

Semester Sociology News

Inside This Issue:

- Learn what is happening in some of our spectacular classes
- Read about the provocative Café Society
- News & views from our Sociology students

From the Chair:

There has been a fabulous array of learning opportunities and activities streaming out of this department this past spring, and continuing through this summer. Our Café Society (see p. 2) is the envy of the university, and will have a command performance this fall. Also, the Sociology Club organized numerous excellent events (see p. 3).

Our Sociology Department had an enormous presence at this year's Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) held in Chicago. Twelve of

our instructors presented, including Loren Henderson (December, 2006) graduate. In addition I was elected to be the incoming MSS President, and Oana Paniate, NEIU Sociology major, will be the MSS Student Director. The theme for the April, 2008 meetings is "Making Sociology More Public." We hope to see many of you in St. Louis. Think about presenting a paper or organizing a session. Go to the MSS website to find out how to do this: <http://www.theMSS.org>

Check out our new murals! These murals were conceived

by some of our Sociology Club officers in partnership with Professor Santiago Vaca's summer Mural Painting course. On page 8 you can view some photos of the mural process.

This issue of **Sociology Matters** includes much that we can be proud of. Congratulations to all of our graduating Seniors (May, 2007). And check out Reports from Alumnae (see p.7) to read what some of our graduates are currently doing. Finally, become a part of our newsletters. We want to include what you are doing that might be of interest to us all. Send your news to me, Dr. Susan Stall-s-stall1@neiu.edu

2007 Midwest Sociological Society News



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Attending the Midwest Sociological Society's Conference on April 6th & 7th was like going to an Amusement Park for the mind! The different types of issues that were discussed were invigorating. I was very impressed by the number and quality of the presenters. I mixed up the presentations that I attended so that I could "taste" the many areas and the new developments in each. Some presentations that I attended included: aging, gender ideologies, race and interpersonal relationships. I was especially impressed with the presentations that discussed new ways of reaching students in sociology. My only regret was that I did not take off the entire time [from work] so that I could have partaken in more of the presentations and tours.

--Cheryl Harris

I attended the MSS on April 5th. I attended two sessions, entitled Latinos and Education and Gender in a Global World: Analysis of Sex Work. I found the sessions I attended to be very informational. It is interesting that although the US graduation rate is recently up six percent for white students, the graduation rate has not changed for Latinos. Maria Luna-Duarte also spoke about El Centro and how it is one of a kind in the way in which they serve the Hispanic community. I also learned a lot about Bangladesh's sex trafficking industry. There are approximately 1.25 million children forced into sex work each year. Bangladesh is also in the top ten sex trafficking countries in the world. It was really hard to actually choose a session to go to, because so many of them sounded interesting. I would probably go again, if given the chance.

-- Angie Martin

A Viewpoint – Free Speech and the Politics of Ambiguity

Chris Poulos, SOC Major and Member of Students Against the War

Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU)'s administration will maintain they uphold free speech; however, their actions prove otherwise. Take, for example, the arrests of NEIU students Ken Barrios and Matt Larson for non-violently protesting the CIA, or the infamous "free speech" zones, which contain rather than foster free speech. Until the administration is held responsible for maintaining an environment that stifles free speech, and until Northeastern changes its current unconstitutional conditions, this demands our utmost attention. As sociologists (both students and faculty), we can be proactive in recreating an environment in which free speech and activism are encouraged.

One such way is to offer our sociological perspective, and, more importantly, spread that perspective to NEIU's student body, faculty, and staff. In accordance with this, I will offer one sociological perspective that deals with the

administration's contradictory claims and actions.

We have to ask ourselves an important question: How is the administration allowed to get away with limiting freedom of speech on NEIU's main campus? I would argue that an ambiguous rhetoric facilitates this atrocity, while simultaneously subduing any massive uproar. Whether it is in a written document (i.e. Student Conduct Code) or in a response to an event that shakes the status quo (i.e. President Hahs' punitive response to the arrests of Ken and Matt), ambiguity serves as an effective hegemonic tool. Antonio Gramsci used the term hegemony to describe how a powerful group is able to peacefully exert its will onto less powerful groups. The administration successfully exerted its power onto the students, faculty and staff in limiting

free speech without being reprimanded. This not only limits the ability to protest against outside organizations, such as military recruiters or the CIA, it also limits the ability to speak out against an administration that is slowly ruining what makes NEIU an affordable, quality commuter school—take the 14.7% increase in tuition, for example.

