Interdisciplinarity: Understanding the Social World through Multiple Perspectives

43rd Annual Mid-South Sociological Association Conference
Chattanooga, Tennessee

October 18-21, 2017
ABOUT THE COVER ARTIST

Karlton Hughes is an Instructional Designer and Media Specialist who specializes in learning and multimedia web technologies, information design, and video production. Karlton focuses on two important goals: researching new and existing technology and helping others use those technologies to enhance the learning process. Karlton has his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from Rowan University (formerly Rowan College of NJ) and received his Masters in Educational Technology from Pepperdine University.

Special Thanks To: 2017 Program Committee

Jessica Abbott, Dixie State University
Anita Bledsoe-Gardner, Johnson C. Smith University
Kevin Breault, Middle Tennessee State University
Ruth Chananie, University of Northern Iowa, Chair
Nicola Davis Bivens, Johnson C. Smith University
Timothy Gongaware, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse
Shelly McGrath, University of Alabama at Birmingham
DeMond Miller, Rowan University
Earl Wright, II, University of Cincinnati
### MSSA PROGRAM SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Council Meeting I</td>
<td>9:00AM-12:00PM</td>
<td>KINSEY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakroom Open (snacks &amp; beverages)</td>
<td>12:30PM-5:00PM</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration Table Open</td>
<td>2:00PM-4:00PM</td>
<td>WALKER FOYER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Connecting Public Discourse, Social Issues and Analysis in the Classroom</td>
<td>2:30PM – 3:45PM</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Gender Research in Progress</td>
<td>2:30PM – 3:45PM</td>
<td>KELLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Voter Participation in the 1st Presidential Election without Full Protections of the Voting Rights Act</td>
<td>2:30PM – 3:45PM</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Science, Technology and Culture</td>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Service Learning and Social Justice in the Curriculum</td>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>KELLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Sociology of Death and Dying</td>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Sociology of Religion</td>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Light Breakfast/Break Room Open</td>
<td>8:30AM-11:45AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration Table Open</td>
<td>8:45AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>WALKER FOYER</td>
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<td>Light Breakfast/Break Room Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration Table Open</td>
<td>8:45AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>WALKER FOYER</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Disaster Research Network</td>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Teaching in the Trump Era</td>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Cultural and Political Mobilization</td>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Discovering Interdisciplinary Program Evaluation</td>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies: An Interdisciplinary Perspective on the World</td>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Teaching from a Feminist Perspective</td>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Scientific and Technological Trends Affecting the Workforce</td>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Race-Gender-Crime and the Criminal Justice System</td>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Popular Culture, Sport, and Media Studies</td>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Criminology</td>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Women, Gender &amp; Sexualities Caucus Lunch</strong></td>
<td>11:45AM-1:00PM</td>
<td>MOUNTAIN ROOM (RESTAURANT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 The Big “What if”: Imagining New Paradigms for Interdisciplinary Studies (PLENARY)</td>
<td>1:00PM-2:15PM</td>
<td>AMPHITHEATER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 The Role of Service Learning in Sociology and Social Science courses</td>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Possibilities and Pitfalls of Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 New and Emerging Research I</td>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Meaningful Service Projects that Impact Lives: On the Issue of Food and Food Security</td>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Animals in Society</td>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 When Everything is on the Line: Navigating Too Much Advice, Nerves, and First Impressions on the Job Market</td>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Teaching About America</td>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Crime, Deviance, and Interventions</td>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Terrorism, Social Response to Terrorism and Border Security</td>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presidents Welcome Reception</strong></td>
<td>5:30PM-7:00PM</td>
<td>GAME ROOM (HOTEL BAR)</td>
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<td>Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00AM-9:00AM</td>
<td>Small &amp; Community Colleges Caucus Breakfast</td>
<td>MOUNTAIN ROOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Light Breakfast/Break Room Open</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>Registration Table Open</td>
<td>WALKER FOYER</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Gender Research Network</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Competitive Poster Session</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Teaching Social and Behavioral Science for Health Professionals: New Opportunities for Medical Sociologists (PART 1 OF 2)</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Undergrad Research I</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>New and Emerging Research II</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>The Role of the Community College in Sociology/Criminology Education</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Teaching Social and Behavioral Science for Health Professionals: New Opportunities for Medical Sociologists (PART 2 OF 2)</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Military Sociology</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Undergraduate Sociology Clubs: Activities, Successes, and Challenges</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Police and Citizen Brutality</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Social Media and Sociology</td>
<td>HARDY</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45AM-1:00PM</td>
<td>Minorities Caucus Lunch</td>
<td>MOUNTAIN ROOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30PM-5:00PM</td>
<td>Breakroom Open (snacks &amp; beverages)</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM-2:15PM</td>
<td>Graduate Student Research I</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM-2:15PM</td>
<td>Teaching Intersectionality to Majority Students: Challenges, Strategies, and Opportunities</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM-2:15PM</td>
<td>Community and Media Reactions to Crime</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<td>1:00PM-2:15PM</td>
<td>Health and Illness of Children</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<td>1:00PM-2:15PM</td>
<td>Critical Theory and the Critique of 21st Century Political Economy</td>
<td>HARDY</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM-2:15PM</td>
<td>The Intersection of Public Policy and Sociology</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>Gender Diversity: A Workshop for Educators (Sponsored by the Women, Gender &amp; Sexualities Caucus)</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>Graduate Student Research II</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>Technology Exchange Roundtable: Free and Low-Cost Technology Resources for the Classroom (Sponsored by the Committee on Small and Community Colleges)</td>
<td>WALKER</td>
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<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>Immigrant Identity, Race, and Ethnicity I</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30PM-3:45PM</td>
<td>Health and Aging</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>Undergrad Research II</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>Environment and Society</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>Workshop on Teaching Human Sexuality in Sociology and Social Science Courses</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>Homicide Studies</td>
<td>HARDY</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00PM-5:15PM</td>
<td>Immigrant Identity, Race, and Ethnicity II</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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**Pre-Banquet Cocktails (cash bar)**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00PM-6:30PM</td>
<td>Annual Banquet (included with registration)</td>
<td>BALLROOMS 1&amp;2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30PM-8:30PM</td>
<td>Annual Banquet (included with registration)</td>
<td>BALLROOMS 1&amp;2</td>
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<td>Time</td>
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<td>Registration Table Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Dangerous Academics? Politicizing the Professional Identity</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Deviance Studies</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Environmental Sociology, Climate Change and Disasters</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:15AM</td>
<td>Gender and Work</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Public Opinion: Research on Social and Political Attitudes</td>
<td>CRABTREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Critical Theory as Interdisciplinary Research</td>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Global Voices: Politics, Planning and Poverty</td>
<td>OCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>Health Inequalities</td>
<td>LITTLETON</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00PM-1:00PM</td>
<td>Executive Council Meeting II</td>
<td>KINSEY</td>
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</table>
August 24, 2017

Mid-South Sociological Association
MSSA 2017 Conference

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the citizens of Chattanooga, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our city. We are honored to have your conference in Chattanooga October 18-21, 2017.

Chattanooga has tremendous natural assets, from our mountains to the Tennessee River. In recent years we've seen our city transform with a vibrant downtown, including the Tennessee Aquarium and Riverwalk. We hope that you have the opportunity to enjoy all Chattanooga has to offer while you spend time in our city.

Once again, thank you for choosing Chattanooga. We hope everyone will enjoy their stay in our city.

Sincerely,

Andy Berke

Mayor Andy Berke
City of Chattanooga
WELCOME
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Mid-South Sociological Association, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 43rd Annual Meeting of the MSSA in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Every year in the fall we bring together scholars and students in various areas to discuss the current topics of the discipline. Among other things we offer panel discussions, round tables, poster sessions, book exhibits, workshops, and of course the presentation of academic papers. The general theme of the meetings this year is "Interdisciplinarity: Understanding the Social World through Multiple Perspectives," and among others includes discussion of such varied matters as: Race-Gender-Crime and the Criminal Justice System, Possibilities and Pitfalls of Interdisciplinarity, Health Inequalities, Health and Aging, Police and Citizen Brutality, Terrorism, Social Response to Terrorism and Border Security, Animals and Society, Military Sociology, and Teaching in the Trump Era. Variety indeed!

