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DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIOLOGY

Our Department:

- Amy Blackstone, Chair
Associate Professor
- Steven Barkan
Professor
- Laurie Cartier
Administrative Specialist
- Steve Cohn
Professor
- Kim Huisman
Associate Professor
- Ann Leffler
Professor
- Kyriacos Markides
Professor
- Michael Rocque
Instructor

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Social Facts

Newsletter of the University of Maine Department of Sociology

Spring 2013

From the Chair

Greetings from UMaine Sociology! The past year has been busy with many of our students engaged in research and other activities, alumni sharing lots of good news and experiences, and faculty being recognized for their stellar teaching and scholarship, speaking about their work globally and engaging communities locally.

This year we underwent a strategic planning process that resulted in a 5-year plan we're excited to implement. Our plan emphasizes enhancing internship and engaged research opportunities for students and building upon existing strengths in outreach by supporting our faculty's engaged scholarship and enlivening our connections with alumni, community members, and

local organizations. Have an idea about ways you'd like to connect with UMaine Sociology? We'd love to hear from you!

We also kicked off the year by offering students an advanced research course for which they administered and analyzed an online survey of Sociology Department alumni. We thank all who took the time to complete the survey. Your responses have been tremendously helpful as we reflect on our strengths as a department and on areas where we can improve. We include more

(Continued on page 2)



Student Highlights

Elizabeth Joy '13

I came to the University of Maine through a non-traditional path by taking a 4 year hiatus from college after my first year at USM. In 2010 I was accepted to UMaine as a transfer psychology student, and I came as a 23 year old wife, new mother, homeowner, and with 4 years of experience as a Credit Analyst. I live near Belfast, a little over an hour away from campus, and commute to school. I take as many classes as I can at the University's Hutchinson Center in Belfast to save commute time.



(Continued on page 4)

Mark Brunton '13

Since January, I've been working as a research intern at Peck Madigan Jones in Washington, DC. The firm has many clients and covers many legislative issues. I have been researching health care reform, energy legislation and the growing cybersecurity issue.

I have been fortunate to attend the Presidential Inauguration and the White House Garden Tour. I have toured the Pentagon, several of the Smithsonian museums and galleries, and the National Mall monuments during Cherry Blossom season.

I have found the nation's capital to be a wonderful cultural microcosm of America and the world. It's a community of people from many different places who have come

(Continued on page 4)

