Dear Brandeis Sociology Community,

Greetings from Pearlman Hall!

The days are growing longer, the crocuses have emerged, and with the signs of spring around us, it is a good time to reflect on the past year. I began as Department Chair in July 2018, and have been getting to know Brandeis all over again from the vantage point of this role. I want to thank Karen Hansen for so ably serving as Chair before me, and for being available to answer my questions and offer her sound advice. And as Chair, I am reminded on a daily basis about how much we depend on our wonderful administrative staff, Cheryl Hansen and Lauren Jordahl.

It has been a busy year in the Sociology Department. We were delighted to welcome Siri Suh, who started this past fall as Assistant Professor of Sociology. Siri adds to our department’s long-standing strengths in the sociology of health and medicine and sociology of gender, and the department’s growing expertise in transnational processes. You can read more about Siri, her fascinating research, and her teaching interests elsewhere in this newsletter. In other faculty news, we offer congratulations to Gowri Vijayakumar, whose appointment was successfully renewed for another three years.

Our junior faculty are invigorating the department in many ways, including through the creation of new classes. New courses introduced in Sociology this year include Race, Health and Medicine in the African Diaspora, and Sociology of Reproduction, both taught by Siri Suh; Sociology of Race and Racism, taught by Derron Wallace; HIV/AIDS, Society, and Politics, taught by Gowri Vijayakumar; and Sociology of Drugs in America, taught by Caitlin Slodden, who is a Lecturer for us this year and is also serving as our Undergraduate Advising Head.

This year has been a time for reflection about our curricula and other department initiatives. In the fall, we engaged in a series of conversations about how to institute Brandeis’ new core requirements for undergraduates. And in January, department faculty and staff held a day-long retreat to consider current practices and ideas for the future.
One of my favorite annual events is the alumni reception that is held during the American Sociological Association meetings. This is a time to catch up with old friends and become acquainted with other former and current members of Brandeis Sociology. Last August in Philadelphia, we did this in a space with spectacular views of the city. For those of you attending the ASA meetings in New York this coming summer, do be on the lookout for the reception announcement. And if any of you have ideas about other ways we can stay in touch with our alumni, please send them my way. We so enjoy hearing about what is going on in your lives.

Best wishes,

Laura Miller
Faculty and Staff Notes

~ Department of Sociology Faculty ~

Wendy Cadge wrapped up her term as the Chair of Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Program this year and started a term as the Social Science Division Head at Brandeis. She taught a new flipped version of Introductory Sociology in the fall and worked on a range of new grant funded projects including a newly launched Chaplaincy Innovation Lab, the Transforming Chaplaincy Project, and a new NEH supported arm of Boston’s Hidden Sacred Spaces in collaboration with WBUR and Walking Cinema. She is also the PI on a new Henry Luce funded project with Shelly Rambo at Boston University School of Theology. Recent academic publications include:

- Blogs and other short publications are on her website. She served as the Chair of the American Sociological Association’s Religion Section through August 2018.

Gordie Fellman continues to serve as Chair of the Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence (PAX) program. Last spring, Gordie was a panelist in *Democracies in Peril: The Role of the University*, a program organized and sponsored by the International Center for Ethics, Justice, and Public Life. In the fall, he attended annual meetings of the Peace and Justice Studies Association and organized a six person panel on “The Resistance - Contents, Growth, Social Class & Other Dimensions.” Gordie spoke on what he sees as possible beneficial consequences of Trump’s presidency so far. In October, he also was an organizer of the central event for Indigenous Peoples Day, a screening and panel on the new documentary “Dawnland.” The film is about Maine having the first Truth and Reconciliation Commission dealing with the centuries old practices of forceful removal of Native American children from their homes, languages, and cultures to make them become “white.” In October, he also did a presentation at Parents Weekend on Unexpected Upsides of the recent presidential election as well as on major highlights of the past fifty years at Brandeis. In March, Gordie was a co-presenter on climate change denial, in a new ENVS course introduction to climate change.

Karen V. Hansen learned from colleagues at the Eastern Sociological Society, that she is the recipient of the 2019 ESS Merit Award, for “distinguished scholars who have made outstanding contributions to the discipline, the profession, and the ESS.” As Director of the Women’s Studies Research Center, with seed money from the Brandeis Provost, this year she has been facilitating an interdisciplinary faculty-scholar-graduate student workshop on “Cascading: Gender, Race, and Downward Mobilities.”
In addition to several conference presentations, she has published two lead articles in history journals: “Gendered Entanglements: Dakotas and Scandinavians at Spirit Lake, 1900-1930” *Women’s History Review* 23:1 (2019): 7-22. With co-authors, Grey Osterud and Valerie Grim, “‘Land was One of the Greatest Gifts’: Women's Landownership in Dakota Indian, Immigrant Scandinavian, and African American Communities,” *Great Plains Quarterly* 38:3 (2018): 251-272. Graduate student Samantha Leonard and she have a forthcoming article as part of a dialogue with Midwestern colleagues about Native Americans, Jews, and Norwegian immigrants: “Immigrant Land Taking and Indian Dispossession.”

**Laura Miller**’s last book, *Building Nature’s Market: The Business and Politics of Natural Foods*, received the 2018 Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award from the American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of Consumers and Consumption. Laura spent her Spring 2018 sabbatical doing research for her current book project, which examines the publishing history of vegetarian cookbooks as a way to understand the social worlds and role of print culture in movements advocating vegetarianism. She visited archives and conducted interviews in Lincoln, NE, Austin, TX, Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay Area, Washington, DC, and New York. She also continued to work with Brandeis graduate students, and was delighted to receive the Graduate School’s Dean's Mentoring Award in Spring ’18. In July, she started as Chair of the Sociology Department.

