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RSS eBulletin Issue 96, March 2018

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Business Office [rssiira@wiu.edu](mailto:rssiira@wiu.edu).

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- RSS Election Announcement
- Items of Interest
- RIG Paper Competitions
- Student Interest, Call for Papers, Employment Opportunities

## RSS ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT



### UPCOMING 2018 ELECTION - RSS LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Dear RSS Members and Friends:

This announcement is to remind you that the RSS Election is coming up in April 2018. A link to a secure electronic ballot will be sent to you on April 1, 2018. The ballot will remain open for 30 days. **If you need a paper ballot please let us know.**

If you have not renewed your dues for 2018 (our membership year runs from January 1 to December 31) you **must do so** by March 14, 2018, in order to vote in this year's election. **You must be a paid member of the Rural Sociological Society for the current year to cast a ballot.**

If you aren't sure whether you have paid your dues for the year, please contact the Business Office at [rssiira@wiu.edu](mailto:rssiira@wiu.edu). We are here to help.

Cynthia B. Struthers  
Executive Director RSS

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

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### **RSS Member Ethan Schoolman recently published a new article**

“Do direct market farms use fewer agricultural chemicals? Evidence from the U.S. census of agriculture”, in *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems*

Abstract: Are strong local food systems better for the environment than conventional food systems where relatively close proximity between points of production and consumption is not a defining characteristic? Despite growing support for efforts to strengthen local food systems, surprisingly little is known about the relationship of local food to environmental sustainability. In particular, the relationship of local food systems to the use of agricultural chemicals to manage pests, weeds and disease has not been a subject of systematic research. In this paper, I use longitudinal data from the US Census of Agriculture to explore whether growth in local food systems is associated with decreased on-farm use of agricultural chemicals. Drawing on county-level data from 1997 to 2012, I find that an increase in the strength of local food systems—whether measured as the number of farms that market products directly to consumers, or as the total value of direct market products—has been broadly associated with a decrease in spending on agricultural chemicals in the USA as a whole. But the magnitude of the relationship between direct marketing to consumers and changes in agricultural chemical use has dwindled over time, to the point where it is not clear whether contemporary local food systems are still incentivizing farmers to reduce their use of pesticides. Overall, this study lends new credence to the idea that robust local food systems can benefit the environment. But even where just one dimension of agriculture's impact on the environment is concerned, the characteristics of local food systems appear to have varied over time—a qualification that argues strongly for further research into the relationship of local food to agricultural practice.

To read the full article, see <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/renewable-agriculture-and-food-systems/article/do-direct-market-farms-use-fewer-agricultural-chemicals-evidence-from-the-us-census-of-agriculture/5D24BBFB02B1F2909D2C713D6E3CC120#fndtn-information>

### **Russel Sage Foundation is Accepting Visiting Scholar Applications for 2019–2020 Academic Year**

The Foundation invites visiting scholar applications for the 2019-2020 academic year.

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The visiting scholar program, established over thirty years ago, is a unique opportunity for social scientists to pursue research projects that investigate essential questions on social, economic, and political life in the United States while in residence at RSF. The program fosters the exchange of ideas in a vibrant interdisciplinary environment and promotes collaborations between researchers. Applications are reviewed by outside experts; final selections are made by Russell Sage Foundation trustees. Applications for the 2019-2020 academic year will be accepted until **June 28, 2018**. View further information on the program, including eligibility requirements and application here: [https://www.russellsage.org/how-to-apply/visiting-scholars-program?utm\\_source=streamsend&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=30428379utm\\_campaign=TEST%20-%20RSF%20Bulletin:%20Announcing%20the%202018-2019%20Visiting%20Scholars;%20Three%20New%20RSF%20Journal%20Issues](https://www.russellsage.org/how-to-apply/visiting-scholars-program?utm_source=streamsend&utm_medium=email&utm_content=30428379utm_campaign=TEST%20-%20RSF%20Bulletin:%20Announcing%20the%202018-2019%20Visiting%20Scholars;%20Three%20New%20RSF%20Journal%20Issues)