And that is sociology in the 21st Century. We have been taught and often tell our students that sociology is some version of the study of society, but increasingly sociology is what sociologists do, and as this conference indicates, we do a great many things. That has not always been the case and you don't have to go too far back to a time when various prescriptions for what sociology and sociologists should do were fundamental to our understanding of ourselves. In some places that is still true, and of course there is a marketing aspect of this that can unfortunately work to narrow our horizons. But we have observed in our lifetime the extraordinary development of multidisciplinary science, lead first by the natural sciences but now also strongly associated with the social sciences. Today's economists do psychology, psychologists do biology, anthropologists do medicine, etc., and the promise, and I would argue the future, is for a sociology that goes everywhere and does everything. The common denominator in this explosion of interdisciplinarity is science and the scientific method, or more simply put, rationality and reason. Such an approach merges our own discipline to the theories and methods of economics, anthropology, psychology, biology, genetics and medicine, because it is reasonable to do so, because science takes us there. Increasingly, doing the opposite is not reasonable and may do harm to our discipline, putting us in a kind of "iron cage" - viewed by some as fantastic, obscure and irrelevant by the very society we profess to study. Consider this example from my own work: as a graduate student, I was lucky to publish a paper using social and economic variables that supported Durkheim's theory that social integration was highly related to rates of suicide. That was in 1986, a short time ago, at least by my reckoning, but today that paper most likely would not be published. The study of suicide now involves sociology and economics, but also psychology, epidemiology, research psychiatry and genetics among others. And we don't yet know if Durkheim was right, but we do know that science writ large, and not a narrow understanding of what we should be doing, is the only way an answer will be provided in the future.

Academic conferences and programs are the product of the hard work of a great many people. In our association, among those who had a significant hand in the work, was the Executive Council, the Past President, DeMond Miller, other past presidents, the Vice President, Theresa Davidson, and the Secretary-Treasurer, Shelly McGrath. But in the MSSA most of the work falls to the President Elect and Program Chair. This year that role was assumed by Ruth Chananie. Ruth's tireless focus on the conference and the Association has produced a conference of unparalleled quality, scope and depth. The Association and the wider discipline owes her a great debt. And let me end by saying that members of the Association can look forward to a similarly strong and engaging conference next year in Birmingham, Alabama. I will see you there too.

Kevin Breault
2017 MSSA President; Editor-in-Chief, Sociological Spectrum
Welcome

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PROGRAM CHAIR AND PRESIDENT-ELECT

Welcome to the 43rd Mid-South Sociological Annual Conference and Meeting. I wish to heartily thank our session organizers, participants, officers, past officers, committee chairs, and contributors for their time, thought, and energy. All of you have made this conference a success, and I am excited to be a part of our collective effort.

A word about this year’s theme: In these troubling times, scholars need to pull together and share insights in order to facilitate understanding and positive social action. Thus, we have gathered academics from a broad stripe of disciplines to contribute to a larger conversation grounded in research and teaching strategies focused on a wide variety of social issues and concerns – both within and outside of academia.

Our collection of paper sessions, scholarly panels, academic workshops, posters, roundtables, and our plenary speaker, address wide ranging topics from a multiplicity of disciplinary perspectives. Although our main focus remains sociological, we value interdisciplinary approaches to further our collective knowledge and understanding of the issues we face in contemporary society.

As a lifelong student of sociology, I have always valued multiple disciplinary perspectives, and seek to bring us together in such a manner as to facilitate productive discussion amongst the disciplines. It is my hope that we can participate in an engaging, productive, and enlightening conversation at the 2017 MSSA Conference.

Furthermore, I have been an active member of the MSSA since 1998, when I was an undergraduate sociology major, and unsure of my path and my future. The MSSA has always welcomed undergraduate and graduate students, junior faculty, adjuncts, independent scholars, tenured faculty, emeritus faculty, and individuals from outside or near-outside academia. This open and welcoming atmosphere, more than any other attribute of our organization, won my loyalty and has kept me coming back, no matter where my career has taken me geographically.

I wish to pass along and continue our traditions, and I personally invite you to come on in, make yourself at home, and plan to stay for a while. Please consider getting involved in our leadership structure and service to the organization in any capacity, whether you are new, been with us for a bit, or are coming back to the fold. We appreciate and welcome you all. The MSSA is for you, and I hope you enjoy and benefit from it as much as I have.

Sincerely,

Ruth A. Chananie
2017 MSSA Program Chair and President-Elect
University of Northern Iowa/University of Tampa
MSSA PAST PRESIDENTS

(Founded in 1975)

2015-2016 DeMond Miller, Rowan University
2014-2015 Anita Bledsoe-Gardner, Johnson C. Smith University
2013-2014 Timothy Gongaware, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
2012-2013 Earl Wright, II, University of Cincinnati
2011-2012 Mark Konty, Public Scholar
2010-2011 Roma Hanks, University of South Alabama
2009-2010 Ollie G. Christian, Southern University
2008-2009 Kimberly Ann Davies, Augusta State University
2007-2008 Keith F. Durkin, Ohio Northern University
2006-2007 Carl L. Bankston III, Tulane University
2005-2006 Thomas Calhoun, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
2004-2005 Duane A. Gill, Mississippi State University
2004 Frank Glamser, University of Southern Mississippi
2003-2004 Jackie Eller, Middle Tennessee State University
2002-2003 J. David Knottnerus, Oklahoma State University
2001-2002 Obie Clayton, Morehouse College
2000-2001 Peter L. Heller, Middle Tennessee State University
1999-2000 J. Kenneth Davidson, Jr., University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
1998-1999 Lin Huff-Corzine, University of Central Florida
1997-1998 Dennis R. McSeveney, University of New Orleans
1996-1997 Thomas J. Durant, Jr., Louisiana State University
1995-1996 Craig J. Forsyth, University of Louisiana - Lafayette
1994-1995 J. Steven Picou, University of South Alabama
1993-1994 Stanford M. Lyman, Florida Atlantic University
1992-1993 Arthur G. Cosby, Mississippi State University
1991-1992 Joy B. Reeves, Stephen F. Austin State University
1990-1991 Donna K. Darden, Tennessee Technological University
1989-1990 C. Eddie Palmer, University of Louisiana - Lafayette
1988-1989 William Kenkel, University of Kentucky
1987-1988 James K. Skipper, Jr., University of North Carolina - Greensboro
1986-1987 Willie Pearson, Jr., Wake Forest University
1985-1986 Dennis L. Peck, The University of Alabama
1984-1985 Marsha McGee, Northeast Louisiana University
1983-1984 Donald R. South, University of South Alabama
1982-1983 Gene Acuff, Oklahoma State University
1981-1982 Clifton D. Bryant, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
1979-1980 Samuel E. Wallace, University of Tennessee - Knoxville
1978-1979 H. Paul Chalfant, Texas Tech University
1977-1978 Alvin L. Bertrand, Louisiana State University
1976-1977 Donald E. Allen, Oklahoma State University
1975-1976 Julian B. Roebuck, Mississippi State University
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Vice President: Theresa Davidson, *Samford University*
Vice President-Elect: Jessica Abbott, *Dixie State University*
Secretary-Treasurer: Shelly McGrath, *University of Alabama at Birmingham*
Past President: DeMond Miller, *Rowan University*

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Committee on Minorities: Ray Von Roberson, *Florida A&M University*
Committee on Nominations: C. Patrice Lockett, *Jacksonville State University*
Committee on the Profession: Gregory Harris, *Florida State University*
Committee on Small & Community Colleges: Nicola Davis Bivens, *Johnson C. Smith University*
Committee on Women, Gender & Sexualities: Jessica Pardee, *Rochester Institute of Technology*

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*Sociological Spectrum* Editor: Kevin Breault, *Middle Tennessee State University*
MSSA Forum Editor: Tina Deshotels, *Jacksonville State University*

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Stanford Lyman Memorial Scholarship: Thomas Calhoun, *Jackson State University*
Stanford Lyman Book Award: Patricia Gleich, *University of West Florida*
Hotel Negotiator: Dennis Peck, *The University of Alabama*
Webmaster: Jerry Gonzales, *Middle Tennessee State University*
MSSA Archivist: Marc Matre, *University of South Alabama*
MSSA Listserv: Earl Wright II, *University of Cincinnati*
“The Big “What If”: Imagining New Paradigms for Interdisciplinary Studies”

Contemporary institutions of higher education are built on well-defined, discrete pillars of theory, with limited integration. However, a growing number of policymakers and philanthropists argue there is a need to rework the framework of higher education into a highly integrated structure. A scholar of communication and social movements studies, Dr. Gunderson is an accomplished public servant, community activist, and author. His plenary argues for an interdisciplinary approach to learning at colleges and universities. He will challenge you to go beyond the platitudes of Interdisciplinary Studies and Studies of Interdisciplinarity and instead examine the role of interdisciplinary teaching, learning, and research: What will the new professoriate aspire to be?

