Greetings to my fellow ASA section on the Sociology of Emotions members. Happy December to all of you! As our semesters and quarters come to close and the holiday season kicks in to full gear, this is a time rife with a variety of emotions. There is the excitement of the last day of classes, despair in the midst of grading an endless stack of papers or exams, contentment—or perhaps more negative affect—when we spend time with our loved ones, and joy as we enter a new year. Of course, it is also a very busy time and I hope that you are able to take a moment to peruse this newsletter and the exciting things happening in our section.

Now that we have moved toward two newsletters a year, this is my first newsletter as the section’s new chair.

I want to kick it off by extending a heartfelt thanks to Amy Wilkins, the past chair of the section. Amy not only did a great job leading the section, she was incredibly helpful in passing the baton and left the section in a strong position. After a dip in membership that had us teetering on the edge of 200, our section finished 2017 with 242 members. I am grateful to section members who spread the word about our small, but vibrant section and who offered to sponsor graduate student memberships. I want to give special thanks to Amanda Gengler. Amanda chaired the membership committee and was responsible Section members who wore the buttons talked about how popular they were and the number of people who asked about them. We are hoping to have a similar campaign next year. Stay tuned for correspondence from Jessica Leveto, this year’s chair of the membership committee as she cooks up plans to further increase membership in the coming year.
Speaking of committees, thank you to everyone who stepped up to serve on committees this coming year. So many people were willing to help out that I actually had to turn some people away! The full committees are listed on pg. 3 but the other committee chairs are Linda Francis (Lifetime Achievement), Jennifer Lois (Outstanding Book Award), Long Doan (Graduate Student Paper Award) Gretchen Peterson (Nominations). Rebecca Erickson also agreed to serve as our Public Engagement Liaison, as the ASA works to increase its presence in the media and outreach to the public. Hopefully these efforts will lead to more engagement of sociology in public life, not only for the benefit of sociology, but also to reduce the likelihood that people refer to our work (or the work of political scientists) as gobbledygook! I appreciate everyone who contributes to the section in one way or another.

Although the ASA meetings may feel like a distant memory, Amy and Simone Ilsa-Landa did a wonderful job with the program. We had terrific sessions, a thought-provoking Chair’s hour, and a packed—and damp, after an unexpected rainstorm—reception co-hosted with the Social Psychology and Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity sections. With Eduardo Bonilla-Silva’s ASA theme “Feeling Race: An Invitation to Explore Racialized Emotions,” next year has potential to be an amazing year for research on the sociology of emotions. We hope to capitalize on that and increase section visibility and membership as a result. I recruited Gabe Ignatow, an expert in text analysis, to organize a session on “Feeling Big Data” to consider the overlap between the sociology of emotions and big data. In Gabe’s words, to explore key theoretical, methodological, and substantive issues related to the sentiment-data nexus. Linda Francis and I are working together on a soon-to-be announced Chair’s Hour and Long Doan is organizing a regular session on the Sociology of Emotion. Because of the theme, there are many more emotions-related sessions that I encourage members to check out and consider submitting to. We pulled together a list of the other sessions in the call for papers that may be of interest (pg. 9). As we have in recent years, our roundtables will be co-organized with the Social Psychology section. Natalia Ruiz-Junco will be working with Lynn Chin on that project. The ASA deadline for submissions is 11:59pm (Eastern) on January 11th.

Other important deadlines are those for our awards! We will give three awards this year. The full call for awards is on pg. 8, but nominations for the Lifetime Achievement Award should be sent to Linda Francis (l.e.francis@csuohio) by January 15th, nominations for the Outstanding Recent Contribution Award should be sent to Jen Lois (jen.lois@wwu.edu) by February 1st (books are due by that same date and should be sent to all the committee members directly), and submissions for the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award must be sent to Long Doan (longdoan@umd.edu) by March 1st. All three awards are designated for section members and I encourage you to consider submitting something. However, you can also tell friends who may not be current members about the awards and encourage them to join so that they will be eligible as well!

This issue of the newsletter has a number of announcements for books and articles, but we would love to find a way to get even more members to share publication information. These can be publications of all kinds, whether books, articles, or more public venues (op-eds, blogs, etc.). Please consider sending us your own work or things that you encounter while reading.

I want to close by thanking Amelia Blume. Amelia not only pulled together this fantastic newsletter, but she also coordinates our section’s social media presence. Please “like” the section on Facebook, “follow” us on Twitter, and send along anything that you think should be posted on either social media or in listserv announcements!

