From time to time faculty can make use of a Faculty Improvement Leave opportunity (sometimes known as a Sabbatical) to focus on their research and professional writing. Dr. John Zipp is spending the spring semester on leave to do just that. In the meantime the management of the department must continue under an acting chair. For those of you who miss seeing John’s picture here, he will return!

The undergraduate computer lab remodeling is complete and is now open. Thanks to some special funding the department has been able to equip a computer lab intended to support sociology majors. The lab is located in Room 277D in Olin Hall. Fifteen computers are available for general use. Each computer is loaded with SPSS and general software. Sociology majors can print up to 50 pages of material per semester at no charge. The lab is open M-F from 7:30 to 5.

On Tuesday, April 4, 2006 the Buchtel College A & S Careers Program will sponsor an alumni panel discussion on Career Options for Sociology Majors/Minors in the Student Union, Room 312 from 1-3 p.m. Some of our distinguished alumni will speak about the types of jobs they have and about how being a sociology major helped them in the job market. You may find it rewarding to attend.

Finally, the department has constructed a “Collage of Success” that consists of the business cards of our graduates. The display is in the sociology department office window. It is worth a visit to see the variety of jobs our grads have been able to acquire. It is a true study of the sociology of
Sociologists in the News

An innovative course offered by the Sociology Department this spring has caught the attention of several local and national newspapers. In February, Dr. Matthew T. Lee’s “Sociology of Love” class was the focus of articles in the Chronicle of Higher Education, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Canton Repository, the Akron Reporter, and the University of Akron’s student paper, The Buchtelite. Dr. Lee was also interviewed by ZTV News Source, the university’s broadcast news program. His class is the first in the discipline of sociology to explore diverse types of love as social practices, including romantic, parental, religious, and altruistic forms. It gives special attention to the actions and teachings of people who have expanded notions of love beyond the in-group (e.g., family, friends, nation) to include all humanity. For example, Martin Luther King, Jr., argued that “power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice.” This kind of love speaks to the positive transformation of the world, while the American cultural fixation on romantic love is much more narrowly focused on meeting the needs of individuals. Thus, the social control of different types of love is a central theme of the course.

Sociology Club

Sociology Club regular meetings are the first and third Wednesdays of each month. We are however shifting the times a little in response to some comments from students. The first Wednesday of each month will be our video series and will start at 6:00pm. The third Wednesday of each month will be our speaker series and will start at 4:30pm. All students are welcome and encouraged to attend our meetings, and better yet to join the club!

Schedule for Sociology Club, Spring 2006:
March 15: 4:30pm, Student Union Rm. 308
Speaker: No Child Left Behind, Impacts on Ohio Schools

April 5: 6:00pm, Student Union Rm. 312
Video: The Storm

April 19: 4:30pm, Location Knight Chemical 312
Speaker: Dr. Feltey, Experiences with Katrina

May 3: 6:00pm, Student Union Rm. 312
Video: Control Room

Dr. Kevin Nofziger, faculty advisor

Dr. Kathy Feltey
Experiences with Katrina
April 19th-4:30 PM
Knight Chemical 312
New Courses for Fall

This fall you can learn about terrorism in the new special topics course “Sociology of Terrorism” which will meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:15-10:30. Also, the “Social Movements” course has made a comeback and will be offered for the first time in several years. It will meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 1:10-2:00.

Sociological Theory—this summer

Sociological Theory is offered this summer during the first summer session May 15 – June 17. Because of this special offering during the summer, it may not be offered in spring 2007.

Reminder-Social Research Methods

Social Research Methods I is only offered fall semester and Social Research Methods II is only offered spring semester. An important issue is that no one should delay taking the required math pre-requisite. The math course the department recommends is Basic Statistics (3470:260).

