



Southeastern Louisiana University

Fall 2014 Newsletter

Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice

Department Head's Message

The fall, 2014 semester is underway and, once again, we would like to say hello, fill you all in on some of what we accomplished last year and share some of our plans for the coming year. Drs. Michael Bisciglia, David Burley, and Peter Shrock were all promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure last year and we were able to celebrate their hard work, achievements and dedication to Southeastern at a pre-semester Departmental party last week. At the same event, we welcomed Dr. Lisa Olson as a new Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice and Dr. Claudine Vallieres as an Instructor of Anthropology for the 2014–15 academic year.

You'll see in the following pages that we remain extremely busy due, in large part, to our efforts to link classroom learning to extra-curricular learning experiences via student organizations, speaker events, internship opportunities, and study abroad trips. Our classes remain in high demand as we challenge students to be critical thinkers and to develop a broad understanding of the world we all share.

As with past newsletters we encourage you to get in touch with us and let us know how you're doing. If any of you are interested in attending speaker events, participating in study abroad opportunities, or attending events organized by student organizations, we welcome you. Just contact me at kbolton@selu.edu and I'll pass on all relevant information concerning the activity you would like to attend.

Thanks again for taking the time to read our newsletter. As always, we encourage you to keep up with the Department on our webpage, www.selu.edu/socj. We encourage you to keep in touch and wish you all the best.

In Memoriam

Dustin Hamilton, a resident of Central, LA, passed away on September 27, 2013. Dustin was a criminal justice major who graduated from Southeastern in Fall 2011. During his career at Southeastern, he twice made the Dean's List and was repeatedly on the Honor Roll. Dustin was a two-year veteran of the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office and was on duty at the time of death.



Jordan Smith of St. Tammany Parish was fatally injured on duty at Bogue Chitto State Park, where he was employed as an Interpretive Ranger. Jordan had been working on his M.S. in Applied Sociology at the time of his death on July 13, 2014. The Sociology and Criminal Justice faculty and staff remember Jordan's good cheer and enthusiasm. He will be missed by the Department.



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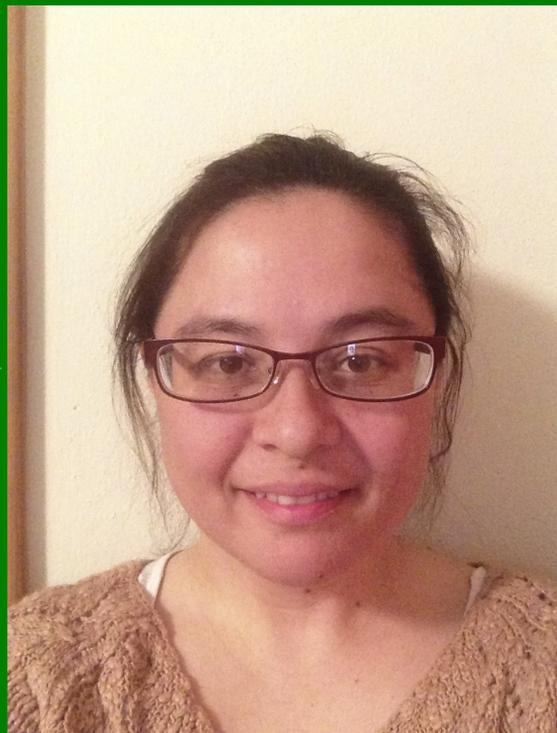


Faculty Changes

The Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice would like to welcome two additions, Dr. Lisa Olson and Dr. Claudine Vallieres, to the excellent faculty who help make our department a vibrant community for the exchange of ideas .

Dr. Olson was employed in criminal defense for seven years. During her employment, she had the opportunity to co-write several appellate briefs that were submitted to the North Dakota Supreme Court and gained extensive experience working with federal discovery. She was previously employed as a state correctional officer. While completing her graduate studies, Dr. Olson taught courses in Introduction to Policing and Serial Killers. She has also served as a guest lecturer on Pretrial Process.

Her research interests include LGBT issues within the criminal justice system, gender and crime, and court processes. Her current research focuses on sexual orientation prejudice among jurors and how these prejudices can affect credibility determinations of witnesses, which may in turn alter the outcomes of criminal trials.



