

## Distinguished Speakers Will Be Speaking to WPUNJ Sociology Students

Indida Rodriguez, who earned her B.A. degree in sociology at William Paterson University, and is now a partner with 1868 Public Affairs, will be the keynote speaker at the Alpha Kappa Delta installation ceremony on April 9th. About forty students are eligible for this international honorary sociology society. They will be joined by department faculty and university administrators.



Indida Rodriguez

Ms. Rodriguez is a renowned and respected political strategist and experienced consultant with a concentration in grassroots and grassroots marketing, public relations, government relations and business development. She played a key role in numerous high-profile Democratic campaigns at the federal, state and local levels. She was an advisor on the 2006 campaign for U.S. Senator Robert Menendez, and consultant for Jon S. Corzine's Statewide Hispanic Voter Program for his 2005 and 2009 gubernatorial campaigns. In 2000, Ms. Rodriguez coordinated Passaic County's Latino Base Vote for U.S. Senator Corzine's campaign. She also was Paterson's GOTV coordinator for Rep. Bill Pascrell Jr. in 1998. Ms. Rodriguez served as Assemblywoman Nellie Pou's Chief of Staff from 1997 to 2003.

## Students and Faculty Active with ESS in Baltimore

Four sociology majors--Irene Bang, Rebecca Mahabir, Breana Reiman, and Amanda Yglesias--were among the nearly 150 undergraduates presenting their research at one of five poster sessions in Baltimore at the 84th annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society. More than 1,300 people attended the four-day conference on topics ranging from military sociology to care work. The theme, "Invisible Work," drew out new and surprising insights from all sides of the discipline, while the 1964 Civil Rights Act was unflinchingly revisited during a Friday night plenary session.

The students' topics were young adults leaving the nest (Bang); media and negativity about abortion (Mahabir); student jobs and the effect on their GPA (Reiman); commuting to school and college academic performance (Yglesias).

Faculty presenting their research at paper sessions were Professors Maboud Ansari, Jacob Felson, Vince Parrillo, and Deniz Yucel. Prof. Wendy Christensen was participant in a workshop on use of social media when entering the job market.

The Department is also fortunate that ESS has selected it as one of two places to host this year's Distinguished Lecturer, Karen Cerulo. She will give her talk about "Your Brain: What Sociologists Can Tell You That Neuroscientists Can't," in the fall. She is a past ESS vice president and the current editor of *Sociological Forum*.

Author of several books and numerous journal articles. Her research addresses a variety of themes within the sociology of culture and cognition. Her next book will be on the sociocultural dimensions of dreams.



Karen Cerulo



At Undergraduate Poster Session IV of the Eastern Sociological Society meeting in Baltimore were, left to right, Maboud Ansari, Amanda Yglesias, Rebecca Mahabir, Deniz Yucel, Breana Reiman, Irene Bang, Mark Ellis, and Vince Parrillo.

## Faculty News

**Maboud Ansari** appeared on Voice of America TV (Persian) on January 16th as an expert on Iranian Americans. On March 8th he spoke on "Qualitative and Quantitative Changes in the Iranian-American Community to the Iranian Cultural Society of America (Shabahang). He and **Vince Parrillo** co-presented a paper, "Hizmet Schools in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Kazakhstan: A Cross-Cultural Study of the Gülen Educational Model," in Baltimore last month at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS).

**Theresa Cruz Paul** will present a co-authored paper, "Luke-warm: Testing the Water of In-Class Academic Rigor Across Two Research Institutions" in April at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in Philadelphia.

**Claudia Damari** from the University of Pisa will return as a visiting professor in September. She will teach Sociology of Tourism and Sociological Theory.

**Jennifer DiNoia** has two papers coming out: "Residential Summer Camp Intervention Improves Camp Food Environment" in the *American Journal of Health Behavior* (with L. Orr and C. Bredbener), and "Defining Powerhouse Fruits and Vegetables: A Nutrient Density Approach" in *Preventing Chronic Disease*.

**Jacob Felson** published a paper, "What Can We Learn from Twin Studies? A Comprehensive Evaluation of the Equal Environments Assumption" in *Social Science Research*. He also presented a paper, "Understanding the Relationship between Sexual Orientation and Mental Health" at ESS.

