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Northern Illinois University  
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***Curriculum Vitae***  
**January 2015**

**EDUCATION**

University of California, Los Angeles Ph.D. in Sociology	March 1997
University of California, Los Angeles M.A. in Sociology	June 1990
Pomona College, B.A. in Sociology	May 1987
Wellesley College, Liberal Studies	August 1983–December 1985

**EXPERIENCE**

Associate Professor of Sociology Northern Illinois University Department of Sociology	August 2010 - present
Assistant Professor of Sociology Northern Illinois University Department of Sociology	August 2005 – July 2010
Assistant Professor of Sociology Bradley University Department of Sociology and Social Work	August 2000–May 2005
Lecturer in Sociology UCLA Department of Sociology	January 1997–June 2000
Instructor in Sociology Santa Monica College Department of Social Sciences	August 1996–June 2000

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books:**

2010 *Stargazing: Celebrity, Fame and Social Interaction*, first author with Scott R. Harris, Routledge. Published December 22, 2010.

2008 *The Real World: An Introduction to Sociology*, first author with Jill M. Stein, January 2008, W.W. Norton and Company, Publishers.

--4<sup>th</sup> edition in print, January 2014

**Book Chapters:**

2015 (forthcoming). “Recognition, Gatification and Vulnerability: The Public and Private Selves of Local Celebrities”. In *Companion to Celebrity Studies*. Redmond, S. and Marshall, P.D., eds. Wiley Blackwell Publishers.

**Articles:**

2011 “Building Characters: The Work of Celebrity Impersonators”. *The Journal of Popular Culture*, Volume 44, Number 6, pp. 1191-1208, December.

2010 “Ain’t Nothing Like The Real Thing, Baby: Celebrity Impersonators and Their Audiences”, *Text and Performance Quarterly*, Volume 30, Number 1, pp. 60-80. January.

2009 “How Does it Feel To Be A Star? The Identification of Emotion on the Red Carpet”, Scott R. Harris and Kerry O. Ferris. *Human Studies*, Volume 32, Number 3, pp. 133-152, Fall.

2007 “The Sociology of Celebrity”, *Sociology Compass*, Volume 1, Number 1, pp. 371–384, Fall.

2005 “Threat Management: Moral and Actual Entrepreneurship in the Control of Celebrity Stalking”, in *Ethnographies of Law and Social Control*, Stacy Burns, ed. JAI/Elsevier Science Press. Sociology of Crime, Law and Deviance Series, Volume 6, pp. 9-29.

2004 “Seeing and Being Seen: The Moral Order of Celebrity Sightings”, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, Volume 33, Number 3, June, pp. 236-264 (lead article).

2004 “Transmitting Ideals: Constructing Self and Moral Discourse on *Loveline*,” *Symbolic Interaction*, Volume 27, Number 2, Spring, pp. 247-266.

2001 “Through A Glass, Darkly: The Dynamics of Fan-Celebrity Encounters”, *Symbolic Interaction*, Volume 24, Number 1, February, pp. 25-47.

1998 “On Being Stalked”, Robert M. Emerson, Kerry O. Ferris and Carol Brooks Gardner, *Social Problems*, Volume 45, Number 3, August, pp. 289-314 (lead article).

—Reprinted in Bernadette H. Schell and Nellie Lanteigne (eds.), *Stalking, Harrassment and Murder in Businesses and Organizations*. Quorum Books. 2000.

—Reprinted in Mary Sue MacNealy and Mary Ellen Pitts (eds.), *Genres in Writing: Research and Synthesis Across the Disciplines*. Allyn and Bacon. 2001.

—Reprinted in Claire M. Renzetti and Raquel K. Bergen (eds.), *Violence Against Women: Readings from Social Problems*. Rowman and Littlefield. 2004.

1995 “Negotiating Professionalism: The Gendered Social Capital of Flexible Time”, Carroll Seron and Kerry O. Ferris, *Work and Occupations*, Volume 22, Number 1, February, pp. 22-47.

—Reprinted in Austin Sarat and Tanina Rostain (eds.), *Lawyers and the Legal Profession, Volume 1*. Ashgate Publishing. 2008.

**Invited Essays:**

2010 “The Next Big Thing: Local Celebrity”. *Society*. Volume 47, Number 5, pp. 392-395. Part of “Symposium: Celebrity in America”, September.

