

The University of Maine

**DigitalCommons@UMaine**

---

General University of Maine Publications

University of Maine Publications

---

Spring 2019

## Social Facts Newsletter

University of Maine Department of Sociology

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ\\_publications](https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications)



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [History Commons](#)

---

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in General University of Maine Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact [um.library.technical.services@maine.edu](mailto:um.library.technical.services@maine.edu).

**Our Department**

**Faculty**

- Steven Barkan, Interim Chair and Professor
- Amy Blackstone, Professor
- Kyriacos Markides, Professor
- Karyn Sporer, Assistant Professor
- Amber Tierney, Assistant Professor

**Adjunct Instructors**

- Glenn Eichel
- Mary Okin

**Staff**

- Laurie Cartier  
 Administrative Specialist

**Inside this issue:**

Chair Report	1
Alumni News	2
Faculty News	1,6-9
Kornetsky	10
Student News	3-5



# Social Facts

Newsletter of the University of Maine  
 Department of Sociology

Spring 2019

## From the 2019 Interim Chair Steve Barkan

The Sociology Department is again delighted to bring you our annual newsletter. As usual, this year's newsletter highlights the many accomplishments of our caring faculty and wonderful students.

This year we welcomed our new faculty member, Amber Tierney, who taught several courses in sociology and criminology/criminal justice. Professor Tierney was a hit with students as well as with her colleagues, and it is great having her on campus.

In today's world, the discipline of sociology remains as vital as ever and perhaps even more important than ev-



er. We hear regularly in the news about issues related to racial/ethnic, social class, gender, and other inequalities, and we hear regularly about problems in social institutions such as the family, education, and medicine. Sociology has much to offer for the understanding of these and so many other issues facing today's world. Accordingly, our students graduate with the knowledge and skills they will need not only for their careers but also

*(Continued on page 6)*

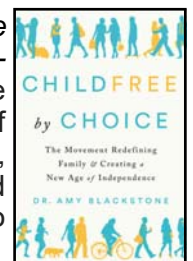
## Faculty News

### Professor Blackstone receives the 2019 SWS Feminist Activism Award

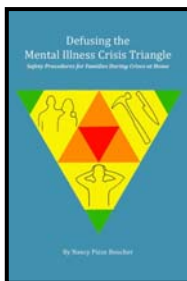


The SWS Feminist Activism Award, established in 1995, is presented annually to a Sociologists for Women in Society member who has notably and consistently used sociology to improve conditions for women in society. The award honors outstanding feminist advocacy efforts that embody the goal of service to women and that have identifiably improved women's lives. This year the Feminist Activism Award Subcommittee decided that Amy Blackstone will be the SWS 2019 Feminist Activism Award Winner. As part of this award, Amy will deliver her Feminist Activism Talk at the SWS Summer Meeting in 2020 to take place in San Francisco, California and will participate in a campus visit during the 2020-2021 academic year. (From the article on the SWS Website)

Professor Blackstone's latest book, *Childfree by Choice: The Movement Redefining Family and Creating a New Age of Independence*, was published by Dutton in 2019. Described as a definitive investigation into the history and current growing movement of adults choosing to forgo parenthood: what it means for our society, economy, environment, perceived gender roles, and legacies, and how understanding and supporting all types of families can lead to positive outcomes for parents, non-parents, and children alike.



## Alumni News



### Nancy Pizzo Boucher '70

Nancy's latest book, *Defusing the Mental Illness Crisis Triangle*, (Indie Author Books, 2018) is a handbook created through personal experience. The book jacket tells us, "When a person with a serious mental illness is experiencing a crisis, that situation has the potential to become dangerous. This handbook details safety procedures to follow that can help defuse the crisis and reduce the probability of a serious outcome. It is a valuable resource for anyone providing support or responding to a person in an smi crisis—that includes families, organizations that provide education and support for families, mental health crisis workers, and police."

In April, the Senior Seminar Capstone course welcomed three department alums to its Alumni Career Panel: **Katie Sirois '18**, a police officer in Dexter; **Robert Jackson '06**, Diversity and Inclusion Staff Associate at UMaine's Office of Multicultural Student Life and Rainbow Resource Center; and **Michelle Gayne '03**, Assistant Director of the Advising & Academic Services Center at UMaine. Students heard about their career paths and received great advice about searching for a job, finding your passion, and remaining calm throughout the process!

