

RSS eBulletin Issue 92, November 2017

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SAVE THE DATE – July 26-29, 2018
81st Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society
Portland, Oregon

Do you have news (a new book, published manuscript, national or local interview, or conference presentation) to share with members and friends of RSS? Send it to the Business Office rssira@wiu.edu.

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2018 RSS ANNUAL MEETING CALL FOR PAPERS, POSTERS, AND ORGANIZED SESSIONS

2018 Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society
Portland, Oregon July 26-29, 2018

**MEETING THEME: Science in Society, Society in Science –
Toward a 21st Century Model for Social Scientific Research**

Growing public skepticism about the value of science and expert knowledge has been a defining characteristic of the early 21st century. Critiques of science come from many sources – populist anti-elite social movements, academic studies of conventional scientific methods and institutions, and advocates for a more participatory approach to knowledge production. As the distinction between ‘facts’ and ‘values’ has become blurred, the evidence-base that informs current policy becomes increasingly contested territory. Notably, social scientists have long relied on evidence and scientific research to challenge popular misunderstandings of social problems like poverty, crime, racism, and sexism. At the same time, they have been at the forefront of critiques of the mainstream scientific enterprise and helped pioneer new approaches to research and engagement.

Professional social science societies (like RSS) have an obligation to support those who are studying and developing effective responses to the challenges faced by rural people and places in a globalized world. New models for scientific research will be increasingly important if our efforts are to inform public discourse and shape the development of effective public policies. To do this, we need to reconcile tensions between the desire to retain the power and insights of rigorous scientific methods, and our awareness of the societal biases associated with conventional scientific institutions. **At the 2018 Annual Meetings of the Rural Sociological Society, we particularly encourage attendees to present work that explores this vexing and enduring issue, and to provide examples of innovative approaches to applied scientific research on rural topics.**

Over the last 80 years, the annual meetings of the RSS have been a venue for the exchange of ideas and information about a wide range of rural issues. Our attendees include faculty and students from diverse colleges and universities, researchers working in government or nonprofit institutions, and rural activists and practitioners. **In addition to presentations on the meeting theme, we always invite presentations of research and engagement focused rural people, places and themes from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives.**

Abstracts: Abstracts should be approximately 350-500 words and briefly outline the purpose and theoretical framing of the paper, poster, program, or organized session. Where appropriate, include information about methods, data, and preliminary findings. The deadline for submitting papers, posters and sessions is Thursday,
February 1, 2018, 11:59 pm (EST).

link <http://www.ruralsociology.org/annual-meeting-call-for-paper>. See the Annual Meeting page of the RSS website www.ruralsociology.org for more information. Contact Kate MacTavish, Program Chair RSSAnnualMeeting@gmail.com or the RSS Business Office rssiira@wiu.edu with any questions or ideas for special events you have for the 2018 meeting.

RSS NOMINATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED THROUGH **JANUARY 19, 2018**

The Rural Sociological Society (RSS) is currently seeking nominations for leadership positions that will begin in 2018. Positions are open to all RSS members. Self-nominations are encouraged.

The Nominations Committee seeks nominations that represent the diverse interests and background of RSS membership, including, but not limited to: race and ethnicity, geography, gender and sexuality, institutional affiliations (e.g. non-land grant and non-academic), age, physical abilities, education, and nationality as well as representation of the spectrum of research, teaching, extension, public service, and administrative interests of the membership.

Nominations are sought for the positions below. Responsibilities associated with the position will begin at the 2018 annual meeting.

- 1. President-elect:** serves for three years as President-elect, President and Past President (voting member of Council each year)
- 2. Vice President:** serves for one year (voting member of Council for that year)
- 3. Council Member (3 positions):** serves for two years (voting member of Council each year, appointed as chair-elect of one RSS standing committee in the first year, serves as chair in the second year). Council members represent land-grant institutions of higher education, non-land grant institutions of higher education, and non-academic institutions.
- 4. Student Representative to Council:** serves for two years (voting member of Council each year)
- 5. Chair-elect of the Nominations Committee:** serves for two years, as Chair-elect and then chair (not a voting member of Council)
- 6. Nominations Committee Member:** serves for one year (not a voting member of Council).
- 7. Ethics Committee Member:** serves for three years (not a voting member of Council).

