

Past Award Winners

Graduate Student Research Paper Award Winners

Sociology graduate students are invited to submit their research (such as a course paper, article, senior project, or dissertation chapter) for award consideration.

1990	Kent L. Sandstrom
1991	Joanne Oreskovich
1992	Kathleen Call and Miles McNall
1993	Brian Ault
1994	Martha Easton
1995	Pamela Aronson
1996	Seongryeol Ryu
1997	Monica Kirkpatrick Johnson
1998	Peter Hennen
1999	Mayra Gomez
2000	Sara Dorow and Song Yang
2001	Brian Dill and Michael Massoglia
2002	Francisco J. Granados
2003	Jun Jin
2004	Erik Larson
2005	Danielle Docka
2006	Brian Dill
2007	Sarah Wakefield and Ana Prata Pereira
2008	Andrew Halpern-Manners
2009	Daniel Winchester
2010	Dalhia Mani
2011	Xi Zhu
2012	Hollie Nyseth Brehm
2013	Madison Van Oort
2014	Wenjie Liao (Honorable Mention - Kyle Green)
2015	Joseph Svec and Tanja Andic (shared paper)
2016	Jack Delehanty
2017	Stephen Wulff
2018	Devika Narayan
2019	Yagmur Karakaya
2020	Nir Rotem
2021	Caty Taborda-Whitt
2022	Miray Philips
2023	Xiaowen Han
2024	Jillian LaBranche
2025	Christine Delp
2026	Daniel Cueto-Villalobos

Undergraduate Student Research Paper Award Winners

Sociology students are invited to submit their research (such as a course paper, article, senior project, or dissertation chapter) for award consideration. Undergraduate students are encouraged to submit papers from all course levels (1xxx—5xxx). At least one grad student and as many as three undergrad student papers will receive awards. Papers will be judged by class level as well as overall content.

1990	Beth Klinkner
1991	Anthony L. Efterfield, Christopher Moore, Christopher Olson, and Liina Shostag
1992	Luke Gallagher and Bruce Kahn
1993	Mark Larsen
1994	Jason Minkin David Brady
1995	Jim Hawkins
1996	Kazuyo Kubo
1997	James Warren
1998	Laura Marinucci
1999	Ryan King
2000	Jessica Thurk
2001	Eric Hedberg
2002	Tristen Larson, Deborah A. Y. Sjostrom (Lower division), and Suriya Khong (Upper division)
2003	Angela Behrens
2004	Kelly Chermack and Jeffrey Allen
2005	John Burrell
2006	Mohamed Bakri
2007	Taylor Tarvestad
2008	Cory Davis and Taylor Schey
2009	Hallie Espel (1XXX level) and H. Jacob Carlson (senior project level)
2010	Erin Osborne and Gillian Griffin
2011	Michael Blix and Betsy Priem
2012	Emily Philipp & Rob Stewart
2013	Sarah Vanausdall (1xxx) & Jennifer Weber (senior project)
2014	Derek Volk, Megan Odom, & Lauren Williams
2015	Kat Albrecht and Austin Jenkins
2016	Juan Gonzales Diaz & Emma Klingler (3xxx), & Taylor Day & Claire Hepworth (Honors Thesis)
2017	Elizabeth Tremmel (3-4xxx) & Ben Hartmann (Honors Thesis)
2018	Prashasti Bhatnagar (Honors Thesis)
2019	Kristalena Herman (Honors Thesis)
2020	Nahrissa Rush (Honors Thesis)
2021	Jessie Fetting (Honors Thesis) & Megan Olson (Honors Thesis)
2022	Ali Bouterse
2023	Ian Gullickson
2024	Josephine Harris & Trinity Sitzman
2025	River Remus

Graduate Student Instructor Award Winners

Undergraduate students are encouraged to nominate a sociology graduate student instructor for his or her outstanding teaching.