**Chandler Rosenberger** continues as chair of the International and Global Studies program and has spent much of the last year reshaping how the major works. With the support of a Provost Teaching Innovation Grant and as a Davis Teaching Fellow, Chandler has been designing ways to help students organize their studies around key issues in world affairs (e.g. religion in politics, nationalism, human development), then find internships and first jobs related to the questions they’ve explored, as well as share what they've learned with undergraduates just beginning the major. He hopes the new techniques -- some of which are electronic, but most of which are just new ways to have old-fashioned conversations -- will help graduates go into the world with a clearer idea of what they bring to it and of where they’d like to start.

Chandler is also continuing his research on Chinese nationalism. He has a chapter on "Confucian Communists" coming out this fall and will speak on the topic this summer in Leipzig, Germany and Belgrade, Serbia.

**Sara Shostak**’s research and teaching are located at the intersection of food, health, community, and contemporary urban life. Her essay on community-based participatory research as a means of advancing social justice in and through empirical research was published in *Sociological Forum*. With co-authors Ann Ward, Alex Willett, and Margarita Corral, she is completing a manuscript on community-based research as a form as pedagogy for undergraduate capstone classes. In 2018, she conducted a project – with the support of the Merck Family Fund and in collaboration with urban agriculture (UA) organizations across the state – that documents the missions of community-based UA organizations, the challenges of evaluating their programs, and their desire for “more holistic” approaches to evaluation that will “lift up” their social justice agendas. She is nearing completion of her second monograph, which is under contract with Rutgers University Press (Nature, Society, and Culture Series).

Sara continues to serve the University through her work with the Myra Kraft Transitional Year Program, the Posse Scholars Program, the Social Justice Curriculum Committee (which she chairs) and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (to which she was elected in 2018). In 2018-2019, Sara is
co-chairing (with Associate Provost Kim Godsoe) the Task Force on the Student Learning/Living Experience, which is charged with “consider[ing] how we might develop a more holistic community for all our students — one that integrates academic and co-curricular experiences and provides students with a sense of home and belonging on campus.” She also serves as Member-At-Large of the Council of the American Sociological Association, to which she was elected in 2018.

Carmen Sirianni has been enjoying a sabbatical this year, finishing his book, Sustainable Cities in American Democracy. This book examines the emergence and development of this institutional field from 1946 to 2016, with a focus on democratic engagement, civic professionalism, and policy design for democracy. It examines the various fields nested within or proximate to this larger field, such as urban planning, bicycle movements, environmental justice, new urbanism, smart growth, green building, urban agriculture, and climate and resilience planning. It also examines the contributions of sustainable cities to a politics of hope and efficacy in an era of climate crisis.

Michael Strand was a panelist at ASA last year in Philadelphia, presenting a paper entitled “The Two Main Varieties of Practice Theory.” He has two articles forthcoming this year, “The Political Unconscious of Practice Theory” in Thesis Eleven and “Practice, Creativity and the Tact” in the edited volume Contemporary Sociological Theory. He was a very grateful for a research leave in the Fall of 2018, when he did a lot of work on his book manuscript—“A Genealogy of Social Justice: Victorian England, 1834-1914”—nearly finishing it!

Siri Suh joined the faculty of the Department of Sociology in the fall of 2018. In August 2018, she published an article titled “Metrics of Survival: Post-Abortion Care and Reproductive Rights in Senegal” (10.1080/01459740.2018.1496333) in Medical Anthropology. She is currently completing a book manuscript (under contract with Rutgers University Press) titled “Obstetric Ambiguities: Reproductive Governance, Evidence, and Global Abortion Politics in Senegal.” Siri has several manuscripts that have been accepted for publication in 2019. Her article titled “What Post-Abortion Care Indicators Don’t Measure: Global Abortion Politics and Obstetric Practice in Senegal” is forthcoming in Social Science & Medicine. This article is part of a Special Issue she is co-editing titled “Behind the Measures of Maternal and Reproductive Health: Ethnographic Accounts of Inventory and Intervention.” Another article titled “Post-Abortion Care: A Promising Terrain for Sociological Research on Abortion in the Global South” will be published in a Special Issue on “Reproduction, Health and Medicine” in Advances in Medical Sociology.

Siri has been invited to share her work at conferences and research centers and in peer-reviewed publications. In November 2018, she participated in a panel on the social sciences and global health at the Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer Range Future at Boston University. In February 2019, she was invited to give a paper titled “Bodies of Evidence: Abortion Epidemiology, Obstetric Practice, and Global Reproductive Governance in Senegal” as part of the Baraza Lecture Series at the Center for African Studies at the University of Florida. In February 2019, she presented a paper titled “The Necropolitics of Global Maternal and Reproductive Health: Imbrications of Care and Violence in Senegal” at Decolonizing Global Health, a student-organized conference at Harvard University’s School of Public Health. In November 2019, she will give a paper during a plenary session titled “Laboring and the Politics of Re/Production” at the annual meeting of the National Women’s Studies Association. As part of her new project on global politics and practices related to Misoprostol, an abortifacient drug, Siri has been invited to contribute a chapter titled “When Abortion Devices travel: The Multiple Lives of Manual Vacuum Aspiration and Misoprostol in Senegal” to an edited volume titled “Techniques and Technologies of Global Maternal and Reproductive Health in Africa.”
To further her commitment to a growing community of sociologists engaged in the field of global health, Siri co-organized a mini-conference on global health at the 2019 Eastern Sociological Society annual meeting. With 13 panels on topics related to HIV, global health governance, the politics of measurement in global health, maternal and reproductive health, and the double burden of chronic and infectious disease, the mini-conference has generated a great deal of enthusiasm about sociological contributions to global health.

During the fall of 2018, Siri taught two new courses (Sociology of Reproduction and Race, Health & Medicine in the African Diaspora). During the spring of 2019, she is teaching Health, Community & Society, a lively class with over 110 students from a diversity of backgrounds in the social and physical sciences and the humanities. As an enthusiast of global ethnography and mixed-method research, Siri looks forward to teaching the graduate Field Methods course in the fall of 2019.

