SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2014

HOSTED BY
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
NORRIS UNIVERSITY CENTER

A Conference for Graduate Student Research

2014 CONFERENCE THEME:
CULTURAL PRODUCTION AND REPRODUCTION

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

NINA ELIASOPH, University of Southern California
ASHLEY M EARS, Boston University
Welcome to the 16th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference. This annual event would not be possible without the generous donations of the various sponsoring institutions and departments, as well as the numerous graduate students and professors who have volunteered their time in planning and carrying out this important event. We would like to thank Northwestern University for hosting today’s conference and especially thank Northwestern University sociology graduate students Lisa-Jo van den Scott and Hannah Wohl for co-chairing this year’s conference and Gary Alan Fine for being the faculty liaison. We are fortunate to have Professors Nina Eliasoph from the University of Southern California and Ashley Mears from Boston University, who share with us today their knowledge and insights regarding ethnographic research.

Enjoy the conference!
Sincerely,

Mariana Craciun, Northwestern University
Daphne Demetry, Northwestern University
Kerry Ferris, Northern Illinois University
Doug Engelman, Northwestern University
Carlo Felizardo, Northwestern University
Juliette Galonnier, Northwestern University
Dawna Goens, Northwestern University
Amy Jonason, University of Notre Dame

The 2014 Chicago Ethnography Conference Planning Committee

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Dawna Goens, Northwestern University
Amy Jonason, University of Notre Dame

Thank you to all our panel discussants:

Mariana Craciun, Northwestern University
Daphne Demetry, Northwestern University
Kerry Ferris, Northern Illinois University
Gary Alan Fine, Northwestern University
Lisa Frohmann, University of Illinois-Chicago
Theo Greene, Northwestern University
Jennifer Jones, University of Notre Dame
Brayden King, Northwestern University

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Department of African Studies
Department of Communication Studies
Science Studies Program
NINA ELIASOPH, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA


ASHLEY MEARS, BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Ashley Mears is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Boston University. Her research, at the intersection of cultural and economic sociology and gender studies, documents processes of valuation and evaluation primarily in market settings, and how cultural logics of worth shape social inequalities. She received her PhD in Sociology from New York University. She is the author of Pricing Beauty: The Making of a Fashion Model (2011, University of California Press).

The capital concept has proliferated in studies of culture and stratification, usually depicting individual assets and personal advantages within given fields. Because this approach sidesteps issues of ownership, it obscures relational processes that allow for the appropriation of capital by some actors and not others. Based on fieldwork in the VIP party circuit from New York to Cannes, as well as 77 interviews with party organizers and guests, I document the appropriation of women’s bodily capital by men, who use women as a symbolic resource I term girl capital to generate money, status, and social ties. Party promoters, mostly male brokers, secure girl capital through four stages: recruitment, mobilization, control, and discipline. Relational work between promoters and women, cemented by gifts and strategic intimacies, frames women’s labor as leisure and friendship, while boundary work legitimizes the circulation of women as distinct from sexual labor. This system of traffic in women enables class consolidation among men in the global elite, while reproducing gender inequality at the top of the social class hierarchy. This article shifts the analysis of capital away from personal advantages and onto the social relations that make capitals convertible, bringing ownership into the study of culture and class.
SESSIONS 1-5: 8:45—10:15 AM

SESSION 1: Knowledge, Expertise, and Systems Production
Sponsored by the Science Studies Program
Wildcat Room A (101)

Colorblind Science?: The Perceived Importance of Diversity for Science Research
Kellie Owens, Northwestern University

Collective Troubles: Transforming Neoliberalism through Interactions with Nonhumans
Braden Leap, University of Missouri

Volunteered State: Citizen Science and Ecological Expertise in Cook County, IL
Natalie Bump Vena, Northwestern University

Politicians and Expertise: The Structuring of State Politics in the Contemporary United States
Johnnie Lotesta, Brown University

DISCUSSANT: Mariana Craciun, Northwestern University
SESSION 2: Gender
Wildcat Room B (101)

What about Gender? The social organization of butchers’ and florists’ workplace activities
Isabelle Zinn, University of Lausanne/EHESS, Paris

Flexibility and Inclusion in Sexual Identity Politics
D.A. Psihopaidas, University of Southern California

Objectified Culture, Gender, and Meaning in a Midwestern Fire Community
Kathryn Hendricks, University of Chicago

Gender, Rendered: Narrative Construction, Adaptation, and Justification in Trans* and Gender-Variant Communities
Spencer Garrison, University of Michigan

DISCUSSANT: Judith Wittner, Loyola University Chicago

SESSION 3: Citizenship, Identity, and Immigration
Evans Room (102)

Gender, Race, and Class: The Relationship Between Empregadas Domésticas and their Patroas
Florence Adibu, Northwestern University