1990	Pete Cattrell
1991	Deming Wang & Maude Dornfeld
1992	Nancy Wisely
1993	Susan Fournier
1994	Denise Hesselton
1995	Ann Beutel
1996	Joseph William Alexander
1997	Marit Berntson
1998	Sharon Preves
1999	Erik Larson
2000	Peter Hennen
2001	Michael Massoglia
2002	Martha Easton
2003	Alyssa Goolsby
2004	Ryan King & Ana Pereira
2005	Melissa Weiner
2006	Alexandra Stein
2007	Heather Hlavka
2008	Wes Longhofer
2009	Ryan Alaniz
2010	Shawn Wick
2011	Kristin Haltinner
2012	Jesse Wozniak & Sarah Whetstone
2013	Kyle Green
2014	Kia Heise
2015	Lei (Frank) Zhang
2016	Jack Delehanty
2017	Evan Stewart
2018	Sarah Garcia
2019	Rahsaan Mahadeo
2020	Aras Koksall & Ryan Steel
2021	Edgar Campos & Jean Marie Maier
2022	Monica Jarvi
2023	Daniel Cueto-Villalobos
2024	Anna DalCortivo
2025	Christine Delp
2026	Christopher Robertson

Graduate Student TA Award Winners

Nominations for outstanding service by a sociology teaching assistant are welcome from students, faculty or instructors. One graduate and one undergraduate student will be honored with an award.

1990	N/A
1991	Denise Hesselton
1992	Marit Berntson
1993	Margaret Sandifer
1994	Joseph William Alexander & Joel Pins
1995	Vicki Lundmark
1996	Yuri Frantsuz
1997	Wendy Leo
1998	N/A
1999	Ryan King & Mark McCrory
2000	Lara Cleveland
2001	Ryan King
2002	Francisco J. Granados
2003	Deborah Smith
2004	Maureen Clark & Timothy Clark
2005	Shawn Wick
2006	Eric Dahlin
2007	Aysegul Kozak
2008	Xingxiang Chen & Kelly Chermack
2009	Kristin Haltinner
2010	Sarah Whetstone & Erika Busse
2011	Kyle Green
2012	Madison Van Oort
2013	Stephen Suh
2014	Anthony Jimenez
2015	Jack Delehanty & Wahutu Siguru
2016	Matthew Aguilar-Champeau & Erez Garnai
2017	Yagmur Karakaya & Snigdha Kumar
2018	Monica Saralampi
2019	Edgar Campos & Michael Soto
2020	Amy August & Erika Sanborne
2021	DeAndre Beadle & Daniel Cueto-Villalobos
2022	Mi'Chael Wright & Mason Jones
2023	Nick Dickens & Mao Lee
2024	Forrest Lovette & Lena Kunjan
2025	Shania Kuo & My Nguyen
2026	Jordyn Wald & Aras Koksai

Undergraduate Student TA Award Winners

Nominations for outstanding service by a sociology teaching assistant are welcome from students, faculty, or instructors. Usually, one undergraduate student will be honored with an award.

1990	Carolyn Pappas
1991-94	N/A
1995	Laura Fingerson
1996-97	N/A
1998	Sara Bartlett
1999	Kathryn Flynn
2000	N/A
2001	Eric Hedberg
2002	No nominations received
2003	Kelly Chermack
2004	Lara Dreier
2005	Amy Lukes
2006	Diana Samek
2007	Jeff Holtz
2008	Jeff Hunger
2009	Suzy Maves
2010	Erin Darsow & Robert Rodby
2011	Jose Uribe
2012	Robert Stewart
2013	Derek Robey
2014	Kat Albrecht
2015	Casey Van De Laarschot
2016	Ally Huber
2017	Sujung (Sue) Lee & Laurel Ruesch
2018	Ayesha Mitha
2019	Naomi Silber
2020	Dany Berbari, Micalah Sagnes, & Anneliese Ward
2021	Anton Harrington & Keely Sipiorski
2022	Libby Radies & Kyra Schlicht
2023	Jessica Bade & Ahmad Wazwaz
2024	Jessica Bade & Isabel Vogel
2025	Anya Lindberg
2026	Morgan Chaffee & Malia Miller

Public Sociology Award Winners

With this award, we recognize the importance of public sociology—that which transcends the academy and engages wider audiences in understanding how we work and how change happens. Nominations are open to individuals, organizations, or groups that are: 1) involved in community organizing, advocacy work, or social services that draw upon a distinctively sociological perspective; and/or 2) conducting research or teaching that directly informs public debates and involves broader publics.

