



Photo by David Husted

The COSS Herald

A Semi-annual Publication
Produced by the Faculty
of the College of Social
Sciences

Spring 2014

The Return of the COSS newsletter

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Welcome to the inaugural issue of The COSS Herald – a revival of the College of Social Sciences annual newsletter. With this incarnation, we hope to provide an edition every semester, highlighting accomplishments, research projects, and anything else the faculty and staff would like to share with their colleagues.

New Faculty

Four new tenure track faculty joined our ranks this fall, enhancing the Departments of Sociology, Women's Studies, and History.

Jennifer Randles (SOC)



Jennifer Randles moved to Fresno in early June and shortly thereafter married her partner, Craig, an environmental scientist for the California Department of Fish & Wildlife. As an avid yogi and hiker, she has particularly enjoyed visiting numerous yoga

studios in Fresno and Clovis, as well as the many hiking opportunities afforded by Fresno's proximity to Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia National Parks. Two of her favorite new Fresno-based hobbies are eating at the amazing Italian restaurant, Veni Vidi Vici (appropriately named after an Italian expression meaning "I came, I saw, I conquered"), and playing Wednesday night pub trivia at the Landmark restaurant located in the heart of the Tower District.

Sarah Whitley (SOC)



Sarah Whitley accompanied by her husband Josh and dog Flower are settling into Fresno nicely. One thing they really like about Fresno is not having to shovel snow! They've really enjoyed learning about all the unique aspects of the central valley and exploring around the valley. They've had opportunities to explore the mountains and

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coast and look forward to taking backpacking adventures this coming spring and summer. They are still in the process of exploring the large variety of restaurants around Fresno, but one in particular that they already frequent is The Phoenician Garden. They also enjoy hitting up the local farmers markets. Besides spending time with each other in the outdoors they are also looking forward to starting a beautiful garden and figuring out the growing season here in the valley. With the weather being so mild in the valley during the fall, winter, and spring, they spend time together hiking, fishing, biking, running, and enjoying the various dog parks.

Larissa M. Mercado-López (WS)



I am new to Fresno and California, having spent the past 11 years in San Antonio, TX, where I earned my degrees. I'm originally from Gregory, TX, a small agricultural town along the

coast of Texas, so Fresno feels quite familiar and homey to me! My husband is a math teacher at San Joaquin Memorial High School, and my three daughters, ages 9, 8, and 5, attend school in the Central Unified School District and dance ballet folklórico under the direction of Fresno State professor Victor Torres. We absolutely love the farmer's markets and farms, and hope to do more traveling around this beautiful state. I am very happy to be at Fresno State, and already have been supported in so many ways by my colleagues and the administration in the College of Social Sciences!

Frederik Vermote (HIST)



Frederik Vermote hails from Belgium and did his doctoral work at the University of British Columbia. As he has settled in to the History Department as the resident

world historian, he has enjoyed the hiking opportunities that the Fresno area affords. He and his family love the mountains and have frequented the state and national parks surrounding the Central Valley.

New Staff

A new Department Administrative Coordinator joined the Departments of Chicano-Latin American Studies and Sociology this fall.

Melissa Perez

Melissa Perez comes from the Office of International Student Services, where she served as an ASC I for six years. She has enjoyed working with the faculty of Chicano Latin American Studies and Sociology, and is making the transition from OISS to the academic environment of COSS.

New Lecturers

Tania Pacheco-Werner



Pacheco-Werner is a sociology doctoral candidate at University of California, San Francisco, and consultant with VISIONS, Inc., a

501c3 training and consulting organization, specializing in diversity and inclusion. She has worked on numerous community-based participatory research projects including her own pilot research with Mexican immigrant elder patients of Golden Valley Health Centers and enjoys working on projects to improve the well-being of elder Mexican immigrants living in the Central Valley. Tania will soon become the first in her family to earn a doctoral degree and current serves as a lecturer in both the Sociology Department and Women's Studies Program at Fresno State. Family is an essential component of Tania's life, but she is also a modern art, world music, and public radio enthusiast.

Karina Reynaga



Karina Reynaga joins the Sociology Department as a lecturer this spring, having attained her BA in Sociology at Yale, and masters degrees in Sociology and Education Counseling at CSU Bakersfield.

