

## ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY NEWS

Newsletter of the American Sociological Association's  
Section on Environmental Sociology

July 2019

## Section Committee

## Officers

**Chair (2018-2019):**  
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**Chair of Policy and Research Committee (2018-2020):**  
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**Chair of Publications Committee (2018-2020):**  
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**Chair of Membership Committee (2017-2019):**  
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**Chair of Teaching, Training and Practice Committee (2017-2019):**  
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**Chair of Marvin Olsen Student Paper Certificate Committee:**  
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**Chair of Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award Committee:**  
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**Chair of Teaching and Practice Award Committee:**  
Erica Morrell [erica.c.morrell@gmail.com](mailto:erica.c.morrell@gmail.com)

**Chair of Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism:**  
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**Twitter:**  
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## SECTION CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Now it is summer and as I type this my hands are rough from pulling weeds in the garden. I hope that each of you are also able to take at least a little time to relax and to



enjoy the earth, your families and your communities amidst all the challenges of our world. Just two weeks ago I was privileged to attend the *Native American and Indigenous Studies Association* conference which was held in Hamilton New Zealand. It was a life changing experience for me. Among many beautiful

*Continued on page 2*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

## MESSAGE

1 From Section Chair, Update Pg. 1

## FEATURE ARTICLE

Colonialism, Fire Suppression and Indigenous Resurgence, Pg. 4

## SECTION NEWS

Awards, Pg. 7

Equity Idea from Publication Committee, Pg. 9

Surveying Section Members, Pg. 9

## SECTION EVENTS AT ASA NYC MEETING

Section Events, Pg. 11

Other Section-Related Session, P. 12

## CALLS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

2 Special Issue: Submissions Invited, Pg. 17

3 Green 2.0, Pg. 17

## PUBLICATIONS

6 Books, Pg. 17

8 Journal Articles and Book Chapters, Pg. 19

## TRANSITION

9 Career Transition, Pg. 20

## Chair's Message (cont'd)

aspects, I appreciated the words of Indigenous methods scholar Shawn Wilson in a panel about his forthcoming co-edited book [Research as Reconciliation](#). Wilson noted that "Reality itself is relationships, relationships are everything, this is how reality works." These words spoke to me as they reflect what I have found to be true in my capacity as your Section Chair this past year. Much of the "work" that I do is about supporting or developing relationships; likewise, much of my publishing and research as an environmental sociologist thinking about privilege and justice is about helping to make relationships visible. Whatever we are up against, we can do it better together. I lean on our Council and each of you across the distance. Thank you.

To that end, I want to thank our outgoing Council Members: Tammy Lewis as outgoing Past Chair, Kerry Ard our Membership Chair, and Erica Morrell our outgoing Teaching Committee Chair. I want to especially thank as well Michael Mascarenhas who has served as Chair of our Racial Equity Committee for all his leadership for our section, including putting on the fabulous mini-conference last year and initiating the special issue of those paper that will come out in the journal *Environmental Sociology*. My thanks as well to the rest of the committee and Council who will be continuing this work (see more below on this). All of your hard work and good thinking has made all the difference to many, many people, including me!

I am thrilled to be handing over section leadership to Chair-Elect Jill Lindsey Harrison of University of Colorado who has organized a fabulous set of panels for our section. **THANK YOU JILL!** Also joining our Council will be incoming Chair-Elect Rachel Shwom of Rutgers University of New Jersey, incoming Teaching, Training and Practice Chair Janet Lorenzen of Willamette University and Incoming Membership Chair Raoul Liévanos of University of Oregon!

More congratulations are due to our Section Award Winners. **Rebecca Elliott is the winner of the Allan Schnaiberg Outstanding Publication Award** for her piece "The Sociology of Climate Change as a Sociology of Loss" published in the *European Journal of Sociology* 59(3):301-337. **Honorable Mentions went as well to Junia Howell and James R. Elliott** for "Damages Done: The Longitudinal Impacts of Natural

Hazards on Wealth Inequality in the United States," *Social Problems* 66(3):448-467. This year the **Olsen Student Paper Award goes to Caleb Scoville** for "Constructing Environmental Compliance: Law, Science, and the Morality of Endangered Species Conservation in California's Delta" with an **Honorable Mention to Maricarmen Hernández**, for "To Build a Home: Everyday Placemaking in a Toxic Neighborhood." This year's winner of the **Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism is Matt Comi** for the piece "'The Right Hybrid for Every Acre': Assembling the Social Worlds of Corn and Soy Seed-Selling in Conventional Agricultural Techniques," published in *Sociologia Ruralis* 59(1):159-176. Our **Practice and Outreach Award goes to Leontina Hormel**, University of Idaho. **And yours truly (Kari Marie Norgaard, University of Oregon) received the Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award.** Everyone please do come to our Section Reception **Sunday evening 6:30-8:30 pm at the Ascent Lounge (10 Columbus Circle, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor)** where awards will be presented and we'll celebrate everyone in person!! More information about the awards is provided on page 7.

The main thing I want to share with you now is our thinking on updating Section wide activities to better support our community. One of our major tasks here is to continue to carve out more space for underrepresented ways of knowing, teaching, and engaging the public. And the onus is on the Section Council to lead this! Amazingly, in mid-May 17 (!!) current and past Council members and associated key people pulled off a conference call to share our ideas, updates and next steps. I am deeply appreciative of all the hard work and good thinking that everyone is putting towards this. **Here are some highlights of what Committees are working on. If you have ideas, perspective or energy to work on any of these, please contact relevant committees below.**

Overall, we will be integrating language about tasks related to community and equity into every position description – both in what the Nominations Chair distributes and in the guidelines for each position. These revisions of tasks will help ensure the many needed tasks get done, authorizes council members to do them without asking for permission, and helps nominees decide whether the position fits their time commitments. All Council Members have been asked to create a list of

scholars from backgrounds currently underrepresented in our section who might be good for council, as well as other committees, sponsoring a section membership, featuring in publications and general networking. This list will go to the Nominations Committee Chair as folks to consider for future years' elections, and to recommend for awards and additional committee members.

**Section Awards (contact Jack Zinda [jaz65@cornell.edu](mailto:jaz65@cornell.edu) to provide input or to volunteer)**

In working on the Teaching and Outreach Award, Erica Morrell and the committee simplified their nomination process this year by not requiring letters of recommendation and some other supporting materials until later on in the process in order to increase the pool, and increase transparency in rationale for selection. An ad hoc group with representation from the Committee on Racial Equity is meeting to examine how we grant section awards on the whole and plans to revisit names, procedures, and processes around awards, including potentially adding an award for Advancing Diversity and Equity. Other suggestions to be evaluated include the creation of a nomination form rather than a letter – might be more inclusive to folks unfamiliar with how to write a self-nomination letter, removing the requirement that the Olsen student paper award recipient present at the meeting and whether award members must be section members at the time of nomination and more.