**Kathleen Korgen** had an essay, "The Impact of Action and Engagement on Sociology In and Out of the Classroom" published in an anthology, *Service Sociology and Academic Engagement in Social Problems* (Ashgate).

**Arturo Lewis** will speak at the 26th Forum on Workplace Inclusion, hosted in Minneapolis by the University of St. Thomas. His topic is "Do-It-Yourself Reverse Mentoring: An Experiment in Engagement and Dialogue."

**Emily Mahon**, who is also Executive Officer of the Eastern Sociological Society, handled all organizational and logistical duties for a most successful annual, four-day ESS meeting in Baltimore, at which more than 1,300 people attended.

**Vince Parrillo** gave a five-part lecture series on socialization last semester at the Institute of New Dimensions, Teaneck, and will give another in April-May. He has begun work on a new PBS documentary, "The People of Paterson."

**Julie Siddique** presented a paper, "Changes in the 'Culture of Sex' and Long-Term Trends in Sexual Victimization," at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting in November.

**Myra Robinson** will present at two workshops in May for the 2014 NASW-NJ annual conference in Atlantic City. Her topics are "Recognizing Trauma in Inner City African-American Adolescents" and "Breaking the Myth: Changing the Perception of the Single Parent Household."

**Gabe T. Wang** had an article, "For History, for the Reference of the Social Administration, and for Edification", published in the *Yunnan Political Consultation Newspaper* on December 6, 2013, and it will also appear as the foreword in *The History and Humanities of the Jin Village*, by Zurong Zheng.

**Deniz Yucel** has an article on predicting egalitarian attitudes on marriage and children forthcoming in *Social Indicators Research*. In January, she gave a research talk at Middle Eastern Technical University-Northern Cyprus campus. She also presented a paper, "Understanding the Dyadic Nature of Cohabiting Relationships," at the ESS meeting, and was organizer, presider and discussant at two other sessions.

## Student and Alumni News

**Evelyn Estrick** ('08, M.A. '12) is Program Supervisor at The MENTOR Network, Carteret, NJ.

**Tamara Issa** (M.A., '10) is Training Supervisor at Jaguar Land Rover for the Greater New York City area.

Undergraduate students **Rebecca Mahabir**, **Breana Reiman**, and **Amanda Yglesias** will display their research posters from their Eastern Sociological Society viewing on April 5th during University Research and Scholarship Day.

**Craig Marcone** (M.A., '13) is General Manager of the Regus Management Group in New York City.

**Robin Renee Robinson**, sociology graduate student, has been accepted into the Ph.D. program at CUNY.

**Marc Williams** ('96) is CEO of Williams Communications and will speak to WPUNJ students on April 29th about his new book, *The Art of Networking*. A Q & A session will follow.

## Events Coming Up

- Mar 25** Last day to withdraw from spring semester classes
- April 9** Alpha Kappa Delta Honorary Society Installation  
University Commons Ballroom A, 5 to 7 p.m.
- April 10** Graduate Student Internship & Thesis Presentations  
Raubinger 101, 3:30 to 5 p.m.
- April 18** Good Friday, University closed
- April 22** Career Day for Sociology Majors  
Raubinger 301, 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.
- April 24** Graduate Student internship Presentations  
Raubinger 101, 3:30 to 5 p.m.
- April 29** WPUNJ sociology alumnus speaks on "The Art of Networking," an important topic for all students
- May 2** Final exam period begins
- May 14** Commencement

## You Never Know When a Sociology Degree Will Serve You Well

Every day over breakfast, Beatrice Grady Parker, the associate vice president for investments at a major brokerage firm in Michigan, reads *The Wall Street Journal* and makes calls to her clients to discuss their portfolios. Throughout the year, she gives financial planning seminars and writes articles on her Web site to keep clients updated on the changing markets. When time permits, she writes a quarterly newsletter. She's successful in a career she never planned to have.

Some 30 years ago, Parker thought she would spend her entire professional life as a social worker. She graduated from Ohio University with a degree in sociology, but life is full of unexpected twists and turns.

