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Announcing Our New Minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies!

Beginning this fall, the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program will now be housed in our department. Formerly called the Women's Studies Program and housed within the Department of History, the change of name and department corresponds to broader changes in the

conceptualization of the discipline. In particular the name change reflects an expansion of the area of study to not only include women but also men, transgender, and other genderqueer persons. Additionally, the change of name also indicates how gender and sexuality are increasing-

ly perceived as being interlinked and as combining together to produce new and important axes of inquiry. The Department is excited to house this new program and to facilitate new opportunities for research, teaching, and service.

Introducing Our Newest Faculty Member



Dr. Anthony Hoskin grew up in southeastern Idaho and graduated with in bachelor's degree in sociology at the University of Utah in 1993. He

earned his PhD in sociology with a specialization in criminology in 1999 from the State University of New York at Albany. He taught in Pennsylvania, California, and Texas before getting a position at ISU. The focus of Dr. Hoskin's graduate education was learning how to test theories of crime. Most of his research focuses on the causes of violence, but he has interests in many areas.

Professor Hoskin is excited to get to know students and to help them succeed. He is married to a great woman and is the proud father of two sons (8 and 5) and a daughter (almost 3). He plans to enjoy the natural beauty of the great state of Idaho. When the weather is not so good, one of Dr. Hoskin's favorite things to do is watch crime movies.

www.isu.edu/sociology

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Criminology Program Update

The Criminology Program is happy to announce the implementation of our new curriculum, a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with an Area of Concentration in Criminology. Students under the 2015-16 catalog year and later who choose this option will have it reflected on their official transcripts; previously they only received

an unofficial Certificate from our Department. We also changed the name from Criminal Justice to Criminology for both the Associate of Arts Degree and the Bachelor of Arts with the Area of Concentration. The reason for this change is that traditionally the title Criminal Justice is indicative of a more applied program

while Criminology tends to be associated with programs that focus on theory and methods. To make our students as competitive and competent as possible in the labor market, it is our goal to provide our students with rigorous theoretical and methodological training. Congratulations to all of our graduates last year!

EPSCoR MILES summer research team (left to right) Dr. Katrina Running, Tomas Cota, Jordan Elkins and Kathleen Shipley.



Faculty Research Highlights

This last year, **Dr. Jeremy Thomas** and coauthors published several articles in journals including the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Deviant Behavior*, *Sexualities*, *Critical Criminology*, and the *Journal of Positive Sexuality*. Dr. Thomas also served in a couple of notable professional association capacities including as a member of the Association for the Sociology of Religion's committee for the Joseph H. Fichter Research Grant Competition and as a member of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion's committee for the Annual Distinguished Book Award. Dr. Thomas has also recently been named the Director of ISU's Gender and Sexuality Studies Program.

Over the past year, **Tony Hoskin** and his colleagues published a number of research papers examining how prenatal testosterone exposure influences behavior many years later. Three papers focused on criminal behavior, another looked at religiosity, and a fifth paper will appear next year in the *Archives of Sexual*

Behavior. It reported a link between organizational testosterone and sexual orientation. That paper was presented at a conference at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta in July, and the findings from two other studies will be presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Washington, DC in November.

As part of the EPSCoR MILES research team, **Dr. Katrina Running** has been involved in collecting and analyzing data on how residents of southeastern Idaho use, perceive and value ecosystem services. Recent developments in this project include collection of public survey data on how Pocatello citizens would like to see the Portneuf River managed in the future and how changing urban-rural boundaries are having societal and ecological implications in our state. Over the summer, along with graduate student Jordan Elkins and undergraduates Kathleen Shipley and Tomas Cota, Dr. Running conducted interviews with 30 local farm-

ers about how they are perceiving and adapting to environmental change. In addition, results from ongoing collaborative research on the socioeconomic effects of the 2010 BP oil spill recently appeared in *Sociological Forum* and her paper "Towards Climate Justice: How Do the Most Vulnerable Weigh Environment-Economy Tradeoffs?" was published in *Social Science Research* in January.

