



SOCIOLOGY AT WORK

The Official Newsletter of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology

Editor: Tina Quartaroli

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2014 AACCS Conference

October 9-11

Pittsburgh, PA

**“Encouraging Inclusiveness in
Doing Sociology: Applied and
Clinical, Public and Private”**

Click [here](#) to join AACCS or
renew your membership

aacsnet.net

Greetings AACCS members and friends,

Welcome to the first edition of the official newsletter of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology. Publishing quarterly, *Sociology at Work* aims to keep you connected with our organization and the sociological practice community at large.

This is an exciting time for AACCS as we seek to reach out and publicly engage with current social issues while actively encouraging the professionalization of sociological practice in the U.S. *Sociology at Work* will keep you up to date on these efforts, bring you news from the field, offer tips and resources, and explore the everyday practice of sociology in the real world.

Sociology at Work publishes original essays, interviews, research and practice notes, teaching and mentoring notes, research reports, film reviews, book reviews, and other items of interest related to the practice of applied, clinical and public sociology. In addition, we are also pleased to publish your announcements such as book releases, member news and accomplishments, calls for papers, and job opportunities. Please send submissions to me at tquartaroli@gmail.com.

We are currently seeking AACCS members for the *Sociology at Work* Editorial Board to assist in developing the publication towards its full potential, including its conversion to an email version with the winter issue. The Board will meet during the October conference. Please email me if you are interested in serving.

Lastly, I'd like to invite all readers to join the AACCS *Sociology at Work* discussion group on LinkedIn <http://tinyurl.com/AACCS-group> where you can post and discuss current news and observations with group members from around the world.

Tina Quartaroli
Editor

Message from the President



Members and friends,

Thank you for taking time to read our new newsletter, *Sociology at Work*. The Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology is dedicated to the application of sociological knowledge and utilization of those skills for promoting beneficial social change through scholarly, educational, programmatic, community, and policy activities. We also work towards advancing the fundamental tools of the discipline, sociological theory and methods, to provide individuals with the abilities they need to become effective agents of change at the local, regional, state, national, and international levels.

The AACCS Board of Directors is dedicated to providing a professional association that is highly beneficial to sociologists whether they are practitioners, academics, or students. We accomplish this goal in a variety of ways. AACCS members can participate in mentoring opportunities, acquire professional certification, attend professional development and training workshops, and enhance individual and project effectiveness through resource and network development.

One of the most important venues AACCS uses to provide these opportunities to the applied and clinical sociological community is our annual conference. This year's conference is being held October 9th-11th in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with the theme: "Encouraging Inclusiveness in Doing Sociology: Applied and Clinical, Public and Private." Vice President and 2014 Program Chair Dr. Anthony (Troy) Adams has done a wonderful job organizing this year's program highlighted by Keynote speaker, Dr. Lester Kurtz from George Mason University, and plenary speakers, Dr. Corey Dolgon from Stonehill College, and Dr. Elizabeth Breese from Crimson Hexagon, a social media monitoring and analytics provider.

As I close I would like to ask you to think for a moment about your membership in AACCS and ask if you are realizing the greatest benefits possible from your membership by being an "active member." An active member not only maintains their membership and attends the annual meeting, they also become involved in the association by nominating individuals for leadership positions, voting during elections, recruiting new members, developing sessions and workshops for the annual conference, serving in AACCS board leadership positions, and, most importantly, sharing their knowledge and experience with the association. Being truly engaged not only benefits you, you also help the organization succeed in realizing its promise to become effective agents of beneficial social change. If you are a current member, thank you. If your membership has lapsed, please renew now. If you have considered becoming a member but have put it off, what better time than now to join.

I look forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh!

Bob Kettlitz
President, Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology
rkettlitz@hastings.edu

Member Spotlight

FROM MILWAUKEE TO ISLAMABAD

By Michael L. Hirsch



Former AACCS President Mike Hirsch in Islamabad, Pakistan, June 2014

As an undergraduate I settled on a major in Sociology because I thought it was the best field to help me become and be a good mayor of my hometown, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. While I never achieved that particular goal, I did spend a little over five years as mayor of a small rural community Fayette, Missouri. My knowledge of sociology did help me win the election and then be a good mayor. In particular, I repeatedly utilized my research skills to the betterment of my town.