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!
Jessica
Section Officers

Chair
Jessica L. Collett
University of Notre Dame
jlcollett@nd.edu

Chair Elect
Lisa Slattery Walker
University of North Carolina-Charolette
lisa.walker@uncc.edu

Past Chair
Amy Wilkins
University of Colorado, Boulder
amy.wilkins@colorado.edu

Council
Seth Abrutyn
University of British Columbia
sethabrutyn@ubc.ca

Marci Cottingham
University of Amsterdam
M.D.Cottingham@uva.nl

Clare Stacey
Kent State University
cstacey@kent.edu

Student Representative
Elizabeth Culatt
University of Georgia
culatta@uga.edu

Secretary-Treasurer
Susan Rebecca Fisk
Kent State University
sfiskp@kent.edu

Newsletter & Social Media*
Amelia Blume
University of Arizona
amblume@email.arizona.edu

Webmaster*
Chelsea Rae Kelly
University of Georgia
kellycr@uga.edu

*Not elected positions

2017-2018 Section Committees

Lifetime Achievement Award
Linda Francis, Chair, Cleveland State University
Kait Boyle, Virginia Tech
Omar Lizardo, University of Notre Dame

Graduate Student Paper Award
Long Doan, Chair, University of Maryland
Erin Johnston, Stanford University
Christopher Moore, King's College

Outstanding Recent Contribution (book)
Jen Lois, Chair, Western Washington University
Jeff Guhin, UCLA
Amanda Gengler, Wake Forest University

Public Engagement Liaison
Rebecca Erickson, The University of Akron

Program Committee
Jessica Collett, University of Notre Dame
Linda Francis, Cleveland State University
Gabe Ignatow, University of North Texas

Nomination Committee
Gretchen Peterson, Chair, University of Memphis
Simone Ispa-Landa, Northwestern University
Karen Hegtvedt, Emory University
Simone Polillo, University of Virginia
Shane Sharp, Northern Illinois University

Ad Hoc Membership Committee
Jessica Levetto, Chair, Kent State Ashtabula
Chivon Fitch, Indiana University Pennsylvania
Joseph Dippong, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Justin van Ness (grad), University of Notre Dame
Grayson Bodenheimer (undergrad), Appalachian State University
New Work In Emotions

Recent Articles:


Cottingham, Marci D., Austin H. Johnson, and Rebecca J. Erickson. Forthcoming. “‘I Can Never Be Too Comfortable’: Race, Gender, and Emotion at the Hospital Bedside.” *Qualitative Health Research* [https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732317737980](https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732317737980)


Norgaard, Kari and Ron Reed “Emotional Impacts of Environmental Decline: What Can Attention to Native Cosmologies Teach Sociology About Race, Emotions and Environmental Justice,” forthcoming, *Theory and Society*


New Books:


The book examines the selection pressures on humans hominin ancestors that, first, rewired the human brain to be religious and then the selection pressures that generate the institutionalization of religion and later religious conflict. These selection pressures revolved around making humans' hominin ancestors more social through the initial elaboration of emotion centers in the subcortical areas of the brain and, then only very late in human evolution as the palate of emotions among hominins expanded, did selection pressures work to enlarge the neocortex of late hominins and early humans. Enhanced emotions, then, are the ultimate origins for what is unique among humans--their sociality, emotionality, religiousity, intelligence, and their capacity emotionally charged religious violence.

My book on emotions—Emotional Lives—was published in hardcover and ebook in the Spring of 2017. As I tried to do even as a young sociologist, in this book I wanted to put in writing what a cultural sociology of emotions would look like and how it would differ from other approaches. But there was more to this book than that: I was also fascinated by others’ works on today’s “culture of emotion,” especially works by sociologist Arlie Russell Hochschild and historian Peter Stearns who argued that in today’s world, emotions are managed, worked on, or repressed by us because, in our everyday lives (workplace, school), emotions are typically regarded as “inappropriate” or even failed expressions of the self. This means that there is a “cool” culture of emotions, one where many of us are on guard against our own emotional expressions and those of others.

But what I saw all around me was something else: a yearning for emotion, even an intensity of emotion that seemed to be telling me that people today thought of emotions as real and authentic expressions of themselves. This was supported over the years by the students I taught who told me this many times and in many ways. So my book became an extended reflection on today’s “culture of emotion” or its “structure of feeling.”