**Robyn Lorom Young '17** reported last summer: "I graduated with my degree in Social Work and Sociology, and I was eager to begin my master's program in Higher Education here at UMaine. In addition, I found several outlets for my independent work on policy initiatives (My undergraduate project was titled, *MAP for Success: Maine Achievement Pathways* and advocated for reform in the areas of education and training for low-income adults). I participated with legislators and lobbyists in the creation of *LIFT-Leveraging Investments in Families for Tomorrow*, a key piece of legislation that was passed by the 128th session of the Maine Legislature in April 2018. Most recently, I have joined a network of scholars whose efforts continue to inform policy makers of current research in critical legislative focus areas such as poverty and public health. I'm excited to begin my new position in September 2018 as a researcher for Dartmouth, working towards finding solutions for the rising opioid crisis."



**Michael Lucas '16** (left) is now in the MS Homeland Security program at San Diego State University. He plans to go on for his PhD! He completed the first semester with a 4.0! Congratulations Michael!

Michael's hope to become a Navy Seal was dashed when he was injured during training. Though disappointed, his resiliency has brought him to this new career path and we are sure he will excel. Professor Markides reports that he expects Michael to complete that PhD and go on to make policy in the field!

### Alumni Highlights:

**Michael Rocque '05**, assistant professor of sociology at Bates College, Maine, has become a co-PI (Principal Investigator) for a National Institute of Justice grant titled "The Nature, Trends, Correlates, and Prevention of Mass Public Shootings in America, 1976-2018."

**Valerie Cartonio '18** has created a Facebook page "Sociology and Buddhism in Prison." Her hope is to be able to teach a course on Buddhism in Prison from a Sociological viewpoint.

### Have Alumni News?

Complete the Alumni Contact Form on our website at [www.umaine.edu/sociology/alumni](http://www.umaine.edu/sociology/alumni) or email us at [sociology@maine.edu](mailto:sociology@maine.edu)

(Amber Tierney Continued from page 9)

psychology to investigate issues of immigration here in Maine.

### Presentations

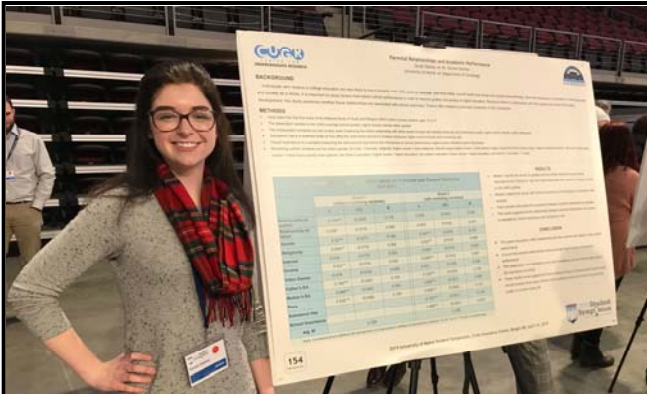
Tierney, Amber. 2018. "Media Consequences of Activism: The American Indian Movement and the United Farm Workers in Television News." Presented at the Annual American Sociological Association Meeting. August 2018. Philadelphia, PA.

Amenta, E., Elliott, T. A., Shortt, N., Tierney, A. C., Türkoğlu, D., & Vann Jr, B. 2018. "What Explains Quality of the News Coverage of U.S. Radical Right Wing Movement Organizations in the 1960s?" Presented at the Annual American Sociological Association Meeting. August 2018. Philadelphia, PA.



Student News

UMaine Student Symposium April 2019



Sarah Oakley '19 presented a poster on her senior thesis: "Parental Relationships and Academic Performance."

Each year students from all across campus participate in the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) program, the UMaine Student Symposium. The program has grown so large that it is now held off campus at the Cross Insurance Center in downtown Bangor.

CUGR facilitates faculty-mentored research and creative activities for undergraduate students across all academic disciplines since its inception in 2008. More than 1,200 students showcased nearly 400 research and creative works at the 2019 UMaine Student Symposium. The fourth annual symposium provided an opportunity for the public to interact with student researchers and scholars as they viewed posters and exhibits and listened to oral presentations.



