It's official. I am able to offer the Head's greeting in this year's newsletter without the “Acting” qualifier in my title, having assumed the Head position as of July 1, 2018. For better or for worse, barring impeachment or coup d'etat, I will be penning these greetings for the next four years. I am also especially pleased and honoured to be the first Head of what is now the Department of Sociology and Criminology. As of this past January 1st our name change became official, more accurately reflecting who we are and what we do.

The past year was a busy one for me, as I learned seemingly innumerable things about what Heads are expected to know, and the roles that they are expected to perform. I was extremely fortunate to have benefitted from the accumulated wisdom of no fewer than four former Heads of this department as I ascended the steepest part of the learning curve. I especially want to thank the two still-active former Heads, Elizabeth Comack and Andrew Woolford, for their willing assistance as I made my way through the past year. I'm looking forward to continuing to do my best to meet the ongoing challenges we face in this era of scarce resources, and particularly as we adapt to the roll-out of the new university budget model. Given the degree of commitment to our endeavour that I have seen from my colleagues thus far, I am confident that we will continue to meet these challenges successfully, and continue to thrive as a department.

One truly dark spot on the past year was the death of our friend and colleague Susan Miller, an instructor in the department since 2004. Susan continued to teach until the last possible moment, terribly reluctant to leave her students and her “happy place” at the front of the classroom. I know that she will be sorely missed, but I'm also sure that those who attended her memorial service will never forget dancing their way out of the chapel to Uptown Funk, per Susan’s explicit instructions.

This year’s newsletter again showcases the work of a number of our outstanding students, current and former, undergraduate and graduate. It’s easy for all of us to get caught up in the daily minutiae of our jobs; seeing these stories of our students’ accomplishments is a beautiful reminder of the real reason we are all here. Reading the “Faculty news and Views”, I am once again both impressed and humbled by the productivity of my colleagues, and with the range of areas in which they produce their research and publications.

In the coming year we are looking forward to having Dr. Muhammad Kabir Yusuf, from the Nile University of Nigeria, continue his time here with us as a visiting scholar. We also have a couple of postdoctoral fellowship proposals in the works, as we seek to continue to expand and enrich our departmental community by welcoming scholars from away.

ON THE RADAR

GRADUATE WORKSHOPS

SEPT 7 @ 2:30PM
335 Isbister
Sociology Orientation

SEPT 28 @ 2:30PM
335 Isbister
Feeding and Growing
Your Academic Career

Students! Keep an eye on your email. The University and Department host many great events throughout the year!

GET IN TOUCH

Visit: 318 Isbister
Call: 1 (204) 474-9260
Toll Free: 1-800-432-1960 [9260]
Surf: umanitoba.ca/sociology
STUDENT NEWS & VIEWS
2017–2018 HIGHLIGHTS

As seen on the cover, the Practicum students at their final presentations. For more information on the students, partnerships, and projects from last year, see page 5!

Bernard Zulu receiving an award from St. Paul’s College. For more awards from last year, see page 5! Did you know that there are multiple colleges that Sociology students can join? Find out more atumanitoba.ca/colleges

The Honours students at the Undergraduate Research Symposium. For more information on the students and theses from last year, see page 6!

Views features four student-centered articles. First, Olivia Peters, a Masters’ student, and Lisette Dansereau, a PhD student, share the importance of their work for academia, community, and policy. In a candid interview, Adul-Bari Abdul-Karim, a recent graduate of the Masters’ Program, speaks about his experience in the program and his plans for the future. As you may remember, we profiled PhD student Sally Ogoe last year; to close off our Student News & Views section, we follow up with Sally on the continued importance of her work and share an excerpt from a recently published interview.

QUESTIONING OUR ASSUMPTIONS

OLIVIA PETERS

Olivia Peters is a Masters’ student in Sociology and Criminology and is in the second year of her program. Currently, her studies focus on risk assessment and violence prevention in intimate relationships. Over the past year, Olivia has worked extremely hard to develop her research experience both in the field and in academia. Presently, she is working on three research projects as a research assistant (1) the Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative with Vulnerable Populations (Dr. Jane Ursel), (2) The Multi-Faces of Intimate Partner Violence Across the Prairie Provinces: Men as Victims (Dr. Cheryl Fraelich), and (3) Dying at Home (Dr. Laura Funk). Her experience includes qualitative interviewing, quantitative and qualitative data analysis, and survey development.


While her work is primarily geared toward academic audiences, giving back to the community is what keeps herself grounded in her work. Currently, Olivia is a board member for the Manitoba Organization for Victim Assistance, an organization that serves as a support and advocate for the family members of homicide victims. She also volunteers her experience in program evaluation and qualitative interviewing for Snowflake Place for Children and Youth Inc., an advocacy centre using multi-system collaboration for child abuse investigations.

Overall, as a principle, Olivia believes it is important to continually question current assumptions within academia and policy. Within our world, the frequency and severity of domestic homicide is persistent; thus, it is Olivia’s view that these issues require a deeper understanding in order for academia and policy to develop new methods of problem solving. Ultimately, it is this continual questioning and drive to seek new approaches that makes Peters’ work meaningful to community, academia, and policy.

