

Wednesday, November 1

Registration 1 pm - 5:00 pm

Thursday, November 2

Registration 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

9:00 - 10:00 am - Conference Opening and Altar Dedication

10:00 - 11:00 am - Opening Board Meeting

10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions

Toying with Our Kids: The Power of Play Things (paper session)

Session Organizer: Greta Pennell, University of Indianapolis

- A. *Cyber-wars: How U.S. Foreign Policy is Romanticized within Video Games*
William Lugo, University of Indianapolis
lugow@easternct.edu
- B. *Identity Crisis in Toyland*
Greta Pennell, University of Indianapolis
gpennell@uindy.edu
- C. *Virtual Pretend Play: Selling [Out] Our Kids on YouTube*
Bhoomi K. Thakore, University of Connecticut *

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Exposing Dimensions of Class and Power

Presider Needed

A. *Exposed*

Deborah Burris-Kitchen, Tennessee State University, dburriskitchen@tnstate.edu

B. *Rejecting False Binaries of Race and Class--A Persistent Global Problem*

Alan Spector, aspector2020@gmail.com

C. *Complexities of Class*

Stephen Adair, Central Connecticut State University, adairs@ccsu.edu

Poetry and Social Change (panel session)

Session Organizer: Carolyn Howe

Participants: Carolyn Howe, College of the Holy Cross, chowe@holycross.edu

Joshua Lew McDermott, Southeastern Louisiana University,

joshua.mcdermott@selu.edu

Daina Harvey, College of the Holy Cross, धारvey@holycross.edu

This session will explore how poetry and sociology can work together to address the injustices and crises of our day. How do poetry and sociology work together to enhance critical pedagogy and public intellectual work? How can poetry help bring a humanist perspective into the classroom? How can we bring a humanist sociological perspective to the broader community through poetry? We know the power of song in social movements, but can poetry and sociology help create a better world?

Tips and Strategies for Successful Publishing (workshop)

Session Organizer: hephzibah strmic-pawl, Editor in Chief of Humanity & Society

Humanity & Society is the official journal of the Association for Humanist Sociology.

Come learn about the perspective and mission of the journal. As editor, I will also share tips and strategies for successfully publishing in an academic journal. There will be time for Q&A so come prepared with your questions.

12:00 - 1:15 pm - Activist Cafe - St. Tammany Library Alliance

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1:30 - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions

Criminalization, Incarceration, Families, and Health (paper session)

Presider Needed

- A. *Doing Time on the Outside: Temporal Debt and Reentering Citizens*
Timothy Black, Case Western Reserve University, tsb25@case.edu
Casey Albitz, Case Western Reserve University cla28@case.edu
Lacey Caporale Case Western Reserve University, lmc139@case.edu
- B. *The Family Policing Industrial Complex: Abolishing Carceral Logics in Sites Intended for Support of Families*
Brittany P. Battle, Wake Forest University, battleb@wfu.edu
- C. *Effects of Crime on Hypertension in a Midsized Metropolitan Area*
Chenesia Brown, University of Delaware, clbrown@udel.edu

Theorizing Humanist Sociology (paper session)

Presider Needed

- A. *What Makes a Social Theory Humanistic?*
Jim Pennell, University of Indianapolis, jpennell@uindy.edu
- B. *Integral Ecology as Humanist Sociology*
Dennis Kalob, Wheaton College Massachusetts,
kalob_dennis@wheatoncollege.edu
- C. *Against Humanist Sociology: Weberianism, Psychological Determinism and Original Sin as Enemies of Social Change*
Alan Spector, aspector2020@gmail.com

New Orleans transect walk: A Hands-on Introduction to Community Mapping Methodology (interactive workshop)

Session Organizers: Emily McDonald and Melissa Gouge

There is an urgent need for more community ownership and participation among scholars and in scholarship. Participatory methods allow for scholarship that is reflective and inclusive of community concerns, and community building among participants. Together, we can identify and address increasingly urgent social problems.

One way for us to work together to share our skills and to learn from our neighbors is a transect walk. In this workshop, we will offer a hands-on experience utilizing a methodology grounded in liberatory sociology (Feagin & Vera, 2015) that can be utilized by humanist sociologists and their communities after the meeting.

Please note that you will participate in a transect walk during this session. Please wear comfortable shoes and appropriate clothing.

