

ASA ETS SECTION NEWS

NEWSLETTER of the SECTION on ENVIRONMENT, TECHNOLOGY and SOCIETY of
the AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Spring 2016

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The Growing Public Visibility of the ETS Section

by Kenneth Gould
City University of New York - Brooklyn College

Colleagues,

Just a short note to congratulate you on our growing visibility in the national and global conversation on climate change in particular, and socio-environmental issues more generally, and also to encourage everyone to come to Seattle in August for the ASA meetings.

The visibility of our section members in climate change discussions continues to grow, with recent major contributions from Bob Brulle, Justin Farrell, Riley Dunlap, Aaron McCright, Timmons Roberts, and others. Let's continue our public sociology efforts to bring the sociological imagination to bear on environmental problems and policy in local, national and global fora whenever opportunities

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Special Announcement

Public Visibility of ETS Section (conti.)

arise. Earth Day usually produces a proliferation of opportunities for public speaking, media interviews, and community events, and I encourage all of you to make the most of those.

And speaking of events, please plan to come to Seattle for our annual ASA meetings in August. We have a terrific schedule of environmental sociology panels planned for Seattle including, a Presidential Panel on “Climate Change and Social Movements” organized by ASA Chair Ruth Milkman, and a special session on “Re-Imagining Movements for Climate Justice” organized by John Foran. Andrew Jorgenson has organized our four ETS section panel sessions, including a joint session with the Development section, as well as our roundtable sessions. Michael Mascarenhas has organized three regular sessions on environmental sociology as well. I’ll post a detailed schedule of environmental panels and events when the ASA releases the preliminary program for the meetings.

One event you can put in your calendar right now is our offsite reception, which our section treasurer, Stephanie Malin, has scheduled for Sunday, August 21st from 6-8pm at the Pike Brewing Company. “The Pike Brewing Company is a family owned brewery located in the historic Pike Place Public Market neighborhood. The Pike Pub is known for local, sustainable and seasonal pub fare.” <http://pikebrewing.com/the-pike-story/local-sustainable/>

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Seattle for some delicious locally owned and locally sourced food and beer, and some fine artisanally crafted socio-environmental analyses.

Cheers,

Kenneth A. Gould, Ph.D.
Director, Urban Sustainability Program and
Professor of Sociology
Brooklyn College-CUNY

Professor of Sociology, and Earth and
Environmental Sciences
CUNY Graduate Center

Chair, American Sociological Association
Section on Environment & Technology



On Conflict and Climate Change: Two Requests

by Eric Bonds
University of Mary Washington

It has become common sense that climate change will increase rates of conflict around the world. The main idea is that rising global temperatures will cause ever greater resource scarcity, which will result in increased competition/conflict between different ethnic groups and, potentially, even between nations. Mounting resource scarcity and other climate-related impacts, according to this widely shared belief, will also increasingly burden already fragile governments in the global South, making them more likely to collapse in the face of an armed opposition (and making that opposition more likely to develop in the first place).

There are variations of this idea, some placing greater emphasis on the role of climate change in generating conflict than others. Mostly, climate change-induced resource scarcity is not viewed as a direct cause of war, but as a background stressor that makes already combustible situations more volatile. Even so, the expectation is that as global temperatures rise, the world will become a more violent place.

We can see these assumptions reflected in recent news headlines, like this one from the Washington Post: “Prince Charles Blames the Syrian War on Climate Change. He has a Point” (Chokshi 2015). Similarly, a headline from Newsweek reads: “Growing Connection between Terrorism, Climate Change Affects Politics” (Martinez 2015). This is further exemplified in a newly released video produced by Grist Environmental News, entitled “Can Climate Change Cause Wars?” (watch at: <https://grist.org/climate-energy/can-climate-change-cause-wars/>).

But, as we sociologists know better than most, things are typically much more complicated than they appear. Sometimes prevailing understandings are just plain wrong. For this reason, I’m writing with two requests.

The first request is that environmental sociologists consider withholding judgment about links between climate change and violence for the time being. There are indeed prominent articles and books that make a strong case that global warming is associated with increasing rates of violence (Burke et al. 2009;

Continued on page 3

Conflict and Climate Change (conti.)