In one chapter I examine how today’s culture of emotion can be seen in its new forms of memorializing deaths and disasters: there is a yearning to remember the awful events that we witness in the suffering of others near us and those who are far away from us, but whose sufferings we witness daily in photos and videos. In short, I look at the many important ways that emotions are truly social things, as Durkheim might have called them. For our emotions are shaped by culture—the languages we speak, the religions we cherish, the deeply felt ideas about race or America or the communities we belong to with others. Today I think that this is a very difficult argument to make since many of us believe that emotions are primarily “personal,” that emotions are what distinguish me from others.
New Books:


_Someone To Talk To_ examines how people use their networks to cope with loss, victimization, despair, failure, and other debilitating stressors.

An important part of this process is deciding whom to turn to for support, and both network theory and common sense would suggest that people will turn to their strong ties, their close friends and family. _Someone To Talk To_ probes this idea based on repeated in-depth interviews with graduate students coping with stress, self-doubt, failure, health problems, and poverty. It then confirms these findings based on nationally representative data on adult Americans. Shifting attention from what people say about themselves to what they have actually done, Small finds that people are far more likely to confide in weak ties than typically believed. And they are more reticent about turning to strong ones than network theory has suggested.

_Someone To Talk To_ reveals the often counter-intuitive nature of social support, helping us understand when people will keep depression secret from their close ones, why people may avoid reporting sexual assault, how people may decide whom to come out to, and why even competitors can be among a person's best confidants.

Amid a growing wave of big data and large-scale network analysis, _Someone To Talk To_ returns to the basic questions of who we connect with, how, and why, upending decades of conventional wisdom on how we should think about and analyze social networks.

For more see: [https://scholar.harvard.edu/mariosmall/someone-talk](https://scholar.harvard.edu/mariosmall/someone-talk)
Query: A New Text on the Social Study of Emotions

I am starting to prepare a new book in the social study of emotions. My interest is in creating a text for classroom use for upper-level college classes. Before I get too far into this project, I would like to hear from members working and teaching in the emotions field. What kind of a book would you like to see available? To my knowledge, there is one excellent introductory book by Scott R. Harris—*An Invitation to the Sociology of Emotions*. My new book would differ in that it would be aimed at courses in Self and Society, not only the sociology of emotions. However, most of the applications and examples would be social studies of identity, authenticity, and emotions. My focus would also be on U.S. culture today, including the rise of mass media and its effects on the self and our emotions. Please email me any of your ideas or suggestions including information on the courses you teach. Many thanks.

Doyle McCarthy  mccarthy@fordham.edu

Social Media Update

Our Social Media platforms, Facebook & Twitter, continue to be a primary way to connect section members to broader sociological conversations. In these spaces we seek to promote member publications, blog posts, & op-eds, while also engaging in a wider dialog with other sections, associations, and sociologists from around the world. Social media is a great way to stay connected to what’s going on in the section between newsletters.

Currently, the section’s Twitter account, @SocEmotions, has 1810 followers, while the section’s Facebook page, Sociology of Emotions Section American Sociological Association, has 931 “likes”

If you have not yet done so, please consider following us on Twitter & liking us on Facebook.
Conference Announcements

Section Awards:

We have several exciting awards to give out at ASA 2018. Please consider submitting a nomination for one or more of the following:

**Section on the Sociology of Emotions Lifetime Achievement Award**

**Deadline: 1/15/2018**

The Sociology of Emotions Section is seeking nominations for the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award. The Lifetime Achievement Award is given every three years to an individual who has made lifetime contributions to the sociology of emotions by developing and extending the sociology of emotions empirically, theoretically, or methodologically. The recipient should have a record of several years of scholarly work (books and/or articles) related to emotions. Past recipients of the Sociology of Emotions Lifetime Achievement Award are available at: [http://research.franklin.uga.edu/EmotionsSection/content/past-lifetime-achievement-awards](http://research.franklin.uga.edu/EmotionsSection/content/past-lifetime-achievement-awards). To be eligible, the nominee must be a member of the Sociology of Emotions section. Nominations must be sent by email by **January 15, 2018**, and should include a brief description of the career contributions that make the candidate deserving of the award. Nominations may include supporting letters in addition to the nominating letter. Please send to Linda Francis, Committee Chair, at l.e.francis@csuohio.edu. The Committee this year is: Linda Francis (chair, Cleveland State University), Kaitlyn Boyle (Virginia Tech), and Omar Lizardo (University of Notre Dame).