CONSTANTLY LEARNING

LISETTE DANSEREAU

Lisette Dansereau is a recent graduate of the Masters’ program in the Sociology and Criminology Department, having successfully defended her Masters’ thesis in July 2018. Her thesis research was on emotional labour in frontline care work, in which she assessed current theoretical approaches to emotion and care, as well as investigated the influence of the structural features of systems and policies on the emotional experiences of workers. Through her research, Lisette hopes to influence public policy regarding formal

CELEBRATING SUCCESS
OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

There is no doubt that the Department of Sociology is home to committed, passionate, and inspiring students. To reflect this, Sociability was revamped last year to emphasize student achievements. This year, we’ve expanded further to include even more outstanding student stories! In this issue, Student News & Reviews features four student-centered articles. First, Olivia Peters, a Masters’ student, and Lisette Dansereau, a PhD student, share the importance of their work for academia, community, and policy. In a candid interview, Adul-Bari Abdul-Karim, a recent graduate of the Masters’ Program, speaks about his experience in the program and his plans for the future. As you may remember, we profiled PhD student Sally Ogoe last year; to close off our Student News & Reviews section, we follow up with Sally on the continued importance of her work and share an excerpt from a recently published interview.

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and informal care, with the goal of improving the experience of people doing the work of care and, by extension, improving the experience of people receiving help and support. Her work also troubles perspectives of care that remain overly medicalized and thus somewhat dehumanized and depersonalized. Lisette is currently working as a research assistant with Dr. Laura Funk (Sociology) on a SSHRC-funded project investigating violence and older adults and with Dr. Christine Kelly (Community Health Sciences) on a CIHR-funded project investigating direct-funded home care. Through her research assistantships, Lisette has co-authored a handful of articles in various stages of publication, all with a concentration on older adults or people working and acting in a support role among older adult populations. She presented preliminary findings regarding aggression and victimization in retirement residences at the 2017 Canadian Association on Gerontology annual meeting. Over the past year she has also had the opportunity (and miraculously found the time) to teach four sessions of Introduction to Sociology. In July 2018 Lisette was awarded the Jack MacDonell Scholarship for Research in Aging through the Centre on Aging. Lisette is now beginning her PhD studies in the Faculty of Community Health Sciences under the supervision of Dr. Christine Kelly. Lisette’s philosophy is that you are never too old to learn something new!

In the following interview, Abdul talks with us about his academic journey through the Masters’ Program, his research on foreign-educated immigrants, and his short and long-term goals. Abdul offers sage advice to incoming students, with an eye towards the international student experience.

Q: What was your experience like in the Masters’ program?

A: I had a high quality overall academic experience, program satisfaction, and educative student life as a graduate student. The Masters’ program introduced me to inspiring and motivational professors, supervisors, and mentors who made my transition into the new academic environment smooth and appreciable, after having taken my Honour’s degree in my country of origin, Ghana. The support staffs at the Department of Sociology and Criminology were also always responsive to my program needs and beyond. My wonderful colleague graduate students were also supportive throughout my graduate experience. Despite my academic and research challenges, the readiness and responsiveness of my professors, support staffs, and colleague students made me have a memorable and successful graduate experience.

Q: How did the courses you took help you in attempting to achieve the goals that you set for yourself in your program?

A: The graduate courses I took were super helpful in achieving my primary goals as a graduate student. My goal in the Masters’ program was to become an independent scholar with critical thinking abilities, scholarly vigour, and competence in creativity, as well as to increase my theoretical and applied lens to broaden and enhance my research capabilities. I have great interest and passion in culture and social relations, especially on youth migration and their economic participation in the labour market of the host economies. The Masters’ program introduced me to both applied and theoretical courses which have given me the practical experience and training to achieve my academic and professional goals. As a young sociology scholar who is interested in researching into immigration issues, graduate courses on topics including quantitative research methods, qualitative methodology, critical perspectives on human rights, sociology of education and sociological theories were all useful and aided in my engagement and development of academic and research competence.

“…international discussions by graduate students of diverse cultural origin increased my critical thinking abilities and enabled me to reflect and connect my practical experience in other cultural contexts. …”

Q: What was your Masters’ thesis about? How did you go about finding a faculty advisor to work with?

A: My Masters’ thesis was about the challenges foreign-educated immigrants encounter in their attempt to have their credentials assessed to enable them to access regulated professions that commensurate their training and labour market experience in Manitoba. Finding a faculty advisor for my graduate project commenced prior to the start of the program after going through faculty members’ profiles and convinced that Dr. Lori Wilkinson had projects and research interests related to my academic and research goals. Having taken her quantitative research method course in my first semester, I was convinced about my earlier decision to choose her as my graduate advisor, because she introduced a lot of research possibilities and opportunities in the area of immigration studies and policies which I found very helpful. Dr. Wilkinson has been instrumental in my graduate experience, program satisfaction and success, since she has consistently helped me in developing my academic talents such as research skills, teaching ability, presentation skills, writing skills, and preparation of fellowship or scholarship applications, among other useful skills that made my graduate studies successful, memorable, and fulfilling.

Q: What are you planning to do now that you have finished your Masters’?