Hsiang et al. 2013; Parenti 2012). But other research has produced contrary findings, indicating that a link between climate change and violence may be weak or nonexistent (Buhaug 2010; Buhaug et al. 2015). Taken as a whole, the best we can say is that this body of work is so far inconclusive (Buhaug 2015). For my own part, I believe that we should be especially careful about making premature climate-violence links, because doing so may rely on problematic assumptions (Hartman 2010). What does it mean, after all, if we assume that people in California will respond to a record drought through conservation and innovation, while we assume that people in the global South will increasingly respond to similar environmental conditions by taking up arms against one another?

This does not mean that sociologists should steer clear of the important debate on climate change and conflict. Quite the contrary, my second request is that environmental sociologists evaluate potential climate/conflict links in their own research. As far as I am aware, apart from Christian Parenti (2011), sociologists have largely left this topic to political scientists, geographers, and economists. I've recently entered the fray by arguing that sociologists can add to the debate by rethinking what violence means in relation to climate change (Bonds 2016). But I think there is much, much more that sociologists—both qualitative and quantitative—could contribute.

For instance, many existing case studies looking into this subject (1) see evidence of climate-related displacement and (2) see conflict, and then make the potentially spurious assumption that the one must have made the other more likely (see for example Parenti 2011; Werrel and Femia 2013; see Verhoeven 2011 for a counter example). But not all societies that experience potentially climate-related weather disruptions experience conflict. Qualitative researchers might provide a valuable contribution to our collective understanding by conducting comparative case study analyses of different societies that have suffered from potentially climate-related environmental scarcity, but have experienced varying degrees of conflict/violence. Such a comparative cross-national approach might not only “test” claims about a climate-violence link, but could also contribute to theory building by developing a more nuanced understanding of how environmental

duress is mediated by social/political factors.

Of course, most research testing a climate-violence link is quantitative. Unfortunately, the research that I've seen on the topic has largely left out variables that many sociologists might think are important. For instance, what role might position in the world-system hierarchy, foreign direct investment, indebtedness, the experience of structural adjustment, degrees of inequality, etc, play in influencing rates of conflict in nations across the world in relation to—or compared against—weather aberrations linked with climate change? I don't think we know, but sociologists might want to find out.

For the time being, I urge caution when talking about climate change and conflict in the same breath. In the long term, I have no doubt that sociologists will conduct research that will help us better understand the relationship. Or, on the other hand, sociological research might definitively show that this presumed relationship does not actually exist. Who knows, maybe some of you are conducting this important research right now.

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Section News

- A) Seminar: Moving on from Paris, April 28, 2016.
ETS member, Dr. J. Timmons Roberts, is co-organizing an interesting seminar at the National Academy of Sciences. The theme of the seminar is "Moving on from Paris: Implementation Lessons from Social Science." Here is Dr. Roberts' own words on the seminar:

Join this free seminar to discuss the consequences of the 2015 UNFCCC Paris climate summit, in which 196 countries pledged individual Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to meet global mean temperature targets by 2100. In contrast to past international climate efforts, INDC pledges were completely voluntary and represent a new, bottom-up approach to climate agreements. The seminar will explore the benefits and risks of this voluntary bottom-up approach, as well as how behavioral and societal responses have or have not been included in the modeling of temperature targets, with an emphasis on potential insights from the behavioral and social sciences, including how multiple levels of organization—institutions, communities, and individual households—might differentially contribute to the successful implementation of INDC's. The event will be held from 10:00 AM till 3:00 PM at 500 5th Street, NW, Washington, DC

[Register today to join by webcast or in person](#)

- B) Presidential Panel on Climate Change.
ASA President, Dr. Ruth Milkman, is organizing a Presidential Panel on Climate Change and Social Movements during the ASA meeting in Seattle this August. The theme for the panel discussion is "Climate Change and Social Movements." Find below a description of the panel discussion.

Description:

Climate change has emerged as a key social issue in recent years, and has helped to spur the growth of social movements around the world focused on environmental issues. Sociologists have been increasingly engaged with these issues as well. This panel features a group of leading sociologists who have written extensively on climate change and the social disparities with which it is intertwined, as well as the growth of environmental activism in the United States and worldwide.