Dr. Vallieres (right) is an anthropological archaeologist who received a Ph.D. in Anthropology from McGill University in 2012. Her dissertation, *A Taste of Tiwanaku: Daily Life in an Ancient Andean Urban Center as Seen through Cuisine*, explored how social identity was manifested through culinary practices at the household level within the city of Tiwanaku (ca. AD 500-1100), the pre-Incan capital of a major polity located in the highlands of Bolivia.



Dr. Vallieres has taught as a visiting professor at Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW) in 2011–12; this was followed by a two-year post-doctoral researcher position in the Anthropology Department at the University of Florida in 2012–14. Dr. Vallieres is taking Dr. Kellen Gilbert's position during Dr. Gilbert's leave from Southeastern.



Social Justice Speaker Series (SJSS)

Fall 2013's speaker was Lee Shull, co-founder of Sandy Hook Promise. He spoke to a full house at Pottle Auditorium for our popular annual fall event. Following the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut, Lee Shull collaborated with other community members to develop Sandy Hook Promise, a non-profit, grassroots organization that works to educate the nation about gun violence as well as lobbying lawmakers to consider enacting stronger legislation surrounding gun safety.

As Southeastern's Social Justice Speaker, Shull focused on giving students a glimpse into the importance and possibility of activism and social change. Shull shared his experiences as a social justice activist while inviting students to ask questions and brainstorm ways to become activists in their own local communities.

Students engaged in discussing the implications of gun violence and gun legislation with Shull, as he shared valuable insight and experience.



The Social Justice Speaker Series will reach its 10th anniversary in the 2014-15 academic year! To celebrate this milestone, the series is featuring a speaker who has been engaged in activism around a variety of social justice issues for over 40 years.

The Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice is proud to host author, educator and activist Angela Davis. Davis has taught at a variety of universities throughout her career, including San Francisco State, UC Berkeley, UCLA, and Stanford. Currently her work at the University of California, Santa Cruz is focused on the history of consciousness and feminist studies, in which she emphasizes the importance of economic, racial and gender justice. In addition, Davis examines a range of social themes associated with incarceration and inequality. Davis is expected to draw a large crowd, as her lectures are known to be honest, engaging and entertaining.



Angela Davis



Student Organization News

Reconnect

The 2013-14 academic year was yet another busy one for Reconnect! The organization held events like the GreenARMY's No BOBO appearance, which provided education about the impact of the oil industry on our coastal lands and about the controversial lawsuit by the State Levee Board against the oil companies in Louisiana. Reconnect also continued to hold the successful Reconnect Farmers Market on two days in the Fall and two days in the Spring. Two members, Mallory Gannon (Fall) and Nibha Manandhar (Spring), who are also Sociology majors, served internships as market managers.

Our farmer vendors traversed a tough winter because of the "polar vortex" but rebounded late in the Spring. Attempts to attract another "value added" vendor (wraps, tamales, etc.) were unsuccessful. The Pride Cafe in the Pennington Recreation Center is set to offer some food products from our vendors in 2014-15. This success in building a healthy, fair and sustainable local food system is the result of organizing and relationship building by Reconnect. Come out and continue to support our vendors at the Reconnect Farmers Market and the Pride Cafe!



StandOUT

Hello, and welcome back to school! We are StandOUT, Southeastern's LGBTQ+ community and gay-straight alliance. Our organization works to promote equality for all students and provide Safe Spaces on campus. For more information, or if you would like to get involved, follow us on Facebook at "StandOUT (Southeastern Louisiana University)" or e-mail us at standout.slu@gmail.com.

This past year, StandOUT also participated in a number of educational and social change oriented events, including:

- LGBTQ History Month in October
- Suicide Prevention and Awareness Week in September
- National Coming Out Day on October 11.

In May 2014, StandOUT hosted "The Gay Gatsby," pictured below, which is Southeastern's first-ever LGBTQ Prom. The event was a great success and received coverage in the Lion's Roar (<http://www.lionsroarnews.com/news/view.php/60548/StandOUT-to-offer-prom-experience>).

