

RSS eBulletin Issue 102, September 2018

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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 rssiira@wiu.edu.

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SAVE THE DATE - AUGUST 7-10, 2019

82nd Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society in Richmond, Virginia

Theme: Justice and Tyranny: Mobilizing Sociological Imaginations

[What's new in Richmond](#)

RURAL SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The deadline for nomination has been moved to October 15th.

The Rural Sociological Society (RSS) is currently seeking nominations for leadership positions that will begin in 2019. 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 2019 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. **Secretary:** serves for three years (voting member of Council each year)
4. **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.
5. **Student Representative to Council:** serves for two years (voting member of Council each year)
6. **Chair-elect of the Nominations Committee:** serves for two years, as Chair-elect and Chair (not a voting member of Council)
7. **Nominations Committee Member (2 positions):** serves for one year (not a voting member of Council).
8. **Ethics Committee Member:** serves for three years (not a voting member of Council).
9. **International Rural Sociological Association Member (IRSA) (3 positions):** IRSA Representatives serve a 4-year term.

Nominations may be submitted through the following link: [RSS Nominations Form](#)

For questions or further information, please contact Gregory Fulkerson, Nominations Committee Chair, directly at Gregory.Fulkerson@oneonta.edu

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED THROUGH OCTOBER 15TH 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS

USDA Research Relocation and Reorganization: Perspectives from Former USDA Chief Scientists and Administrators

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[announcement](#) that he plans to relocate the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) and USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) outside the Washington, DC, area by the end of 2019. He also will transfer ERS from the USDA research arm to a policy arm.

The announcement has raised the following questions of process:

- Was the partner and stakeholder community consulted prior to the announcement, and if so, how and when?
- Will there be a chance for the USDA partner community to comment on the announcement and the effects of its realization?
- What is Congress's oversight and appropriation role in this reorganization?

For more information, [click here](#).

RSS Member Laura Reynolds has recently published an article titled "Fairtrade Certification, Labor Standards, and Labor Rights: Comparative Innovations and Persistent Challenges."

Abstract: Fairtrade International is the primary social certification in the agro-food sector, working to promote the wellbeing and empowerment of farmers and workers in the Global South. Although Fairtrade's farmer program is well studied, far less is known about its labor certification. Helping fill this gap, this article provides a systematic account of Fairtrade's labor certification system and standards and compares it to four other voluntary programs addressing labor conditions in global agro-export sectors. The study explains how Fairtrade International institutionalizes its equity and empowerment goals in its labor certification system and its recently revised labor standards. Drawing on critiques of compliance based labor standard programs and proposals regarding the central features of a beyond compliance approach, the inquiry focuses on Fairtrade's efforts in promoting (1) inclusive governance, (2) participatory oversight, and (3) enabling rights. I argue that Fairtrade makes important, but incomplete, advances in each domain, pursuing a worker enabling compliance model based on new audit report sharing, living wage, and unionization requirements and its established Premium Program. While Fairtrade pursues more robust beyond compliance advances than competing programs, the study finds that like other voluntary initiatives, Fairtrade faces critical challenges in implementing its standards and realizing its empowerment goals.

Raynolds, Laura. 2018 "Fairtrade Certification, Labor Standards, and Labor Rights: Comparative Innovations and Persistent Challenges." *Sociology of Development*. 4 (2): 191-216.

For more information, [follow this link](#).

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

The 30th Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation Conference - Health & Shared Prosperity

Have you checked out the full draft conference program yet? Have you seen the diversity of keynote speakers, concurrent sessions, capacity building sessions, and field trips? The Health and Shared Prosperity conference is going to be a great event and we do not want you to miss it!

The draft program for the entire conference is now available on the [conference website](#). The conference will explore a wide diversity of themes, ranging from the future of rural Canada, reconciliation and rural development, rural mental health, and rural water governance. Other highlights for the upcoming conference include:

- Join the discussions in one of the 24 concurrent sessions with community and indigenous leaders, policy makers, and researchers from across Canada and internationally.
- Participate in one of the six field trips focused on themes such as water, economic development, indigenous development, and culture/heritage.
- Learn new skills during one of the capacity building sessions taking place throughout the conference.
- Participate in the New Researcher Forum
- Join the Arctic Division meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science the day before the CRRF Conference.