Panelists:

1. Robert Bullard, Ph.D., Texas Southern University
2. Beth Shaefer Caniglia, Ph.D., Oklahoma State University
3. Andrew Szasz, Ph.D., University of California Santa Cruz

Grant Opportunities

- A) SESYNC Invites Proposals for Collaborative & Interdisciplinary Team-Based Research Projects.
Find below the invitation.

The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) requests proposals for collaborative and interdisciplinary team-based research projects under two programs: **Pursuits and Workshops**.

SESYNC is a synthesis research center that brings together diverse groups in new, interdisciplinary collaborations to identify solutions to society's most challenging and complex environmental problems. Proposals are invited for synthesis research projects focused on understanding the interactions and feedbacks among natural and social systems in key areas. Research leading to new tools, methods, and other practices applicable to actionable team research on socio-environmental problems is also encouraged.

We encourage those interested in these opportunities to discuss their ideas with SESYNC prior to developing their proposal. Discussions with team leaders can often help determine if an idea is appropriate for SESYNC, as well as how syntheses might be structured to achieve strong interdisciplinary/transdisciplinary outcomes. Please contact research@sesync.org to schedule a conversation. To be effective, this should occur no later than 3 weeks prior to submitting a proposal.

Pursuits

Teams interested in applying for a Pursuit should examine [SESYNC's research Themes](#) and select one to apply for. Each Theme outlines a general research topic identified by SESYNC through a community-driven process. Themes offer opportunities to study a variety of related research questions and to develop actionable scientific outcomes, in addition to linkages with other similarly

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Funding Opportunity (conti.) –SESYNC

funded projects. Pursuit teams should be comprised of no more than 15 members who will meet at our Center in Annapolis for 3–4 meetings of approximately 3–5 days over a period of 1–2 years. SESYNC Themes include the following:

- Ecological Wealth & Changing Human Populations
- Globalization & Socio-Environmental Systems
- Assessment & Modeling of Ecosystem Services
- Water, People & Ecosystems
- Learning to Integrate Across Natural & Social Sciences
- Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services
- Social & Environmental Dimensions of the Food–Energy–Water Nexus
- Building Resources for Complex Action-Oriented Team Science
- Data-Intensive Analysis & Modeling for Socio-Environmental Synthesis

Opportunities for Additional Synthesis Research Projects:

We recognize that there are many potential projects with great applicability to socio-environmental problems that fall outside the current portfolio of SESYNC Themes. Accordingly, SESYNC offers a limited number of opportunities for exciting and creative Pursuits that are not explicitly tied to an existing SESYNC Theme and address a pressing need, or with high potential to develop important results.

[Click here for complete details.](#) Proposals must be uploaded to SESYNC's online submission system by May 16, 2016, at 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Workshops

Teams interested in applying for a Workshop, a single meeting of up to ~25 participants, may focus on a broad topic or a set of related topics relevant to socio-environmental synthesis. Workshops typically summarize and/or synthesize the state of the topic and/or identify future directions that have the potential to lead to a larger synthesis effort. Workshop applications are not required to fall under a Theme.

[Click here for complete details.](#) Proposals must be uploaded to SESYNC's online submission

by May 16, 2016, at 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Other Information:

SESYNC also invites proposals for its [Sabbatical, Policy & Practice, and Maryland Fellowships](#), in addition to its [Short-Term Visitor](#) and [Short Course](#) programs. Application instructions for each program can be found on our website.

Contact Information: research@sesync.org

B) The Gulf Research Program is accepting applications for a new Award. Here is the announcement.

The Gulf Research Program (<http://www.nas.edu/gulf>) is accepting applications for a new Award Year 2016 Synthesis Grants funding opportunity: Scientific Synthesis Connecting Environmental, Social, and/or Health Data(<http://www.nas.edu/gulf/grants/synthesisgrants/index.htm>). These grants will support projects that will generate novel insights, address critical questions, or lead to new approaches to interpreting and using existing observations or monitoring data by bringing together concepts, methods, and/or data from different disciplines and sectors.