Faculty Publications and Awards

Faculty Publications & Awards

- Barkan, Steven E., Michael Rocque***, and Jason N. Houle*. 2013. "State and Regional Suicide Rates: A New Look at an Old Puzzle." *Sociological Perspectives*.
- Barkan, Steven E.**, Op-Ed in the Bangor Daily News *Mass incarceration: The great American folly*, February 2013
- Barkan, Steven E.** 2012. "The Open Textbook Revolution." *Notices of the American Mathematical Society* 59(10):1447-1448.
- Barkan, Steven E.** President's Award, Text and Academic Authors Association, June 2012
- Gardner, Susan and **Amy Blackstone**. 2013. "'Putting in your time': Faculty Experiences in the Process of Promotion to Professor." *Innovative Higher Education*.
- Blackstone, Amy**. Op-Ed in the Bangor Daily News entitled "Do You Ignore or Disrespect Older Co-Workers?" January 2013
- Blackstone, Amy**. Op-Ed in the Bangor Daily News *Childless and loving it: Not being a parent has advantages for families and kids*, July 2012
- Blackstone, Amy** and Mahala Stewart*. 2012. "Choosing to be Childfree: Research on the Decision not to Parent." *Sociology Compass* 6: 718-727.
- Blackstone, Amy**. 2012. "Harassment of Older Adults in the Workplace," in *Employment and Older Adults: Ageism and Abuse in the Workplace*, edited by Patricia Brownell and James Kelly. London: Springer-Verlag
- McLaughlin, Heather*, Christopher Uggen, and **Amy Blackstone**. 2012. "Sexual Harassment, Workplace Authority, and the Paradox of Power." *American Sociological Review*. 77: 625-647.
- Markides, Kyriacos C.** "The Sociological Basis of Healing Processes," in John T. Chirban (ed.), *Healing in Byzantium* (Forthcoming, Boston: Holy Cross Press).
- Markides, Kyriacos C.** "The Healing Spirituality of Eastern Orthodoxy: A Personal Journey of Discovery," in John T. Chirban (ed.), *Healing in Byzantium* (Forthcoming, Boston: Holy Cross Press).
- Markides, Kyriacos C.** "American Academia and Eastern Orthodox Christianity," in Vera Shevzov and Ann M. Bezzerides. *Orthodoxy and Higher Education* (Forthcoming, Boston: Holy Cross Press).
- Rocque, Michael A.***, Posick, C., & Zimmerman, GM. (2013). Measuring up: Testing the measurement properties of two self-control measures. *Deviant Behavior*.
- Rocque, Michael A.***, Bierie, DM, Posick, C, & MacKenzie, DL. (2013). Unraveling change: Social bonds and recidivism among released offenders. *Victims and Offenders*.
- Rocque, Michael A.***, & Posick, C. (2012). To review or not review? That is the grad student's question. *The Criminologist*. 37(6). 38-39.
- Rocque, Michael A.***, (2012). Exploring school rampage shootings: Research, theory and policy. *The Social Science Journal*. 49(3): 304-313.
- Posick, C, **Rocque, Michael A.***, Whitaker, K, & Mazeika, DM. (2012). Examining metal theft in context: An opportunity theory approach. *Justice Research & Policy*. 14(2): 79-102.
- Rocque, Michael A.***, Welsh, BC & Raine, A. (2012). Biosocial criminology and modern crime prevention. *Journal of Criminal Justice*. 40(3): 306-312.
- Ferguson, RF, MacDonald, B, **Rocque, Michael A.***, Furstenburg, CT, Horgan, S, Ayles, T, & Saykin, A. (2012). Development of CBT for chemotherapy related cognitive change: Results of a randomized wait-list trial. *Psycho-Oncology*. 21(2): 176-186.
- Other articles are forthcoming... we'll report them to you next year!
- * UMaine Sociology Department Alumni.

(Chair continued from page 1)

about the alumni survey in the following pages.

We're delighted to share our news from the past year. We'd also love to continue hearing from you, our current students, our alumni, and our supporters. Please keep in touch through our department's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/UMaineSociology?fref=ts), webpage (umaine.edu/sociology), drop us a line via email or phone, or stop in to say hello!

As we wrap up another year, say farewell to the Class of 2013, and begin planning for the coming year, I'm reminded of one of my favorite quotes by sociologist Harriet Martineau: "You had better live your best and act your best and think your best today; for today is the sure preparation for tomorrow and all the other tomorrows that follow."

Here's to the best of todays and even better tomorrows!

Faculty News

Cohn receives CLAS Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching and Advising

Professor Steven F. Cohn has received the 2013 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching and Advising. Professor Cohn has taught at UMaine for over 40 years and he is a beloved and highly respected teacher in Sociology and the Honors College. Students rave about Professor Cohn, as do his colleagues in Sociology and Honors.

Students describe Professor Cohn as “awesome,” “amazing,” “brilliant,” “influential,” and “the best” and “the smartest man alive.” Many students also note their “immense respect” for Professor Cohn and his for them. In recent years, Professor Cohn has taken special interest in enhancing the career advising offered to our majors. He created a “Careers in Sociology” booklet that all majors now receive. And for several years, Professor Cohn offered a “Careers in Sociology” course in the department. We are grateful to Professor Cohn for his service to our students, the department, and the university and we congratulate him on this much-deserved honor!



Professors Kyriacos Markides and Steve Cohn celebrate over 40 years with the UMaine Sociology Department.



University of Maine alumni, parents, employees, and friends will contribute more than a million dollars to the

UMaine Annual Fund this year. Many of these gifts are unrestricted, but some donors choose to designate their gifts to a particular college, department, or other UMaine program. *We hope that you will consider making a gift to UMaine's Sociology Department.* In the past, donors have helped send our students to professional conferences and met other financial needs. Private support is crucial to our ability to respond quickly to special opportunities as well as unforeseen challenges. Making a gift only takes a minute! We invite you to visit us at umaine.edu/give, where you can fill out a secure and convenient form to make your gift today!