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[To register for the conference click here.](#) Do not forget that being a member of CRRF gets you a discount on the conference registration. If your CRRF membership needs to be renewed [click here](#). If you cannot be in Saskatoon watch for updates through the conference website and social media (#crrf2018). Conference participants will be encouraged to share lessons learned, resources, and other learnings from the conference.

The conference will be held on October 10-13, 2018 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. More details about the conference can be found at www.saskatoon2018.crrf.ca.

Invitation to Missouri Sociological Association Conference October 2018

We have the pleasure of inviting you to participate in the 2018 Missouri Sociological Association Conference, October 19th and 20th. MSA is an organization that strives to highlight the professional and scholarly work of Sociologists in Missouri. My name is Sharon Squires and in October 2017 I became the president-elect for the organization. I am a University of Missouri Columbia alumni and I spent many an hour in the basement of the sociology building discussing Foucault. I left the state for several years and recently returned to teach Sociology at Lincoln University in Jefferson City. I was surprised to see that sociology seems to be in a state of decline in Missouri. Many universities have closed programs and others have kept sociology classes just to fill general education requirements.

This current state of affairs is the impetus behind the 2018 MSA conference theme "[Sociology to the Future: Where do we go from here?](#)" This conference explores where sociology is going as a discipline and how we can revitalize our neglected content area. At the 2018 conference I invite you to join us in discussing the future of Sociology and how we can make ourselves relevant in the social discussion again. The conference will explore some of the facts and fictions of the discipline as well as the current state of the discipline as a whole. We will also explore dynamic and innovative teaching strategies. This year other presenters and I will be leading a workshop on teaching sociology. We will examine using humor, social media, green screen technology and online resources to energize contemporary classrooms.

We welcome and invite paper submissions from related social science fields doing research on Missouri as well. Part of planning for our future is rebuilding social science relationships. Specifically, anthropologist, social workers, political scientist and historians doing work on Missouri are also encouraged to submit proposals to the conference. If you are doing interesting sociological projects come out and share your information with your colleagues.

For more information follow this link: <https://www.ruralsociology.org/Invitation-to-Missouri-Sociological-Association-Conference-October-2018>

RSS MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

RSS member, Julie Keller, has announced her book, *Milking in the Shadows: Migrants and Mobility in America's Dairyland*, will be available through Rutgers University Press in January 2019.

A description of the book and order information can be found here:

[*Milking in the Shadows: Migrants and Mobility in America's Dairyland*](#)

Available January 2019, Rutgers University Press

"Keller does an excellent job of telling the stories of migrant workers from Veracruz working in the dairy industry in Wisconsin. Her writing is refreshing in its clarity and the author does a beautiful job of telling the stories of those she interviewed in a very vivid way."

--Joanna Dreby, author of *Everyday Illegal: When Policies Undermine Immigrant Families*

"With fresh sociological insights, Keller shines much needed light on the lives of immigrant dairy workers. This book informs contemporary debates about migration with a 360 degree view of the lives and challenges of those who work in the shadows."

--Max J. Pfeffer, Cornell University

"In this deeply contextualized, engaging, insightful ethnography of the dairy industry, Keller reveals the multiple paradoxes of mobility

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immigrants. This perceptive, beautifully written ethnography makes a terrific contribution to our knowledge of immigrant workers' lives, the laws and economic forces that govern their lives, and their hopes and dreams."

--Cecilia Menjivar, UCLA

RSS Member Gerardo Otero is publishing a new book that will be available soon.