Proposed projects should use environmental data in combination with individual-level or population-level socio-cultural, economic, and/or health data to address one of the following two themes (abbreviated below and described in detail in the full RFA):

- Coastal communities: Advancing understanding of the short-term and long-term impacts of offshore oil and gas operations on human communities in coastal regions adjacent to the U.S. outer continental shelf, or
- Human exposure: Advancing study design, tools, models and technologies for assessing human exposure to environmental contaminants, including acute or chronic exposures related to oil spills and other sudden and large-scale environmental disasters, and related impacts on individuals and populations.

Application details, including eligibility requirements and review criteria, are posted at <http://www.nas.edu/gulf/grants/synthesisgrants>.

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Funding Opportunity (conti.) –The Gulf Research Program

Important dates:

- Letters of intent (required) deadline: 5pm ET, April 27, 2016
- Full proposal submission deadline: 5pm ET, June 22, 2016

To be notified about upcoming deadlines and future funding opportunities, sign up to receive Gulf Research Program email updates(<http://www.nas.edu/gulf/enews/index.html>).

Please forward this message to anyone who might be interested in this opportunity.

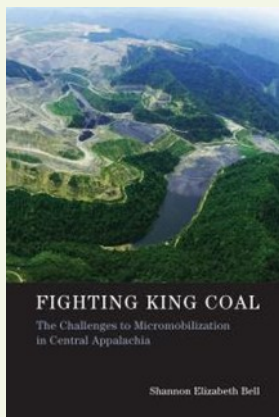
Publications –Books

New Titles:

Fighting King Coal: The Challenges to Micromobilization in Central Appalachia

Shannon Elizabeth Bell (The MIT Press, March 2016)
<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/fighting-king-coal>

In the coal-mining region of Central Appalachia, mountaintop-removal mining and coal-industry-related flooding, water contamination, and illness have led to the emergence of a grassroots, women-driven environmental justice movement. But the number of local activists is small relative to the affected population, and recruiting movement participants from within the region is an ongoing challenge.



In *Fighting King Coal*, Shannon Elizabeth Bell examines an understudied puzzle within social movement theory: why so few of the many people who suffer from industry-produced environmental hazards and pollution rise up to participate in social movements aimed at bringing about social justice and industry accountability. Using the coal-mining region of Central Appalachia as a case study, Bell investigates the challenges of micromobilization through in-depth interviews, participant observation, content analysis, geospatial viewshed analysis, and an eight-month “Photovoice” project—an innovative means of studying, in real time, the social

dynamics affecting activist involvement in the region. Although the Photovoice participants took striking photographs and wrote movingly about the environmental destruction caused by coal production, only a few became activists. Bell reveals the importance of local identities to the success or failure of local recruitment efforts in social movement struggles, ultimately arguing that, if the local identities of environmental justice movements are lost, the movements may also lose their power.

About the Author

Shannon Elizabeth Bell is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies at the University of Kentucky.

Toxic Safety: Flame Retardants, Chemical Controversies, and Environmental Health

Alissa Cordner (Columbia University Press, March 2016)
<http://cup.columbia.edu/book/toxic-safety/9780231171465>

Initially marketed as a life-saving advancement, flame retardants are now mired in controversy. Some argue that data show the chemicals are unsafe while others continue to support their use. The tactics of each side have far-reaching consequences for how we interpret new scientific discoveries.



Environmental sociologist Alissa Cordner conducts more than a hundred interviews with activists, scientists, regulators, and industry professionals to isolate the social, scientific, economic, and political forces influencing environmental health policy today. Introducing “strategic science translation,” she describes how stakeholders use scientific evidence to support nonscientific goals and construct “conceptual risk formulas” to shape risk assessment and the interpretation of empirical evidence. A revelatory text for public-health advocates, *Toxic Safety* demonstrates that while all parties interested in health issues use science to support their claims, they do not compete on a level playing field and even good intentions can have deleterious effects.

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Toxic safety (conti.)

About the author

Alissa Corder is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Whitman College

The Contribution of Social Sciences to Sustainable Development at Universities

Walter Leal Filho and Michaela Zint (Editors). (Springer Press, 2016)

<http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319268644>

This volume is the first of its kind to present contemporary, state-of-the-art examples of how social science theories, models, and findings can advance all aspects



of campus sustainability, an area that has so far been largely neglected. The individual chapters reflect the broad diversity of research on sustainable campus development conducted within and across basic and applied social science disciplines, drawing on a range of methods and case studies from around the world.

