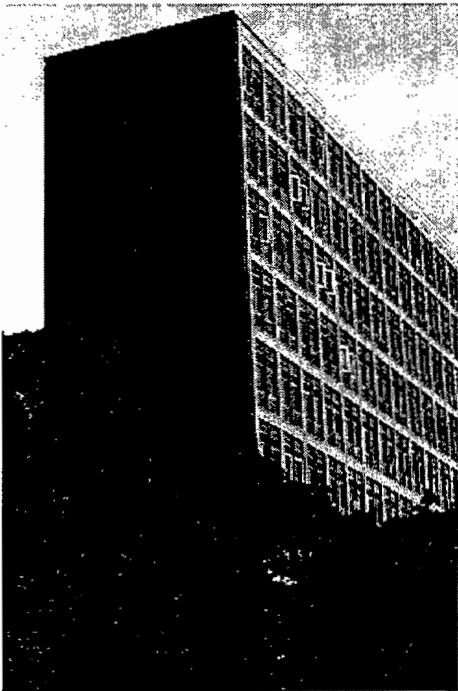

Social Tracks

A Publication of the Department of Sociology and the Department of Sociology Peer Advisors -- Spring 1996



Ethnics." She has already published four book chapters in the general areas of work, women, race, and immigration. Her specialties are in these areas. Michael Dreiling joins us from the University of Michigan. His dissertation is entitled, "Labor, Capital, and Nature in the Struggle over the North American Free Trade Agreement: Patterns of Conflict and Solidarity Around the Politics of Trade Liberalization." This work is based on both in-depth interviews with those involved on all sides of the NAFTA conflict and a network analysis of the relationships between organizations involved in the conflict. His areas of interest are the environment, labor and political economy. These are two fine young scholars and teachers. They will be good for our department: undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty alike.

community policing. This fit well into his expertise and interests in social change, social conflict, and dispute resolution. But perhaps his greatest contribution came from his passion for teaching. He brought the real world and experts into his classroom. He encouraged student research, presentations, and discussion. In his criminology courses, he arranged conference calls in which the students could not only listen to, but question experts: the head of mall security or a gang expert in Los Angeles. His passion for teaching was infectious. He organized the teaching seminar for faculty and graduate students in sociology.

Faculty and students will miss his fine energy, spirit, and wisdom.

Note From the Department Head

Bob O'Brien

Talking to a number of colleagues from around the country, I realize that the funding crisis in higher education has meant severe cuts in the number of faculty and large increases in class sizes at their universities.

Somehow both our department and the university seem to function despite similar cutbacks in our state. Much of the funding burden, unfortunately, has been placed on our students and their families in the form of increased tuition. In the face of this, we made curricular changes that assured our majors access to the courses they need in order to graduate without delays. Our majors no longer have to "beg" to get into "the one class they need to graduate." We also instituted a requirement that all of our undergraduate majors take four 400-level courses. These courses are capped at about 35 students.

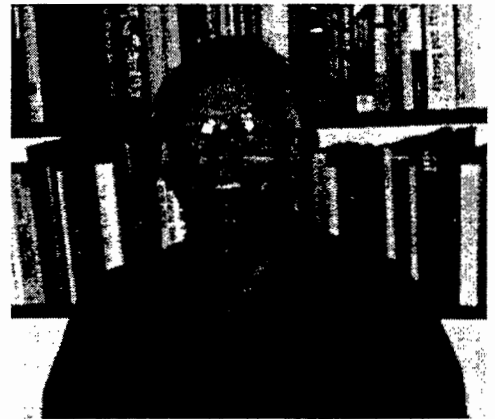
Two new colleagues join the department next year. Mia Tuan from the University of California at Los Angeles, who has been teaching at Grinnell this year, joins us as a new Assistant Professor. Her dissertation is entitled, "'Forever Foreign' or 'Honorary White'? The Salience of Ethnicity for Multigenerational Asian