Contextualized Teaching and Learning (CTL) offers new possibilities for a practical vision for Interdisciplinary Studies. This plenary delves into whether Interdisciplinarity is an inspiration or bugbear. Dr. Gunderson will take the audience back to Sir Charles Snow’s 1959 Reed lecture, “The Two Cultures,” an examination of the synergy between a culture of intellectuals and a culture of scientists. Gunderson argues that presently, a “gulf” exists between two types of scientists: the natural sciences are considered “hard”, whereas the social sciences are usually described as "soft". But more alarming, Gunderson argues that there is also a gulf between social scientists' disciplines. His plenary urges us to talk to each other in the Academy.

The origin of Dr. Gunderson’s political activism was during the presidential and gubernatorial campaigns in the early 90s. He was one of the founders of the Broward Coalition for the Homeless, Inc. His political leadership earned him the presidency of the Broward Young Democrats and later he became the president of the country’s largest and oldest lesbian and gay Democratic clubs, the Dolphin Democrats, and a member of the Pride South Florida Board. Dr. Gunderson’s credentials speak toward his engagement with the community. In 1995 and 1997, as a President Clinton appointee to the Presidential Rank Awards Review Board, Dr. Gunderson evaluated federal executives for outstanding contributions to the management of government programs.

Dr. Gunderson holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Studies and a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Florida Atlantic University. He is an Adjunct Communications Professor at Florida International University and Broward College. Additionally, since 1989, he has worked in the court system. He is the Director of Client Services for the Public Defender. His office represents indigent clients charged with crimes. In 2015, Rowman & Littlefield published Dr. Gunderson’s political science book, *Momentum and the East Timor Independence Movement: The Origins of America’s Debate on East Timor*. This book won the Mid-South Sociological Association’s Annual Distinguished Stanford M. Lyman Book Award. Noam Chomsky said his book “provides valuable insight and guidance for everyone who is concerned with crimes of state and how they can be countered by popular mobilization and principled and dedicated engagement.”
GUIDE TO TYPES OF CONFERENCE SESSIONS AND EVENTS

PAPER SESSIONS: These are the default type of sessions, and are most typical of an academic conference. They consist of an organizer, who decides on the title and topic of the session, and solicits submissions related to the topic. Paper sessions normally have 3-5 presenters, and a presider, who may or may not be the organizer, whose job it is to moderate the timing of presentations so each paper presenter gets roughly equal time to present. Also, they ask for questions and discussion at the end of the session. All are welcome to attend.

ROUNDTABLES: These are a more informal variety of the paper session. They take place at a literal “round” table, or some other shaped table, and are organized and moderated typically by one individual. The organizer decides how informal the session will be – sometimes they solicit submissions with titles, where each scheduled participant talks for a time, followed by general Q&A. Other times they just host the table, and have an informal discussion about the topic without specific presentations. Everyone is welcome to join a roundtable, even if they do not have a predetermined topic to present.

SCHOLARLY PANELS: Panels are typically organized and moderated by one or more individuals, who specify the topic of the panel and solicit experts or experienced persons on the topic, who take turns discussing it before opening up to general questions and discussion. All are welcome to attend.

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS: These are typically organized and presided over by one or two individuals, who lead the audience in doing hands-on work related to their topic. Workshops are designed specifically to engage participants, and to further their practical knowledge and skills. All are welcome to attend.

POSTER SESSION: This session is designed for students who wish to present their work in the poster format. Posters will be available for all to see in the main room (WALKER), plus the authors will present their work during the specified session. All are welcome!

PLENARY: The plenary starts with a speech by one individual, on a topic very relevant to the theme of the conference. The plenary is the only offering in the allotted time, because it is intended for all or most of the conference attendees to join. The plenary speaker engages the audience, then opens up for questions and discussion at the end. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

CAUCUS BREAKFASTS OR LUNCHES: These focus on areas special to the MSSA’s success, such as the Committee on Small and Community Colleges, the Committee on Minorities, and the Committee on Women, Gender, and Sexualities. All are welcome and encouraged to attend, and if you want a meal you may purchase it from the hotel restaurant staff.

PRESIDENTS RECEPTION: This event is to honor all past and present Presidents of the MSSA, and to provide a space where all conference attendees can meet, greet, and network. All are welcome, and there will be food to eat, limited free drink tickets, and a cash bar. Fun for all!

BANQUET: This is the culminating event of the conference. In addition to dinner, conference attendees can mingle prior to the event in the outer hall (cash bar), then come join the main event. In addition to socializing and a meal (included in your registration), the banquet is also our annual full-member business meeting. We will give out awards for the paper and other competitions, and provide important information on the state of the organization. Please join us…all are welcome!!
STUDENT-CENTERED SESSIONS AND EVENTS

The MSSA welcomes all students!
Below is a list of sessions and events of particular interest to you.

EVENTS: Students are encouraged to attend Caucus meetings, the Presidents Welcome Reception, and the Banquet:

Thursday 11:45AM – 1:00PM  **Women, Gender & Sexualities Caucus Lunch and Annual Committee Meeting** (all welcome)   MOUNTAIN ROOM (IN RESTAURANT)

Thursday 5:30PM – 7:00PM  **Presidents Welcome Reception**  
(Hors d'oeuvre, limited FREE drink tickets, & cash bar)   GAME ROOM (IN HOTEL BAR)

Friday 8:00AM – 9:00AM  **Small & Community Colleges Caucus Breakfast and Annual Committee Meeting** (all welcome)   MOUNTAIN ROOM (IN RESTAURANT)

Friday 11:45AM – 1:00PM  **Minorities Caucus Lunch and Annual Committee Meeting**  (all welcome)   MOUNTAIN ROOM (IN RESTAURANT)

Friday 6:30PM – 8:30PM  **Annual Banquet**  BALLROOMS 1 & 2

SESSIONS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO STUDENTS:

Session 18  The Big “What if”: Imagining New Paradigms for Interdisciplinary Studies (PLENARY)
Session 22  Meaningful Service Projects that Impact Lives: On the Issue of Food and Food Security
Session 24  When Everything is on the Line: Navigating Too Much Advice, Nerves, and First Impressions on the Job Market
Session 29  Competitive Poster Session
Session 31 & 50  Undergrad Research I & II
Session 36  Undergraduate Sociology Clubs: Activities, Successes, and Challenges
Session 39 & 46  Graduate Student Research I & II
MID-SOUTH SOCIOLICAL ASSOCIATION
FULL SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS
October 18-21, 2017
Chattanooga, Tennessee

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:00AM – 12:00PM  Executive Council Meeting I  KINSEY BOARDROOM
12:00 – 1:30 PM  Lunch on Own
2:00PM – 4:00PM  Registration Table Open  WALKER FOYER
12:30PM – 5:00PM  Beverages/Break Room Open  WALKER ROOM

2:30PM – 3:45PM  Breakout Sessions (Wednesday)

Session 1  Connecting Public Discourse, Social Issues and Analysis in the Classroom  WALKER ROOM (ROUNDTABLE)
Session Organizer and Presider: Patricia Gleich, University of West Florida

Description: This roundtable will explore the scope of teaching sociology in a rapidly changing and often divided society. It will combine several brief prepared presentations, but following the round-table format – will provide an opportunity for others to join us at the table. The intent is to keep the discussion focused, reality based and practical.