According to Parker, her liberal arts education not only prepared her for social work, but for just about anything else that she sought out or stumbled into along her career path. Her studies taught her the value of being a good listener and really trying to understand people.

After graduation, Parker worked at a mental institution in Ohio for four months.

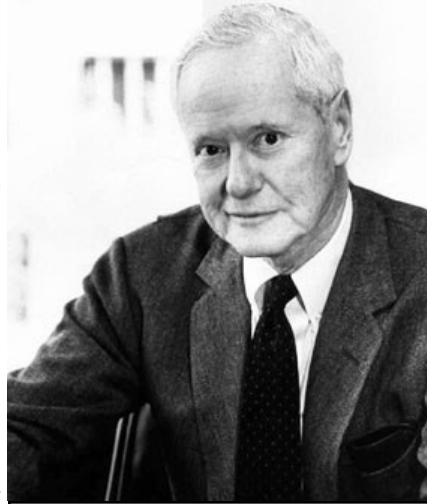
Her compassion for others runs deep and she found it difficult to leave her work at the office at the end of the day.

"It was too emotionally draining for me," she says. "After four months, even though I had a sociology degree and no business background, I was ready for something that would give me the opportunity for change. I was ready for something different."

She took a sales position with National Cash Register and a few business classes at the University of Detroit to pick up some of the essentials of business. Soon she was hired by a major brokerage firm.

Her new career path allowed Parker to continue to be in continuing contact with people while helping them to plan their financial futures. She says her bachelor's degree is put to daily use.

"I use my sociology degree every day. To be successful, you must be able to communicate. Communication requires an understanding. It is very important to understand the investment needs of my clients," she attests. "My education helps me see things from their perspective."



*Who is this sociologist?  
Clue: Think deviance, role model,  
and self-fulfilling prophecy.  
Answer is on page 4.*

## Internships Give Seniors Job Experience and a Job Competitive Edge

Forty-nine seniors are interning this semester in a variety of settings. Among them are: Alexandria Alston, Stephanie Assia, Isabelle Domond, Todd Fleming and Santa Mercedes, Division of Child Protection & Permanency; Lorena Calderon, NJ Asperger's Skill Building Network.; Jason Carmona, Supreme Consultants, Rutherford; Justine Carratala, Takira Jefferson, Victor Matos, and Tracy Soto, Oasis: A Haven for Women and Children, Paterson; Joseph Cassidy, Morris County Probation, Morristown; Asmahar Darwish, YMCA of Greater Bergen County, Hackensack.

Others are Peter DeCristofaro, Hackensack University Medical Center: Take A Break Program, Hackensack; Lauren Edwards, Greater Bergen Community Action, Hackensack; Alyssa Errico, Harding Elementary School, Kenilworth; Albert Fuller, Boys & Girls Club, Lodi; Marbel Gonzalez, Friendship House, Hackensack; Samantha Inesti, United Way of Northern New Jersey, Newton; Patricia Johnstone at the Center for Prevention and Counseling, Newton.

Amanda Junkierski is at Little Miss Matched, Secaucus; T'Anna Kimbrough, Department of Human Services, Paterson; Ana Llerena, Meadowlands Hospital Medical Center; Vivian Mancheno, Hispanic Information Center of Passaic; Vera Mansfield, Paterson City Council; Adriana Medina, North Bergen Board of Education; Katherine Medina, American Cancer Society, Paterson; Gloria Mejia, Morristown Neighborhood House; Janayah Miller, Bergen County Board of Social

Services, Rochelle Park; Kelsey Nork, Equine Tranquility Wellness Center, Andover; Karina Padilla, Hackensack University Medical Center, Elder Life Program.

At Shelter Our Sisters, Hackensack, is Christal Pearson. Others are Vanessa Reis, West Orange Board of Education; Kim Richardson, Eva's Village Recovery Center, Paterson; Brianna Shea, Woodland Park Public Schools; Ralph Stainfil, Newark Housing Authority; Michelle Sucaldito, M & S Psychotherapy and Counseling, Totowa; Johanna Tapia, Partnership for Children of Essex County, West Orange; Crystal Washington, Brighter Day, Inc., Lawrenceville.