Grants

- 2012 **Barkan, Steven E.** University of Maine. Awarded \$953 Active Student Learning Micro Grant to fund undergraduate research project of Mary “Molly” Hunt ‘15.
- 2012 **Barkan, Steven E.** CLAS awarded a Fellowship of \$1495 for Mary “Molly” Hunt ‘15.
- 2012 **Blackstone, Amy.** CLAS awarded a Fellowship of \$1950 to fund the undergraduate research project of Shannon Jacobson ‘13.
- 2012 **Blackstone, Amy.** ADVANCE-Rising Tide Professional Development Grant of \$6,071.
- 2013 **Huisman, Kimberly and Amy Blackstone.** University of Maine. Awarded \$6515 AVANCE Grant to review and revitalize the sociology department's policies, procedures, and engagement opportunities.
- 2012 **Huisman, Kimberly.** Maine Humanities Council. Awarded \$1000 to develop the Maine Mother-Daughter Project
- 2012 **Huisman, Kimberly.** University of Maine. Awarded \$1183 Active Student Learning Micro Grant to fund undergraduate research project of Elizabeth Joy ‘13.

Barkan Textbook Lauded

Professor Steve Barkan is receiving good reviews about his textbooks published with Flat World Knowledge last year. Here is just one of the emails he received from a student using his Introduction to Sociology textbook:

I am a senior psychology major at St Anselm College taking intro to soc. I just wanted to write to tell you that your intro to soc textbook is the best textbook I have ever had in college. Thank you for writing it - your work is well appreciated. Thank you.

A revised edition of this textbook has been published this year also by FWK.

Student News

Students Present Posters at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting

Elizabeth “Lizz” Joy ‘13 and Mary “Molly” Hunt ‘15 were selected to present at the 2013 Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting that took place in Boston, MA, in March 2013. Each student created a poster of their research. Here’s a little about each student’s experience in her own words:



Lizz Joy and Molly Hunt with their posters at the ESS Annual Meeting

Lizz Joy: Attending the Eastern Sociological Society was a rich experience for me. Having never attended an academic conference before, I was a little unsure what to expect but I was honored to be selected to go. While there, I was able to present with Professor Kim Huisman about the Maine Mother-Daughter Project at a Roundtable Session and share my own research on the Cultural Contradictions of Mother-

hood at an Undergraduate Poster Presentation Session. It was very exciting to interact with other academics who shared a similar interest in our work! My favorite part of the experience was being able to choose among the hundreds of other Roundtables, Paper Sessions, Poster Sessions, Mini-conferences, and Author-Meets-Critics Sessions to attend. I loved being able to hear about research that hasn't even been published yet. Of course, having a little bit of time to see Boston was really fun too!

Molly Hunt: The Eastern Sociological Society conference was a very rewarding experience and I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to attend. Not only was I able to showcase my research from the past year, but I was also presented with the chance to view fellow sociology students' work. It was refreshing to be surrounded by others my age who share my passion for the discipline, and the magnitude of their own work both amazed and humbled me. I hope to attend another conference again in the future!



Student Highlights continued

(Brunton continued from page 1)

here to affect change and make the world a better place. There are lots of great restaurants and open air markets. Music is everywhere: brass quartets on street corners, guitarists and vocalists in the subway stations and there's even a guy who plays percussion on five gallon buckets in the plaza near my office. It's a great city.

Mark Brunton '13 is a double major in sociology and political science doing an internship in Washington DC.



(Joy continued from page 1)

It was here that I got my first taste of Sociology. I had the good fortune to meet Professor Kim Huisman, who also lives in Belfast and teaches at “The Hutch.” I took her Introduction to Sociology class because I needed electives and it was offered in Belfast at a desirable time. This class first sparked my interest in sociology and it led me to declare a minor in the field. I took more sociology classes both on campus and in Belfast. Kim casually mentioned to me (several times) that I should really consider declaring sociology as a major. Near the end of the spring of 2012 semester, she discussed an opportunity for me to be a research and teaching assistant for her, and this sealed the deal. I will graduate in May with double diplomas; one in psychology with a concentration in developmental psychology, the other in sociology.