A: Having gained outstanding academic and research skills from the Department

GRADUATE REFLECTIONS

ABDUL-BARI ABDUL-KARIM

3
of Sociology and Criminology in general, and from my inspirational and motivational graduate advisor, Dr. Lori Wilkinson, I am planning of imparting my acquired knowledge into the immigration research field. After spending a couple of years in the immigration and research employment sector, I intend to come back for a PhD in Sociology, with specialization in immigration studies to better contribute to the academic and research fields. This would help me achieve my long-term goal of assisting marginalized groups in society, in various capacities, to have equal and equitable opportunity in successfully accessing the labour market and realizing their dreams.

Q: Two things that can make or break a student’s experience are the student culture in the Department and peer support. What was your experience with these during your time in our Department as a graduate student?

A: Different cultural orientations and outstanding support from my colleague students were significant contributors to my graduate success. The diversity in approaching and provision of culture-related scenarios and international discussions by graduate students of diverse cultural origins increased my critical thinking abilities and enabled me to reflect and connect my practical experience in other cultural contexts. My peers were always ready to share their perspectives during classroom engagements and were tolerant to contributions by all students.

Q: What do you see yourself doing with your future career as a Sociologist?

A: As a young Sociologist who is interested in immigration studies and policies, I see myself working on projects that inform policies that enable immigrants and refugees resettle successfully in Canada. I am interested in working with immigration agencies and institutions that provide assistance to immigrants and refugees in order to make their transition into the new academic, social, and economic systems successful and to enable them gain access to their dream jobs. I also aim to contribute my quota to the research field by exploring and researching on the best and appropriate means of integrating immigrants into the labour market to allow them access to employment that match their educational qualifications and training.

Q: What words of wisdom might you have for students considering graduate work in Sociology at the University of Manitoba, including international students?

A: The Department of Sociology and Criminology is an awesome destination for graduate work considering the availability, readiness, and high responsiveness of advisors of diverse research interests and skills. The Department provides graduate students with the option of choosing their own graduate advisor after they have explored and interacted with professors related to their areas of research interests. These advisors help you shape your research interests and guide you throughout your graduate research and even connect you to further studies or career placements. As a graduate student of international origin, I can confidently say that the Department has awesome personalities and assistance that would make transition into the new academic environment smooth. The assistance provided by professors, support staffs, and colleague graduate students always makes students of international origin feel at home. Cultural diversity is a significant feature at the Department. It does not alienate international students but rather makes them feel part of the academic community. Hence, I would recommend the Department of Sociology and Criminology as the destination for potential graduate students, including students of international origin.

CONTINUING TO SUCCEED

SALLY OGOE

Sociability profiled Sally Ogoe last year as a PhD student making waves. This winter, Sally caught our attention again, after she was featured in a Global Citizen article by Jackie Marchildon. We include an excerpt adapted from the article here and follow-up with Sally on her academic motivation.

Sally Ogoe is a female genital mutilation (FGM) scholar who grew up in Ghana and moved to Canada when she was 25 to complete her Masters. While in class one day, Sally was shocked to hear that there were instances of FGM in Canada. She had known about it back home, as it was a cultural practice that was discussed in school, but even there she had never known anyone who had experienced it. In school, her teachers had spoken of it as a practice to be abolished, a social issue that held the country back. Upon hearing about FGM in Canada, Sally dove into the subject for her thesis and produced a paper about how criminalizing FGM failed to put an end to the practice, an idea echoed by others involved in FGM research. “I think it has to be more than that because immigrants coming into the country have also their own cultural practices, they also have things that they identify with — how [some] people might see FGM might be different than those who have gone through it,” she said. “Criminalization plays a role, but not the only role,” Sally said.

While there are a number of reasons women might feel pressured to follow the ritual — in some communities, FGM is a cultural practice that acts as a sort of rite of passage that all girls go through, for others, it’s required for marriage — not all women want to participate in it or perpetuate it. Criminalization can work as a support tool — an inarguable excuse for why not to go through with FGM — for women who do not want to continue the practice with their daughters. “The law steps in to back them up, and informs them of their rights in Canada,” Sally explained. Moving beyond criminalization, Sally and the other scholars interviewed all agreed that one intervention that can help in preventing FGM is an emphasis on Canadian citizenship.

Chatting with Sociability about her work, Sally says, “I believe that we are the change we seek. My research interests have drawn me to address the diverse issues that immigrants face (more specifically female genital mutilation).
Focusing on marginalized and vulnerable immigrants settling in the country is vital especially in the age of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals where 'no one is to be left behind'. For several countries being member states of the UN confers some sense of accountability to implement measures that influence inclusive policies. Governments also support academic research that sheds light on the challenges of vulnerable immigrants and assisting settlement agencies. This presents the platform for the larger community to adopt measures based on an understanding of the diverse needs of its members and ensuring accountability of the government on policies and legislations which are enforced on immigrant groups.

### STUDENT AWARDS

**Wanda Hounslow, Katelyn Mackenzie, and Olivia Peters** received the SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship (Masters).

Katelyn Friesen received the Tri-Council Masters’ Supplement Award.

Jeffery Biegun, Tiffany Hall, and Jason Pchajek received the University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowship.

Quincy Berens and Wanda Hounslow received the GETS Faculty Award.

Abdul-Bari Abdul-Karim, Wanda Hounslow, and Sally Ogoe received the Faculty of Arts Conference Travel Award.

Abdul-Bari Abdul-Karim, Olivia Peters, and Ella Rockar received the Faculty of Graduate Studies Conference Travel Award.