Institutions of higher education have been among the leading promoters of sustainable development. However, efforts to transition to sustainability have been largely dominated by technological “solutions” and universities and colleges are increasingly recognizing that this transition cannot be achieved without attention to the human dimension. Administrators, campus sustainability officers and other university staff, faculty members and students, as well as alumni and external constituents all help to shape which sustainability innovations and initiatives are considered and pursued, and their participation determines the ultimate success of sustainability efforts. The book’s individual contributions illustrate how the social sciences can broaden visions of what may be possible, identify the advantages and disadvantages of different instrumental and emancipator approaches, evaluate interventions’ effectiveness, and offer processes for learning from mistakes and successes in ways that support continuous advances toward sustainability. Given that the majority of social science research stems from universities, the level of trust in these institutions, and their mission to develop societal leaders,

higher education institutions are ideally suited for testing, assessing and modeling the social innovations needed to achieve sustainability on campuses and beyond.

About the Authors

Leal Filho Walter is a Senior Professor at Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and at Manchester Metropolitan University, UK.

Michaela Zint is a Professor at the University of Michigan, with appointments in the School of Natural Resources & Environment, School of Education, and College of Literature, Science & the Arts.

A Fragmented Continent: Latin America and the Global Politics of Climate Change

Guy Edwards and J. Timmons Roberts
(The MIT Press, November 2015)

<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/fragmented-continent>

Latin American countries have increased their influence at the United Nations climate change negotiations and offered potential solutions on coping with



A Fragmented Continent
Latin America and the Global Politics
of Climate Change

Guy Edwards and
J. Timmons Roberts

Foreword by
Ricardo Legido,
President of Chile (2000–2006)

global warming. But in the face of competing priorities, sometimes these climate policies are jettisoned, undermined, or simply ignored.

A Fragmented Continent

focuses on Latin America’s three major blocs at the U.N. climate negotiations and how they attempt to balance climate action with building prosperity. Brazil has reduced its

deforestation but continues its drive for economic growth and global recognition. A leftist group led by Venezuela, Bolivia, and Ecuador decries the injustice of climate change but is highly dependent on the export of fossil fuels. A new group, including Chile, Costa Rica, and Peru and supported by Mexico, offers sharp reductions in their carbon emissions in return for greater action by others; these countries now have to deliver on their promises. Weaving together issues of politics and economy, trade, foreign policy, civil society, and environmental protection, *A Fragmented Continent* offers a long-missing perspective on one of this century’s greatest challenges and neglected regions.

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A Fragmented Continent (conti.)

About the Authors

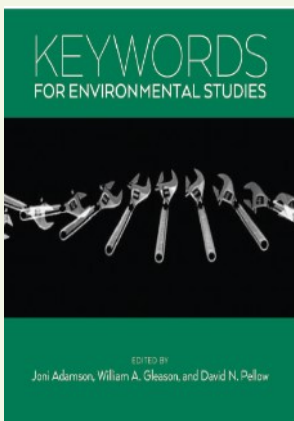
Guy Edwards is Research Fellow at the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society and Codirector of the Climate and Development Lab and cofounder of Intercambio Climático.

J. Timmons Roberts is Ittleson Professor of Environmental Studies and Sociology at Brown University

Keywords for Environmental Studies. New York University Press

Joni Adamson, William A. Gleason, & David N. Pellow (Editors)
(New York University Press, 2016)
<http://keywords.nyupress.org/environmental-studies>

Keywords for Environmental Studies analyzes the central terms and debates currently structuring the most exciting research in and across environmental studies,



including the environmental humanities, environmental social sciences, sustainability sciences, and the sciences of nature.

The print publication includes sixty essays from humanists, social scientists, and scientists, each written about a single term, reveal the broad range of quantitative and qualitative approaches critical to the

state of the field today. From “[ecotourism](#)” to “[ecoterrorism](#),” from “[genome](#)” to “[species](#),” this accessible volume illustrates the ways in which scholars are collaborating across disciplinary boundaries to reach shared understandings of key issues—such as extreme weather events or increasing global environmental inequities—in order to facilitate the pursuit of broad collective goals and actions.