My experience as a sociology student has been phenomenal. Though my psychology studies were enriching, interesting, academically challenging, and will be useful, sociology is where my heart is. Through the sociology program, and with Kim, I was able to assist with the development of a community program, the Maine Mother-Daughter Project, which I see making positive social changes in the community I live in. Also within sociology I have been able to design and complete a senior research project, an experience I have found very rewarding and fulfilling. As a teaching assistant and research assistant, I have had experiences unlike any others at the university that will be very applicable as I am applying for jobs. I found all of my sociology courses and professors to be very academically satisfying and enlightening. Together, they have truly developed my ‘sociological imagination;’ something I am very grateful for.

Student News

2013 CUGR Showcase

Five sociology students participated at the 2013 CUGR (Center for Undergraduate Research) Showcase. Here are the abstracts about their research:

Mary Hunt

Sexual Orientation and Alcohol Abuse among Young Women

Faculty Mentor: Steven Barkan

Men are more likely to abuse alcohol than women. For this reason, alcoholism is stereotyped as a masculine disease, which results in the correlates of women's alcohol abuse being frequently neglected. Recent scholarship suggests that there are strong correlations between alcohol abuse and young women's sexual orientation. This study analyzes data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health to investigate the relationship between young women's sexual orientation and alcohol abuse. The study concludes by discussing the major findings of existing correlations between young women's sexual orientation and alcohol abuse.

Shannon Jacobson

Roller Derby: Challenging Gender or Reinforcing Norms?

Faculty Mentor: Amy Blackstone

I will be interviewing ten females from local roller derby teams to understand how "roller girls" express their identities through derby. This study will address two questions: 1) Do participants' identities on the derby track conform to their identities outside of derby? 2) To what extent do participants conform to or challenge gender norms and why? By analyzing answers to these questions I seek to gain a better understanding of how derby participants' identities on the track differ from their identities off the track, and why those identities differ.

Elizabeth Joy

The Cultural Contradictions of Motherhood Revisited

Faculty Mentor: Kim Huisman

Hays posits that mothers subscribe to "intensive mothering;" a child-centered, expert-guided, financially and emotionally intense childrearing method "best" performed by biological mothers that contradicts the individualistic, market-driven culture of the



Participants Mazie Pierce '13, Linda Fogg '14, Molly Hunt '15, Lizz Joy '13, and Shannon Jacobson '13 at the 2013 CUGR Showcase.

US. By analyzing 4 childrearing manuals, two blogs, and conducting 5-7 interviews and 10-20 surveys with mothers, I am examining discourses today compared to those found by Hays in 1996. My partial replication considers changes in society and feminist research during this time frame. Preliminary results suggest that gender neutral images and language as well as father involvement have increased, while the central tenets of intensive mothering have increased simultaneously.

Linda Fogg & Mazie Pierce

UMaine Sociology Alumni Survey

Faculty Mentor: Amy Blackstone & Michael Rocque

We investigated the impact of a Sociology degree on life experiences and career trajectories by surveying University of Maine Sociology alumni. The survey was administered to 381 alumni who graduated between 1941 and 2011. Of the 381 alumni contacted, 84 completed the survey. 64 of those people identified as female and 20 of them identified as male. We found that 89.6% of all respondents were at least somewhat satisfied with their education at UMaine and their Sociology degree. Of that 89.6 percent, 28.6% were very satisfied with their education at the University of Maine. We also found that only 7 of the respondents had not found a job that fulfilled them. The majority of the 89.6% of respondents who were satisfied with their education from UMaine had found jobs following their graduation that fulfilled them. These findings, among others, paint a picture of Sociology alumni and their jobs and lifestyles after graduation. Findings also illustrate the effectiveness of the education received through the Sociology Department. As researchers we believe that this information is important not only to the University of Maine Sociology Department, but also to UMaine when recruiting prospective students.

Sociology Student Award Winners

Sociology Department Awards

Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Sociology Prize:
Elizabeth Joy

Outstanding Senior: Nicole Golden-Bouchard and Elizabeth Joy received the CLAS Outstanding Graduating Senior Award for Sociology.