As sociologists, we have an important function in this school. We have the intellectual ability to deconstruct and contextualize said ambiguity, and, *most importantly*, counter statements like Hahs' reply, and spread our sociological understanding around the school—in effective ways. We have the responsibility to encourage free speech and activism, and scrutinize repression of free speech, especially on the part of powerful figures like NEIU's administration.

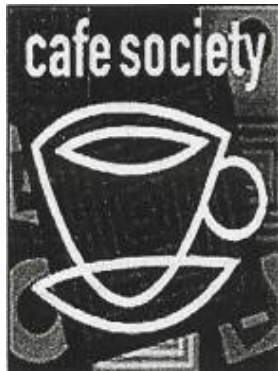
Hahs' Response:

Excerpt from Patrick O'Brien's *NEIU Independent Story*, "Students arrested at CIA event have their day in court," 3/27/07

Two students [were] arrested and charged with battery and interfering with an institution of higher learning.... The arrests stemmed from an incident on the afternoon of Feb. 28, when the Placement Office held an event in P.E. 2140 for students interested in working for the CIA. Seven people, some members of Students from the Campus Anti-War Network (CAN)and others members of the Socialist Club, including Barrios and Larson, gathered near the room on Feb.28 to protest the event.

The university's only official response to the incident was a message sent out by President Sharon Hahs on March 5. The statement reads in part: "I have been advised that some have disputed the details of what happened; there are both internal and external procedures for resolving these issues. These procedures were designed to protect fundamental principles and it is my hope that as a university community there is a shared commitment to these principles. We believe in free speech. This includes the right to protest. We reject violence. The University must be a safe environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors." Hahs also cited the university's policy on protests, which can be found at http://www.neiu.edu/DOCUMENTS/Dean_of_Students-Docs/grades.pdf. The policy states that students are allowed to protest in designated areas, which include Village Square and the outside of buildings on the main campus....

Café Society – Standing Room Only



As the 2008 Presidential elections heated up this spring semester, there seemed to be no shortage of discussion in major media outlets of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton and the roles of race and gender in American politics. Those of us organizing Café Society—Casey Baxley, Forrest Robinson, and myself—decided it would be a good idea to devote a meeting to this aspect of the election. We titled the event "Race and Gender in American Politics: Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton" and set the date for March 6th. Apparently, NEIU students from within and outside of sociology are interested in contemporary political issues because on March 6th we were pleasantly surprised to find that the event was standing room only.

Together students and faculty discussed the central issues that have emerged around the election: What counts as black in U.S. politics? Is Hillary Clinton viewed differently than her male counterparts? Might there be a way to move beyond the media's tendency to pit race against gender in this election? In what ways are Clinton & Obama similar or different? The debate was lively throughout the small-group discussion and continued when we reconvened toward the end of the meeting to recap the issues as a large group. Perhaps most importantly, students left the event energized from the discussion - a number of them sought me out afterward to ask when we'd be having another event. What a great way to end the inaugural year of Café Society here at NEIU!

"Café Society is the Sociology Department's attempt to promote discussion of important and oftentimes controversial topics."

--Dr. Michael Armato



What Will It Take? - From Our Sociology Club President, Luvia Valentin

My mother passed away when I was five years old, and I had to move to México to be raised by my grandmother who only had a fourth-grade education. Even though she had little education, she knew its value was the best gift she could inculcate in me. Nonetheless, simply going to school does not translate automatically into success; a student needs what sociologist Pierre Bourdieu calls cultural capital the particular knowledge and skills some—typically—the elite—have and the high expectations parents, other family members, and their social institutions in general have of those students. My grandmother wanted the best for me and expected the best from me, but did not know how to help me be the best.

So, I grew up doing homework by myself with many questions never answered. My frustration with not having a basic understanding of math often left me wanting to give up learning altogether. Even today, I sometimes find myself confused.

A long time has passed since I graduated from high school with embarrassingly low grades. I decided to come back to Chicago to forget about school and be “free” from the pain of being a “failed student.” However, in order to survive I needed to work, and in order to work I needed to re-learn the English language, which brought me back to school. After ESL lessons, the college pushed me to pursue an Associate’s

degree which led me to transferring to NEIU where I thought I could pursue a Bachelor’s in business, a major that my family was very proud of because, to them, business means money. It means wearing suits, driving luxurious cars, and having lots of power; or at least that is what Mexican novellas show -- power that a Mexican family from the farm has never had access to.