Since moving to Austin to join the faculty at Huston-Tillotson University in 2003, my skills as an applied sociologist have been exercised on innumerable occasions as a paid and as an unpaid consultant. Almost all of the work has been rewarding in its own right. However, none of my projects, until now, have taken me overseas. This June one of my projects took me to Pakistan.

Most of us know that the federal government requires outside evaluators for most of the programs they fund. The University of Texas (UT) also located in Austin, receives dozens of federal grants each year. In 2012 UT's South Asia Institute asked if I would be the lead evaluator for a faculty exchange program between UT and Fatima Jinnah Women University

(FJWU) in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. This was the first of four U.S. – Pakistan faculty exchange programs for which I am now the Lead Evaluator (a grant for a fifth is currently pending). My trip to Pakistan in June was part of my evaluation of the UT – FJWU faculty exchange program. I am scheduled for at least two more trips to Pakistan in the next two years as part of my evaluation of other programs.

While this work has been exciting in and of itself, it has also been financially lucrative like much of the applied work I've done while teaching full-time. While many sociologists work full-time in various applied fields, others like me engage in non-academic applied work on a part-time basis. Besides the monetary rewards, this work also enriches my classroom experience as I share relevant aspects of my projects with my students. Sometimes I'm also able to employ them in a project.

I've only been able to do many of these projects because of the research teams I've assembled to assist me. Here my membership in the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACCS) has been especially important. All of those working with me to evaluate the aforementioned exchange programs are folks I've met through AACCS (Amy Allen, Jammie Price and Tina Quartaroli). Two others that are scheduled to assist with future projects (Meghan McDonald and Mueni Rudd) are also members of AACCS. In fact most of the research I've done (applied and non-applied) in the last eleven years has been in conjunction with people I've met in this organization. My AACCS membership has been more beneficial to me professionally in terms of research and publication partners than any of my other memberships including the ASA, RSS, and SSSI. I am pleased to have the opportunity to share a bit of my own story in the inaugural AACCS newsletter.

Mike Hirsch may be contacted at mlhirsch@htu.edu

Tips and Tricks

THE FIVE THINGS APPLIED SOCIOLOGY CAN DO FOR YOU

By Stephen F. Steele



Doing sociology for over four decades has been a remarkable journey. Its application is as complex as the social forms that are examined by it. Applying the sociological perspective and

using the sociological imagination (as Mills would call it) have been a fascinating ride! More than once I have been asked by students and clients: “What can applied sociology do for me?”

Because I see ideas, the concepts of the discipline, as tools please allow me to offer five of these “things.” Know that your five may not look like mine. That’s OK. If a tool works, use it. Here we go!

1. “Help me understand what the heck is going on here?”

For example, when I enter a new situation, be it a corporation or a college, I enter assuming that a way of life, a culture, exists, but I may not know (I guess I’d say **probably don’t** know) what it is. Pretty profound! Well, I didn’t say these would be complicated, just useful. Looking for cultures, the rules, beliefs and values that a group maintains from the beginning saves you time and money and lets you figure out why things work the way they do (or don’t). For corporate executives, soldiers in combat, workers in a prison, knowing culture can certainly help direct resources and possibly save lives.

2. “Help sort patterns from chaos.”

If I just look at the individuals in a situation things can look pretty chaotic. Indeed random acts occur, lots of them! But much of this human action is organized and patterned. People seem willing to reinvent a process or configuration to get what they need every time they engage a new situation. So I apply the notion that “patterns must be somewhere in this mess,” and I start looking for them. This can be true across a wide spectrum of human social forms from a love relationship to a revolution. Getting the pattern doesn’t provide all the information but it calms down some of the chaos.

3. “Helps me understand why things don’t go the way I think they should.”

When I enter a new situation I look for the power centers and the influence peddlers. And, these may not always be obvious. Far from appearing on top of the organizational chart, people carve out domains over which they can control outcomes – formally and informally. Of course, there are people who can impact the outcomes but may not have any real power. I listen for and go looking for these people.

4. “Helps me understand why things change.”