Nominations may be submitted through the RSS Nominations Form:

https://syracuseuniversity.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8CY1ijEWdSpi8Nn

2018 RURAL SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY AWARDS NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Deadline: February 16, 2018

The RSS Awards Committee is seeking submissions for the following awards:

- Distinguished Service to Rural Life
- Distinguished Rural Sociologist
- Excellence in Research
- Excellence in Instruction
- Excellence in Extension and Public Outreach
- Certificate of Appreciation
- The Fred Buttel Outstanding Scholarly Achievement Award 2018 (Book)
- The Olaf Larson Graduate Student Paper Award

Detail description and criteria for all awards can be found at: <http://www.ruralsociology.org/>

Nomination packets should include a cover letter from the principal nominator outlining the major contributions of the nominee, a biographic sketch of the candidate/organization, brief materials (e.g., brochure, report, etc.) describing the project or program if nominee is an organization or collective, and two to four letters of support.

Nomination packets should be submitted by February 16, 2018 to Jennifer Sherman, Department of Sociology, PO Box 644020, Pullman, WA 99164-4020. Email submissions of compiled .pdf application packets are encouraged: jennifer_sherman@wsu.edu

2018 MASTER'S, PhD, AND EARLY CAREER RESEARCH AWARD COMPETITION

Master's, PhD and Early Career Research Award Competition

This year the RSS Council has authorized the use of Endowment funds to support Master's theses, Ph.D. dissertations, and Early Career Research awards to support research activities conducted during the 2017-2018 fiscal/academic year. Proposals are invited to conduct research on all topics encompassed by the field of rural sociology. The awards are designed to stimulate research that will help develop the careers of future rural

Committee will oversee the awards process.

The RSS Master's Thesis and Dissertation Research Award Competition

Graduate student members of the Rural Sociological Society are eligible to apply for master's thesis and Ph.D. dissertation research awards. Dissertation awards can be made for up to \$5,000. Master's thesis awards can be made for up to \$2,500. Proposals approved for funding may receive budget allocations below the requested amounts, based on availability of funds and recommendations of the Endowment Committee.

The RSS Early Careers Research Awards Competition

Members of the Rural Sociological Society who received their Ph.D. on or after January 1, 2013 are eligible to apply for RSS Early Career Research awards. Because the size of these awards is modest, proposals will generally involve small-scale projects that will enhance opportunities for scholars to pursue expanded research efforts in the future. The Early Career Research awards have previously been made for up to \$5,000.

Submission Guidelines for Awards Competitions

The deadline for submission of proposals and required supporting materials is February 16, 2018. Proposals received after that date will not be reviewed or considered for funding. All proposals must be submitted electronically compiled into a single Adobe Acrobat .pdf format to Jennifer Sherman (jennifer_sherman@wsu.edu), chair of the Awards and Endowment Committee. Nominees who are unable to meet these submission requirements and/or who cannot save their files in .pdf format should contact Jennifer at (509)335-4163 or at the email listed above at least two weeks in advance of the due date so that alternative arrangements for submission can be made.

Submission Deadline: February 16, 2018

Notification Date: May 2018

Award Date: August 2018 or by special arrangement

2018 DIVERSITY TRAVEL AWARD

The Rural Sociological Society (RSS) and the Committee on Diversity are pleased to announce that travel awards are available to support the attendance and participation of minority participants at the annual conference to be held in Portland, Oregon. These awards will be awarded on a competitive basis and are meant to assist participants in defraying costs associated with attending the RSS meeting.

We anticipate granting awards at the minimum amount of \$500 per recipient or at a maximum amount of \$750;

Eligibility and Application Requirements

To be eligible for the award, an applicant must be:

- An active participant of the meeting by presenting a paper, participating on a panel, or presenting a poster on research. We encourage applications from both academics and nonacademics.

In addition, for students:

- A student pursuing a degree relevant to rural studies in an academic institution.
- A student member of the Rural Sociological Society at the time of receiving the award.

To apply, an applicant must submit:

- A completed Travel Award Application (see below)

Completed applications should be submitted via e-mail to Loka Ashwood (l1a0008@auburn.edu) not later than **Thursday, February 15, 2018, 11:59 pm (EST)**.

The Diversity Committee will make selections and announce decisions by March 31, 2018. No part of the application may be submitted by fax and only applications from individuals on their own behalf will be accepted.

2018 STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD

2018 Graduate Student and Needs-Based Travel Award

The Rural Sociological Society (RSS) and the Membership Committee are pleased to announce that travel awards are available to support the attendance and participation of graduate students and rural scholars with limited travel funds at the annual conference to be held in Portland, Oregon. These awards will be given on a competitive basis and are meant to assist students and others in defraying costs associated with attending the RSS meeting. Awardees will be reimbursed at the annual meeting in Portland.

We anticipate granting awards at the minimum amount of \$100 per recipient or at a maximum amount of \$300; however, the amount of funds and the number of awards may fluctuate depending on the number of applications and the need described therein.

Eligibility and Application Requirements

To be eligible for the award, an applicant must be:

- An active participant of the meeting by presenting a paper during a paper session presenting a poster on research.

