors. More information, including a complete list of University Distinguished Professors, is available online at http://dof.tamu.edu/distinguished-professor.

Joe Feagin came to Texas A&M as the Ella C. McFadden Professor in Sociology in the College of Liberal Arts in 2004. He earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University. His research and teaching interests concern mainly the development and structure of racial and gender prejudice and discrimination, especially institutional and systemic discrimination and racism. He is well known for his ground-breaking contributions to the fields of racial-ethnic relations, the new urban sociology, sex and gender inequality, race, gender and class analysis, and the sociology of education. His concepts of systemic racism and systemic sexism influence the work of social scientists world-wide. He has published 63 books and more than 200 articles and other significant publications. Throughout his career he has amassed an amazing number of awards, including the Robert and Helen Lynd Award for Lifetime Contributions to Community and Urban Sociology, the highest award given in Community and Urban Sociology, and the Harvard Alumni Association (HDS) Rabbi Martin Katzenstein Award. He was appointed as a Fellow in the Study of Poverty and Inequality at Stanford University and has won awards from numerous sections of the American Sociological Association. In the last year, he has won four career achievement awards: the Arthur Fletcher Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Association for Affirmative Action; the Soka Gakkai International USA Social Justice Award; The American Sociological Association’s Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities Founders Award; and the W.E.B. Du Bois Career Award, the highest award given by the American Sociological Association. He was also the 1999-2000 president of the American Sociological Association.
CONGRATULATIONS!

The Midwest Sociological Society has awarded Dr. Mary Campbell the 2014 Early Career Scholarship Award. Dr. Campbell will receive it at the annual meeting in April 2014. The MSS Early Career Scholarship Award recognizes a number of publications by a younger scholar, working alone or with collaborators, which are particularly meritorious, creative or enlightening. The Award is offered biennially and carries a cash prize of $500.

Dr. Sam Cohn is giving seminars at the School for Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, at the Institute Barcelona de Estudis Internationals and at the University of Neuchatel.

He also notes that the stock of social scientists doing very strong international work in the city of London is mindboggling both in its quality and in its quantity.

SOCIOMETRY IN NEWS:

Dr. Reuben May was quoted in a March 25th article in the SLATE. The story was on the popular television program Friday Night Tykes, entitled "Rich Kids are Soft, Poor Kids Need to be Toughened Up: How race and class affect the way we coach our children" (by Stefan Fatsis).

Dudley Poston was featured in mid-January 2014 in a radio news interview show from Beijing, "People in the Know." His 12+ minute phone interview was broadcast throughout China and much of East Asia. "People In the Know" is "China's only high-end English radio interview program, featuring events that shape not only China, but the world as well." Its programs are broadcast every Monday through Friday by China Radio International. If you are interested, you can listen to the interview at the link below. There is a short two or so minute introduction before his 12 minute interview begins. Link: http://english.cri.cn/7146/2014/01/10/3361s807513.htm

Lectures

Dudley Poston gave a keynote lecture on “China’s Demographic Destiny” at the Academy of Future International Leaders Seminar, TAMU, February 27, 2014.

Dudley Poston gave an address on “Where the Boys Are: Millions of Bachelors in China and Millions More on the Way” at the Alpha Kappa Delta Induction Ceremony, TAMU, Mar 27.

Jesus Smith, a Ph.D. Student, gave the closing keynote address at the very conference he created as an undergraduate student 5 years earlier! Chosen by the UTEP Queer History Month Committee, Jesus's speech addressed the intersections of race, gender and sexuality on the US/Mexico border as a young academic and queer student. The speech was titled, “There and Back again, A Queer Afro-Latino’s Tale as a play on J.R.R. Tolkien's The Hobbit: There and Back Again” and it utilized his own life journey as an example of how one can overcome the deepest of obstacles.

Legend:  Faculty  Graduate student
Conference Announcement:
Measuring the Diverging Components of Race in Multiracial America

June 26-27, 2014
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

Co-organizers: Jenifer Bratter, Rice University
Mary E. Campbell, Texas A&M University
Wendy D. Roth, University of British Columbia

This 2-day conference will focus on the central questions of how “race” and “ethnicity” are measured, lived, and experienced in today’s evolving racial landscape. Immigration, interracial families, and changing ideas about racial categorization have all combined to create an evolving landscape for the lived experiences of “race,” both in the United States and around the world. Research on how racial categories are experienced has become much more sophisticated, as researchers acknowledge the importance of self-identification for the creation of identity, meaning and community, identification by others for the effects of discrimination and differences in treatment, phenotype as a key dimension influencing racialized experience within racial and ethnic groups, and the importance of both individual- and group-level shifts in the construction of these categories. The conference will involve presentations of cutting-edge research on the measurement of race and ethnicity, discussion of key existing resources on measuring diverse components of race, and discussion of what measurements and question formats are needed in future data collection and research.

The conference is funded by the ASA Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline, the Texas A&M University Sociology Department, the Race and Ethnic Studies Institute (RESI) at Texas A&M, the College of Liberal Arts at Texas A&M, and the Kinder Institute for Urban Research at Rice University.