Book description:

Why are people getting fatter in the United States and beyond? Mainstream explanations argue that people simply eat too much "energy-dense" food while exercising too little. By swapping the chips and sodas for fruits and vegetables and exercising more, the problem would be solved. By contrast, The Neoliberal Diet argues that increased obesity does not result merely from individual food and lifestyle choices. Since the 1980s, the neoliberal turn in policy and practice has promoted trade liberalization and retrenchment of the welfare regime, along with continued agricultural subsidies in rich countries. Neoliberal regulation has enabled agribusiness multinationals to thrive by selling highly processed foods loaded with refined flour and sugars—a diet that originated in the United States—as well as meat. Drawing on extensive empirical data, Gerardo Otero identifies the socioeconomic and political forces that created this diet, which has been exported around the globe, often at the expense of people's health.

Otero shows how state-level actions, particularly subsidies for big farms and agribusiness, have ensured the dominance of processed foods and made healthful fresh foods inaccessible to many. Comparing agrifood performance across several nations, including the NAFTA region, and correlating food access to class inequality, he convincingly demonstrates the structural character of food production and the effect of inequality on individual food choices. Resolving the global obesity crisis, Otero concludes, lies not in blaming individuals but in creating state-level programs to reduce inequality and make healthier food accessible to all.

Online: <https://utpress.utexas.edu/books/otero-the-neoliberal-diet>

RSS Member Jan Vavra has recently published a manuscript on food self-provisioning.

The paper, based on the international research of food self-provisioning in 5 European regions, has just been published in June issue of Rural Sociology. According to my best knowledge, it is one of relatively few international comparisons of socio-demographic aspects of food self-provisioners in countries of Global North. I believe that this might be interesting also for the growing group of researchers dealing with food and rural sociology in US.

Online: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ruso.12180/abstract>

RSS Member Loka Ashwood has recently published a new book.

A fascinating sociological assessment of the damaging effects of the for-profit partnership between government and corporation on rural Americans

Why is government distrust rampant, especially in the rural United States? This book offers a simple explanation: corporations and the government together dispossess rural people of their prosperity, and even their property. Based on four years of fieldwork, this eye-opening assessment by sociologist Loka Ashwood plays out in a mixed-race Georgia community that hosted the first nuclear power reactors sanctioned by the government in three decades. This work serves as an explanatory mirror of prominent trends in current American politics. Churches become havens for redemption, poaching a means of retribution, guns a tool of self-defense, and nuclear power a faltering solution to global warming as governance strays from democratic principles. In the absence of hope or trust in rulers, rural racial tensions fester and divide. The book tells of the rebellion that unfolds as the rights of corporations supersede the rights of humans.

Learn more here: <https://yalebooks.yale.edu/book/9780300215359/profit-democracy>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Cornell University Department of City and Regional Planning Tenured Professor Position in Regional Science

considered.

Walter Isard defined regional science as a discipline concerned with “the careful and patient study of social problems with regional or spatial dimensions, employing diverse combinations of analytical and empirical research.” Applicants for this position should hold a Ph.D. in regional science or an allied field—e.g., planning, urban and regional economics, agricultural or environmental economics, economic geography, civil engineering, demography, developmental sociology, transportation science, or spatial analytics. We seek applicants with strong publication records in regional science journals and experience teaching core courses in regional science—e.g., industrial location theory, economic impact analysis, CGE modeling, agent-based modeling, or spatial statistical analysis—as well as a course in methods of planning analysis. Applicants should have a record of regular attendance at meetings of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI). It is expected that the successful applicant will become a member of the Graduate Field of Regional Science. The faculty of the Graduate Field includes 25 members from eight academic departments in five colleges of the University. A successful candidate will provide leadership in, and help shape the future of, the Graduate Field of Regional Science at Cornell, and advise both graduate and undergraduate students.

For more information, [click here](#).

Indiana University Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Sustainable Food Systems

Indiana University Bloomington seeks to hire a postdoctoral research fellow to study community food systems and sustainable food system development in international sites as part of a large interdisciplinary research team focused on sustainable food systems science, <https://sfss.indiana.edu/index.html>.