The extreme anxiety I felt while sitting through business classes that meant nothing to me reminded me of those confusing years in high school getting fed information that I was not able to process and made me scream for help. “Am I just not fit for school?” I met

with chairs of different departments, visited the career counseling office, spoke with administrators, talked with friends, scanned the entire academic catalog, and searched the internet—anything to find myself, because I felt lost.

That is when I found Sociology, a major that everyone has heard of, but not everyone understands. “What does sociology mean?” “What is that going to give you?” “Where are you going to work?” “What are you going to be?” “How much will you get paid?” These were typical questions I received from many people around me. For the first time, with my head held high, the question did not matter; I was ready to go against the norm.

Continued on page 6.

Sociology Club Updates:

During the 2007 spring semester, NEIU’s Sociology Club hosted and performed numerous activities that reflect the energy, generous spirit, and sociological imagination of the department’s students and faculty. We broadened interest and membership in the Club through fresh leadership, word of mouth advertising, and innovative programming. Also, our larger e-mail Club listserv includes students who are unable to attend meetings but wished to be kept abreast of our activities and discussions.

Activities of the club this past semester included sponsoring several dynamite presentations. In February, Silvia Rivera, General Manager of 90.5FM Radio Arte, spoke about this Latino owned, youth-driven, urban community radio station. For Black History Month, Dr. Nicholas Young shared his research, “The Social

Structure of Freedom: Race, Networks & Insurgency in the New York Underground Railroad.” In March, Loren Henderson and Dr. Martha Thompson spoke about “Exposing Myths and Uncovering Realities in Women’s Identity and Actions” for Women’s History Month. And in April, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) discussed their campaign and actions against corporate fast food chains.

Finally, the Sociology Club hosted our 2nd Café Society (see p.2), donated \$150.00 (from a bake sale) to support the Clothesline Project at El Centro, and participated in the Midwestern Sociology Society (MSS) meetings held in Chicago. **JOIN US THIS FALL!**

Ingrid Castro, Sociology Club Advisor



Sociology Club’s Café Society



Representatives of Coalition of Immokalee Workers

Class Spotlight – Sociology 342

Since 1998 our Sociology Department has offered an Internship Seminar course as one of our two capstone choices. This course takes place each Spring Semester. Students work 144 hours throughout the semester (e.g. about 12 hours per week) in their internship site, and attend a seminar class 1-2 times per week. It is an exciting course for a number of reasons: 1) Sociology Majors get to seriously grapple with the question—What do I want to do with my Sociology Degree? 2) The range of the student internship placements is fascinating, ranging from community organizing, human resources, urban planning, education, social services, youth work, and others. 3) Students learn from each other and from SOC Alumnae who share their real post-graduation career world experiences. In this issue a few students from this past spring's (2007) course briefly share their experiences, but also check out the glassed in bulletin board next to the SOC office door, CLS 2090 and past internship students' musings on what they will be doing 10 to 15 or 20 years from now -- in CLS 2094.

Crystal Sargent:

My internship placement was at Introspect Youth Services, Inc. This organization is dedicated to providing college-prep services and information (scholarships, financial aid, campus tours, college applications, etc.) to high school students attending Chicago city schools. My role was to assist clients when they visited our office, as well as work in the career center at various high schools. This complements what I want to do professionally in that it has provided me with the oppor-

tunity to work in a non-profit organization.

Additionally, I was able to work with youth which has always been one of my passions! What I liked most about the experience was being able to assist youth with a very important decision in their lives. It has been an empowering experience for them as well as myself.

Kristine Pedraza:

I feel so fortunate to have completed my internship last semester at Notre Dame High School for Girls. There, I was learning about school counseling and the process that goes along with preparing seniors for the college application process. Under the supervision of the Director of the Guidance Department at Notre Dame, I assisted about 6 to 7 different girls with their college applications and scholarship searches. I also organized a field trip to both Concordia and Dominican Universities, attended meetings, and helped during the parent teacher conferences. It was a wonderful and inspiring experience.

Casey Baxley:

Working for the NEIU GearUp Alliance in the Little Village and Back of the Yards communities has greatly improved my understanding of why college preparation programs are essential in Chicago public schools. Following my spring internship, I have continued to further my commitment to improving educational opportunities for disadvantaged youth. My primary motivation for working in this field is seeing students become more optimistic about attending college and thinking big about their futures.