The Visibility of Refugees’ Racial and Ethnic Identities during Resettlement in the United States
Fatima Sattar, Boston College

Worker Centers and the Struggle for Full Citizenship for Marginalized Workers
Jessica Cook, University of Illinois at Chicago

Belonging and the Floating Life
Alexander Page, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Emotion Management and Ambivalence in Student Activism
Elisabeth Long, University of Chicago

DISCUSSANT: Elizabeth Onasch, Northwestern University
SESSION 4: Sport and Leisure Activities
Chicago Room (103)

Elite Organized Sports and Development: The Case of a U.S. Soccer Academy
Alex Manning, University of Minnesota

Ethnography of ethnicity construction in situation. The case of identity in an “indigenous” soccer championship in Otavalo, Ecuadorian Andes
Jérémie Voirol, University of Lausanne/University of Essex

Shaken or Stirred? Consumer Involvement in Producing Authentic Craft Cocktails
Claire Duggan and Connor Fitzmaurice, Boston University

Working for (and on?) the Weekend: Subculture, Bureaucracy, and Women’s Flat Track Roller Derby
Kimberly Lucas, Brandeis University

A Rookie in the Field and On the Track: An Autoethnography of a Graduate Student’s Journey into Research and Roller Derby
Amanda Draft, Wayne State University

DISCUSSANT: Gary Alan Fine, Northwestern University

SESSION 5: Subculture and Outside Culture
Big Ten Room (104)

Time and Money Use By Budget Travelers
Jacob Thomas, University of California, Los Angeles

Muslims Never Bomb On Stage: Audience Perceptions of Muslim Stand-Up Comedy
Bilal Hussain, Loyola University Chicago

Modelling Judgment: Interacting Appropriately in an Erotic Arts Club
Hannah Wohl, Northwestern University

Pop-up to Permanent: Evolving Vocabularies of Entrepreneurship
Daphne Demetry, Northwestern University

Weird Music: Tension and Reconciliation in an Avant-Garde Economy
Whitney Johnson, University of Chicago

DISCUSSANT: Jennifer Jones, University of Notre Dame
SESSION 6: Race, Identity, and Action
Sponsored by the Department of African American Studies and the Department of African Studies
Big Ten Room (104)

The Broken Promises of Social Mixing: The Case of the Cabrini Green - Near North Area in Chicago
Javier Ruiz-Tagle, University of Illinois at Chicago

Marriage and Motherhood: Black Women Have Their Say
Ruth Hays, Northwestern University

What’s in a Name? Understanding the Racialization of Egyptians in Chicago
Bradley Zopf, University of Illinois at Chicago

Part of Flora and Fauna: Botho and the Safari Guide in Northern Botswana
Sakhile Matlhare, Northwestern University

DISCUSSANT: Brian Sargent, Northwestern University

SESSION 7: Religion
Chicago Room (103)

Learning to Be Muslim: American Converts to Islam and the Collective Learning of Muslimness
Juliette Galonnier, Northwestern University

The Shroud of Whiteness: Catholic Schools as Arbiters of Racial Animus
Brian Gilbert, DePaul University

Too Much Sociology? The Uses and Abuses of Social Science in Evangelical Church Planting
Adam Murphree, New York University

Hip Catholicism: Crafting a Catholic Cool
Katherine Dugan, Northwestern University

From Revolution to Traditional Values: The Development of a Campus Abstinence Group
Katherine Castiello Jones, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

DISCUSSANT: Nitasha Sharma, Northwestern University
SESSION 8: Individuals, Families, and Groups in Urban Life  
Wildcat Room A (101)

Whiteness in the City: Race, Space, and the Reproduction of Hegemonic Whiteness  
Kevin Loughran, Northwestern University

How Families Become Grounded Within the Chaos that is Mental Illness  
Doug Engelman, Northern Illinois University

The Detroit Eastern Market Between Modernity and Tradition  
Erica Giorda, Michigan State University

The Queer Bee: Rural Farming with a Lesbian Beekeeper  
Jaclyn Wypler, University of Wisconsin-Madison

DISCUSSANT: Brayden King, Northwestern University

SESSION 9: Systemic Struggle and Intimate Spheres of Violence  
Evans Room (102)

Life and Health Outside Prison: Lack of Continuity of Care as Reinforcing Negative Health Outcomes amongst the Previously Incarcerated  
T. Amorette Young, Texas A&M University

How To Fight Without Rules: On Regulating Behavior in “De-Regulated” Spaces  
Neil Gong, University of California, Los Angeles

Making a Neighborhood in the Shadow of the Rail Yard: Community Identity, Moral Boundaries, and Criminal Opportunity  
David Schalliol, University of Chicago

To Be Vigilant: Public Engagement in the Movement to Close Down Guantánamo Bay  
Erin Stephens, George Mason University