Gowri Vijayakumar is working on her book project, Viral Politics, an ethnographic study of HIV/AIDS programs and activism in India and Kenya. An article based on this research will be published in Social Problems later this year, focusing on how social movement organizations navigated the new political constraints and opportunities created by an influx of funding for HIV/AIDS programs. She recently presented a portion of this research as part of the Brown-Harvard-MIT South Asian Politics Joint Seminar. She is also working on a new collaborative project on sex workers’ access to state services and organizational support as they grow older. She recently received a grant from the Mandel Center for the Humanities to develop an autobiographical component of this project, in collaboration with an NGO that works on the rights of sex workers and LGBTIQ people in India. She is excited to be organizing a mini-conference at ESS this spring to bring together sociologists who study South Asia. She has enjoyed teaching her course on social movements and on Gender, Sexuality, and Globalization this year at Brandeis. In spring 2019 she is developing a new course on the social politics of HIV/AIDS in global perspective. Students in the course are analyzing oral histories of the HIV/AIDS epidemic as their final project. Gowri and her family welcomed a new baby, Kavi, in April 2018.

Derron Wallace recently received two prestigious national fellowships to support his research: The Woodrow Wilson Fellowship from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Stuart Hall Fellowship from Harvard University's W.E.B. Du Bois Research Institute at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research. Derron is the first junior faculty member to receive the Stuart Hall Fellowship, which will support his project, Seeking A Safe Way to School: Black Caribbean Youth Negotiating Police Surveillance in London and New York City. His latest piece, "Safe Routes to School?" is the lead article in the Fall, 2018 issue of the Harvard Educational Review.

Derron also earned two additional honors in recognition of his scholarship. In March, 2018, he received the Emerging Scholar Award from the African Diaspora Special Interest Group of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES). The award is "given at the annual CIES Conference to exceptional scholars who are on the cutting edge and have the potential to make a contribution across the African Diaspora." In April, 2018, he also received the Most Outstanding Paper Award in International Studies from the American Educational Research Association (AERA) for "Negotiating Girls' Empowerment: Models of Assertive and Subversive Resistance in Rwanda's Only Inclusive School." Derron will continue to strengthen his research agenda as he pursues international fieldwork under the auspices of Brandeis University's Provost's Research Award.

Derron has a set of articles forthcoming or in print in the journals Cultural Sociology, Disability & Society and The International Journal of Inclusive Education, all centered on inequalities and identities of race, class and gender.
Staff Notes

Cheri Hansen is the Senior Academic Administrator. She manages the busy Sociology Office and provides administrative and technical support to the department. Cheri and Lauren work together on several departmental projects. Both are part of the Climate Change Initiative Group for staff. Cheri's daughter, Abby, is a junior at Brandeis. Cheri rides her bike to work when the weather is nice.

Lauren Jordahl is responsible for supporting Sociology graduate admissions, the Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence Studies program (PAX), and the Social Justice and Social Policy program (SJSP). She and Cheri make an amazing team effectively supporting the Sociology department. Lauren is also responsible for grants management, budgets, as well as creating and designing this newsletter as well as our weekly newsletter to our students and faculty. On campus, Lauren is involved in the Climate Change Initiative and off campus, she serves on several different non-profit boards and loves to stay active.
**Current Graduate Student News**

**Julia Bandini (PhD in Sociology, 2019)** defended her dissertation, "Beyond the Hour of Death: End-of-Life Decision-Making and Family Experiences of Grief and Bereavement," in January 2019 (Congratulations Julia!). She will be starting as an Associate Behavioral/Social Scientist at RAND later this year.

**Rebecca Barton (PhD Sociology student)** taught her first class online - Order and Change in Society, this past summer. She really enjoyed the possibilities of teaching on such a platform. She also spent her summer digging through old *Justice* articles, and dusty boxes in Rabb, to find content for the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies newly created Brandeis Queer Archive. She is also wrapping up a nearly 3-year-long project with Wendy Cadge on campus chaplaincy. This last year with no classes has been a time of growth and, as always, she is exceedingly grateful for her cohort and all of the caring and supportive people in the sociology department.

**Sarah Halford (PhD Sociology student)** has written and produced *Creative Resistance: The Podcast Mini-Series*, which was published by The Center for Artistic Activism (New York, NY.) As part of her Master's thesis at NYU, the podcast is made up of five episodes on the philosophy and tactics of artistic activism, which include audio recordings from several of the ~25 artist interviews that she conducted during her research. The mini-series is listed as a "special edition" on the C4AA's main podcast, which can be found by searching "The Pop Culture Salvage Expeditions" in your podcast app or [online](#).

**Jenny LaFleur (Joint PhD in Sociology and Social Policy student)** attended a summer program at Humboldt University in Berlin that focused on synthesizing social theory and empirical research. Jenny presented a working paper at a Sociology of Education round-table session at the 2018 annual meeting and also presented on a panel with other Brandeis sociology students at the 2019 ESS annual meeting.

**Samantha Leonard (PhD Sociology student)** completed her dissertation proposal this spring and is eager to begin fieldwork for her comparative study of feminist antiviolence movements. She's grateful to have received the Peter Conrad Award for Graduate Student research last spring which supported pre-dissertation research at the NCDAV 2018 conference. This last year Sam has also had the opportunity to work on several other projects, including as a research assistant for the Cascading: Gender, Race, and Downward Mobilities workshop at the WSRC and as a summer research assistant helping to archive LGBTQ history at Brandeis with the Women's, Gender, & Sexuality department.

