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Department of Sociology: 1983-2008

Kathleen A. Tiemann
University of North Dakota

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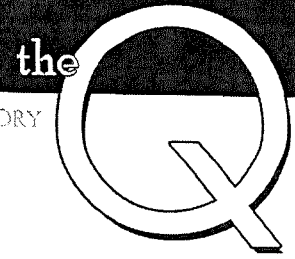
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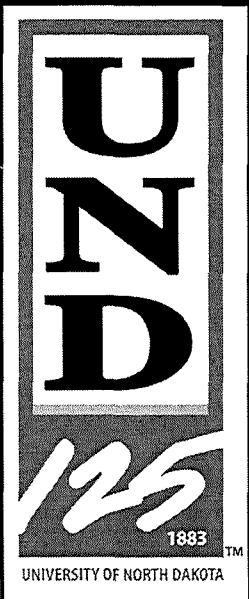
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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA : QUASQUICENTENNIAL : DEPARTMENT HISTORY



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA
1883-2008
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
1983-2008



Kathleen A. Tiemann, Ph.D.
2008

Department of Sociology 1983-2008

by Kathleen A. Tiemann

This report supplements the departmental history documents available in the Chester Fritz Library. Much of what is reported here was based on information available in annual reports. Since annual reports were not completed during the period between 1989-2000, what is reported for those years comes from documents housed in the department or from the memories of current department members and should thus be described as our best reconstruction of the history of our department.

In 1983, the Sociology Department moved from dilapidated Budge Hall to its temporary home in an old quonset hut that served as an industrial technology building. When renovations were complete in building known as Old Science, the Sociology Department moved into its new home. Old Science was renamed Gillette Hall to honor John M. Gillette, the renowned sociologist and father of rural sociology, whose distinguished career at UND spanned the years 1907-1948. Gillette served as President of the American Sociological Association in 1928.

In addition to a new building, changes in our personnel and programs have transformed the character of the department. Overall this was a somewhat stable period; the changes which took place were mainly due to retirements or to faculty taking positions elsewhere, growth in the program, an amicable split from the Criminal Justice Studies Program, and changes in educational philosophy, including a university wide emphasis on assessment activities.

Faculty

The department has benefited from a relatively consistent core faculty over the past 24 years. However, there were some significant personnel changes during the period. In particular, the social psychology position, which was vacated by Richard Wilsnack in 1989, was filled several times. What follows is a chronology of these personnel changes.

1983-1984

Arne Selbyg returned from leave and took over as chair from Richard Ludtke. On the teaching front, Faith Rud worked as a part-time instructor and lecturer, while Robert Rucker, Elizabeth Smith and Dale Lindekugel left the academic staff of the department for other positions. A highpoint is noted in the fact that the Sociology Department Faculty was honored at Founders Day with the University Outstanding Research Award. Also significantly, Ms. Bonnie Espelien was hired as administrative secretary for the department in May.

1984-1985

Janet Kelly (Moen) returned to the department (having served as a lecturer in Sociology from 1975-1979, and after completing a Ph.D. at Cornell University) as a full time tenure-track Assistant Professor in 1984. Brad Stewart was named as a Temporary Assistant Professor, and became a popular lecturer in the Introduction to Sociology course for several years. Faith Rud

left to teach at Northland Community College.

1985-1986

Dr. Selbyg was awarded a Bush Leadership Fellowship and American Council on Education Fellowship and was on leave for the 1986-87 academic year. Dr. Jack Geller was hired as Temporary Assistant Professor to replace Arne Selbyg.

1986-1987

James Larson became Chairperson on July 1, 1986. When Dr. Larson was awarded an American Council on Education Fellowship for the 1987-88 academic year, Arne Selbyg was recruited to serve as Interim Chair. Brad Steward resigned and accepted a position at Miami University-Middletown in 1987. Clifford Staples was hired as Assistant Professor, replacing Brad Steward. Jack Geller resigned from the department and accepted the Assistant Director position, Center for Rural Health Services, Policy and Research, University of North Dakota Medical School, where he involved several members of the Sociology Department in nationally funded Rural Health research/demonstration project activities (Ludtke in Native American Aging and Moen in the Dakota LEADers Project). Alton "Nick" Badman was hired as Temporary Instructor of Sociology (half-time) for the 1987-88 academic year and served as Research Associate (half-time) with the Social Science Research Institute. Ronald McCarthy, who was a long-term employee of the Grand Forks Police Department, was hired as a Lecturer to teach Criminology (Fall and Spring semester) and Corrections (Fall only).