Abdul-Bari Abdul-Karim and Ella Rockar received the Faculty of Arts Endowment Fund.

Kaitlyn Obedzinski received the Lillian Webb, Arthur Webb, and Elsie M. Webb Graduate Scholarship (Arts).

Cerah Dube and Jeffery Biegun received the Canadian Sociological Association Outstanding Graduating Student Awards.

Abdul-Bari Abdul-Karim and Aminil Islam received the Manitoba Research Data Centre Fellowship.

Manzah-Kyentoh Yankey received the Usports Academic All-Canadian Award.

Bernard Zulu received the Matthew, Elizabeth, Marjorie, Charles, and Irene Meder Scholarship from St. Paul’s College for outstanding academic achievement.

### CONFERENCE PAPERS, PUBLICATIONS, & MORE

Renee Hoffart presented a paper at the RESOLVE Research Day entitled Intimate Partner Violence and Intergenerational Trauma among Indigenous Women, completed a report for the Government of Canada's Policy Centre for Victim Issues entitled Victim Services in Canada, and Completed a literature review and environmental scan for Sexual Assault Services of Saskatchewan as part of Saskatchewan’s first sexual violence action plan.

Kevin Schachter co-authored a report on The Regulation of Group Plan RESPs and the Experiences of Low-income Subscribers with Dr. Jerry Buckland (Professor, International Development Studies, Menno Simons College), Dr. Gail E. Henderson (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, Queen’s University).

Erin Scott worked with Dr. Malcolm Doupe (Community Health Sciences) on a Program Evaluation of Chronic Care in Winnipeg.

Ella Rockar attended the Commonwealth Summer School at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, with the theme of designing and creating sustainable communities.

Students! Please email Margaret Carrie to keep your award, conference information, and other activities updated and to have your accomplishments featured here!
HONOURS THESES 2017 – 2018

Kwene Appah “Lost in Translation: How Lack of Fluency in their Heritage Tongue Affects 2nd Generation Immigrant Identity” (L. Wilkinson, advisor)

Abbie Dessler “Shifting the Lens: An Analysis on the Outcomes of Intimate Partner Violence in Contemporary Society” (J. Ursel, advisor)

Isabel Dibb “The Curated Self: An Examination of Gender Stereotypes via Self-Presentation” (S. Bookman, advisor)

Cerah Dubé “The Overincarceration of Indigenous Women: From Responsibilization to Healing” (E. Cornack, advisor)

Ho Yin Fan “How Does Foreign Credential Recognition Affect Immigrants’ Upward Mobility in the Canadian Labour Market” (L. Wilkinson, advisor)

Cheyenne Slonowski “Redefining Mental Disorder in Ghana” (C. Fries, advisor)

Alexandra Stephensen “Vulnerable Victims: Specialized Needs and Social Responses” (J. Ursel, advisor)

Cyma Tolaj “Reborn Again: Addressing Corporal Punishment in Post-war Kosovo” (J. Durrant, advisor)

Paul Turner “Mental Health Issues in Members of the Canadian Armed Forces” (T. Peter, advisor)

Diana Anthony Ubokudom “Many Are Called, None are Chosen: The Underrepresentation of Indigenous People on Juries in the Canadian Court System” (F. Cormier, advisor)

MASTERS THESES 2017 – 2018

Jeffery Biegun “A Validation Study of the ‘Problem Video Game Playing Test’ (PVGT) in an Undergraduate University Sample” (J. Edgerton, advisor)

Mateja Carevic “Deconstructing Transitional Justice in Croatia: Understanding Peacebuilding Developments in the Context of Conflicting Discourses and Competing Truths” (R. Smandych, advisor)

Efe Ehigiato “Nigerian Immigrants’ Experiences Accessing and Receiving Health Care Services in Canada” (L. Funk, advisor)

Rômulo Estevan Schembida de Oliveira “Police and Market: The Creation of Pacifying Police Units in Rio de Janeiro” (R. Smandych, advisor)

Worlanyo Dovoh “The International Criminal Court and Africa: A Critical Analysis of Competing View of the Success of the Court in Protecting Human Rights in African Countries” (R. Smandych, advisor)

Noelle Dietrich “The Closure Factor: An Autoethnographical Analysis of the Justness of Restorative Justice After Murder” (C. Axelrod, advisor)

Jack Shen Yi “A Multinomial Logistic Regression Analysis of Youth Gambling in Manitoba Using Cycle 2 of the Manitoba Longitudinal Study of Young Adults” (J. Edgerton, advisor)

Kaitlyn Obedzinski “Behavioural, Motivational, and Coping Correlates of Problem Gambling Risk in a Sample of Canadian University Students” (J. Edgerton, advisor)

FACULTY NEWS & VIEWS

REMEMBERING SUSAN MILLER

Susan Wright Miller, 64, passed away peacefully in her home on Sunday March 25, 2018. She was surrounded by the loving embrace of her sister, Sandy Smith, and son, Marcus Miller. It is with great sadness and much love that the family said goodbye to their beloved Daughter, Mother, Sister, and Nana. Susan will also be sorely missed by her many friends, former students and co-workers.