Outstanding Student Award: Mark Brunton, Nicole Golden-Bouchard, Lizz Joy, Carmen Linden, Mazie Pierce, Kimberly Samuels

Service Excellence Award: Elizabeth Joy

Dean's Lists

Spring 2012

Mary Callaway
Kevin Clark
Ashley Collette
Jacquelyn Donahue
Calvin Forbes
Nicole Golden-Bouchard
Amy Greenleaf
LeeAnn Grindle
Courtney Harnais
Kristina King
Carmen Linden
Sarah Macalister
Marcia Mannarino
Adrian Matos
Ethan Micucci
Rebecca Morgan
Jennifer Moulton
Meghan O'Brien
Mazie Pierce
Helaina Sacco
Brianna Schoen
Sarah Skoniecki
Eric Theiss
Kyle Ward
Alexander Wilder
Cary Williams

Fall 2012

Colin Audette
Paige Bradshaw
Shannon Brenner
Mark Brunton
Abigail Elwell
Linda Fogg
Nicole Golden-Bouchard
Benjamin Hanson
Molly Hunt
Elizabeth Joy
Carmen Linden
Abigail Linn
Ashley McCauley
Christopher Paradis
Mazie Pierce
Michael Poulin
Jasmine Richardson
Kimberly Samuels
Ashara Slagger

Phi Beta Kappa

2013 Recipients of Phi Beta Kappa: Shannon Brenner '14, Mark Brunton '13, Mary Hunt '15, Elizabeth Joy '13, Kimberly Samuels '13, Mazie Pierce '13, and Dianne White '13. Received in 2012: Nicole Golden-Bouchard and Carmen Linden.

AKD—The Sociology Honor Society

The UMaine Chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta, Alpha of Maine, is proud to announce that the following graduating seniors have met the criteria of a minimum 3.5 grade point average in sociology and a minimum 3.3 grade point average overall: Seniors: **Mark Brunton, Nicole Golden-Bouchard, Elizabeth Joy, Carmen Linden, Mazie Pierce, Kimberly Samuels**; Juniors: **Shannon Brenner, Linda Fogg, Benjamin Hanson, Molly Hunt, Emily Puleio.**

American Sociological Association

Six of our top students were awarded the American Sociological Association (ASA) Department Prize: **Shannon Brenner '14, Mark Brunton '13, Nicole Golden-Bouchard '13, Mary Hunt '15, Elizabeth Joy '13, and Carmen Linden '13.** Each student received a free membership in ASA and accompanying journals.

Mark Brunton and **Molly Hunt** have been invited to participate in the ASA Honors Program and will be attending the ASA annual conference in August 2013. (See the Spring 2012 Social Facts Newsletter for more information on the ASA Honors Program.)

The Kornetsky Prize

The Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Sociology Prize Fund was established in the University of Maine Foundation in 2008 for the benefit of the University of Maine, Orono, Maine, with a gift from Conan Kornetsky, Ph.D., a member of the Class of 1948 and their two children, David and Lisa, in loving memory of his wife of 58 years, Marcia Smargon Kornetsky, who was also a member of the Class of 1948. Mrs. Kornetsky graduated from the University of Maine with a degree in sociology. She subsequently was awarded a MSSW from the Boston University School of Social Work and enjoyed a rewarding career in social work with a special emphasis on children. She was a second generation student at the University of Maine. Her father, Isaac Smargonsky, was a 1919 graduate of the University. The 2013 recipient of the Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Sociology Prize is **Elizabeth M. Joy.**

Congratulations to all our graduates!

More News

Michael Rocque Takes Position with the State of Maine

Adjunct Instructor Michael Rocque '05 has been a mainstay in the sociology department over the past few years while he was completing his PhD in Criminology and Justice Policy from Northeastern University's School of Criminology and Social Justice. Mike has taught SOC 101, courses for the Crime, Law, Deviance concentration, and the Survey Research Practicum. In December Mike announced that he has accepted the Director of Research position at the Maine Department of Corrections. He will be overseeing research of programs and outcomes for individuals under correctional supervision in Maine. The position will start in May 2013. We wish Mike all the best as he begins his new career!

Markides Promotes Latest Book *Inner River* with Lectures and Interviews

Professor Markides has traveled the world giving talks and lectures about his studies of Eastern Christianity.

