



81st Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society

Awards Ceremony & Luncheon

Red Lion Hotel

Salons 2 & 3

Saturday, July 28, 2018

12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m



2018 Rural Sociological Society Awards Ceremony

**Saturday, July 28, 2018
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Luncheon

Presentation of the 2018 Awards

Recognition of Endowment Award Recipients

Olaf Larson Graduate Student Paper

Excellence in Research

Excellence in Extension and Public Outreach

Distinguished Rural Sociologist

Fred Buttel Outstanding Scholarly Achievement

Distinguished Service to Rural Life

Remarks by recipient of the Distinguished Service to Rural Life Award

Adjournment

2018 RSS Endowment Award Recipients

Master's Thesis Award

Megan Griffin, The Pennsylvania State University
*Seed Saving of Maya Corn in the Yucatan Region of Mexico
from a Gender Perspective*

Lindy Olive, Auburn University
*Better than Blue Apron: Creating a
Community-based Meal Kit*

James Patterson III, Auburn University
*Heir Property in the South:
A Case Study of a Resettlement Community*

Doctoral Dissertation Awards

Laura Bray, North Carolina State University
Dividing the San Juan: Water Inequality in the Southwest

Robert Francis, Johns Hopkins University
*Where have the Workers Gone? Declining Labor Force
Participation among Prime-Age, Working Class
Men in Rural America*

Anne Junod, Ohio State University
*Processes of Public Risk: Foucauldian Discourses,
Social Amplification, and Civic and Policy Responses in
Energy Transportation Communities*

Shannon Westlake, Mississippi State University
*Attributes Affecting Adoption of Pollinator
Conservation Practices*

2018 RSS Endowment Award Recipients

Early Career Awards

Cory Anderson, Ohio State University
*Horse Droppings, Hate Crimes, Healthcare and More: Toward an
Empirically-grounded Amish Policy Handbook
for Rural Public Agents*

J Dara Bloom, North Carolina State University
*Spiraling Up: Using Ripple Effect Mapping to
Evaluate an Extension Program's Impact
on Social Capital in Rural Areas*

Honorable Mention

Ian Carillo, University of Wisconsin-Madison
*Regulating Race and Pollution:
Examining the Uneven Distribution of
Toxic Burdens in the Brazilian Sugar-ethanol Industry*



2018 RSS Award Recipients

Olaf Larson Graduate Student Paper

Isaac Sohn Leslie

University of Wisconsin-Madison

*“Queer Farmland: Land Access Strategies for
Small-Scale Agriculture”*

Excellence in Research

Laura Raynolds

Colorado State University

Excellence in Extension and Outreach

Jose Garcia-Pabon

Washington State University Extension

Distinguished Rural Sociologist

Daniel Lichter

Cornell University

Fred Buttel Outstanding Scholarly Achievement

Award for a Book

Ann Tickamayer, The Pennsylvania State University

Jennifer Sherman, Washington State University

Jennifer Warlick, University of Notre Dame (eds.)

Rural Poverty in the United States

Distinguished Service to Rural Life

Reverend Robert B. Langseth

2018 RIG Awards

Community, Health, and Family RIG 2018 Ronald Wimberley Student Paper Award

Florence A. Becot, The Ohio State University

*Disentangling French and US farmers' health needs and access to care:
An application of Bourdieu's Theory of Practice*

Natural Resources RIG 2018 Student Paper Award

Katherine Ann Calle Willyard, Texas A&M

*Who Is Burning Money and Throwing It In the Air?: A Quantitative
Analysis of Disproportionality of Texas Oil and Gas Extraction Facility*

NRRG Student Travel Awards

Amanda McMillan Lequieu, University of Wisconsin-Madison

*Constructing Risk: Isolation, Infrastructural Paternalism, and the Roots
of Company Power over Rural-Urban Landscapes*

Population RIG 2018 Population Paper Award

Omar Ali, Cornell University

Fertility Inequality in Cameroon: New Realities, New Social Divides

SAFRIG 2018 SAFRIG Paper Award

Florence A. Becot, The Ohio State University

*Disentangling French and U.S. Farmers' Health Needs and Access to
Care: An Application of Bourdieu's Theory of Practice*