Beth Sholtis

My internship was with the Center for Neighborhood Technology. I helped to plan a special event that showcased the "tools" created by CNT. These tools are applicable to such diverse areas as transportation, housing, and energy, among others. It was a privilege for me to work with such a creative and brilliant group of people, and a real pleasure to be exposed to a professional and "anti-bureaucratic" environment. I anticipate that the people I have met through CNT and the resources I have been exposed to, will prove valuable as I move forward in my career. (Beth will be pursuing her M.A. in Urban Planning at UIC this Fall, 07.



Marc Rittle:

Our Intimacy, Marriage, and Families class (Summer Term 1A) visited the Howard Area Community Center following a unit on social solutions for families in poverty. Howard Area in Rogers Park opened a new Families Center Campus, featuring early childhood education (including Head Start), nutrition program and farmer's market, and a home visiting program for new and expectant parents. This is not a single service facility: Howard Area represents sociology in action. Parents build community through participation on a Parent Policy Council. Voluntary participants in Howard Area programs are often linked to other services in the agency, for example education, job training, or violence prevention programs. As a result, families in poverty receive holistic attention and assistance at the local level.

-- Marc Rittle

Teacher Spotlight – Georgiann Davis



It is an honor to now teach in NEIU's Department of Sociology, a department that I learned so much from. As an undergraduate here, I was fortunate to obtain a unique view of sociology on our exceptionally diverse campus. I

also received immeasurable mentoring and support that continued with me through my master's degree and even now as I work on my doctoral dissertation at UIC. As an instructor in the department, I strive to provide students with

the level of academic knowledge, passion for the discipline, guidance, and encouragement that I received as an undergraduate. It's great to be back at Northeastern!

Department Tutor – Forrest Robinson

Hi, my name is Forrest Robinson, and I am glad to be at your service as the Sociology Department's tutor. As our tutor, my mission is to help you fully understand your class materials, and to lead you to resources (such as those found on JSTOR) that can help you in writing

your papers. I feel that every student can benefit from visiting me in the Learning Center on the 4th floor of the NEIU library. Every student can improve their understanding of the sociological concepts and theories that we learn in our classes. Along with successfully com-

pleting the readings and written assignments from our classes, frequent discussions about what we are learning can drastically improve our ability to articulate what we learn on paper and in class presentations. Hope to see you soon!



Class Spotlight – Sociology 329

Northeastern Illinois University's Sociology of Violence (Sociology 329) course's students traveled to the National Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Art Museum (NVVAM) on April 1st 2007. The class, taught by instructor Cecelia Hayes, gathered on a balmy Saturday afternoon to tour the galleries and to hear a short talk from artist, Exhibition Curator, and Vietnam War Veteran, Ted Stanuga. Students participated in a question/answer session designed to help them understand the emotional, intimate, and real-life costs of war from the perspective of the combatants themselves.

The National Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Art Museum (NVVAM), a nationally recognized fine arts museum, is located just south of downtown Chicago. It houses more than eight hundred works of art created exclusively by combatants of the Vietnam War, from both sides of the conflict. The Collection depicts and explores the human toll of warfare and includes paintings, drawings, sculpture, film & video, and photography, as well as art installations.

Although the majority of the museum's exhibit halls focus on the experiences of Vietnam-era veterans, there is a new exhibition entitled "Shifting Memories Reconstructing an Identity Amidst the Dust of False Understandings, Deceiving Narratives, and "Iraq." This impressive gallery signals the arrival of a new generation of soldiers from the Iraq Conflict who have offered their voices and experiences for reflection. Raw and emotional, the artwork resonated with NEIU students struggling to find appropriate responses to the realities of

war in their own generation.

One quote introducing the exhibition "In Defiance of Tradition: Works on Paper" was quite eloquent in highlighting the connections the students' visit were attempting to weave:

"Let us consider the collection in both its aspects—as a purely aesthetic phenomenon and as an expression of contemporary history, through the eyes of the sociologist no less than of the art critic" (A. Huxley, 1939).

Professor Hayes has been taking NEIU Sociology of Violence students to the NVVAM Galleries since 2004.

"Let us consider the collection in both its aspects—as a purely aesthetic phenomenon and as an expression of contemporary history, through the eyes of the sociologist no less than of the art critic."

A. Huxley, 1939.



Additional News – Sociology Student Updates

Congratulations to Ujwal Chhetry (SOC major, NEIU class of 2005) on his acceptance into Brandeis University's Master's Program in International Sustainable Development! Ujwal has also been offered a scholarship to subsidize his studies in Boston.

