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New Faculty – Dr. Stacia Gilliard-Matthews

Stacia Gilliard-Matthews has joined the department as an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice. Professor Gilliard-Matthews earned her B.A. from the University of Maryland at College Park, M.A. from The Ohio State University, and Ph.D. from Arizona State University. Before coming to Rutgers-Camden, Professor

Gilliard-Matthews was an Assistant Professor of Criminology at West Virginia University in Morgantown. Her areas of research focus on the relationships that politics and policies have on social issues (i.e., White supremacist group mobilization, police behavior and discretion, and the treatment of victims as it relates to the

intersections of gender, race, and social class). She teaches Police and Policing, Research Methods (graduate seminar), and Poor, Minorities, and Justice. She also directs the internship program. We are delighted to welcome Professor Gilliard-Matthews to the department.

Faculty News

Professors Ted Goertzel and Sheila Cosminsky have announced plans to retire after long careers at Rutgers Camden. Next semester may be your last chance to take a course with one of these professors, although Emeritus faculty do occasionally teach courses. Dr. Cosminsky plans to continue to live in the area, with some travel during the winter months. Dr. Goertzel will move to southeastern Ohio where his wife's parents live. His house in Medford Lakes is on the market.

The second edition of ***Crack Mothers: Pregnancy, Drugs, and the Media***, a book by Dr. Drew Humphries, has just been released. Editors at Ohio State University Press recognized the continuing demand for the book and made the decision to bring ***Crack Mothers*** out as a paper back.

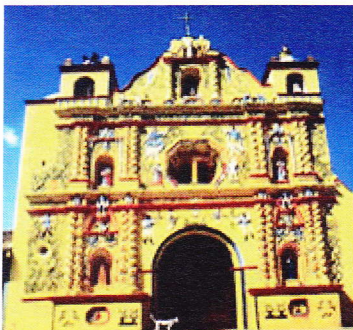
Dr. Siegel was co-organizer of a one-day forum entitled "Giving Voice to the Silent: Children and Families of the Incarcerated."

Sponsored by the Rutgers Center for Children and Childhood Studies in partnership with our department and the Rutgers-Camden School of Law, the event brought together about 100 policymakers, government officials, human service providers, and educators to hear experts - including adult children of incarcerated parents - discuss topics of importance to policy and practice.

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*Iglesia de San Andrés
Xecul, Quetzaltenango,
Guatemala*



Course Notes

Dr. Humphries debuts ***Criminal Violence***, a new offering in the MA program in criminal justice. More advanced than her under-graduate violence class, *Criminal Violence* focuses on varieties of violence, and gives students a chance to explore one variety in depth. In April the seminar will host a dinner and a talk by acclaimed anthropologist Philippe Bourgois in the Urban Research Series. The event is open to graduate students in criminal justice and interested members of the Rutgers community.

Are you interested in obtaining experience in the criminal justice field? ***Internship/Service in Criminal Justice*** (50:202:404:01) may be the course for you and it is being offered this Spring 2012!! You will have the opportunity to earn course credits while obtaining field experience, applying concepts to reality, and observing professionals making decisions. You will also obtain valuable knowledge about other CJS careers and your personal career trajectory. To be eligible, students must be of junior standing with a 2.5 GPA (minimum). If interested contact Dr. Gilliard-Matthews at stacia.matthews@rutgers.edu for more information

Join Dr. Sheila Cosminsky (Anthropology) and Kevin

Emmons (Nursing) in Guatemala during spring break, Mar. 10-18, by registering for 50:070:381 ***Health and Healing in Guatemala: A Service Learning Journey***. This course is cross listed with the nursing school and will focus on the historical, sociopolitical, economic and cultural influences on health and health care delivery in Guatemala. Students will attend five 3-hour seminars in addition to the 8-day trip. In Guatemala, students will work in local Maya communities on a variety of projects including health education and stove building. Students will visit a bone setter, a traditional healer, and a mid-wife; learn from a Mayan scholar on Maya cosmology and a local western health care provider; and participate in a Maya ceremony. Additional trip highlights include: a visit to Lake Atitlan, one of the most majestic spots in all of Latin America, as well as visits to villages on the lake, a coffee plantation, dye cooperative, the urban center of Quezaltenango, ruins of the ancient Maya city of Iximche, and the colonial city of Antigua. Spanish skills are a plus but not necessary. For more information, visit the International Studies webpage at <http://intl-studies.camden.rutgers.edu/guatemala.php> or email Dr. Cosminsky at

cosminsk@camden.rutgers.edu.