1987-1988

In the spring of 1998, Dr. Arne Selbyg resigned to become Academic Dean at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. James Larson returned from developmental leave and resumed his duties as chair. Curtis Stofferahn was hired as a Temporary Assistant Professor for the spring 1988 semester and was appointed to a probationary tenure-track Assistant Professor for the 1988-89 academic year. Professor Emeritus Arthur P. "Phil" Jacoby retired Spring semester after 23 years of service to the Department of Sociology and UND. He was replaced by Kathleen A. Tiemann, who was hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor. Jack Geller was pressed into service as Director of the Social Science Research Institute, where he instituted the Rural Life Poll, a popular survey activity that was conducted in North Dakota for several years. Francis "Frank" White was hired for the 1988 Fall semester to teach 8 sections of introduction to sociology. Finally, a major programmatic change occurred when the Sociology Department merged with Criminal Justice Studies. The Director and sole faculty member of that program, Michael Meyer, left the Political Science Department and joined the Sociology faculty.

1988-1989

Andrew Scott Ziner was hired to replace Richard Wilsnack. Dr. Wilsnack took a position in the UND Medical School, where he developed a distinguished career in the study of women and alcohol, with his co-researcher, Dr. Sharon Wilsnack. He continued to serve on thesis and promotion committees for the department. The Board of Higher Education proposed the termination of the Criminal Justice program. However, the quickly growing number of majors combined with faculty and student protests caused the reconsideration of this proposal.

1989-1990

Because Richard Ludtke and James Larson were on leave, there were no tenured faculty members to conduct personnel evaluations or complete other department business. Arthur "Phil" Jacoby graciously came out of retirement to serve as department chair for the year.

1990-1991

Richard Ludtke replaced Phil Jacoby as chair. He hired Timothy Driscoll, who was employed by the Research and Evaluation Office, as a part-time instructor to teach additional sections of sociological statistics. The faculty hired Wendelin Hume as a tenure-track Assistant Professor for the Criminal Justice Program. She became the second faculty member of that program. Cordell Fontaine was appointed Assistant Director of the Social Science Research Institute.

1992-1993

No one had any recollection of significant events in the department during this period.

1993-1994

Andrew Scott Ziner resigned to take a teaching position at Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He was replaced by Morten G. Ender who was hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor. Due to the high student demand for the Criminal Justice major, Shihlung Huang was hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor. Dr. Huang became the third member of the program.

1994-1995

Glinda Crawford began talks with the department about joining the sociology faculty. Dr. Crawford was a tenured assistant professor in Family Finance, but this program was eliminated and she was given one year to find a new department. Dr. Moen was on leave to teach at the American College of Norway (ACN) during spring semester, beginning a close association between the Sociology faculty and the American College. Curtis Stofferahn, Morten Ender, Frank White, James Larson, and a graduate student, Mike Stevens, all were to teach at the Moss site and the program was the source of a number of undergraduate and graduate students for Sociology, as well as a locus for interesting comparative research projects.

1995-1996

Glinda Crawford joined the department in August 1995. She developed a series of courses oriented toward the environment and nature. She became very active with student and campus groups in sponsoring and promoting various activities dealing with environmental issues. Most notable was probably the creation of the Soaring Eagle Prairie Garden, which remains a significant contribution to the atmosphere of the main quadrangle and provides a colorful site and locus of learning for those interested in the environmental history of the prairie region. During this time, she also continued to offer family finance courses so the remaining majors could complete their degrees.

1996-1997

James Larson was named department chair in 1997. The spring semester was shortened due to

the devastating flood that engulfed the community. While most of the campus got wet from the flood, Gillette Hall escaped any damage. This momentous event has been chronicled elsewhere, but had a significant impact on the lives of many of the faculty, as well as our students. Some took advantage of this event and conducted research on the flood. Morten G. Ender, after completing a semester at the American College in Norway, resigned to take a faculty position at the U.S. Military Academy-West Point.

1997-1998

Terry Huffman was hired as a tenure-track Associate Professor to fill the position vacated by Morten Ender.

1998-1999

Shihlung Huang resigned to take a position at Fayetteville State University. Richard Ludtke was awarded the UND Foundation/McDermott Award for Excellence in Teaching, Research and Creative Activity and Service. Due to the heavy administrative work load and the growth of the Criminal Justice Program, the department was able to hire Linda Uhrich as administrative secretary in April. The Criminal Justice program moved from Gillette Hall to O'Kelly Hall due to their space needs, leaving a little more office space for the Sociology program.