2009 Response to Kathryn Lofton’s “Oprah: The Gospel of an Icon”, for the University of Chicago’s Martin Marty Center, *Religion and Culture Web Forum*, April.

**Book Reviews:**

2012 Review of *The Star and Celebrity Confessional*, edited by Sean Redmond. London, Routledge, 2011. Pp. 366-372 in *Celebrity Studies*, Volume 3, Issue 3.

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**

“Social Psychology in Everyday Life: Portraying the World through Symbolic Interactionism” Book project. Third author with Kathy Charmaz and Jennifer Dunn. Under contract with Wiley Blackwell.

“Feet on the Ground, Reaching for the Stars: Small-Market Newscasters and the Local Construction of Celebrity”. Research underway for book-length interview project.

**PAPERS PRESENTED**

“Brad Pitt Won’t Return My Call” Methodological Issues in the Empirical Study of Celebrity” *Celebrity Studies* Biennial Conference, June 2014, University of London, UK

“Gender and Celebrity in the Lives of Small-Market Newscasters”, and  
“The ‘Glorious Triumph’ Continues: New Directions in Symbolic Interactionism”  
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting March 2013, Chicago, IL

“Local Celebrity: Small-Market Newscasters’ Experiences of Fame”  
Pacific Sociological Society Annual Meeting, March 2012, San Diego, CA

“Third Generation Interactionists and the Future of Symbolic Interactionism”  
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, March 2011, St. Louis, MO

“Another Fifteen Minutes of Fame: ‘Celebreality’ Programming and the Mortification of  
Celebrity”  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting, August 2009, San Francisco, CA

“How Does it Feel To Be A Star? The Identification of Emotion on the Red Carpet”  
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, March 2008, St. Louis, MO

“Copy Cats: Physicalization and Authenticity in the Work of Celebrity Impersonators”  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting, August 2007, New York, NY

“Celebrity Impersonators: Situated Identities and Category Crises”  
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, April 2007, Chicago, IL

“Constructing Gender on the Faux Frontier: Masculinity and Femininity in PBS’s *Frontier House*”  
Midwest Conference on Literature, Language and Media, March 2007, DeKalb, IL

“Ain’t Nothing Like The Real Thing, Baby: Celebrity Impersonators and Their Audiences”  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting, August 2006, Montreal, Quebec

“Celebrity Impersonators: Performing Gender, Power and Fame”  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting, August 2005, Philadelphia, PA

“Celebrity Stalking: Fan Behavior and Threat Management Strategies”  
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, April 2004, Kansas City, MO

“ACCESS: African American Community Cancer Prevention Using Ethnographically Situated Social Research”  
Centers for Disease Control Cancer Conference, September 2003, Atlanta, GA

“Gender on the Faux Frontier: Images of Masculinity and Femininity in PBS’s *Frontier House*”  
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, April 2003, Chicago, IL

“The Women of *Frontier House*: Conflict, Competition and Cooperation on the Faux Frontier”  
Film and History International Conference, November 2002, Kansas City, MO

“Running the Rock ‘n’ Roll Gauntlet: Getting Advice on the Love Line”  
Bradley University Women’s Studies Program Colloquium, February 2001, Peoria, IL

“Seeing and Being Seen: The Moral Order of Celebrity Sightings”  
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 1999, Chicago, IL

“You’re On the Love Line: Degradation Rituals in a Radio Advice Show”  
UCLA College of Letters and Sciences Colloquium Series, November 1997, Los Angeles, CA

"Stalking and Sexual Harassment Theory"  
Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, August 1996, New York, NY

"Get a Life!": Telling the Stories of a *Star Trek* Fan Club"  
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 1995, Washington, D.C.

"Exes and Intimates, Strangers and Celebrities: Violence and Accessibility in Stalking Cases"  
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 1994, Los Angeles, CA

"Women in the Legal Profession: Juggling Home and Work"  
Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 1992, Philadelphia, PA

"Breaking Up Is Hard To Do: Restraining Orders and the Process of Ending Relationships"  
UCLA Center for the Study of Women Student Conference, April 1991, Los Angeles, CA

## **INVITED LECTURES**

“Barbie’s Mid-Life Crisis”

Northern Illinois University

Women’s and Gender Studies Film Screening Speaker, March 2, 2015

“The Moral Order of Celebrity Sightings”

University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland

Celebrity News Conference Keynote Speaker, September 17, 2010

“Toward a Microsociology of Fame”

