The Sociology Department had four Ph.D. graduates this May:

**Payal Banerjee**
- Advisor: Linda Carty.
- Title: "Indian Information Technology Workers in the U.S.: Integrated Circuits of Race, Gender, and State in the Making of Immigrant Labor."
- Payal accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of Sociology at Smith College. Payal also was awarded the 2009 All University Doctoral Prize from the Sociology Dept.

**Valerie Episcopo**
- Advisor: Christine Himes.
- Title: "Chronic Strain and Weight Change."
- Val is an Assistant Professor at St. Edward's University in Austin, TX.

**Jennifer Flad**
- Advisor: Marjorie DeVault.
- Title: "Advocating for Care: An Institutional Ethnography of the Work of Advocating Within a Managed Care Health System."
- Jennifer accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

**Kathleen Farrell**
- Advisor: Sari Biklen.
- Title: "Backstage Politics: Social Change and the "Gay TV" Industry."
- Kathleen has accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of Sociology at Colby-Sawyer College in New London, NH.

**Jennifer Flad**
- Advisor: Marjorie DeVault.
- Title: "Advocating for Care: An Institutional Ethnography of the Work of Advocating Within a Managed Care Health System."
- Jennifer accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

The Sociology Department had four MA graduates:

**Chantell Frazier**
- Advisor: Christine Himes.
- Title: "Chronic Strain and Weight Change."

**Gokhan Savas**
- Advisor: Christine Himes.
- Title: "Chronic Strain and Weight Change."

**Aleacea Standlee**
- Advisor: Christine Himes.
- Title: "Chronic Strain and Weight Change."

**Fumilayo Showers**
- Advisor: Christine Himes.
- Title: "Chronic Strain and Weight Change."

**Ph.D. Graduate**
- **Jennifer Flad**
- **Ph.D. Graduate**
- **Val Episcopo**
- **MA Graduates**
- **Chantell Frazier**
- **Gokhan Savas**
- **Aleacea Standlee**
- **Fumilayo Showers**

**ALUMNI NEWS**

**Jeremy Brunson, Ph.D. ‘07**
- had his paper entitled "Visually Experiencing a Phone Call" picked as the winner of the 2009 Irving K. Zola Award for emerging scholars in Disability Studies. "Reviewers called it "brilliant" and "insightful." Jeremy is an Assistant Professor at Gallaudet University.

**Toby Ewing, Ph.D. ‘07**
- was appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger as the Director of the California Research Bureau, a section of the California State Library. The Bureau provides objective, nonpartisan research to the Governor and his staff, members of the legislature, and other elected officials.

**Frank Ridzi, Ph.D. ‘03**

**Sara Smits, Ph.D. ‘07**
- is an Assistant Professor at St. Anselm College; she received the President’s Award for Stewardship.
SU Showcase - April 21st

Three students from Liat Ben-Moshe’s Sociology of Families class presented their creative projects as part of SU Showcase. Their presentation was called Sociological Show-and-Tell. Marisha Kelly presented “Disability Coverage and the Media: A Journalist’s Guide” and Kimberly Hungerford and Kenneth Hom presented “The Game of Familopoly.”


Engagement Fellows

Two Sociology majors were named 2009 Engagement Fellows. They will participate in local projects that incorporate the principles of Scholarship in Action and will allow them to explore innovative ways to help create sustainable development in Central New York. Marguerite Moore will take courses in marketing communications and civic writing, and is currently in the midst of interviewing with local marketing firms that are interested in promoting the arts. Elizabeth Slate will continue developing The Alchemical Nursery Project Inc., a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization that she started in January 2008. It seeks to promote sustainable and regenerative urban lifestyles and landscapes through organizing the community, hosting educational events and workshops, and developing programs, such as urban community-supported agriculture for people with market gardens who may not have enough money to have their own stall at local farmers’ markets.

Marguerite and Elizabeth also both graduated with Distinction in Sociology.

Congratulations to Both!

AKD Induction Ceremony

On April 29th 12 undergraduates and 1 doctoral student were inducted into Alpha Kappa Delta (Sociology Honor Society) at a reception in Eggers Hall. Inductees were: Heather L. Butler, Marah E. Couto, Jennifer R. Feldman, Carly B. Fox, Lynden P. Halpern, Benjamin R. Morris, Elizabeth C. Prince, Elizabeth H. Slate, Candace K. Tracy, Alyshia Page and Proud: The Varying Understandings of Puerto Rican Identity Among Island-Born and Mainland Puerto Rican Students at Syracuse University,” and Elizabeth Slate presented “Time, Money, Knowledge: The Local Foods Solution.”

Kathleen Kenny for her hard work organizing this annual event.

Professors Marjorie DeVault & Amy Lutz with the 2009 Initiates

Professors Marjorie DeVault & Amy Lutz with the 2009 Initiates
Faculty Awards/Presentations

**Marjorie DeVault** and Michael Schwartz (College of Law) received a 2009 grant from Imagine America for “Social Action Research: Campaign for Access” and “Disability Rights Clinic.” Students in these courses will participate in research and activities concerned with the legal, social, and organizational foundations of access to health care for the deaf community.