Olaf Larson Graduate Student Paper

Isaac Sohn Leslie,
University of Wisconsin-Madison
“Queer Farmland: Land Access Strategies
for Small-Scale Agriculture”

I concentrate on land to illuminate the important, yet understudied, role of sexual relationships in small-scale farmland ownership and management I ask, how do queer farmers access land? How do queer experiences of building farm families and enduring prejudice illuminate the role of sexuality in land access in general? I take a queer standpoint on land access, highlighting its embedded heteronormativity and heterosexism, while focusing on queer strategies for navigating challenges. Through participant observation and interviews with 25 queer and 11 heterosexual small-scale farmers in New England, I find that accessing land is intertwined with finding home (both as the physical building and the partner(s) living in it) and knowledge (of farming). Finding land, home, and knowledge are interwoven processes with heteronormative barriers that queer farmers must learn to navigate differently than heterosexual farmers do.

Abstract: Farmers struggle to afford farmland because competing land uses raise prices higher than what is typically earned through farming, especially in small-scale and sustainable agriculture. Farmers often depend on an intimate partner's income or labor to access land, yet few studies investigate sexual relationships in farmland access. I interrogate how sexuality shapes land access for small-scale sustainable agriculture through participant observation and interviews with 36 queer and heterosexual farmers in New England. I find that farmers' sexual identities and relationships influence where farmers live, who they live and work with, and how they learn to farm. I argue that finding land, home, and knowledge are intertwined, heteronormative processes of capital accumulation shaped by racism and sexism. Queer farmers' experiences navigating heteronormativity in land access demonstrate the relevance of sexuality to land conservation and food justice, the limits of organizing food production through sexual relationships, and alternatives to the "family farm."



RURAL SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Excellence in Research

Laura Reynolds
Colorado State University

The Rural Sociological Society is pleased to recognize the contributions Dr. Reynolds' work has made to understanding global commodity networks, certification systems, and food production and consumption.

Dr. Reynolds is Professor of Sociology at Colorado State University and the Co-Director of the Center for Fair and Alternative Trade. Her research focuses on globalization, international development, food and agriculture, gendered labor forces, and fair and alternative trade. She has done extensive field-based research in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, Ecuador, Peru, and Costa Rica.

Letters provided in support of Dr. Reynolds attested to the excellence of her work and her outstanding contributions to understanding private governance institutions and alternative agri-food networks including Fair Trade and organics.





Excellence in Extension and Public Outreach

Jose Garcia-Pabon
Washington State University Extension

The Rural Sociological Society is honored to recognize Dr. Garcia-Pabon's dedication to rural communities. Dr. Garcia-Pabon has worked in international development and cooperation in multiple countries in Latin America, in areas including vocational education in agriculture, technical assistance to small and limited-resource farmers and rural small business, planning and evaluation of projects in rural areas, and coordination and implementation of rural development initiatives.

Domestically, he concentrates in areas related to Latinos in food and agriculture, sustainable agriculture, and small business and economic development. Dr. Garcia-Pabon is recognized for having devoted his career to the service of rural people and the empowerment of disadvantaged rural populations.

His work in supporting Latino entrepreneurship, as well as his roles in the Latina Total Well-Being project and the Latino Leadership Initiative, have been noted as significantly impactful examples of this dedicated service.



Distinguished Rural Sociologist

Daniel Lichter
Cornell University

The Rural Sociological Society is pleased to honor Dr. Lichter for his leadership in expanding both the academic and policy horizons of rural sociological scholarship; his commitment to teaching, as well as graduate student and junior faculty mentorship; and his multiple contributions to the success of the Rural Sociological Society. Dr. Lichter has published widely on topics in population and public policy, including studies of concentrated poverty and inequality, intermarriage, cohabitation and marriage among disadvantaged women, and immigrant incorporation. He is especially interested in America's racial and ethnic transformation, growing diversity, and the implications for the future. He has also conducted extensive work that centers on new destinations of recent immigrants, especially Hispanics moving to less densely-settled rural areas. He has provided new national estimates of racial residential segregation in Hispanic "boom towns" in the Midwest and South, focusing on the spatial assimilation and economic incorporation of the new immigrants into local communities. As a measure of acculturation, he also has documented high rates of fertility and poverty among Hispanic immigrants and natives in new destinations. Dr. Lichter's scholarship has had a major influence on the disciplines of rural sociology and demography, as well as sociology of marriage and family. The RSS recognizes the depth and breadth of his contributions to the field of rural sociology, the extensive amount of attention his work has garnered, and his successes in raising the visibility of the discipline in both academic and policy arenas.

