



2020 SCSA CONFERENCE

Join us at Hickory Knob State Park and Resort
near McCormick, SC on the Savannah River

February 14-15, 2020

Notes from the 2019 SCSA Conference

The South Carolina Sociological Association's annual conference for 2019 was held in Myrtle Beach on February 15 and 16. The theme was "Academic Culture and Culture Wars: Fighting for the Soul of Academia," focusing on the intrusion of business models into academic programming. After an opening by the association's president, Aristide Sechandice of Tri-County Technical College, a rousing keynote speech was delivered by Corey Dolgon of Stonehill College. A prolific author and activist as well as a college professor, Dolgon is the author of *Kill It to Save It: An Autopsy of Capitalism's Triumph over Democracy*, among other books. The themed session followed, chaired by Daniel Harrison of Lander University. The first paper, "Hard Skills, Soft Skills, and the Ivory Tower," by Mitchell Mackinem of Wingate University, delivered a sobering analysis of the attractive pull of business models in academia. The second paper, "Distortions of Market Logic in the American Higher Education Space," by Aristide Sechandice, noted four pervasive contrasts between the European and Canadian academic landscape on the one hand and American practice on the other hand. Finally, Dolgon took the podium again to deliver a more focused paper entitled "Yes, You Will Be Tested on This: Rationalization and Fascism in 21st-Century Knowledge Production."

An open discussion forum followed on the storm clouds of business models gathering around academia and what might be done to counter them. Lunch was followed by a research session, chaired by Russell Ward of Francis Marion University. The first paper was authored by Heather Griffiths of Fayetteville State University, who reported on her content analysis of Hollywood films in "Cultural Scripts, Miscarriage, and Film." Another content analysis formed the basis of "Transgender Inclusionary Demonstration, Practices, and Representation within College and University Website Platforms," by Paulina Renee Adams of Curry College. A panel session on pedagogy, "Online Teaching: Engagement or Estrangement," was the final substantive session of the conference. Chaired by Sharon Wilkie of Bob Jones University, the panel featured Stacye Blount and Heather Griffiths of Fayetteville State University and Cathy Saidat of Tri-County Technical College. Challenges of online teaching were surveyed around a number of talking points with teaching implications.

The conference closed with a business meeting, during which Jessica Burke and Jessica Doucet of Francis Marion University were re-elected Secretary and Treasurer of the organization, respectively, and Daniel Harrison was elected to the Executive Committee at large, along with Stacye Blount and Deborah Cohan of the University of South Carolina-Beaufort, who was elected to a new one-year term.

Dr. Aristide Sechandice, Tri-County Technical College, SCSA President

Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium

Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium (CUSSS) was hosted at Newberry College on April 11-12, 2019. The keynote speaker on Thursday, April 11 was Carol Hart Metzker, a human trafficking/modern-day slavery abolitionist and survivor advocate. Carol shared excerpts from her book *Facing the Monster: How One Person Can Fight Child Slavery*. On Friday, April 12, thirty-five students presented their research in poster and paper sessions.

Students from six colleges and universities participated. A panel session on internships was included this year. Students shared a variety of meaningful internship opportunities and experiences. Kayla Makai, Bob Jones University, won the paper competition for her paper entitled "On the Relationship between Confucian Family Structure and the Stigma of Mental Illness in South Korea." Emma Smith, Newberry College, won the poster competition for her poster entitled: "Effects of Salary."

Dr. Vinetta Witt, Newberry College



Next CUSSS will be hosted by Allen University in Columbia SC on April 16-17, 2020. The abstracts for papers or posters are due by Friday, March 13, 2020. For more information contact Dr. Kareem R. Muhammad kmuhammad@allenuniversity.edu

Teaching Profile - Dr. Carol Black

Why do you love teaching? I love teaching because of the social interaction I get every day, with young adults. I love working with them to help them see what social theorists 100 years ago, at the beginning of this discipline, thought about the future we are now living in; how their words still apply or inspire us today; and to see what ideas they, the students, come up with. **What inspires you the most in your role as a college instructor?** What inspires me the most is seeing them complete their senior capstone projects, after a very difficult semester full of challenges. What inspires me is graduation day, a very happy day of celebration after 4-5 years of hard work and maturation. **What are your biggest challenges in teaching?** This is the easiest question for me to answer because of where I teach. My biggest challenges are working with a population that has not been served well by the South Carolina educational system. My biggest challenge is working with students who are unprepared for college, who have lower reading levels than most of the state, and who have a desire to be a success for themselves and their families, because it means more to them than to students in most of the state. My biggest challenges are dealing with students who have stress levels and psychological issues at home that do not exist at this level in many colleges in the state.

Dr. Carol F. Black is Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Sociology at Morris College.



What is one teaching method/innovation you are currently excited about? I am currently very excited to offer SPSS to my students and to show them how easy it is to do correlations and statistical significance tests, comparing groups in a survey, having nice bar charts to show at the end. I am also excited to show them various tools available to them everyday online, that they did not know about. These are such things as the U.S. Census, Statistica, the Gallup Poll, Uniform Crime Reports, and Monitoring the Future study.