**Publications and Communication (Contact Josh Sbicca for suggestions or to volunteer to help with this [J.Sbicca@COLOSTATE.EDU](mailto:J.Sbicca@COLOSTATE.EDU))**

Leaders of the Publications and Digital Publications committees are working together with Ad Hoc Committee member Emily Huddart Kennedy to think broadly about the work this committee can do, including reorienting how we present environmental sociology to ourselves as environmental sociologists and others outside our specialty to not just include, but center questions of race, gender, sexuality, indigeneity, ability, etc. It has been observed that the listserv format in particular can invite those with more privilege to participate and self-promote. While we do want people to continue to post about their own work, we need to create a culture of supporting one another, and especially supporting the work of colleagues of color, women, and working-class members. This committee will be assisting to proactively solicit material for what we post on social media as a

section, the columns that get written in the newsletter and encouraging broader content and discussions on the listserv, newsletter, website and social media by soliciting content, e.g. stories showcasing recent research and supporting and/or explicitly organizing special issues with a critical focus on identity, systems of oppression, resistance, and the environment. This will also include updates to the publication lists that represent the “canon” (see Josh’s note in separate story; send him an email if you have suggestions of what needs to be added to this website <http://envirosoc.org/Resources/bibliography.pdf> or if you are willing to write up something about your work, or know of a colleague who should be contacted).

**Membership Kerry Ard (outgoing) and Raoul Liévanos (incoming)**

Membership committee will be encouraging section members and Council to sponsor students from underrepresented backgrounds to attend ASA, thinking about ways to create funding mechanisms to support ASA conference travel costs for students from underrepresented backgrounds (e.g. initiate a section scholarship: some organizations have specific scholarships to cover the cost of attending meetings for people from under-represented constituencies), and continuing the practice of contacting people who have left the section to see why and how we can improve our work, among perhaps other things the incoming Chair and Committee will devise and ***Conduct a broader study of membership and section practices*** to expand upon the data folks collected, including the findings regarding boundary work about who “we” are and what “we” do and other types of interactive dynamics that reproduce white supremacy in the academy, in recreational spaces, and other environmental spaces) and perhaps submitting the findings for publication? *Volunteers Welcome on this. Anyone Need a Cool Research Idea and want to take this on?*

**Teaching and Outreach Erica Morrell (outgoing) and Janet Lorenzen (incoming)**

The Teaching and Outreach Committee has underscored the need to teach “environmental sociology” in ways that resonate with students from underrepresented backgrounds and is relevant to their lives. To that end, this committee is soliciting new syllabi to update our syllabus repository, expanding the



Environmental NGOs list  
<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/agencies-and-ngos/> (please send suggestions), and is hoping to create public outreach materials that helps sociologists talk more fluently about race, gender, sexuality, Indigeneity. Also, in tandem with the Publications Committee, the Teaching and Outreach Committee will be working to update the public outreach section of our website, to update and feature resources in our online teaching and outreach resources, with an eye to increasing representation of historically marginalized groups. Teaching and Outreach Committee's awards are in part designed in part to reward folks at teaching institutions, community colleges, and even practitioners, but it is not clear if these colleagues are members of ASA, have strong ties to potential nominators, feel encouraged to self-nominate.

### **Ad Hoc Committee on Racial Equity**

***In general we will formalize and broaden the work of the ad hoc Committee on Racial Equity.*** This committee's responsibilities moving forward may include: providing support to council on issues of exclusion and inclusion, running an annual conference akin to our council conference call on 5/13/19, hosting another mini-conference similar to the one on race and the environment in 2018.

### **Other General Ideas Under Discussion**

***Connect to existing ASA diversity initiatives*** such as the Minority Fellowship Dinner.

***Plan an online conference before ASA*** specifically on issues of exclusion/oppression to reduce travel costs and increase participation. Then also plan some time during ASA for in-person follow-up among conference participants who were at the virtual meeting and are also at ASA.

All the above efforts are going to take attention from our fabulous secretary Hannah Holleman so if you see her at the ASA conference in New York City, PLEASE GIVE HER AN EXTRA HELLO, OFFER TO BUY HER A DRINK, WRITE HER A FABULOUS PROMOTION LETTER or some other form of support. She'll be working extra hard on all our behalf to implement much of the above.

More individually, several of our section members and others have been working with ASA Council regarding

the organization's relationships with Indigenous Peoples and the state of sociological theorizing on colonialism. There will be a meeting on Saturday August 10, 2:30-4:10 in the Executive Boardroom at the Sheraton for Indigenous sociologists and allies interested in this work, including possibly forming a section. Please spread the word on this event and feel free to contact me for more information if you are interested in attending.

## **FEATURE ARTICLE**

### **Colonialism, Fire Suppression and Indigenous Resurgence: One Environmental Sociology Take On Wildfire, Media Framing, and the Organization of Our Relationships with Fire**

By Kari Marie Norgaard  
University of Oregon

Fire season is upon us and finally people in the West are thinking seriously about climate change. As someone who has long worked on climate change denial, it is somewhat ironic that I am writing to suggest that the California wildfires are ***not actually about climate change - at least not entirely. At least not yet.*** . . . True



the climate is changing, and these hotter, drier conditions absolutely exacerbate fire. Statewide, California is the hottest and driest since modern record keeping has taken place (Mann and Gleick 2015) and trends in other Western states are not far behind. It is also true that we are seeing more frequent large hot fires than ever before. And these hotter, bigger fires have disastrous consequences for thousands of individual families, Communities, state and federal budgets, and firefighters themselves. Yet wildfires are widely presented in the media as "natural disasters," dangerous elements of the natural world over which humans have little control. Coupled with the language of climate change, the fear of fire and sense of its inevitability can be overwhelming, leaving people with the sense that there is little that can be done. Nothing could be further from the truth. The predominant media emphasis on climate change as the

cause of increasing wildfire obscures another major driver of California fires: the suppression of Indigenous fire management.



*"Climate Change is neither natural, nor inevitable. And neither are these fires." USFS Forest Supervisor and Hupa Cultural Practitioner Merv George Jr. speaking at University of Oregon in Spring 2019*

Fires can indeed be dangerous, but fire is also an inevitable and necessary ecosystem process with which humans have long adapted. Western wildfires are occurring in the context of a century of fire suppression, and in places like Northern California where I work with Karuk tribal scientists it is impossible to distinguish between the dynamics of fire suppression and climate change. ***Most importantly, without talking about fire suppression we miss the opportunity to fix things: by restoring Indigenous burning techniques we can change our relationship with fire.*** Low intensity, purposefully set fires have long been used to provide protection from the fuel build-up that causes larger, hotter (potentially quite dangerous) fires that have recently been burning across the West.

### ***Settler-Colonialism and Fire Suppression***

Whereas the persistence of fire belies the myth that humans have *control* over nature, humans and fire *have long co-evolved across North America*. Fire suppression is a recent undertaking. Fire records in California clearly indicates that Native land management system have significantly shaped the evolutionary course of plant species and communities for at least the twelve thousand years for which there are records. Species composition and dynamics are a product of indigenous knowledge and management in which high quality seeds have been selected, the production of bulbs was enhanced through harvest techniques, and populations of oaks, fish,

mushrooms and huckleberries have been reinforced and carefully managed with prayer and fire. Indigenous knowledge and management generated the abundance in the land that formed the basis of capitalist wealth across North America. These activities on the landscape continue today, although they are often the site of intense political struggle.