John Clark

John Clark died shortly before Christmas of this academic year (1995). He died after a long illness, the effects of which were not apparent to many of us until his final year. John came to the University of Oregon in 1990, after serving at both the University of Illinois and the University of Minnesota. In the east (as we westerners are fond of saying), he was elected president of the Midwest Sociological Association, headed his department, served as an Associate Dean, and was named teacher of the year in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

We, of course, knew him best for his work at the University of Oregon. Here he turned his considerable talents to working with and researching the Portland Police Department's efforts to institute



Ben Johnson to Retire

Ben Johnson has been teaching sociology at the University of Oregon since 1957. Johnson received his Ph.D. from Harvard University, and his specialties are social theory and the sociology of religion. His teaching responsibilities have ranged from huge classes in Introductory Sociology to small graduate seminars on Functionalism.

From his vantage point as a sociologist, Johnson has observed different generations of University of Oregon students. Many factors, such as political climate and job opportunities, shape enrollments in sociology. But the greatest activity in the department occurred around spring 1969. Undergraduates and graduate students knocked on faculty doors trying to gain representation and

clout in the department's decision making process.

For some time, Johnson has been a leading figure in the sociology of religion. He has been president of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Association for the Study of Religion. This year, his to-do list includes writing a speech to give in late November, as president of the Religious Research Association. He has published articles in all of the leading sociology journals. The book, Vanishing Boundaries, which he co-authored with Dean Hoge and Donald Luidens in 1993 won the distinguished book award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. His other books include American Mosaic: Social Patterns of Religion in the United States and Functionalism in Modern Sociology: Understanding Talcott Parsons.

Johnson is an accomplished photographer. A vibrant poster of a photograph he took hangs on his office wall. It depicts lines of followers waiting to see Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh drive by in his Rolls Royce at his short-lived communal city in central Oregon. He took this on a two-day trip to Rajneeshpuram in 1985.

Johnson also studied the Shiloh Youth Revival Movement, the largest Jesus People group of the 1960's, which was based in Dexter, Oregon. Along with faculty colleagues and graduate students, Johnson traced what happened to the Shilohites since the movement collapsed in 1978.

Johnson plans to live an active, atypical retirement. In the near future, he will move to a still smaller office, and he will be teaching only one University of Oregon class a year. Although he will spend less time on campus, he is committed to continue as a resource to undergraduates and graduate students.

Johnson and his wife Miriam, a professor emerita, will continue to travel in the United States. They will also go to Europe, where a number of colleagues in the United Kingdom eagerly await Johnson's visit. Johnson also plans to catch up on reading history and literature.

Peer Advisors -- Here To Help

If you are nearing graduation or are unsure about next term's schedule, the Peer Advisors in 709 PLC can help. They can update your progress report, help you understand transfer credits and bring you one step closer to a timely graduation. The office also has many files of old and current class syllabi, graduate school information and applications, as well as internship and career resources. All nine of the Peer Advisors are looking forward to helping you make the most of your academic experience at the University of Oregon. They are available from Monday through Friday for drop-in advising or an appointment can be made by calling 346-5012.

If you want to know what they know, consider becoming a Peer Advisor. For 5 hours per week and a three term commitment, you can earn up to 8 upper division sociology credits. Stop by 709 PLC for an application and more information.

One Hundred Years of Sociology at the University of Oregon

Last November, past and present graduate students and faculty celebrated a century of sociology at the University of Oregon. Former department members came from all over the USA to commemorate this milestone. Others sent letters, telegrams and faxed greetings from as far away as Sweden and Korea. Those who came to the Centennial participated in lively discussions and panels about the history and future of the discipline.

Participants voiced many different opinions about what undergraduates are like today, what really happened to the department during the late 1960's, and what the future holds for sociology and higher education. Almost everyone agreed, however, that their minds and spirits had been enriched by their years at Oregon.

Former graduate students now teach at many universities and colleges, including the University of Arizona, the University of British Columbia, Cornell University and the University of North Carolina. In fact, Oregon sociology has helped shape departments throughout the United States and Canada.