Faculty and Staff News

Tenured and Promoted Faculty 2013

Cristina Herrera (CLAS)

Andrew Jones (SOC)

Ethan Kytle (HIST)

Blain Roberts (HIST)

Ramon Sanchez (CLAS)

Promoted Faculty 2013

Yishaiya Abosch (PLSI)

Faculty on Sabbatical Spring 2014

Bradley Jones (HIST)

Maria Lopes (CLAS)

Melanie Ram (PLSI)

...more Faculty and Staff news on page 4.

The COSS Herald

The COSS Herald is a semi-annual publication by the faculty of the College of Social Sciences, highlighting the activities of the faculty, staff, & students, and providing a venue for social bonding among members of nine departments spread over five buildings on campus.

The COSS Herald Staff:

Cristina Herrera, Co-editor

Andrew Jones, Co-editor

Submissions for the next edition of *The COSS Herald* should be sent via email to either cherrera@csufresno.edu or anjones@csufresno.edu. Images should be submitted in 'jpeg' format, while text materials should be in rich text format (rtf). The editors retain the right of refusal to publish any materials they deem to be obscene, pornographic, threatening, or boring.

Pub. Crawl

In this section of The COSS Herald, we highlight faculty accomplishments in scholarship from the past year and provide an opportunity to showcase future publications on the verge of acceptance.

Accepted Works

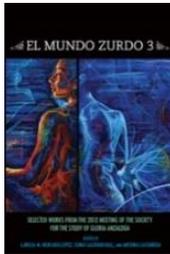
Book, *(Re)Writing the Maternal Script: Mothers and Daughters in Contemporary Chicana Literature* (2014) Cristina Herrera.

Collection, *Reading/Writing/Speaking the Mother Text: Essays on Caribbean Women's Writing*. (2014) Cristina Herrera and Paula Sanmartín co-editors.

Review of Genese Sodikoff, *The Anthropology of Extinction: Essays on Culture and Species Death*, in the *Quarterly Review of Biology*, January, 2014, Andrew Jones.

Journal Article, "Framing global warming: An international comparison of the influence of climate contrarians on news media coverage" *National Social Science Journal* (Forthcoming, 2014) Andrew Jones .

Collection, *El Mundo Zurdo 3: Selected Works from the 2012 Meeting of the Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa* (2013) Larissa M. Mercado-Lopez, Sonia Saldivar-Hull and Antonia Castaneda co-editors.



Journal Article, "An Advocate for a Lost Cause: Prudence Crandall, African American Education and School Reform," *Connecticut History*, Fall 2013, vol. 52. no. 2. Andrea Johnson.



Journal Article, "The Interest Group Effect on Contact with Congress." *Party Politics* 19 (November): 925-944. Thomas Holyoke.

Journal Article, "Collaborating for Change: Leveraging Campus Partnerships to Create a User-Centered Library Website." *Internet Reference Services Quarterly* 2013, 18(3-

4):227-246. Newell, Patrick A., Henry D. Delcore, Amanda Dinscore, Allison Cowgill and Jason McClung.

Journal Article, "No Exaggeration:



Truthfulness in the Lobbying of Government Agencies by Competing Interest Groups". *Japanese Journal of Political Science* 14(December): 499-520. Thomas Holyoke and Hyoung-Goo Kang.

Journal Article, "A Dynamic Model of Member Participation in Interest Groups." *Interest Groups and Advocacy* 2(October): 278-301. Thomas Holyoke.

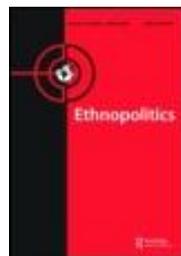


Op-Ed Essay, "Harpers Ferry, Redux," New York Times, "Disunion" series, Opinionator, Exclusive Online Commentary from the *Times*, 6 March 2013. Ethan Kytle.

Review of Andrew Delbanco, *The Abolitionist Imagination*, in the *Journal of Southern History* 79 (August 2013): 704-706, Ethan Kytle.

Op-Ed Essay, "Trading an African Dashiki for Union Blue," New York Times, "Disunion" series, Opinionator, Exclusive Online Commentary from the *Times*, 4 October 2013, Ethan Kytle.

Book, *Romantic Reformers and the Antislavery Struggle in the Civil War Era*. Cambridge University Press, (Forthcoming, 2014) Ethan Kytle.



Journal Article, "European Integration, Migration and Representation: The Case of Roma in France," *Ethnopolitics* (Forthcoming, 2014) Melanie Ram.

