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The Swarthmore Social Construct

Swarthmore College 610-328-8106

Warm greetings from Swarthmore College!

Happy New Year, Alumni, Colleagues and Friends:

I'm pleased to share "The Swarthmore Social Construct: 2014." The Department of Sociology & Anthropology remains robust in its number of majors and minors. And while students are drawn to the Department as individuals, they also are drawn as citizens of the College and the larger world. You may have heard that during the spring of 2013, the College erupted in multiple student protests--from how sexual misconduct cases were treated to lobbying for divestment from fossil fuels, and from calls for an Ethnic Studies Program to concerns about mutual respect on campus. While it's hard to predict when events like last year's protests will surface (and harder still to process them during already packed school days), we know that they signal moments for more thoughtful communication and explications of the values that define us. I'm so pleased to say that the faculty in this department have stepped forward in unprecedented ways to foster discussion and in some cases transformation.

New colleagues are often the means by which we challenge ourselves and this year we welcome Christopher Fraga, tenure track faculty member in Anthropology. Dr. Fraga was awarded his doctorate from New York University. His work on art in Mexico is stunning in its originality and the connections that it makes to relationships of class, violence, and popular culture. A brilliant theorist who is also a translator and a documentary filmmaker, Christopher contributes to the Latin American Studies Program as well.

Our visiting faculty include Steven Viscelli, in his second year, a sociologist of inequality, class and work. His scholarship is resulting in a wonderful book on the trucking industry due out next year. Nina Johnson, in her third year, a sociologist of politics and race, who is also working with the Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility. And Maya Nadkarni, in her fourth year, an anthropologist of Eastern Europe who is teaching courses on Memory, Childhood, the Family, and Visual Anthropology.

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HELP US GO GREEN!

Request your copy of the Social Construct by email – rmaiol@swarthmore.edu

We've continued to have wonderful get-togethers at the American Sociological Association and the American Anthropological Association Meetings every year or every other year. Keep an eye out for those invitations. And finally, the Department celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year and next. Emeritus Professor Steve Piker has been at work on a wonderful history of our first years. We'll be finding ways to include alumni--students and faculty--in those celebrations. Our current students and alumni continue to make thoughtful contributions to the small and large worlds in which they engage. We're both proud and grateful. Keep your news coming!

Warm regards,



Sarah Willie-LeBreton
Chair

If you prefer to have the Newsletter sent to your email account, please email Rose Maio (rmaio1@swarthmore.edu) with your current email and we will update our files.

Student Thesis Research

Adomako, Jessica '13

Burying Diaspora Groups: Connections among the Moroccan- Netherlanders

Alicea, Julio '13

Social Ties and Social Change: Recounting the Stories and Strategies of Recent Graduates from a Struggling Urban School District

Banks, Ashley '13

"Shall We Dance?" Social Interaction and Expectations in the Swing Dancing Community

Colonnese, Taryn '13

A New Face in the Neighborhood: Exploring the Race and Positionality of Leaders in the Alternative Food Movement

Cortes-Sweenie, Natali '13

Public School Teachers on Culturally Relevant Pedagogy: Challenges in its Practice Today

Din, Marin '13

Practically Emotional: An Anthropological Investigation of the Relationship between Humans and Dogs

Dowdy, John '13

Making Moves: Professionalism, Performance, and the Mind/Body Problem in Contemporary American Dance

Student Thesis Research

Epstein, Liam '13

Activism Through Reddit: A study of utopic imaginaries and communal values in an online social news community

Escalante Sendrow, Lisa '13

Raising Children on the Autism Spectrum: The Impact of Socioeconomic Differences on Treatment and "Recovery"

Foster, Celia '13

Osteopathic Medicine: A Precarious Balance between Legitimacy and Unique Identity

Jensen, Patrick '13

A Virtual and Actual Subculture: The Independent Music Scene in the Digital Age

Johnson, Kelsey '13

"No, You're Selling Yourself": A Look at the Alienation of Workers in the Service Industry