## RSS COMMUNITY, HEALTH, AND FAMILY RIG PAPER COMPETITIONS

### Ralph B. Brown Scholar Paper Competition

Rural Sociological Society Community, Family, and Health Research Interest Group Ralph B. Brown Scholar Paper Competition Submission Deadline: **Friday, May 4th, 2018**

The Community, Family, and Health Research Interest Group (RIG) is proud to announce the third annual Ralph B. Brown scholar paper competition designed to encourage and support research in rural communities. The call for papers is open to a wide range of topics in keeping with the spirit of the award's namesake, Ralph Brown. Emphasis should be placed on such topics as community satisfaction and attachment, social change and development, family and community, and community leadership. International research is highly encouraged in accordance with his dedication to international development studies. Preference will be given to those papers that make a strong contribution to our understanding of rural community life and health. How are rural communities adapting to challenges brought about by scientific changes, economic transformation, or health needs?

#### Scholar Paper Competition Guidelines:

Who is eligible: The Ralph B. Brown Scholar Paper Competition is open to faculty and

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nonacademic researchers who have an advanced degree. Undergraduate and graduate students are not eligible but are encouraged to submit a paper to the Ronald Wimberley student paper competitions.

Papers submitted for the scholar paper competition will be held to a high standard with respect to the level of scholarship. The length of the paper should range from 25-35 pages and should include a relevant review of the literature, original analysis or effort to advance community theory, a clear discussion and set of conclusions, and complete references.

**Instructions for Submission:**

To have a paper considered for review, first, submit an abstract to present the paper at the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Second, submit your manuscript as an attached Word (.doc or .docx) file to Amanda McMillan Lequieu at [ammcmillan@wisc.edu](mailto:ammcmillan@wisc.edu) by May 4th, 2018. Please do not submit your paper in .pdf format, as we will need to edit them to make judging anonymous. In the subject line of the email enter "submission for Ralph Brown scholar paper competition." When the submissions are received, they will be sent to a panel of judges who will not be made aware of the author's identity. The winner of the paper competition will be honored at the RIG reception during the RSS annual meeting, where they will receive a certificate and their award honoraria (see below). Winners will be notified via email by July 1st, 2018.

**Deadline for submissions: Friday, May 4th, 2018**

**Honoraria:** Scholar Paper (\$400): to be used to defray part of the cost of registering for and attending the 2018 RSS Annual Meeting

## Ronald Wimberley Paper Competition

**Rural Sociological Society Community, Family, and Health Research Interest Group Ronald Wimberley Student Paper Competition Submission Deadline: Friday, May 4th, 2018**

The Community, Family, and Health Research Interest Group (RIG) is proud to announce the fifth annual Ronald Wimberley student paper competition designed to encourage and support graduate and undergraduate student research on rural communities. The call for papers is open to a wide range of topics in keeping with the spirit of the award's namesake, Ronald Wimberley. Emphasis should be placed on the improvement of the quality-of-life in rural communities. Preference will be given to those papers that make a strong contribution to our understanding of rural community life and health. How are rural communities adapting to challenges brought about by scientific changes, economic transformation, or health needs?

**Graduate Paper Competition:** Papers submitted for the graduate student paper competition will

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be held to a high standard with respect to the level of scholarship. The length of the paper should range from 20-30 pages and should include a relevant review of the literature, original analysis, a clear discussion and set of conclusions, complete references, and be written at a professional level.

**Undergraduate Paper Competition:** Papers submitted for the undergraduate student paper competition will be similarly held to a high standard appropriate to the level of undergraduate scholarship. The length of the paper should range from 10-20 pages and should include a relevant literature review with complete references that is clearly and legibly written. Papers that include original analyses will be rated higher, but this is not a requirement for submission.