- Lecture/all-day workshop at the International Institute of Integral Human Sciences, Montreal, Canada, July 12-13, 2012.
- Presentation at Sivananda Yoga Center, Van Morin, Canada, July 15, 2012.
- A 90-minute interview on Ancient Faith Radio of Los Angeles (call-in from listeners from around the world via internet connection), September 16, 2012. Link to interview on website.
- All-day workshop at The Abbey, Islesboro, Maine, Sept. 22, 2012.
- Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 23, 2012.
- Interviewed on location by ERT, national television station of Greece, Athens, October 17-19, 2012.
- American Orthodox Church of Orlando, Florida, December 1, 2012.
- Lecture/workshop at Greek Orthodox Church of Akron, Ohio, January 26-27, 2013.
- Lecture at Oberlin College, February 22, 2013.
- Lecture/workshop Greek Orthodox Church at St. Paul, Minnesota, March 30, 2013.
- Lecture/workshop at Seventh Ray Institute, Phoenix, Arizona April 12-13, 2013.

Alumni Survey

A new course was offered in Fall 2012—a Survey Research Practicum. Students learned to complete the survey process from planning to development to execution which resulted in the 2012 Online Alumni Survey. The hands-on course included use of Qualtrics survey software provided by UMaine.

Adjunct faculty member Michael Rocque '05 was the instructor for this course. Mike shares "I really enjoyed working with such talented and engaged students throughout the semester. It is very rewarding to know that not only have the students come away from class with more knowledge, but an actual product in hand that they can continue to explore in the future."

More information and the results of the Alumni Survey can be found on our website www.umaine.edu/sociology. If you would like a printed copy of the survey, let us know and we'd be happy to send you one.

2013 a Good Year for Class of 2005

2013 has been a particularly good year for the alumni we have heard from who received their sociology bachelors degrees in 2005!

- **Michael Rocque '05** and adjunct instructor in the UMaine Sociology Department has received his PhD in Criminology and Justice Policy from Northeastern University's school of Criminology and Social Justice. He has accepted the Director of Research position at the Maine Department of Corrections.
- **Dawn Norris '05** has accepted a tenure-track position at University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and will start in Fall 2013.
- **Jason Houle '05** has accepted an assistant professor position at Dartmouth and will begin there in Fall 2013.

Professor Steve Barkan has been elected vice president/president elect for the Text and Academic Authors Association.

Alumni News

Other Alumni News

- **Gloria Brangwynne '50:** "I enjoyed my time at UMaine especially once I found my way to the sociology department! My favorite instructor was John Romanyshyn. I very much enjoyed my career in social work always on the direct service level. After my graduate degree, I moved from child welfare to counseling in Cleveland. I retired in 1993. I am now 84 years old, living alone in my own home and coping well with Parkinson's Disease."
- **Judith Carducci '56:** "I worked in the Department of Veterans Affairs until I retired, and loved it. It provided many opportunities for leadership. I am since then self-employed full-time as a fine artist and have an international reputation – teaching in the USA and around the world. Professor John M. Romanyshyn was my advisor, honors tutor, and, with his wife Annie, lifelong friend and inspirer. There should be a monument to him! My portrait sketch of him at age 80 is on my website www.judithcarducci.com."
- **Gwen Jones '61:** "I retired from the NYS juvenile justice system fifteen years ago after thirty years."
- **Barbara (Spiller) Currie '62:** "I graduated in 1962 as Barbara Spiller and went directly to the University of Hawaii to get a MSW and spent about 35 years as a Clinical Social Worker, mostly in Southern California working with adults with serious mental illness and specializing at different times on Domestic Abuse, Incest, and Multiple Personality Disorders. In 1999 I decided to go to seminary and get a Masters of Divinity. I graduated from Andover Newton School of Theology in 2003 and accepted a call to a small rural United Church of Christ congregation in Deering, NH. I have enjoyed both my social work career and ministry so much and it all started at the University of Maine!"
- **Ruth Brewer Hussey '66:** "I retired from Penn State University in January 2010 after 34 years as an academic adviser for students enrolled in the Division of Undergraduate who are exploring various degree options and deciding on an educational plan."
- **Diane Fassak '78:** "Maine provided me with an excellent base to develop my skills in social work. I would be willing to "give back" in any way that might be helpful. Although I am in Massachusetts, I began my career working for the State of Maine after my internship senior year. Currently, I spend vacation time there as much as possible. I am also the mother of a Junior studying Mechanical Engineering at Maine!"
- **Michael Leavitt '08:** "I will be the Regional Coordinator for Northern and Coastal Maine working with youth through advocacy work and leadership development at Youth MOVE (Motivating Others through Voices of Experience) . Building skills, community partnerships, policies, and practices for youth who have utilized support systems such as mental health-care, juvenile justice, child welfare, or special education . With a heavy focus on personal responsibility and decision-making, I will work on creating programs in local community for these youth to create an awareness and facilitate programming for youth to find their own voice."
- **Joshua Tuttle '09** let us know that he has received his MA degree from the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Other good news is that he has been accepted into the PhD program at George Mason University. He plans to specialize in stratification and religion and will be working with Dr. Lester Kurtz.
- **Jennifer Moulton '12:** After spending only 4 months at the Humane Society of the United States in Washington DC as an Intern Online Media Outreach Specialist, Jennifer has been promoted to the full time position of Media Manager for the organization! On top of that she became engaged to her long-time boyfriend, Adam Stacey, on New Years' Eve 2012.