In contrast to this integrated system of intimate relationships organized around fire, the European settlers who came to the Klamath region at the turn of the last century feared fire and set up land management policies to suppress it – a worldview epitomized today by the iconic character of Smokey Bear. Fire suppression was mandated by the very first session of the California Legislature in 1850 during the apex of genocide in the northern part of the state.

Ecological changes and their scientific rationales became the means to perform Indigenous erasure and replacement, and continue to serve as ongoing vectors of colonialism. Fire exclusion has altered species composition and diminished the production of hundreds of important food resources from the more commonly discussed examples like acorns, huckleberries and elk, to a wide variety of mushrooms and bulbs (Anderson and Lake 2013, Anderson and Lake 2016). Whereas indigenous land stewardship has been organized at the local level through tribal and family responsibilities to particular places, and guided by tribal knowledge informed by interactions with place, the capitalist-settler state created bureaucratic institutions to manage the land. These natural resource institutions set comprehensive, often nation-wide policies based on ecological principles that were believed to be universal.

When the Klamath National Forest was established in 1905 together with the formation of the US Forest Service at the national level, the new agency began a policy of fire suppression in an attempt to protect commercially valuable conifer species from being "wasted" in fires (Show & Kotok 1923). The "Smokey Bear" campaign was launched in 1942 at the same time as timber production was increasing and along with this development, Indigenous burning practices were progressively restricted. Now in the face of half a century of increasingly intensive fire suppression, the forest structure began to change and fuels began to accumulate.

## ***“Fire Suppression Has Failed”***

With wildfire suppression costs overtaking the budget of the U.S. Forest Service and increasingly large fires damaging life and property throughout the west the once optimistic notion of total fire suppression no longer exists. Karuk Department of Natural Resources Director Leaf Hillman observes “Today, fire suppression has failed. We talk about fire suppression policies that are 100 years old. That’s experimental. Our practices in terms of using fire to manage this landscape, that’s not experimental. These are tried and true practices that we know work. Karuk people have been here using fire since the beginning of time.”

Fortunately, in the face of the changing climate, many ecologists, fire scientists and policy makers, Native and non-Native alike have turned to indigenous knowledge and management practices with renewed interest and optimism in the hope that they may provide a much needed path towards both adaptation and reducing climate emissions (Williams and Hardison 2013, Martinez 2011, Raygorodetsky 2011, Vinyeta and Lynn 2013, Whyte 2013, Wildcat 2009).

### ***Is Indigenous fire science still valid in the modern climate context?***

The colonization of North America was legitimated by Indigenous erasure. Today that story that Indigenous people were never here (or if once so are now gone) is actively re-inscribed through the narrative of wildfire and climate change, and the dismissal of Indigenous fire science. There is no doubt that over a century of fire suppression altered the circumstances under which Indigenous fire science is applied. But Indigenous science principles including the emphasis on observation, fire behavior and social and ecological relationships are vitally relevant today.

### ***Can Indigenous fire science be used at the scale needed today?***

Not only can Indigenous fire science be used in the present, it IS being used. When it comes to wildfire, it is not a matter of if, but when fires will occur. Fire is a natural part of forested ecosystems, ***it cannot be excluded but it can be managed.*** Both the Karuk and Yurok Tribes offer prescribed [fire training programs](#) (as do other entities). The Karuk are part of the [Western Klamath Restoration Partnership](#) which is actively

increasing prescribed fire use around communities in Northern California. Fire is also central component of the Karuk Tribe’s [Climate Adaptation Plan](#).

The major barrier now is not lack of knowledge, nor is it the cost. The major barrier now is the fact that our ***entire fire and regulatory infrastructure is organized around fire suppression.***

Air quality regulations and liability clauses are nearly prohibitive for



prescribed fire. The organization of CalFire and other fire entities around fire suppression machine needs to be restructured around prescribed fire. The result of all this is that fires are bigger, more dangerous, far costlier and far more hazardous to human health because they occur instead at the least controllable and thus most dangerous times of year. Climate impacts too are much greater. The deferred costs of this failure are currently being borne by the community in the form of traumatic loss of life, homes, health impacts from exposure to hazardous smoke and impact to forests and other ecosystems. States like Florida have gross negligence clauses for prescribed burners, and land owners have the right to burn well established in state law. Gross negligence clauses would also be appropriate for indigenous communities that need to revitalize their relationship with fire or risk the loss of their cultural identity.

Fire exclusion is an anthropogenic practice that is now causing high levels of loss of life, cost to the state budget, hazardous smoke exposure, carbon emissions and damage to ecosystems. So when you watch those fires on the news, or in your neighborhood, you can think “this is what settler-colonialism looks like.” These dangerous fires are our legacy of fire suppression as colonial ecological violence. These fires reflect our unmet responsibility to make things right. We can fix this problem, but we need to act now. As Leaf Hillman states “The more time we don’t put fire back on these landscapes at the time and scale that we need to, then it’s going to happen to us, not on our terms.” Fire is a natural and inevitable part of California ecosystems. We can radically reorganize our relationships with fire. As Karuk Department of Natural Resources Director Leaf Hillman puts it “We have the solution.”



If you are intrigued by any of this, check out our new short film: [Revitalizing Our Relationship With Fire](#) and my forthcoming book [Salmon and Acorns Feed Our People: Colonialism, Nature and Social Action](#).

## SECTION NEWS

### Section Awards

#### ***Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award***

**Winner:** Kari Marie Norgaard, Current Section Chair  
University of Oregon.

**Nomination:** Nominated by Timmons Roberts and Robert Brulle

Dr. Kari Marie Norgaard was nominated for the Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award by Timmons Roberts and Robert Brulle. Below is an excerpt of what they wrote in their nomination letter.

We would like to nominate Dr. Kari Norgaard for the Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award. We believe that Dr. Norgaard is one of the finest and most impactful scholars in environmental sociology.

Dr. Norgaard has made substantial intellectual contributions in two areas. First, her sociological analysis of the processes involved in collective denial of climate change is path breaking and unique. Her work on this topic has steadily built through a series of articles on the topic and coalesced into her landmark book, *Living in Denial: Climate Change, Emotions, and Everyday Life*, published by MIT Press. The work has proven itself highly significant and has expanded our understanding of public responses to climate change. Dr. Norgaard's work in this area has important practical applications, demonstrating that it is not a lack of information that inhibits action on climate change. Rather, the knowledge itself generates unpleasant emotions including anxiety that individuals and communities tend seek to restore a sense of equilibrium and stability by engaging in a form of denial that acknowledges the basic facts of climate change yet fails to act upon the logical conclusions and actions that follow from this information.

Dr. Norgaard's second major intellectual project is her work on the disruption caused by the damming of the Klamath River near the Oregon/California border and its

impact on the indigenous Karuk tribe. This work has also had practical consequences. It has enriched the dialogue on how the Klamath River should be managed, and expanded public concern over the demise of the Klamath salmon fishery from a narrow focus on the fate of the salmon to the broader human impacts of damming this river.