About the Authors

Joni Adamson is Professor of Environmental Humanities in the Department of English and Senior Sustainability Scholar in the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute for Sustainability at Arizona State University.

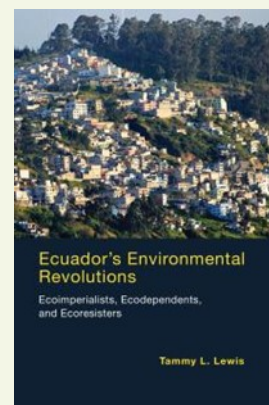
William A. Gleason is Professor and Chair of English at Princeton University, where he is also affiliated with the Program in American Studies, the Center for African American Studies, the Program in Urban Studies, and the Princeton Environmental Institute.

David N. Pellow is Dehlsen Chair of Environmental Studies and Director of the Global Environmental Justice Project at the University of California–Santa Barbara.

Ecuador’s Environmental Revolutions: Ecoimperialists, Ecodependents, and Ecoresisters

Tammy L. Lewis
(The MIT Press, March 2016)
<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/ecuador-s-environmental-revolutions>

Ecuador is biologically diverse, petroleum rich, and economically poor. Its extraordinary biodiversity has attracted attention and funding from such transnational



environmental organizations as Conservation International, the World Wildlife Fund, and the United States Agency for International Development. In Ecuador itself there are more than 200 environmental groups dedicated to sustainable development, and the country’s 2008 constitution grants constitutional rights to nature. The current left-

ist government is committed both to lifting its people out of poverty and pursuing sustainable development, but petroleum extraction is Ecuador’s leading source of revenue. While extraction generates economic growth, which supports the state’s social welfare agenda, it also causes environmental destruction. Given these competing concerns, will Ecuador be able to achieve sustainability? In this book, Tammy Lewis examines the movement for sustainable development in Ecuador through four eras: movement origins (1978 to 1987), neoliberal boom (1987 to 2000), neoliberal bust (2000 to 2006), and citizens’ revolution (2006 to 2015). Lewis presents a typology of Ecuador’s environmental organizations: ecoimperialists, transnational environmentalists from other countries; codependents, national groups that partner with transnational groups; and ecoresisters, home-grown environmentalists who reject the dominant development paradigm. She examines the interplay of transnational funding, the Ecuadorian environmental movement, and the state’s environmental and development policies. Along the way, addressing literatures in environmental sociology, social

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Ecuador's Environmental Revolutions (conti.)

movements, and development studies, she explores what configuration of forces—political, economic, and environmental—is most likely to lead to a sustainable balance between the social system and the ecosystem.

About the Author

Tammy L. Lewis is a Professor of Sociology, CUNY/ Brooklyn College and Professor of Sociology and Earth & Environmental Sciences, CUNY/Graduate Center. She is also Director of the Macaulay Honors College at Brooklyn College.

The Price of Nuclear Power: Uranium Communities and Environmental Justice

Stephanie A. Malin
(Rutgers University Press, May 2015)
http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/product/Price-of-Nuclear-Power_5465.aspx

Rising fossil fuel prices and concerns about greenhouse gas emissions are fostering a nuclear power renaissance and a revitalized uranium mining industry across the American West. In *The Price of Nuclear Power*, environmental sociologist Stephanie Malin offers an on-the-ground portrait of several uranium communities caught between the harmful legacy of previous mining booms and the potential promise of new economic development. Using this context, she examines how shifting notions of environmental justice inspire divergent views about nuclear power's sustainability and equally divisive forms of social activism.

Drawing on extensive fieldwork conducted in rural isolated towns such as Monticello, Utah, and Nucla and Naturita, Colorado, as well as in upscale communities like Telluride, Colorado, and incorporating interviews with community leaders, environmental activists, radiation regulators, and mining executives, Malin uncovers a fundamental paradox of the nuclear renaissance: the communities most hurt by uranium's legacy—such as high rates of cancers, respiratory ailments, and reproductive disorders—were actually quick to support industry renewal. She shows that

many impoverished communities support mining not only because of the employment opportunities, but also out of a personal identification with uranium, a sense of patriotism, and new notions of environmentalism. But other communities, such as Telluride, have become sites of resistance, skeptical of industry and government promises of safe mining, fearing that regulatory enforcement won't be strong enough. Indeed, Malin shows that the nuclear renaissance has exacerbated social divisions across the Colorado Plateau, threatening social cohesion. Malin further illustrates ways in which renewed uranium production is not a socially sustainable form of energy development for rural communities, as it is utterly dependent on unstable global markets.

