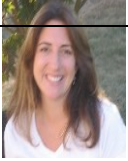




# Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice Newsletter

SPRING 2015

## Message from the Chair



Happy Spring! This is a very exciting time around campus. As we look forward to Commencement on May 16 when our wonderful senior sociology and criminal justice majors receive their degree, we also reflect back on a year full of academic highlights. Dr. Keith Brown's study tour course on Fair Trade - From Coffee Co-Op to Cup culminated with a 10-day trip to Nicaragua where students interacted with coffee growers and the beautiful landscape of Latin America. We also celebrate the achievements of our best and brightest as we induct several students into Alpha Kappa Delta, the sociology honors society. We have honors thesis defenses taking place during the month of April, as well as Masters students completing their advanced degree. Commencement is about new

beginnings and we have great confidence that our students will leave Hawk Hill and be engaged, educated, and energetic global citizens. As proud as we are of our current students, we grow more proud as they become alumni and use their sociology and criminal justice education to make meaningful contributions to the world. In this edition of the newsletter, you can read about Maura Bernt, one of our department's finest examples of a sociology major doing work she loves that makes a difference in our community. Our current graduating class shows similar promise with many law school acceptances, employment offers, and commitments to Jesuit Volunteer Corp. Congratulations to all of you. Please stay in touch !

## Special Events and Department News

### Congratulations to our Newest AKD Members

On Thursday, April 23, 2015, eleven of our Sociology and Criminal Justice major students were inducted into the *Alpha Kappa Delta* honor society, the international Sociology Honor Society, during a ceremonial dinner.

- Stephanie Armstrong
- Ralph Colavita
- Sharron Copper
- Michelle Donnelly
- Elizabeth Jenaway
- Caitlin Lavorgna
- Michaela McGlynn
- Rebecca McIntyre
- Holly Polakiewicz
- Skylar Scrivano
- Daniel Tully



Guest speaker at the ceremony was *Dr. Jamie Fader*, Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice, Temple University where she spoke on the topic of "Sociology as Storytelling: The Transformative Power of Sociological Stories".

### Graduation Awards Recipients

Congratulations are extended to the following graduates who will receive department awards at the Undergraduate

Awards Ceremony on May 15th, 2015:

- CRIMINAL JUSTICE AWARD**—Melissa Rivera
- SOCIOLOGY AWARD**— Michaela McGlynn
- KANE SOCIOLOGY AWARD**—Kelly Sagastume

### Summer Scholars

We have three students who will be participating in the **Summer Scholars** program which provides support for students to engage in creative, scholarly work under the direction of an SJU faculty mentor during the summer.

This summer we have three of our majors participating in the program. *Michelle Donnelly (SOC)* , will be working with Dr. Susan Clampet-Lundquist, *Sarah Ferguson (SOC)*, will be working with Dr. Kim Logio, and *Estaban Valencia, (CJ)* will be mentoring with Dr. Chris Kelly.

Students will engage, full-time, in a creative scholarly project under the direction of the SJU faculty mentor during the summer period. At the end of summer period, each Summer Scholar will prepare a written description of the results of their work. Each Summer Scholar will then present their work at the Spring 2016 Celebration of Student Achievement (CSA).



## TRIP TO NICARAGUA

### SOC 316 Fair Trade—From Coffee Co-op to Cup

Here are pictures taken by one of our SOC majors, who visited Nicaragua over the holiday break in January, 2015 with other Saint Joseph's University students, all of whom participated in the Fair Trade course taught by Dr. Keith Brown and concluded with a trip to Nicaragua for a hands on experience showing the steps involved in growing and exporting fair trade coffee.

Travel to Nicaragua and live alongside coffee farmers who are growing fair trade coffee and look at the limits and possibilities of producing coffee in a cooperative.

The Fair Trade course will be offered again in Fall 2016 with Dr. Brown



## Special Events and Department News—Continued

### Congratulations !

Several of our SOC and CJ majors have been inducted into the *Saint Joseph's University Chapter of Alpha Sigma Nu*, the national Jesuit honor society, which recognizes students who exhibit scholarship, loyalty and service. Congratulations to **Michelle Donnelly (Soc)**, **Sarah Ferguson (Soc)**, **Brian Lafferty (CJ)**, **Cameron Redfern (Soc)**. What a well deserved honor !