This is a scholarship award, but we'd like to acknowledge the hard work and leadership of Kari including as our section Chair, diversifying panels at our national conference this month, and raising the level of work in the subfield. Professor Norgaard is a highly productive scholar whose work also demonstrates a deep moral commitment to a just and ecologically sustainable society. We recommend her for the Buttel award with great enthusiasm

#### ***Schnaiberg Outstanding Publication Award***

**Winner:** Rebecca Elliott, London School of Economics

**Publication Title:** The Sociology of Climate Change as a Sociology of Loss,

**Published:** The European Journal of Sociology

**Nomination:** Nominated separately by Kasia Paprocki and Rebecca Elliott

In "The Sociology of Climate Change as a Sociology of Loss," Rebecca Elliott gives conversations on climate change a refreshing and rigorous shaking-up. Synthesizing research across many topics and locales, Elliott shows how examining various kinds of losses climate change brings—or demands—can invigorate not just understandings of and responses to climate change but the discipline of sociology itself. In the words of members of the award committee...

"Elliott shows how examining climate change from the perspective of a sociology of loss opens our eyes to previously unexamined dimensions of climate change and provides an alternative to dead-end sustainability thinking."

This article "pushes both the sub-discipline of Environmental Sociology and the broader discipline of Sociology into new realms."

It is "one of the most original and path-breaking intellectual endeavors to frame the climate change as a loss of depletion, disappearance, degradation, and extinction.... Its scope for future research is promising as

it counters the growing body of theoretical assumptions that dismiss climatic losses as catastrophism.”

“We need new vocabulary and approaches to think about climate change--in our field, and in society, more broadly. Elliot does that.”

**Honorable Mention:** Junia Howell, University of Pittsburgh and James Elliott, Rice University

**Publication Title:** Damages Done: The Longitudinal Impacts of Natural Hazards on Wealth Inequality in the United States

**Published:** Social Problems

**Nomination:** Nominated by James Elliott

Junia Howell and James Elliott analyze panel data on damages from natural hazards, federal disaster aid payouts, and wealth inequality, demonstrating that the way the United States manages disasters exacerbates wealth inequality in disaster-prone areas. The greater the damages and the greater the disaster aid, the more inequality grows. Not only does this study show that natural hazards are a crucial part of processes that deepen inequality; it also compels us to move from thinking of disaster in terms of singular incidents to chronic patterns of vulnerability, harm, and response. This article advances theory in both environmental sociology and the sociology of stratification, makes use of a rigorous and creative methodology, is written in a flowing style seldom seen in core sociology journals, and addresses a pressing public issue. Moreover, the authors raise actionable policy implications that address social justice concerns. This article has also garnered a great deal of media attention, helping to raise the stature of environmental sociology within the discipline and outside university walls.

### **Marvin E. Olsen Student Paper Award**

**Winner:** Caleb Scoville, University of California, Berkeley

**Paper Title:** Constructing Environmental Compliance: Law, Science, and the Morality of Endangered Species Conservation in California's Delta

**Nomination:** Nominated by Caleb Scoville

Caleb Scoville takes the reader on an odyssey through decades of contention over the delta smelt, a small and unbecoming fish that became the lynchpin of efforts to restore the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Scoville extends and develops theory on environmental law by drawing on ethnographic and historical evidence,

including in-depth interviews with experts, over 100 hours of field observation at conferences and other venues, and extensive analysis of documents. Scoville's lucid account shows how over time the delta smelt mediated changing relationships between scientists and legal institutions, from moral alignment that joined scientists and lawmakers in a common pursuit, to substantive subordination when government agencies facing plummeting smelt populations commanded scientists to serve legal ends, to conceptual contention as the aftermath of this crisis raised fundamental questions about the meaning of extinction. Bridging environmental sociology and the sociology of law, while drawing on a mastery of current debates in conservation biology, this paper makes us rethink how legal and scientific institutions wrangle over environmental losses at a time when distinctions between the human and the natural, never very dependable, have fallen away.

**Honorable Mention:** Maricarmen Hernández, University of Texas at Austin

**Paper Title:** To Build a Home: Everyday Placemaking in a Toxic Neighborhood

**Nomination:** Nominated by Maricarmen Hernández

Through extensive ethnographic work, Maricarmen Hernández investigates why residents of a highly contaminated, informal community in the coastal city of Esmeraldas, Ecuador choose to stay and build up their neighborhood and homes instead of organizing to find a safer place to live. In dialogue with other recent analyses that explore why communities *don't* mobilize, Hernandez argues that staying in a polluted community is an active process of meaning-making and place-making that involves continual, active construction of cultural frames shared by community members who have worked to build community. Hernández puts forward a compelling analysis of how people normalize living in a toxic environment and integrate into their everyday experience conditions that have propelled people in other toxic communities to go to great lengths to escape.

### **Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism**

**Winner:** Matt Comi, University of Kansas

**Publication Title:** “The Right Hybrid for Every Acre”: Assembling the Social Worlds of Corn and Soy Seed-Selling in Conventional Agricultural Techniques



**Published:** Sociologia Ruralis

**Nomination:** Nominated by Paul Stock

The Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism committee (Jill Harrison, Raoul Lievanos, and Emily Kennedy) found Matt Comi's paper to be theoretically well informed and ambitious, and it makes a valuable and timely contribution to a longstanding research question: Why do farmers adopt highly problematic new technologies? He investigated this in relation to genetically modified (GM) seeds, and via focusing not on farmers or transnational corporations that tend to be the focus of research, but instead by interviewing seed dealers and agronomists who buy and sell seeds. He shows that they have a tremendous ability to define and legitimize GM seeds, thus providing novel insights into how new technologies get adopted. He emphasizes why this matters – these actors have tremendous clout in agricultural communities but are under-engaged in sustainable agriculture advocacy – thus, the question for more sustainable agriculture must engage meaningfully with these folks. In Matt's words, the paper "contributes to further opening a discursive space where collaborative, democratic thinking about immediate steps towards more sustainable agri-ecological practices may be possible."

The Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism is conferred bi-yearly (every odd year) to a doctoral student or other young investigator who has obtained a Ph.D. in the past five years. The purpose of the award is to recognize work that investigates the relationship between technology and humanism or otherwise proposes innovative solutions to emerging social issues associated with technology.

### Practice and Outreach Award

**Winner:** Leontina Hormel, University of Idaho

The Teaching and Outreach Committee is pleased to have concluded another successful award search, this year for the Biennial Outreach and Practice Award, honoring recipient Dr. Leontina Hormel. We implemented a new award's search process this year, which included not requiring any nomination letters of **recommendation / or support** or supplementary materials to be submitted at the time of nomination, but simply a nomination letter. We hope this change

facilitated increased nominations, including among individuals from communities underrepresented among this award's past recipients. The Committee notes a number of additional areas where our approach can be enhanced through greater actionable consideration of diversity, equity, and inclusion, which we have documented and are sharing with Section leaders and others as they express interest. Achieving our shared goals will be realized in part through increased diversity on the Committee itself. On that note, please consider volunteering to be a part of this Committee's work as Dr. Janet Lorenzen takes over as Chair for the coming two years.

### Equity Idea from Publication Committee –Joshua Sbicca

As chair of the Publications Committee, I have been thinking about what would help our section advance greater equity. As it pertains to publications and digital communication broadly, we need to reorient how we present environmental sociology to ourselves as environmental sociologists and others outside our specialty to not just include, but center questions of race, gender, sexuality, indigeneity, ability, etc. This could include the publication lists that represent the "canon;" what we post on social media as a section; the columns that get written in the newsletter; encouraging different content or discussions on the listserv; and supporting and/or explicitly organizing special issues with a critical focus on identity, systems of oppression, resistance, and the environment. In short, one of our major tasks is to continue to carve out more space for underrepresented ways of knowing, teaching, and engaging the public.