Is it trite enough to say –“The only constant is change?” Again, simple, but powerful. I try to employ this thought in at least three ways: (a) What does change look like in this situation? Is it evolving, morphing from one state to another state? Is it discontinuous, you couldn’t figure it out from the things that went before? Is it a cycle? (b) What are the forces involved? I look for persons and social trends that push social systems and, hence, people around, or dampen a proposed change. (c) What’s the velocity of change... how fast is it going? Perhaps if you are asked to **produce change**, you might ask “How much change can a human group handle and how fast can it happen?”

5. “What does this all mean?”

I assume that there are definitions for reality, human action, beings natural and supernatural that when adopted by a group of people have profound impacts on their actions. Usually I have little idea what is meant by action or ideas until I make an effort to figure out collective meaning. Listening is essential. You may be saying “Ah, ha – circular logic: Things exist because they are collectively defined to.” To this I say: “Yes.” We can easily live in a human constructed “Disneyworld.” We make it up and then we live in it.

In conclusion, these are MY five helpful applied sociological approaches that I can bring to the table. If I keep in mind that humans are creatures of “biography” (according to C. Wright Mills) and (I would add) autobiography I can take some useful steps toward problem solutions by starting with these five.

Stephen Steele may be contacted at sf.steele@comcast.net

Election Results 2014-2015

President-elect: Stephen Steele
Vice President-elect: Jim Wiest
Secretary: Beverly Ross
Treasurer: Michael Fleischer

Board Members at Large:
Kathy Stolley
Alison Marganski
Andrew Cohen

AACS Bylaw revisions: Approved

By appointment:
Parliamentarian: Newman Wong
Graduate Student Representative: Mueni Rudd

Congratulations to our new officers and thank you to all our candidates for their active involvement in this election.

CERTIFICATION

What Is Certification?

The Certified Sociological Practitioner (C.S.P.) designation is awarded by the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS) to experienced professional sociological practitioners who demonstrate excellence in their practice of applied, clinical, or public sociology.

Certification is a two-step process. To become certified, you first submit application materials including a portfolio representing your academic and practice background and current practice. If your application is approved you will be given the opportunity to present your portfolio for peer review at an AACS meeting or another regional or national sociology meeting. For those applicants unable to attend one of the meetings cited above, the use of video conferencing technology will be considered on a case-by-case basis. For example, international applicants would be given this consideration. In all cases, the Certification Committee will make the final decision.

Who Is Eligible?

Practicing sociologists with either a Master's or Doctoral degree may apply for certification by the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology. Those practicing sociologists with interdisciplinary degrees are also eligible if their practice features a strong sociological component. Applicants holding a Ph.D. must be able to document at least 1,500 hours or one year full-time working as a practicing sociologist in the last 5 years. Applicants holding a M.A. or M.S. must be able to document at least 3,000 hours or two years full time working as a practicing sociologist in the last 5 years.

You must be a member in good standing of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS) to apply for certification.

What Does It Cost?

The Certification Application Fee is \$200 and is due at the time of application. The Portfolio Demonstration Fee is \$100 and is due at least 2 weeks prior to the Portfolio Demonstration. Annual certification renewal is \$20 due at the time of your annual AACS membership renewal.

For more information about Certification, please contact AACS Certification Chair:
Tina Quartaroli, Ph.D., C.S.P., tquartaroli@gmail.com

Announcements

AACS MENTORING PROGRAM

The Association of Applied and Clinical Association is delighted to announce an exciting opportunity to participate in its inaugural mentoring program launching at the 2014 October conference. The AACS Mentoring Program introduces students and young professionals to practitioners who use sociological knowledge in business and commerce, non-profit organizations, private companies and firms, and, local, regional and federal agencies. The mentoring program will inform and advance participants' thinking about ways to integrate sociological practice to enhance the quality life of people, neighborhoods and communities, and for the betterment of larger society.

Designed to help students and young professionals explore opportunities to apply sociological knowledge outside traditional/academic settings, this one-year structured mentoring program plans to increase protégées' awareness of the limitless possibilities for applying sociological knowledge; provide information about alternative careers in sociology to undergraduate and graduate students, and young professionals; help protégées develop realistic short- and long-term professional goals; and, enhance and increase protégées' professional network among applied sociologists and practitioners.

Detailed information on how to participate in this exciting program will be coming soon from AACS Mentoring Program Chair, Troy Adams. Stay tuned!