### Take Back the Night Vigil

Once again the annual "Take Back the Night" vigil was held on Tuesday, April 14th in the Chapel. Thanks to all the speakers who attended and to Bill Mitchell, Kristin's father, who poignantly spoke at the event.

### 9th Kristin's Krusade 5K Run/Walk

Once again, the turn out for our 9th annual Kristin's Krusade 5K Run/Walk was amazing. Thanks to all who participated in this event. To find out more about the foundation, please check out the website: [www.kristinskrusade.org](http://www.kristinskrusade.org)



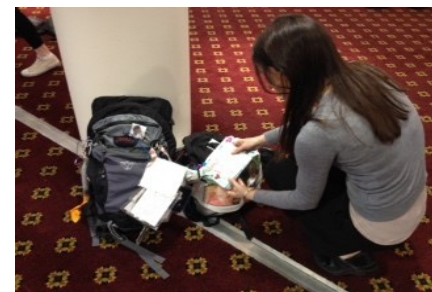
### Active Minds Event

"Send Silence Packing" event, an anti-suicide exhibit, was held on Thursday, April 9th sponsored by Active Minds, Dr. Marybeth Ayella, Faculty Co-Advisor, CAPS, Psychology Dept., WAGE, Faith Justice and Student Life.

This was one of several events held during Mental Health Awareness Week here on campus from April, 7th through April 10th.

Active Minds is an organization that strives to remove the stigma that sur-

college campuses.



rounds mental health issues and create a comfortable forum for open dialogue about mental health issues on



## EVENTS FROM ANTI VIOLENCE WEEK 2015

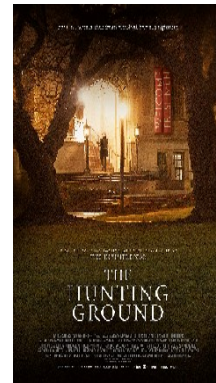
Saint Joseph's University has kicked off **Anti-Violence Week** on Tuesday, **April 14th** with the annual **"Take Back the Night"** vigil at 7:30 in the Chapel on campus. A powerful event aimed at raising awareness of sexual and physical violence in society with several inspirational speakers and experts on the problem of violence in our culture. The event concluded with a speak-out where survivors were encouraged to stand up and speak about their experiences.

Also in honor of **"Take Back the Night"**, SJU's REPP organization hosted a self-defense class on **Thursday, April 16th** during free period (11:00-12:15) in O'Pake Gym. Hosted by SJU

and the Kristen Mitchell Foundation, the 9th Annual Kristin's Crusade 5K Run/Walk took place on **Sunday, April 19th**.

The week ended with a film screening of **"The Hunting Ground"** on **April 23rd** in the Foley Center .

From the Academy Award-nominated filmmaking team behind **"The Invisible Wall"**, comes a startling expose of sexual assault on U.S. campuses, institutional cover-ups and the brutal social toll on victims and their families. There was a screening and Q/A session.



## Alumni News

We would like to thank **Maura Bernt**, one of our alum, (Sociology, 2011) who visited Dr. Clampet-Lundquist's service learning class this semester (Poverty, Ethics & Social Policy) and spoke about her career path since graduating in 2011. Maura works at the Providence Center and is working with several of the service learning students at the Providence Center.

As an update, Maura is the Director of Youth Programs at Providence Center. Her various service opportunities and coursework at SJU sparked her passion for youth empowerment and community-building. After graduating, she spent a year as a Jesuit Volunteer and community organizer in Harlem, NY, and later organized leadership and service experiences for students at the University of Pennsylvania. Maura has experience working with youth of all ages in summer camps and service-

learning programs in Philadelphia, Camden and New York City.

Some personal thoughts from Maura:

"I love the work that I do with these kids! Growing up in north Philadelphia as the daughter of a SJU professor and a Philadelphia public school nurse, I saw the need in my community, and the great potential that quality education, community support, and care for the whole person can have to empower youth to thrive. I love being a part of this community that is trying to offer that to some incredible kids. I love partnering with SJU volunteers so that they can be a part of this transformation in communities also, and be transformed by bearing witness to the strength and power of our youth. As an alum, I remember how these experiences during my years at SJU helped me to realize what I was

passionate about, and seek that out in the world".

**What have your fellow Sociology and Criminal Justice Alums been up to? Send us an update on your personal and professional news and we'll be happy to share it!**