Meet Dr. Colby King

Originally from western PA, Colby King earned his PhD in Sociology at the University of South Carolina – Columbia in 2013. Colby teaches and studies social class, stratification and inequality, urban sociology, sociology of work, and strategies for supporting working-class and first-generation college students. He is serving as Secretary of the [Working-Class Studies Association](#), is a member of the American Sociological Association's Task Force on Working-Class and First Generation Persons in Sociology, and is a regular contributor for the *Everyday Sociology Blog*. He and a colleague have recently published an [article in the Journal of Urban Affairs](#). He and his wife Carrie Phillips, and their kids, are excited to be back in SC, particularly because it puts them closer to family. Colby's also happy to have moved closer to some great mountain biking trails.



Colby King is Assistant Professor of Sociology at USC-Upstate. He has returned to South Carolina and Appalachia after six years of work, and being tenured and promoted, at Bridgewater State University in Massachusetts.

[Read More +](#)

Announcements

Allen University will hold its interdisciplinary **sports management conference, "Shut up and Play: The Intersection of Sport and Society"** on **March 26, 2020** in Columbia, South Carolina. For more information contact **Dr. Kareem R. Muhammad** at kmhammad@allenuiversity.edu

Clemson University's Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice in the College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences is excited to announce that our MS in Applied Sociology is now an **MS in Social Science!** This new program provides a strong foundation in social science research methods and focuses on the acquisition of research skills, theory application and field experience. Both thesis (36 credits) and non-thesis options (30 credits) are available. Applications for the program should be received by **February 1st**, but it is advisable to apply as soon as possible. For more information, please contact Graduate Coordinator **Dr. Melissa Vogel** at vogel@clemson.edu.

Midlands Technical College Behavioral and Social Sciences (The Social & Behavioral Science Department LIFE Series) is sponsoring a series of faculty-driven events in November. The SBS faculty **encourage faculty and students from other institutions** to attend. While these are all multi-disciplinary events, they directly include input and participation from our sociology faculty.

The Political Science Town Hall Meeting-November 7 from 4PM to 6PM at the MTC Airport Campus Auditorium. Invited faculty and local political leaders will discuss topics addressing the Democratic primaries and social issues important to South Carolina voters.

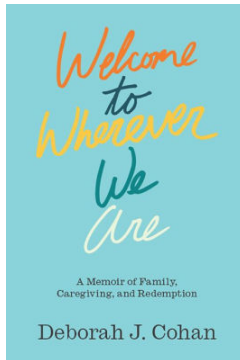
This Place Has Meaning - Oct 27th to November 1st. This multi-discipline, week-long event will explore the social significance of physical locations and human ecology. Times and locations of specific This Place Has Meaning events will vary.

For more information on these and other events, please contact **Dr. Wes Abercrombie** at abercrombiew@midlandstech.edu

Call for Papers: CROSS-SECTIONS Social Science Journal

Our peer-reviewed open-access journal offers a forum for researchers, academics, and professional experts, publishing studies and research reports in the fields of sociology, social policy, political science, economics, ethnography, history and anthropology. Recently, there has been an increasing demand among social scientists to learn about the results from other fields and to discover new research pathways and research methods beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries. Our journal provides a professional and scientific space for Hungarian and international academics engaged in these cutting-edge explorations. For more information, visit our [website](#).

Publications



Deborah J. Cohan's first book is *Welcome to Wherever We Are: A Memoir of Family, Caregiving, and Redemption*. The book comes out in February 2020 and can be pre-ordered now. Click [here](#) to pre-order. Cohan is available for talks, readings and workshops related to the book. The book is intended for a general audience and would also be great for classroom use, especially for courses such as: Introduction to Sociology, Social Problems, Sociology of the Family, Gender, Self and Society, Aging, Death and Dying, Intimacy and Violence, Sociology of Health and Illness, Sociology of Emotions, Men and Masculinities, Senior Seminars, etc. as well as classes in Social Work, Gender Studies, and Public Health and Medicine. Cohan is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of South Carolina Beaufort. She can be reached at 781.883.4904, by email dcohan@uscb.edu, debcohan@comcast.net and via her [website](#).



Second edition of Orsolya Kolozsvari's book *Gender, Marriage, and Families: From the Individual to the Social* is now available. Dr. Kolozsvari is a sociology faculty member in the School of Arts and Sciences at the College of Coastal Georgia. The text can be adopted as a supplemental reading and workbook for various courses, including gender, marriage and families, introduction to sociology, social problems, culture and diversity, norms and deviance, and interdisciplinary studies. Dr. Kolozsvari can be reached at okolozsvari@ccga.edu. For more information and to request your copy for course adoption consideration, visit publisher [website](#)

Newsletter Editor - Catherine (Katya) Terry, Piedmont Technical College
If you would like to contribute to a future issue of the SCSA newsletter, please email
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