Cindy Dell Clark is offering a special topics course in ***Applied Anthropology*** (50:070:386) in Spring 2012. Increasingly anthropology has become an essential source for solving problems in the global and multicultural world. In medicine and public health, in marketing and business, in high tech and global industry, anthropology allows decision makers to better understand the ways cultural context shapes issues at hand. This course will be an overview of the uses of Applied Anthropology, including the study of practical cases from domains such as health and business. Plans are being made for students to get involved in a hands on field project on behalf of an actual non-profit charity, as part of the class. Come try your hand at the practical uses of anthropology, and open your mind to how practical anthropology can be.

In the Spring, Dr. Mazelis will be teaching Urban Sociology and Social Stratification, and both courses will include a civic engagement component as they did last spring, in which all students will complete volunteer hours in the North Camden public schools and write about their experiences.

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Urban Research Series – Philippe Bourgois!

As part of the Urban Research Series, in April 2012 the Department will be sponsoring a visit from acclaimed scholar Philippe Bourgois, who will talk about his work on the moral economy of inner-city violence in North Philadelphia.

His talk is titled “The Moral Economy of Violence in the U.S. Inner City: An Ethnography in Puerto Rican North Philly.” He describes his talk below.

“In an eight-week period, there were sixteen shootings with three fatalities, three stabbings, and fourteen additional ‘aggravated assaults’ in the four square blocks surrounding our fieldwork site. In the aftermath of the shootout that caused the most collateral damage, the dealers were forced off our block, by several mothers who openly threatened to ‘snitch.’ The high levels of violence affecting

daily life in the U.S. inner-city can be conceptualized as operating within overlapping moral economies that propagate even more violence. Most notably and visibly, youth find themselves trapped within social networks that oblige them to participate in solidary exchanges of assistive violence following kin-based and gender-scripted chains of allegiance. Seeking security and asserting self-respect, overwhelmed heads of households proactively engage in violence. Even the instrumental mobilization of violence by drug dealers follow ethical norms and reciprocal obligations recognized as at least partially legitimate by most local residents. The spectacular visibility of interpersonal and criminal violence on inner city streets, however, fuels national discourses of individual unworthiness and cultural sociopathy

that enforce US inner-city apartheid and provide support for the punitive incarceration/exclusion of the socially vulnerable. The moral economy concept allows one to resolve the incongruence between the friendly sociability of daily interactions among our neighbors that so easily turn lethal.”

The Masters program in Criminal Justice Urban Research Speaker Series brings graduate students, advanced undergraduate students, faculty, and researchers together in a collegial forum to discuss ideas and issues relevant to conducting criminal justice and related urban research in Camden. It is designed to make connections among researchers and to engage our students in urban research.



Photo: Fernando Montero, George Karandinos, and Philippe Bourgois, University of Pennsylvania

“In the aftermath of the shootout that caused the most collateral damage, the dealers were forced off our block, by several mothers who openly threatened to ‘snitch.’”

***Congratulations to all
October and
December graduates!***

Student News

Dr. Humphries is interested in talking to students who would like to conduct research on television's representations of violence. She has written on television's images of female murderers and drug addicts, and is gearing up for a multi-program survey of crime dramas and issues related to class, race, and gender. Anyone interested should contact Dr. Humphries at humphri@camden.rutgers.edu

Recent alumna **Ekaterina Kaynarova** joined Professor Ted Goertzel and researchers from Russia and Brazil in authoring an article called "Homicide Booms and Busts: A Small-N Comparative Study." The paper has been tentatively accepted by the journal **Homicide Studies**,

pending some revisions. It includes new long-term data from Russia and Brazil.

Congratulations to **Sean Rickards** and **Krystal Kiper**. The Graduate Admissions Committee was so impressed by their academic record they were awarded departmental fellowships.

Alumna Latonya Hinton, currently in a Ph.D. program in Colon, Germany, is touring with the Dig Flo Band after the release of her first CD, **The Journey Aflame**. She is recording under the name of Akua Naru and you can see her on YouTube.

Dr. Sheila Cosminsky is looking for a student interested in an inde-

pendent study involving analysis of Guatemalan data. Spanish-speaking preferred. All interested students should contact her at cosmink@camden.rutgers.edu.

The long awaited Medicinal Herb Garden has finally been planted with help from Dr. Katrina Hazzard-Donald's **Social Problems class**.

In Memoriam

The department was saddened by the loss of Kano Williams, an undergraduate sociology major who died October 5, 2011. He was a senior at Rutgers and a 1998 graduate of Camden High. The department extends sincere condolences to Kano's family and friends.