Kate Leavitt '19 (above), Jonah Paris '19 and Josh Moran '19 (below) with the SOC 499 Poster (right).

**UMaine Sociology Alumni: Careers, Reflections, and Advice**  
 Vince Camp, AJ Dawson, Amanda DeBaker, Vincent Eze, Lilah Gagnon, Adam Jarosz, Alexis Johnson, Lauren Lang, Kate Leavitt, Joe MacDonald, Kaitlyn McClurken, Emma McKearney, Josh Moran, Ella Mosky, Briana Murphy, Jonah Paris, Caroline Shepard, Emily Sztokowski, Drisanna Watson  
 University of Maine, Department of Sociology, [umaine.edu/sociology](http://umaine.edu/sociology)

**How do UMaine sociology alumni fare after they graduate & what do their career trajectories look like?**

• Overall, how happy are you with your experience as a sociology major at UMaine?

**PATTERNS OBSERVED ACROSS INTERVIEWS**

- There is no "one right way" to pursue meaning or a career after graduating with a degree in sociology.
- Respondents are generally happy with the paths they have pursued since graduation but they struggled early on to find their place professionally.
- Respondents say sociology provided new ways of thinking and a better understanding of others.
- Respondents wish they had received more opportunities for internships and community engagement, research and data analysis, and help with career planning.

**QUOTES (represent patterns across interviews)**

**RECOMMENDATIONS & ADVICE FOR STUDENTS**

- Consider further education after receiving your BA.
- Stay open to a wide variety of careers.
- Understand the transferable skills you are gaining.
- Follow your heart. HONESTLY. See what you understand you need to become whatever you want and remember that sociology gives you a foundation.
- Take a field you become it. That is really important. You can do anything with a sociology major in the point that you don't know what to do, what to apply for, and you don't have time. So for anything and everything even if you don't fit the criteria for it. You are more impressive than think you are - especially with a sociology background.
- Trust that you will find something you enjoy. Don't stress out if you have a job at that first year out in the world. You will eventually figure it out. You have to trust the field to be able to do it in the first something you love.

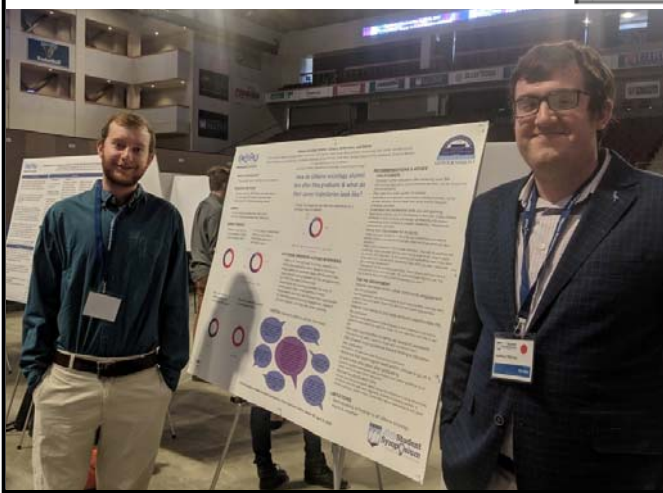
**FOR THE DEPARTMENT**

- Integrate internships and/or other community engagement into the curriculum.
- Integrate more research and data analysis opportunities into the curriculum.
- Offer more opportunities to serve as research assistants.
- Offer students more guidance toward finding a job/career after graduation.
- Recognize that most majors need and/or choose to go on to pursue further education after graduating.
- Improve faculty/student ratio.

**LIMITATIONS**

- Generalizability of findings to all UMaine sociology majors is uncertain.

2019 University of Maine Student Symposium, Cross Insurance Center, Bangor ME, April 10, 2019



As part of their course work, the entire SOC 499 capstone class, Vince Camp, AJ Dawson, Amanda DeBaker, Vincent Eze, Lilah Gagnon, Adam Jarosz, Alexis Johnson, Lauren Lang, Kate Leavitt, Joe MacDonald, Kaitlyn McClurken, Emma McKearney, Josh Moran, Ella Mosky, Briana Murphy, Jonah Paris, Caroline Shepard, Emily Sztokowski, Jason Tkacs, and Drisanna Watson, participated in the 2019 UMaine Student Symposium. Their poster "How do UMaine sociology alumni fare after they graduate & what do their career trajectories look like?" reflected the interviews and a survey used to gather data for their research. Results show a pretty bright future for sociology majors! (See abstract for the poster on page 8.)