**Ann Ward (PhD Sociology Student)** received her Master's degree in Sociology in May of 2018. After completing her QPDs in the Fall of 2018, Ann defended her Dissertation Prospectus in the Spring of 2019. Her dissertation project explores the relationship between emotions, narrative, collective identity, and the US Environmental Movement with a particular focus on the ways environmental activists understand their role in efforts to mitigate climate change. In the past academic year, she has presented at SSSP and ESS and she will be presenting at ASA in the Summer of 2019. Additionally, Ann was grateful for the opportunity to teach a course at Brandeis University focusing on the Environmental Movement.
Some of our fabulous graduate students:

Peach Picking Adventures

Bowling & having fun over break

Celebrating together!
Meet Our Newest Sociology Faculty Member:

Professor Siri Suh

1. Tell us a bit about yourself and what brought you to Brandeis?

I was born in the US to Dutch and Cameroonian parents but grew up in Africa. I lived in Kenya, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, and Ghana before returning to the US to go to college. Spending my childhood and adolescence in Africa indelibly shaped my commitment to reproductive health and rights as a scholar and teacher. Over the last two decades, I have conducted research on maternal and reproductive health in the US, Surinam, Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Senegal. I have collaborated with organizations such as the United Nations Population Fund, the Guttmacher Institute, Management Sciences for Health, Averting Maternal Death and Disability, and Global Doctors for Choice. Prior to joining the Department of Sociology at Brandeis University, I taught in the Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies and the Institute for Global Studies at the University of Minnesota and the Department of Sociology at Barnard College. As a medical sociologist, I am thrilled to contribute to a long tradition of sociological scholarship and teaching on medicine, health, and illness in the Department of Sociology.

2. How are you involved on campus and what are some of your favorite classes you have taught here?

During the fall of 2018 I taught Sociology of Reproduction (SOC 133) and Race, Health & Medicine in the African Diaspora (SOC 187). During the spring of 2019 I am teaching Health, Community & Society (SOC 191). Although I am still learning my way around campus, I have become a regular at several coffee shops: Einstein’s at the Shapiro Student Center, the Starbucks in the Library, and Dunkin Donuts in the dining hall.
3. Who are some of your Sociology inspirations and mentors?

During my senior year at UC Berkeley, I read “Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction and the Meaning of Liberty” by sociologist and legal scholar Dorothy Roberts. Her book inspired my senior thesis project on family planning services at a Women, Infants and Children (WIC) clinic in Oakland, CA. In my courses on reproduction, my students read “Killing the Black Body” and other scholars such as Khiara Bridges and Dana-Ain Davis who have been inspired by Dorothy Roberts’s scholarship on reproductive justice. My research and teaching on domestic and global abortion politics have been enormously influenced by two sociologists of reproduction: Kristin Luker and Carol Joffe. Additionally, my work draws extensively on the work of cultural and medical anthropologists (Claire Wendland, Lynn Morgan, Vincanne Adams, Susan Greenhalgh, Jennifer Johnson-Hanks, Julie Livingston, Paul Farmer, Didier Fassin, Yannick Jaffré) and feminist scholars of science and technology and population and development (Betsy Hartmann, Michelle Murphy, Carole McCann, Chikako Takeshita).

4. We know you are passionate about your research. Can you share with us some of the research you are working on currently?

Currently, I’m working on a book manuscript and several articles related to my research on post-abortion care in Senegal. I am also launching a new project on Misoprostol, an abortifacient drug, in Senegal. This new project will explore how Misoprostol is transforming the scientific, professional, clinical, and epidemiological landscape of reproductive health care in Senegal, where induced abortion is prohibited under any circumstance.

5. What are some of your interests/hobbies when you are not teaching or working on your research?

I enjoy jogging, browsing through book stores in Cambridge, exploring Boston on foot (weather permitting), and searching for the best brunch spots in town to indulge my weakness for pancakes.

~ A special thank you to Siri for sharing her thoughts with us! ~
Department of Sociology ~ Tidbits

Congratulations to our Recent Sociology Graduates:

**Sociology PhD**
Julia Bandini
Jaleh Jalili
Catherine Tan

**Joint PhD in Social Policy and Sociology**
Sara Chaganti
Rachel Madsen
Alexis Mann

**MA in Sociology**
Jillian LaBranche
Jacob Pullis
Sonali Reese
Ann Ward (current Soc PhD student)

**Joint MA in Sociology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**
Alexa Damaska

CONGRADULATIONS!!
The Undergraduate Departmental Representatives (UDR) program was first established by the Student Senate in the early to mid-1990s, and re-established in the fall of 1998 by the Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences at the suggestion of faculty and undergraduate participants of "Creating a Welcoming Campus Environment" meetings. The program is designed to open avenues of communication between undergraduates and departmental/program faculty.

Miriam Berro Krugman is a junior from Long Beach, California majoring in Sociology and minoring in Social Justice and Social Policy, Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence Studies, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. In addition to being a UDR for Sociology and Social Justice and Social Policy, she is the President of Brandeis Democrats, a Kindness Day Co-Coordinator, and a member of Up The Octave a capella. She is using her minors to focus her sociological studies on women’s issues, conflict transformation, and social justice, and plans to be a civil rights lawyer. Miriam spent her summer interning at the California Conference for Equality and Justice and learned a lot about restorative justice in relation to juveniles and families.

Olivia Nichols is a junior from Minnesota majoring in Sociology and minoring in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. In addition to being a UDR for Sociology, they are a member of the Brandeis Asian American Task Force and are also involved creatively on campus as a musician and poet. Olivia spent the fall semester studying social movements and human rights in Buenos Aires, Argentina, completing a research project on trans activism within the movement for the right to abortion in Argentina.
2018-2019 Sociology Colloquia Series

Jocelyn Viterna, Ph.D
February 2019
Professor of Sociology at Harvard University
‘Governance and the Reversal of Women's Rights: The Case of Abortion in El Salvador’

States’ governance of gender is not not unidirectional. In addition to 'stagnation' and 'progress,' there can be an active reversal of rights already granted to women. Using the case of abortion rights in El Salvador, this paper investigates: What are the likely causes of right reversals? How might rights reversals be more consequential for women's lives than rights stagnations? And how might studying rights reversals as separate and distinct phenomena improve our scholarly understanding of the relationship between gender and politics more broadly?