Erin Rider, Jacksonville State University
Hugh Floyd, Samford University
Marc Matre, University of South Alabama
Session 2  Gender Research in Progress

KELLY ROOM
Session Organizer and Presider: Tina Deshotels, Jacksonville State University

The Feminist Criminologist and Ethnography
Allison Willingham, University of South Carolina

The Mother of All Surgeries: Exploring Redemption Language in Cosmetic Surgery’s 'Mommy Makeover'
Matthew S. Vos, Covenant College
Veronica Pettit, Covenant College

Identity Crisis: The Relationship Between Gender, Political Identity and Political Ideology
Stephanie Earwood, Jacksonville State University
Tina Dehotels, Jacksonville State University

For HE Tells Me So: Techniques of Neutralization Used in Christian Domestic Discipline
Tina Deshotels, Jacksonville State University
BreeAnna New, Jacksonville State University
Jennifer Fulmer, New Mexico State University
Craig Forsyth, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Session 3  Voter Participation in the 1st Presidential Election without Full Protections of the Voting Rights Act

CRABTREE ROOM (SCHOLARLY PANEL)
Session Organizer: Keith Parker, Florida A&M University
Presider: Ray Von Robertson, Florida A&M University

Dora Tilles, Florida A&M University
Jessica A. Johnson, Ohio State University

4:00PM – 5:15PM  Breakout Sessions (Wednesday)

Session 4  Science, Technology and Culture

WALKER ROOM (ROUNDTABLE)
Session Organizer and Presider: Dennis Peck, The University of Alabama
Session 5  **Service Learning and Social Justice in the Curriculum**  
**KELLY ROOM (CONFERENCE WORKSHOP)**  
Co-Session Organizer and Presider: Anita Bledsoe-Gardner, Johnson C. Smith University  
Co-Session Organizer and Presider: DeMond Miller, Rowan University

Session 6  **Sociology of Death and Dying**  
**CRABTREE ROOM**  
Session Organizer and Presider: James Gadberry, Athens State University

- **Advance Directives and Individuals with Disabilities**  
  Keydron K Guinn, SUNY Downstate Medical Center  
  Charlotte Winston, Wayne State University

- **Remember the Titans: Exploring Ritualized Symbolic Practices and Long-Term Grief with Human-Made Disasters**  
  Jason S. Ulsperger, Arkansas Tech University  
  Kristen Ulsperger, Arkansas Tech University  
  Sahara Collins, Arkansas Tech University

Session 7  **Sociology of Religion**  
**THOMPSON ROOM**  
Session Organizer and Presider: Shondrah Tarrezz Nash, Morehead State University

- **Leadership in the Church: An Evaluation of an Executive Training Program**  
  Karen Mundy-Judkins, Lee University  
  Bennet M. Judkins, Lee University

- **Are Criticisms of Islam Racist? The Formation and Implications of a Category Error**  
  Andrew Austin, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

- **Religious Constraints on Kinky Sexual Practices of University Students**  
  Marc Matre, University of South Alabama
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

8:30AM – 11:45AM  Light Breakfast/Break Room Open  WALKER ROOM
8:45AM – 4:00PM  Registration Table Open  WALKER FOYER

9:00AM – 10:15AM  Breakout Sessions (Thursday)

Session 8  Disaster Research Network  WALKER ROOM (ROUNDTABLE)
Session Organizer and Presider: DeMond Miller, Rowan University

Session 9  Teaching in the Trump Era  CRABTREE ROOM (SCHOLARLY PANEL)
Session Organizer and Presider: Lauren Norman, Delta State University
Anita Bledsoe-Gardner, Johnson C. Smith University
Tina Deshotels, Jacksonville State University
Douglas Valentine, University of Missouri-Columbia
Shane Gunderson, Broward College

Session 10  Cultural and Political Mobilization  THOMPSON ROOM
Session Organizer: Timothy Gongaware, University of Wisconsin - La Crosse
Presider: David Zeller, University of South Florida

One Size Does Not Fit All: Lessons from a Comparative Study of “Real Food” Campus Campaigns
Rebecca Watts Hull, Georgia Institute of Technology

To V or Not to V: Narratives, Networks, and Contingencies of Veganism
Corey Waters, Rowan University

Elite Mobilization: Neoliberalism and the Attempt to Reframe the Free Market in the Wake of the New Deal
Aaron Rowland, University of Tennessee at Martin

Voter Participation in the Absence of the Voting Rights Act of 1965
Keith Parker, Florida A&M University
Dora Tilles, Florida A&M University
Jean C. Nwagbou, Florida A&M University
Phyllis Welch-Johnson, Florida A&M University
Session 11  Discovering Interdisciplinary Program Evaluation

OCHS ROOM (CONFERENCE WORKSHOP)

Session Organizer and Presider: Alexandra C.H. Nowakowski, Florida State University

Description: Participants will learn basic evaluation vocabulary and a variety of core techniques, and build their skills by completing collaborative exercises throughout the workshop. Content will feature many examples from public health program evaluation, but all are welcome and the tools will apply to a broad range of contexts. The workshop will strongly emphasize building sustainable community partnerships and amplifying the voices of marginalized populations through participatory approaches to evaluation planning and implementation.

Session 12  Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: An Interdisciplinary Perspective on the World

LITTLETON ROOM

Session Organizer and Presider: Vicky M. MacLean, Middle Tennessee State University

Women’s Sexual Fluidity in Swinging
Felicia Brown, Middle Tennessee State University

Roles of Identity Language for Transgender and Gender-nonconforming People
Rebekah Dawson, Middle Tennessee State University

The Social Construction of Sexual Consent among College Students
Leslie Hanlin, Middle Tennessee State University

A Woman’s Worth in Commercial Real Estate
Britt Bimson, Middle Tennessee State University
10:30AM – 11:45AM  Breakout Sessions (Thursday)

Session 13  Teaching from a Feminist Perspective  
WALKER ROOM (ROUNDTABLE)  
Session Organizer and Presider: Tina Deshotels, Jacksonville State University  
Jackie Eller, Middle Tennessee State University  
C. Patrice Lockett, Jacksonville State University  
Ruth Chananie, University of Northern Iowa  
Jessica Altice, University of South Florida  

Session 14  Scientific and Technological Trends Affecting the Workforce  
CRABTREE ROOM  
Session Organizer and Presider: Willie Pearson, Jr., Georgia Institute of Technology  
Big Data and the Socio-Digital Construction of Consumer Identity  
Sherrie Drye, North Carolina AT&T State University  
Terrell Hayes, High Point University  
Workforce Transformations in the Digital Economy: Diversity Innovations and Participation in Industry 4.0  
Connie L. McNeely, George Mason University  
“I’m a necessary piece to the puzzle”: An Intersectional Study of the Computing and IT Workforce  
Kera Allen, Georgia Institute of Technology
Session 15  Race-Gender-Crime and the Criminal Justice System

Session Organizer and Presider: Anita Bledsoe-Gardner, Johnson C. Smith University

*The Role of Human Capital in Racial Wage Gaps*
David Singleton, Mississippi State University

*Pathways to Prison for Women Serving Life Sentences: Implications for Prison Adjustment and Re-entry*
Meredith Dye, Middle Tennessee State University
Ronald Aday, Middle Tennessee State University
Nicole Cook, Middle Tennessee State University
Tori Ong, Middle Tennessee State University

*Space, Place and Contested Terrain: A MicroAnalysis for Understanding the Streets of Black Protests*
Anita Bledsoe-Gardner, Johnson C. Smith University
Nyjeer Wesley, Rowan University
DeMond Miller, Rowan University
Nicola Davis Bivens, Johnson C. Smith University/Colorado State University - Global Campus

“I’ve Met Great People in Here”: The Role of Family, Inmate, and Staff Supports in Adjustment for Life-Sentenced Women
Huey Davis, Middle Tennessee State University
Sana Wilson, Middle Tennessee State University
Alicia Tanner, Middle Tennessee State University
Meredith Huey Dye, Middle Tennessee State University

Session 16  Popular Culture, Sport, and Media Studies

Session Organizer and Presider: Katie Cooper, University of South Florida

*Classless TV*
Romney S. Norwood, Perimeter College- Georgia State University

*The Comical is Political: Reflections on Comedy as Cultural Pedagogy*
Katie Cooper, University of South Florida