### Section Membership Study –Kerry Ard

The American Environmental and Conservation Movement has a history of protecting nature at the expense of marginalized groups. From John Muir's support of the extermination of native populations from Yosemite Valley, to the segregation of African Americans from US parks, the history of exclusion is steeped in the environmental field writ large (Taylor 2009). This is an unfortunate legacy that any organization interested in environmental protection needs to grapple with as they move forward. The institution of academia generally, and

field of sociology particularly, has a paralleled history of exclusion; since the discounting of Jane Addams by the Chicago School, to the fact that a, "recent study in the Utah Law Review found that one in 10 female graduate students in the United States have experienced sexual harassment or physical assault by a faculty member" (O'Donnell 2017). During my past term serving on the Environmental Sociology section committee, headed by Jill Harrison and Kari Norgaard, we have been working on instituting policies to disrupt these processes. As the Membership Chair of the committee I have been developing patterns of administration to help advise those who will be fortunate enough to serve in my position in the future. One of these is to collect information from those ASA members who choose to leave our section.

For roughly the past decade our section numbers have hovered around 480. At 600 members we would get another session at the annual meetings so it is important to increase our numbers. However, our changes have been inconsistent; in some years we lost or gained 60 members and in other years there was virtually no change in membership numbers. However without digging into what motivates those individuals who have remained, left or recently joined us, we have little idea what about our community underlies the particular decisions that individuals make. For that reason, our section decided to survey the 30 ASA members who did not renew their section membership between August 2017 and August 2018. We distributed an anonymous Qualtrics survey asking the primary reason they decided not to renew their membership. Of those 30, we received

14 responses; 2 respondents chose "Cost", 3 for "other reasons" 4 because their "interests have changed", and 5 because of the "culture within the section". Only one person chose to expand on this reasoning but as we move forward with this year's survey we are hoping to gain a greater understanding of what makes members leave our community and how we can better serve the entire section membership.

As people make their way to the ASA Annual Meeting held every August they often renew their section membership, explaining a typical boost in numbers in August. This year we will send out our next survey asking those who left as to why they made that decision. If you have any suggestions for questions to include on that survey please contact either me, Kerry Ard at [ard.7@osu.edu](mailto:ard.7@osu.edu), or our incoming Membership Chair, Raoul Lievanos at [raoull@uoregon.edu](mailto:raoull@uoregon.edu).

#### Works Cited:

O'Donnell, Peggy. 2017. "The Sexism that Permeates the Academy." *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. October 17, 2017.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/The-Sexism-That-Permeates-the/241469>

Taylor, Dorceta E. 2009. *The Environment and the People in American Cities, 1600s-1900s: Disorder, Inequality and Social Change*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press

## SECTION EVENTS AT ASA NYC MEETING

### Environmental Sociology Events:

***Sunday, August 11 is our section day, and we have a jam-packed day of section-sponsored events:***

**8:30-10:10am: Section paper session:** Taking Stock of Environmental Sociology: Trends, Strengths, Silences, and Innovative New Research Directions.

**Discussant:** Michael Bell

**Papers:**

1. Recasting Treadmills of Production and Destruction: New Theoretical Directions, by Gregory Hooks and colleagues;
2. When Environmental DNA Confronted its Dual Nature: Refining Environmental Sociology's Engagement with Natural Science, by Jordan Fox Besek
3. Gender, Motherhood, and Feminism in Environmental Activism and Leadership, by Elicia Cousins
4. When Data Justice and Environmental Justice Meet: Responding to Extractive Logic through Environmental Data Justice, by Lourdes Annette Vera and colleagues.

**10:30-11:30: Section roundtables** (21 of them!)

**11:30-12:10: Section business meeting** (all are welcome and encouraged to attend)

**12:30-2:10: Section paper session:** Environment, Oppressions, and Justice I.

**Papers:**

1. How Does Colorblind Racism Shape Environmental Inequalities? Examining Race and Pollution in Brazil, by Ian Robert Carrillo
2. To Build a Home: Everyday Placemaking in a Toxic Neighborhood, by Maricarmen Hernandez
3. What is Green Racism? Explaining Green Racism through American Environmentalism, by Samantha Fox
4. Valley Fever and Cumulative Vulnerabilities, by Sarah Rios
5. An Intersectional Ecology of Lead Exposure: Complex Environmental Health Vulnerabilities in the Flint Water Crisis, by Raoul Liévanos and colleagues.

**2:30-4:10: Section paper session:** Environment, Oppressions, and Justice II.

**Discussant:** David Pellow

**Papers:**

1. Environmental Injustices in Immigrant Detention: How Absences Are Embedded in the NEPA Process, by Michelle Edwards and colleagues
2. Intersections of Race, Waste, and Space in the Production of Environmental Injustice, by Lindsey Dillon
3. Settler Colonialism, Racialized Socioecological Relations, and the Dispossession of Narragansett Land in Rhode Island, by Michael Warren Murphy
4. Who Had To Die So I Could Go Camping? Colonial Ecological Violence, And Solidarity, by J.M. Bacon.

**6:30-8:30pm: Section reception**, held jointly with the Section on Animals and Society, to be held offsite at the Ascent Lounge, 10 Columbus Circle, 4th Floor



## Other Environmental Sociology-Related Sessions:

### Sat, August 10

**8:30 to 10:10am:** Scorched Earth: Climate Change, Energy, and the Sociology of Development

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Sugar Hill, Lower Level

**Session Organizer:** *Michael M. Bell, University of Wisconsin-Madison*

**Papers:**

1. Climate Change and Sustainable Development: The Tangling or Untangling of International Assistance - Steven R. Breeching, Rutgers, State Univ. of New Jersey
2. Climate Change, SIDS, and the case of Dominica - Marilyn Grell-Brisk, Universite de Neuchatel
3. Daily Injustice, Daily Stress: Colorado's Unconventional Oil and Gas Production and Diminished Quality of Life - Stephanie Ann Malin, Colorado State University
4. Ecological Concern in a Capitalist Economy: Climate Change Perception among U.S. Specialty Crop Producers - Yetkin Borlu, University of Richmond; Leland Glenna, Pennsylvania State University
5. The Dakota Access Pipeline: Water is Life, Money is Powerful, and Consequences are Real - Ryan DeCarsky, UC SANTA BARBARA; Bhavya Jha, University of California, Santa Barbara