Evening Courses

FOUR offered one day a week:
3850:365 ST: Sociology of Rock & Roll  M 7:10-9:40
3850:343 Sociology of Aging      W 7:10-9:40
3850:431 Corrections             W 8:10-10:40

Job Opportunities

The Ohio Department of Job & Family Services would like to share this job opportunity. The on-line posting is also available at:  http://statejobs.ohio.gov/applicant/results2.asp?postingID=152377

Apply online:  www.stateofohiojobs.com
Nichole Giesken, SPHR Recruiter
Bureau of Human Resources—Ohio Department of Job & Family Services
30 E. Broad St. 37th Floor Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614) 644-1220—Fax: (614) 466-1048—Email: gieskn@odjfs.state.oh.us
**Need help finding an internship?**

**It’s as easy as A.B.C.!**

A.B.C. stands for Abstinence the Better Choice, Inc. which serves as the foundation for two programs whose primary focus is teaching the benefits of abstaining from premarital sex, alcohol and other drugs. The RSVP (Responsible Social Values Program) is aimed at adolescents in grades 6-8 and emphasizes character, values and abstinence. CATS (Concerned About Teen Sexuality) is offered in grades 9-12 and trains high school students to make a case for premarital sex and alcohol/drug abstinence. In both programs teens actively engage in learning via an inclusive curriculum of skits, games, music and videos.

I knew when I started looking that I didn’t want an internship where I was going to be a “gofer”. I wanted to gain useful knowledge and “hands on” experience. My internship has heightened my exposure and involvement extensively in only two months. Currently I go into Akron Public and Cuyahoga Falls City Schools and perform data collection and survey research. Because this program is partially funded by a grant through the Ohio Department of Health, certain specific guidelines must be met. Obeying these “guidelines” has helped me become more familiar with the grant writing process and its importance to the programs they fund. After observing Abstinence Educators and learning the in-school curriculum, I am eager to start “team teaching” in a few weeks. Being able to relate so much of my experiences to information learned in classes such as Methods, Juvenile Delinquency, Sociological Social Psychology, The Family and Theory has been an added advantage. This knowledge has helped my experiences “gel” together in a manner that is beneficial to everyone involved; the students I interact with, A.B.C. Inc., ODOH and to myself.

After graduation in May I want to continue my education at the graduate level. This internship has taken my “classroom” knowledge and infused it with “real world” experience. I’m getting exactly what I wanted; a learning and gratifying “hands on” experience. I am confident now that I am more qualified to deal with the diversity and struggles that teens in our society face on a daily basis. On that note, everything isn’t for everyone. Make sure when you embark on your internship that you choose a position that will maximize your time and energy as well as be rewarding for your future plans. Good Luck!

Lisa D. Sewell, B.A.
Sociology/Corrections

**Victims Studies Certificate**

The Victim Studies Certificate is an interdisciplinary certificate offered in conjunction with the social work department. We have recently had several majors complete this certificate and they all have found it useful in their work at social service and non-profit agencies. For more information, please contact Rachel Schneider at raz3@uakron.edu or socadvising@uakron.edu.

This year the NCSA annual meeting is being held in Indianapolis at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Union Station. The theme for the 2006 conference, *Making a Difference: Sociology as Social Activism*, is timely and important given the events of the past several years, and the potential for sociology to inform and shape the significant social changes that are called for at this point in history.

The keynote speaker, Walda Katz-Fishman, from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Howard University and Board Chair of *Project South: Institute for the Elimination of Poverty and Genocide*, will give the Ruth & John Useem Plenary Address, “Putting Activism and Movement Building at the Center.” Dr. Katz-Fishman’s work is at the heart of sociology as social activism, and her presentation will help us, as individual sociologists and an organization of sociologists, to forge activist agendas for the future.

NCSA President, Kathryn Feltey, will be giving her presidential address on Friday the 24th, “Doing Sociology to Make a Difference: Commitment, Values, and the Promised Land.” In her talk she will be exploring how research and teaching in sociology can make a difference in our lives, communities, and world, as well as the promise of sociology for students who dream of living in a more just and peaceful world.