The researcher will work with a team of highly motivated faculty, research scientists, postdocs, and graduate students to study sustainable food system development and evolution, conducting community food system research for the longitudinal study of food system change. Research will focus on three main areas: production, aggregation/distribution, and consumption/access. The researcher will help lead qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, develop and deliver manuscripts and presentations, engage in community outreach, and co-write external grant proposals. The researcher will not be expected to teach.

This is a one-year position with a start date of 8/1/19. The appointment may be renewed for two additional years contingent upon programmatic need, available funding and the candidate’s satisfactory progress.

For more information, [click here](#).

Indiana University Assistant Research Scientist - Sustainable Food Systems Science

Indiana University seeks to hire an Assistant Research Scientist to study community food systems and sustainable food system development and help guide a large interdisciplinary research team in this exciting new, emerging area of research, <https://sfss.indiana.edu/index.html>. This is a non-tenure track, faculty position within the Ostrom Workshop at Indiana University-Bloomington.

The Research Scientist will work with a team of highly motivated faculty, research scientists, postdocs, and graduate students to study sustainable food system development and evolution, conducting community food system assessment for longitudinal study of food system change. Research will focus on three main areas and the feedbacks among them: production, aggregation/distribution, and consumption/access. The Assistant Scientist will help lead qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, data management, develop and deliver manuscripts and presentations, engage in community outreach, lead external grant proposals, and provide leadership for dissemination of project work and activities. The person hired for this position will help coordinate cross-pollination between multiple, international case study sites and develop/facilitate strategies for synthesis of research across sectors and cases. The assistant research scientist will also engage in supervisory responsibilities for project researchers.

This is a three-year position which may be extended dependent upon securing additional external funding and satisfactory performance. Applications received by October 30, 2018 will receive priority consideration.

For more information, [click here](#).

School of Public and Environmental Affairs Indiana University-Bloomington Campus Human Ecology

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top environmental science and policy programs in the nation. This position is one of several new faculty lines created as part of Indiana University's Grand Challenge, Prepared for Environmental Change (see: <https://eri.iu.edu/> and <https://grandchallenges.iu.edu/environmental-change/index.html>). The successful candidate will be expected to demonstrate strong scholarly potential, to develop an extramurally-supported research program, and to contribute to the teaching mission of the School.

Applicants should have research interests in the general field of human behavior and the natural environment, with a focus on understanding society's adaptive capacity and resilience in the face of environmental change. Related research interests might include but are not limited to human risk perceptions and decision-making, human use of natural resources, human use and management of working lands, human/environment feedbacks, political ecology, and environmental justice. The Ph.D. or an equivalent terminal degree in a related field is required (e.g., human ecology, environmental studies, environmental anthropology, rural or environmental sociology, political science, environmental psychology, sustainability, etc.).

For more information, [click here](#).

Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Norwich University

The School of Justice Studies & Sociology at Norwich University seeks to fill two permanent full time academic tenure stream positions at the level of Assistant Professor. These positions will begin on 1 July 2019. We seek applicants with a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice, Criminology, Sociology, Security Studies or a related field by the time of appointment. A J.D. is not sufficient qualification for this position, although advanced Ph.D. candidates who are ABD may be considered if the requirements for the degree will be completed prior to the position start date. Successful candidates will be committed to delivering a high quality undergraduate education and will pursue an active research agenda, as well as advise students majoring in the School.

Candidates should have relevant expertise and teaching experience in one or more of the following areas: Policing, Comparative Criminal Justice, Juvenile Justice, Restorative Justice, International Security, Cyber Dimensions of Criminal Justice, Research Methods (to include mapping/GIS applications), Data Analytics, and/or Law & Society. A record of effective prior teaching and the potential for scholarly/creative accomplishments that support appointment at the level of assistant professor are expected. An ideal candidate will be familiar with sponsored research and successful grant procurement, have full time teaching experience and be willing to teach an array of courses to support the needs of our cohesive academic community.