Susan was quoted as saying, “I am never happier than when I am teaching – in front of a classroom is my happy, normal place.” She was truly an inspirational professor. As a former student writes, “I was extremely lucky to have had Susan as my professor, and because of her I am now pursuing an honours degree in Sociology. She had a way of keeping lectures extremely interesting with her sarcasm, humour, and personal anecdotes. She never failed to light up the room and get all of us laughing, even at times when the course material was dry. She was the first professor I had on my first day of University, and to this day I still find that many of my fondest memories from University so far have been made in her lectures. While I never got to know her very well personally, I am sad to see her go, and I feel that it is a huge shame that no one else will have the pleasure of learning under her. My deepest condolences go out to her family and friends. I hope that the knowledge that she inspired one student brings her peace. She will be dearly missed.”

Congratulations to all of our amazing students on their accomplishments this past year!
Susan wished to be remembered with happiness and to have her full life celebrated by those she left behind. In her memory, treat yourself to one of her guilty pleasures – a mocha frappuccino, some toast and cheese whiz, or a handful of jujubes – while you listen to one of her favourite songs – Bohemian Rhapsody, Back in the USSR, or Uptown Funk. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Winnipeg Humane Society in Susan’s memory.

KABIR YUSUF’S REFLECTIONS

NOT EXACTLY WHAT I EXPECT: RESEARCHING MEDIA FRAMING OF BOKO HARAM VIOLENCE AS AN AFRICAN VISITING PROFESSOR AT THE U OF M

I was chatting with a friend about my visiting position at the University of Manitoba, and he asked, “why Winnipeg?” In retrospect, if I am to be asked the same question again, having experienced the University of Manitoba’s Department of Sociology and Criminology, the support from both the faculty and the supporting staff, the friendliness of the people of Winnipeg, my answer will simply be “why not Winnipeg?” Why not Winnipeg because, the amount of the life-changing strides I have achieved during my stay as a Visiting Professor, makes the time looks magical. It is pleasantly surprising to me, seeing that I could do that much in this, relatively, short period of time and I give much of the credit to the support I have received from the Department.

DEVELOPING RESEARCH PROPOSAL

I have always been interested in the mediated messages and their impact on human behavior, from as common as the decision about the restaurant to have a dinner to as important as enacting a public policy that will affect the lives of everyone in a community, a region or a country. In hindsight, I started developing a research proposal about media framing of Boko Haram violence around the end of 2014 just after Boko Haram’s suicide bombings in Maiduguri and Kano (2 large cities in northern Nigeria) which claimed more than 200 lives and left many with life-threatening injuries. As complex as Nigeria has always been with more than 500 different languages, many religions, complex political misgivings and the deeply divided media of mass communication across many fault-lines, Boko Haram suicide bombings and its likely ‘divisive’ media framing was a big issue coming into the mix and a game changer of the existing dynamics. It deserves global attention, or so I thought. At that moment, I was convinced that as an academic living in the area where Boko Haram attacks where happening, I had the responsibility to, at least conduct research and document my findings of this violence, what it means in its local contexts, and how the local media were framing the news about it and why. By the early 2015, my research proposal was ready and it was time for me to get in touch with other professors working on similar concerns to work together on the project. I went to the internet in search of the like-minds.

THE CONTENT MATTERS THE MOST: I WAS BLOWN AWAY

I decided that Canada would be a good place to analyze my data and write my research report for its reputation of being a quiet place with a vibrant academic culture that is competing favorably in the Global North. I first contacted the University of Alberta’s Head of the Department of Sociology, and she responded passionately and found the content of my proposal "significant". In her reply to my email, she copied a Nigerian Assistant Professor at her Department, Temitope Oriola whose research interest was similar to mine. We exchanged couple of emails, and he decided that Professor Russell Smandych of the University of Manitoba’s Sociology and Criminology Department was a better qualified senior academic to receive me as a Visiting Professor and therefore referred me to him. Smandych and I exchanged a couple of emails, and Professor Andrew Woolford, the Head of the Sociology Department at the time issued me a letter of invitation after which the Faculty of Arts provided a letter supporting my visiting appointment.

To be honest, the level of professionalism and academic honesty that inspired the chain of references from the University of Alberta’s Head of the Department of Sociology, to professor Oriola, to Professor Smandych none of whom I have ever met before has swept me off my feet. And here I am, from one remote corner of the planet to another, just relying on the "significance" of the content of my research proposal.

I arrived at Winnipeg’s James Armstrong Richardson International Airport, on the early morning of 4th, July after about 33 hours of flying and about 50 hours of leaving the shores of my country. You can bet, I was exhausted to a fault. On my arrival, Professor Smandych had already started his summer vacation but went out of his way to come down and pick me from the airport, and he had already booked a hotel room for me a day earlier while Dianne Bulbaek and other support staff of the UofM’s Department of Sociology and Criminology arranged for my office space and the necessary facilities in the office. Arriving into a situation that everything has been taken care of including things I didn’t anticipate left me with no option than to focus on my research work squarely, which I did with a satisfying success.