**Instructions for Submission:** To have a paper considered for review for either award, first, submit an abstract to present the paper at the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Second, submit your manuscript as an attached Word (.doc or .docx) file to Amanda McMillan Lequieu at [ammcmillan@wisc.edu](mailto:ammcmillan@wisc.edu) by May 4th, 2018. Please do not submit your paper in .pdf format, as we will need to edit them to make judging anonymous. In the subject line of the email enter either "submission for graduate student paper competition" or "submission for undergraduate student paper competition." When the submissions are received, they will be sent to a panel of judges who will not be made aware of the author's identity. Winners of the paper competition will be honored at the RIG reception during the RSS annual meeting, where they will receive a certificate and their award honoraria (see below). Winners will be notified via email by July 1st, 2018.

**Deadline for submissions:** **Friday, May 4th, 2018**

**Honoraria:** Graduate Paper (\$250); Undergraduate Paper (\$200): to be used to defray part of the cost of registering for and attending the 2018 RSS Annual Meeting

## RSS TEACHING AND CURRICULUM RIG PAPER COMPETITION

**Submission Deadline: Friday, May 4th, 2018**

The Teaching and Curriculum Research Interest Group (RIG) is proud to announce the second annual paper competition designed to encourage and support research on teaching and curriculum in the rural social sciences. The call for papers is open to a wide range of topics related to teaching styles, pedagogy, assessment, classroom engagement, and can range from experimental studies of teaching and learning to essays on pedagogically important issues.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**Paper Competition Guidelines:**

Who is eligible: The paper competition is open to faculty of all levels and to graduate students who have experience teaching their own courses or discussion sections.

Papers submitted for the paper competition will be held to a high standard with respect to the level of scholarship. The length of the paper should range from 20-30 pages and should include a relevant review of the literature, original analysis or theoretical contribution, a clear discussion and set of conclusions, complete references, and be written at a professional level.

**Instructions for Submission:**

To have a paper considered for review for the award, first, submit an abstract to present the paper at the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (choose the Teaching and Curriculum RIG as your first choice during submission). Second, submit your manuscript as an attached Word (.doc or .docx) file to Dr. Jessica Crowe at [jessica.crowe@siu.edu](mailto:jessica.crowe@siu.edu) by May 4th, 2018. Please do not submit your paper in pdf format (we will need to edit them to make judging anonymous). In the subject line of the email enter "submission for paper competition". When the submissions are received, they will be sent to a panel of judges who will not be made aware of the author's identity. Winner(s) of the paper competition will be honored at the RIG reception during the RSS annual meeting, where you will receive a certificate and your award honoraria (see below). Winner(s) will be notified via email by July 1, 2018.

**Deadline for submissions: Friday, May 4th, 2018**

Honoraria: (\$250): to be used to defray part of the cost of registering for and attending the 2018 RSS Annual Meeting

## POPULATION RIG GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

The Population Research Interest Group (RIG) of the Rural Sociological Society is soliciting submissions for a graduate student paper award in the areas of **rural demography and population studies**. The RIG takes a broad view on acceptable topics as long as rural population characteristics factor prominently in the research.

**Eligibility:** Current graduate students and recent graduates (who receive their degrees no earlier than May 2018) may apply. Coauthored papers are acceptable as long as all of the authors were students at the time the paper was written and submitted. Coauthored papers with individuals possessing their terminal degree prior to May 2018 will not be considered.

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**Award:** The recipient will receive a monetary prize of at least \$200 (final budget TBD) to help defray the cost of attending the 2018 RSS Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon (July 26-29, 2018). The recipient will also be recognized at the Population RIG business meeting.