Pasco Hernando Community College, Tampa FL

Women’s History Month Keynote Speaker, March 16, 2009

“Ethnography and Design”

University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana

Industrial Design majors’ master class, October 12, 2007

“Ain’t Nothing Like The Real Thing, Baby: Celebrity Impersonators and Their Audiences”

Northern Illinois University Presidential Commission on the Status of Women

Networking Luncheon, November 29, 2006

“The Sociology of Fame: Celebrity in Contemporary Society”

Bradley University Alumni College Course, October 2003

“Global Reproductive Rights and Women’s Autonomy”

Planned Parenthood Heart of Illinois, Jane Ising Banquet, February 2002

“The Latke-Hamantaschen Debate: Data from the Annual Survey of Bubbies”

Bradley University Hillel/Peoria Hebrew Day School Purim Festival, February 2002

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

Bradley University Sherry Endowment Grant for Faculty-Student Collaboration, 2002

National Science Foundation REU Senior Researcher, “L.A. at Play” Summer Program, 2001

UCLA Department of Sociology Distinguished Teaching Award Campuswide Nominee, 1994

Law and Society Association Graduate Student Conference Travel Award, 1992

UCLA School of Public Health Research Grant, 1990

## **GRANTS**

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Academy Film Scholars Program Grant Application:  
\$20,000 grant

“Fame on Film”, October 2007

Disposition: Not awarded

Russell Sage Foundation, Miscellaneous Projects Grant Application: \$7,500 grant

“Tenth Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference”, September 2007

Disposition: Not awarded

Northern Illinois University Graduate Council Research and Artistry Grant Application  
“Passing Fame: Status and Identity in the Work of Celebrity Impersonators”, October 2006  
Disposition: Not awarded.

Northern Illinois University Graduate Council Research and Artistry Grant Application  
“Celebrity Impersonators: Performing Gender, Power and Fame”, October 2005.  
Disposition: Not awarded.

American Cancer Society Targeted Grant for Research Directed at Poor and Underserved  
Populations Application  
“Ethnographic Study of African American Communities and Cancer Prevention” (submitted with  
Marjorie Getz), October, 2003.  
Disposition: Not awarded.

### **MEDIA COMMENTARY**

#### ***News Sources, Radio and Television***

*Omaha World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), local celebrity, October 29, 2010  
*The Daily Express* (London, UK), celebrity worship, October 27, 2008  
*The Midweek News* (DeKalb, IL), celebrity impersonators, June 6, 2007  
*Forbes.com*, celebrity college attendance, May 16, 2007  
*The Midweek News* (DeKalb, IL), speed dating, February 7, 2007  
*People Magazine*, celebrity stalking, January 15, 2007  
*Elgin (IL) Courier-News*, Golden Globe Awards, January 15, 2007  
*Pittsburgh Tribune*, criminal Steelers impersonator, August 26, 2006  
Agence-France Press, 40th anniversary Star Trek convention, August 19, 2006  
*Detroit News*, superstardom, July 5, 2006  
*Elgin (IL) Courier News*, Elvis impersonators, January 8, 2006  
*Rockford (IL) Register Star*, Generation X turns 40, August 7, 2005  
*Los Angeles Times* and *Chicago Tribune*, etiquette revival, August 2004  
*Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, cultural impacts on cancer screening, January 2004  
WHOI-TV, Peoria, IL, courtship and mate selection, February 2003  
National Public Radio, “Satellite Sisters”, singlehood, February 2002  
WMBD-TV, Peoria, IL, popular music and national crises, January 2002  
National Public Radio, “Satellite Sisters”, home purchases by women, October 2001  
*Bradley University Scout*, Eve Ensler’s “Vagina Monologues”, March 2001  
*Orange County Register*, fans and fandom, January 2001  
*Los Angeles Times Magazine*, manners and etiquette, November 26, 2000  
*Peoria Journal Star*, police profiling, October 8, 2000

### ***Film and Other Media***

Documentary film, “The Green Girl”, George Pappy, director, 2014  
Multimedia CD-ROM, “Pop Goddess: Marilyn Monroe”, Nur Arphan, producer, 2000  
Arts and Entertainment Network (A&E) documentary series “Love Chronicles”, Suzanne Hollander, producer, 1999  
Arts and Entertainment Network (A&E) documentary “The Wild Ride of Outlaw Bikers”, Peter Jones, producer, 1999  
Oxygen Network documentary film "In The Bag", about women and their handbags, Lauren Malkasian, producer, 1995/2000 (aired)