MY MISSION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

While still in Nigeria, during the back and forth emails between the professors here in Canada and I in Nigeria, I had the
opportunity to work as the communication consultant of MAFITA, a UK-aid funded skills project for the marginalized young people in northern Nigeria, the region where Boko Haram was most active. Here I came into closer contact with the environment of the violence as I had to shuttle between some of the states through the military roadblocks and checkpoints across the highways of northern Nigeria. This gave me a whole new perspective about Boko Haram and the social structure that produced them in the first place. By the time I arrived at the University of Manitoba, I had gathered enough data that was ready for analysis and my mission was to work towards deciding the right channel to disseminate the findings of my research. After consulting with Professor Smandych, in the first few days I decided that the best way was to publish a book on the topic and by the end of the first month of my arrival, my book proposal was ready. Since then, I have already received positive responses to my book proposal from two internationally acclaimed publishers.

"THIS IS OUR CREED": A PUBLIC PRESENTATION AND FURTHER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

I was pleasantly overwhelmed by the amount of interest about my research at and beyond the Department of Sociology and Criminology. I worked towards giving a talk about my research and my upcoming book to share with the public what my research was all about. Again, the generosity of the Department of Sociology and Criminology blew me away, from providing the venue, to sponsoring video coverage, designing and disseminating public posters, to mention but a few. All hands were literally on the deck trying to make my talk a success. The Head of the Department, Frank Cormier, the supporting staff of the Department including Dianne Bulback, Donna Alexiuk and Margaret Currie and of course Professor Russell Smandych have put so much into the success of the talk and I am grateful to all of them. I gave the talk and it ended up becoming a nice platform for some spirited conversations with multiple perspectives about the possible outcomes of my research. A number of postgraduate students in attendance showed interest in getting involved at the level of focus groups, which I am considering involving into the research. Meanwhile, I have also already started a conversation with other scholars about possible research collaborations in the future.

IT WASN'T JUST SCHOLARSHIP: THERE WAS LIFE IN WINNIPEG

If my experience in Winnipeg is boring to you because it is too bookish, I can understand. But the truth is, there is a lot more to my Winnipeg experience than just the academia. There is a lot to see in this old city especially in the downtown and I have had the opportunity to see a couple of things.

A friend told me about the Fringe Festival that was taking place downtown as part of the summer events. I have never heard about it before. In case you are a novice like me, the Fringe Festival is an annual cultural event established since 1988 that showcases talent from all over the world. Attending some of the shows downtown introduced me to a different Winnipeg than the one I knew at the UoFM, a bustling Winnipeg, full of life and theatre talent.

Folklorama was another event that caught my imagination in Winnipeg. Attending the Metis people's pavilion has introduced to a part of the history of Winnipeg that is very relatable to me. It made a lot of sense that the next pavilion I decided to attend was that of the African people in Winnipeg. I was pleasantly surprised to know that the community of African people have been organizing this event as part of Folklorama for the past 20 years.

Other everyday activities that made my stay in Winnipeg worthwhile included eating at a great East Indian restaurant, driving to the country side, going to movie at the St Vital Mall with my hosts Leona Wiens and Art Pfeffer, and biking from St. Norbert to the Forks with Russell Smandych and skipping my lunch for BDI ice cream.

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017

Sonia Bookman published two books, Brands and the City: Entanglements and Implications (Fernwood Publishing) and screening Justice: Canadian Crime Films, Culture and Society (Routledge), as well as an article entitled “Urban Imaginaries in Canadian Crime Film: Entanglements of Crime and Place in Running with the Hitman” (in the Annual Review of Interdisciplinary Justice Research).


Elizabeth Comack published a book, Coming Back to Jail: Women, Trauma, and Criminalization (Fernwood Publishing) and wrote an op ed for the Winnipeg Free Press entitled “Pain ingrained for women in Manitoba jails”.

Annette Desmarais was awarded a SSHRC Insight Grant for her project Changing Farmland Tenure and Food Sovereignty on the Canadian Prairies. She also published a book on food sovereignty entitled Public Policies for Food Sovereignty: Social Movements and the State with Routledge Press and three co-authored articles and reports related to her ongoing research including: “Investor ownership or social investment?; Changing farmland ownership in Saskatchewan, Canada” in Agriculture and Human Values and Education vs. groceries: University student food insecurity in Manitoba and Who is Buying the Farm? Farmland Investment Patterns in Saskatchewan, 2003-2014, with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Chris Fries was awarded a University of Manitoba University Collaborative Research Program grant for his project, *Sense of Coherence as a Psychosocial Determinant of Settlement Experiences and Health and Wellbeing Outcomes of Refugee Newcomers*.

Laura Funk published a number of articles including, “Carers as system navigators: Exploring sources, processes and outcomes of structural burden” (in *Gerontologist*); “The emotional labor of personal grief in palliative care: Balancing caring and professional identities” (in *Qualitative Health Research*); and “Implications of the shifting landscape of residential care for volunteers’ lived experiences and role involvement” (in *Aging International*).

Gregg Olsen presented a paper at the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences on “Regulatory/Protective Legislation: The Third Pillar of the Welfare State”.

Tracey Peter published co-authored articles on “More than a feeling? An empirical analysis of the dual-continua model on a national sample of lesbian, gay, and bisexual identified Canadians” (in *Journal of Homosexuality*) and “An empirical investigation of suicidality disparities among sexual minority youth using a Canadian school-based population cohort study” (in *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*). Tracey was also awarded a SSHRC Insight Grant for her project, *The RISE Project on SGM-inclusive teacher education in Canadian universities*.