## Student News

### Sociology Department Awards

**Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Sociology Prize:** Jonah Paris

**Top Graduating Seniors (3.9 Sociology GPA or above):**

Jonah Paris and Sarah Oakley

**CLAS Outstanding Senior Award:**

Jonah Paris

### American Sociological Association

**Jonah Paris '19 and Jessica Sweeney '20** have been accepted into the ASA Honors Program and will be attending the ASA annual conference in New York City in August 2019. We look forward to reporting their experiences in next year's newsletter.

This year we are pleased to announce that the **Herbert Maccoby Sociology Fund**, created in 2013 by the family of Herbert Maccoby, a former UMaine sociology professor, will be assisting Jonah and Jessie with a travel award for their trip to New York City.

### Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Sociology Prize

This year's recipient of the Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Sociology Prize is **Jonah Paris** (see page 10). The Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Sociology Prize Fund was established in the University of Maine Foundation in 2008 for the benefit of the University of Maine, with a gift from Conan Kornetsky, Ph.D., a member of the class of 1948 and their two children, David and Lisa, in loving memory of his wife of 58 years, Marcia Smargon Kornetsky, who was a member of the class of 1948. Mrs. Kornetsky graduated from the University of Maine with a degree in sociology. She subsequently was awarded a MSW from the Boston University School of Social Work and enjoyed a rewarding career in social work with a special emphasis on children. She was a second generation student at the University of Maine. Her father, Isaac Smargonsky, was a 1919 graduate of the University. We regret the passing of Conan Kornetsky in December 2018 and greatly appreciate his heartfelt generosity.



## Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society

The UMaine Chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta is proud to announce that the following students have been awarded membership in AKD by meeting the criteria of a minimum 3.5 grade point average in sociology and a minimum 3.3 grade point average overall (induction date in parentheses):

Seniors: **James "Jack" Brown VI** (Sp18), **Caleb Kerbs** (Sp18), **Jonah Paris** (Sp19), **Sarah Oakley** (Sp18)

Juniors/Non-graduating seniors: **Lindsey Lagerstrom** (Sp19), and **Delaney Woodward** (Sp19)

Congratulations to all our inductees!

### Phi Beta Kappa 2019

The 2019 recipients of Phi Beta Kappa are Caleb Kerbs '19, Lindsey Lagerstrom '20 and Sabrina Paetow '20. Previously inducted are: Jonah Paris '19 and Sarah Oakley '19.

Membership in Phi Beta Kappa, the most prestigious undergraduate honorary society in the United States, requires a minimum GPA of 3.5 for seniors and 3.7 for juniors and includes a math requirement in a liberal arts education, as well as a foreign language requirement of 2 years of college level or 3 years of high school level in the same foreign language. It's not easy to meet all these qualifications and we congratulate our recipients for achieving this honor!

**Congratulations  
to all our  
Graduates!**

## Student News

### Emily Szotkowski's Alternative Break with CASE

Sociology Double Major, Emily Szotkowski has worked with CASE (Campus Activities and Student Engagement) for the past two years, participating in their alternative breaks program as a site leader.

From the CASE Website: "Hi there! I'm Emily, I am a senior with a double major in psychology and sociology! This is my second year in Alternative Breaks, last year I volunteered at Woodstock Farm Sanctuary in High Falls, NY to work with animals. This year, I will be leading a trip to Washington DC with my co site leader Deborah, to work with the homeless community!"

The website describes the DC program: "Our first organization is Thrive DC, which works to prevent and end homelessness in Washington, DC by providing people with services to help stabilize their lives. Our second organization, DC Central Kitchen, works to use food as a tool to strengthen bodies, empower minds, and build communities. Our activities with these organizations will include, prepping and serving meals, assembling to go packages, assigning showers to those who need them, and helping with getting various maintenance tasks completed with the organizations." Great way to spend Spring Break!