Jones, Spencer '13

Envisioning Community: The Promise of Teacher Leadership for Career Sustainability

Kurtz, Hannah '13

Going to School with Them or without Them: The Interactions of Schooling and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland

Lawrence, William '13

Managing Dissent: How Swarthmore College's Administration and Board of Managers Respond to Student Activists

Lee, Celestina '13

Rhetoric and Realities: The Influence of Race and Ethnicity on Friendship Formation at an "Exceptional" Institution

Kurtz, Hannah '13

Going to School with Them or without Them: The Interactions of Schooling and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland

Lee, Celestina '13

Rhetoric and Realities: The Influence of Race and Ethnicity on Friendship Formation at an "Exceptional" Institution

Mandujano, Nancy '13

Is English the Key? : Exploring the potential disconnect between the expectations and the implementation of the Programa Nacional de Inglés en Educación Básica (PNIEB) in Guanajuato, Mexico



Nakhoda, William (Zein) '13

Toward a Prefigurative Politics

Palazzolo, Nicholas '13

Why do we help and what do we learn? Social action and moral development at Swarthmore College

Panepinto, Samantha '13

Between Drama and Danger: The Effects of Latino Second Graders' Identities and Gendered Patterns in School Success

Richardson, Emily '13

Literary and Human Capital Exchanges" Portrait of a Layered Community in Rural New England

Ross, Alexa '13

Birthing Doulas: A Meditation on the Liminality of Birth Workers

Small, Jacqueline '13

Holy Tongues: The Preservation of Classical Languages by Religious Communities

Starr, Abigail '13

The Moral Frame of the Nation: Visions of Chinese Identity in Shanxi Province

Stitt, Anna '13

In the Interstices of Capitalism: Evaluating Social Reproduction and Transformation in the Case of a Timebank

Vogel, Ashley '13

"Welcoming And Affirming" Faith-Based LGBT Activism in the Age of Facebook and Twitter

Warech, Julie '13

Performing Culture in Samoan Dance

Bramson Prize

Congratulations to our 2013 Joint Winners of the Bramson Prize, Julio A. Alicea '13 and Celestina L. Lee '13. We are so proud of them!

Julio critically looked the work of scholars who argue that low-income students of color lack the forms of capital most useful to thrive. Through studying recent graduates from the Chester-Upland School District, a low-income, predominantly black small city outside of Philadelphia, Julio offered powerful insights into how they understand their circumstances and the ways in which they navigated a high school context that graduates only 40 of its students. Drawing on interviews, historical analysis, and deep engagement with existing literature, Julio developed an alternative analytical framework for capital in understanding how students marshal resources to achieve in low performing schools in areas of relative disadvantage.

Celestina's thesis explored issues of race and ethnicity in the context of Swarthmore College campus life, focusing particularly on patterns of friendship formation among students. This approach allowed Celestina to tie together empirical observations of friendship formation in a wide range of contexts on campus; in-depth interviews with students about their lived experiences; and a critical exploration of both explicit and implicit institutional discourse about "diversity," "inclusion," and "multiculturalism" in order to explore the ways in which race is made salient for students of color.

Post-Swat



Laura Hirshfield '03

When I visited Swarthmore this summer for my 10 year reunion, I couldn't believe it had been so long since I'd been a student in the Sociology/Anthropology department. I've been lucky, however, to have stayed closely connected with the department since I've left – meeting up with alums and professors annually at the American Sociological Association Meetings each year and staying in touch with faculty through email and facebook. In fact, one of my proudest (and most nerve-wracking!) academic moments was presenting a paper in a panel at ASA put together by Professor Willie-LeBreton and with Professor Wagner-Pacifici (now at the New School) in the audience.

I took a very traditional route post-graduation, heading to University of Michigan immediately to pursue a PhD in sociology (despite my rather untraditional Soc/Anth & Education major and psychology minor).