The Sociology Club will be making the trip to Indianapolis for the conference with advisor, Stacey Nofziger. For more information on how you could attend the conference, contact Dr. Nofziger at sn18@uakron.edu.

Summer Internships

We wanted to let you know that the sociology department will be offering internships this summer (3850:475: all three summer sessions) to general sociology majors. Unlike the sociology/criminology and law enforcement majors, the internship is not required for the degree but you may consider one. More information on the internship can be found on the sociology department or at our website (http://www3.uakron.edu/sociology/internship05.pdf). As you will see in that information, the first step in doing the internship is to attend an orientation session sponsored by the Center for Career Management. Professor Matt Lee will continue to coordinate the criminology internships, while Professor John Zipp will be responsible for the general sociology ones. If you have any questions, feel free to contact either of them.
New Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Certificates

**Undergraduate Certificate in Racial Conflict**

*Required Core Courses*
3850:421 Racial and Ethnic Relations
3700:422 Understanding Racial and Gender Conflict

*Elective courses (choose four)*
3700:334 Law, Mediation, and Violence
3700:402 Politics and the Media
3700:462 Supreme Court and Civil Liberties
3700:430 Management of Probation and Parole
3850:365 ST: Sociology of Peace and Violence
3850:310 Social Problems
3850:320 Social Inequality
3850:441 Sociology of Law
3230:410 Evolution and Human Behavior
3230:463 Social Anthropology
3400:438 Nazi Germany
3400:454 The Civil War and Reconstruction, 1850-1877
3400:340 African-American Women's History

Electives must include courses from at least two departments

**Undergraduate Certificate in Gender Conflict**

*Required courses*
3850:344 Sociology of Gender
3700:422 Understanding Racial and Gender Conflict

*Elective courses (choose four)*
3700:402 Politics and the Media
3700:334 Law, Mediation, and Violence
3700:375 Women in Politics
3850:365 ST: Sociology of Peace and Violence
3850:365 ST: Sociology of Sexuality
3850:441 Sociology of Law
3850:423 Sociology of Women
3850:455 Family Violence
3230:416 Anthropology of Sex and Gender
3230:463 Social Anthropology
3300:489 Seminar in English: Subversive Women
3300:489 Seminar in English: British Women Writers
3400:340 African-American Women’s History
3400:350 US Women’s History
Special Studies: Women, Film and History
3400:325 Women in Modern Europe
Internship (3 credits, from Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology or History)

Electives must include courses from at least two departments
For more information visit the conflict management website at www.uakron.edu/centers/conflict

PAN AFRICAN STUDIES PROGRAM
Dr. Baffour Takyi, Associate Professor of Sociology is the new Director of the Pan African Studies Program. http://www.uakron.edu/colleges/artsci/panafrican/

You must complete a formal application process to the program in the Pan-African Studies office soon to be in CAS 126. Students need not be enrolled in the certificate program to take Pan-African studies courses.

CORE COURSES:
3002:201 Introduction to Pan-African Studies
3400:260 African American People of the U.S. 1492-1877 or
3400:261 African American People of the U.S. 1877-Present

ELECTIVE COURSES:
2040:254 The Black American
3002:401 General Seminar in Pan-African Studies
3002:420 Special Topics Pan-African Studies
3250:486 Ghetto Economic Development
3300:350 Black American Literature
3300:350 United States Dialects-Black and White
3300:389 African-American Drama
3350:363 African South of the Sahara
3400:260 African-American People of the U.S.
3400:390 World Civilization: Africa
3400:468 African-American Social and Intellectual Issues
3400:486 Special Topic: African-American Experiences in Latin America
3700:327 African Politics
3850:421 Racial and Cultural Intergroup Relations
7750:270 Poverty in the United States
7750:270 Introduction to Social Welfare
7750:410 Minority Issues in Social Work
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**6/19-7/22/06**

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**7/24-8/26/06**

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Bold denotes an evening class