**Submission Guidelines:** Follow two steps: 1) Submit an abstract to present the paper at the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (due Friday, February 1, 2018, 11:59 pm EST). 2) Send an electronic copy of the full paper with contact information to the RIG co-chair Tim Slack ([timslack.lsu@gmail.com](mailto:timslack.lsu@gmail.com)) **by Friday, May 4, 2018, 11:59 p.m. EST.**

**Format:** The paper submission should not exceed 35 double-spaced pages (including all tables, graphs, and references) in a standard font (12 point). The winner will be selected by a committee of RIG members and receive their award at the RSS Annual Meeting. The winner will be notified via email by June 1, 2018.

## NATURAL RESOURCES RIG PAPER AWARDS

### NRRIG Graduate Student Paper Award

The Natural Resources Research Group (NRRIG) of the Rural Sociological Society is soliciting submissions for a graduate student paper award in the area of environmental or natural resources sociology. The paper should be related to the broad interests of the NRRIG. Current graduate students and recent graduates (who receive their degrees no earlier than May of the year of award) may apply. Coauthored papers are acceptable, including those co-authored with faculty. If co-authored, the applicant (a) must be the lead author of the manuscript, and (b) provide a statement detailing the relative contributions of each co-author. The recipient will receive a monetary prize of at least \$100 (final amount TBD based on NRRIG budget) to defray the cost of attending the Annual Meetings of RSS. The recipient will also be recognized at the NRRIG business meeting.

There is a two-step process for submission: **1) Submit an abstract to present the paper at the 2018 meeting; 2) Send an electronic copy of the full paper with contact information to the NRRIG chair** (Yetkin Borlu - [yborlu@richmond.edu](mailto:yborlu@richmond.edu)) **by May 4** of the year of application; and (3) if co-authored, provide a statement detailing the relative contributions of each co-author. The paper submission should not exceed 35 double-spaced pages (including all tables, graphs, and references) in a standard font (12 point). **The winner will be selected by a committee of NRRIG members and notified by June 1** of the year of application. Papers will be evaluated using the following criteria: 1. Advancement of knowledge in the area environmental or natural resources sociology. 2. Significance of the topic for the NRRIG of the Rural Sociological Society. 3. Quality and implementation of the research, theory, and argument. 4. Analysis and interpretation of the



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findings. 5. Clarity and organization of the writing.

### **NRRIG Graduate Student Travel Scholarship**

The NRRIG Graduate Student Travel Scholarship is intended to support graduate student participation at the RSS annual meetings. The recipient will be reimbursed for the student (member) registration cost for the RSS annual meeting (\$125). There is a two-step process for submission: 1) Submit an abstract to present an oral presentation in the area of environmental or natural resources sociology at the annual meeting; **2) Submit a cover letter to the NRRIG chair** (Yetkin Borlu - [yborlu@richmond.edu](mailto:yborlu@richmond.edu)) **by May 4** of the year of application. Cover letters will be reviewed based on need (i.e., does the student have alternative funding sources via his/her department or advisor), and importance of the meeting to the student's career trajectory. Abstracts will be evaluated based on relevance, innovation, and/or potential contribution to the NRRIG. **The winner will be selected by a committee of NRRIG members and notified by June 1** of the year of application.

### **NRRIG William R. Freudenburg Award of Merit**

The William R. Freudenburg Award of Merit is presented to recognize exceptional contributions to the sociology of natural resources and the environment. The award is given to recognize an outstanding legacy / collective body of work that has demonstrably impacted natural resources and environmental sociology. Recipients will have the following qualifications: outstanding research and scholarship as evidenced not solely by numbers of publications, but their impact: simply put, we are looking for recipients who have substantively affected the trajectory of thinking within 8 natural resources and environmental sociology. Such impact may also be evidenced via application of work beyond the academy, such as work with a natural resources agency, organization, or other partnerships. Other contributions to the NRRIG or sociology of natural resources and environment, such as an outstanding legacy of outreach, graduate student mentorship, and/or instruction are also envisioned as important criteria for consideration.