There I focused on issues that women and people of color face in academia due to tokenism, like identity taxation and marginalization. More broadly, I studied social psychology, education, science, work/organizations, and gender. Many of my classes at Swarthmore introduced me to these topics and I still use (and teach from) my college texts frequently.

I spent the last three years as a visiting professor at the New College of Florida, a small, public, liberal arts college, where I spent the first year completing my dissertation and learning how to teach full time. I could never have succeeded at NCF without my time at Swarthmore. I felt an intuitive understanding of what my students wanted from my instruction and found myself mimicking my Swarthmore professor's classroom styles with great success. I transitioned this August to a full-time faculty position in the Department of Medical Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Here I have finally had the chance to work on completing the research I did in graduate school and have begun several exciting new projects on academic medical faculty and students. Best of all, my department is made up of an interdisciplinary group of social scientists, which provides a stimulating and thought-provoking context to develop in. I feel incredibly thankful, however, to have had the training of the Swarthmore's Soc/Anth department so that I entered this community prepared to speak and learn across disciplinary boundaries.

**Sa'ed Atshan '06**

After graduating from Swarthmore (in 2006), I earned an MPP (2008) from the Harvard Kennedy School, and an MA (2010) and PhD (2013) in Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies from Harvard University. I am currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies. My research explores the politics of international humanitarian aid provision in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology (SOAN) at Swarthmore played an invaluable role in my personal, intellectual, and professional development. In particular, Professors Farha Ghannam and Lee Smithey generously devoted their time to mentoring me, and they have continued to support me throughout my journey. As a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow at Swarthmore, Professor Ghannam graciously agreed to work with me as an official academic advisor. She introduced me to the discipline of anthropology and made me fall in love with it; her own scholarship in the field of Middle East anthropology has been a source of tremendous inspiration. Professor Ghannam also supervised my senior thesis in SOAN which was a comparison of the LGBT communities in Cairo and Beirut. She worked tirelessly to ensure that I was able to successfully complete my fieldwork research in Egypt and Lebanon and that I was able to finish the writing process efficiently and well. Professor Smithey was the second reader of the thesis and his feedback was also incredibly helpful. His scholarly contributions in bridging the gap between social sciences and peace and conflict studies motivated my experience as a Lecturer in Peace and Justice Studies at Tufts University for more than five years while I was a graduate student.

The in-depth intellectual engagement and mentorship that has been facilitated by SOAN faculty has shaped my trajectory and has modeled the type of thinker and member of society that I hope to become. I could not have asked for better training in analytic and critical thinking. I am truly grateful."

Current Student News

Some of our students have won research awards in their second major or honors minor.

Benjamin Bernard-Herman '13 was awarded the Arthur Obermayer '52 International Summer Internship to do research on the relationship between Israeli identity and cuisine. He found that competing discourse regarding nationality, multiculturalism, religion, and gender emerge through food.

Valentina Garcia '14 was awarded the Swarthmore College-NSE Division to research the role of the extracellular matrix in transporting the dinoflagellates of coral.

Ariel Hwang '15 was awarded the NIH – Brad Division. Working in Professor Brad Davidson's lab, Ariel studied the gene regulatory network of early heart development in tunicates.

Lillian Jamison-Cash '15 was awarded the James H. Scheuer Summer Internship in Environmental Studies to complete an internship for Primeiras e Segundas, a NGO program that focuses on conservation.

Christina Keller '14 was awarded the Joanna Rudge Long '56 Award in Conflict Resolution to research the response of children to behavior management techniques both at home and at school, especially their relevance to progressive classroom management policies.

Paola Mero '14 was awarded the J. Roland Pennock Fellowship in Public Affairs to collect life testimonies from women leaders in the Afro-Ecuadorian communities. She focused on the actions of these leaders, their obstacles, and the environment that shaped them.

Porsche Poole '14 was awarded the Anwural Quadir Summer Research Fellowship to research the identities of Muslim women in Morocco, leading to her culminating thesis.