**10:30 to 12:10:** Environmental Policy (Regular Session)

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Liberty 3, Third Floor

**Session Organizer:** John Sonnett, University of Mississippi

**President:** John Sonnett, University of Mississippi

**Papers:**

1. Hyper-Colonization of the State: The Trump Administration, the Polluter Industrial Complex, and Threats to Environmental Justice, by Stephen J. Scanlan, Ohio University; Victoria Rachel Ream, North Carolina State University
2. What Predicts the Public's Support for Forest Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Measures? by Rachael Shwom and Daniel G. Clark, Rutgers University
3. Personal Harm and Support for Climate Change Policies: Evidence from 10 Communities Impacted by Extreme Weather, by Hilary Schaffer Boudet, Oregon State University; Chad Zanocco, Oregon State University; Robi Nilson, Cornell University
4. Global Production Networks for Fracking, Gas Liquids and Plastics: Policy Solutions for a Self-Reinforcing Problem, by Diane M. Sicotte, Drexel University
5. Realizing a Just and Equitable Transition Away from Fossil Fuels - Georgia Piggot, Stockholm Environment Institute

**10:30 to 12:10:** The Curse of Resources: Commodifying Development, Developing Commodities

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Columbus Circle, Lower Level

**Session Organizer:** *Michael M. Bell, University of Wisconsin-Madison*

**Papers:**

1. Accumulation without Dispossession? Distributional Impacts of Shrimp Aquaculture in Vietnam's Mekong Delta, by Timothy Gorman, Montclair State University
2. Calculating the Cost of Palm Oil: A Commodity Chain Approach, by John Kenyon McCollum, Minot State University
3. Food Crises and Revolt, by Marion W Dixon, Point Park University
4. Natural Resource Dependence: The Dual Dependence of Resource Rich Areas in Rural America, by J. Tom Mueller, Penn State
5. Un-Developing the Amazon (and the Rest of Brazil): Reversing Aluminum-Based Development in Brazil, by Paul S. Ciccantell, Western Michigan University

**2:30 to 4:10pm:** Environmental Change and Inequality (Regular Session)

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Liberty 3, Third Floor

**Session Organizer:** Thomas E. Shriver, North Carolina State University

**President:** Laura Bray, North Carolina State University

**Papers:**

1. Three Components of Gender Equity and Their Relationships to Environmental Change, by Christina A. Ergas, University of Tennessee; Patrick Trent Greiner, Vanderbilt University; Julius Alexander McGee, Portland State University; Matthew Thomas Clement, Texas State University
2. The Path of Least Resistance Projections of Social Inequalities as a Result of Climate Change in the United States, by R. Kyle Saunders, Florida State University; Mathew Hauer, Florida State University
3. Extended Sacrifice Zones: Pipeline Proximity and Environmental Justice in the Age of Planetary Urbanization, by Taylor Braswell, Northeastern University
4. Do Subsidiaries Engage More Heavily in Methane Producing Activities in the Oil and Gas Industry? By Katherine Ann Calle Willyard, Texas A&M University

**4:30 to 6:10pm:** Population and the Environment

**Venue:** New York Hilton, Hudson, Fourth Floor

**Session Organizers:** Brian Thiede, Pennsylvania State University; Ashton M. Verdery, Pennsylvania State University

**President:** Ashton M. Verdery, Pennsylvania State University

**Papers:**

1. Children's health status and climate changes: An investigation on the coastal belt of Bangladesh, by Monir Hossain, Cristina Bradatan, Hosne Tilat Mahal, Texas Tech University
2. Concentrating Risk? The Geographic Concentration of Health Risk from Industrial Air Toxins, by Kerry Ard, Ohio State University
3. The effects of growing-season drought on young adult women's life course transitions, by Julia A Behrman, Northwestern University; Liliana Andriano, Oxford
4. Perceived Risk to Microcephaly and Live Births throughout the Zika Epidemic in Brazil, by Leticia Marteleto, University of Texas at Austin; Ana Maria Hermeto Camilo de Oliveira, Centro De Desenvolvimento e Planejamento Regional Faculdade De Ciencias Economicas- UFMG; Andrew Koepp, University of Texas; Julia Almeida, Federal University of Minas Gerais

**4:30 to 6:10pm:** Environmental Sociology (Regular Session)

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Liberty 3, Third Floor, 4:30-6:10pm

**Session Organizer:** Thomas E. Shriver, North Carolina State University

**President:** Alison E. Adams, University of Florida

**Papers:**

1. Context Matters! States, Households and Residential Energy Consumption in the United States, Lazarus Adua and Brett Clark, University of Utah
2. Characterizing Disproportionality in Facility-Level Toxic Releases in U.S. Manufacturing, 1998-2012, by Mary B. Collins, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry; Simone Pulver, University of California, Santa Barbara; Dustin Tanner Hill, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
3. Renewable Energy Injustice: The Socio-environmental Implications of Renewable Energy Consumption, by Julius Alexander McGee, Portland State University; Patrick Trent Greiner, Vanderbilt University
4. Strategic Science Production and Contested Environmental Data, by Lauren Richter, Northeastern University; Alissa Cordner, Whitman College; Phil Brown, Northeastern University

## Sun, August 11

**12:30 to 2:10pm:** Environmental Justice

**Venue:** New York Hilton, Nassau West, Second Floor

**Session Organizer:** Brian Gran, Case Western Reserve University

**Presider:** Kari Marie Norgaard, University of Oregon

**Papers:**

1. Past is Present: Socio-environmental Succession and Urban Environmental Inequality, by Scott Frickel, Brown University
2. Down with the Struggle? Scholarly Engagements, Complicity and Environmental Justice Activism, by Melissa Checker, Queens College
3. Then and Now: Revisiting Sites of California's Early Anti-toxics and Environmental Justice Campaigns Three Decades Later, by Tracy Perkins, Howard University
4. Cartographies of Struggle & Resistance: the Black Feminist Spatial Imagination through Environmental Justice, by K. Animashaun Ducre, Syracuse University

**2:30 to 4:10pm:** Environmental Racism (Special Session)

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Empire Ballroom West, Second Floor

**Session Organizer:** Alison E. Adams, University of Florida

**Presider:** Alison E. Adams, University of Florida

**Panelists:** Kari Marie Norgaard, University of Oregon; Dorceta E. Taylor, University of Michigan; Terressa Anne Benz, Oakland University; Michael J. Mascarenhas, University of California, Berkeley

**2:30 to 4:10pm:** Causes and Consequences of Housing Instability and Gentrification

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Liberty 4, Third Floor

**Session Organizer:** Jacob William Faber, New York University

**Discussants:** Elizabeth Roberto, Rice University; Zawadi Rucks-Ahadiana, SUNY Albany

1. A Longitudinal Analysis of Gentrification and the Health of Longtime Residents in Los Angeles, by Chinyere O. Agbai, Brown University
2. Environmental Displacement: A Longitudinal Analysis of Time to Stable Housing following Hurricane Katrina, by Alexis A. Merdjanoff, New York University; David M. Abramson; Yoon Soo Park, University of Illinois, Chicago; Rachael Piltch-Loeb, New York University
3. Serial Evictions: Property Managers, Tenants, and Civil Court Sanctions, by Lillian Leung, and Matthew Desmond, Princeton University

## Mon, August 12

**8:30 to 10:10am:** Innovations in Sociological Animal Studies

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Union Square, Lower Level

**Session Organizer:** Richard York, University of Oregon

**Presider:** Richard York, University of Oregon

1. Building a Vegan Feminist Network in the Professionalized Digital Age of Third Wave Animal Activism, by Corey Lee Wrenn, University of Kent
2. Dog trouble: Dog aggression in a post-humanist household - Sanja Miklin, University of Chicago
3. Environmental Values and Americans' Beliefs about Farm Animal Well-Being, by Mark Edward Suchyta, Michigan State University
4. Extending a Theoretical Lens: Speciesism and the Sport of Greyhound Racing, by Erin N. Kidder and Nathan Jagoda, University of Central Florida