1999-2000

The Criminal Justice Program hired Bruce DiCristina as Assistant Professor to replace Shihlung Huang. Richard Ludtke was honored by being named a Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor in 2000. Linda Uhrich left the department in January of 2000 and was replaced by Dorthy Jerik later that semester, to work with the Criminal Justice Program.

2000-2001

The Criminal Justice Program hired Martin Gottschalk as Assistant Professor. This was a new position that was created due to the substantial growth in criminal justice majors, and added significantly to the depth of the Criminal Justice faculty.

2001-2002

Michael Meyer was elected chair of the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice Studies.

2002-2003

The Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice became separate departments with little disruption to our respective missions or functioning. Dorothy Jerik moved to O'Kelly Hall to serve as their secretary. Clifford Staples assumed the chair position for the Department of Sociology. He also served as graduate director for the year. Terry Huffman resigned to take a position at George Fox University in Oregon. Because Richard Ludtke used grant money to buy out most of his time in the department, Sociology was able to hire Abdallah Badahdah as a temporary assistant professor to teach Dr. Ludtke's courses.

2003-2004

Daphne Pedersen-Stevens was hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor to fill the position

vacated by Terry Huffman. Abdallah Badahdah was retained for the year to deal with enrollment demands created by Richard Ludtke's developmental leave. Cordell Fontaine worked hard to install a large SSRI telephone interviewing lab in O'Kelly Hall. Curtis Stofferahn became graduate director.

2004-2005

In the 2004-05 academic year, the Department experienced some of the most significant staff changes it had seen in years. First, Glinda Crawford unexpectedly retired at the end of the spring 2005 semester. Second, Abdallah Badahdah was retained to teach while Kathleen Tiemann was on developmental leave. Third, Clifford Staples completed his term as chairperson in June 2005. Kathleen Tiemann was elected to fill this position; by accepting this position, she became the first woman to serve as chair of the department. Fourth, Richard Ludtke submitted his letter of resignation (effective at the end of the 2005-06 academic year, submitted early so that the department would not be understaffed). Finally, after completing an exhaustive national search, Abdallah Badahdah was hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor to replace Richard Ludtke.

2005-2006

This academic year saw the retirement of three long time professors. Richard Ludtke retired and was named Distinguished Chester Fritz Professor Emeritus, James H. Larson retired and was named Professor Emeritus and Glinda Crawford was named Professor Emerita. Each of these faculty members had been part of the university community for over 30 years, and made significant and lasting marks on the organization and culture, not only of the department, but the University. The department hired Robert West as a Temporary Part-Time Lecturer in Statistics for the year due to severe enrollment pressures on the statistics course.

2006-2008

Due to the relatively late announcement of James Larson's retirement, department members left this position unfilled for the year. Curtis Stofferahn and Dennis Herbeck assisted us by taking on additional teaching responsibilities. After conducting a lengthy national search, the faculty hired Krista Lynn Minnotte as tenure-track Assistant Professor to replace Professor Larson. The Department was honored by receiving the Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award at Founders Day, February 28, 2008.

Curriculum

The curriculum has changed slowly since 1984. Some dated courses have been dropped while others, like Soc 250: Diversity in American Society, have been added to address contemporary concerns of the discipline. Faculty turnover and the service courses provided by the department has also had an impact on course offerings. We have attempted to provide opportunities for faculty to teach courses that reflect their areas of specialization primarily through special topics courses or graduate seminars.

In 2005, the faculty began discussions of major curriculum changes and we continue to work out the details. In part these changes were due to recent demands for documented student assessment measures. However, they were also prompted by the American Sociological Association's Report titled *Liberal Learning and the Sociology Major Updated: Meeting the Challenge of Teaching Sociology in the Twenty-First Century*. Finally, the faculty felt that the strong service component we provide to other disciplines was preventing us from offering our majors some structured experiences that are essential for sociology majors. By restructuring the major, we feel we can provide a stronger, more coherent immersion into the discipline for sociology majors and minors.

The department faculty consistently produce high numbers of student credit hours, partly due to enrollments in our service courses. While the number of student credit hours we generate continues to grow, our faculty numbers have remained relatively stable. For example, in the 1983-84 academic year, faculty produced 7,109 student credit hours. By the 2006-07 academic year, the faculty produced 10,341 student credit hours.