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Master Class participant with Professor Howard Becker, 1993  
Ford Foundation Ethnic Women's Curriculum Integration Program participant, 1989

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Illinois Sociological Association, Treasurer, 2009-present  
Illinois Sociological Association, Annual Meeting Organizer and Host, 2013  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, Annual Meeting Organizer, NYC, 2013  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, Vice President, 2012-2013  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Mentor Award Committee, 2009-2010  
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting Panel Presider/Organizer, 2004, 2007 and 2008  
Reviewer, *Journal of Homosexuality*, 2011  
Reviewer, *Journal of Consumer Culture*, 2011  
Reviewer, *Celebrity Studies*, 2011  
Book Manuscript Reviewer, Routledge Publishers, 2010  
Reviewer, *Research in Social Problems and Public Policy*, 2009  
Reviewer, *Sociological Theory*, 2006-2008, 2010  
Reviewer, *Sociology of Sport*, 2007  
Book Manuscript Reviewer for Yale University Press, 2006-2007  
Reviewer, *Journal of Political and Military Sociology*, 2005  
Reviewer, *Symbolic Interaction*, 2001-2002  
Reviewer, *Social Problems*, 1998-1999

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

NIU Women’s Studies Program Personnel Committee, 2012-present  
NIU Women’s Studies Program Curriculum Committee, 2010-2012  
NIU Sociology Department Recruitment Committee Chair, 2010  
NIU Sociology Department Student Awards Committee, 2009-2010, 2012-present  
NIU Mother’s Memorial Scholarship Committee, 2007-2009  
NIU Sociology Department Chair Search Committee, 2007-2008  
NIU Graduate Faculty, 2006-present  
NIU Sociology Department Council, 2006-2008, 2009, 2011-present  
NIU Sociology Department Curriculum Committee, 2006-2012  
NIU Faculty Associate in Women’s Studies, 2006-present  
Bradley University Faculty Senate Committee on University Resources, 2002–2005  
Bradley University Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu Faculty Advisor 2001–2005

Bradley University Chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta Faculty Advisor 2001–2005  
Bradley University Women’s Studies Committee, 2000–2005

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Volunteer, emergency food assistance, Rock River Valley Food Pantry, Rockford, Illinois  
May 2009 - 2012

Member, Board of Directors, Planned Parenthood Heart of Illinois, Peoria, Illinois  
May 2003 - 2005

Founding Member, Board of Directors, Peoria International Film Group, Peoria, Illinois  
February 2001 - 2005

Volunteer in adult education, Mar Vista Family Center, Culver City, California  
October 1998 - March 2000

### **THESIS AND DISSERTATION COMMITTEES**

Chair, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Tendai Marowa-Wilkerson, 2012-2014 (completed)

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Kathryn Panger, 2013-2014 (completed)

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Anna Rossi, 2014-present

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Danielle Clemons, 2013 – present

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Christine Buckner, 2013 - present

Member, NIU doctoral dissertation committee (Political Science)

Eileen Setti, 2013 - present

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Communication)

Theodore Plothe, 2010 – 2012 (M.A. completed)

Chair, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Matthew Cousineau, 2009-2010 (M.A. completed)

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Jackie Blachut, 2010-2011 (M.A. completed)

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Ilana Demantas, 2009-2010 (M.A. completed)

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Heather Salazar, 2009-2010 (M.A. completed)

Chair, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Michael Hopkins, 2007-2010 (M.A. completed)

Outside Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Communication)

Falon Kartch, 2008-2009 (M.A. completed)

Chair, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Nicholas Baxter, 2007-2009 (M.A. completed)

Member, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

William Mingus, 2007-2008 (M.A. completed)

Chair, NIU master’s thesis committee (Sociology)

Jason W. Sternberg, 2007-2008 (M.A. completed)



Outside Member, NIU doctoral dissertation committee (Psychology)  
Timothy Ritchie, 2006 (Ph.D. completed)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Illinois Sociological Association  
Midwest Sociological Association  
American Sociological Association  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction

**CONSULTING EXPERIENCE**

Director and Chief Financial Officer, Cultural Research Consultants, Inc.  
2000-present

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Celebrity Studies, Qualitative Research Methods, Contemporary and Interactionist Theories.