The Price of Nuclear Power is an insightful portrait of the local impact of the nuclear renaissance and the social and environmental tensions inherent in the rebirth of uranium mining.

About the Author

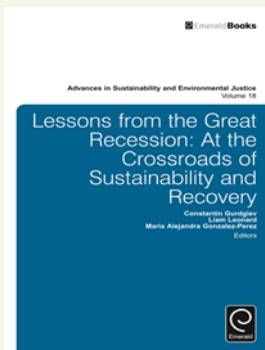
STEPHANIE A. MALIN is an assistant professor of sociology at Colorado State University and a faculty affiliate with CSU's Center for Disaster and Risk Analysis and the Water Center.

Revised and/or Re-Issued Titles

Lessons from the Great Recession: At the Crossroads of Sustainability and Recovery, Volume 18

Constantin Gurdgiev, Liam Leonard, & Maria Alejandra Gonzalez-Perez (Editors)
(Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2016)
<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/book/10.1108/S2051-5030201618>

The book discusses the high costs of decisions taken in response to the recent economic crises, which as a result have created a lack of investment in environmental and developmental considerations. This volume analyses the problems faced globally as economies try to build a sustainable future in the aftermath of the 'Great Recession'. The book observes concepts of sustainability in the post-recession and



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Lessons from the Great Recession (conti.)

post-bailout world around aspects such as Fiscal / economic / social sustainability; Financial sustainability (sector risks etc.); Environmental sustainability. Chapters scrutinise the relationships between nations and supra state agencies such as the UN, EU, IMF etc. in the context of economic crises.

Publication –Recent Journal Issues

Sociology of Development (Vol. 2, No. 1, Spring 2016):

A new issue of the *Sociology of Development* journal (Vol. 2, No. 1, Spring 2016) is now available. The issue includes three excellent articles, all of which are of potential interest to environmental sociologists:

1. "Theoretical Holism in the Sociology of Development: Foreign Investment, Private Markets and Earnings Inequality during Post-Socialism", by Matthew C Mahutga;
2. "Moving the Conversation on Climate Change and Inequality to the Local: Socio-ecological Vulnerability in Agricultural Tanzania", by Amy S. Teller; and
3. "A Donor Influenced by Local Dynamics: Unintended Consequences of Capacity Building in China", by Setsuko Matsuzawa

Interested readers can view the issue by clicking [here](#)

Special Issue of Society & Natural Resources (Vol. 29, No. 6, June 2016):

[**Society & Natural Resources**](#) proudly announces the publication of a special issue on [**Thinking Relationships through Water**](#). Water, a vital element in virtually every aspect of life, is constantly contested. Whether conflicts around water are political, social, spiritual, or environmental, a deeper understanding of the relationship between humankind and one of our most fundamental resources is a necessity. For a limited time, the entire special issue can now be accessed for FREE at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/usnr20/29/6>. Read, cite, and share this research today.

The six research articles in this issue aim, "to contribute to a more explicitly relational study of water in society. Water is not just the object of social relationships, or merely a natural resource on which

claims are made, to which meanings are attached, and over which political conflicts erupt...Rather than treating water as an *object* of social and cultural production—something produced through social relationships and imbued with meaning through cultural schemes—we consider **water as a generative and agentic co-constituent of relationships and meanings in society**," write Guest Editors Franz Krause and Veronica Strang. This collection of articles covers a diverse range of water issues: urban drinking water in Indian slums; borehole maintenance in rural Senegal; mains water provision in Kiribati; flood risk management in England; threats to an Australian aquifer; and pollution in a Norwegian fjord. What unites these studies is their close attention to the social and material relations that direct water flows, and to the water movements that, in turn, flow through societal arrangements and cultural imaginaries.