5. Who Gets a Voice? Understanding Support for Representing Nonhumans in Democratic Deliberations, by Stephen Patrick Vrla, Michigan State University

**8:30 to 10:10am:** Rural Sociology (Regular Session)

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Bowery, Lower Level

**Session Organizer:** Pablo Lapegna, University of Georgia

**Presider:** Pablo Lapegna, University of Georgia

**Discussant:** Marion W Dixon, Point Park University

1. Contentious Baseline: The Politics of "Pre-Drilling" Environmental Measures in Shale Gas Territory, by Abby J. Kinchy, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
2. Local food systems and civil society: Examining the civic engagement of farmers, by Ethan D. Schoolman, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
3. Loss, Change, and Political Understandings in Rural America, by Jennifer Sherman, Washington State University
4. The Imperatives of Debt: Microfinance and Land Dispossession in Cambodia, by W. Nathan Green, University of Wisconsin at Madison; Maryann Bylander, Lewis & Clark College

**8:30 to 10:10am:** Sociology of Science: Facing the Epistemic Crisis (Regular Session)

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, New York Ballroom East, Third Floor

**Session Organizer:** Mark Frezzo, University of Mississippi

**Presider:** Jennifer Bea Rogers-Brown, Long Island University, Post

1. Collective epistemic identity and the preservation of contentious knowledge and practices, by Catherine Do Tan, Southern Connecticut State University
2. Science for Good? The Effects of Education and National Context on Perceptions of Science, by Shiri Noy, Denison University; Timothy L. O'Brien, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
3. Scientific Habitus, Boundary Works, and Everyday Politics of Knowledge in the Lab Bench, by June Jeon, University of Wisconsin-Madison
4. The Privatization of Scientific Resources: Norms, Rewards and Community Context, by Sotaro Shibayama, University of Tokyo; Cornelia Lawson, University of Bath
5. Upwellings: Towards a sociology of science desde abajo, by Apollonya Maria Porcelli, Brown University

**4:30 to 6:10pm:** Frontline Communities and Struggles for Racial, Environmental, and Economic Justice

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Liberty 3, Third Floor,

**Session Organizer:** Jackie Smith, University of Pittsburgh

**Presider:** Marilyn Grell-Brisk, Universite de Neuchatel

**Discussant:** Marina Karides, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

1. A Disaster as Catalyst for Mobilization: The Convergence of Climate Justice and Agroecology in Puerto Rico, by Thelma Iris Velez, The Ohio State University
2. Clever Poverty: Plugging Into and Diverging From Capitalism, by Hikmet Nazli Azergun
3. Gender Politics in Local and Global Struggles for Control of Water Commons, by Mangala Subramaniam, Purdue University
4. Oil Exploration as Catalyst for Climate Activism, by Patricia Widener, Florida Atlantic University
5. Ratchet-Rasquache Activism: Aesthetic and Discursive Frames within Chicago-based Women of Color Activism, by Teresa Irene Gonzales, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

**4:30 to 6:10pm:** Development and Global Environmental Change: Challenges and Opportunities

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Union Square, Lower Level

**Session Organizer:** Andrew K. Jorgenson, Boston College

**Presider:** Jared Fitzgerald, Boston College

1. Creating Livability Under the Burden of Biopower: Water Security Through Participatory Resource Management in Kenya - Alaina Marie Bur, Michigan State University
2. Staying Afloat: Climate Change Decision-making in Miami and Mumbai, by Kalyani Monteiro Jayasankar, Princeton University
3. Making Democracy Work to Slow Down the Treadmill: How Varieties of Democracy Influence the Nuclear Development? by Yun-Chung Ting, Academia Sinica
4. "When it smells, it pays": How a Global Environmental Crisis Influenced Epistemic Shifts in Local Science, by Apollonya Maria Porcelli, Brown University

**4:30 to 6:10pm:** Regulating Consumption, Regulating Consumers

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Madison Square, Lower Level

**Session Organizer:** Norah MacKendrick, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

**Presider:** Norah MacKendrick, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

1. Accidental environmentalists: How social position and political ideology impact positive social evaluations of green behaviors, by Emily Huddart Kennedy, University of British Columbia; Christine Horne, Washington State University
2. "This data could be really shared with anyone": Body tracking as Indifferent Prosumption, by John Bailey, Rutgers University
3. Transparency in a Local Food Market, by Sang-hyoun Pahk, University of Hawaii at Manoa

**4:30 to 6:10pm:** Activism

**Venue:** New York Hilton, Nassau West, Second Floor

**Session Organizer:** Brian Gran, Case Western Reserve University

**Presider:** Ira D. Silver, Framingham State University

1. Uncovering, Unsettling and Disrupting Settler Colonialism in the United States, by Erich W. Steinman, Pitzer College
2. Breaking New Ground and Pushing the Limits of Environmental Justice Politics, by David Pellow, University of California-Santa Barbara

**Tues, August 13**

**8:30 to 10:10am:** Puerto Rico and Climate Justice: Exploring the Intersections of Scholarship and Activism

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Carnegie West, Third Floor

**Session Organizer:** Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz, Northwestern University

**Presider:** Bianca Gonzalez-Sobrino, Quinnipiac University

1. Failed Promises: Social Control, Inequality, and the Politics of Emergency Management in Puerto Rico, by Jenniffer M. Santos-Hernandez, University of Puerto Rico-Río Piedras
2. Unequal Regions: Transdisciplinary Responses to Disaster and Environmental Racism from La Isla, by Ryan A. Mann-Hamilton, City University of New York-Laguardia Community College
3. Fostering Environmental Activism through Community-based Water Quality Monitoring: Reflections from Puerto Rico, by Alejandro Torres Abreu and Juan Carlos Rivera, University of Puerto Rico-Humacao
4. Self-determination from the Ground Up: Grassroots Projects and Visions for a Just Recovery in Puerto Rico, by Ricardo Gabriel, City University of New York-Graduate Center

**12:30 to 2:10pm:** Marx, Ecology, and Gender

**Venue:** Sheraton New York, Murray Hill, Lower Level

**Session Organizer:** Hannah A. Holleman, Amherst College

**Presider:** Hannah A. Holleman, Amherst College

1. Ecomodern Masculinity: An Examination of Biofuels' "Real Men," by Sue Dockstader, University of Oregon; Shannon Elizabeth Bell, Virginia Tech
2. Empire and Ecology: Expropriation of Land, Labor, and Corporeal Life, by John Bellamy Foster, University of Oregon; Brett Clark, University of Utah; Hannah A. Holleman, Amherst College
3. The Agrarian Question: Marx, Gender and Ecology, by Ben Marley, Michigan State University

## CALLS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Journal Special Issue: Submissions Invited

Derek Robinson (University of Waterloo) and Jennifer AM Koch are editing a Special Journal Issue entitled "Land Change Modelling" in *Land* (ISSN 2073-445X). Here is the remainder of what they wrote in this invitation. We are especially interested in manuscripts describing new approaches to land change modelling as well as large-scale applications. More information about this Special Issue can be found at:

[https://www.mdpi.com/journal/land/special\\_issues/land\\_change\\_modelling](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/land/special_issues/land_change_modelling).