Rose Pozos-Brewer '15 was awarded the NSF to collaborate with Professor Renninger, Educational Studies to write an entry on the psychology of interest for the Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Maria Thomson '14 was awarded the Haskin Fernald Summer Student Division to spend a summer in Dakar, Senegal to research repatriation of Senegalese immigrants. She hopes to contribute towards increasing the study of return migrants.

Current Faculty and

Joy Charlton.

Joy is on administrative leave from the department while she serves as the Executive Director of the Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility. The Lang Center enables Joy to put sociology into action, helping students understand and engage issues of social concern in order to create a more just and humane world. Check out the Lang Center, including its annual report, at <http://www.swarthmore.edu/lang-center-for-civic-and-social-responsibility.xml>.

On the disciplinary front, Joy presided over the first conference of her two-year term as President of the Religious Research Association, for which alumnus Perry Chang '85 served as very able Program Chair. For next year's conference, alumna LiErin Probasco '04 is taking on that role. As always, Joy especially enjoyed connecting with alumni who were able to attend the New York City gathering at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association in August.

Christopher Fraga.

Christopher's first semester teaching at Swarthmore was as enriching as it was busy. He began the process of enculturation with a new course on art and a directed reading on theories of flow, both of which also contributed to his article-in-progress about the Mexican pavilion at the 2009 Venice Biennale. Never one to sit still for very long, he traveled to Mexico City in October to present a paper called "Los nexos contemporáneos de arte" at an international conference organized by the Department of Art History at the Universidad Iberoamericana, and then to Chicago in November for the AAAs, where he co-organized the session "Regimes of Property and the Territorialities of Emergent Collectivities in Latin America" with Sandra Rozental. Over winter break, he plans to make some progress on his Spanish translation of Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak's recent book, *An Aesthetic Education in the Era of Globalization*, forthcoming from Siglo XXI Editores in Mexico.

Farha Ghannam.

Farha Ghannam spent part of last summer traveling in the Middle East. She conducted follow up research in Cairo, Egypt and documented part of the reactions of her interlocutors to the recent changes in the country. She was delighted that her book, *Live and Die Like a Man: Gender Dynamics in Urban Egypt* was published by Stanford University Press early Sept. 2013. If interested, please check out the postings about the book on the *Daily Beast*, *Jadaliyya*, and the *Page 99 Test*. Her paper "Contested Traditions: Gender and Mourning Practices in Egypt" will be published in *Everyday Life in the Muslim Middle East*, 3rd Edition, edited by Donna Lee Bowen, Evelyn A. Early, and Becky Schulthies. Indiana University Press. Farha is currently working on several papers and a main research project. One of the papers, which has been submitted to *Jadaliyya*, is about gated communities in Cairo while another, which was submitted to *Ethnos*, is focused on the gender of martyrdom in Egypt. Two other papers, one on the social life of balconies in Cairo and another on modalities of fatherhood in Egypt are in progress. She is preparing for a new research project, which is a comparative study of food, senses, and urban life. This project looks at culinary traditions in Egypt and Jordan and aims to explore food as a cultural and social marker that signals collective identities, reflects and reconstitutes class inequalities, articulates gender distinctions, elaborates generational differences, and indicates religious piety and devotion. She is hoping to develop a course on the anthropology of food to teach in the next two years. Farha is currently a co-editor of "The Cities Page," *Jadaliyya*, <http://cities.jadaliyya.com/>. This year, she is coordinating the Islamic Studies Program and is a Faculty Board Observer. She is also a member of the department's internal review committee, which reviews students research proposals and ensures they are in compliance with ethical codes and federal regulations, and the Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Recruitment and Retention.

Nina Johnson.

This summer Professor Johnson traveled to Brazil with a group of students for an experiential learning Black Studies/Black Cultural Center Diaspora course that explored the historical, social, political, and economic conditions shaping the lived experiences of Afro-Brazilians. While traveling in Sao Paolo, Salvador, and Rio de Janeiro she connected with several scholars, including a small group with whom she is now developing a comparative research project. Currently working on her book manuscript, she is also finding time for work on a documentary film project focused on the impact of Islam on Black West Philadelphians in the mid to late twentieth century with Scribe Video Center. She looks forward to traveling to her family's home in upstate New York for a holidays spent learning her mother's recipes, laughing, and playing with her nephews.