Daniel Laurison
March 2019
Assistant Professor of Sociology at Swarthmore College,
‘The Class Ceiling: Why It Pays To Be Privileged’

The talk focused on a powerful and previously unrecognized “class pay gap” exists in Britain’s higher professional and managerial occupations, then ask why this pay gap exists.

Arlie Hochschild
April 2019
Professor Emerita of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley
‘Strangers in Their Own Lands: The Sequel For Some White Blue-Collar Men’

Please refer to our website for details on our Colloquia Series
PhD Alumni

James Ault (PhD 1981) is enjoying active semi-retirement doing work he loves, mainly making ethnographic documentaries in the cinéma vérité tradition of pioneers like John Marshal, who first introduced him to the work (since a family friend of his, Nancy Jay, was a close buddy from Brandeis sociology!). He finished a piece on some exemplary work with homeless folks in Asheville, NC, and a biographical piece on the late Kwame Bediako, one of the great thinkers of the Christian church in Africa, with new filming in Ghana and the UK. He is in the midst of editing a film on the life of Zimbabwe's gospel music legend, Machanic Manyeruke, filmed last January soon after Robert Mugabe had been deposed, ushering in a new dispensation, perhaps, for that nation. In addition to filming intimately among family and friends, they filmed him onstage with his son, Guspy Warrior, a rockstar now in Zim, along with others, at a Hope for Zimbabwe concert marking and encouraging this new dispensation. (Picture onstage filming Guspy Warrior in Harare.)


Meredith Bergey (PhD 2015) enjoyed her first year teaching at Villanova University's Department of Sociology and Criminology. She and Peter Conrad traveled to Toronto to present a project at the International Sociological Association meetings. Meredith also presented her research at the American Sociological Association and the Society for the Study of Social Problems meetings in Philadelphia. She is currently serving as Co-Chair for the latter's Division of Health, Health Policy and Health Services. Meredith also organized and participated in a panel on mental health and stigma at Villanova and was interviewed on NPR's "All Things Considered" to discuss ADHD diagnostic practices.


Lynn Davidman (PhD 1986) has retired from her position of Distinguished Professor of Modern Jewish Studies and Professor of Sociology at the University of Kansas on December 31, 2018. She is moving to Princeton NJ where she will have a position at the university’s Center for the Study of Religion.
Jean Elson (PhD 2000, MA 1996) Emerita in the Sociology Department at the University of New Hampshire, has had another eventful year. She continues to present programs on topics raised by her recent book, “Gross Misbehavior and Wickedness: A Notorious Divorce in Early Twentieth-Century America” (Temple U. Press, 2017), including for historical societies, libraries, and women’s groups. After completing extensive research on Litvaks (Lithuanian Jews), Jean traveled through the Baltic states last summer. The highlight was a visit to Ariogala, Lithuania, the small rural town where her maternal grandparents emigrated from at the beginning of the twentieth century. Jean is collaborating with a history teacher in Ariogala who established a Tolerance Center to teach Lithuanian children about Jewish contributions to Lithuanian culture and the destruction of the Litvak population during the Holocaust. Over 95% of Lithuanian Jews were murdered, representing not only the highest per capita, but also the greatest total number of Jews killed in any country during World War II. The Tolerance Center is named in honor of a woman from Ariogala who hid Jews in her farmhouse and barn during the Nazi occupation. Jean’s website is: jeanelson.com The attached photo is of two Lithuanian teachers with Jean Elson (center) at the Tolerance Center, Ariogala, Lithuania.

Lew Friedland (PhD 1985) is the Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is affiliated with the departments of Sociology and Educational Psychology. Lew is principal investigator (with others) for the Wisconsin Project which is reconstructing the political communication ecology of that state over a 10 year period, with the goal of understanding political fracture and contention. Within the project, he leads the qualitative group which is conducting 100 plus in-depth citizen interviews. This year, his group won a UW2020 award of about $420,000, and additional funding from the Hewlitt Foundation and others, to reach near $800,000 through 2020. Lew is also actively publishing from this project, most recently “Laboratory of Oligarchy” in The Wisconsin Idea (U of Wisconsin Press: 2019) which traces the takeover of Wisconsin by outside, ultra-conservative groups (and, as of 2018, their partial defeat).

Harris Gleckman (PhD 1982, BA 1968, MA) after a long three-year writing process and six months of final editing, finished his latest book, Multistakeholder Governance and Democracy. The study takes a look at multistakeholderism, a proposed new system of international governance that may displace multilateralism from addressing pressing issues on the global agenda. While multistakeholder governance may well have some operational benefits, his argument is that this system is an inherent threat to democracy. His challenge now is to get the ideas and copies of the book included in university reading lists and in the thinking of those active in international relations. No small task as the topic of global governance is not exactly a subject for a casual dinner conversation. If you happen, however, to know someone who might publicize or review the book or who might be teaching in international relations, please let him know. He has continued work that started in his early United Nations days to establish formal rules for multinational corporations. The United Nations Human Rights Council created a process to address human rights violations by transnational corporations and other business enterprises. The chairs of this negotiation as well as two consortia of civil society organizations have invited him to advise them on the process. While sometimes he feels like a walking history book for the next generation of leaders in this area, the human rights platform opens some new doors into the issue. Based on his article critiquing John Ruggie’s (Kennedy
School) objections to the treaty process, *The Real News* produced a video on the negotiations. And finally, after years in and around NYC, he has moved back to Maine and is enjoying wonderful views of Casco Bay from our new home just north of Portland.