The deadline for submission is **July 30, 2019**. You may send your manuscript now or up until the deadline. Submitted papers should not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. If you are interested in our special issue, please feel free to contact us, the editorial board at [land@mdpi.com](mailto:land@mdpi.com), or submit your manuscripts directly at

<http://susy.mdpi.com/user/manuscripts/upload?journal=land>.

We will be more than happy to offer our assistance and we are looking forward to receiving your contribution for this event.

### Green 2.0

A report released recently from Green 2.0 follows prior reports by Drs. Dorceta Taylor and Maya Beasley (links below) and is highly relevant to our section's ongoing discussions about racial exclusion in our field.

<https://www.diversegreen.org/beyond-diversity/>  
<https://www.diversegreen.org/diversity-derailed/>  
<https://www.diversegreen.org/the-challenge/>

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

**Transforming Rural Water Governance: The Road from Resource Management to Political Activism in Nicaragua.**

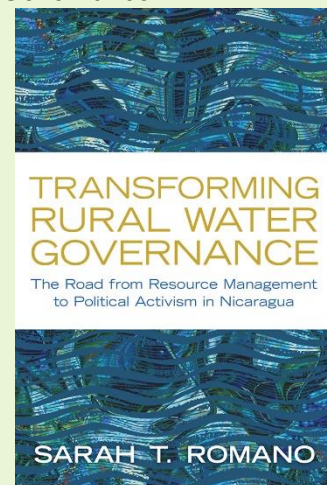
Sarah T. Romano,  
(The University of Arizona Press, 2019)  
<https://uapress.arizona.edu/book/transforming-rural-water-governance>

The most acute water crises occur in everyday contexts in impoverished rural and urban areas across the Global South. While they rarely make headlines, these crises, characterized by inequitable access to sufficient and clean water, affect over one billion people globally. What is less known, though, is that millions of these same global citizens are at the forefront of responding to the challenges of water privatization, climate change, deforestation, mega-hydraulic projects, and other threats to accessing water as a critical resource.

In *Transforming Rural Water Governance* Sarah T.

Romano explains the bottom-up development and political impact of community-based water and sanitation committees (CAPS) in Nicaragua.

Romano traces the evolution of CAPS from rural resource management associations into a national political force through grassroots organizing and strategic alliances.





Resource management and service provision is inherently political: charging residents fees for service, determining rules for household water shutoffs and reconnections, and negotiating access to water sources with local property owners constitute just a few of the highly political endeavors resource management associations like CAPS undertake as part of their day-to-day work in their communities. Yet, for decades in Nicaragua, this local work did not reflect political activism. In the mid-2000s CAPS' collective push for social change propelled them onto a national stage and into new roles as they demanded recognition from the government.

Romano argues that the transformation of Nicaragua's CAPS into political actors is a promising example of the pursuit of sustainable and equitable water governance, particularly in Latin America. *Transforming Rural Water Governance* demonstrates that when activism informs public policy processes, the outcome is more inclusive governance and the potential for greater social and environmental justice.

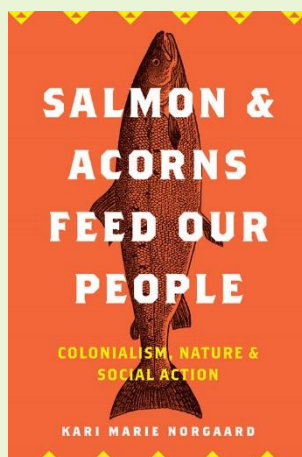
### **Salmon and Acorns Feed Our People: Colonialism, Nature and Social Action, Rutgers University Press, 2019**

Kari Marie Norgaard  
(Rutgers University Press, 2019)

<https://pages.uoregon.edu/norgaard/salmon-acorns-feed-our-people.html>

<http://bit.ly/2WThetW> (Use discount code 02AAAA17 for 30% discount and free shipping)

Since time before memory, large numbers of salmon have made their way up and down the Klamath River. Indigenous management enabled the ecological abundance that formed the basis of capitalist wealth across North America. These activities on the landscape continue today, although they are often the site of intense political struggle. Not only has the magnitude of Native American genocide been of remarkable little sociological focus, the fact that this genocide has been coupled with



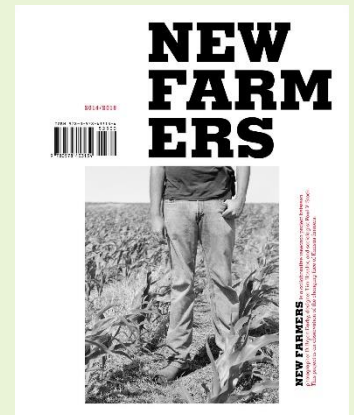
a reorganization of the natural world represents a substantial theoretical void. Whereas much attention has (rightfully) focused on the structuring of capitalism, racism and patriarchy, few sociologists have attended to the ongoing process of North American colonialism. *Salmon and Acorns Feed Our People* draws upon nearly two decades of examples and insight from Karuk experiences on the Klamath River to illustrate how the ecological dynamics of settler-colonialism are essential for theorizing gender, race and social power today.

### **New Farmers 2014/2018**

Bryon Darby, Tim Hossler, and Paul Stock.  
(P & T Committee, Lawrence, KS, 2019)

<https://www.pandtcommittee.com/shop>

NEW FARMERS 2014/2018 illustrates a small, but powerful kind of farmer in the modern world: those that are entering into farming despite the many pressures facing international agriculture. These farmers in Kansas speak to more than just farming in Kansas, but represent those trying to care for the land and each other anywhere in the world. By combining photography by D. Bryon Darby, design by Tim Hossler, and commentary and interviews by sociologist Paul V. Stock, *New Farmers 2014/2018* highlights these farmers' stories as important and vital as we wrestle with our collective actions with the planet and our communities into the future.



*New Farmers 2014/2018* draws inspiration from the collaborative works on rural life of Dorothea Lange's and Paul Taylor's *American Exodus* (1939), and James Agee's and Walker Evans' *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men* (1941). These collaborators combined photography, geographic place, and wider economic contexts to tell stories of heartbreak, loss, and resilience during the Great Depression. In order to learn for ourselves and share some of the experiences of new and beginning farmers, we offer this project as an exploration of experiments in contemporary farming.

## Articles and Book Chapters

- Anatharaman, Manisha, Emily H. Kennedy, Lucie Middlemiss, and Sarah Bradbury. 2019. "Who is represented in community-based sustainable consumption projects and why does it matter? A constructively critical approach." Pp.178-200 in *Power & Politics in Sustainable Consumption Research & Practice*, edited by C. Isenhour, M. Martiskainen & L. Middlemiss. New York: Routledge.
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## TRANSITION

### Career Transition

**Norah MacKendrick** was recently promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Sociology at Rutgers University

Congratulations, Dr. MacKendrick

**Kerry Ard** was recently promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in the School of Environment and Natural Resources at the Ohio State University.

Congratulations, Dr. Ard