

# SOCIOGRAPH

Sociologists of Minnesota Newsletter

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## With Justice for All 2004 SOM Conference - October 7 & 8, 2004

*Dane Petersen, Minnesota Correctional  
Facility – Red Wing, SOM Co-President-  
Elect*

*Paul Schmid, Gantz Wiley Research,  
SOM Co-President Elect*

“Oh, the age of the inmates I remember  
quite freely . . . inside the walls, yes, the  
walls of Red Wing” - Bob Dylan.

With “The Walls of Red Wing” and  
“Highway 61,” the rumor has run for years  
that Bob Dylan spent time at the State  
Training School for Boys (now the  
Minnesota Correctional Facility – Red  
Wing). He didn’t, but the 2004 Sociologists  
of Minnesota Conference will give you the  
opportunity to spend some time behind  
“the walls of Red Wing.”

With this historic site for the SOM  
Conference, what could be more fitting than  
a theme of justice? Academic justice,  
economic justice, criminal justice,  
international justice – all are open to the  
2004 Conference.

The MCF-Red Wing is nestled in the bluffs  
of the Hiawatha Valley, overlooking the  
Mississippi River, and so October 7 & 8  
should put the conference into the height  
of the fall color in the valley. The keynote  
presentation will follow a social hour and  
buffet dinner in the clubhouse of the  
Mississippi National Golf Links,  
immediately adjacent to the correctional  
facility, on its east side. Arrangements are  
being made with Days Inn for Thursday  
evening accommodations. The Days Inn is  
adjacent to the correctional facility on its

west side (and includes an indoor  
swimming pool). For the ambulatorily  
ambitious, everything will be in walking  
distance.

We are pleased to announce and welcome as  
keynote speaker Mark Carey, President-Elect  
of the American Probation and Parole  
Association, out of Lexington, Kentucky.  
The APPA is a nationwide organization for  
corrections personnel, promoting research-  
based best correctional practices, training  
and education, and effective correctional  
policy, throughout the country. Mark is  
currently the Warden of the MCF-Shakopee,  
Minnesota’s 455-bed sole women’s prison.  
From 1999 until 2003, he was Deputy  
Commissioner of the Minnesota Department  
of Corrections, responsible for statewide  
oversight of probation, supervised release  
services, and state juvenile residential  
facilities. He was responsible for specialized  
programming, such as restorative justice,  
research and evaluation, training and  
technical assistance, sex offender and female  
corrections planning, etc. Prior to this, he  
was Community Corrections Director for  
Dakota County (1991-1998) and, before  
that, Community Corrections Director for  
Dodge, Fillmore, and Olmsted Counties  
(1988 to 1991).

Mark rose to these positions following  
graduation from Moorhead State University  
in 1979, with a B.A. in Criminal Justice. He  
spent his first 3 years as a juvenile  
residential counselor (1979 to 1982) in  
Austin, Minnesota. From 1982 until 1988,  
he was Probation Officer and Planner for  
Dodge/Fillmore/Olmsted Counties. He is  
the epitome of the “applied sociologist,” the

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Send Submissions to:

*Sociograph Gets a Makeover*

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Forward suggestions for updates to Tim Pippert  
<pippert@augsbu.edu>

In order to more easily transfer publication documents  
between SOM Presidents, as well as provide an updated look,  
Sociograph has received a makeover thanks to the Augsburg  
College Public Relations and Communication Office.  
Sociograph is the newsletter of Sociologists of Minnesota.  
We gratefully acknowledge the support of Augsburg College  
and Augsburg’s Department of Sociology.

# SOCIOGRAPH

SOCIOLOGISTS OF MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

## SOCIOGRAPH

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## Call for Organizers

As this year's conference at the Minnesota Correctional Facility – Red Wing, has the theme of "Justice," Paul and I are looking for presentations of justice in any and all forms, academic justice, economic justice, criminal justice, international justice, etc. To this end, we are putting forward a call to organizers of panels, paper sessions, roundtables, poster sessions, or workshops for the conference. While all areas of sociological practice are welcome, sessions organized relating to the conference theme, and sessions organized of particular interest to students and teachers of high school sociology, are particularly encouraged.

While you're marking October 7 and 8, 2004, for the conference on your calendars, why procrastinate? Send that session proposal now, and beat that anxious March rush!