For more information about StandOUT, contact Dr. Marc Settembrino at marc.settembrino@selu.edu or Kennedy LeJeune at standout.slu@gmail.com.



(From left to right: Kim Foster, Dr. Marc Settembrino, Austin Cradic, Lisa Locascio, Kennedy LeJeune, Nicholas Shipman, Emily Soileau, Joshua Mesman)





Study Abroad in Cuba

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With this trip, from May 20th to May 28th, the Department restarted its study abroad program. The trip included 12 students from our undergraduate and graduate programs as well as students from the Departments of Psychology, Business and Nursing. Students said the trip was extremely educational but lots of fun as well.

Trip participants spent time in the historic and bustling capital of Havana; rural towns, including the French- and Spanish-inspired Cienfuegos on the southern coast; and the Bay of Pigs, where they spent a relaxing afternoon swimming in the beautiful turquoise Caribbean waters.

Participants learned about the history, culture, arts, education and healthcare systems of Cuba, and the environmental challenges facing the island. Importantly, they witnessed firsthand the island's sustainable agriculture movement by visiting cooperatively run organic farms and other food-centered operations that incorporated arts, cultural and construction education into their sustainable food projects.

The trip was such a success that the Department is already planning next year's trip back to the island with a few new twists. Anybody can sign up for this educational adventure, so visit http://www.southeastern.edu/acad_research/depts/soc_cj/index.html or contact Dr. Kenneth Bolton at kbolton@southeastern.edu or call the department at 985-549-2110.



(Top: Adrienne Sanders, Paul Strickland, Paulina Murphy, Joshua Webb, Allysen Mix, Dante Bidwell and the tour guide)
(Bottom: Jacob Chavez, Stephanie Travis, Chelsea Laurent, Thomas Murphy, Dr. David Burley, Dr. Kellen Gilbert, Jessica Willmott and Emily McDonald)

Student Awards & Scholarships

The past year was quite busy for the scholarship committee. Deserving students were awarded new scholarships and several other scholarships were maintained by current awardees.

- This year the department awarded the **Leslie Flucke Memorial Scholarship in Applied Sociology** to graduate student Robert Randall.
- During the Spring semester the committee also awarded a scholarship from the **Hammond Police Officers Local Union 345**. Typically this scholarship is awarded annually to one male and one female criminal justice major who have at least a 2.5 GPA. This year there was only one recipient, Emily Dykes, who received the scholarship last year as well.
- The **Tom Sullenberger Endowed Scholarship** was awarded to Kyle Keller, who will maintain it for the next year.
- The **Richard Kent III** scholarship was awarded and retained by Caitlyn Duncan.
- For the first time in several years, the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice awarded the **21st Judicial District Bar Association Scholarship in Criminal Justice** to Betsy Lafont.
- The **Jerry Salomone Endowed Scholarship in Sociology** was awarded to Stephanie Lange.

Students are encouraged to explore these and other scholarship opportunities at our departmental website http://www.southeastern.edu/acad_research/depts/soc_cj/student_success/scholarships/index.html

MSAS

The 2013-14 academic year was very productive in our **Masters of Science in Applied Sociology (MSAS)** program. During this period, 11 students successfully defended their theses or internship reports and were awarded graduate degrees.

In Fall 2013, **Jessica Stargardter** successfully defended her thesis and **Erica Dickerson** her internship report (both chaired by Dr. David Burley). Spring 2014 graduates included **Chad Cooper**, **Whitney Lee**, **Caroline Sexton** (chaired by Dr. John Boulahanis), **Tierre Hazzlewood**, **Tracy Rathbun** (chaired by Dr. Peter Shrock) and **Jaci Sanchez** (chaired by Dr. David Burley).

Summer 2014 had three successful theses defenses by **Alvanisha Ford** (chaired by Dr. Michael Bisciglia), **William Knight** (chaired by Dr. John Boulahanis), and **Kristen Fagot** (chaired by Dr. Kellen Gilbert). Congratulations are extended to all of our 2013-2014 graduates!