Increasing AHS Membership and Engagement (interactive workshop)

Workshop Organizer: Mary Barr

During this working session, we will write a panel proposal to submit for the Southern Sociological Society (SSS) conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, April 9-12, 2025. The purpose of the panel is to spread the word about AHS and increase membership. We anticipate that the panel will be made up of AHS members, each of whom can speak on different aspects of our organization including our history, mission, and purpose, the Humanity & Society journal, and annual meetings. If you are interested in participating on the panel, and plan to attend SSS 2025, or have other membership recruiting ideas, please attend this brainstorming session.

3:00 - 4:30 pm - Plenary Session

Surviving and Trying to Thrive: Adapting to a Changing Academic Climate (community forum)

Session Organizers: Marguerite Hernandez and Sarah Webb

This is a forum for a critical dialogue focused on challenges and camaraderie in higher education today. Participants will discuss the current challenges faculty are facing in their institutions, such as layoffs, resource constraints, increased demands on faculty, limited institutional support, and state legislation threatening academic freedom. Participants will further discuss various ways faculty are addressing these issues, including (but not limited to) innovative teaching practices and course design, organizing, and activism. Through this critical dialogue, we hope participants will collaborate and generate creative ideas on how to foster supportive and enriching institutional environments to work and learn in.

5:00 - 6:30 pm - Welcome Reception

6:30 pm - Dinner Group Meet-Ups

Friday, November 3

Registration 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

9:00 - 10:15 am - Concurrent Sessions

Rx Racial Healing Circles on Campus: Promoting Racial Understanding, Empathy, and Transformation (2 hours)

Workshop Organizer: Felicia P. Wiltz

With the growing backlash and attacks on the education of race and racism, it is more important than ever for colleges and universities to continue their efforts to increase racial knowledge and understanding. This workshop will demonstrate a shortened version of a Rx Racial Healing Circle, a methodology developed by Dr. Gail Christopher. Racial Healing Circles are practices adapted from indigenous communities that focus on community building and racial understanding. Circles are comprised of a diverse group of individuals who share their stories and truths, engaging in courageous discussions to address the false beliefs of racial hierarchies and the legacies of racism, colonialism, and white supremacy. As part of the Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) initiative on our campus, we developed a Faculty and Professional Learning Community (FPLC) of diverse faculty, staff, and administrators to engage in Rx Racial Healing Circles (RHCs) for an academic year. Our circles focused on community building and narrative change in an inclusive and supportive manner to bring about transformative and sustainable personal change. Through these circles we engaged in our own education of racism, uncovered unconscious biases, and addressed misbeliefs learned in our own socialization. The FPLC went on to conduct RHCs for other campus members centered around campus-wide readings on race and racism.

This workshop will review the fundamentals of RHCs and attendees will participate in a shortened version of a circle.

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Learning from Crises: Disaster Research & Emergency Management

Presider Need

- A. *Bad Magic, Disasters, and Social Change*
Mitch Stripling, Mailman School of Public Health; Columbia University
ms6478@cumc.columbia.edu
Jordan Pascoe, Philosophy Department, Manhattan College;
jordan.pascoe@manhattan.edu
- B. *Forensic Investigations in Disaster Management: Deciphering Systemic Risk through Multidisciplinary Case Studies*
Hamed Seddighi, University of Groningen, h.seddighi@rug.nl
- C. *Web Analytics of Landfalling Hurricanes*
Molly McGraw, Southeastern Louisiana University, mmcgraw@selu.edu
- D. *CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule: Examining the Relationships Between Nursing Home Facility Characteristics and Regulatory Deficiencies*
Tihara Richardson Sommers, Tulane University, trichardson@tulane.edu

Issues in Criminal Justice Reform (paper session)

Session Organizer: Dennis Kalob, Wheaton College Massachusetts

- A. *Criminal Justice Reform in an Unlikely Place: Louisiana*
Dennis Kalob, Wheaton College Massachusetts
kalob_dennis@wheatoncollege.edu
- B. *The Visiting Room Project*
Marcus Kondkar, Loyola University New Orleans
kondkar@loyno.edu
- C. *What the Trump Presidency and its Aftermath Tells Us About the Urgent Need for Structural Reform in the Criminal Justice System*
Chris Dale, Bentley University
cdale@bentley.edu

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Critical Dialogue: Playful Pedagogy

Session Organizer: Greta Pennell

Participants: Amanda Miller, University of Indianapolis milleraj@uindy.edu
Terrence Harewood, The Winters Group *
Greta Pennell, University of Indianapolis, gpennell@uindy.edu