If you are interested in being an organizer, please send a proposal by April 1, 2004 to:

Paul Schmid  
Gantz Wiley Research  
901 Marquette Avenue, Suite 1900  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
pschmid@gantzwiley.com

or

Dane E. Petersen  
Minnesota Correctional Facility – Red Wing  
1079 Highway 292  
Red Wing, MN 55066  
Petersen@redwing.net

## JUSTICE, cont. from page 1

person who has made a difference in his professional world using sociological underpinnings to create effective programming.

Mark has been president or chairman for a number of associations and task forces. In 1993, he was selected as Corrections Person of the Year by the Minnesota Corrections Association and, in 1996, he received APPA's Sam Houston University Award.

Mark is the author of a number of articles and papers. His most recent are "Metamorphosis of an Inmate," Perspectives, APPA, Fall, 2003; "Social Learning, Social Capital, and Correctional Theories: Seeking an Integrated Model," paper presented to the International Community Corrections Association in Boston, November, 2002; and "Restorative Justice Inventory: An Organizational Assessment for Juvenile Justice Agencies," Office of Juvenile Justice Monograph, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, September, 2002. He has also published two books, "Don't Negotiate with Leprechauns: Managing Organization Change" (1997) and "Circles of Harm" (1999).

Mark's reputation as an excellent speaker and his wealth of experience will be a wonderful complement to the Annual Conference program. We feel especially honored that Mark has agreed to join us October 7 and 8.

As in all other years, we will be looking for organizers for panels, paper sessions, roundtables, poster sessions, workshops, etc., for this conference. Please see the announcement on a later page in your Sociograph.

Mark your calendar now for attending the Sociologists of Minnesota annual conference on October 7 & 8, 2004. We'll look forward to seeing you "behind the walls."

## Why Aren't You More Involved In SOM?

The Past President serves as chair of the Nominating Committee for SOM. Although elections do not take place until the Annual Business Meeting in October, nominations may be made at any time. A list of current Board members and officers, and their terms of office, may be found on SOM's web site <[www.sociologistsofminnesota.org](http://www.sociologistsofminnesota.org)>.

Contact James Sherohman today to nominate a colleague or yourself for a board position.

James Sherohman  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
St. Cloud State University  
720 Fourth Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498

## Gifts, Opportunities, and Responsibilities

Gary Jurek  
President, Capitol View Consulting

Thank you very much for the honoring me with the 2003 Distinguished Service to Sociologists of Minnesota award. I would like to give special thanks to the SOM board for bestowing this professional honor on me, to Tom Schmidt for writing and submitting my nomination, and most importantly, to all of you for giving me so many opportunities to share both professional and personal time over the past quarter of a century.

The thesis of my presentation concerns the gifts bestowed on each of us here, the opportunities given to us by a part of the community of sociology, and the responsibilities we have as highly trained professionals to make a difference in the world around us.

### A Little History

Today I would like to talk about the career path and major milestones I experienced that bring me to this podium. As many of you know, I make my living by using my skills as an applied sociologist. Sometimes I work in the world of medical device development, sometimes with organizational development in corporations, sometimes with transitioning institutions, and sometimes teaching stained glass art to young students. The venues might be different, but many of the skills I learned as a sociologist influence my success in each of these areas.

To get to this point in my career, I picked up a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota, rose through the academic ranks from Instructor, Assistant Professor, to Associate Professor, senior contributor to the founding of two undergraduate and graduate curriculums, put in a thirteen year sprint as a world wide trainer in technology, communication skills, strategic planning, corporate initiative consulting, and project management. I am presently in the eighth year of running my own small corporation supporting corporations, professional organizations, and St. Mary's University of Minnesota. Busy times and great fun.

### Gifts

One of the greatest gifts given to me was access to higher education. I am a second generation Polish boy. First to go to college, achieve an advanced degree and pursue an academic career. Meeting Don MacTavish and receiving the gift of his support was a turning point for me. The friendship of many of my colleagues in SOM was also a major gift. What a privilege it is to be given the opportunity to think - to take ideas and play with them. And finally realizing that people will pay good money for these same ideas.

I have learned about the gift of ideas and the amazing things that happen when we share our ideas with others. Collectively we have the power to influence policy, support administration, develop medical devices, define resource allocation, and guide organizational development. These gifts helped position me to develop, learn and give leadership.

### Opportunities

Sociology has given me countless opportunities to develop my capacity as a professional and my world view. My involvement with SOM has given me leadership opportunities and helped keep me connected to the academic world. The skills I have developed allow me to serve my community and to succeed in my own business. In addition, sociology has encouraged me to take risks, explore many directions in my work, deal with change and ambiguity and most importantly, grow things – my skills, my curriculums, my students, and my clients.