*Power Through Fishnets and Broken Legs: The Negotiation of Legitimacy and Status in Women’s and Men’s Flat-Track Roller Derby*
Allison Willingham, University of South Carolina
Session 17  **Criminology**  

**LITTLETON ROOM**  
Session Organizer and Presider: Timothy Clark, University of North Alabama

*The Effect of Police Activity on Crime Victims’ Fear of Crime*  
Jessica Abbott, Dixie State University  
Shelly McGrath, University of Alabama at Birmingham

*The Relationship between Physical Attractiveness, Strain, and Deviant Coping Adaptations*  
Allison House, University of North Alabama  
Christopher Purser, University of North Alabama

*Applying the ‘WalkScore’ as a Measure of Routine Activities Theory for Auto Theft and UBEV*  
Shelly McGrath, University of Alabama at Birmingham

*An Examination of Socio-Demographic Differences in Perceptions of Risks and Rewards of Impaired Driving*  
Andrew Tatch, Mississippi State University

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**11:45AM – 1:00PM (Thursday)**  
Women, Gender & Sexualities Caucus Lunch and Annual Committee Meeting (all welcome)  

**MOUNTAIN ROOM (IN RESTAURANT)**

**12:30PM – 5:00PM**  
Beverages/Break Room Open  

**WALKER ROOM**
1:00PM – 2:15PM PLENARY SESSION (Thursday)

Session 18  The Big “What if”: Imagining New Paradigms for Interdisciplinary Studies
AMPHITHEATER (PLENARY SPEAKER)

Plenary Speaker: Shane Gunderson, Broward College

2:30PM – 3:45PM Breakout Sessions (Thursday)

Session 19  The Role of Service Learning in Sociology and Social Science courses
WALKER ROOM (ROUNDTABLE)
Session Organizer and Discussant: Kelly James, Christian Brothers University Memphis

Using Research Methodology Class for Community Based Study: The Case of Study of Aging Population in Stevens County, Minnesota
Farah Gilanshah, University of Minnesota-Morris

Defining Service Learning: An Ambiguous Term for a Multitude of Activities
Lindsay Anderson, University of Tennessee at Martin
Amy McLean, University of Tennessee at Martin

September of Service: Exposing Students to Service Opportunities
Kelly James, Christian Brothers University Memphis
Tracie Burke, Christian Brothers University Memphis
Session 20  **Possibilities and Pitfalls of Interdisciplinary Studies**  
**OCHS ROOM (SCHOLARLY PANEL)**  
Session Organizer and Discussant: Shane Gunderson, Broward College  
Andrew Austin, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay  
Maggie C. Cobb, University of Tampa

Session 21  **New and Emerging Research I**  
**CRABTREE ROOM**  
Session Organizer: DeMond Miller, Rowan University  
Presider: Sarah Donley, Jacksonville State University  

*Conceptualizing and Analyzing Quantitative Literacy in Undergraduate Sociology and Social Work Research Method Courses*  
Sarah Donley, Jacksonville State University  
Alexis Paige, Jacksonville State University  

*Food Safety: Analyzing the Connection between Government and Industrial Influence*  
Jennifer Hall, University of Louisville  

*The Difficulties, Success, & Failures of Ethnographic Studies with Difficult to Reach Populations*  
Ben Stickle, Middle Tennessee State University

Session 22  **Meaningful Service Projects that Impact Lives: On the Issue of Food and Food Security**  
**THOMPSON ROOM (CONFERENCE WORKSHOP)**  
Session Organizer and Presider: Tradell Adkins, Operations, Data & Logistics Specialist  
Raleigh, North Carolina

This workshop is designed to benefit students, student leaders, faculty and faculty advisors in designing and implementing meaningful service projects that will impact the lives of fellow citizens beyond our campus walls. The theme for this workshop will center on food security and how to design and carry out a meaningful project with local partners to get the most impact. While the topic of this session centers on food security, the workshop will culminate with how the strategies discussed can be employed to address a host of other social problems. At the end of this presentation, attendees will:  
Understand the role of building community networks; Learn how to approach community organizations, understand their needs and employ university structures to help accomplish a target goal; Seek funding for special projects; Learn how to carry over and sustain projects from semester-to-semester or year-to-year; Learn how to increase the impact of their on-campus and off-campus activities.
Session 23  **Animals in Society**

**LITTLETON ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: James Gadberry, Athens State University

*Outside the Canopy: Anthropocentrism in the Sociology of Peter Berger*
Jeremy Ross, Jacksonville State University
Christopher Morgan, Jacksonville State University

*Fat Cats and Porky Pooches: Stories of 'Pet Obesity' and the Production of Bodies*
Garrett Bunyak, Georgia Institute of Technology

*The Perceived Masculinity of Meat: Development and Testing of a Measure Across Social Class and Gender*
Jacob B. Lax, Middle Tennessee State University
Angela G. Mertig, Middle Tennessee State University

4:00PM – 5:15PM Breakout Sessions (Thursday)

Session 24  **When Everything is on the Line: Navigating Too Much Advice, Nerves, and First Impressions on the Job Market**

**OCHS ROOM (SCHOLARLY PANEL)**

Session Organizer and Discussant: Erin Rider, Jacksonville State University

*Standing Out: The Cover Letter*
Brett Lehman, Auburn University at Montgomery

*Job Market Horror Stories*
Sarah Donley, Jacksonville State University

*Crafting Your Teaching Philosophy*
Andrea Hunt, University of North Alabama

*Preparing for the Phone and On-Campus Interview Experience*
Lindsay Anderson, The University of Tennessee at Martin

*Job Market, Dissertating, and Mental Health*
Ashleigh McKinzie, Middle Tennessee State University
Session 25  **Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Teaching About America**

**CRABTREE ROOM (SCHOLARLY PANEL)**

Session Organizer: Orsolya Kolozsvari, College of Coastal Georgia
Session Presider: Hector Montford, College of Coastal Georgia

Interdisciplinarity is becoming a central theme in academia, not only in research, but also in teaching. This panel focuses on using interdisciplinary perspectives when teaching about America. The panel itself is interdisciplinary in featuring sociologists and representatives of other disciplines, such as history and criminal justice. The panelists will discuss how they use interdisciplinary sources in their teaching and incorporate other fields into their course materials, for example, history, criminal justice, political science, literature, journalism, the media, music, popular culture, and so on. Panelists will describe how interdisciplinarity enriches their pedagogy.

Hector Montford, College of Coastal Georgia
Alana M. Berry, University of North Georgia/Georgia State
Daniel Pasciuti, Georgia State University
Cyntoria Johnson, Georgia State University
Romney Norwood, Perimeter College - Georgia State

Session 26  **Crime, Deviance, and Interventions**

**THOMPSON ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: Shondrah Tarrezz Nash, Morehead State University

_**TBI and IPV: Understanding the Dynamics and the Consequences of Violent Relationships Yielding Severe Head Injuries**_  
Allison B. Willingham, University of South Carolina

_The Many Theories of Change in a Gang-Intervention Program_  
Joshua Wakeham, The University of Alabama

_Examining Factors Associated with Two-Year Post-Program Recidivism Rates among Participants in a Statewide Drug Court Program_  
Lisa M. Shannon, Morehead State University
Afton Jackson Jones, Morehead State University
Shondrah Nash, Morehead State University
Jennifer Newell, Morehead State University
Session 27  **Terrorism, Social Response to Terrorism and Border Security**  
LITTLETON ROOM  
Session Organizer and Presider: DeMond Miller, Rowan University

*Terrorism as Economic Warfare*
Rodger Bates, Clayton State University  
Bryan LaBrecque, Clayton State University

*Terrorism, Terror and Territory*
Jiayi Li, University of Tennessee Knoxville

*Youth Belonging, Radical Extremism and Social Integration*
DeMond Miller, Rowan University  
Anita Bledsoe-Gardner, Johnson C. Smith University  
Nicola Davis Bivens, Johnson C. Smith University/Colorado State University - Global Campus  
Gregory Harris, Florida State University  
Nyjeer Wesley, Rowan University  
Shaquille Haskins, Rowan University

5:30PM – 7:00PM (Thursday)  
**Presidents Welcome Reception**  
(Hors d’oeuvre, limited FREE drink tickets, & cash bar)  
GAME ROOM (IN HOTEL BAR)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