Russell Smandych presented a paper on the benefits of systematic cross-jurisdictional research on youth justice system reform at the conference on “Canadian Youth and Justice: Advancing Ideas, Evidence and Innovation”, sponsored by the Canadian Criminal Justice Association and Ministry of Child and Youth Services, Ontario, held in Toronto. He also presented a co-authored paper on the effects of twenty years of youth justice reform in Canada (1995-2015) at the Department of Criminal Justice, University of Winnipeg, which is now forthcoming in the *Manitoba Law Journal*.

Lori Wilkinson published two book chapters entitled, “The Labour market experiences of refugees in Canada” and “How do migrants become Canadian citizens”, as well as two co-authored government reports, *The Economic Integration of Refugees to Canada: A Mixed Record and Resettling on the Canadian Prairies: Integration of Syrian Refugees*. Lori also won the Teaching Excellence Award from the Faculty of Arts and the Fellow of the Year Award from St. John’s College.

Andrew Woolford organized a Reunion for the Assiniboia Residential School which received considerable media attention, and published a co-edited a volume entitled *Canada and Colonial Genocide* (with Routledge). Andrew also won the Internationalization Award at the Arts Celebrating Arts Event, and his book, *This Benevolent Experiment: Indigenous Boarding Schools, Genocide and Redress in North America*, was a finalist for the 2017 Lemkin Book Award from The Institute for the Study of Genocide.

**FACULTY BOOKS FROM 2017**

**we can do better**

**Brands and the City: Entanglements and Implications for Urban Life**

*Bookman, S.*  
*Brands and the City: Entanglements and Implications for Urban Life* (2017, Routledge)

From commercial retail environments to branded urban villages, brands are now a salient feature of contemporary cityscapes and are deeply entwined in people’s everyday lives. Drawing on extensive empirical material and recent theoretical developments in the sociology of brands, this book explores the complex relationship between brands, consumption and urban life. Covering a range of brands and branding in the city, from themed retail stores to branded cultural quarters, it considers how brands provide new ways of mediating identities, lifestyles and social relations. At the same time, the book reveals how brands are bound up with forms of socio-spatial division and exclusion in the city, defining what kinds of practices, images or attitudes are acceptable in a particular place, constituting cultural boundaries that keep certain people and activities out. With attention throughout to the social and cultural implications of the presence of brands in urban space, Brands and the City examines how people engage with brands, and how brands shape urbanites’ experiences and sense of self, society and space. An extensive exploration of the processes through which brands are integrated into cities, their effects on everyday experiences and their role in the policing and governance of urban space, this book will appeal to scholars across the social sciences with interests in urban studies, consumption and branding.

**Camfield, D.**  

In *We Can Do Better*, David Camfield lays out a theoretical basis for political and social change that fuses critical Marxism with insights from anti-racist queer feminism. This reconstructed historical materialism treats capitalism and class as inextricably interwoven with gender, race...
and sexuality. After discussing today’s most influential social theories, Camfield uses this theory to analyze a range of issues that face our world today, including climate change, growing social insecurity and the persistence of sexism and racism. Camfield argues that the key to achieving change for the better is social struggle, and he offers ideas about moving from social theory to social action.


An increasing number of rural and urban-based movements are realizing some political traction in their demands for democratization of food systems through food sovereignty. Some are pressuring to institutionalize food sovereignty principles and practices through laws, policies, and programmes. While the literature on food sovereignty continues to grow in volume and complexity, there are a number of key questions that, in our view, need to be examined more deeply. These relate specifically to the processes and consequences of seeking to institutionalize food sovereignty.

The contributors to this book analyse diverse institutional processes related to food sovereignty, ranging from community-supported agriculture to food policy councils, direct democracy initiatives to constitutional amendments, the drafting of new food sovereignty laws to public procurement programmes, as well as Indigenous and youth perspectives, in a variety of contexts including Brazil, Ecuador, Spain, Switzerland, UK, Canada, USA, and Africa. Together, the contributors to this book discuss the political implications of integrating food sovereignty into existing liberal political structures and analyse the emergence of new political spaces and dynamics in response to interactions between state governance systems and social movements voicing the radical demands of food sovereignty.


Screening Justice is a scholarly exploration of films that focus on crime and justice in Canada. Crime films are pivotal for understanding and shaping Canadian sensibilities by setting out widely available templates for thinking about crime and justice in Canadian society. Spanning disciplines and examining films from across Canada, Screening Justice is the first comprehensive Canadian volume on crime films that takes up cultural criminology’s call for more critical scholarly analyses of the interplay between crime, culture and society.


Social inequality. Selective political attention. Insufficient funding and access. Caring for Children provides a comprehensive, interdisciplinary examination of the crisis in care for Canadian children and their caregivers.

This feminist collection explores the politics of the care crisis, drawing on historical and contemporary materials to document policy shifts and associated social movement responses, and using comparative examples from across Canada to illustrate how public policies have both caused and emerged from the crisis.