### Dean's List Spring 2018-Sociology Majors

Madison Canale, Autumn Carey, Meaghan Delcourt, Emma Elz Hammond, Julianna Ferguson, Natalie Hamalainen, Alexis Johnson, Lydia Lavoie, Gregory Mattson, Joshua Moran, Kelly O'Dowd, Timothy Outwater, Sabrina Paetow, Jonah Paris, Sarah Rettig, Jessica Roy, Remy Segovia, Allison Soucy, Jessica Sweeney, Zoe Swett

### Dean's List Fall 2018-Sociology Majors

Samantha Berimbau, Aiden Ciaffaglione, Olivia Collins, Faith Daye, Aaron Dustin, Adam Jarosz, Lindsey Lagerstrom, Lauren Lang, Lydia Lavoie, Alyssa Lovering, Sean Murphy, TJ Noonan, Sarah Oakley, Kyleigh O'Donnell, Sabrina Paetow, Jonah Paris, Emma Pooler, Remy Segovia, Allison Soucy, Jessie Sweeney, Sophie VanDerburgh, Drisanna Watson, Aran Wollard

### Vincent Eze-Outstanding Graduating International Student



From the UMaine News: Vincent Eze '19, of Lagos, Nigeria, has been named the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Education and Human Development.

Eze is double-majoring in child development and family relations, and in sociology, with a concentration in individual and family studies. He is a forward on the men's basketball team, and received both Rising Star and Scholar-Athlete awards of the Athletics Department. Eze is a teaching assistant and member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. He also has been involved in student groups, including Male Athletes Against Violence, the Student Portfolio Investment Fund (SPIFFY) and the International Student Association. He plans to attend graduate school to study public administration.

### Sociology Club

A small, but dedicated group of sociology majors and minors came together this year as the Sociology Club. They met for activities like viewing a current TV episode of the Bundy Tapes followed by a discussion. They also met with guest speaker, Michael Haedicke, associate professor of sociology at Drake University in Iowa who was visiting UMaine for a lecture and classroom visits.

Coming up in 2019-20, the Sociology Club hopes to grow in numbers by offering discussion opportunities on topics like mass incarceration, gender inequality and bias, terrorism, and sustainability. They also hope to participate in community activities like the Solidarity Harvest or Hike for the Homeless.

If you are interested in the Sociology Club, contact [sociology@maine.edu](mailto:sociology@maine.edu) for more info!



## Faculty News

### Margaret Chase Smith Recipes Research Collaborative

Professors Tierney and Blackstone have joined UMaine's new Margaret Chase Smith Recipes Research Collaborative, an interdisciplinary group of faculty, students, and staff who are passionate about food; curious about the role of food, recipes, and cooking in politics and public life; and eager to share those lessons with a broad range of audiences, from students to scholars to civic organizations. Members represent a wide range of disciplines including history, sociology, folklore, anthropology, public policy, food science, and business. In its inaugural year, the group hosted a public talk and campus visit by Professor Diane Tye, author of *Baking as Autobiography*, tested recipes from the collection of the late Senator Margaret Chase Smith for eventual dissemination, and conducted research on topics ranging from media representations of women political candidates' roles in the home to how women in politics have used the domestic sphere as a mode of resistance. Professors Tierney and Blackstone will join Dr. Rachel Snell (Honors College) and Honors student Makenzie Baber on a panel discussing the collaborative's work at the Association for the Study of Food and Society's annual conference in Alaska this June. Pictured here are two of the collaborative's attempts at Senator Margaret Chase Smith's famous blueberry muffin recipe.



(Interim Chair Message Continued from page 1)

to make the world a better place.

Jane Addams, a founder of American sociology and a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for her legendary work at Hull House in Chicago, once wrote, "The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life." In our teaching, research, and service, the Sociology Department aims to help bring Addams' vision to fruition.

As a long-time sociologist, I hope our students will heed the words of nineteenth-century education reformer Horace Mann, who told his students, "Be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity." The Sociology faculty wish our students well, and look forward to the victories they will be winning for humanity in the years ahead.