Fred Buttel Outstanding Scholarly Achievement

Award for a Book:

Ann Tickamayer,
Jennifer Sherman,
Jennifer Warlick, (eds.)
*Rural Poverty in the
United States*



Ann Tickamayer
The Pennsylvania State
University



Jennifer Warlick
University of Notre Dame



Jennifer Sherman
Washington State
University

This year's Buttel Award goes to an edited volume, which assembles the vast canon of research on rural poverty and comprehensively updates the last systematic effort to take stock of rural poverty. The volume covers the historical development of rural poverty research and policy, including the core theoretical literature, and addresses significant substantive issues including food insecurity, race, migration and housing. The volume brings together the expertise of more than 30 veteran and emerging scholars of rural poverty from multiple disciplines including Rural Sociology, Sociology, Economics, and Public Policy, interweaving qualitative case studies with more macro-level analyses to provide a comprehensive examination of rural poverty in modern America.



Distinguished Service to Rural Life

Reverend Robert B. Langseth

The Rural Sociological Society is honored to recognize Reverend Langseth with the 2018 RSS Distinguished Service to Rural Life Award. Reverend Langseth's work epitomizes many of the central values of the Rural Sociological Society. We appreciate his commitment and skill in community organizing, insight into social problems and relationships, and willingness to speak truth to power. Reverend Langseth has spent most of his career serving rural communities, combining vision with action to create positive change. Noticing the difficult conditions of migrant sugar beet farmers working on his father's North Dakota farm, Reverend Langseth decided when he was in middle school to devote his life to justice. After finishing a BA degree in Sociology, he went to seminary at Augustana/Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, where the teachings focused on various interpretations of the Gospel and on Justice. He also studied specifically to lead a rural church. After getting established and gaining experience as a rural pastor himself, Reverend Langseth shared this passion to serve rural communities by devising and hosting a rural clergy training program in partnership with the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, which trained over 95 students over 12 years. His contributions to rural communities are extensive, from wide-ranging efforts to build an inclusive and vibrant community in Calumet, Michigan, to his work to support a school in rural Tanzania that aims to educate young girls.

Reverend Langseth's career has long focused on building collegiality and understanding across lines of difference, and fostering cooperation for the greater good. Reverend Langseth exemplifies some of the most distinctive values of the Rural Sociology Society, working to give voice to and empower rural people, which he has done through advocacy, collaboration, and dialogue. His lifetime work is consistent with the values and missions of RSS. We are honored to recognize him with the Distinguished Service to Rural Life award.

Please Join Us Next Year

at the

2019 RSS Annual Meeting

Richmond, VA

*Justice and Tyranny: Mobilizing Rural
Sociological Imaginations*

August 7-10, 2019

RSS Awards and Endowment Committee, 2017-2018

Jennifer Sherman, Chair, Washington State University
(2016-2018)

Matthew Sanderson, Chair Elect
(2017-2019)

Aya Kimura, University of Hawaii
(2015-2018)

Shaunna Scott, University of Kentucky
(2015-2018)

Alalena Bruce, Indiana University-Bloomington
(2016-2019)

Norah MacKendrick, Rutgers University
(2016-2019)

Hannah Holleman, Amherst University
(2016-2019)

Rachel Terman, Ohio University
(2016-2019)

Shaun Golding, Kenyon College
(2017-2020)

Ethan Schoolman, Rutgers University
(2017-2020)

Paige Kelly, The Ohio State University
(2017-2018)

Cynthia Struthers, ex officio, Western Illinois University