Keeanga Taylor, a former student at NEIU, was admitted to the PhD program in Sociology at Northwestern with a 5-year fellowship.

Congratulations to Catalina Nieto on her acceptance into Generation Change's 2007 Summer Internship Program. She will be assisting the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition in Nashville, TN.

Rebecca Brasfield will pursue graduate studies in Sociology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her specialization is Race, Class and Gender.

What Will It Take? (cont.)

Sociology opened my mind, persuaded me, stole my innocent thinking, and gave me the tools to question, to observe through a unique lens, to understand diversity, to embrace humanity. But most of all, sociology gave me power—the power of knowing, the power of having humility and the power of speaking out. I often wonder if my fellow students feel the same. If not, why?

I wonder why some students did not seem as motivated as I felt I was during my undergraduate years. They seemed uninterested, even cynical about certain professors or topics given in class. Is it that sociology is not for them, or that they do not want to change their ways of thinking? Why is it so difficult to participate in class, do the readings, and type up papers? Is it the lack of cultural capital?

Or is it the lack of enthusiasm? Yes, most of us are non-traditional students, which means that we are parents; we work

full-time; we may be undocumented; perhaps homeless. I myself have been married for eight years and care for a six-year old girl. I work outside the home, and I get home to work the "second shift," but that has simply made me stronger.

What I found has helped me move ahead is losing the fear and embarrassment of making a mistake, and speaking out. Because I did not have the cultural capital many have, I decided to work and invest in myself. I have looked and found mentors and friends who have been able to lead the way. I have integrated my education into my life and have been trying to apply it to everyday situations. I have tried to love the school in which I am enrolled. Because it is not an administrator or a professor who makes or breaks the experience; it is our attitudes as students, our willingness to learn, the way we tell our stories, and our involvement, involvement, involvement.

There is always the excuse that students do not get involved in student clubs and campus events because we are commuter students. However, I know that it also depends on those attitudes, and that willingness to do things. What will it take for more of us to participate and get involved around campus? Perhaps we want rewards. From personal experience, the Sociology club provided me with many rewards. Being part of the club made me feel good about myself when our community service was

making a difference if only to one person, when we were creating awareness around campus about issues that happen around the world and in our own families, and when food and laughs were being shared with classmates and professors. It also helped me to enhance my leadership skills, networking abilities, and communication with others. What will it take for more of us to get involved? Let's not wait for the next charismatic leader to appear, we are all leaders, let's put that skill into practice.



Luvia Valentin with daughter, Melanie.

Alumnae (Graduate: Dec, 2004) - Nakeischea Loi Smith

I've finally come to the end of my academic career!! I could not be happier. I finished up my coursework at MIT this past December and have just moved back to the Bahamas where I got a really exciting job opportunity in government with the Ministry of Energy, Environment, and Planning. I'll be completing my thesis while working and will officially graduate in June with a Masters of City Planning. For all those folks in Chicago, save June 9th as a possible date for my graduation party. My job is going to entail a lot of travel within the Bahama Islands, so I am really excited about getting to know my country better. I'll also be able to

interact with lots of people: local residents, government leaders, developers, etc. It's great not to be in an office 9-5, but to be out and about. It seems like there will be very few dull moments. Some of my current projects include developing a land use policy, a marina policy, and creating a Master Plan for an island called Harbour Island. I will also be creating a strategic plan for an emerging ecotourism market in one of our southernmost islands, Inagua, about 50 miles off the coast of Cuba. Essentially I have landed my dream job. I get to meet lots of people from all walks of life, travel, and do what I love most—building better communities in the place that I love most. I

definitely feel really blessed and thank all of you who have encouraged me and supported me in my pursuits all these years.

My perseverance has paid off! But this is definitely not a one woman show, and I could not accomplish what I have alone.



From a McNair Scholar:

Hi, I'm Krystle Pereira, a Sociology major and McNair scholar. I am conducting research on the intersectionality of gender, race/nationality and socioeconomic status in child custody. My research entails a content analysis of case transcripts in the last five years in Illinois, as well as detailed, face-to-face inter-

views with professionals associated with the issue—such as teachers, law students, advocates, judges and lawyers. I am being mentored by Dr. Ingrid Castro, whose detail oriented approach has enabled me to keep focused, and whose guidance has positively influenced not just my research project, but my choices for grad school and life thereafter.