10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions

Getting Their Attention: Engaging Students during the Apocalypse

Presider Needed

- A. *Building Communities of Care through Zine-making*
Moshoula Capous-Desyllas, California State University Northridge,
moshoula@csun.edu

- B. *Getting Around the System: Individualized Learning Plans as a Radical Pedagogy Tool*
Staci Newmahr, Buffalo State University, newmahsd@buffalostate.edu

- C. *Evaluating Online Course Engagement*
Jeffrey Dowd, Rutgers University, jdowd@sociology.rutgers.edu

- D. *Going to Zion! Experiencing Environmental Sociology in an Iconic National Park*
David Burley, Southeastern Louisiana University, david.burley@selu.edu

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Climate Change, Sustainability, and Colonialism

Presider Needed

- A. *No Rain, No Cattle: Effects of Extreme Climate Change on Namibian Pastoralists*
Kellen Gilbert, Southeastern Louisiana University,
kellengilbert@southeastern.edu
- B. *Climate Change in the Mountains of the Moon: Bakonzo Elder Narratives of Climate Impacts on Indigenous Livelihoods*
Heidi Renate Ballard, Otterbein University, hballard@otterbein.edu
- C. *Sustainable Beer: How Green Is The US Beer Industry?*
Ellis Jones, College of the Holy Cross, ejones@holycross.edu
- D. *Addressing Patriarchal Colonialism in Ciderland*
Daina Cheyenne Harvey, College of the Holy Cross, धारvey@holycross.edu

What a Time to Be Alive: Living Through Political and Social Conflict

Presider Needed

- A. *MAGA's Revanchist Roots: The Tale is in the Tropes*
Jerry Lembcke, Holy Cross College
jlembcke@holycross.edu
- B. *The Re-emergence of Imperial Conflict*
Ricardo A. Dello Buono, Manhattan College
ricardo.dellobuono@manhattan.edu
- C. *Living Queer on Louisiana's Northshore*
Sarah Bise, Southeastern Louisiana University, sarah.bise@selu.edu
Micah Brown, Southeastern Louisiana University, micah.brown@selu.edu
Robyn Lovetro, Southeastern Louisiana University, robyn.lovetro@selu.edu
Erin Adams, Southeastern Louisiana University, ariane.adams@selu.edu
Haleigh Byrne-Rancatore, Southeastern Louisiana University,
haleigh.bryne@selu.edu
Marc R. Settembrino, Southeastern Louisiana University,
marc.settembrino@selu.edu

12:00 - 1:15 pm Activist Cafe - Together Baton Rouge!

1:30 - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions

Critical Dialogue: Roots of Participatory Action Research to Confront Cascading Crises (Part One)

Session Organizer: Emma Bailey

Participants: Alexandra Pineros-Shields, Brandeis University- apineros@brandeis.edu
Thomas Pineros-Shields, U of Mass Lowell-
Thomas_PinerosShields@uml.edu

Participatory Action Research (PAR) has been a powerful tool that academics and community activists have used for decades that emerged in liberatory struggles around the world with different epistemological traditions. In this session we look at the roots of PAR and present key components from its genealogical, geographical and epistemological lessons for our challenges, confronting cascading and simultaneous crises for social justice. After attending this session, please join our workshop where we look at tools and case studies and invite you to engage with us.

Abolitionist and Trans-Inclusive Issues in Feminism

Presider Needed

- A. *I Feel Safer Knowing There are Abolitionists in the World: Challenging Carceral Feminism with the Praxis of Abolition Feminism*
Brittany P. Battle, Wake Forest University, battleb@wfu.edu
Amber Joy Powell, University of Iowa, amber-powell@uiowa.edu
- B. *The Impact of the Colonial/Modern [Cis] Gender System: A Life History Approach of A Transgender Rarámuri Woman in Ciudad Juárez*
Selene Diaz, Virginia Tech, selene@vt.edu
- C. *The State of Intimate Partner Violence in Transgender Lives: Findings from the US Transgender Survey*
Xavier Guadalupe-Diaz, Framingham State University,
xguadalupediaz@framingham.edu
- D. *Aging as Nonbinary: Disrupting Notions of "Successful" Aging*
Renee Beard, College of the Holy Cross, rbeard@holycross.edu