**Prema Kurien** received a two-year grant from the Carnegie Corporation for her project entitled “Indian American Civic and Political Activism: A Different Model of Ethnic Politics?” In addition, her book, “A Place at the Multicultural Table: The Development of an American Hinduism,” will receive an Honorable Mention from the ASA’s Sociology of Religion Section’s Book Award Committee at their annual meeting in August.

**Richard Loder** was appointed by Chancellor Cantor to be Syracuse University’s Emissary to the Haudenosaunee. **Andrew London** and Margaret Himley (Writing Program), Co-Directors of the LGBT Studies Program, received a Chancellor’s Leadership Award for their 3-year project on “Transnationalizing LGBT Studies.” This project will focus on increasing knowledge and awareness of transnational research among faculty and help position the program for a leadership role in transnational LGBT/queer pedagogy. Activities will include a yearlong speaker series, a faculty reading group, a regional workshop, and an international conference in Madrid on transnational research, curriculum development, and pedagogy.


**Jackie Orr** performed “A PSYCHOpoitics of Simulation: Performing Bioterrors” in Manchester, England in March for an international symposium on media and technoscience studies.

Graduate Student News

**Liat Ben-Moshe** was featured in an article in the Daily Orange for her work on multiple committees that aim to make the campus and its programming more accessible to people with disabilities. She also received the department’s Dissertation Fellowship. She was diagnosed with melanoma. The diagnosis came two years after she discovered a lump in her lower abdomen. She was told there was nothing to worry about because she was so young, healthy, and African American. She kept going back to the doctor and he finally did a biopsy that found the advanced skin cancer. After surgery and radiation she is now cancer free. She also shared her story in May in a PBS Documentary: “More than Skin Deep: Skin Cancer in America.”

**Karen Macke and Jennifer Swanson** have both been selected as recipients of the Outstanding TA Award for the 2008-2009 academic year. These awards are given to TA’s in good academic standing who have made truly distinguished contributions to teaching at Syracuse University. and he finally did a biopsy that found the advanced skin cancer. After surgery and radiation she is now cancer free. She also shared her story in May in a PBS Documentary: “More than Skin Deep: Skin Cancer in America.”

**Jackie Orr** performed “A PSYCHOpolitics of Simulation: Performing Bioterrors” in Manchester, England in March for an international symposium on media and technoscience studies.

**Bernadette White** spent 2 weeks in January participating in a field research trip to Chiapas, Mexico with professors and students from Cornell University. They sought to better understand rural livelihoods, and the realities and issues related to agriculture and rural development in one of the poorest regions of Mexico. She was able to visit an ejido, where the farmers harvested maize by hand, a hillside community that grew flowers for export to the world market, and a community where the leader was slowly making changes, especially in regards to the status of women. The Sociology Department and the Program on Latin American and the Caribbean helped support her trip.

**Alecea Standlee and Jennifer Swanson** were selected to be new Teaching Fellows with the TA Program of the Graduate School for the 2009-2010 academic year. **Stephanie Crist** is a continuing Teaching Fellow.

**Stephanie Crist** is a continuing Teaching Fellow.
The following students presented at the Eastern Sociological Society Conference in March:

**Stephanie Crist**
"Hungry for Funding: Using Institutional Ethnography to Explore the Non-profit Food Assistance System."

**Jennifer Flad**

**Payal Banerjee** presented a paper at the National Sun Yat-Sen University in Taiwan entitled "Globalization, Neoliberalism, and Indian IT Workers in the U.S." in March.

**Tre Wentling** presented "Transitional Voices" at the TransRhetorics Conference at Cornell University in March. He also presented "Trans Citizenship" with Jordan Johnson at the 10th Annual White Privilege Conference in April.

**Karen Macke**
"Queer(ing) Methods: Lessons from the Church."

**Griselda Rodriguez**

**Fumilayo Showers**

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**Breaking News!**

Christine Himes has been appointed the new Director of the Center for Policy Research (CPR) at Syracuse University. Dean Mitch Wallerstein made the announcement on June 8th. He mentioned that “Chris is a long time CPR member and has built an impressive record of scholarship, pedagogy, and administration during her fourteen years in the Department of Sociology of the Maxwell School.” Chris was our Department Chair for five years and also served as Chair of the Senate Budget Committee and Chair of the Arts & Sciences Dean Search Committee.

Congratulations Chris!

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**Linked in**

LinkedIn is a free, online professional networking site that has a membership of more than 20 million professionals worldwide. Join LinkedIn to reconnect with Maxwell alumni, faculty members, and staff members, and catch up with the endeavors of your peers. Membership opens a window onto school activities and allows current students access to the Maxwell network. More than 1,000 alumni have already joined. Check the new Maxwell website for many other resources.

Visit LinkedIn.com and e-mail alum@maxwell.syr.edu for instructions on how to join Maxwell’s LinkedIn group.

You can update your password protected database online. You can choose to share your information with fellow alumni and students, or just with Maxwell, so we can send you Maxwell news and event information.