**Heather Jacobson** (PhD 2006) was recently promoted to Professor of Sociology at the University of Texas at Arlington, where she serves as Director of Graduate Studies for Sociology. Following the publication of her second book, *Labor of Love: Gestational Surrogacy and Work of Making Babies* (Rutgers 2016), Heather has enjoyed traveling to discuss her work. She has given invited talks at reproduction-focused conferences and workshops in Paris, Amsterdam, and New York and is looking forward to upcoming visits to Berlin and back to Paris this academic year. *Labor of Love* was selected for Author-Meets-Critics sessions at both the Eastern Sociological Society and the Southern Sociological Society annual meetings in 2018. Heather recently published, “A Limited Market: The Infertility Industry’s Recruitment of Gay Men as Surrogacy Clients” in a special issues of *Reproductive Biomedicine and Society Online* (2018) edited by Charis Thompson and Marcin Smeitana. She is currently collecting data for a new book project on human embryo cryopreservation.

**Christa Kelleher** (PhD 2003) Research and Policy Director of UMass Boston’s Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, recently collaborated with the Eos Foundation on a report examining gender parity in higher education leadership, *Women’s Power Gap in Higher Education: Study and Rankings*. She also served as Co-PI for *The Massachusetts Early Care and Education Workforce Study* and has been tracking women’s electoral progress in the Commonwealth and analyzing women’s political leadership, with an emphasis on women of color.

**Rachel Kulick** (PhD 2010) is an Associate Professor in Sociology at UMass Dartmouth. She recently published, “More time in the kitchen, less time on the streets: the micropolitics of cultivating an ethic of care in alternative food networks” in *Local Environment: International Journal of Justice and Sustainability*.

**R. Ruth Linden** (PhD 1989) is the Founder and President of *Tree of Life Health Advocates* in San Francisco. She has recently been quoted in *Huffington Post*, *Glamour*, and *Tonic Vice*. In 2018, Ruth was thrilled to be in touch with Maury (and Phyllis) Stein; Janet Kahn, the “other woman” in her cohort; Steve Scheinthal, D.O. (B.A., 1987); Nick Rubashkin, MD (B.A., 1997), who was her student at Stanford School of Medicine; and Damiana Andonova (B.A., 2015).

**Peter Ludes** (PhD 1983, MA 1975) is a Visiting Professor for Intercultural Comparisons in the Dept. of China Studies at the University of Cologne. His recent lectures include "Globalizing Long-term Alternatives" in Brussels and "Sociology and China Studies" at Leipzig University. His recent publications include Brutalisierung und Banalisierung. Asoziale und soziale Netze = Springer Essential, Wiesbaden: Springer VS 2018. The first decades of the 21st century supposedly built information highways to global knowledge societies. Yet, new scopes and modes of dis-/information and ex-/communication have caught us in partially brutalizing and banalizing asocial and social networks. They function as counter powers to previously highlighted processes of rationalization and civilization. These counter tendencies pervade basic perception patterns and social interdependencies in all realms of life and death. They open up new social horizons as well as professional surveillance. Collective myths of free and unconstrained communication veil these processes and remain unquestioned in many social scientific, journalistic and social media accounts. His short Springer essential essay *Brutalization and Banalization in asocial and social networks* attempts to combine
insights from the humanities, social sciences, and the arts. Five chapters inquire into the Evil of Banality, Collective Myths, Inclusion and Exclusion, Fiction and Factualness, and Ten New Commandments. His essay "Distorted Knowledge and Repressive Power", in: Savas Coban (Ed.): Media, Ideology, and Hegemony, Leiden: Brill, 2018, pp. 125-142 refers back to Kurt H. Wolff's existential sociology and Norbert Elias' sociology of knowledge in order to specify the increasing threats of distorted knowledge and repressive power.

Larry Miller (PhD 1980, BA 1969) and Maury Stein (former Brandeis Sociology Professor and Chair) wrote/drew/designed/composed Blueprint for Counter Education in 1968 and 1969. It was originally published in 1970 and a second edition was published in 2016. Last spring it was featured in an exhibit at the Rose Art Museum at Brandeis. It is currently showing at the Vitra Design Museum in Weil-am Rhein, Germany as part of a show centered on the life work of a radical designer named Viktor Papineck.

Vanessa Lopes Munoz (PhD 2014) is currently serving as an American Association for the Advance of Science Science & Technology Policy Fellow at NSF (on leave from Colorado College). She recently published, “Everybody has to think – do I have any peanuts and nuts in my lunch?” School nurses, collective adherence, and children’s food allergies,” in Sociology of Health and Illness.

Karl Pillemer (PhD 1985) has been appointed the Senior Associate Dean for Research and Outreach in the College of Human Ecology at Cornell University. He otherwise busies himself as co-PI of an NIH center that studies chronic pain among older people and develops non-pharmacological interventions for pain (the Translational Research Institute on Pain in Later Life), and an NIH T32 postdoctoral training grant on palliative care and pain research. Any new Brandeis PhDs who are interested in the latter program are welcome to contact Karl (kap6@cornell.edu).

Debbie Potter (PhD 2007) began her 3-year term on the Board of Directors for the Society for the Study of Social Problems in August. At the SSSP meeting, she presented a manuscript ("Illness Trajectories and Biographical Disruption: Multi-Morbidity and Illness Experiences of Women with Depression and Diabetes") from her most recent research project. An Associate Professor at the University of Louisville, she now also is Director of Graduate Studies in the Sociology Department.


Brad Rose (PhD 1994) continues his work as an applied sociologist at Brad Rose Consulting, a program evaluation and organization development firm, based in Wellesley, Massachusetts. He is currently working with the Michigan Department of Education and the non-profit organizations CAST and Alt + Shift. Brad also continues his avocation as a poet, with recent poems appearing in The American Journal of Poetry. His two new books of primarily prose poems, Momentary Turbulence and WordinEdgeWise, are forthcoming from the Summerville-based press, Cervena Barva Press. His previous book, Pink X-Ray, is available here: http://pinkx-ray.com His websites are: www.bradroseconsulting.com and www.bradrosepoetry.com
Rubén G. Rumbaut (PhD 1978) serves on the Steering Committee for the World Commission on Forced Displacement and the International Committee for the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He also received the Distinguished Career Award from the American Sociological Association (Latina/o Sociology Section). He has published the following articles:

- **Crossings to Adulthood: How Diverse Young Americans Understand and Navigate Their Lives** (with T. Swartz and D. Hartmann). Brill, 2017.
- **Crossing Lines and Imagining the Future: Transitions to Adulthood and Mixed Couples in California and New York** (with C. Morgan), 2017.

