Introducing the 2014/15 Sociology Paraprofessional: Steph Olivas!

The Sociology Department is excited to announce that next year’s Paraprofessional has been chosen. Steph Olivas will fill the role of parprof in the upcoming academic year! Many of you already know Steph as a standout student, supportive peer, and all around awesome gal. We asked her some questions about herself, and here is what she said:

Congratulations on the position! Are you excited?
Yes! I love Sociology. I love the department. I’m really excited to work with the students and continue to create more fun Sociology events like the Sociological Imagination Luncheons and Block Break Programs!

We know you love Sociology. What has been your favorite class?
My favorite Sociology class is a toss-up between Cuba with Wade and Eric and Global Inequality with Matt.

What do you want to be when you grow up?
An astronaut sociologist!

What’s your favorite food?
My favorite food is the food that is on its way to my mouth.

What’s your spirit animal?
A pigeon

UPCOMING EVENTS

Shaping Science into Stories: One Filmmaker’s Adventure
Tuesday, January 28th: 7pm-9pm // Cornerstone Screening Room
Documentary filmmaker Katy-Robin Garton ’01 talks about bridging the gap between science and society by bringing human stories to life through storytelling. Among the issues she has explored are hunger in Africa, climate change in Bhutan, exploring the life that teems in Yellowstone’s thermals, and preserving ancient art music in Azerbaijan.

Sociological Imagination Luncheon: Protests and Social Change
Wednesday, January 29th at 12pm // Sociology Seminar Room

Sociological Imagination First-Year Luncheon
Hookup Culture at Colorado College
Thursday, January 30th at 12pm // Sociology Seminar Room

Thesis Decompression Hour
Thursdays from 2pm-3pm // Eli’s Office (Palmer 129)

Sara Goering: “Disability and Quality of Life Judgments: Exploring the Disability Paradox”
Thursday, January 30th: 3:30pm-5:30pm // Gaylord Hall
Goering is associate professor of philosophy in the Program on Values in Society at the University of Washington. She teaches courses in bioethics, ethics, philosophy of disability, feminist philosophy, and philosophy of medicine. Her work focuses on the intersection between philosophy, disability, and bioethics, with particular interests in autonomy, prenatal testing, genetic and social justice, and quality of life issues.

Watson Fellowship Information Meeting
Tuesday, February 18th: 3:30pm-4:30pm / Tutt Library TLC3 Classroom
Dear Sophomores and Juniors: Are you interested in a year of PAID adventure in independent focused travel after graduation? Attend the Watson Fellowship Information Meeting to learn more about his opportunity!

Sociology Department Block Break Programs
The Sociology Department is excited to be offering a series of excursions around Colorado Springs for students sticking around for the break following block 5. More info coming soon!

UPCOMING DEADLINES

January - March, 2014
Study Abroad Applications
Most applications are due between January and March. Be sure to check on individual program requirements. See page 2 for recommended programs for sociology majors!

January 29th, 2014
Public Interest Fellowship Application Deadline
The Public Interest Fellowship Program provides opportunities for Colorado College students and recent graduates to pursue meaningful work with public interest nonprofit organizations, thereby increasing the capacity of those organizations and fostering a new generation of nonprofit leaders.

February 4th, 2014
Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation Deadline
“As the living memorial to our thirty-third President, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation supports the graduate education of outstanding young people committed to public service leadership.”

February 5th, 2014
Boren Scholarship Application Deadline
Boren Scholarships provide up to $20,000 to U.S. undergraduate students to study abroad in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. interests and underrepresented in study abroad.

February 17th, 2014
Rhodes Scholarship Application Deadline
The Rhodes Scholarship is an international postgraduate award for selected students to study at the University of Oxford in various fields of study.
DEPARTMENT NEWS

Sociological Imagination Lunches This Block
As per usual, this block will feature two Sociological Imagination Lunches: One for first-years, and one for Sociology majors. Here are the details:

♦ Wednesday, January 29th: Sociological Imagination, First Year Edition: Hookup Culture at CC
For this block’s first-year lunch discussion, we will turn the conversation to a topic that has come up frequently in past lunches: hookup culture at CC. As usual, we will begin the discussion by reviewing basic sociological concepts before diving into this important topic! Lunch provided to those who RSVP. First-years only! Please spread the word to any first-years you know!

♦ Thursday, January 30th: Sociological Imagination Luncheon: Protests and Social Movements
Any sociology students are welcome—declared major or otherwise! Please RSVP to Elizabeth.K.Michaels@ColoradoCollege.edu by Monday, January 27th to reserve your spot and FREE LUNCH!

Thesis Decompression Hour
It’s thesis season! As many of our fabulous sociology seniors work tirelessly on their senior theses, Eli will be offering Thesis Decompression Hour! Stop by Eli’s office (Palmer 129) from 2pm-3pm on Thursdays this block and next to eat snacks, bounce ideas around, or simply take a break from the library.