- A member the Rural Sociological Society at the time of receiving the award.

To apply, an applicant must submit:

- A completed Travel Award Application (see below)
- If student, a letter of support or recommendation from a faculty member or department chair. If non-student, a letter of support which also documents need from a current boss/department chair or former advisor (e.g., for those seeking employment). Please have these emailed directly to Dr. Schad by the letter writer.

Completed applications should be submitted via e-mail to Jessica Ulrich-Schad (jessica.schad@sdstate.edu) no later than **February 15th, 2018, 11:59 p.m. (EST)**.

The Membership Committee will make selections and announce decisions by March 29th, 2018.

To download an application, click this link:

<https://rss.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/2018AnnualMeeting/Graduate%20Student%20and%20Needs-Based%20Travel%20Award%20Application-2018.docx>.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS

Rural Poverty in the United States

Edited by Ann R. Tickamyer, Jennifer Sherman, and Jennifer Warlick.

America's rural areas have always held a disproportionate share of the nation's poorest populations. Rural Poverty in the United States examines why. What is it about the geography, demography, and history of rural communities that keeps them poor? In a comprehensive analysis that extends from the Civil War to the present, *Rural Poverty in the United States* looks at access to human and social capital; food security; healthcare and the environment; homelessness; gender roles and relations; racial inequalities; and immigration trends to isolate the underlying causes of persistent rural poverty. For more information, see <https://cup.columbia.edu/book/rural-poverty-in-the-united-states/9780231172233>.

Singlewide, Chasing the American Dream in a Rural Trailer Park

In *Singlewide*, Sonya Salamon and Katherine MacTavish explore the role of the trailer park as a source of affordable housing. America's trailer parks, most in rural places, shelter an estimated 12 million people, and the authors show how these parks serve as a private solution to a pressing public need. *Singlewide* considers the circumstances of families with school-age children in trailer parks serving whites in Illinois, Hispanics in New Mexico, and African Americans in North Carolina. By looking carefully at the daily lives of families who live side by side in rows of manufactured homes, Salamon and MacTavish draw conclusions about the importance of housing, community, and location in the families' dreams of opportunities and success as signified by eventually owning land and a conventional home. For a full description, see https://rss.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/Announcements/salamonmactavish_flyer.pdf.

Julie's Stone (A Mite B. True Book)

Larry Busch recently published a book under his nom de plume, Mite B. True.

Description: Julie found an unusual brightly-colored stone. She put it under her pillow and the next morning magical things started to happen. Nothing was quite the same afterward for Julie. But Julie managed to get by quite well in this magical world. Go along with Julie and her friend Sophie to find out what happened. For more information, see https://www.amazon.com/Julies-Stone-Mite-True-book/dp/1549780174/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1507235066&sr=8-1&keywords=julie%27s+stone.

CALL FOR PAPERS

49th Annual Meeting of the Southern Rural Sociological Association

Southern Rural Sociological Association would like to cordially invite you and your students to attend and participate in the 49th annual meeting. The meeting will be held concurrently with the annual meetings of the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists in Jacksonville, Florida from February 2-6, 2018. Our website, with more information on the conference, and our journal can be found at: <http://journalofruralsociosciences.org/>.

The theme of the annual meeting is “*Pursuing the New Sustainable South: Rural Sociology in a Changing Era.*” You and your students are welcome to share thoughts on this topic. However, papers on any subject or topic related to the South are welcome. Please feel free to pass this on to other interested parties, including non-sociologists.

Please note that the deadline for abstract submissions is Friday, **November 3, 2017**.

For more information, click here

<https://rss.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/CallforPapers/srsa%20call%20for%20papers%202018.pdf>.

Rural Sociological Teaching and Curriculum Research Interest Group - Paper Competition

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.

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.

Submission Deadline: Friday,

May 4, 2018. Winner(s) will be notified via email by July 1, 2018. Click here for more details:

http://www.ruralsociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=268:rural-sociological-teaching-and-curriculum-research-interest-group---paper-competition&catid=23:call-for-papers&Itemid=134.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Associate Professor of International Affairs - The Pennsylvania State University

The Penn State School of International Affairs (www.sia.psu.edu), an interdisciplinary professional school, in conjunction with the Penn State Rock Ethics Institute (rockethics.psu.edu), seeks an Associate Professor (with tenure) to research, teach and collaborate on the intertwined roles of ethics and global development. We are particularly interested in scholars who examine choices made in the distribution, management, and development of renewable and nonrenewable resources (particularly Water, Food and Energy), as they relate to sustainability issues of the environment. Any inquiries regarding the position can be directed to Johannes Fedderke, jwf15@psu.edu. For more information, see <https://psu.jobs/job/73872>