### Responsibilities

I believe we all have a responsibility to put our knowledge to work in our communities and apply what we know for the good of many. I believe that we have an obligation to provide leadership for our generation and to give guidance to the next generation. As I grow older, I contemplate the responsibility I have to leave a legacy for the next group of professionals who will be filling our shoes. Most of all we need to use our knowledge as sociologists and professionals to improve the world around us.

### Summary and Conclusion

I would like to leave you with a few final thoughts. Many have singled us out, invested in us, and given us a wealth of gifts to help make us what we are today. These gifts, and our hard work, have given us choices and opportunities as professionals and academics. Our presence here today signifies our success. I would like to impress upon you the importance of meeting the responsibilities that come with these gifts and opportunities. Not just the responsibilities that come with age. But responsibilities that are part of being trained, professional sociologists. I believe it is our duty to reach out to those in need of our skills and knowledge, and the next generation of professionals who will take our place in this profession and this organization.

Once again, thank you for this honor.

# Sociologists of Minnesota Annual Student Paper Competition

Held in honor of Caroline Rose

## Three Divisions

Graduate • Upper division Undergraduate (Juniors and Seniors) • Lower division Undergraduate (Freshmen and Sophomores)

**FIRST PRIZES \$100**

**SECOND PRIZES \$75**

### RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1. The competition is open to any student who has written a paper while enrolled in a college or university in Minnesota during the 2003-2004 academic year. Single-authored papers only.
2. The paper should not exceed 20 double-spaced pages, excluding appendices and references, and should also include a brief abstract.
3. The name or institutional affiliation of the author must not appear in the text or in the abstract. The title of the paper should be included at the top of the first page of the text.
4. The name, telephone number, e-mail address, and mailing address of both the student and the faculty sponsor should be included in a separate cover page. This page should also include the title of the paper and indicate graduate, upper division undergraduate, or lower division undergraduate status.
5. Students who submit papers to this competition may submit the same paper to sessions at the annual meetings of the Midwest Sociological Society or the American Sociological Association.
6. The winning authors are expected to be available to present their papers at the annual meeting, which will be held October 7-8, 2004 in Red Wing.
7. Papers involving human subjects must have Institutional Review Board (or its equivalent) approval, and must note the receipt of approval in the methodology.
8. Three copies of the paper must be postmarked by August 1, 2004.

Submit copies to:

Monte Bute  
Social Science Department  
Metropolitan State University  
700 E. 7th Street  
St. Paul, MN 55106

All entrants receive free conference registration, meals, and membership in SOM. Prize winners also receive motel accommodations. ☺

## Congratulations 2003 SOM Student Paper Competition Winners

Be sure to save your best student papers for the 2004 competition!

### Lower Division Undergraduate:

Lori Cain,

North Hennepin Community College.

"The Juvenile Justice System: Success or Failure?"

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Barbara Johnston

Carly Voshell,

Hamline University.

"Beyond Theory: Realness, Drag and Passing Privilege."

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sharon Preves

### Upper Division Undergraduate:

Paul Peterson,

Augsburg College.

"Community in the Post-Neighborhood Age."

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Tim Pippert

Lindsay Norman,

Bethel College.

"Maternal Role Satisfaction in Full Time Working Mothers."

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jenell Williams Paris ☺

# Public Sociology—From the Perspective of Students

*Kristin Barstad, Augsburg College*

*Tracey Lange, Augsburg College*

As current sociology students, it was fascinating to attend the SOM meeting and have a bird's eye view of the hot push-button topics within the field today. It was especially interesting to see how the proper realm and definition of "sociology" is still being debated. ASA President Michael Burawoy's presentation on the interdependency and interconnectedness of professional, policy, critical, and public sociology was significant to us. His discussion underscored the necessary dynamic nature of sociology, and thus of society. As students we are taught this, but it was nice to see this in actual application.

But his talk had deeper implications than mere application. Because we are burgeoning (and often floundering) sociologists, it played a crucial role in the development of our sociological selves. Burawoy's views and ideas have informed our own view of the realm and definition of sociology.

He made us consider the question—if sociology studies collective behavior, then shouldn't the people being studied be included in the audience? Also, if sociologists want to affect collective action, then isn't it necessary to appeal to the collective?

We'll be the first to admit that we're not exactly Weberian purists—not by a long shot when it comes to the question of sociologists as social activists. But as students, we have always been aware of our roles as receptors of information, and thus have felt under-qualified to pass our own judgments.