He has also given the following presentations:

- “From Middle School to Middle Adulthood: Education and the Social Mobility of the Immigrant Second Generation in an Age of Inequality.” AERA Wallace Foundation Distinguished Lecture.
- **From a Language Graveyard to a Language Playground** (release of American Academy report at the National Press Club, Washington, DC).
- “Use It or Lose It: The Rise and Fall of Immigrant Languages in the United States.” Annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Austin, Feb. 2018.

Hal Salzman (PhD 1986) is a Professor at Rutgers University. He co-authored chapters in the book, *U.S. Engineering in a Global Economy*, which came out in March. Chapters include:

- Introduction by Richard B. Freeman and Hal Salzman,
- The Engineering Labor Market: An Overview of Recent Trends by Daniel Kuehn and Hal Salzman and Dynamics of Engineering Labor Markets: Petroleum Engineering Demand and Responsive Supply by Leonard Lynn, Hal Salzman, and Daniel Kuehn. His recent articles include **STEM Performance**

Image: “In the field' interviewing"...on the Hula Hula, Brooks Range to the Beaufort Sea, July 2018 (North Slope,AK).

Guy Abutbul-Selinger (PhD 2012) received a tenure-track position at the College of Management of Israel and was appointed as the head of the Undergraduate Program in the Department of Behavioral Sciences. He also published an article entitled "Invisible Boundaries within the Middle Class and the Construction of Ethnic Identity."

Cheryl D. Stults (PhD 2009) is an assistant scientist at the Palo Alto Medical Foundation Research Institute with a focus on qualitative research. She is currently the site principal investigator for the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) funded project “Improving Patient-Centered Communication in Primary Care: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial of the Comparative Effectiveness of Three Interventions”(PI: Tai-Seale). She is also the site principal investigator for a collaborative study with Brigham and Women's Hospital and Surescripts evaluating the implementation and impact of electronic prior authorizations for prescription medications. Her recent publications include: ‘Preventive visit among older adults with Medicare's introduction of Annual Wellness Visit: Closing gaps in underutilization,” “Comparative Usability Study of a Newly Created Patient-Centered Tool and Medicare.gov Plan Finder to Help Medicare Beneficiaries Choose Prescription Drug Plans.” “Using Collabo RATE, a brief patient-reported measure of shared decision making: Results from three clinical settings in the United States” and “Patient Experiences in Selecting a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan.”

T.L. Taylor (PhD 2000) was named a MacVicar Fellow at MIT in March 2019. The MacVicar is MIT’s highest honor in undergraduate teaching and Dr. Taylor joins the ranks of esteemed faculty from across the Institute for this 10 year appointment. T.L. also recently published her fourth book, Watch Me Play: Twitch and the Rise of Game Live Streaming (Princeton 2018 - available at booksellers or via free Creative Commons pdf at watchmeplay.cc.) Through extensive interviews and fieldwork, she explores the live streaming platform Twitch and the melding of private play and public entertainment. She looks at the pleasures and work involved in this broadcasting activity, as well as the management and governance of game live streaming and its hosting communities. At a time when gaming is being reinvented through social media, the potential of an ever-growing audience is transforming user-generated content and alternative distribution methods. These changes will challenge the meaning of ownership and intellectual property and open the way to new forms of creativity. This is the first book to explore the online phenomenon Twitch and live streaming games. T.L. also continues to serve as Director of Research for AnyKey.org, an initiative she co-founded that focuses on diversity and inclusion in gaming, as well as being Professor of Comparative Media Studies at MIT.

Becky Thompson (PhD 1991) traveled to Beijing to teach at China Women's University for the month of May. Teaching with Tenderness: Toward an Embodied Practice (which came out in 2017) took her to workshops and talks on teaching, including offering the Goodspeed lecture at Denison University and elsewhere. She spent the summer in Lesvos Greece, which included offering poetry workshops in refugee
"camps" and celebrating the soon-to-be publication of *Making Mirrors: Righting/Writing by and For Refugees*, which is a volume of poetry she co-edited with Palestinian poet Jehan Bseiso. Becky continued to practice and teach yoga (her weekly gig during the academic year is at the Dorchester YMCA—all are welcome). She continues to get precious time with Professor Maurice Stein (who taught in the sociology department for decades). And she is thrilled that Irv Zola's name continues in the form of a beautiful new child—Zola—daughter of Krya Norsigian and Max Greenberg. She continues to write poetry and is enjoying this academic year with her long time friend Diane Harriford (who is here in Boston, on sabbatical from Vassar).

**Dana Zarhin** (PhD 2013) was awarded the prestigious Alon Fellowship from the Israeli Council for Higher Education as well as a tenure-track position in the Sociology Department at the University of Haifa. This year, she published articles on various topics: “I don’t want to see myself as a disabled person: CPAP devices and the emergence of (dis)ability as subjectivity” was published in *Science, Technology, & Human Values*; "Ambivalent adherence and nonadherence to Continuous Positive Airway Pressure devices: A qualitative study" in *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*; "Conducting joint interviews with couples: Ethical and methodological challenges" in *Qualitative Health Research*; "Medicalization of cannabis: What does it mean?" and "Medical cannabis: An oxymoron? Physicians’ perceptions of medical cannabis" in *International Journal of Drug Policy*; and "Rhetorical and regulatory boundary-work: The case of medical cannabis policy-making in Israel" in *Social Science & Medicine*. Dana also presented several of her papers in international conferences, including the annual conferences of the European Society for Health and Medical Sociology (ESHMS) (which took place at ISCTE-University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal) and the Association for Israel Studies (AIS) (UC Berkeley, USA).
Sharon Cai (BA 2018) is a 2018-2019 recipient of an English Teaching Assistantship to Taiwan through the U.S. Fulbright Student Program. She is currently in the middle of her 11-month grant in Taichung, teaching 1500 elementary school students in grades 1-6. You can read about her experience living and teaching in Taiwan on her blog, Postcards From Taichung.