**Section on the Sociology of Emotions Outstanding Recent Contribution Award**

**Deadline: 2/1/2018**

The Sociology of Emotions Section invites submissions for the 2018 Outstanding Recent Contribution Award. In 2018, the award will be given to a book published between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2017 that advances the sociology of emotions empirically, theoretically, or methodologically. Nominations must include the full reference of the book and a brief statement (1-2 paragraphs) regarding its merits. These nominations should be sent to Jen Lois ([jen.lois@wwu.edu](mailto:jen.lois@wwu.edu)). Books must be sent to ALL members of the award committee (Jen Lois, Western Washington University; Amanda Gengler, Wake Forest University, and Jeff Guhin, University of California, Los Angeles). Books and nominations must be received by **February 1, 2018**. Both nominators and nominees must be members of the ASA Sociology of Emotions Section. Self-nominations are welcome.

**Section on the Sociology of Emotions Graduate Student Paper Award**

**Deadline: 3/1/2018**

The Sociology of Emotions Section invites submissions for the Graduate Student Paper Award. This award is given to the author(s) of the most outstanding, article length graduate student paper that contributes to the sociology of emotions empirically, theoretically, or methodologically. Authors of eligible papers must be graduate students at the time of the paper's submission. Multiple authored papers are eligible for the award if all authors are graduate students. The recipient(s) will receive a monetary prize. Please send a blinded PDF version of the paper by **March 1, 2018**, to Long Doan ([longdoan@umd.edu](mailto:longdoan@umd.edu)), chair of the committee. The committee this year is: Long Doan (chair, University of Maryland), Erin Johnston (Stanford University), and Christopher Moore (King's College).
ASA Sessions of Interest

Section on Community and Urban Sociology:
Feeling Race and Spatial Inequalities: 50 Years after the Kerner Commission Report
Organizers: Rahim Kurwa (UCLA) rahim.kurwa@gmail.com, Chase Billingham (Wichita State University) chase.billingham@wichita.edu, and Brandi Summers (Virginia Commonwealth University) btsummers@vcu.edu.

Section on Environmental Sociology:
Emotional Politics of Environmental Threats
Throughout Trump’s campaign and presidency emotions have been running high across the political spectrum. From the anger mobilized by the climate skeptic movement, to the use of shock by the White House, the mechanisms through which emotions structure social action and environmental politics are both more visible and more important to understand than ever before. What is the role of “feeling race” in the emotional politics of climate change? How does the natural environment influence identity formation, the strength or composition of social networks, or the role of emotions in the internalization of power? Are there emotional dimensions of environmental justice? This session will examine a range of ways that emotions link personal, cultural and political economic dimensions of society to structure environmental politics.
Organizer: Kari Norgaard (University of Oregon) norgaard@uoregon.edu

Section on Evolution, Biology and Society:
Using Biosocial Measurement Strategies for Understanding Social Experience in a Racialized Society
Organizers: Jacob Cheadle (The University of Nebraska-Lincoln) j.e.cheadle@gmail.com and Bridget Goosby (University of Nebraska- Lincoln) bgoosby@gmail.com

Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities:
Feeling Race: Arabs and Muslims in the United States
Arabs and Muslims are often studied in tandem because they experience anti-Arab and anti-Muslim racism similarly. Papers addressing the US experiences of either or both groups are welcome on this panel. Pursuant to the call of ASA President Bonilla-Silva, we particularly invite papers that explore both negative and positive emotions associated with racial dynamics such as sources of pride, comfort, and solidarity that may mitigate the emotional impacts of fear and anxiety, as well as papers that address the emotions of both dominant and subordinated actors in racialized situations, exemplified by the way chants of “USA! USA!” produce rushes of arrogance for some and a sense of fear for others.
Organizer: Louise Cainkar (Marquette University) louise.cainkar@mu.edu

Feeling Settler Colonialism: Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Perspectives
When sociologists engage settler colonialism as an analytical lens, it becomes clear that we are all on Indigenous homelands. This can be “unsettling,” as Eve Tuck and Wayne Yang (among others) argue. In this session, we invite papers that can help us advance the “unsettling” of American sociology as we interrogate settler colonialism and seek to build meaningful alliances.
Organizer: Michelle Jacob (University of Oregon) mjacob@uoregon.edu

Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology:
Feeling Race and Public Sociology
In the spirit of the conference theme, this session examines public sociology initiatives that “feel race.” Scholars will share experiences working in and with communities, discussing both the challenges and opportunities in creating meaningful social change.
Organizer: Leslie Hossfeld (Mississippi State University) lhossfeld@soc.msstate.edu

Section on Sex and Gender:
Gender/Sex and Emotional Labor in Work and/or Family
Organizers: Catherine Crowder (University of California San Diego) ccrowder@ucsd.edu and Mary Blair-Loy (University of California-San Diego) blair-loy@ucsd.edu
CALL FOR PAPERS: THE 8th MIDTERM CONFERENCE ON EMOTIONS, EDINBURGH, 2018

This is the call for papers for the 8th midterm conference of the European Sociological Association’s Sociology of Emotions Research Network (RN11). This year the midterm will be organized jointly with the British Sociological Association’s Sociology of Emotions Study Group. The midterm conference will be hosted in the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and will take place from **August 28th –30th, 2018.** There will also be a **PhD student workshop on the 27th of August** with Stina Bergman Blix (Uppsala) and Mary Holmes (Edinburgh).