DISCUSSANT: Lisa Frohman, University of Illinois-Chicago
SESSION 10: High School Ethnographers
Wildcat Room B (101)

Barriers Facing Undocumented Women in Divorce: An Examination of Undocumented Mexican Women in Chicago
Jazmin Nunez and Maria Sanchez, University of Illinois at Chicago

Overcoming Barriers: Resilience in Latina Mothers in Higher Education
Doris Romero, Susana Gonzalez, and Stephanie Cano, University of Illinois at Chicago

Improving Experiences of LGBT High School Students: A Comparison of Two Cohorts of Chicago Public School Students
Emily Vela and Melissa Barboza, University of Illinois at Chicago

School, Resilience, and Sex Workers: Schools as a Strategy for Resilience in Sex Workers
Cynthia Rivas and Lucila Rivas, University of Illinois at Chicago

DISCUSSANT: Daphne Demetry, Northwestern University
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: 12:15PM—1:30PM

Rendering Invisible Dilemmas Visible: Ethnography, Social Vision and Organizational Form in Everyday interaction

NINA ELIASOPH, University of Southern California

McCormick Auditorium

SESSIONS 11-14: 2:30PM—4:00PM

SESSION 11: Media Representation and Cultural Production
Sponsored by the Department of Communication Studies
Big Ten Room (104)

The Gendered Representations of “Lunch Ladies”: A Comparative Discourse Analysis of Miss Beazly, to Adam Sandler, to Buffy the Vampire Slayer, and Beyond
Ashley Vancil, University of Missouri

Emotional Display in Cultural Production: The Case of Casting for Reality Television
Junhow Wei, University of Pennsylvania

How do Advertisers Make Creative Decisions? Lessons from the Agency
Andrew Cohen, Yale University

The Highlight Reel and Real Me: How Adolescents Construct the Facebook Fable
Jill Walsh, Boston University

We All Want to be Big Stars: The Draw to the 'Real Housewives'
Evie Psarras, DePaul University

DISCUSSANT: Kerry Ferris, Northern Illinois University
SESSION 12: Education
Wildcat Room A (101)

Cultivating Memories in the Minnesota History Center: History Education and Emotions
Yagmur Karakaya, University of Minnesota

They’re [We’re] Not Just Playing: Boundary Work, Blending Work, and Social Comparisons between Preschool Teachers
Jennifer Nelson, Emory University

Sending Children to School: State Failures Become Mother's Burdens in a Cairo Slum
Heba Gowayed, Princeton University

Inference and Learning Process
May George, Davidson College

DISCUSSANT: Cassidy Puckett, Northwestern University

SESSION 13: Political Economies and Fiscal Ideologies
Wildcat Room B (101)

Urban Informality and Poverty in Bangladesh: The Case of Street Vendors in Dhaka City
Md. Tarek Khan, University of Dhaka

The Two Steps and Constituencies of Field Creation and Organizational Change: The Rise of Securitization Financial Markets
David Lubin, University of Chicago

Symbolic Battles in Workplaces: The Spatial Dynamics of Organizational Responses to Institutional Demands
Yuhao Zhuang, University of Chicago

Piety and Profit: Islamic Microfinance in Post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan
Aisalkyn Botoeva, Brown University

Jennifer Rainer, George Mason University

DISCUSSANT: Dan Menchik, Michigan State University
SESSION 14: Sexualities
Evans Room (102)

Sexuality in University: Encouraged Heterosexuality and Imposed Courtship in Campus Residence Life
Frank G. Karioris, Central European University

Sensuality, Seduction, and Sex: The Art of Love Bombing in a Greedy Institution
Justin Van Ness, University of Notre Dame

Reading the Lesbian Romance, Telling Lesbian Lives
Lital Pascar, Northwestern University

DISCUSSANT: Theo Greene, Northwestern University

SESSION 15: Travel, Globalization, and Culture
Chicago Room (103)

The Economization of Cultural Production in Travel Journalism: From “The Most Trusted Voices of Travel” to Entrepreneurial Destination Promotion
Tim Rosenkranz, The New School for Social Research

The Career of Shore Fishers
Adam Talkington, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Globalization as Inspiration: The Cognitive Effect of Transnational Activism
Kate Pride Brown, Vanderbilt University

Constructing Commonality across Cultural Differences: Maintaining the Non-threatening Narrative of Culture
Carol Petty, George Mason University

DISCUSSANT: Paul Brian McInerney, University of Illinois-Chicago
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: 4:15PM—5:30PM

Girl Capital in the Consolidation of Class among Elites: A Relational Approach to Ownership
ASHLEY MEARS, Boston University

McCormick Auditorium

RECEPTION: 5:30PM—7:00PM

All conference attendees are cordially invited to join us in Norris University Center for a Reception.