Nomination letters should include a description of the public sociology work you wish to recognize, the capacity in which you know the nominee, the nominee's relationship to the Department of Sociology, and contact information for yourself and the nominee. Self-nominations are very welcome. Although our students are technically eligible for the existing award, their careers may not yet be at a stage where they would be competitive with faculty and alumni.

2005	Chris Uggen		
2006	Reba Carruth		
2007	Eric Markusen		
2008	Sara Dorow		
2009	Wilder Research		
2010	Phyllis Moen		
2011	<i>Contexts</i> Graduate Student Editorial Board		
	Ryab Alaniz	Kristine Haltinner	Jeremy Minyard
	Arturo Baiocchi	Kia Heise	Hollie Nyseth
	Erika Busse	Meghan Krausch	Timothy Ortyl
	Amelia Cotton Corl	Wesley Longhofer	Sarah Shannon
	Keith A. Cunnien	Liyang Luo	Chika Shinohara
	Sinan Erensu	Suzy Maves McElrath	Jon Smajda
	Shannon Golden	Heather McLaughlin	Daniel Winchester
	Kyle Green		Jesse Wozniak
	Chen-Yu (Andy) Wu		
2012	Lisa Wade & Gwen Sharp		
2013	Minnesotans for a Fair Economy		
2014	Second Chance Coalition & Alejandro Baer		
2015	Awa Abdi		
2016	Muneer Karcher-Ramos		
2017	Genocide Education Outreach (GEO) Program		
2018	Heidi Barajas		
2019	Letta Page		
2020	Josh Page		
2021	Michelle Phelps		
2022	Elizabeth Wrigley-Field		
2023	Carolyn Liebler		
2024	None		
2025	Mike Eposito		
2026	Nick Graetz		

Department Service Contribution Award Winners

To award an individual or group for their outstanding service, nominations are sought from students, faculty, and staff to honor exceptional service contributions to the Department in the last year.

1990	Staff: Karl Krohn, Undergraduate: Beth Klinkner
1991	Graduate: Daniel Martin, Undergraduate: Candyce Kroenke
1992	Graduate: Miles McNall, Undergraduate: Alex Kagan
1993	Graduate: Kathleen Call
1995	Graduate: Martha Easton
1996	Staff: Katherine Simon Frank and Karl Krohn
1997	Staff: Hilda Daniels, Undergraduate: Jennifer Swanson
1998	Graduate: Perry Seymour
1999	Staff: Mary Drew, Graduate: Sabrina Oesterle
2000	Undergraduate: Jen Salvati, Graduate: Alyssa Goolsby
2001	Undergraduate: Undergraduate Sociology Association, Graduate: Amy Blackstone & Ronda Copher
2002	Mary Drew and BethMarie Ward
2003	Hilda Mork Daniels
2004	John "Rob" Warren and Ann Miller
2005	Mary Drew
2006	Jon Smajda and Leslie Lindgren
2007	Phyllis Moen
2008	Ann Miller
2009	Chris Uggen
2010	Jeanette Husseman and Sarah Shannon
2011	Robert Fox
2012	Joshua Page
2013	Mary Drew
2014	Becky Drasin
2015	Alex Manning and Stephen Suh
2016	Ann Meier
2017	Kerrie Deef
2018	Elizabeth Cronin
2019	Rahsaan Mahadeo (for the students who petitioned a name change for 3211)
2020	Amber Joy Powell
2021	Ann Miller
2022	Elizabeth Cronin
2023	Ann Miller & Holly Schoonover
2024	Dawn Turgeon
2025	Kathy Hull
2026	Evva Parsons

Faculty Mentoring Award Winners

A faculty member will be honored for past and ongoing support and commitment to sociology students. This award is determined and presented by the graduate students of the Department of Sociology.