In February, Professor Blackstone had the honor of presenting Governor Janet Mills with Maine NEW Leadership's first-ever Minerva Award, given annually to a Maine woman leader who exemplifies the values of NEW Leadership: leadership for the betterment of our state, a commitment to civil dialogue, and a passion for civic engagement. Pictured above are Professor Blackstone, Governor Mills (center), and the Honorable Mary Cathcart (right).



In April, Professor Blackstone joined alum Dr. Dawn Norris '05, Associate Professor of Sociology, at UW La Crosse where she presented on workplace sexual harassment as part of Social Justice Week. Pictured here are three generations of sociologists including Professor Blackstone, Professor Norris, and members of the UW La Crosse Sociology Club.

## Faculty News

## Faculty Highlights

**Steven Barkan****Publications**

Steven E. Barkan and George Bryjak. 2019. *Fundamentals of Criminal Justice*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Boston: FlatWorld.

Steven E. Barkan. 2018. *Race, Crime, and Criminal Justice: The Continuing American Dilemma*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Service**

I began a three-year term on the advisory board of the American Sociological Association Honors Program.

**Presentations**

"Why Public Education Campaigns Probably Will Not Reduce Support for the Death Penalty." Annual conference of Society for the Study of Social Problems, Philadelphia, August 2018.

**Public Sociology**

"Immigrants Help Make America Great." Bangor Daily News, September 25, 2018

**Amy Blackstone****Publications**

Blackstone, Amy, with an Afterword by Lance Blackstone. 2019. *Childfree By Choice: The Movement Redefining Family and Creating a New Age of Independence*. New York: Dutton.

Blackstone, Amy. 2019. *Social Research: Qualitative and Quantitative Methods*. Nyack, NY: Flat World Knowledge.

Blackstone, Amy. Forthcoming. "Am I less of a woman because I don't have kids?" Gender Resistance and Reification Among the Childfree," in *The Truth about M(O)therhood* edited by Julie Rodgers and Helene Cummins. Bradford, Ontario: Demeter Press.

Hawthorne, Lauren, Shannon K. McCoy, Ellen Newell, Amy Blackstone, and Susan Gardner. 2018. The Role of Sex and Gender Identification in STEM Faculty's Work Related Stress and Emotional Well-Being." *Journal of Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering* 24: 325-337.

Blackstone, Amy and Susan Gardner. 2018. "Mobilization in Response to Workplace Harassment: Lessons from One University Setting." *Trends in Diversity* 1(1): Article 4.

Blackstone, Amy. Forthcoming. "Childless and Childfree," in *Macmillan Encyclopedia of Intimate and Family Relationships: An Interdisciplinary Approach*, edited by James J. Ponzetti. Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan Reference USA.

**Presentations**

June 2019, *Margaret Chase Smith's Recipe Collection: The Domestic Life of a Public Servant*, Association for the Study of Food and Society, Anchorage, AK

April 2019, *From Clarence Thomas to #MeToo: Causes, Consequences, and Change in Workplace Sexual Harassment*, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Social Justice Week plenary address, La Crosse, WI

March 2019, *Sexual Harassment in the Workplace*, Research Symposium on the State of Women's Advancement in Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Policy, Northeastern University, Boston, MA

**Selected Media**

"What Choice Means to Childfree Women," with Maxine Trump, *Ms.*, January 22, 2019  
 "Joe Biden's non-apology to Anita Hill casts long shadow over 2020 run," *The Guardian*, April 27, 2019

"The Biden allegations are a reminder of the small invasions women deal with every day," *Vox*, April 4, 2019

"Why don't you want kids?' 'Because apocalypse!'," *WIRED*, March 28, 2019

"Child Free: The Choice to Not Have Children," *Maine Public*, December 6, 2018

"Why these women choose to be child-free – and why that's completely fine," *Moneyish*, October 10, 2018

"#MaineToo: Pine Tree State Not Immune to Allegations of Sexual Misconduct," *Bangor Metro*, August 2018

"The child-free life: Why so many American women are deciding not to have kids," *Washington Post*, May 31, 2018.

**Kyriacos Markides****Research and Publications**

My book *Mountain of Silence* has just been published in Romanian.