Analyzing the connections between services and programs, the contributors reveal how childcare, parental leave, informal care, in-care caregiver programs, and child tax benefits affect the well-being of Canadian children, caregivers, and families. They explain how social movements are fighting to change contemporary approaches to the care of children and affirm the urgent necessity of questioning Canadian political attitudes and arrangements.
Murray, J., Linden, R., & Kendall, D. *Sociology in Our Times, Seventh Canadian Edition* (2017, Nelson)

Bob Dylan wrote “The Times They Are a-Changin” in 1964, and those words remain relevant even now in this new millennium. Sociology in Our Times, Seventh Canadian Edition, brings to light the relevance of sociology to students’ lives in this rapidly changing world. The text highlights the profound importance of understanding how and why people act the way they do, how societies grapple with issues and major problems, and why many of us are reassured by social institutions – including family, religion, education, government, and the media – even at times when we might like to see certain changes occur in these institutions. Like previous editions of this widely read text, this seventh Canadian edition is a cutting-edge book in two ways: (1) by including a diversity of classical and contemporary theory, interesting and relevant research, and lived experiences that accurately mirror the diversity in society itself, and (2) by showing students that sociology involves important questions and issues that they confront both personally and indirectly through the media and other sources. This text captures the interest of a wide variety of Canadian students by taking into account their concerns and perspectives. As the title suggests, topics were selected to be most pertinent to “Our Times,” including the widening income gap between the rich and poor, new and emerging definitions of family life, changing constructions of sexuality, and ongoing concerns related to our environment. In doing so, we hope that students will learn to critically examine their social world, and to further contemplate the social world they hope to live in moving forward. Sociology in Our Times captures the excitement of this new era and aims to help students understand how sociological theory and research can be applied to both everyday life and the pressing social issues we face in this rapidly changing world.


Now in its second edition, *Pursuing Health and Wellness* looks beyond health as a mere absence of disease to explore the structural and behavioural factors that affect it. Advocating for the creation of healthy societies throughout, the text’s three-part organization examines health as a social construct; the social and personal determinants of health and wellness; and the components of our health-care system.


Settler colonialism in Canada has traditionally been portrayed as a gentler, if not benevolent, colonialism—especially in contrast to the Indian Wars in the United States. This national mythology has penetrated into comparative genocide studies, where Canadian case studies are rarely discussed in edited volumes, genocide journals, or multi-national studies. Indeed, much of the extant literature on genocide in Canada rests at the level of self-justification, whereby authors draw on the U.N Genocide Convention or some other rubric to demonstrate that Canadian genocides are a legitimate topic of scholarly concern. In recent years, however, discussion of genocide in Canada has become more pronounced, particularly in the wake of the findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. This volume contributes to this ongoing discourse, providing scholarly analyses of the multiple dimensions or processes of colonial destruction and their aftermaths in Canada. Contributors draw comparisons to patterns of colonial destruction in other contexts, examine the ways in which Canada has sought to redress and commemorate colonial harms, and present novel theoretical and conceptual insights on colonial/settler genocides in Canada. This book was previously published as a special issue of the *Journal of Genocide Research*. 
Faculty have already been busy publishing this year. Here is a quick sneak peek of some of the 2018 titles published thus far. Check out next year’s newsletter for a full list of 2018 faculty books!

**Babbie, E., & Roberts, L.W.**

The Fundamentals of Social Research, 4th Canadian Edition brings research methods to life for Canadian students. The text introduces students to techniques for testing the accuracy of different maps of social reality, in order to help them understand, appreciate and manage the social world that surrounds us. A lively narrative and pedagogy engages students, while building conceptual foundations, methodologies, and practical skills that provide a critical understanding of why social research matters in their academic and future professional careers.

**Brym, R.J., Roberts, L.W., & Strohschein, L.**

A compelling design, research focus, and an engaging narrative defines Sociology: Compass for a New Social World. The renowned author team shows students how thinking sociologically can help them draw connections between themselves and the social world. Sociological concepts are clearly connected to students’ interests and experiences by taking universal and popular elements of contemporary culture and rendering them sociologically relevant. This text devotes more space than others do to drawing connections between objectivity and subjectivity in research, presenting a more realistic, and therefore more exciting, account of how sociologists practise their craft. Tables and graphs are not simply referred to, they are analyzed. Some theories are rejected, while others are endorsed. The author team brings depth to issues of diversity and globalization using personal and research experiences.

**Comack, E.**
*Coming Back to Jail: Women, Trauma, and Criminalization* (2018, Fernwood Publishing)

Published some two decades ago, Elizabeth Comack’s Women in Trouble explored the connections between the women’s abuse histories and their law violations as well as their experience of imprisonment in an aged facility. What has changed for incarcerated women in those twenty years? Are experiences of abuse continuing to have an impact on the lives of criminalized women? How do women find the experience of imprisonment in a new facility?

Drawing on the stories of forty-two incarcerated women, Coming Back to Jail broadens the focus to examine the role of trauma in the women’s lives. Resisting the popular move to understand trauma in psychiatric terms — as post-traumatic stress disorder (ptsd) — the book frames trauma as “lived experience” and locates the women’s lives within the context of a settler-colonial, capitalist, patriarchal society. Doing so enables a better appreciation of the social conditions that produce trauma and the problems, conflicts and dilemmas that bring women into the criminal justice net.

In Coming Back to Jail, Comack shows how — despite recent moves to be more “gender responsive” — the prisoning of women is ultimately more punishing than empowering. What is more, because the sources of the women’s trauma reside in the systemic processes that have contoured their lives and their communities, true healing will require changing women’s social circumstances on the outside so they no longer keep coming back to jail.
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