The Dean's List:

2006:

- Javed Ali
- Ryan D. Berglund
- Andrea Y. Carroll
- Liza T. Castrovillari
- Chrystal C. Chisim
- Cathy E. Dalipi
- Alexander Diz
- Susan M. Downard
- Beth K. Fisher
- Rachel L. Gielarowski
- Loren Marie Henderson
- Michael P. Holmes
- Towana G. Horne
- Daniel G. Johnson
- Jeremy J. Klein
- Laura M. Kuc
- Drashti J. Modi
- Sandra M. Moscoso
- Sandra C. Nieto
- Farooq Patel
- Quintyra Puckett
- Megan M. Spellman (Honors Scholar)
- Judith A. Wall
- Felicia Williams
- Tiffany M. Williams
- Casey Baxley
- Rebecca Bradburd
- Emily Britain
- Samuel A. Coffman
- Andrew A. Dyon
- Fernando Gonzalez
- Cheryl L. Harris
- Rebecca Inlow
- Daniel G. Johnson
- Stephanie L. Kaplan
- Grazyna Krawczyk
- Daryl A. McGee
- Evelyn Mancilla
- Angela R. Martin
- Felipe S. Melecio
- Lakisha R. Miller
- Denise Oswald
- Oana Panaite
- Sundar K. Pandey
- Natalia E. Pejski
- Krystle Pereira
- Kathryn G. Peterson
- Michelle Piek
- Christopher Poulos
- Jenna M. Rubino
- Amanda L. Santi
- Crystal Sargent
- Beth A. Sholtis
- Tracy Snyder
- Wendi Stanfill
- Luvia Valentin
- Branka Zecevic

2007:

- Joseph E. Aksamitowski
- Stacy Arista

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*The views in this newsletter are of
the individual writers, not
necessarily those of the department.*

Visit our Website!

See us at:

www.neiu.edu/~sociolgy

Sociology Faculty Updates

On May 19, 2007 Lucius Black, Jr., former president of the ASU Chicago Chapter was elected Region Director of the Midwest Region of the National Alumni Association of Alabama State University at the 20th Midwest Region Conference for the term of office beginning January 1, 2008 thru December 31, 2010.

Congratulations to Christina Gomez on her Tenure Award and the publication of her new book – *Mi Voz, Mi Vida: Latino College Students Tell Their Life Stories*, available from Cornell University Press.



In June, NEIU Sociology Instructor, Monica Edwards, had the exciting opportunity to spend one month in Normandy, France, with a team of four other professionals from the area. The trip was funded through Rotary International's Group Study Exchange program. The exchange is both cultural and vocational, and as a result, not only did Monica have the opportunity to go to Versailles, Monet's House and Garden, and the D-Day Beaches, she also met with both academic and non-academic Sociologists, discussing such issues as ethnic discrimination and housing concerns. Rotary International District 6450 is now accepting applications for the 2008 exchange to Italy. For more information contact Michele Thornton: mlt@thorntonpowell.com.

BarBara Scott received the NEIU Black History Month Sankofa Award in February, 2007! Sankofa is an Akan symbol that represents a journey of learning. Dr. Scott was nominated by over a dozen faculty members and students from across the university. Here is short excerpt from the nomination put forward from Brett Stockdill on behalf of our Sociology faculty:

For more than 30 years Dr. Scott has been a fierce crusader for increasing opportunities, support, and recognition of African American students, staff and faculty at Northeastern Illinois University. Professor Scott has been a devoted mentor for both students and other faculty, an extraordinary teacher, a passionate organizer for social equality, a provocative intellectual, an inquisitive researcher, a prolific writer, and a strong ally for all communities of color, women, LGBT people, workers, and much more! In the spirit of Ella Baker and Fannie Lou Hammer, Professor Scott has led by helping others realize

their fullest potential as agents for social change. She is, for us and so many others, an inspiration and a loyal friend.

Congratulations to Dept. Chair, Susan Stall on her newly elected position as incoming President of the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS)! Her term of office begins this year and continues until 2009.

Congratulations to Marc Rittle and his wife Sarah on the birth of their baby girl. Weighing in at 7lbs, 9oz, Edie Andrew Rittle was born Wednesday, May 30th at 9:35am.



An Excellent Website to Use in Finding a Career to Go With Your Major:

<http://career.utk.edu/students/majors.asp>



*Professor Santiago Vaca and
Summer Art Class producing the
new Sociology mural.*