**Service**

Presenter of lectures and workshop at the

(Continued on page 9)



## Faculty News

### Dr. Sporer honored as Faculty Fellow and Completes Islamic State Research Project

Dr. Karyn Sporer was selected as a Faculty Fellow for the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. The Faculty Fellows Program creates a network of trained faculty leaders who can communicate the importance of the University of Maine System and its research and education to Maine citizens and organizations. The fellows serve as ambassadors to the legislature, business, and wider community. The faculty are selected from University of Maine System campuses and are trained in core leadership and communication skills. Aside from networking with community leaders, Dr. Sporer was especially excited to meet Governor Janet Mills at the state capital in April. (Photo Right: Governor Janet Mills, center front, and Dr. Sporer on her immediate right)



Dr. Sporer also completed a large research project that examined Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) sympathizers' tweets before, during, and after ISIL-led or ISIL-inspired mass casualty events to identify discourses of justifications for violence. Findings from her work offer insight on how individuals construct moral narratives that both condone and advocate for the use of extreme violence against civilians outside a war zone. Dr. Sporer conducted interviews with local and national media sources about this project, including *Forensic Magazine*, Bangor's WFVX FOX 22, and WABI.



### Summer School in Italy

Last summer, Professor Blackstone taught Sociology of Food in Viterbo, Italy. Pictured here (left) the class tries their hand at making pasta at a local farm and (right) enjoys a tour and tasting at an area winery.



### Abstract for the Capstone Class poster: UMaine Sociology Alumni: Careers, Reflections, and Advice

UMaine sociology alumni follow a variety of career and life paths. To understand how UMaine sociology alumni fare after they graduate and what their career trajectories look like, the Sociology Senior Capstone course conducted interview and survey research with department alumni. Surveys were sent to 498 alumni; 112 responded (22.5 percent response rate). In addition, 18 alumni were interviewed by students in the course. Findings show that there is no "one right way" to pursue meaning or a career after graduating with a degree in sociology. All but two interview participants received further education after receiving their BA, as did 69 percent of survey respondents. Alumni report careers in business, human services, education, the arts, health care, and other industries. Though most interview respondents report that they are happy with the paths they've pursued, and 97 percent of survey respondents report being financially stable, some interviewees said they struggled early on to find their place professionally and to articulate their goals. Alumni suggested that better support for internships and other hands-on experiences in the community may have eased early concerns about finding employment and other meaningful paths in life. Alumni also said that they would have benefitted from more research and data analysis experience while students at UMaine. Alumni recommend that the UMaine Sociology Department integrate more career planning and preparation into the curriculum. Many respondents reported that their sociology background opened their eyes to new ways of thinking and helped them understand others' circumstances and perspectives.

## Faculty News

## Faculty Highlights con't

(Kyriacos Markides continued from page 7)

annual conference of the UN affiliated International Institute of Integral Human Sciences (IIHS) in Montreal, Canada, August 10-15, 2018.

Keynote speaker at the annual conference of the Holistic Nurses Association of America, September 13, 2018 (three of my books are required reading for certification).

Evening lecture and all-day workshop on Eastern Christianity at the Greek Orthodox congregation of Roseland, New Jersey, March 15-16, 2019.

## Karyn Sporer

## Publications

**Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles** (\*Denotes student co-author)

Sporer, Karyn, Lisa Speropolous, and \*Katarina Monahan. (Forthcoming). Finding the "golden moments": Strategies of perseverance among parents and siblings of persons with severe mental illness and violent tendencies. *Journal of Family Issues*.

Sporer, Karyn, \*Michael Logan, Gina S. Ligon, and Doug C. Derrick. (Forthcoming).

#JeSuisParis?: An appeal to hypocrisy and justifications for mass casualty violence. *Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice and Criminology*.

Sporer, Karyn. (2019). Aggressive children with mental illness: A conceptual model of family-level outcomes. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 34(3), 447-474.

## Book Chapters

Sporer, Karyn. (2018) "Family Violence and Mental Illness." In K. Frailing and R. Slate (Eds.), *Criminalization of Mental Illness Reader* (pp. 85-106). Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press.

## Honors, Fellowships &amp; Awards

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Pre-Tenure Faculty Research & Creative Activity Fellowship, University of Maine, 2019-20.

Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Faculty Fellow, University of Maine, 2018-19.