Additionally, **Adrienne Sanders**, **Jacob Chavez**, **Emily McDonald**, **Paul Strickland**, **Stephanie Travis**, **Timothy Reling** and **Dante Bidwell** took part in our summer study abroad program to Cuba. Based on their comments (and Facebook pictures), they enjoyed the experience and earned academic credit in the process.

If you are interested in our MSAS program and/or need additional information, please contact the coordinator of the program, Dr. John Boulahanis, at jboulahanis@selu.edu or call (985) 549-2384.

LEaD Job Talk Series

This past year, the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice initiated the Leadership, Education and Development (LEaD) Job Talk Series. The speaker series features alumni in areas of law enforcement, corrections, the courts, and private professions related to crime prevention and control, speaking to Southeastern students about their careers and professional activities. The Department hopes to promote the recruitment and retention of criminal justice majors by helping students learn about career opportunities related to criminal justice, relate these careers to their academic work at Southeastern, and make contacts that they can use for career and job networking.

The LEaD series provides students, particularly criminal justice majors, with opportunities to meet professionals who are working in fields related to criminal justice. Guest speakers discuss their career activities and accomplishments; they also discuss their educational experience and studies at Southeastern, and how these experiences have contributed to their professional work.

The first speaker was **Genny May**, U.S. Marshal of the Eastern District of Louisiana in New Orleans, in September 2013. Marshal May was followed in October by **Hamilton Mixon**, who has served as a security expert for a variety of international companies. Most recently Mixon worked as chief of global security for Facebook. Finally, Officer **Nick Morgan** of the Baton Rouge Police Department spoke in March 2014. This coming Fall, the Department plans to host **Wendy Dalton** of the Louisiana Division of Probation and Parole, and a speaker from Southeastern's University Police Department.



Officer Nick Morgan BRPD addresses Southeastern students as part of the LEaD



(Top: Tracy Rathbun, Chad Cooper, Tierre Hazlewood)
(Bottom: Caroline Sexton, Whitney Lee, Jaci Sanchez)





Recent Publications & Selected Faculty Activities

Michael G. Bisciglia, “The Impact of Migration Location and Hispanic Homicide: Does Location of Migration Influence the Impact of Segregation on Homicide.” Presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association, November 2013, Atlanta, GA.

Michael G. Bisciglia. 2014. “Segregation and Hispanic Homicide: Using Two Measures of Segregation to Examine Rates of Hispanic Homicide.” *Sage Open* 4(1) 1–10.

Michael G. Bisciglia. “Types of Segregation and Location of Migration on Rates of Hispanic Homicide: An Analysis of Ethnic Segregation, Minority to Minority, Minority to Majority and Within Ethnicity Segregation.” Presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, April 2014, Charlotte, NC.

Michael G. Bisciglia presided over the “Community and Crime” paper session at the 77th Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, April 2014, Charlotte, NC.

John Boulahanis organized a paper session, “Homicide Studies,” at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association, November 2013, Atlanta, GA.

David Burley, Tim McCarty, and Bonnie May. “Real Food in the Real World: Student Engagement and the Challenge of Creating a Sustainable Food Campus.” Presented at the joint Annual Meeting of the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society and the Association for the Study of Food and Society, June 2013, East Lansing, MI.

Bonnie May, **David Burley**, and **Kellen Gilbert**. “Connecting Students and Farmers—Still Trying.” *Food Anthropology Blog*, May 14, 2014.

Kellen Gilbert received the Woman's Hospital Endowed Professorship in Humanities, which rewards outstanding faculty in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences of Southeastern Louisiana University.

Boyle, Sarah A., Bryan B. Lenz, **Kellen A. Gilbert**, Wilson R. Sprionello, Marcela Santamaría Gómez, Eleonore Z.F. Setz, Alaercio Marajó dos Reis, Osmaildo Ferreira da Silva, Alexine Keuroghlian, and Flávia Pinto. “Primates of the Biological Dynamics of Forest Fragments Project: A History.” In *Primates in Fragments: Complexity and Resilience*, edited by Laura K. Marsh and Colin A. Chapman, 57–74. New York: Springer, 2013.

Kellen Gilbert presented a paper on bicycle advocacy research and the Safe Routes to School Program at the 2013 meeting of the Louisiana Health Educators Society.

