Updates from Spring 2018

What a semester! We’ve had record-high PhD placements and we’ve welcomed the Society for the Study of Social Problems journal and several new grants to the department. Additionally, we are pleased to announce that Kat Jones will be joining our faculty for Fall 2018!

Lectures and Talks

Our Colloquium Series had some great new speakers this past semester, including:

- **Nazneen Kane** of Mount St. Joseph University, “Disciplining Priestesses: Gender, Agency, and the Politics of Latter-day Saints Women’s Temple Rites”
- Asst. Professor at Columbia College and UC Alumna **Ahood Tabatabai**, “Engaging Cultural Narratives of Neoliberalism: Disability as a Lens for Resistance and Reformulation”
- **Corey Dolgon** of Stonehill College, “What I Learned Talking to People Around the Country about ‘Kill It to Save It: An Autopsy of Capitalism’s Triumph Over Democracy’”
- **Sherrill Sellers** of Miami University, “Top 10 Rules for Thriving in the Academy for Faculty of Color and Their Allies”
- **Marcus Hunter** of UCLA and **Zandria Robinson** of Rhodes College. our Jergens Lecturers for Spring 2018, “Chocolate Cities: The Black Map of American Life”

There were some other great talks this semester, as well:

- Our own Professor **Littisha Bates** has been very active; she was the 2018 keynote speaker for Cincinnati’s MLK Day 2018, and as the Taft Fellow she spoke at the Taft Annual Symposium with Amanda Lewis on “Navigating School Inequality: How Parents Pursue Magnet School Admission”
- On January 19th, sociologists **Wendy Moore** and **Joyce Bell** presented “Right to Be Racist In College”

Departmental News

Many of you have reached out to us with news. Thanks for sharing with us!

- The Presbyterian College faculty research award will be named the Robert H. Freymeyer Award for Meritorious Scholarship. Bob, an alumnus of UC, retired in May of 2017 after thirty-three years of service. Congratulations, Bob!

Upcoming Events

**September 7th:**
Colloquium: Miranda Martinez, The Ohio State University

**September 21st:**
Colloquium: Jen Carter, UC Blue Ash

**October 19th:**
Colloquium: David Maume, University of Cincinnati

**November 2nd:**
Taft Speaker: Patrick Sharkey, New York University

**November 16th:**
Colloquium: Danielle Bessett, University of Cincinnati
• Alan Grigsby has accepted an Asst. Professor position at Curry College, Ainsley Lambert-Swain has accepted an Asst. Professor position at Bellarmine University, Jen Carter has accepted an Asst. Professor position at UC Blue Ash, and Russell Spiker accepted a Post-doc position at the LGBT Policy Lab at Vanderbilt University.
• Unfortunately, Lora Hasse passed away on June 12, 2018. She earned her PhD from our department in ’92, had published research with Professor Emeritus Neal Ritchey and others, and taught at UC Clermont. She and her family have been in our thoughts, and condolence messages can be left here.

Awards, Positions, and Recognitions
Many alumni and members of the department have been recognized for their work over the past semester. Here are a few:
• Steve Carlton-Ford has been voted Chair-Elect of the Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section of the American Sociological Association
• Shaonta’ Allen received the UC AACRC Black Graduate Student Campus Leader Award and the UC Division of Student Affairs and Services’ Academic and Professional Achievement Award
• Sevsem Çiçek-Okay received the SAGE Teaching Innovations & Professional Development Award
• Riley Jessen won the Horace J. Wolf Prize

In the News
Elaina Johns-Wolfe’s work with SOC3045: Urban Sociology was featured in a WCPO segment titled “What nearly 50,000 eviction filings in four years have done to Hamilton County.” Elaina welcomed a television crew into her class, and there are some wonderful videos of Elaina and her students included in the article.

Megan Underhill, Alumna and Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina, wrote an op-ed for the Washington Post, titled “Police calls for #LivingWhileBlack have gotten out of hand. Here’s what we can do about it.”

UC Magazine also took a look at Professor Danielle Bessett and graduate student Stef Murawsky’s research on how television can influence how women understand pregnancy in “TV’s hidden power.”

Selected Faculty, Student, and Alumni Publications

• Bessett, Danielle and Stef Murawsky. 2018. "’I guess I do have to take back what I said before, about television’: pregnant women’s understandings and use of televisual representations of childbearing." Sociology of Health & Illness 40(3): 478-493.

We’d love to hear from you! Please send your updates to sociology@uc.edu. Keep an eye out for more updates in January 2019.