[**FREE ACCESS: Society & Natural Resources Volume 29, Issue 6, 2016**](#) Download the entire special issue in PDF format or view in HTML format at <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/usnr20/29/6>

Publications –Articles and Book Chapters

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Bonds, Eric. 2016. "Losing the Arctic: The U.S. Corporate Community, the National-Security State, and Climate Change." *Environmental Sociology* 2: 5-17. DOI:10.1080/23251042.2015.1131600.

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Articles and Book Chapters (conti.)

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Editor's Note on Publications

Hopefully, I have not missed anyone's publication, but if a work you shared with me for this issue is not showing up in it, please draw my attention to it. I will endeavor to include it in the upcoming summer issue.

Member News

Michael Agliardo (Special Note)

Michael Agliardo, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Loyola University Chicago, has stepped down as editor of the ASA ETS Section Newsletter. As new editor of this newsletter, I would like to use this medium to briefly note and celebrate Dr. Michael Agliardo's long and meritorious service to the ASA ETS Section. In case you didn't see this, here is what Dr. Kenneth A. Gould, ETS Section Chair wrote about Dr. Agliardo's service: Michael Agliardo (Loyola University Chicago) has done a truly magnificent job. Dr. Richard York, past Chair of the ETS Section, echoed a similar sentiment, observing that "He's done a great job for a long time." Michael's efforts have helped advance the cause and interest of this section. As reader of this newsletter, consider extending a word of gratitude to Dr. Michael Agliardo (magliardo@luc.edu) for his successful tenure as Editor of the ETS Newsletter). **Kudos to Dr. Michael Agliardo!**

Justin Farrell

Justin Farrell, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Yale University and ETS Chair of the Publications Committee, was copiously referenced in Senator Sheldon Whitehouse's recent Senate floor speech on the climate denial machine. Watch this: <https://youtu.be/Tq1xdgPRI3A>. This information was the main subject of a feature article in the Winter 2016 issue of this newsletter. **Kudos to Dr. Farrell!**

William Holt

William Holt, Urban Environmental Studies (UES) Coordinator and Assistant Professor of Sociology at Birmingham-Southern College (BSC), received the 2015 Bob Whetstone Faculty Development Award from BSC. The award goes to faculty for their service and work with undergraduate students. The award covers travel for new research projects. **Kudos to Dr. Holt!**

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Member News (conti.)

Michael Mascarenhas

Michael Mascarenhas, Associate Professor, *Framing the Global* Fellow, and Director of the Vasudha Living and Learning Community (<http://vasudha.wp.rpi.edu/>), was one of three speakers at a symposium on the Flint, MI, water crisis. He spoke at length about how municipal water crises are overwhelming problems of people of color, and therefore a contemporary form of environmental racism. The symposium was a truly interdisciplinary conversation about citizen science, public health, and environmental justice. The other speakers were Emily Garner, doctoral student from the Virginia Tech Flint Water Team, and Lawrence Schell, an epidemiologist from the University of Albany. **Kudos to Dr. Mascarenhas!**

Lazarus Adua

Lazarus Adua, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Editor of the ETS Newsletter, was an invited speaker at a plenary session on getting undergraduate students involved in research. The session was held during the 2016 Joint Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Association and North Central Sociological Association. The meeting was held in Chicago from March 23-26, 2016. **Kudos to Dr. Adua!**

Special Announcement

Dear ASA ETS Members:

The ASA ETS Section is currently seeking a new website manager. The website manager plays a critical role in bringing to the public the important contributions of ASA ETS members. I reproduce below the position announcement distributed by Dr. Joshua Sbicca, Section Chair of Teaching and Outreach Committee.

I am reaching out again to find a new Website Manager for our website, <http://envirosoc.org/>.

We need someone who is competent in HTML. The website is managed through GoDaddy. Your duties will entail keeping the website up to date. We would also like someone who feels comfortable with web design who could integrate new features (e.g. Twitter feed, a public sociology/policy engagement section, etcetera).

Please email me ASAP to fill this position. In your email please explain your qualifications. Let me know if you have any specific questions.

Please consider volunteering for this important position by contacting Dr. Joshua Sbicca via email (J.Sbicca@colostate.edu).

Sincerely,
Lazarus Adua, Ph.D.
ASA ETS Section Newsletter Editor