1992	David Knoke
1993	Ron Aminzade
1994	Jeylan Mortimer
1995	Ira Reiss
1996	Jeff Broadbent
1997	Jeylan Mortimer
1998	Chris Uggen
1999	Elizabeth Boyle
2000	Doug Hartmann
2001	Robert Leik
2002	Ross Macmillan
2003	Ann Hironaka
2004	David Knoke and Robin Stryker
2005	Joachim Savelsberg
2006	Rob Warren
2007	Erin Kelly
2008	Phyllis Moen
2009	Teresa Gowan
2010	Elizabeth Boyle
2011	Chris Uggen
2012	David Pellow
2013	Joachim Savelsberg
2014	Lisa Park
2015	Erin Kelly & Phyllis Moen (for their joint efforts)
2016	Penny Edgell
2017	Alejandro Baer
2018	Teresa Gowan
2019	Michelle Phelps
2020	Doug Hartmann
2021	Awa Abdi
2022	Rachel Schurman
2023	None
2024	Joachim Savelsberg
2025	Laura Garbes
2026	Tom VanHeuvelen

Martindale Award Winners

1990	Dungsheng Chen
1991	Sarah Phillips
1992	Deming Wang
1993	Pi-Ling Fan
1994	Kathleen Call
1995	Miles McNall
1996	Mark Hager & Ann Beutel
1997	Amy Kaler & Xiaoling Shu
1998	Pamela Aronson & Samuel Zalanga
1999	Monica Johnson & Sharon Preves
2000	Mayra Gomez
2001	Sabrina Oesterle
2002	Melissa Thompson & Song Yang
2003	Amy Blackstone & Jeremy Staff
2004	Francisco J. Granados
2005	Ryan King
2006	Jennifer Lee & Fortunata Songora
2007	Brian Dill & Sara Wakefield
2008	Xingxiang Chen
2009	Jim Woong Kang & Erika Busse
2010	Eric Tranby
2011	Elaine Hernandez & Wesley Longhofer
2012	Drew Halpern-Manners & Heather McLaughlin
2013	Yu-Ju Chien & Shannon Golden
2014	Naomi Duke & Hollie Nyseth Brehm
2015	Kyle Green & Liying Luo
2016	Lei (Frank) Zhang
2017	Jack Delehanty
2018	Jasmine Ha & Erik Kojola
2019	Veronica Horowitz & Alex Manning
2020	Yagmur Karakaya & Devika Narayan
2021	Nir Rotem & Caty Taborda-Whitt
2022	Victoria Piehowski & Amber Joy Powell
2023	Christopher Levesque & Miray Philips
2024	Isabel Arriagada, Kriti Budhiraja, & Caity Curry
2025	Jillian LaBranche
2026	Christopher Robertson, Christine Delp, and Xiaowen Han