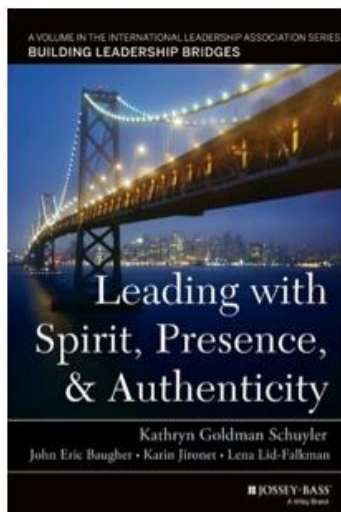
MEMBER NEWS

AACS Board Member At Large, **Miriam Boeri** has accepted a position as Associate Professor at Bentley University. Congratulations Miriam!

Former AACS president **Libby Larsen's** book manuscript has been accepted for publication by Lexington Books, a division of Rowman & Littlefield. *Gender, Work, and Harness Racing: Fast Horses and Strong Women in Southwestern Pennsylvania* has an expected publication date of November 15, 2014.

Many sports have progressed considerably since the second wave of the feminist movement in terms of women's inclusion, participation, and success. What factors work against this same progress for women in harness horse racing? Why does this sport seem so recalcitrant to change? Readers intrigued by gender inequalities in the workplace and who wonder what upholds the glass ceiling, as well as those interested in sports, horses and horse racing, will be fascinated by the web of factors revealed in this book.

The presence of women in harness racing poses a double threat to the dominant masculinity at the track: their presence as leaders threatens to transform not only what racing is, but also what a harness horseman is. Faced with the potential for such fundamental reshaping of structure and meaning in an historically masculine sport, it is no wonder that so many defenses have developed to keep women out and down in this business. There is not only a fear of change, but also a fear of chaos, of distortion (or loss) of masculine identity. Is gender so inextricably entwined with the harness racing industry, then, that there is no way to lessen occupational sex segregation within it. Readers can relate to women in harness racing while examining this rare window of sociological analysis into a unique segment of the world of gender and work.



Kathryn Goldman Schuyler, a past Board Member of AACSB, is lead editor of a book to be published this summer by Jossey Bass/Wiley for the International Leadership Association, entitled *Leading with Spirit, Presence, and Authenticity*. Building on her earlier book *Inner Peace—Global Impact* (IAP, 2012), this new book focuses on developing inner wisdom as a leadership strength. *Leading with Spirit, Presence, and Authenticity* presents the perspectives of leaders, social scientists, and educators from around the world on the topic of developing inner wisdom. Structured around the notions of spirit, presence, and authenticity, the book encourages readers to reflect on their own lives as they read about their colleagues' diverse experiences, all in an effort to address difficult global systems challenges with a foundation of various wisdom lineages and practices.

Each chapter is introduced by an editor with deep background experience in the topic at hand, and the book includes an examination of research on the essential nature of authenticity among leaders. Stories of leadership initiative from across nations illustrate the truly global nature of leadership inspiration, and accounts of teaching mindfulness, guiding leaders, and leading in the arts and humanities integrate critical theory with authentic leadership development.

A diverse mix of contributors, including a Sufi teacher, a social science journal editor, and a CEO, provide a truly inclusive examination of the ways a leader is defined by self and others. *Leading with Spirit, Presence, and Authenticity*, a volume in the International Leadership Series *Building Leadership Bridges* from the International Leadership Association, helps connect ways of researching, imagining, and experiencing leadership across cultures, over time, and around the world.

CALL FOR 2014 AWARD NOMINATIONS

The **Alex Boros Award for Contributions to the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology**, presented to an AACS member who has served AACS with distinction.

The **Robert Ezra Park Award for Sociological Practice**, presented to an outstanding sociologist who has made a special contribution demonstrating how sociological practice (applied or clinical) can advance and improve society.

The **William Julius Wilson Award**, presented to an individual or organization whose work has been demonstratively effective in breaking the cycle of poverty.

Please send award nominations by September 15, 2014 to Nominations and Awards Chair, Tina Quartaroli tquartaroli@gmail.com.

2014 JUDITH LITTLE PROBLEM SOLVING COMPETITION

We are soliciting student teams for the Judith Little Problem Solving Competition which will run concurrently with the annual conference October 9-11 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Teams will be made up of 2 to 4 students with a faculty sponsor. Undergraduate and graduate student teams may enter.