Mike Mullan.

Mike splits his time between the Gym and the classroom. He is teaching new courses, "1968 and the Origin of the New Left" and "Diasporic Ethnicities: Mass Emigration, 1860 1924" based on his research he completed during his sabbatical.

Rose Maio.

This was another busy year in the department for Rose. In addition to her regular work she managed the dossiers of two colleagues up for review and helped welcome a new colleague. In addition, she made the transition to supporting the Black Studies Program. She continues to serve on the Staff Advisory Council as co-moderator. Rose has completed all the required testing for become an Enrolled Agent (EA) with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). EA's are the only federally licensed tax practitioners who specialize in taxation and also have unlimited rights to represent taxpayers before the IRS. Julia and Cooper continue to make Rose and Bob smile and marvel at what a true blessing the grandchildren are to their family.

Braulio Muñoz.

Braulio Muñoz is on sabbatical leave this year. He has travelled to France and to Peru, where he is currently doing research on popular culture. Professor Muñoz was awarded the Medal of the City for his contributions to the literary tradition of Chimbote, Peru. Two of his novels written in Spanish, *Alejandro y los pescadores de Tancay* (*Alejandro and the Fishermen of Tancay*, University of Arizona Press) and *Los apuntes de Alejandro*, are set in the port of Chimbote on the northern Peruvian coast. The event took place in November during Chimbote's biennial Book Fair.

Maya Nadkarni.

Since our last newsletter, I've taught courses on memory, childhood, and mass media, as well as the final semester of Exemplary Studies (with Lee Smithey) and a new course on the theory and practice of visual anthropology. I am looking forward to teaching another new course on political anthropology next fall! Outside the classroom, I enjoyed participating in a panel last spring on "Who Owns An Idea?" organized by the Writing Associates Program. I also gave a short talk with Sarah Willie-LeBreton on "What's New and Enduring in Sociology and Anthropology" for a faculty lunch this past September. In terms of research, I am currently finishing an article about the loss of the Soviet joke in collaboration with Martha Lampland (UC San Diego). I also recently published a short introduction to my ongoing project on the fate of Hungary's state socialist security archives for the *Anthropology News* website, and I gave presentations on this topic at the annual Soyuz and ASEES conferences. And of course, I am still hard at work on my book manuscript on the ASEES conferences. And of course, I am still hard at work

on my book manuscript on the “futures of the past” in postsocialist Hungary—a topic that also resonates with some recent opportunities for my previously published pieces to find new future homes and audiences. One of my earlier articles of nostalgia (co-written with Olga Shevchenko (Williams College)) will be republished in revised form in *Anthropology and Nostalgia* (Berghahn 2014), and another has been recently translated by a colleague for submission to a Hungarian-language journal. Finally, I am currently reworking earlier research on Budapest’s Statue Park Museum of communist-era monuments at the invitation of the Russian interdisciplinary humanities journal *New Literary Observer*, which will be publishing a translation of this work in an upcoming issue devoted to postsocialism and cultural trauma.

Mike Reay.

Mike was happy to be back teaching in 2012-2013, as pure writing and research can be very isolating. In addition to teaching he spent the year serving as a member of Swarthmore’s Institutional Review Board for protecting research subjects, and helped develop new rules and procedures to replace the old ones. Hopefully future Sociology and Anthropology seniors will have far fewer problems with complicated forms and repeated revisions of their applications. On the research front he submitted an article manuscript with Steve Golub and Ayse Kaya on why the Federal Reserve was surprised by the financial crisis. He and his co-authors presented their work in several settings, always to lively responses (as everyone seems to have strong opinions about the matter!). He also submitted an article on laughter as a response to social contradictions, and is planning to follow it up with another one analyzing the points in committee meetings where Federal Reserve board members laughed even as the crisis developed. Finally, he finished and submitted a third article using quantitative methods to explore American perceptions of income inequality in 1987, 2000, and 2010. In it he shows that many people greatly underestimate the income of CEOs, even after the negative publicity that followed the 2008 crisis. At the same time, many richer people think factory workers make a lot more than they do, and deserve even more. On a different note however, while most Americans explicitly state that they are in the middle of the social order, they implicitly have a much more accurate picture of how wealthy they are, given what they believe about others’ income and the overall ‘shape’ of society. Unfortunately these findings suggest that correcting people’s misperceptions about inequality may be difficult, but hopefully they will again spark some lively debates.