8:00AM – 9:00AM  
**Small & Community Colleges Caucus Breakfast and Annual Committee Meeting (all welcome)**  
MOUNTAIN ROOM (IN RESTAURANT)

8:30AM – 11:45AM  
Light Breakfast/Break Room Open  
WALKER ROOM

8:45AM – 4:00PM  
Registration Table Open  
WALKER FOYER
Session 28  **Gender Research Network**  
**WALKER ROOM (ROUNDTABLE)**  
Session Organizer and Discussant: Jessica Pardee, Rochester Institute of Technology

Session 29  **Competitive Poster Session**  
**WALKER ROOM**  
Co-Session Organizer and Presider: DeMond Miller, Rowan University  
Co-Session Organizer and Presider: Nicola Davis Bivens, Johnson C. Smith University/Colorado State University - Global Campus

*Difficulties with Identification of Human Sex Trafficking Victims*  
Chloe Parker, Mississippi State University

*Linking Employees’ Organizational Commitment and Turnover Intention Among Medical Laboratory Personnel: A Correlational Study*  
Tasia Hilton, St. Leo University

*Inequality, Natural Disasters, and Companion Animals*  
Hannah Bellina, Valdosta State University

*Health Problems and Grocery Store Access in the City of Atlanta, Georgia*  
Kara Tsukerman, Georgia State University

Session 30  **Teaching Social and Behavioral Science for Health Professionals: New Opportunities for Medical Sociologists (PART 1 OF 2)**  
**OCHS ROOM (CONFERENCE WORKSHOP)**  
Co-Session Organizer and Discussant: Jason Wasserman, Oakland University  
Co-Session Organizer and Discussant: Brian Hinote, Middle Tennessee State University

Description: In light of changes to the MCAT, pre-requisite courses for medical school entry, core curricula in nursing and allied health, and professional competencies that increasingly include social and behavioral science content, medical sociologists have an opportunity to reach new populations of students. This seminar explores this opportunity and the challenges associated with adapting traditionally successful course content and teaching strategies to future health professionals.
Session 31  **Undergrad Research I**

**CRABTREE ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: Jessica Abbott, Dixie State University

*Captain Fantastic: A Projection of Egalitarianism’s True Practicability*
Alexis Carter, Millsaps College

*Incarcerated and Pregnant: How Societal Attitudes Affect the Sentencing and Treatment of Pregnant Inmates in Rural Tennessee*
Mary de la Torre, Middle Tennessee State University

*Ethical Manufacturing in a Third World Setting*
Katherine DeSilva, Millsaps College

*Are Religiosity and Altruism Keys to Happiness?*
Julianna Greene, Samford University

*Sexual Harassment at Anime Conventions: A Theoretical Analysis*
Michelle McIntosh, Millsaps College

Session 32  **New and Emerging Research II**

**THOMPSON ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: Kirsten Ostergren Clark, University of Alabama at Birmingham

*Re-thinking Causation: Challenging the Positivist Paradigm in Sociology*
Phil Davignon, Union University

*“If We Don’t Talk About It, They’ll Never Go Away”: An Examination of the Experiences of and Reactions to Stigma by a Diverse Population of Adoptive Parents in the United States*
Jessica Newton, University of Louisville

*Contextual Factors Associated with Women’s Attitudes toward Intimate Partner Violence in Swaziland*
Roger Klomegah, Tennessee State University
Session 33  The Role of the Community College in Sociology/Criminology Education
LITTLETON ROOM (SCHOLARLY PANEL)

Session Organizer and Discussant: Nicola Davis Bivens, Johnson C. Smith University/Colorado State University - Global Campus

Elizabeth Davis, Roane State Community College
Liala Syler, Motlow State Community College

10:30AM – 11:45AM  Breakout Sessions (Friday)

Session 34  Teaching Social and Behavioral Science for Health Professionals: New Opportunities for Medical Sociologists (PART 2 OF 2)
OCHS ROOM (CONFERENCE WORKSHOP)

Co-Session Organizer and Discussant: Jason Wasserman, Oakland University
Co-Session Organizer and Discussant: Brian Hinote, Middle Tennessee State University

Description: In light of changes to the MCAT, pre-requisite courses for medical school entry, core curricula in nursing and allied health, and professional competencies that increasingly include social and behavioral science content, medical sociologists have an opportunity to reach new populations of students. This seminar explores this opportunity and the challenges associated with adapting traditionally successful course content and teaching strategies to future health professionals.

Session 35  Military Sociology
CRABTREE ROOM

Session Organizer and Presider: David May, Mississippi State University

The American Family Wage Gap: Economic Realities for Military Mothers
Christie Burton, Clayton State University

The Effects of Combat Experience on Religiosity
Timothy McClure, University of South Carolina Aiken
Christopher Purser, University of North Alabama

Does Serving in the Military Make You a Happier Corrections Officer? Evidence from Mississippi Prisons
David May, Mississippi State University
Stacy Hanes, Mississippi State University
Eric Lambert, University of Mississippi
Linda Keena, University of Mississippi
Session 36  Undergraduate Sociology Clubs: Activities, Successes, and Challenges

THOMPSON ROOM (SCHOLARLY PANEL)

Session Organizer and Discussant: Tina Deshotels, Jacksonville State University

Theresa Davidson, Samford University
Julianna Greene, Samford University
Brett Lehman, Auburn University at Montgomery
Andrea Hunt, University of Northern Alabama
Tyler Gay, Jacksonville State University
Alexis Paige, Jacksonville State University
Noah Wentworth, Jacksonville State University

Session 37  Police and Citizen Brutality

LITTLETON ROOM

Co-Session Organizer: Lisa Eargle, Francis Marion University
Co-Session Organizer: Ashraf Esmail, Dillard University
Presider: DeMond Shondell Miller, Rowan University

Social Justice and Police Violence: Constructing Narratives and Counter Narratives in Black and Blue
John Thomas Mills, Rowan University
DeMond Shondell Miller, Rowan University
Nyjeer Wesley, Rowan University
Shaquealle Haskins, Rowan University

The Influence of Media on Fear among Police and African Americans
Jeannice Louine, Mississippi State University

Space, Place and the Evolution of the Policing of Black Bodies
DeMond Shondell Miller, Rowan University
John Thomas Mills, Rowan University
Anita Bledsoe-Gardner, Johnson C. Smith University
Nicola Davis Bivens, Johnson C. Smith University/Colorado State University - Global Campus

Reducing the Victim: An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Rwandan Genocide
Rachel Ponder, University of Tennessee Knoxville
### Session 38  **Social Media and Sociology**

**HARDY ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: Ruth Chananie, University of Northern Iowa

*Social Media, Communication, and Social Interaction in the Digital Age: Digital Natives, Digital Immigrants, and Digital Outsiders*

Rubye W. Beck, Milligan College

*The Presentation of Grief and Support Online Following a Theatre Shooting*

Jessica Pearce, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

*Dressed to Impress: #TheNewStereotype and Presentations of Self in Response to Dominant Negative Stereotypes*

Lewis Jasen Miles, Morehouse College

*Identity Stewards: Facebook Parents, Their Children, and Value Congruence*

Lee Farquhar, Butler University

*“Tell me you own me, gimme them coins”: Postfeminist Fascination with Lolita, Lana Del Rey, and Sugar Culture on Tumblr*

Rachel Davis, University of Kentucky

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<td>Minorities Caucus Lunch and Annual Committee Meeting (all welcome)</td>
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**1:00PM – 2:15PM  Breakout Sessions (Friday)**

**Session 39  Graduate Student Research I**  
**THOMPSON ROOM**  
Session Organizer and Presider: Theresa Davidson, Samford University

*Muslim American Men & Stigma: An Argument for the Use of Theories of Stigma Management and Modified Labeling Theory in the Study of Post-Terror Muslim Experiences*  
Jack Trey Allen, University of Louisville

*Using Hoeffding’s D to find Non-Monotonic Relationships between Seasonality, Temperature, and Mass Shootings*  
Keith Fredlund, Grand Valley State University

*Socio-Structural Forces Predicting Global Inequality of Water Consumption: An Empirical Study and Path Model*  
Md Belal Hossain, Middle Tennessee State University

*Science for U.S.-Citizens Only: The Tension between Export Controls and Free Knowledge Circulation in an Academic Environment*  
Sooa Lee, Georgia Institute of Technology

**Session 40  Teaching Intersectionality to Majority Students: Challenges, Strategies, and Opportunities**  
**WALKER ROOM (ROUNDTABLE)**  
Session Organizer and Presider: Lori Waite, Tennessee Wesleyan University

Description: A discussion of the challenges, strategies, and opportunities of teaching intersectionality to majority students.