For me (Kristin), listening to Burawoy was a nice balance to all of the "Bright Eyes" and "Modest Mouse" CDs I've been listening to these past few years. Why do we think lyricists who highlight the dark and depressing underbelly aspects of American culture, politics, and society have such a strong listener supported base? It's because it is comforting and reaffirming to know you are not alone. Even if you do not know the person, there is still a shared, mutual understanding and sentiment. My experience in listening to Burawoy's presentation was similar, but the message was different. It was more "future-is-now" oriented, and here's a possible solution or plan of action to one's discontent.

Like everyone we've ever come across, we've bounced back and forth between career possibilities, and the question of a shift in major has come up depending on the direction the

"career ball" is bouncing. Sometimes I (Kristin) want to be a sociology professor with a focus in globalization. Sometimes I want to do ground work for "third world" aid organizations, and this has caused me to wonder if a social work degree would be more conducive. Ideally, I would like to combine both. For me, (Tracey) the question has always been about how to combine English and sociology to raise awareness about pressing social and sociological problems (with an emphasis on women's studies). However, for both of us, our desire to study society and affect positive change and reform has remained constant.

All the while we know that there is no discipline more appropriate for such work than sociology, but when so many people are under the impression that the only thing one can do with a sociology degree is teach sociology, there is a problem. However, the solution is not to disengage with those under this impression; rather, it is to educate, inform, and show them sociology and how the study of society serves as a crucial tool in answering the two key questions of "who am I" and "where do I fit in".

Burawoy's emphasis on the importance of public sociology served to broaden the possibilities in answering the question "what can you do with a sociology major" to "what can't you do with a sociology major?" There is so much potential in understanding the construction of patterns in human behavior. We feel that constricting sociological theory to an elite of professionals and a handful of policy makers is counter-productive and purpose-defeating. The public that is the very foundation of societies and all the many schools of thought and study is an audience, and a wide audience that (as the success of Barbara Ehrenreich's Nickel and Dimed and Naomi Klein's No Logo and many others have indicated), is interested and receptive. This says to us that the time is right—now more than ever—for public sociology, (if it has ever been "wrong"?)

Burawoy pointed out that in the rest of the world, all sociology is public sociology, with the U.S. lagging behind, weighed down by our obsession with the professional sphere and too little emphasis on the other three options. He noted that sociology only emerges where there is civil society: the Market—State—Society triangle, stating, "Where there is totalitarianism there is no sociology." Like "Bright Eyes" and "Modest Mouse", Burawoy worries that state and market are becoming too important in American society, and out of this arises profound implications and consequences. He provides a constructive solution in the form of a call to action: "As sociologists, we are committed to humanity and we must help

## Applying a Degree in Sociology to Non-Teaching Professionals

*Barb Goodwin, Minnesota State Representative, 50A*

I was honored to receive the Distinguished Applied Sociologist Award for 2003 from Sociologists of Minnesota. I want to extend my gratitude to the Sociologists of Minnesota, and particularly Dr. Barbara Johnston, my mentor, for recommending me for this honor.

Students wonder what to do with a degree in Sociology. I decided to get my degree in this area because of inspiring teachers like Dr. Johnston – even though I wasn't sure where I would end up. For those students still wondering, my experiences since graduation may give you some ideas.

Fields that apply to a degree in sociology expand as graduates effectively use what they learn and apply it to diverse fields. Of the liberal arts, sociology is perhaps the most valuable degree for students interested in the fields of health care, nonprofit organizations, advocacy, corrections, law, public service, and management just to name a few. The study of group behavior, research methods, and social issues are valuable for both our professional and personal lives.

In the 18 years since graduating from college, I have relied on sociology throughout varied and interesting careers. The path that took me from a degree in Sociology to a successful election in 2000 as State Representative utilized the interest I gained in social issues from my coursework at Hamline University and North Hennepin Community College and the three internships I completed prior to graduation.

Now, let me say something about internships. Any degree without internships is as useless as trying to obtain a professional job without a college degree. Internships are vital to the job hunt! I know too many college graduates who work in low wage, dead end jobs because they didn't have some professional experience when entering the market.

Shortly after graduation and due to the direct experience I obtained through internships, I became a research analyst for the Minnesota House of Representatives. I was one of 436 people applying for the position, and the three internships I completed got me in the door for an interview. From those internships, I decided what I wanted, and maybe more importantly, what I didn't want to do. Two of my three internships were unpaid but all three gave me both public policy and media experience that interested me and were vital to getting the position at the MN House.