As in previous years, we will give serious consideration to all high quality abstracts on any emotion-highlighting topic. At the same time we would like to offer several focal areas of investigation in which abstracts are particularly welcome.

**Proposed Sessions:**

- **Theorizing Affect and Emotion.**
- **Emotions, Morality and Normativity.**
- **Emotion, Discourse, Media, and Literature.**
- **New Methodologies for Researching Emotions.**
- **Emotions, Civic Action and Social Movements.**
- **Collective Emotions and Identity.**
- **Collective Emotions and Identity.**
- **Digital Sociology of Emotion.**
- **Emotion, Reason and Law.**
- **Emotions in Organizations.**
- **Emotion and Religion.**
- **Emotions in Family and Intimate Life.**
- **Emotions, Power and Status.**
- **Emotions, Finance and Political Economy.**
- **Emotions, Politics and the State.**
- **Migration, Globalization and Emotions.**

Abstracts not exceeding 300 words should be sent by the **2nd of March 2018** to Jonathan at: rn11midterm17@gmail.com. Please indicate whether your abstract is for a specific session listed above. If you want to participate in the PhD student workshop, clearly indicate this in the subject line of the email, and also send a short (one page) description of your doctoral research project. Notifications about the abstracts selected for presentation at the midterm conference will be made by the end of April 2018. Also conference fees, keynote speaker, and links to accommodation will be announced then.
Graduate Student Profiles

Justin Van Ness:

I am a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Notre Dame. My research specialties include cultural sociology, social movements and collective behavior, microsociology, sociological theory, sociology of religion, and qualitative methods. My published work has appeared in Sociological Theory, Contemporary Ethnography, Classical Sociology, Thesis Eleven, Contemporary Sociological Theory, and The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements. Broadly defined, my research examines the micro and cultural processes affecting the production and reception of campaigns for social equality and cultural inclusion.

Currently, my research develops through two main projects. First, through my ethnographic dissertation research with an activist minority religious movement, I explain how the conditions of situations affect the social organization of protest events. Specifically, I explain how the situation structures cognition and emotion and emphasize when situations enable opportunities for novel changes in meaning-making. In the second project, I focus on the micro processes which constrained the Civil Rights campaign in Albany, Georgia. By analyzing the model of social movement organizing and conflict with social control agents, this project explains how internal and external dynamics interact to create emotional and perceptual consequences which affect the production of social movement campaigns.

For more information, including my CV and publications, visit www.justinvanness.com

JM Bacon:

JM Bacon is an environmental sociologist whose work examines relationships between environmental politics, colonialism and its resistance, as well as the role of emotions in social movements and collective identity. JM’s latest article in Settler-Colonial Studies engages the emotional politics of settler-indigenous solidarity efforts (http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/2201473X.2016.1244030). This research examines the role of emotions in solidarity building and collective identity formation amongst would-be settler allies of indigenous cultural survival efforts.

JM is completing a Sociology-Environmental Studies PhD at the University of Oregon (PhD expected Spring 2018). See http://pages.uoregon.edu/jmbacon/index.html JM’s dissertation, “Dangerous Pipelines, Dangerous People Colonial Ecological Violence and Discourses of Risk” uses the Dakota Access pipeline, its resistance by indigenous communities, and the public and legal reaction to that resistance as a case study illustrating the ongoing nature of colonial ecological violence against indigenous communities via environmental policy and practices.
Call for Contributions

The Sociology of Emotions seeks the following:

- Upcoming conferences, calls for papers, special issues of journals or grant opportunities
- Information related to conferences that would be of interest to section members.
- Profiles of graduate students who are on the job market.
- Titles of new or forthcoming books or articles that would be of interest to section members
- Photos from recent conferences.
- Updates on issues that are relevant to the Sociology of Emotion
- Online resources relevant to Sociology of Emotions (Blogs or other relevant electronic resources)
- Other new & innovative materials that would be of interest to section members

Send to Newsletter Editor
Amelia Blume amblume@email.arizona.edu