Dr. Jeehoon Kim recently presented her research findings on gender differences in older adults' technology use and social activity participation at an international social work conference. She will also give a presentation on this topic at the upcoming Council on Social Work Education conference. Dr. Kim also presented a paper in June at the International Social Work Conference on Social Work and Social Justice in Seoul, South Korea. She has a new research paper in press to the *Oncology Nursing Forum*.

"Neither the life of an individual nor the history of a society can be understood without understanding both."

C. Wright Mills

Faculty Research Highlights (continued)

"Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance."

Kofi Annan

In May, **Dr. DJ Williams** was an invited keynote speaker at the Community-Academic Consortium for Research on Alternative Sexualities (CARAS) 2015 National Conference in Chicago. He also presented research in the areas of positive sexuality and critical criminology at the Pacific Sociological Association Conference in Long Beach and the California Sociological Association Conference. Dr. Williams is a founding co-editor of the multidisciplinary *Journal of Positive Sexuality* (online) and has published four papers this year in its first volume. He and his research team also coauthored papers in the journals *Social Work*, *Critical Social Work*, and *Critical Criminology*, and his latest research on clinical practice with clients with alternative identities has received worldwide attention. Dr. Williams has forthcoming chapters in academic books on leisure science, sexual violence, and criminal humanities and forensic semiotics, and studies in press in the journal *Sexualities* and the *International*

Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology. His research team is currently working on further developing a positive sexuality model and also analyzing data from a large sample to determine if consensual sadomasochism fits multiple dimensions of leisure theory.

Dr. Teresa Casey finished her program evaluation of the Youth Development Center (YDC), a day treatment center for high risk adolescent offenders in Bannock County. The main results of this evaluation were presented at the American Society of Criminologists (ASC) conference in San Francisco, CA in November 2014. Other results from this project that focused on college

student mentors who work at the YDC, and are provided by our department, were presented at the Pacific Sociological Association conference in Long Beach, CA, in April 2015. Dr. Casey and Alexys Martens, an undergraduate student double majoring in Sociology and Psychology, both received a travel award from the College of Arts and Letters to attend this conference. Alexys served as the primary research assistant on the program evaluation, and presented results from a subsidiary analysis at the conference. Dr. Casey is now moving forward with research in the area of critical criminology.



Undergraduate student Alexys Martens, at PSA conference Long Beach, CA.

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The Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminology is a part of the College of Arts and Letters.

The five programs in the Department are interconnected. The Department contributes to the mission of the College of Arts and Letters by encouraging collaboration with other departments and programs within the College. The Department concentrates on research, theory, and service in regard to the community. The community plays a pivotal role in the life of individuals and it serves as a platform from which to study health and illness, diversity and social hierarchies, and criminal justice. The focus on community issues enables us to showcase the usefulness of sociology at the graduate and undergraduate levels; to create a niche for social work, particularly in the areas of child welfare, gerontology, and sexual diversity; and to find a pivotal role for criminal justice by emphasizing rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders into the community.

Social Work Program Updates

The Social Work Program is pleased to announce faculty position changes for the 2015-2016 Academic Year.

Staci Jensen-Hart, MSW, LCSW has transferred to the position of Program Director. Staci has served as Program Director in the past and is looking forward to op-

portunities this role provides to reconnect with incoming students and the social work community.

Dr. DJ Williams is stepping down from the Program Director position to focus on teaching and a busy research agenda. We also want to extend congratulations to Dr.

Williams on achieving tenured Associate Professor status!

Jodi Davis, LMSW, will be serving as Field Director this year. Jodi received her undergraduate education in social work from ISU. She has taught as an adjunct in the practice classes and brings solid practice ex-

perience and knowledge to our students and the field.

Dr. Jeehoon Kim presented her research internationally this past summer and will continue in her research and teaching role.

We look forward to a productive, exciting year!