Christy Schuetze

It has been another wonderful year. Christy was busy in Spring 2013 with a new honors seminar “Anthropology of Biomedicine” and in the Fall working with Mike Reay to design and teach the new “Introduction to Anthropology and Sociology” course. Our new Introduction course had 70 students enrolled and we had to turn others away! Christy has also been busy with organizing different events on campus, including a series focused on the theme “Critical Examinations of Community.” This series of four events was inspired by the student protests that took place on campus in the Spring of 2013, and aims to draw students, staff, alumni, and faculty together into critical and meaningful discussion about a host of issues we face at the college. Christy is organizing this series together with Cheryl Jones-Walker and with the support of the college’s new Institute for the Liberal Arts. Another big event on the horizon is a two-day faculty workshop focused on teaching about sub-Saharan Africa in the Small Liberal Arts College context. Christy and her colleague at Oberlin College received a \$20,000 grant to fund this event, which will draw together social sciences and humanities faculty from more than 16 different small liberal arts colleges to discuss ideas about content, theory, and pedagogy. Christy was also very busy this year presenting new papers. She made presentations at the AAA meetings in Chicago, at the NGO

Studies Conference in Chicago, at a special symposium on “Violence and Social Recovery” hosted by the University of Rochester’s Department of Anthropology, as well as providing a guest lecture at Williams College. She has resubmitted an article to the journal *Conservation and Society* that focuses on the role of narratives in shaping a land conflict that has accompanied the expansion of Gorongosa National Park. She is looking forward to going on sabbatical leave during the 2014-15 academic year when she will continue working on her book manuscript about the impact of economic changes on gender relations and religious participation in Mozambique and conduct new ethno-ecological research on Gorongosa Mountain in central Mozambique. In her free time, as always, she will be walking her dog Sam in Crum Woods!

Lee Smithey.

Swarthmore continues to keep Lee on his toes. Last fall, he had the privilege of co-teaching with Maya Nadkarni a large class of our students in the required Exemplary Studies course (now reconstituted as Introduction to Anthropology and Sociology). He continues work on the Mural Mapping project, which involves further data analysis and an additional round of interviews while he was in Northern Ireland in August 2013. See <http://muralmap.swarthmore.edu> He and his co-investigator, Greg Maney (Hofstra University), co-authored a paper with Josh Satre (Swarthmore class of 2013) that was presented at the 2013 American Sociological Association meetings in New York. He also continues work on a co-edited book (with Lester Kurtz, George Mason University) on the paradox of repression (when state repression backfires and provokes further movement mobilization). The book brings together academics and activists around the world who study or are involved in strategic nonviolent action and nonviolent repression management. Last spring, with financial support from the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict, Lee and Les brought together most of the book's contributors from around the globe to Washington, D.C. for an exciting and stimulating writer's retreat. Lee and our colleagues in Peace and Conflict Studies have been celebrating 125 years since the first course in peace and conflict studies (anywhere) was taught at Swarthmore College in 1888. Wearing both his sociology and anthropology and peace and conflict studies hats, he also secured funding from the Andrew W. Mellon foundation to bring a Belfast mural artist to the Tri-Colleges for a month-long residency during the fall semester 2013. He developed an extensive exhibit on Dee Craig's art and murals in Northern Ireland that was displayed in McCabe Library, and coordinated a range of public speaking and class events across the Tri-Colleges. The residency also involved the creation and installation of a collage in our department's hallway (see a short video at <http://bit.ly/swatcollage>) and a 26-foot mural on the side of the Science Center that involved contributions from students, staff, and faculty (see a short video at <http://bit.ly/craigmural>). You can read more about the residency at <http://bit.ly/craigstory> and <http://bit.ly/swatcraig>.