In my first two years, I worked on labor and business issues to include employee protections, increasing the minimum wage, prohibiting drug testing in employment except in safety sensitive jobs, parental leave, and a host of other issues. I wrote and analyzed survey results, researched and wrote

legislation, analyzed public policy, completed comparative analyses, interpreted legislative language, met with supporters and those in opposition to bills or ideas, and wrote press releases and press articles. I applied aspects of my sociology degree to all of it.

Within two years, I was promoted to the position of Director of Majority Legislative Services. In that capacity, I managed three divisions: Research, Media and Constituent Services at the Minnesota House. I managed a fair number of diverse professionals with various degrees: journalists, researchers, caseworkers, interns and support staff. I also worked on state budget and bonding issues. Although not often considered a function of sociology, taxes and public financing are based in large part on social research.

After nearly ten years at the Minnesota House, I took a position with the MN Association of Professional Employees – a union - as the Legislative Affairs Director. I lobbied both House and Senate members, promoted grassroots involvement, developed bills and ideas to promote fair employment practices for state professionals, interviewed candidates for endorsement, ran meetings, testified on legislation, wrote newsletters and summarized public policy. Again, I relied on coursework in Sociology, along with my legislative experience.

Being part of the legislative process in any capacity is totally engrossing and consuming. After four years with the union and almost 14 years working with the Legislature, I had a new opportunity. Another graduate in Sociology from Hamline invited me to apply for a position with Hennepin County Children's Mental Health Collaborative as a Principal Planner. Mental health issues were always a strong interest of mine, and my Sociology degree and one of my internships were applicable again.

The Children's Mental Health Collaborative was a fairly new concept in treating children with severe emotional disturbances by forming support teams around the child and family that included school personnel, relatives, neighbors, juvenile justice staff, professionals and others interested in a child's life and well-being. As a Planner, I was in charge of Communications, forming Parent Support Groups, writing explanatory publications, researching new treatments in children's mental health, finding informal services, developing a film on the process, and working with the 17 school districts in Hennepin County – yet another use for what I learned in Sociology.

Within a few years, I was asked to run for state representative in the district that includes Columbia Heights, Fridley, Hilltop and St. Anthony. I continued to work in Children's Mental Health after I won the seat. My campaign, and my life in the legislature, is based on a strong issue agenda that includes

## Applying a Degree in Sociology to Non-Teaching Professionals, cont.

education initiatives, health care access and cost containment (for my senior sociology project, I conducted research comparing health care costs across the metro area), consumer protections, housing and transit.

I am now serving my second two-year term, and even with minority status - I am a Democrat in a heavily Republican controlled House - I successfully passed legislation that improves facilities for people with Alzheimer's, cleaned up the billing practices of utility companies, pointed out waste in budget areas to be used to prevent more cuts in social services and continue to work to pass a Anti-Bullying bill that requires school district to develop a policy to prevent bullying and intimidation – all a result of interests inspired by coursework in Sociology.

With only an undergraduate degree, three internships, and aggressive job searches, the degree in Sociology has provided me with a very rewarding and exciting professional life. And I'm not done yet.

Next year, I will apply for acceptance into the Harvard Master's Degree Program in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Eventually, I would like to teach college level Sociology or Political Science. Currently, I can say that I've approached the Legislative process from all angles – Staff, Lobbyist, and Legislator. Next, I may be able to say that I approached Sociology from both applied and teaching aspects.

Sociologists of Minnesota, thank you again for this great honor. I invite students of Sociology to contact me anytime they want information on internships or applying their degree. We need more Sociologists in the Legislature and other elected positions.

Barb Goodwin, State Representative, 50A  
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St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-4331  
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## PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY , cont. from page 3

hold onto society.”

Time passes and societies undergo shifts and changes. Sociology focuses on the study of the emergence and changes in socially-constructed phenomena. How can we be professionals and advocates in the realm of understanding societal shifts and consequences if we refuse to accept changes in ourselves? If we refuse to accept change, in which little box in the 2x2 table have we confined sociological studies? And ultimately, what consequences (manifest and latent, of course,) will this narrow designation have?

Indeed, sociology and sociologists must simultaneously embrace and transcend these categories. We must continually redefine where we are going without forgetting where we have been. Perhaps this is the true meaning of progress—a continuity of self-education and re-definition. ☺