Sociology at Oregon began in the academic year 1895-1896 when Frederick George Young offered a one credit class, Sociology 40. Before joining the Oregon faculty,

Young was president of Albany College, which was to become Lewis and Clark College. Students in Sociology 40 learned about sociological theory, "social forces and laws," and "the natural evolution of social activities and arrangements from their beginnings."

In 1899, the first departmental title was given to sociology in the Department of Economics and Sociology. Among the classes taught that year was "The Debtor Classes," a useful course for those paying off student loans today.

Since the time of Frederick George Young's first class, the Sociology Department has continued a commitment to high quality undergraduate and graduate education. That commitment is exemplified by the many former students and faculty who returned to celebrate the department this November.

Shirley Clark to Address the Class of 1996

Our graduation speaker, Shirley Merritt Clark, is Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Oregon State System of Higher Education. Thus, she has an overview of all of the state colleges and universities. She is both an administrator and a sociologist of the first rank.

In 1957, Clark received her undergraduate degree from Bowling Green State University, with a joint major in Sociology and Psychology, and she graduated Magna Cum Laude. She received her Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 1961. From Ohio State, she went on to become an assistant professor at the University of Illinois.

In 1967, she and her husband, John Clark, joined the faculty at the University of Minnesota, where Shirley taught both Sociology and Educational Policy and Administration. She became a full professor in 1984 and was Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs and

Provost of the University of Minnesota in 1988 and 1989. In August 1990, Shirley Clark was appointed Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs in the Oregon State System of Higher Education. She provides academic vision and leadership for all eight campuses in the system.

As Vice Chancellor, one of Clark's primary concerns is developing and sustaining high quality undergraduate education at the University of Oregon and other Oregon institutions. She brings a wealth of background to that task, ranging from social work in the late 1950's to research on Japanese education in the 1960's to her own teaching experience which spans more than three decades.

Clark has a long list of academic publications, including Faculty Vitality and Institutional Productivity, which she edited with Darrell R. Lewis in 1985. She has never lost touch with individual students and the importance of creating a stimulating educational community for each one.

Faculty News

Joan Acker had an article, "New Prospects for American Labor - A Reaction to a Proposal," published in the new journal Organization.

Val Burris' current work-in-progress includes research on capitalist contributions to political candidates, the network of ties among leading policy-planning organizations, the politics of the middle classes in newly industrializing Asian countries, and the social base of the right-wing Oregon Citizen's Alliance.

Lawrence Carter has articles in Mathematical Population Studies, The Sociological Quarterly, and Population Research and Policy Review.

John Bellamy Foster's book The Vulnerable Planet was recently published in Korean (with the help of Ingyu Oh). He is a Feature Editor on classics of environmental thought for the new journal Organization and Environment. His article, "Virtual Capitalism: The Political Economy of the Information Superhighway" (co-authored with Michael Dawson), will appear in the July-August 1996 Monthly Review.

Linda Fuller recently finished a book manuscript on workers' politics during the 1989-90 revolution in the German Democratic Republic

Dick Gale nears the end of his term as Director of the UO Environmental Studies Program and end of his career at the University of Oregon (effective June 1997). Dick had a major role in establishing undergraduate majors and minors in Environmental Studies.

In the past year, **Ted Gerber** has published articles in the American Journal of Sociology and Post-Soviet Affairs, and has begun a project on social stratification in contemporary Russia.

Marion Goldman presented papers at the Women's Research Center of the University of Lund. She has written about Alice Miller for Capps' and Jacobs' forthcoming collection Psychoanalysis and Religion.

Patricia Gwartney published 2 articles in the Handbook of Women and Work this year, but most of her time has been devoted to running the Oregon Survey Research Laboratory (OSRL).

A session on **Ben Johnson's** career and work will be held this summer in New York at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion. In the fall, Ben will deliver his presidential address in Nashville at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association.

Ken Liberman spent July through March carrying out field research into the practices of reasoning of Tibetan academics at a Tibetan monastic university in India as a senior research fellow for the American Institute of Indian Studies.