Kellen Gilbert, “Can I Get There by Bike?” Poster presentation at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, March 2014, Albuquerque, NM.

Rebecca Hensley, “Policy and the Root Causes of Poverty.” Lecture at Southern University Law School, June 2013, Baton Rouge, LA.

Rebecca Hensley, “The Best Defense: Law Enforcement and African-American Men in the Inner City” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology, October 2013, Arlington, VA.

Rebecca Hensley presided over a paper session on “Race, Crime and Deviance” at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology, October 2013, Arlington, VA.

Rebecca Hensley participated in a panel, “Dreams or Nightmares: Did the Dream Die with Them,” sponsored by the NAACP Campus Chapter. Southeastern Louisiana University, February 2014, Hammond, LA.

H. Jesse Walker and **Molly McGraw**, “Maintaining the Integrity of the Environment in an Arctic Delta during Modernization.” Presented at the 8th International Conference on Geomorphology of the International Association of Geomorphologists, August 2013, Paris, France.

Molly McGraw and H. Jesse Walker, “Calculating Lake Morphology in the Colville River Delta, Alaska.” Presented at the 46th Annual Meeting of the American Geophysical Union, December 2013, San Francisco, CA.

Gerald McNeill. 2013. “Another Historic Public Market Building in New Orleans to be Revitalized.” *SESAH News* vol. 30, no. 1.

Gerald McNeill. 2013. “Update on the St. Roch Public Market Building.” *SESAH News* vol. 30, no. 1.

Gerald McNeill, “Creole Houses in New Orleans.” Presented at the 45th Annual Conference of the Pioneer America Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts and Landscapes, October 2013, Utica, NY.

Gerald McNeill, “The St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery—The Ninth Ward Cemetery.” Lecture for the Save Our Cemeteries Lecture Series, May 2014, New Orleans, LA.

Marc Riedel, “Police and Civilian Justifiable Homicides in California: Comparing 1987–1991 and 2006–2010.” Presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association, November 2013, Atlanta, GA.

Marc Settembrino. 2013. “Values over Structure: An Ethnographic Study of Adult Volunteers Participating in a Juvenile Diversion Program.” *Justice Policy Journal* vol. 10, no. 2.

Marc Settembrino, “When There’s No Home to Prepare: Understanding Natural Hazards Vulnerability among the Homeless in Central Florida.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology, October 2013, Arlington, VA.

Peter Shrock, “Methodological Issues in the Study of Regulatory Enforcement: Questioning the Relevance of Politics.” Paper presented at the 69th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, November 2013, Atlanta, GA.

Peter Shrock. 2014. “The Rocky Flats Plea Bargain: A Case Study in the Prosecution of Organizational Crime in the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Complex.” *Journal of Crime and Justice* DOI: 10.1080/0735648X.2013.876368.

Peter Shrock. 2014. “Labor Union Strength and Occupational Safety and Health Enforcement.” *Contemporary Journal of Anthropology and Sociology* 4 (1): 7–26.



Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice

Support our Department!

**HELP US CONTINUE THE SUCCESS OF OUR STUDENTS BY
SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

If you would like to make a contribution, we would greatly appreciate it!
You will be recognized in our next newsletter.

To support the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice Developmental Fund that assists with day-to-day expenses and sponsored events, please make checks payable to: *Southeastern Development Foundation & Sociology & Criminal Justice* and mail to: Sociology and Criminal Justice; SLU 10686; Hammond, LA 70402.

My/Our Gift is: \$ 10 - \$49 \$ 50 – 99 \$ 100 and above

To support the following endowed scholarships, please use the web link below to make your contribution:

The Jerry Salomone Endowed Scholarship in Sociology
The Tom Sullenberger Endowed Scholarship in Criminal Justice

Visit: http://www.southeastern.edu/admin/fin_aid/info/scholarships/

THANK YOU!

We want to hear from you! Please let us know how you are doing, and if you would be interested in being nominated for an alumni award from the **College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences** (see award description at: http://www.selu.edu/alumni_donors/alumni_assoc/recognitions/index.html)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Year of Graduation and Major: _____

Comments: _____