Rose B. Johnson *Southern Communication Journal* Article of the Year Award, Southern States Communication Association, 2018.

## Presentations

Sporer, Karyn, Michael K. Logan, Gina S. Ligon, & Douglas C. Derrick. "The Impact of Terrorist Attacks on Pro-ISIL Narratives in the Twitter Sphere." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Thematic Panel titled "Online Influences and Outcomes of Violent Ideological Crime," Atlanta, GA, Nov. 14-17, 2018.

Speropolous, Lisa, & Karyn Sporer, "Self-Care and Positive Coping Strategies Used by Family Members of Violent Persons with Mental Illness." Presented at the International Conference on Social Stress Research, Athens, Greece, June 1-4, 2018.

## Amber Tierney

## Publications

Amenta, E., Elliott, T. A., Shortt, N., Tierney, A. C., Türkoğlu, D., & Vann Jr, B. (2019).

Making good news: what explains the quality of coverage of the civil rights movement.

*Mobilization: An International Quarterly*, 24 (1), 19-37.

## Affiliations &amp; Fellowships

MCSPC: She was selected to be Faculty Fellow for the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center for a 3 year term. As a Faculty Fellow, Dr. Tierney will focus on issues of immigration and social justice in Maine and local communities.

MCS Recipes Research Collaborative (See related article on Page 6)

## Teaching &amp; Community Service

Dr. Tierney facilitated 150 individual student service-learning projects in her *Introduction to Sociology* courses, where students performed anywhere from 3-10 volunteer hours in Orono/Bangor local community nonprofit organizations.

## Media

Dr. Tierney was excited to be asked to speak in a short documentary featuring scholars whose work has collected data generated by the Vanderbilt Television News Archive in 2018.

## Research

Dr. Tierney is working collaboratively on developing a research new project with UMaine faculty in political science and

(Continued on page 2)



1865 THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MAINE**

**Sociology Department**

*Understanding Ourselves, Improving Society*

5728 Fernald Hall  
Room 201  
University of Maine  
Orono, ME 04469-5728

Phone: 207-581-2380  
Fax: 207-581-1762  
E-mail:  
sociology@maine.edu



Visit us on the web  
[umaine.edu/  
sociology](http://umaine.edu/sociology)  
and follow us on  
Facebook

## **Social Facts: The Newsletter of the Department of Sociology**

### **Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Prize 2019: Jonah Paris**

Jonah Paris '19, a sociology major with a concentration in Crime, Law, and Justice and a minor in Psychology, is from Falmouth, Maine. He is graduating *Summa cum laude* and achieved the honors of Phi Beta Kappa in 2018 and Alpha Kappa Delta in 2019. An avid outdoorsman, he has been an active member of The University of Maine Fishing Club for the past 4 years



Jonah shares: "Studying sociology has encouraged me to step outside of myself and to consider other perspectives and realities. The discipline has taught me to be more empathetic, and becoming more empathetic has made me a better person in each of the roles I play; a better son, brother, boyfriend, learner, teacher, citizen, and much more. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to The University of Maine Sociology Department for their attentiveness, accessibility, and dedication over the past few years. Additionally, I would like to thank the Sociology Department, and all of the fine instructors within the department, for the many opportunities presented to me throughout my undergraduate years which has led to both personal and academic growth."

Jonah is especially interested in the areas of socio-economic inequality, rural poverty, and education. Beginning in a few weeks, he will be continuing his education at the University of Maine as a graduate student in the Masters of Teaching (MAT) program. Eventually, he hopes to teach English at the secondary level to students in Maine's public education system.

When asked what are the best things in life, Jonah shared, "Trail walks with my trusty beagle; casting flies to salmon on a foggy morning some place where the rivers meet the mountains; the smell of wood smoke on an October night; a good craft cider paired with a book of equal quality; dark coffee and tart blueberry muffins; any time spent with my beautiful girlfriend Ashley and my wonderful family."

The Sociology Department wishes Jonah all the very best as he moves forward to become a rural Maine English teacher which we are sure will include a splash of sociology!

The University of Maine is an EEO/AA employer, and does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information or veteran's status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Sarah E. Harebo, Director of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5754, 207.581.1226, TTY 711 (Maine Relay System).