Building Community and Confronting Oppression in the Classroom

Presider Needed

- A. *First-Generation College Students' Sense of 'Belonging' & Multifaceted Identity Construction: Does Students' Use of Individualistic Narratives/Schemas Correspond with their Awareness/Access of Supportive Services?*
Danielle Docka-Filipek, University of Minnesota--Duluth, dock0069@d.umn.edu
Dr. Linda Waldron, Christopher Newport University & The Center for Education, Research, & Policy, lwaldron@cnu.edu
Linnea Rogge, University of MN-Duluth, rogge055@d.umn.edu
Carlie Carter, College of William & Mary, carlie.carter.17@cnu.edu
Abigale Sloniker, Christopher Newport University, abigale.sloniker.22@cnu.edu
- B. *Educational Reparations: Broadening the Scope of Confronting White Supremacy in American Education*
Maximilian Cuddy, University of Chicago, mcuddy@uchicago.edu
- C. *Photovoice as Humanist Pedagogy: Engaging Students in the Age of COVID-19*
Anastacia Schulhoff, Appalachian State University, schulhoffam@appstate.edu

3:00 - 4:45 pm - Plenary Session

Multi-disciplinary, Multi-organizational, Multi-generational, Multi-location Disaster Justice Networks: Conceptualizing "Confronting Cascading Crises Together"

Panelists: Julie Maldonado, Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network
Kristina Peterson, Lowlander Center
Shirley Laska, University of New Orleans Emerita & Lowlander Center

Southwest Louisiana was struck dramatically in 2020 and 2021 by four weather crises that had a cascading quality: Hurricanes Laura and Delta, a winter severe freeze, and a spring flood. While the Southwest Louisiana communities were immersed in the initial recovery efforts from each of these events, Category 4 Hurricane Ida directly hit South Central coastal Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes in August 2021. The challenges of recovery from such a "comprehensive" set of crises revealed the shortfall of human and organizational resources if each recovery specialty is recruited and targeted independently for only one aspect of the recovery of each disaster in isolation. In addition, if specialists must be geographically local even more stress is placed on

recovery. Two disaster recovery professionals with a wide range of professional connections -- Julie Maldonado (Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network) and Kristina Peterson (Lowlander Center) -- reached out through their networks to address the extreme challenges in a more resource-comprehensive approach: invite engaged individuals from a wide variety of organizations to come together weekly via online communications to address the extreme, serious recovery challenges, forming the Disaster Justice Network (DJN).

5:00 - 6:30 pm - AHS Business Meeting

6:30 pm - Dinner Group Meet-Ups

Saturday, November 4

Registration 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

9:00 - 10:15 am - Concurrent Sessions

Putting Community in Community-based Research at Maryland's largest HBCU (panel session)

Session Organizer: Ellen Kang

Participants: Kiaron Bailey, Morgan State University, kiaron.bailey@morgan.edu
Marvin Perry, Morgan State University, marvin.perry@morgan.edu
Sabriya Sturdavant, Morgan State University,
sabriya.sturdavant@morgan.edu
Julian Walker, Morgan State University, julian.walker@morgan.edu

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Making Change Together: People, Protests, and Social Movements (paper session)

Presider Needed

- A. *Race, Standing, and the Boundaries of Legitimate Protest*
Emily Brissette, Bridgewater State University, erbrissette@gmail.com
- B. *The Constructive Dimensions of Social Movements*
Laura Hanson Schlachter, AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation,
lschlachter@cns.gov
- C. *Housing action and mutual aid: Lessons from Brussels and New York City*
Amy Foerster, Pace University, afoerster@pace.edu

People, Borders, and Violence (paper session)

Presider Needed

- A. *Racial Biopower, Sovereignty, and Security: Operation Lone Star on the Texas-Mexico Border*
Jennifer G. Correa, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, jcorrea@tamusa.edu
- B. *Immigrant Mothers Navigating Schools and Community Organizations: Intersections of Gender, Racialization, and Legality*
Sarah Ovink, Virginia Tech, sovink@vt.edu
Melanie Jones Gast, University of Louisville *
Solomon Amoatey, University of Louisville *
- C. *Mnemonic Activism of Nikkei in Brazil: Acknowledgement and Reparation for the Internment of Japanese Brazilians in the 1940s*
Douglas de Toledo Piza, Lafayette College, detoled@lafayette.edu
- D. *From Crisis to Disaster: Anti-Migration Violence During Latin American Transit*
Nancy Rios-Contreras, Chapman University, RiosContreras@chapman.edu

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10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions

(Social) Media, Technology, and Society (paper session)