PRELIMINARY LIST OF PRESENTERS:

Stan Bailey,
University of California-Irvine
Aaron Gullickson,
University of Oregon
Verna Keith,
Texas A&M University
Jennifer Lee,
University of California-Irvine
Carolyn Liebler,
University of Minnesota
Ann Morning,
New York University
Andrew Penner,
University of California-Irvine
Aliya Saperstein,
Stanford University

Jane Sell,
Texas A&M University
Patrick Simon,
Institut National d’Etudes Demographiques
Matt Snipp,
Stanford University
Edward Telles,
Princeton University
Workshop Announcement:
Multigenerational Life Course Studies:
A Workshop on the Kaplan Longitudinal and Multigenerational Study (KLAMS)

May 19-20, 2014
Department of Sociology,
Texas A&M University

The Howard B. Kaplan Laboratory for Social Science Research and the Department of Sociology at Texas A&M University are proud to announce a 2-day workshop on the Kaplan Longitudinal and Multigeneration-al Study (KLAMS). The workshop is open to scholars and graduate students who are interested in exploring research possibilities with KLAMS data. The workshop will feature talks by Dr. Robert Johnson, Dr. Jane Sell, Dr. Heili Pals, Dr. Tony Love, Dr. Carlton Mathis, and selected graduate students who are currently working with the data. Additionally, Dr. Chuck Huber, Senior Statistician at Stata Headquarters, will present on multilevel/longitudinal models using STATA.

Preliminary topics to be covered:
The history of the KLAMS
Data documentation and questionnaires
Dr. Kaplan’s self-referent literature
Examples of current research
Hands-on introduction to the data
The multigenerational nature of the data
Neighborhood- and school-level data
Multilevel modeling using Stata

Please RSVP by April 25th, 2014 to Dr. Heili Pals at hpals@tamu.edu.

New Developments in the Kaplan Longitudinal and Multigenerational Study (KLAMS)

Addition of School Neighborhood-Level Data

We are excited to announce that, as a team, we have added a new layer of data to the original KLAMS data identifying which school the first generation respondents attended in the seventh grade. Working with Dr. Warren Waren, we have also successfully added the neighborhood-level data surrounding each of the original schools in the KLAMS. This important addition allows for a new level of analysis using Hierarchical Linear Modeling. Now researchers can investigate effects at the individual, parent, school, and school neighborhood levels. Also, this new geographic indicator can easily be associated with other important variables of interest, such as racial composition, percent of the neighborhood in poverty, or even reported rates of crime. This addition vastly expands the possibilities for new research using the KLAMS and increases the usefulness of the dataset for scholars in new research areas.

The first project to use the school neighborhood-level data within KLAMS investigates the difference between an individual's level of deviance and the amount of deviance that was happening in their middle school--good kids in bad schools, and bad kids in good schools. Dr. Heili Pals, Dr. Tony Love, Dr. Warren Waren, and Bryce Hannibal are researching the longitudinal effects over the life-course of a student being relatively different from their overall school. They are now able to include original neighborhood-level indicators such as racial composition and percent of neighborhood in poverty as moderating effects in their model.
JOURNAL ARTICLES


Conference Presentations

Smith, Jesus. 2014. “Latino Men who have Sex with Men and the way they deal with Sexual Racism in a Gay Community.” Presented at the Hispanic Studies Graduate Conference at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX on March 22nd.

Smith, Jesus. 2014. “Race Play in BDSM Pornography.” Presented at the Communicating Diversity Conference at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX on March 28th.

RECRUITING EFFORTS

Dr. Wendi Moore attended a recruiting event in November at the Bayou Classic Education Fair, targeting HBCUs in Louisiana.

ENCyclopedia EENTRY


Jennifer Guillén has been elected to serve as 2015-2017 Program Chair for the Women’s and Gender Studies Section of the Southwestern Social Science Association.
**Book Chapters**


**Cristina Cruz**

**Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship**

The Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship provide three years of support for individuals engaged in graduate study leading to a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) or Doctor of Science (Sc.D.) degree. Predoctoral fellowships are awarded in a national competition administered by the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies on behalf of the Ford Foundation. The awards are made to individuals who, in the judgment of the review panels, have demonstrated superior academic achievement, are committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level, show promise of future achievement as scholars and teachers, and are well prepared to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.

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**Katherine Willyard**

**Graduate Scholar Award from Interdisciplinary Social Sciences**

For each conference, Graduate Scholar Awards are given to outstanding graduate students who have an active academic interest in the conference area. The Award with its accompanying responsibilities provides a strong professional development opportunity for graduate students at this stage in their academic careers.

Kate currently serves as her department’s undergraduate advisor. Kate’s master’s research examined the policy formation process on U.S. loan guarantees to Israel from 1988 to 1993. This study shows how historical conditions and the exercise of power explain how U.S. loan guarantees were linked to Israel’s settlement activities. Her doctoral research focuses on the politics of regulating the natural gas industry and the impact of these policies on communities and the natural environment. Kate will present her master's paper research at the International Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Conference in Vancouver, Canada in June.

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**Michael Regan**

**Vision 2020 Dissertation Enhancement Award.**

College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University

These competitive awards (~$5,000) are given to PhD students to support their dissertation research. The purpose of the award is to facilitate high quality research. Funds may support field research, data collection, or other substantive material acquisition or research activity directly affecting the quality of the dissertation.
Wedding Bells!!!

Wedding bells rang for Bethany Edwards and her long-time boyfriend Anthony Giarratano on March 29, 2014. Bethany and Anthony met 4 years ago online through a dating website.

Newsletter editor:
Dr. Heili Pals
hpals@tamu.edu

Legend: Graduate student Undergraduate student