Book, *Pageants, Parlors, and Pretty Women:*

Race and Beauty in the Twentieth-Century South. (Forthcoming March 2014) Blain Roberts. *Selected a Notable African-American Title by Publishers Weekly for 2014*

Journal Article, "Uncovering the Confederacy of the Mind, Or How I Became a Belle of the Ball in Denmark Vesey's Church," *Southern Cultures* 19 (Fall 2013): 6-25. Blain Roberts.

Op-Ed Essay, "Still Sending the Wrong Message," New York Times, "There She Is, Miss America" Room for Debate Forum, 13 September 2013. Blain Roberts.

Op-Ed Essay, "The Ugly Side of the Southern Belle," New York Times, 16 January 2013, sec. A, p. 21. Blain Roberts.

Research Roundup

Cristina Herrera is currently working on two new projects, one on food service in Chicana literature, and the other that examines sisterhood in Chicana/Latina literature. Larissa Mercado-López is working on a book manuscript, *Mestiza Mat(t)ers: On the Corporeal Contours of Maternal Knowledge*.

Frederik Vermote is currently preparing a book manuscript on the Jesuit financial networks between China and Europe during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. He is also preparing a book chapter for the "Empire in Asia: A New Global History" project at the National University of Singapore, in which he will examine the role of the Jesuits in the Nerchinsk Treaty (1689) between the Qing and the Muscovite empires.

Jennifer Randles is currently preparing a book manuscript on relationship and marriage education policies for low-income families.

Blain Roberts is currently writing a book about the memory of slavery in Charleston, South Carolina from the end of the Civil War to the present with her colleague Ethan J. Kytle.

Provost Awards 2013

From Fresno State News by Shirley
Armbruster (May 2, 2013)

Faculty Service Award



Henry Delcore, who joined the Fresno State faculty in 2000, has been instrumental in leading the El Dorado Park Community Development Corporation, tasked with supporting the revitalization of one of the most distressed neighborhoods in the City of Fresno, and he has been the president of the board since its incorporation. On campus, he has been involved in the International Task Force, using his skills as a qualitative researcher to provide data and evidence about international student experiences on campus. He is also currently conducting a campus-based ethnography that will inform Fresno State Administrative leadership about how students use technology at Fresno State. He is co-author of The Library Study, a design anthropology report for Administrative leadership on how Fresno State's Henry Madden Library might better adapt its services to student practices while still accomplishing the educational mission of an academic library. Finally, he has integrated fieldwork training for cultural anthropology students with numerous local organizations, helping students learn by using ethnography to solve real world problems.

Distinguished Achievement in Assessment of Learning

The Department of Criminology in the College of Social Sciences implemented an undergraduate Student Outcome Assessment Plan (SOAP) that provides direct and indirect measures of student learning. The effort was led by Dr. Yoshiko Takahashi,



who has served as the SOAP Coordinator since 2011. Dr. Takahashi used input from the faculty to redesign the former SOAP into a tool that accurately assessed the

breadth of the program. Developing and implementing a SOAP for a department with more than 1,500 students required great organization and attention to detail, as well as a strong command of data collection, statistical tools and analysis.

Promising New Faculty



T. Hasan Johnson has been at Fresno State since 2008. He uses social media and the Internet to enhance his teaching, such as his Black Masculinities website, an

online source that drives his student's interviews with community-based senior citizens. In 2010, he created Africana Studies' Annual Hip-Hop Research and Interview Project to bring significant artist-activists to campus.

Student Activities

Matt Ford, BA Sociology '10 and current masters student in History, presented his research, "The Tool of Neutrality: U.S. Border Enforcement and the Mexican Revolution," at the 2013 California Sociological Association conference.

Berty Arreguin, BA Sociology '11, presented her research, "Distal Causes that Influence Self-Reported Health," for a session on bioethics, health and medical sociology at the 2013 California Sociological Association conference.

Maria Ortega-Reyes, who is double majoring in Sociology and Political Science, won the Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Program Award, one of two students to attain the award at Fresno State for 2013.