Presider Needed

- A. *How We Can Best Choose Our News: A New Rating System for the Integrity & Bias of Media Sources*
Ellis Jones, College of the Holy Cross, ejones@holycross.edu
- B. *Memes of Resistance: Caribbean Migrants and Survival in the USA*
Tivia Collins, Wake Forest University, collint@wfu.edu
- C. *A randomized vignette experiment using images generated using artificial intelligence (AI) to examine unconscious racial bias among college students*
Leah Peevy and Suprina Howard, Southeastern University *
- D. *Is Facebook Marketplace a Conduit for the Trade in Critically Endangered Plants?*
Robert T. Perdue, Virginia Tech, perdue21@vt.edu

Doing Participatory Action Research To Confront Cascading Crises (Part Two)

Workshop Organizer: Alexandra Piñeros Shields

Participants: Tom Piñeros Shields, UMASS Lowell - thomas_pineross Shields@uml.edu
Emma Bailey, Universidad Veracruzana - baileyeg@gmail.com

In this workshop, we will present case studies and the strategies/tools those cases leveraged to ensure that marginalized communities can step into their power to become co-researchers using a Participatory Action Research (PAR) paradigm. The goal of the workshop is to present a toolbox of democratic power-sharing techniques that level decision-making power in research design and promote community-driven inquiry. We will practice a few of these techniques so participants get hands-on experience.

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Dismantling Race and Challenging Whiteness (paper sessions)

Presider Needed

- A. *The Value of Community in Undoing Whiteness*
Annie Ferguson, Arizona State University, annie.ferguson@asu.edu

- B. *Students' Experiences with Whiteness in an Honors College: A Critical Analysis and Reflection for a Post-Affirmative Action Era*
Elizabeth B. Roberts, Virginia Tech, ebr@vt.edu

- C. *"You've Got Some Racism on Your Sleeve:" On Dismantling White Rage, Fragility, Silence and Racial Innocence in Scholarship*
Staci Newmahr, Buffalo State University, newmahsd@buffalostate.edu

- D. *Reflections on the Life and Work of a Race Traitor*
Mike King, Bridgewater State University, mikeking0101@gmail.com

12:00 pm - 1:15 pm Lunch on Your Own

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions

Film Screening: Indigenous Elder Narratives of Climate Change Impacts in the Rwenzori Mountains

Organizer: Heidi Ballard

Professor Heidi Ballard screens her video-recorded interviews with Bakonzo tribal elders who describe the devastating impacts of climate change on their traditional, subsistence farmer livelihoods in a valley of the Rwenzori Mountains on the southern border of Uganda and the DRC. Video recorded by Sky Jackett, Heidi's son and film studies/photography college student, the 2022 recordings were made at the homes of each elder on the slopes of a Rwenzori Mountain valley and contribute to the growing documentation of global indigenous climate change stories. Video and 15 min. Q & A to follow.

About Time: Abolishing the Carceral State and Ending the World as We Know It (workshop 90 mins)

Workshop Organizers: Nina Johnson and Carrie Hutnick

Participants: Susan Clampet Lundquist *
John Pace *
David Buckley *
Bri Murphy *
Terrell Carter *
Don Jones *
Frank Campanell *
Vern Robinson *

Pennsylvania is among the most punitive states in the nation and those incarcerated and under the supervision of the state are disproportionately Black and Brown. Many believe that at minimum a reduction in the incarcerated population is critical to any shared just future. Our workshop will focus not only on the devastating impacts of the carceral state, but it will highlight work that builds hope and mitigates harm, increases the capacity of communities to wage a more effective fight, prepares the way for incarcerated people to return home as welcome contributors to our communities, and, as institutions continue to fail, usher in ways to collectively keep us safe and cared for.

Social Inequality and COVID-19 (paper session)

Presider Needed

- A. *Seeing Class Privilege during the COVID 19 Pandemic*
Jerome Krase, Brooklyn College CUNY, jkrase@brooklyn.cuny.edu
- B. *A Sociological Analysis of Covid-19 Misinformation On Social Media Among Racially Marginalized Communities*
Melissa Brown, Santa Clara University, mbrown3@scu.edu
- C. *Planetary Urbanization, Social Inequality and the COVID-19 Pandemic*
Harris Ali, York University, hali@yorku.ca

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3:00 pm - 4:15 pm - Plenary Session

We can't do this without YOU: Be the Future of AHS

5:00 - 6:30 pm - Closing Reception, Presidential Address, and Awards

6:30 pm - Dinner Groups