Allison Davis, University of Tennessee Knoxville  
Alex Sharp, Tennessee Wesleyan University  
Deborah S. Lowry, University of Montevallo
Session 41  **Community and Media Reactions to Crime**  
**CRABTREE ROOM**  
Session Organizer and Presider: Ray Von Robertson, Florida A&M University

*Black Males in the Criminal Justice System*
Ray Von Robertson, Florida A&M University  
Cassandra Chaney, Louisiana State University

*Fear Factors in Group Behaviors Leading to Law Formation*
Stan Hodges, Texas A&M University Kingsville  
Bennie Green, Texas A&M University Kingsville

Session 42  **Health and Illness of Children**  
**LITTLETON ROOM**  
Session Organizer and Presider: Hugh Floyd, Samford University

*Changing Lives of Youth: Assessment of Healthy Eating Active Lives (HEAL) in Alabama*
Donna Dunaway, HEAL, Inc., Samford University  
Donna Hester, HEAL, Inc., Samford University  
Christina Saunders, HEAL, Inc., Samford University  
Kelly DeVane-Hart, HEAL, Inc., Samford University  
Hugh Floyd, Samford University

*Assessing the Effectiveness of a Six-Week After-School Intervention for Healthy Eating and Physical Activity*
Lori Brand Bateman, University of Alabama Birmingham  
Gabriela Oates, University of Alabama Birmingham  
Yu-Mei M. Schoenberger, University of Alabama Birmingham  
Joanice Thompson, University of Alabama Birmingham  
Bianca Hawk, University of Alabama Birmingham  
Sejong Bae, University of Alabama Birmingham  
Maria Norena, University of Alabama Birmingham  
Laura Coulter, University of Alabama Birmingham  
Mona N. Fouad, University of Alabama Birmingham
Session 43  Critical Theory and the Critique of 21st Century Political Economy

HARDY ROOM
Session Organizer and Presider: Joel Crombez, University of Tennessee Knoxville

State Theory in the Era of Trump Corp
Steven Panageotou, University of Tennessee Knoxville

A Critical Understanding of Systematic Differences in Political Cognition
Bob Leonard, University of Tennessee Knoxville

Automation, Value-Critique, and Heteronomy: A Critique of the Contemporary Debate on Technological Displacement
A. J. Knowles, University of Tennessee Knoxville

The Future of Critical Theory in the 21st Century University
Joel Crombez, University of Tennessee Knoxville

What Exactly is Wrong with Current Critical Theory? Neglecting the Logic of Capital
Harry F. Dahms, University of Tennessee Knoxville

Session 44  The Intersection of Public Policy and Sociology

OCHS ROOM
Session Organizer and Presider: Ruth Chananie, University of Northern Iowa

Civic Literacy: Communicating Effectively with Your Legislator
Paul Luebke, University of North Carolina – Greensboro
Sherrie Drye, North Carolina AT&T State University

A Dirty Bird Political Climate: Experiences at the Intersections of Politics in the Atlanta Youth Count and Needs Assessment 2015
Ana LaBoy, Georgia State University

The Relationship between Sleeping Location and Service Provider Contact Among Homeless Youth in Atlanta, Georgia
Kara Tsukerman, Georgia State University

Confronting Our Past and Envisioning Our Future: The Freedom Riders National Park
C. Patrice Lockett, Jacksonville State University
Erin Rider, Jacksonville State University
Session 45  Gender Diversity: A Workshop for Educators (Sponsored by the Women, Gender & Sexualities Caucus)

OCHS ROOM (CONFERENCE WORKSHOP)
Session Organizer and Presider: Jessica Pardee, Rochester Institute of Technology
Presenter: Alan Smerbeck, Rochester Institute of Technology

Session 46  Graduate Student Research II

THOMPSON ROOM
Session Organizer and Presider: Theresa Davidson, Samford University

Strain among Bullying Victims: Considering the Effect of Alternative Relationships on Prosocial, Asocial, and Antisocial Responses to Physical, Verbal, Relational, and Cyber Bullying
Megan Stubbs-Richardson, Mississippi State University

Becoming Fictional: Cosplay and Identity
Angela Barajas, University of Texas at Arlington

A Country’s Religious Freedom & Graduate School Attendance in the U.S
Giselle C. Greenidge, University of North Texas

Cumulative Minority Disadvantage: Factors Affecting Health among Sexual LGB Identities
J. Dylan Sandifer, University of Memphis

Session 47  Technology Exchange Roundtable: Free and Low-Cost Technology Resources for the Classroom (Sponsored by the Committee on Small and Community Colleges)

WALKER ROOM (ROUNDTABLE)
Session Organizer and Discussant: Nicola Davis Bivens, Johnson C. Smith University/Colorado State University - Global Campus

Description: This roundtable discussion, sponsored by the Committee on Small and Community Colleges, is a discussion where attendees/participants can demonstrate or learn about free and low-cost technologies used in the classroom.

Yolanda Meade Byrd, Winston Salem State University
Session 48  Immigrant Identity, Race, and Ethnicity I

LITTLETON ROOM

Co-Session Organizer and Presider: Basudhara Sen, Oklahoma State University
Co-Session Organizer, J. David Knottnerus, Oklahoma State University

Stand Up, Stand Apart: (De)constructing immigrant Identities in Hasan Minhaj’s Homecoming King
Shreyosi Mukherjee, National University of Singapore

Migration from the Global South: Commodity of Intimacy and Feminized Labor
Ketaki Kiran Deshpande, University of Arkansas

Recreating Immigrant identity: Changing Ethnic Rituals of Asian Indians in the Post-Election United States
Basudhara Sen, Oklahoma State University
J. David Knottnerus, Oklahoma State University

Experiences of Muslim Female Students: At the Intersection of Race, Gender, and Religion
Nuray Karaman, University of Tennessee Knoxville

Session 49  Health and Aging

CRABTREE ROOM

Session Organizer and Presider: Kimberly Wingard, University of Florida

Motivation to Volunteer in Mid-to-Late Life: A Closer Look at Community Health Workers’ Commitment to Fight Health Disparities
Joseph Daniel Abbott, Rhodes State College
Sarah M. Wraight, University of South Alabama
Roma Stovall Hanks, University of South Alabama

“Who were you when...?” Do Age and Life Stage Predict Disaster Impact and Recovery?
Roma Stovall Hanks, University of South Alabama
Candace Forbes Bright, University of Southern Mississippi
Edward Sayre, University of Southern Mississippi

Depression Among the Elderly: How Does It Differ from That of Other Adults?
Kimberly Wingard, University of Florida
Session 50  Undergrad Research II

**CRABTREE ROOM**
Session Organizer and Presider: Jessica Abbott, Dixie State University

*The Kawaii Paradox*
Abby Wren, Union University

*Social Capital and First-Generation College Students’ Persistence*
Haley Baker, Austin Peay State University

*Deviance Within the Work-Family Life Balance*
Danielle Brown, Union University

*Pubertal Suppression, Hormonal Therapy, and Sex Reassignment Surgery in Adolescents*
Josephine Carrier, Union University

Session 51  Environment and Society

**THOMPSON ROOM**
Session Organizer and Presider: David Zeller, University of South Florida

*The Knowledge Economy: Increasing Human Capital on the U.S. I-65 Corridor*
Brandon S. McReynolds, University of Louisville

*Breakfast at McDonald’s: Building Social Capital in Small Towns*
John L. Verburg, Talladega College

*‘We’re Already Playing God…’: Geoengineering Framings in Environmental Movement Organization Discourse Online, 2005-2015*
David Zeller, University of South Florida
Session 52  **Workshop on Teaching Human Sexuality in Sociology and Social Science**