Graduate Program

The graduate program continues to attract students from the state, the region and the nation. In the last five years, we have also enrolled students from Norway, Cameroon and Ghana. Graduate enrollments have fluctuated over the years. We have admitted as few as two new students and as many as 12 new students in a single academic year.

Many of our students go directly from our program into the workplace while others have entered doctoral programs in institutions that include North Carolina State University, the University of Kentucky, SUNY-Albany, California State University-Santa Barbara and the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Over the past 24 years, the graduate program has been sustained by our dedicated faculty. Some have done so through their service as graduate director. In 1985, Arthur "Phil" Jacoby was replaced by Janet Kelly Moen as Graduate Director and she served in this position until 1991. Clifford Staples and Kathleen Tiemann split the position from 1991-1992. When Kathleen Tiemann was asked to serve a two year term as Director of Women Studies, Clifford Staples continued as sole Graduate Director. Curtis Stofferahn replaced him in 1994. Dr. Stofferahn served until 1997 and Clifford Staples took on the graduate directorship. In 2003, Dr. Stofferahn again took on this administrative position. While Dr. Stofferahn was on developmental leave over the 2007-08 academic year, Janet Kelly Moen and Timothy Driscoll divided the Graduate Director duties, which have increased substantially over the last decade, due to various changes in the Graduate School.

In addition to their stewardship as graduate director, departmental faculty participate in the graduate program in other important ways too. For example, faculty supervise and serve on thesis committees, include students in their grants and other professional projects, assist graduate students with independent research projects and sponsor student papers. The faculty are also

appointed to masters and doctoral committees for other programs.

In 2007, the graduate students received a lift when Dean Martha Potvin refurbished the graduate student offices. The new carpet, paint and modular office cubicles were greatly needed as the original workspace had seen heavy use from the time it was built in 1983. This inviting new office space will serve the students and the program well for many years.

Research

The research of the Sociology Department faculty was acknowledged in 1984 when the faculty received the University Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activity on Founders Day. The faculty continue to present professional papers at conferences, seek grants and publish articles and books despite a heavy teaching load and service responsibilities. The faculty are members of editorial boards for a variety of professional journals that include: *American Sociological Review*, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Sociological Focus*, *Teaching Sociology*, *Sociological Quarterly*, *Humanity & Society* and *The Great Plains Sociologist*. Faculty members also serve as ad hoc reviewers for more than 20 different journals and as grant reviewers for various government agencies including the National Science Foundation and the USDA.

The Social Science Research Institute continues to honor its roots by conducting research that serves the people of the state of North Dakota, the college and the university. SSRI typically conducts a dozen research projects per year.

SSRI has had several directors and assistant directors in the past 24 years. Curtis Stofferahn assumed the directorship in 1989. Cordell Fontaine served as assistant director from 1990-1997 when he became director.

Achievements and Awards

Sociology faculty and students have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to the university, state and discipline multiple times over the last 25 years. Some of the highlights include:

Departmental Awards

- Departmental Award for Research and Creative Work, 1984.
- Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award, 2008.

Abdallah Badahdah

- Seed Money Research Grant, Principal Investigator. University of North Dakota, \$23,490 (Funded, 2007).
- Great Plains Sociological Association Teaching Award, 2007.

Glinda Crawford

- Service to Humanity Award. 7th Annual Martin Luther King Award, 2004.

Timothy Driscoll

- Special Merit Award from the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, 2004
- Special Service Award for Outstanding Contributions to the North Dakota Law Review article: 2004-2005 Assessment of the Services of the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota, 2005.
- Witnessed and documented the first ever polygynous Cooper's Hawk in summer 2006. Reported in 2007. "Genetic Analysis Confirms First Record of Polygyny in Cooper's Hawks." *Journal of Raptor Research*, 41(3).
- Documentation for an extra-pair copulation by a male Cooper's Hawk in summer 2007. This activity has not been documented in the literature and is rare for Cooper's Hawks.

James H. Larson

- American Council on Education Fellow, 1987-88
- Great Northern Railway Historical Society Directors' James J. Hill Award, 2004.
- UND, Østfoldakademiet Professor, American College in Norway, Moss Norway,
- A plaque was placed in Gillette 204 and the room was informally named The Larson Student Research Room to honor his commitment to UND student researchers, 2006.

Richard Ludtke

- UND Foundation/McDermott Award for Excellence in Teaching, Research, Creative Activity and Service, 1999.
- Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor, 2000.
- A plaque was placed in Gillette 201 and the room informally named the Ludtke Seminar Room to honor his career achievements, 2006.