Instructor / Academic Advisor – The Pennsylvania State University

The College of Agricultural Sciences is filling a 48-week, fixed-term, Instructor position in the Office of International Programs with a 75% teaching, 25% administrative appointment. The successful candidate will be expected to be the primary instructor for at least four classes in the International Agriculture minor including the core classes for the minor (Introduction to International Agriculture 100 and Senior Seminar in International Agriculture 490) and an on-line version of INTAG 100. This individual will also assume the role of Coordinator for the INTAG minor. Questions regarding the position can be addressed to Deanna Behring, Assistant Dean and Director, Office of International Programs, College of Agricultural Sciences, at dbehring@psu.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Click here for more details: http://www.ruralsociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=269:instructor-position-in-the-office-of-international-programs&catid=25:employment-opportunities&Itemid=137

Director, Northeastern IPM Center (Senior Extension Associate) - Ithaca, New York

The Northeastern IPM Center fosters the development and adoption of integrated pest management, a science-based approach to dealing with pests - one that provides economic, environmental, and human health benefits. The questions we probe and the answers we seek focus on three overlapping concerns: natural and human systems; food, energy and environmental resources; and social, physical and economic well-being. The Director leads the Northeastern IPM Center to fulfill its mission of fostering integrated pest management in the region in ways that generate economic, environmental, and human health benefits.

Please apply via Academic Jobs On-line (<https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/10133>).

The position will remain open until filled. Review of applications will begin on

November 15, 2017. For questions regarding the position, please contact Michael Hoffmann at

Associate Professor of Sociology – South Dakota State University

The Department of Sociology & Rural Studies invites applications for a tenure-track associate professor position to begin fall 2018. It seeks a colleague whose duties will include teaching at the graduate and undergraduate level, maintaining an active, independent research agenda that includes peer-reviewed publications and grant activity, graduate and undergraduate advising, and service to the department and university. The maximum teaching load is three courses per semester. The department seeks someone with expertise in any of the following areas: evaluation research, social impact analysis, needs assessment, community studies, organizational studies. A commitment to public/applied sociology is also desired. Review of applications will begin **November 15, 2017**, and continue until the position is filled.

For more details, see

https://rss.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/JobPostings/SDSU_Associate%20Professor%20of%20Sociology.pdf.

For questions about this position contact Meredith Redlin at meredith.redlin@sdstate.edu or 605-688-4084.

Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist - North Carolina State University

This is a 12-month tenure track position in the Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences at North Carolina State University, at the level of Assistant Professor. The position's effort will be 50% Academic Programs and 50% Extension. Focus on Positive Youth Development, Diversity, and Inclusion.

As an Assistant Professor, the position will be expected to develop new courses and teach current graduate level courses in Youth, Family and Community Sciences using distance education technologies.

As an Extension Specialist, the position will work with county extension agents, state extension staff, and stakeholders on positive youth development programming. The position will collaborate with youth programs at the college and university level, while conducting research related to positive youth development. The position is expected to secure external funding for research and development activities. This position is open until **November 26, 2018**, with the proposed hire date of March 1, 2018. To for more details see

http://www.ruralsociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=266:assistant-professor-and-extension-specialist&catid=25:employment-opportunities&Itemid=137. To apply, see <https://jobs.ncsu.edu> and search for position number 00062979.

Assistant Professor of Rural Sociology - The Pennsylvania State University

This is a nine-month, tenure-track Assistant Professor position in rural sociology with a 75% research and 25% teaching responsibility and with the expectation of an affiliation with the Population Research Institute. The successful applicant will be expected to develop a nationally and internationally recognized research program related to the sociology and demography of rural population health and health disparities. Specific topics for study might include demographic and/or spatial variation in health outcomes (e.g., chronic diseases, morbidity, mortality); health behaviors (e.g., nutrition, physical activity, smoking, substance misuse); health care access and utilization; community health; health and environment; and health-related policies. The candidate's research agenda should focus on the prevalence, correlates, causes, and/or consequences of health disparities, with special attention on rural/urban and other spatial variation in this regard.

Questions can be directed to: Professor Leif Jensen, Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education, The Pennsylvania State University at lij1@psu.edu. Review of applicants will begin on **November 30, 2017**, and remain open until a suitable candidate is identified. For more details see http://www.ruralsociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=270:assistant-professor-of-rural-sociology-position-at-penn-state&catid=25:employment-opportunities&Itemid=137

Follow our new LinkedIn account!
[linkedin.com/company/ruralsociologicalsociety](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ruralsociologicalsociety)

For information on posting in future RSS eBulletins or on our website, please contact the RSS Business Office at rssira@wiu.edu.

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