It's always great to hear from our sociology alumni! Send us your updates through the form on our website, or by email to laurie.cartier@umit.maine.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!!



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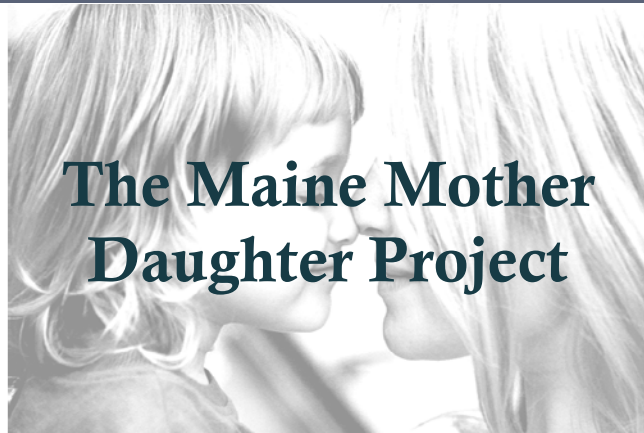
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**Sociology
Department**

Social Facts: The Newsletter of the Department of Sociology



The Maine Mother Daughter Project

In June 2012 Professor Kim Huisman received a grant from the Maine Humanities Council (MHC) to develop the Maine Mother-Daughter Project (MMDP) in Midcoast Maine. The MMDP combines an existing model outlined in the book *The Mother-Daughter Project* (Hamkins and Schultz, 2007), with the goals of public sociology, a movement in sociology that aims to bring academic research beyond the walls of the university to engage with the general public and promote dialogue and understanding. The focus of the original Mother-Daughter Project was on the formation of small mother-daughter groups to bring mothers and daughters together to support mothers and foster the development of strong and resilient girls. The MMDP expands this model by providing opportunities for mothers and daughters to participate in community events that address issues that mothers and daughters face.

The MMDP is based on 3 premises, that it is possible for: (1) girls to stay close with their mothers during adolescence; (2) girls to develop resistance to negative media messages and make it through adolescence strong and confident; (3) mothers from diverse backgrounds to come together to support and learn from each other.

Over the past year, 7 active mother-daughter groups that have developed out of the project, comprising of over 80 mothers and daughters. In addition, the MMDP sponsored five community events that led to dialogue about a range of issues facing mothers and daughters, including a conference that centered around a keynote address by Dr. Lyn Mikel Brown from Colby College, and four film showings (*Cover Girl Culture*, *A Girl's Life*, *The Story of Mothers and Daughters*, and *Who Does She Think She Is?*). The events included dialogue with filmmakers, authors, and activists, who shared their expertise about the topics addressed. The events were well attended, with a total of 249 people attending the five events. The next and final event of this year will be held at the UMaine Hutchinson Center on June 6, at 7 pm, when Sociologist Emily W. Kane, author of *The Gender Trap*, and Professor of Sociology at Bates College, will take a close look at the factors that sometimes lead parents and other adults to reinforce gender stereotypes, even when they are trying to avoid them.

The project would not have been possible without help from the two research assistants, Elizabeth Joy '13 and Tess Walter '13 (PSY-BA), and support from the Maine Humanities Council, University of Maine Hutchinson Center, Department of Sociology and Women's Studies Program.

The University of Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information or veteran's status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, 581-1226.