***We recommend that
students see their
faculty advisor before
registering for
courses.***

Spring and Winterim 2012 Registration

Registration for spring courses begins Nov. 6 at 10:00 p.m. for undergraduate students with 90+ credits earned and all graduate students, Nov. 7 at 10:00 p.m. for undergraduate students with 58+ credits earned and all graduate students, and Nov. 8 at 10:00 p.m. for all students. Go to <http://soc.ess.rutgers.edu/soc> for the complete schedule of courses.

For more written guidance

about course selections, sociology majors should go to <http://sociology.camden.rutgers.edu/advising.htm> and criminal justice majors should go to <http://sociology.camden.rutgers.edu/advising-cj.htm>

We recommend that students see their faculty advisor before registering for courses. If you are unsure who your advisor is, contact our department

secretary, Sherry Pisacano by email (pisacano@camden.rutgers.edu), by phone at 856-25-6470, or stop by the office at 405-407 Cooper Street, room 108.

Registration for Winterim is underway. For a full schedule of winterim courses go to <http://winterim.camden.rutgers.edu/>

Annual Poster Session

Are you engaged in research this semester as part of a course or an independent study? Plan to present it at the annual Undergraduate Research Poster Session in April 2012. It looks good on your resume and it's great fun as well, save your

work and think about how to present it visually. Further details will be forthcoming. *Note: Students wishing to do independent research for credit during the spring semester should be formulating their projects*

and lining up faculty advisors now. For research involving human subjects, IRB (Institutional Review Board) approval must be sought ahead of time.

Plan to Join the Annual Poster Session in April 2012 Show Off Your Research and Get a Free Lunch!

Continued Stories

Faculty News

Dr. Gail Caputo presented a paper at the annual meetings of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in Toronto.

Dr. Ted Goertzel presented an invited paper on "The Conspiracy Meme: Recent Controversies," at the annual meeting of the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry in New Orleans, Louisiana, over Halloween weekend. The paper followed up on his cover story on "The Conspiracy Meme" in the January 2011 issue of **The Skeptical Inquirer**. The story is now available on line at http://www.csicop.org/si/show/the_conspiracy_meme. In his talk, Dr. Goertzel commented on the many responses and criticisms he received from readers of the journal, especially from "truthers" who believe that the U.S. government was behind the World Trade Center bombings and "births" who deny that President Obama is an American citizen. There was considerable controversy at the meeting about the "global warming skeptics" who deny evidence that human activity contributes to global warming.

Dr. Jane Siegel was invited to speak on two panels at the Centerforce Inside/Out Summit in San Francisco in October.

One was entitled "Children and Families: The Missing Pieces of the Re-entry Puzzle" and the other was "Mothers in Prison."

Dr. Katrina Hazzard-Donald was a panelist at the Capitol Jazz Conference in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the Honorable Ron Dellums and the Congressional Black Caucus, September.

Dr. Gail Caputo had an article published in the latest edition of **Feminist Criminology**. It's entitled, "Shoplifting: Work, Agency, Gender" and was coauthored with Dr. Anna King.

Dr. Joan Maya Mazelis had an article published in April in **Journal of Marriage and Family** called "Relationship Status and Activated Kin Support: The Role of Need and Norms." Her coauthor was Dr. Laryssa Mykyta of the Census Bureau.

Dr. Siegel is principal investigator for a study funded by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission that's assessing reentry services for youth returning to communities throughout New Jersey from various residential facilities.

Dr. Joan Maya Mazelis received a Rutgers University Research Council Grant to pay part of the cost of transcription of interviews from a longitudinal study she began 12 years ago, "*There's Still Plenty of Cloth There to Wrap Myself In: The Fabric of Secular Jewish Identity*"

Course Notes

The course Conflict and Change in Society will be taught as a hybrid internet course in the spring semester. The class will meet in person on January 17, February 28 and April 24 as well as for the final exam. The rest of the sessions will be live online. Professor Ted Goertzel will be offering Methods and Techniques of Social Research as well in a similar format.

We're also offering several interesting elective courses this Spring, including one that's back in our line-up after an absence of several years. *Dance of the African Diaspora* (50:070:344) combines a traditional lecture and discussion format with hands-on training in various forms of African-American dance. **Professor Hazzard-Donald** teaches this unique course, bringing to it her training as both a sociologist and a dancer.

"There was considerable controversy at the meeting about the 'global warming skeptics' who deny evidence that human activity contributes to global warming."