Steve Viscelli.

Steve is in his second year of a three-year appointment in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology as a Visiting Assistant Professor. This fall he taught a course on economic and educational inequality in Philadelphia and another on qualitative field methods. Both classes had significant community-based learning components supported by the Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility. Students worked on a range of projects with partners at a public elementary school in South Philly. Among other projects, students in these classes designed and constructed a garden on the roof of the school and a mushroom farming project in the school’s basement. Both resources will be

used to enhance the school's science curriculum. In the Spring Steve will teach a course on the US labor movement and another on economic inequality. Steve is currently completing a book on deregulation of the trucking industry titled *Driving Down the American Dream* (University of California Press, 2014). His book explains how deregulation transformed class relations in the trucking industry and encouraged truckers to become owner-operators instead of Teamsters.

Sarah Willie-LeBreton.

I was on sabbatical during the 2012-13 school year and the department was in the capable hands of anthropologist Farha Ghannam. It was a productive year away as I was able to secure a book contract for an edited volume on Teaching About Difference When the Professor Represents the Difference and publish an article called "Taking on the Role of Department Chair" for the online journal, The Department Chair. I continued transcribing interviews on my project on American Librarians, and had the time to attend several excellent conferences. It's delightful to be back chairing a terrific department with returning and new faculty and a bumper crop of majors.

Anthropological Encounters



The 2012 meeting of the American Anthropological Association were held in Montreal and as usual the department arranged a dinner for Swarthmore graduates old and new. Although the photo is fuzzy the wit and conversation were sharp and a good time was had by all.

We were not able to gather for the 2013 meeting in Chicago, we look forward to seeing you in Washington, D. C. in 2014.

Sociological Encounters

Alumni Gathering at ASA Meetings, New York City, August 2013, and as usual the department arranged a dinner for Swarthmore graduates old and new.



Front Row: Naomi Reid Glassman '12, Wendy Cadge '97, Daniel Laurison '00, Mike Reay (faculty), Josh Satre '13.

Middle Row: Caitlin Killian '95, Sarah Stanton '03, Emily Sigalow '02, Rachel Sullivan Robinson '99, Caroline Hodges Percell '62.

Back Row (semi-circle): Kerstin Gentsch '05, Rachel Best '04, Andrew Perrin '94, Melissa Wilde (faculty, UPenn), Jeff Olick '86, John Krinsky '91, Nina Johnson (faculty), Laura Hirshfield '03, Poulami Roychowdhury '03, Beau Weston '82, Steve Viscelli (faculty), Joy Charlton (faculty)

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Sponsored Lectures, 2013

Why I Believe in Death Panels and Other Imperfect Roads to Health Care Justice

Carolyn Moxley Rouse '87, Professor of Anthropology and Faculty Associate in the Center for African American Studies, Princeton University

Visual Marketing: Art and Display in Syria's Marketplaces

Kate McClellan, Anthropologist - Research Fellow
Social Science Research Center Mississippi State University

Mojo Workin': The Old African American Hoodoo System

Katrina Hazzard-Donald, Associate Professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice at Rutgers University-Camden

Remember, Repeat, Reenact: Managing Russian History Affectively

Serguei Oushakine, Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Anthropology at Princeton University

Black City Makers

Marcus Hunter, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Yale University

Transforming Cities, Transforming Urbanism

Aseem Inam, Director of the Graduate Program Urban Practice and Associate Professor of Urbanism at Parson The New School for Design in New York City

Bethlehem Blues: Humanitarian Politics in the Palestinian Territories

Sa'ed Atshan '06, Postdoctoral Fellow at Brown University