KEEP
CALM
AND
LOVE
SOCIAL SCIENCES

KEEP
CALM
AND
REFRAIN
FROM
CREATING
YET
ANOTHER
'KEEP CALM
AND
CARRY ON'
POSTER

YES, I REALISE THIS IS A TAD HYPOCRITICAL

THE RUMOR MILL

Throughout the fall 2013 semester, a group of dedicated undergraduates concerned about the issues of food security, hunger, and food waste established an official Food Recovery Network chapter at Fresno State. The Fresno State Food Recovery Network chapter (FRN@FresnoState) is part of the national Food Recovery Network that encourages students to recover surplus perishable food from their campus and surrounding community that would typically be thrown away and donate the recovered food to people in need. FRN@FresnoState was officially launched in December 2013 and became the first CSU campus with a chapter. The student leadership team and chapter will be working closely during the spring 2014 semester with university dining services to recover food and donate the food to a hot meal program taking place at St. Paul Catholic Newman Center located on Barstow Ave. every Friday evening. To learn more about the Fresno State FRN chapter check out the following articles
<http://collegian.csufresno.edu/2013/12/04/student-group-to-fight-campus-food-waste/>
<http://www.fresnostatenews.com/2013/12/students-recover-food-to-feed-campus-neighbors/> or contact the student leadership team at: frnfresnostate@gmail.com.

Cristina Herrera is the director of the forthcoming 2014 symposium in San Antonio, "The Latina/o Literary Landscape," sponsored by the American Literature Association.

Larissa M. Mercado-Lopez has put out a Call for Papers for a new anthology: *Decolonizing Fitness: Women of Color, Feminism, and the Politics of "Fit" Bodies*.

Last April, Melanie Ram was invited to give a talk to World Bank staff in Washington, DC on "Finding a Path to Social and Economic Inclusion of Europe's Roma Population." She was also an invited speaker on Roma at a University of Texas at Austin conference on "Identity Politics: The New World versus New (and Old) Europe" (March 2013). She spent last summer in Accra, Ghana, teaching an international human rights course at the University of Ghana, Legon as a Visiting Professor through the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC).

Andrea Johnson, working with Grace Point of Oroville, California, wrote, received, and will serve as project director for their NEH grant Created Equal. <http://createdequal.neh.gov>



Fresno State's Food Recovery Network. Members of the food recovery team, including students from the Sociology Club, pose after recovering and donating over 2,100 lbs of food from campus facilities. December 21, 2013

Faculty and Staff News continued from page 2

NEA grant funded



Alex Espinoza, interim Chair of Chicano and Latin American Studies, attained a Creative Writing Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts.

retirement, Nelson continues to teach courses for the Sociology Department.

David Schecter



After serving on the faculty in the Department of Political Science for 12 years, with five as Chair, David Schecter accepted an administrative position at California State University, Bakersfield. He

begins his administrative duties at the start of the Spring 2014 semester.

Faculty Transitions

Colleges and their respective Departments are subject to periods of equilibrium and moments of transition when it comes to the people who make up the faculty and staff. The College of Social Sciences experienced such a transition in 2013 with the retirement of one faculty member and the departure of two others.

Ed Nelson



Ed Nelson joined the faculty of the Department of Sociology in 1973, and at the end of the 2012-13 academic year, after FERPing for five years, fully retired with a send-off from his colleagues at the Shepherd's Inn restaurant. In

addition to enjoying the benefits of

Margaret Gonsoulin



With eight years of service to the Department of Sociology, Margaret Gonsoulin concluded her tenure as a faculty member of the College of Social Sciences, and accepted a position in Chicago, Illinois.

Sociology faculty joined her for a breakfast send-off at The Train Depot on December 20, 2013.

Paparazzi



(Above left) An evening with Delroy Lindo. Hasan Johnson interviewed actor Delroy Lindo on September 25, 2013, as part of Africana Studies' ongoing Black Popular Culture Lecture Series.



(Above right) Department of Sociology Halloween Party at the home of Andrew Jones, October 26, 2013. Pictured from left to right: Matt Jendian, Tamara Lane, Ann Strahm (CSU Stanislaus), Tamara Sneizek (CSU Stanislaus), Andrew Jones, Robin Huigen, Victoria and Tim Kubal.



(Right) James Mullooly (in the blond wig) shows art patrons of Fresno that he is not only an Anthropologist, but also a performer in his role as Mother Ginger at the Central California Ballet production of "The Nutcracker." December 14, 2013



(Left) Why is this image here? Because we did not get enough photographs submitted by people within the College of Social Sciences, showing off their skills...bragging about their social lives....documenting their talents!