Nominees are not required to be present or past members of the NRRIG. To nominate someone please submit 1) up to three letters of nomination that clearly explain the reasons for considering the nomination and the nominee's contribution to the sociology of natural resources and environment, as well as 2) a current copy of the nominee's CV. Additional supporting materials may be sent, but are not required. **Nomination materials must be submitted to the NRRIG chair** (Yetkin Borlu - [yborlu@richmond.edu](mailto:yborlu@richmond.edu)) **by May 4** of the year of application. **The winner will be selected by a committee of NRRIG members and notified by June 1** of the year of application.

## **STUDENT INTEREST**

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **Conference of Interest: Boundary Spanning: Advances in Socio-Environmental Systems Research, An International Symposium**

The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) in partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF), Resources for the Future (RFF), and University of Maryland (UMD) is convening an international symposium June 11-13, 2018 in Annapolis, MD, to bring together leaders, emerging scholars, and other key individuals interested in innovating research and processes for solving socio-environmental problems. Symposium talks, sessions and discussions

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will be organized around three guiding themes: socio-environmental systems under stress, in transition, and by design. More information about the conference themes can be found on the symposium website, <http://symposium.sesync.org/themes.html>. The application deadline to present and attend is **March 2, 2018**. SESYNC welcomes abstracts from socio-environmental systems researchers at all career stages and from all disciplines, sectors, countries, and backgrounds. If you are interested in submitting an abstract for a presentation of any type, please apply here: <http://symposium.sesync.org/apply.html>. Please check the symposium website for more information, at <http://symposium.sesync.org/>. Please send any questions to [symposium@sesync.org](mailto:symposium@sesync.org).

### Call for Abstracts - 2018 Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation Conference

The 2018 Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation Conference is all about bringing together practitioners, policy makers, community leaders, and researchers interested in rural issues. This conference is a unique opportunity to share your own successes, learn from a diverse group of individuals, and hear the latest on issues that matter to communities and people who call rural Canada home. The conference organizing committee is accepting abstracts for oral presentations, panels, capacity building sessions, and posters for the upcoming conference in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan from October 10-12, 2018. This year's theme is Health and Shared Prosperity, with subthemes including Accessing Health, Feeding Success, Prosperous Labour Forces, Sharing Prosperity, and Eco-Health. For a full description, click [http://www.ruralsociology.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=312:call-for-abstracts---2018-canadian-rural-revitalization-foundation-conference&catid=23:call-for-papers&Itemid=134](http://www.ruralsociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=312:call-for-abstracts---2018-canadian-rural-revitalization-foundation-conference&catid=23:call-for-papers&Itemid=134). To submit, please follow this link: [https://uoguelph.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cvgggqP18jaMUex](https://uoguelph.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cvgggqP18jaMUex). The deadline for content submission is Monday **April 2, 2018** at 11:59PM.

### Conference of Interest: The 2018 Arctic Science Conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

The 2018 Arctic Science Conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held October 9th in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. The meeting is being held in tandem with the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation (CRRF)'s annual meeting, which runs from October 10-12. The conference theme is Health and Shared Prosperity in the North. The theme of the meeting reflects the idea that health, of both people and ecosystems, and prosperity, of both human and more-than-human arctic residents, are inexorably intertwined. This reality is at the core of Indigenous world views and lifeways, and increasingly, is being acknowledged by research and policy. At this conference, we seek to further advance the discussion of health and prosperity as a focal point for sustainable communities and development policies. Conference topics include traditional scientific disciplines, science education, arctic social sciences, biomedical research, and artistic interpretation of health in the North. Information about CRRF and the full, joint program will be released soon at this website. Abstracts for contributed talks will be open on February 15, with an initial deadline of **April 30, 2018**. For further details, see [http://www.ruralsociology.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=313:the-2018-arctic-science-conference-of-the-american-association-for-the-advancement-of-science&catid=26:meetings-of-interest&Itemid=142](http://www.ruralsociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=313:the-2018-arctic-science-conference-of-the-american-association-for-the-advancement-of-science&catid=26:meetings-of-interest&Itemid=142)

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