Criminal justice internships are: Derek E. Clay, Jr., Essex Vicinage Probation Services; Domenic Giannella, Federal Office of Inspector General, NYC; Sean Jaron and Ryan M. Russo, Passaic Vicinage Criminal Division; Karen Gomez and Damien Perkowski, Bergen County Sheriff's Department; Scott Della Penna, Passaic County Prosecutors Office; Miranda Rumack, Community Educator Centers, Talbot Hall; and John Staiano, Superior Court of NJ, Family Division.

Prof. Gennifer Furst directs criminal justice internships and Prof. Jennifer DiNoia handles all others.

*"One person can make a difference,  
and everyone should try."*

*John F. Kennedy (1917-1963)*

## Adjunct Professor Taps into Expertise of Many

Kevin Wronko, an adjunct professor in Criminology and Criminal Justice, not only brings to the classroom his own expertise garnered in three decades at the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office. He also taps into his vast network of professional colleagues in the criminal justice system to bring multiple facets of firsthand knowledge and experience to his students.

In his juvenile delinquency class, for example, guest speakers have been police officers working with juveniles, a public defender for juvenile offenders, probation officers for juveniles, Director of the Paterson Youth Services Bureau, a detective from the county prosecutors office on teen dating violence.

Students in Criminology or Essentials of Criminal Justice classes have heard a superior court judge, the Paterson police chief, a lieutenant from the Little

Falls Police Department, a victims rights advocate, a defense attorney, a public defender attorney, a probation officer, or a chief assistant prosecutor from the county prosecutor's office.



Kevin Wronko

Prof. Wronko, who holds a J.D. degree from New York Law School, has also been a lecturer for the NJ Attorney General's Office and a certified police academy instructor. He is chairman of the Little Falls Domestic Violence Prevention Committee and a board member of Wafa House, an Islamic domestic violence support agency. In addition, he is a speaker on domestic violence issues.

## Advisement Information

In preparation for Summer and Fall registration, advisement week will be held Monday, March 24, thru Friday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Students may see any advisor on duty during those days and hours. Master lists posted on bulletin boards near the lounge on the fourth floor of Raubinger Hall will tell who is available at that time.

Meanwhile, all majors in CCJ and sociology will receive beforehand a customized email from Prof. Jacob Felson, the assistant chair. In it they will have information about courses they still need to take.

Students should review that material carefully before they see an advisor to receive their Alternate Personal Identification Number (PIN) that is required to register.

### Advisement Tips

- ◇ Check your degree audit online to see what you still need to take.
- ◇ Make up a tentative schedule.
- ◇ Save your Alternate PIN # in your cell phone for possible later use.

### Answer to page 3 photo quiz

Robert K. Merton is considered one of America's most influential sociologists. Professor at Columbia University, he was president of both ESS and ASA. He founded the sociology of science and is famous for his theories of deviance and for developing the concepts of reference group, role model, role strain, self-fulfilling prophecy, and unintended consequences. He died in 2003 at age 92.

### Help Is Available

Any student who needs and/or wants tutoring in sociology should call the department office at 973-720-2274 to set up an appointment.

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WPU Criminology and  
Criminal Justice is on Facebook!  
Visit and "like" us, please

## Soc Club Plans Open Mike, Outdoor Movie Nights

The Sociology Club has been very active this past year. In addition to its regular volunteer work, it will be hosting an open mike night at the Campus Cafe, on Thursday, March 27th from 8 to 10:30 p.m., where students can show off their talent while spreading the word about the Sociology Club. Proceeds from the event will go to a local charity.

Also, this semester, the club plans to hold an outdoor movie night

where students can enjoy a recent film while making connections with one another. At the event they plan to sell pizza, refreshments, and club wristbands. Again, all proceeds will be going to a local charity.

The club meets every Tuesday in the sociology conference room (R428) at 12:30pm. All criminal justice and sociology majors are encouraged to join! The club is on Facebook and listed as WPUNJ Sociology Club.

### Graduation Application Deadlines

For May 2014 — February 1

For August 2014 — June 1

For January 2015 — October 1

Online registration begins in early April.

Don't lose your priority!

Go see an advisor during Advisement Week (see above).