Janet Kelly Moen

- Education Director for Dakota LEADers (\$965,000 Kellogg Foundation Grant, 1989-1993).
- Faculty Coordinator of Peace Studies, 1996-present.
- Elected to the Board of Directors of the National Association for Community Leadership, 1994.
- UND, Østfoldakademiet Professor, American College in Norway, Moss Norway, 1994, and regular summer session professor at the American College since 1999.
- Service to the University of North Dakota Award. 5th Annual Martin Luther King Award, 2002.
- Awarded the Prairie Peacemaker Award at the 22nd Annual North Dakota Peace Congress, Grand Forks, ND, 2005.
- Named as one of UND's "Faculty Stars" by Presidential Scholar students, 2006.

Arne Selbyg

- Bush Leadership Fellowship and American Council on Education Fellowship, 1986-87.

Daphne Pedersen Stevens

- Bush Teaching Scholar, 2006-7.

- UND Foundation/Bertin C. Gamble Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching, 2007.
- New Faculty Scholar Award, 2007.
- Editor, *Great Plains Sociologist*, 2007.
- President-Elect Great Plains Sociological Association, 2007.

Clifford Staples

- Three-year Research Grant on Post-1997 Flood Recovery from the Otto Bremer Foundation, 1997 (\$120,000).
- *Power, Profit and Patriarchy: The Social Organization of Work at a British Metal Trades Firm, 1791-1922*. William G. Staples and Clifford L. Staples. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2001. Awarded “Best Book in Marxist Sociology for 2003” by the American Sociological Association, 2003.

Curtis Stofferahn

- UND, Østfoldakademiet Professor, American College in Norway, Moss Norway, 1996.
- President, Great Plains Sociological Association, 1998.
- College of Arts & Sciences Service Award, 2006.
- Exemplary Public Scholarship Award from the Center for Community Engagement, 2006.
- Co-Founder and Co-Director, Center for Rural Studies at North Dakota State University and the University of North Dakota. 1998-2006.
- Member of the Rural Sociological Society Council

Kathleen A. Tiemann

- President, Great Plains Sociological Association, 1989-90.
- Outstanding Service Award, Great Plains Sociological Association, 1992.
- Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society Region VIII Representative Service Award, 1995-1998.
- President, Association for Humanist Sociology, 1998.

- Outstanding Achievement Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Western Michigan University, 2004.

Francis “Frank” White

- UND Foundation/McDermott Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching, 1997
- Named as one of UND’s “Faculty Stars” by Presidential Scholar students, 2006.
- UND Foundation/Karleen Rosaaen Faculty Award for Excellence in Academic Advising, 2007

We are very proud of the accomplishments of our students. Some examples of their achievements over the last 25 years include:

- Diane Miller, Winner of the Great Plains Sociological Association Undergraduate Student Paper Competition, 1990.
- Gabriel Kilzer, Winner of the Great Plains Sociological Association Undergraduate Student Paper Competition, 2005.
- Brittany Hanstad, Runner-up, Great Plains Sociological Association Undergraduate Student Paper Competition, 2005.
- Brittany Hanstad, Best Paper at UND Undergraduate Research Conference , 2006.
- Gabriel Kilzer, Winner of the Great Plains Sociological Association Graduate Student Paper Competition, 2006
- Rachel O’Neal, Winner of the Great Plains Sociological Association Undergraduate Student Paper Competition, 2006
- Alex Parkhouse, Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, 2007
- Mike Braget, recipient of the Junior Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences Award, 2007

Distinguished Alumni

The sociology faculty are proud of the many students who have gone through our program over the years. Some of our former graduate students include:

Delore Zimmerman, Phyllis Moen, Brian Pendleton, Faith Rud, Francis White, Timothy Driscoll, Cordell Fontaine, Harold Kaplan, Joyce Altobelli, Clint Boots, Doug McDonald, Dana Tipton, Diane Miller, Terri Eide, Carol Erickson Archibold, Michelle Geisert, David Erickson, Karen Davis, Gregory Smith, Paul Vanyo, Kimberly Tyler, Erin Ceynar, Amy Yerkes, Scott Foster, Venita Quamme, Ronald Ferguson, Russ McDonald, Sarah Shimiek, Rachel Zimmer,

Paul Knudsen, Mike Stevens, Angela Bailey, Angie Marquart, Danielle Myers-Wilson, Brent Olsonawski and Mandi-Leigh Schonteich.

We are always delighted to hear from those on the list and from those we have failed to mention so that we can be updated on their accomplishments.