Greg McLaughlan published several articles the past year including "Last of the Dinosaurs? Big Weapons, Big Science and the American State from Hiroshima to the End of the Cold War" (with Greg Hooks); "Planning United States Hegemony: Expansion and Intra-State Conflict Over Postwar World Organization in World War II;" "Nuclear Politics on the Pacific Rim;" and "World War II and the Transformation of the U.S. State."

During her sabbatical (Fall/Winter 1996-1996), **Sandra Morgen** completed a significant portion of a manuscript entitled Into Our Own Hands: The Women's Health Movement in the U.S. 1969-1990, and received a fellowship to enable her to spend part of this coming summer pursuing research on women in Viet Nam.

For **Bob O'Brien**, teaching and research remain a joy: from teaching a course in structural equation models to 20 willing graduate students (they were not required to take the course) to researching police killings of citizens (a project sponsored by the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation).

Arlene Stein presented her research on how contemporary US social movements, particularly lesbian/gay activists, and the Christian right, utilize the symbolic memory of the Holocaust, at the Pacific Sociological Association, and at the "Ethics after the Holocaust" international conference at the University of Oregon.

Donald Van Houten and Joan Acker are completing their research on the gender implications of restructuring in a junior college, and expect to finish a book on it over the next twelve months. Don will be on sabbatical during 1997, and taking early retirement beginning January 1999.

Congratulations!

Greg McLaughlan has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.

Linda Fuller has won the Ersted Award for her distinguished teaching.

Ph.D.s have been awarded this year to **Katie Barkley, Michael Dawson, Lynne Isaacson, Sue Johnston, Ann Travers, Recep Varcin, Celia Winkler, and Rowan Wolfe**.

Sue Johnston has accepted an assistant professor, tenure track position at Whittier College, Whittier, California.

Celia Winkler has accepted an assistant professor, tenure track position at the University of Montana, Missoula, Montana.

Riley E. Dunlap (Ph.D., 1973) has been named the Boeing Distinguished Professor

of Environmental Sociology at Washington State University.

Department of Sociology Still Making It Despite Budgetary Cutbacks

In the wake of Measure 5 and decreased spending for higher education, the Department of Sociology has had its share of difficulties in making ends meet. We can't give our students blue books, there are fewer class handouts and classes are getting larger. But, due to the continued support of our alumni and other contributors, the impact has been cushioned considerably.

We are truly grateful to those who have contributed. We'd also like to ask you for your continued support of this department. When the University of Oregon Alumni Telefund calls you, it is possible for you to designate your contribution to go to the Sociology Department or give us a call at (541) 346-5002 and we can set up a meeting with you and representatives of the department and the University.

Sociology Students Recognized for Academic Excellence

Each year, the University of Oregon acknowledges their top students by awarding them the Latin honors Cum Laude (top 10%), Magna Cum Laude (top 5%) and Summa Cum Laude (top 2%). During the 1995-96 academic year, nine sociology majors have demonstrated their academic excellence by being awarded these honors:

Summa Cum Laude: Jillian May Sanders

Magna Cum Laude: Khaya Delaine Clark, Gaia Hoerner, George John Ionnides, Nicholas Rea Tucker

Cum Laude: Elena Maria Borngasser, Marcella Catherine Gemelli, Jennifer Denise Roberts, Michele Larissa Thornton

Phi Beta Kappa Students

Founded in 1776, the Phi Beta Kappa Society is the oldest and most prestigious honorary society in the nation. A membership committee of faculty and staff members screen academic records to

determine which students fulfill the minimum requirements for membership in the society and make recommendations to the membership at large. Following an election meeting in May, elected students are invited to join the society.

The following sociology students have been invited to join:

Khaya D. Clark, Madelyn E. Driscoll, Monica S. Emerick, Nalita W. Kendall, Katelyn S. Oldham, Jennifer D. Roberts, Katheryn D. Rodriguez, Jillian May Sanders, Joan M. Sutherland, Nicholas Rea.

Let Us Hear from You

If you are a graduate of the Department of Sociology, please let us know how you're doing. Send your news to Department of Sociology, 1291 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1291. You can also send e-mail to the department by writing sociology@oregon.uoregon.edu.

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