Kathy Giuffre Contributes to an Encyclopedia!
Kathy Giuffre’s article “Cultural Production in Networks” has been accepted for the International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2nd edition. The article discusses the cultural theories of Pierre Bourdieu and the empirical research that those theories have generated.

Special Collections: Alphabet Book Exhibition
Special Collections is currently featuring an exhibition in the library atrium right now of abecedarians, aka alphabet books. Did you know Vladimir Nabokov had synesthesia? Have you seen the alphabet pop-up book where V becomes W by reflecting in a mirror? Stop by and check it out!

Sociology Department Block Break Programs
Not going on a ski vacation for block break? No problem! Following the success of last semester’s inaugural Sociology Department Block Break Programs, we will be continuing this new tradition following block 5! Stay tuned for more details about what this round of fun and inclusive local excursions will entail!

Study Abroad Opportunities
Go anywhere! Peruse the International and Off-Campus Programs Website to see what options are available. Students can pick from over 100 programs pre-approved by the College to meet almost all academic interests off-campus. If you have an academic need that is not met through any of the existing programs, you can meet with the Coordinator of Off-Campus Study to learn more about petitioning for a non-approved program. Financial aid transfers on all off-campus study programs approved by the College.

Many approved off-campus study programs are suitable for Sociology majors, as most programs offer cultural insight and community engagement. Some which are especially well suited to Sociology students in the past have been the HECUA programs (both domestic semesters in the Twin Cities and international semester programs, all with a social justice lens), The Augsburg program on Social Change in Central America focusing on Exploring Peace, Justice, and Community Engagement, and the SIT programs (which examine a critical global issue and include and independent research project).

The department will generally grant one elective credit toward the sociology major from off-campus study. If you know you will be seeking sociology credit, check in with your advisor before departure, although credit will not be approved until you return to CC. The department generally awards credit to courses which are explicitly sociological in nature and to related social science courses (e.g., “Culture and Development”). Expect to show a course syllabus and a sampling of coursework and to produce a written statement to be assessed by your academic advisor and the head of the department.

Fall 2013: Sociology Students Around the World!

Ann Stimson ’15: Copenhagen, Denmark:
“Spending my fall semester in Copenhagen taught me what living in a society of homogeneity and social welfare is really like. The welfare system of Denmark, often known as the Scandinavian welfare model, ensures a level of equality that I had never been exposed to. The quiet yet deliberate nature of the biking, blonde and beautiful Danes is exhilarating yet comforting to be around and a part of. Walking the streets of Amagerbro, where I lived, was one of my favorite activities as pastry shops and cafes line the long streets of architecturally magnificent buildings. Baby strollers set outside of eateries as blanket swaddled newborns sleep soundly in the crisp air. These are the most common sights to be seen in the few hours of sunlight in the fall and winter months. My public health studies paralleled and complemented my daily observations of the Danish society as I learned about the details of the health care system and social welfare measures taken by the state. A highlight of my semester was taking a Pregnancy & Midwifery class with a Danish midwife who framed birth in a new way, one that is so at odds with the way it is approached in the United States. Overall, I absolutely fell in love with the Danish people, the sights, the active yet quiet city life and the Danish mentality of living. The staple Danish concept is hygge, meaning, in essence, the creation of a nice, warm atmosphere and enjoyment of the good things in life with good people around you. I’ll let this speak for itself.”

Louisa Rich ’15: Nyon, Switzerland:
“I went to Switzerland this fall with SIT’s study abroad program. I was staying in Nyon, Switzerland and lived with a French speaking host family. I took trains into Geneva every day where my classes were being held for the first two months. The subject of the program was international relations and our class visited several international organizations in and out of Switzerland. The last month I was doing an independent study project on international adoption issues. For the project I spoke with people from UNICEF, the International Service, and Terre Des Hommes, which were all based in Switzerland. Otherwise, I was mostly doing research using published journal articles on the subject. On the weekends I would travel mostly around Switzerland, hiking or visiting towns.”

Lorelei Strasburger ’15: Granada, Spain:
This past semester I was in Granada, Spain and it was absolutely incredible. Granada is a beautiful and traditional Spanish city which allowed me to really understand and appreciate the Spanish culture. I was fortunate to travel around Europe and meet some fantastic people. I loved everything about being abroad but it is so great to be back at CC for spring semester.

Other students who studied abroad last fall:
♦ Mary Edman ’15: Copenhagen, Denmark
♦ Merisa Muhermovic ’15: Valparaiso Chile
♦ Tonya Pavlenko ’15: Copenhagen, Denmark
♦ Katelyn Zeiff ’15: Pune, India

The SocSource is brought to you by the Sociology Department Student Advisory Board.
To contribute news, events, opinion pieces, photos, jokes, or anything else, please email Elizabeth.K.Michaels@ColoradoCollege.edu.
We would love to hear from you!