*OCHS ROOM (CONFERENCE WORKSHOP)*

Session Organizer and Presider: Kelly James, Christian Brothers University Memphis

*From Desire Patterns to Partners, Issues in Teaching Sexuality*
Kelly James, Christian Brothers University Memphis

*Exercise on Content Analysis and Slut Shaming*
Eryn G. Viscarra, Georgia College

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Session 53  **Homicide Studies**

*HARDY ROOM*

Session Organizer and Presider: John Boulahanis, Southeastern Louisiana University

*Minority Segregation and Homicide: An Examination of Social Class, Race and Homicide*
Michael Bisciglia, Southeastern Louisiana University

*A Comparison of Homicide Clearance Rates in Chicago and New Orleans: Do Victim/Offender Characteristics Matter?*
John Boulahanis, Southeastern Louisiana University

*Beyond Modus Operandi: Ritual Execution in Mexican Drug Trafficking Murders*
Timothy Clark, University of Northern Alabama
Session 54  **Immigrant Identity, Race, and Ethnicity II**

LITTLETON ROOM

Co-Session Organizer and Presider: Basudhara Sen, Oklahoma State University
Co-Session Organizer, J. David Knottnerus, Oklahoma State University

*The Association Between Perceived Discrimination and Depressive Symptomatology Among the Children of Caribbean Immigrants*

Fabrice Julien, University of Alabama at Birmingham

*M.I.A.’s “Bad Girls”: Orientalism or Empowerment?*

Alshaatha Alsharji, University of Arkansas

*The First-Chapter Device, and the Reincarnation Belief in “I, The Divine. A Novel in First Chapters”*

Samaher Aldhamen, University of Arkansas

*Place, Space and Landscapes in the Creation of a “European Identity” among Migrants in Greece*

DeMond Miller, Rowan University
Sotiris Chtouris, University of the Aegean

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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21**

8:30AM – 11:45AM  Light Breakfast/Break Room Open  WALKER ROOM
8:45AM – 10:30AM  Registration Table Open  WALKER FOYER

9:00AM – 10:15AM  Breakout Sessions (Saturday)

Session 55  **Dangerous Academics? Politicizing the Professional Identity**

OCHS ROOM (CONFERENCE WORKSHOP)

Session Organizer and Presenter: Erin Rider, Jacksonville State University

Description: This workshop will address how to develop a professional online identity as central to the Sociology discipline and spirit of social justice.
Session 56  **Deviance Studies**

**CRABTREE ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: David May, Mississippi State University

*Violence and Popular Media: Examining the Relationship between Movie Violence and Ticket Sales*
  Raymond E. Barranco, Mississippi State University
  Nicole E. Rader, Mississippi State University
  Maria Trinh, Mississippi State University

*Predicting Cyberbullying in Mississippi: The Impact of Alienation, Belonging, and Social Media*
  Janet Giron-Legarda, Mississippi State University
  David C. May, Mississippi State University
  Megan Stubbs-Richardson, Mississippi State University
  Colleen Sinclair, Mississippi State University

*“Us against the World”: An Overview of Groups and Bullying Using Findings from the Reasons for Retaliation Project*
  Sierra Nelson, Mississippi State University
  Colleen Sinclair, Mississippi State University
  Megan Stubbs-Richardson, Mississippi State University
  Rebecca Goldberg, Mississippi State University
  Tawny McCleon, Mississippi State University

Session 57  **Environmental Sociology, Climate Change and Disasters**

**THOMPSON ROOM**

Session Organizer: Lisa Eargle, Francis Marion University
Presider: Ashleigh E. McKinzie, Middle Tennessee State University

*You Don’t Miss It ‘Til It’s Gone: Disaster and Environmental Meaning Making*
  Ashleigh E. McKinzie, Middle Tennessee State University
Session 58  Gender and Work

LITTLETON ROOM

Session Organizer and Presider: Sarah Donley, Jacksonville State University

Does Real versus Ideal Workplace Characteristics Matter more for Job Satisfaction? Exploring Gender Differences
Deniz Yucel, William Patterson University

Just One of the Guys Until Shower Time: Gender Performance and Symbolic Embodiment in the U.S. Military
Christina Steidl, University of Alabama in Huntsville
Aislinn Roxie Brookshire, University of Alabama in Huntsville
Erik Hyska, University of Alabama in Huntsville

A Gendered Analysis of Teacher Self-efficacy in Texas Public Schools
Kim Murray, Texas A&M University – Texarkana
Abbie Strunc, Texas A&M University – Texarkana

Gender Trends in Attending Public Skating Sessions
Assel Kuzembayeva, University of Louisville

10:30AM – 11:45AM Breakout Sessions (Saturday)

Session 59  Public Opinion: Research on Social and Political Attitudes

CRABTREE ROOM

Session Organizer and Presider: Theresa Davidson, Samford University

Exploring Southern College Students’ Attitudes toward Spanking: A Qualitative Study
Ayesha Jihad, Emory University
Melencia Johnson, University of South Carolina Aiken

Stopping the Hate: The Tension between Achieving Supportive and Secure School Environments in U.S. Schools
Brett Lehman, Auburn University at Montgomery

The Denied Scholar and the Disposable People: Tracing the Connections Between Educational and Carceral Racism
Roman Johnson, University of Alabama at Birmingham
Session 60  **Critical Theory as Interdisciplinary Research**

**THOMPSON ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: Joel Crombez, University of Tennessee Knoxville

*Critical Theory and Psycho-social Dynamics: What Can Psychoanalysis Do for Sociology?*

Joel Crombez, University of Tennessee Knoxville

*What Alternative is There? Revisiting Structure and Agency through the Work of Frantz Fanon*

Holly Ningard, University of Tennessee Knoxville

*Emancipating the Mind: Examining the Connection Between Critical Theory’s Emancipatory Practices with Mindfulness Training for Incarcerated Women*

Della Winters, University of Tennessee Knoxville

*Critical Theory for Studies of Social Entrepreneurship*

Emily Medley, University of Tennessee Knoxville

Session 61  **Global Voices: Politics, Planning and Poverty**

**OCHS ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: Brenda Gill, Alabama State University

*Environmental Justice in Sub-Saharan Africa*

Elisha Jasper Dung, Alabama State University

*Politics and Civil Rights Struggle: The Tea Plantation Communities in Sri Lanka*

Ram Alagan, Alabama State University

*Ten Years of Environmental Justice in the USA: Using Sociological Lens to Explain Health Disparities*

Jesse McKinnon, Alabama State University

*Brenda I. Gill, Alabama State University*

*Poverty, Regional Planning and Post War Development Programs in Sri Lanka*

Seela Aladuwaka, Alabama State University

*Conceptualization of Poverty and the Poor in the Historical Literature of Iran: A Cross-Cultural Study*

Karam Adibifar, Metropolitan State University of Denver
Session 62  **Health Inequalities**

**LITTLETON ROOM**

Session Organizer and Presider: Lori Brand Bateman, The University of Alabama at Birmingham

*How the Catholic Church in the United States Accommodates People with Disabilities: A Focus on Diocesan Strategies*
Jonathon Holland, University of Louisville

*Comparing the Health of Romantically Involved Monoracial and Multiracial Young Adults*
Byron Miller, University of South Florida St. Petersburg

*An Exploration of Multi-Level Physical Activity Correlates among African Americans in Low-Resource Communities in Alabama and Mississippi*
LaToya J. O’Neal, University of Florida
Lori Brand Bateman, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Theolishia Smith, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Yufeng Li, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Theresa Wallace, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Mona N. Fouad, The University of Alabama at Birmingham

12:00PM – 1:00PM  **Executive Council Meeting II**

**KINSEY BOARDROOM**

**END OF CONFERENCE**
THANK YOU

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Lifetime Members*

Dr. DeMond Miller – PLATINUM LEVEL
Dr. Kevin Breault – GOLD LEVEL
Dr. Ollie Christian – BRONZE LEVEL

The Mid-South Sociological Association is grateful to all those who have generously contributed to the forty-third annual meeting.

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Dr. Jackie Eller
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NEXT YEAR’S ANNUAL MSSA CONFERENCE

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

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G. Littleton Room
H. Hardy Room
I. Bass Room
J. Wasson Room
K. Olgiati Room
L. Bender Room