The residential program of the School of Justice Studies & Sociology at Norwich University emphasizes the importance of evidence-based knowledge in understanding crime policy, programs and practice. It also strives to cultivate commitment to the principles of justice, ethics, public service and the development of leadership skills in its students. With nearly 500 students enrolled in our residential undergraduate B.A. program, criminal justice is the most popular major at Norwich. The School seeks dynamic teacher/scholar specialists whose work is on the leading edge of the field.

For more information, [see full position announcement](#).

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Right to Be Rural: Citizenship Outside the City

Rural communities face many demographic, social, economic, environmental and political challenges. Community resilience in the face of these challenges attracts significant attention across the contemporary world. Climate change, neoliberal social and economic policies, economic globalization, restructuring and deindustrialization, population ageing and outmigration, food security and sovereignty, and a host of other issues are dramatically changing small town and rural life, and in some cases threatening their very survival. Moreover, such challenges are already altering the relationship between rural citizens and their states. The citizenship rights, freedoms and obligations typically enshrined in national constitutions—regarding personal security, education, health, income, and association—may only be weakly maintained in rural places with small populations, where external actors deem it too costly or inefficient to deliver a universal standard of services and amenities.

The editors of this new collection, tentatively titled *The Right to be Rural*, wish to assemble an international group of authors to reflect on **the question of rural citizenship, and to connect their empirical investigations of rural and small town life to sociological theories of citizenship and rights**. The University of Alberta Press has formally expressed interest in the title, and will be the main target of the full proposal.

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Special Issue in engaged Scholarship for Resilient Communities

The journal Social Sciences (ISSN 2076-0760; index by *Scopus*) is currently running a Special Issue entitled "Engaged Scholarship for Resilient Communities". Prof. Richelle Winkler and Prof. Angie Carter are serving as Guest Editors for this issue.

Local and community-scale practices show potential for addressing critical social and environmental problems, particularly in the absence of effective state or federal policy and programs. Partnerships between community organizations, policy-makers, and academic groups can both inform community-level solutions and create opportunities for learning and empowerment. For this Special Issue, we seek submissions on the analysis or application of community-engaged research promoting community sustainability. We define community-engaged scholarship broadly and will consider papers related to the research-teaching-service nexus using participatory action, citizen science, participatory GIS, community-based participatory scholarship, or other similar approaches where academic groups are engaged in a reciprocal relationship with community partners toward common goals. Accepted papers will directly apply these methods to the goals of improving urban or rural community well-being or otherwise working towards community sustainability, resiliency or policy solutions.

For more information, [click here](#).

The 50th Annual Meeting of the Southern Rural Sociological Association (SRSA, February 3-4, 2019) will be held concurrently with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS, January 31-February 6, 2019) in Birmingham, Alabama

The theme of the SRSA meeting is:

"Pathways for Equity in Development: Exploring the Past and Informing the Future through the Rural Social Sciences"

Rural social scientists have long been engaged in applied development research, evaluation, and policy, focusing attention on a wide range of issues. These include but are not limited to education, workforce development, health, food, agricultural, forestry, aquaculture, and natural resources, among many others. Addressing these diverse areas, repeated themes of concern entail human rights, justice, and equity across racial, ethnic, nationality, age, sex and gender, and spatial boundaries. The Southern Rural Sociological Association will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary Meeting in Birmingham, AL in 2019, an appropriate place for this historic meeting given the city's role in the Civil Rights Movement. In addition to open general submissions, interested rural social scientists are invited to submit abstracts for posters, paper presentations, and panel sessions to explore the various equity-related challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned from historic and contemporary development efforts in the southern United States and beyond. Scholars working on projects concerning other regions and countries are welcome, especially those that concern the Global South or that are comparative in nature.

Persons wishing to participate in the 2019 meeting are invited to submit a title, a list of authors and affiliations, and an abstract of 150 words by October 10, 2018. Paper, poster, and panel submissions are welcome. Submissions can be made online by following this link to a Qualtrics form (http://uofmississippi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5nE2zr5mY06HRwp).

For more information follow this link (<https://rss.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/CallforPapers/SRSA%20Call%20for%20Abstracts%20-%202019.pdf>)

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