The competition begins with a workshop session on Thursday, October 9th at 3:00pm during which time a problem statement will be given by a representative of a local Pittsburgh agency that is soliciting sociological assistance. Student teams will have the remainder of the conference to develop a solution. Students are encouraged to attend sessions that may help them develop their solutions. Students are also encouraged to interview conference attendees for information and suggestions. Online research is also encouraged.

Solutions are due on Saturday October 11th by 2:15. Teams will make presentations of their solutions to an adjudicating body of 2 to 4 AACS members and a representative of the agency providing the problem. The winner will be announced during the final session of the day at the completion of the adjudication process. The team and its members will be recognized on the AACS website and a plaque bearing their names will be sent to their respective college or university.

The Judith Little Problem Solving Competition provides students a meaningful way to exercise their sociological skills. It is a networking opportunity for the participants and also provides students a professional experience they can include on their resumes.

Team sponsors should contact JLSPC chair, Miriam Boeri, mboeri@bentley.edu with any questions or to participate in this year's competition.

Final deadline for notice of participation: August 30, 2014.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Sociology at Work needs your help! Please send original articles/essays/interviews, teaching and mentoring notes, research reports, film reviews, book/publication announcements, requests for book reviews, member news, calls for papers, job announcements/career opportunities, and other items of interest to tquartaroli@gmail.com for publication consideration. The newsletter will publish quarterly in summer, fall, winter, and spring.

CALL FOR PAPERS



The Journal of Social Science (JASS) is the official, peer-refereed publication of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACCS). JASS reflects more than 25 years of journal sponsorship by AACCS and its predecessor organizations, the Society for Applied Sociology and the Sociological Practice Association. *The Journal of Applied Social Science* is the direct amalgamated successor of two previously published journals: *The Journal of Applied Sociology* and *Sociological Practice: A Journal of Applied and Clinical Sociology*. *The Journal of Applied Social Science* publishes research articles, essays, research reports, and teaching notes a wide range of topics of interest to the sociological practitioner. Specifically, we encourage submission of manuscripts that, in a concrete way, apply social science or critically reflect on the application of social science. For more information, visit <http://jax.sagepub.com/> or email JASS Editor Jammie Price at jammieprice@gmail.com.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Humboldt Journal of Social Relations, an annual series, is looking for authors to submit relevant works for its upcoming issue "Race, Gender, & Class in Popular Culture," for publication. We encourage pieces from inside and outside the academic field, to cover topics within the scope of United States popular culture's effect on social policy, the historical marginalization of people of color, and power dynamics associated with cultural hegemony. Deadline for submission is September 15, 2015. A full description of submission requirements is available at:

<http://humboldt.edu/hjsr/issues/2015%20HJSR%20Issue%20on%20Popular%20Culture%20Call%20for%20Submissions%20-2.pdf>. Please email hjsr@humboldt.edu for any further questions.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2014 Annual Conference
Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology
October 9-11

Doubletree by Hilton Hotel and Suites Pittsburgh Downtown
One Bigelow Square
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219, USA
412-281-5800



**“Encouraging Inclusiveness in Doing Sociology:
Public and Private, Applied and Clinical”**

Final Deadline for submissions: August 30th
or until program is filled

Download the [2014 AACS Submission Proposal Forms](#)

[Click here to register for the 2014 AACS Annual Conference online](#)
or [Click here to download the mail-in fillable form](#)

You can reserve your room at the Doubletree by Hilton Pittsburgh Downtown by going online to: <http://tinyurl.com/AACS-hotel> or by calling the hotel directly at 412-281-5800 and using the code “AACS.”

Last day for group rate reservations: Friday, September 19th 2014

For more information, contact 2014 Program Chair Troy Adams at keamen15@yahoo.com

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Items for inclusion in *Sociology at Work* should be sent to: Tina Quartaroli at tquartaroli@gmail.com. All contributions must include the contributor's telephone number, email address and professional affiliation, as well as the email addresses and professional affiliations of all persons mentioned in the copy. The editor reserves the right to publish or not to publish any submission and to edit any submission when necessary.

Please see our website at www.aacsnet.net to join AACS or renew your membership.