Anna Welsch Bright Memorial Award Winners

2001	Amy Blackstone, Kristin Carbone, Mayra Fomez, Switbert Kamazima, Andrew Odubote
2002	Brian Dill, Murat Ergin, Colman Titus Msoka, Ana Prata Pereira, Yakov Shchukin, Marcia Williams
2003	Francisco J. Granados, Katja Guenther, Wendy Leo Moore
2004	Timothy Clark, Ryan King, Alexandra Stein, Melissa Weiner
2005	Sarah Flood, Jennifer Lee, Fortunata Songora, Sara Wakefield, Pamela Wald
2006	Erika Busse, Heather Hlavka, Sadie Pendez, Chika Shinohara, Trina Smith
2007	Reiping Huang, Rachael Kulick, Pao Lee
2008	Jin Woong Kang, Dalhia Mani
2009	Ryan Alaniz, Andrew Johnson, Raphi Rechitsky
2010	Wesley Longhofer, Daniel Winchester
2011	Yu-Ju Chien, Ryan Moltz
2012	Kyungmin Baek, Shannon Golden, Hollie Nyseth Brehm, Sarah Whetstone
2013	Sinan Erensu, Meghan Krausch, Winjie Liao, Emily Springer
2014	Kia Heise, Scott DeMuth
2015	Kyle Green, Annie Jollymore, Wahutu Siguru
2016	Carolyn Fraker, Lisa Gulya, Erin Hoekstra, Alex Manning, Madison Van Oort
2017	Tanja Andic, Yagmur Karakaya, Erik Kojola, Devika Narayan
2018	Jacqui Frost, Erez Garnai, Veronica Horowitz, Stephen Wulff
2019	Kriti Budhiraja, Miray Philips, Anduradha Sajjanhar, Caitlin Taborda-Whitt
2020	Caity Curry, Ryan Steel, Amber Joy Powell, Aras Koksall, Victoria Piehowski
2021	Sarah Garcia, Aimzhan Iztayeva, Snigdha Kumar, Jillian LaBranche, Michael Soto
2022	Christopher Levesque & Nikoleta Sremac
2023	Christine Delp, Snigdha Kumar, Mahala Miller, & Tayler Nelson
2024	Daniel Cueto-Villalobos, Mahala Miller, Mi'Chael Wright
2025	Josh Caffrey, Mason Jones, Mao Lee, & Hannah Schwendeman
2026	Isabella Irtifa & Shania Kuo

Ron Anderson Technology and Social Cohesion Fellowship Award Winners

Awarded to a graduate student in the Department of Sociology for enhancing the role of technology in improving social cohesion.

2007	Lara Cleveland
2008	Jon Smajda
2009	none
2010	none
2011	Ryan Alaniz
2012	Sarah Lageson
2013	Evan Stewart
2014	The Society Pages Grad Board
2015	Kyle Green and Sarah Lageson
2016	Sarah Catherine Billups and Caty Taborda
2017	Madison Van Oort
2018	Emily Springer
2019	Allison Nobles
2020	Christine Delp
2021	none
2022	none
2023	Isabel Arriagada
2024	Jean Marie Maier
2025	Tianhe Chen
2026	Isabella Irtifa

Engaged Scholarship Award Winners

This award parallels the department's existing Public Sociology Award by honoring a graduate student who contributes to sociology while engaging wider audiences. This award is open to individuals, student groups, or organizations that: (1) conduct research or teaching that directly engages broader publics or informs public debates, and (2) bring a distinctively sociological perspective to community organizing, policy development, advocacy work, or social services.

2009	Minnesota Exits and Entries Project
2010	Heather McLaughlin
2011	Ryan Alaniz and Hollie Nyseth
2012	Shannon Golden
2013	Scott DeMuth
2014	Rahsaan Mahadeo
2015	Robert Stewart
2016	Sinan Erensu
2017	J. Siguru Wahutu
2018	Jacqui Frost and Evan Stewart
2019	De Andre Beadle and Caity Curry
2020	Victoria Piehowski
2021	Miray Philips
2022	None
2023	None
2024	Chris Robertson
2025	None
2026	Daniel Cueto-Villalobos

Sociology Undergraduate Research Scholarship Winners

2004	Suriya Khong
2005	none
2006	none
2007	none
2008	“not determined until May.”
2009	Zachary Binsfeld (turned down because of another award) and Gillian Griffin
2010	none
2011	Robert Stewart
2012	Hui Chen & Maria Kamenska
2014	Jason Robey
2015	Lydia Quint
2016	none
2017	Maya Smith
2018	May Li
2019	Cali Wery & Nahrissa Rush (Fa19), & Monica Miecznikowski (Sp20)
2020	none
2021	Funds allocated to the CLA Emergency Fund (COVID relief)
2022	none
2023	Claire Albrecht, Asiya Browne, Abigail Palmer, James Rashid, & Alisha Zhu
2024	Annapoorna Rao
2025	Sinead Scott & Jessica Bade (Fa24), & Sophie Schroeder (Sp25)
2026	Ryan Magwaro (Fa25), William Farley (Sp26), & Peyton Servais (Sp26)