Nancy Foner (BA 1966) continues to teach at Hunter College and the CUNY Graduate Center, where she is a distinguished professor of sociology. She is an editor, with Kay Deaux and Katharine Donato, of a 2018 issue of RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences, on “Immigration and Changing Identities” and of a special issue of Ethnic and Racial Studies (2019) on “Super-diversity in Everyday Life” with Jan Willem Duyvendak and Philip Kasinitz. In spring 2018, she received the Merit Award from the Eastern Sociological Society in recognition of a distinguished scholar who has made outstanding contributions to the discipline, the profession, and the ESS.

Rosanna Hertz (BA 1975), is a 1919 50th Reunion Professor of Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies and Chair of Women’s and Gender Studies at Wellesley College. She recently co-authored a book entitled Random Families: Genetic Strangers, Sperm Donor Siblings, and the Creation of New Kin (Oxford University, 2019). The ready availability of donated sperm and eggs has made possible an entire new form of family. Children who share the same donor and their families, with the help of the internet, can now locate each other and make contact. This book is about the unprecedented families that have grown up at the intersection of new reproductive technologies, social media, and the human desire for belonging. Funding by the National Science Foundation and based on over 350 interviews with children (ages 10-28) and their parents from all over the U.S., Random Families chronicles the chain of choices that couples and single mothers make from what donor to use to how to participate (or not) in donor sibling networks. Children reveal their understanding of a donor, the donor’s spot on the family tree and the meaning of their donor siblings. Through rich first-person accounts of network membership, the book illustrates how these extraordinary relationships -- woven from bits of online information and shared genetic ties -- are transformed into new possibilities for kinship. Random Families offers down-to-earth stories from real families to highlight just how truly distinctive these contemporary new forms of family are.

Alice Julier (BA 1984) is beginning of her 10th year as the Director of Food Studies program at Chatham University in Pittsburgh. In 2018, she became the Director of the new Center for Regional Agriculture Food and Transformation (CRAFT), a collaborative outreach, education, and research institute focused on regional food systems. She also co-editor of *Food and Culture: A Reader* (4th edition; Routledge) with Carole Counihan and Penny Van Estrik. She is looking forward to a sabbatical in 2020!

Matthew Kaliner (BA 2000) recently joined the faculty of Wellesley College, where he will be a lecturer in Sociology through Spring 2021. After 17 years at Harvard – as a research assistant, graduate student (PhD, 2013) and lecturer for the past few years – he is happy to return to a small liberal arts college that in many ways resembles Brandeis. At Wellesley, Matt teaches courses on urban studies, social movements, organizations, criminology, and a seminar on fake news. Building on the connections between civic life and creativity seeded in many courses at Brandeis, Matt is an active participant in the Somerville arts community, and was recently appointed Chair of the Board of the Somerville Arts Council.

Xiaoliang Li (Daniel) (MA 2010) graduated from the PhD program at the University of Hong Kong in 2017, and wrote a thesis titled "Demystifying Gaokao: Cultural Capital and University Access of Rural Students in China." He started to teach at the College of Education, Northwest Normal University (NWNU) in the Fall semester of 2017. NWNU is located in Lanzhou, GANSU, a relatively underdeveloped province of China.

Chris Rhomberg (BA 1983) is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Fordham University in New York City. In 2018, he published a chapter on “$15 and a Union”: Searching for Workers’ Power in the Fight for $15 Movement,” in *No One Size Fits All: Worker Organization, Policy and Movement in a New Economic Age*, edited by Janice Fine, Linda Burnham, Kati Griffith, Minsun Ji, Victor Narro, and Steven Pitts (Champaign, IL: Labor and Employment Relations Association, 2018). He also presented papers at the International Labour Process Conference (ILPC) in Buenos Aires in March and at the International Sociological Association (ISA) World Congress in Toronto in July, and he co-edited (with Jenny Chan and Manjusha Nair) a forthcoming special issue on global precarious labor for the journal *Critical Sociology* (45:4/5, July 2019). In October, he published an op-ed on the 2018 wave of teachers’ strikes in the U.S. in the news and ideas website *Zócalo Public Square*.

Dana Weinberg (BA 1996) became Chair of the Sociology Department at Queens College - CUNY. She published an article in PLOS One on discrimination in publishing and the implications for the gig economy, which has had more than 3,000 views. Writing under the pen name D.B. Shuster, she also published a historical thriller, To Catch a Traitor. The novel is a thriller set in Moscow's Jewish Refusenik community in 1985 and was recently reviewed by the Jewish Book Council.

Jonathan White (BA 1990) continues as Associate Professor of Sociology at Bentley University and Director of the Bentley Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Center. This past year, he authored two book chapters, “A Gluttonous Military Budget Leaves Our Social Welfare in Poor Health,” in the book Preventing War and Promoting Peace: A Guide for Health Professionals edited by William Wiist and Shelley White, and “Generation Y Not: Millennial Activism for Multi-Issue Structural Change” in Welcome to the Revolution: Universalizing Resistance for Social Justice and Democracy in Perilous Times by Charles Derber. Additionally, he has co-authored the 6th edition of his textbook The Engaged Sociologist: Connecting the Classroom to the Community (co-authored with Shelley White, forthcoming, June, 2019). Jonathan has also been named to a second term as US Board Chair for the international nonprofit organization WE, a social change network of 3.8 million youth globally.