



THE SOCIETY FOR THE
SCIENTIFIC STUDY
OF SEXUALITY

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SEXUAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK: HAPPY NEW YEAR!



If you have been keeping up with the last few editions of the Sexual Science Newsletter, you may have noticed a few changes. The newsletter has a new look and, hopefully, a new feel to go along with the new editor – me. ☺

Over the course of 2016 I plan to release more issues of the Newsletter than The Society has seen in past years. It is my goal to keep our members informed about relevant events in the sexological community. I'll also be trying out a

few different ideas for the types of material presented in this newsletter. So please, if you see something that you like (or that you don't like), feel free to drop me a line. Similarly, if you have any ideas for content that you'd like to see in the Sexual Science Newsletter, I'd love to hear from you.

My hope is that this newsletter will help us to build an even stronger sense of community within The Society. I'd like this to be source of pride, where we can share our accomplishments, as well as a venue for learning about new and fascinating lines of research being conducted by our colleagues. This is an opportunity to build further collaborations and continue to

strengthen our areas of research and practice.

The content of The Sexual Science Newsletter is, for the most part, community driven; I am just the curator. This means that I'll be counting on you – the members of SSSS – to send me your news, tell me about your research, and let me know about anything you think should be shared with our community.

I look forward to hearing from you soon dear readers as we all move forward together into a shiny new year of sex science together.

- Shayna Sparling
Sexual Science Editor
newsletter@sexscience.org



DON'T FORGET!

It's time to renew your membership with The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality.

Renew or Join by March 1st and save \$30!





**Janice Epp Memorial
Scholarship 2015 Award
Winner Profile – Randy Brown!**

My name is **Randy Brown**, a fourth-year PhD student in interdisciplinary social psychology at the **University of Nevada, Reno**. My research interests focus on sexual communication, or what leads sexual partners to talk about or avoid talking about sexual topics with one another. Specifically, I am seeking to extend the sexual communication literature beyond just the interactions between sexual and relationship partners by examining how sexual communication is influenced by external factors, such as parent-child sexual talk, peer sexual attitudes, and social and cultural endorsements of specific sexualities. It is this work that brought me to SSSS in Albuquerque — a trip supported by the **Janice Epp Memorial Scholarship Award**. I am beyond grateful for such an honor. This Scholarship helped me attend my first SSSS meeting, which left me energized for future research and grateful for the many new, brilliant friends I made. See you next year!



MEET CHANTELE SHARPE – WINNER OF THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATION AT SSSS 2015, IN ALBUQUERQUE!

Chantelle was a first time attendee to the SSSS Annual Meeting. She thoroughly enjoyed the conference and says that she is honoured to have received this distinction.

The title of her presentation was, “*Sex helps? The Role of Sexual Activity and Intimacy on Self-Reported Health.*”

The objective of this study was to examine the association between sexual behavior, social support, and health utilizing data from the National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project (NSHAP). The findings showed sexually active individuals were 40% less likely to self-report having diabetes, while individuals engaged in intimate behavior were 29% more likely to self-report having arthritis.

Although social support as measured in this analysis was not significant, evidence does indicate sexual activity and intimacy can potentially serve as buffers against some chronic health conditions (e.g., arthritis or diabetes) impacting middle aged and older adults.

Chantelle is a doctoral candidate in the School of Aging Studies at the University of South Florida in Tampa, FL. As a doctoral candidate she is currently working on her dissertation, focusing on sexual behavior and health among middle aged and older adults, which was also the scope of her poster presentation. Her co-authors are also 2 of her committee members: Ross Andel, Ph.D. and Sandra Reynolds, Ph.D.

MEET HEATH SCHECHINGER – WINNER OF THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT PAPER PRESENTATION AT SSSS 2015, IN ALBUQUERQUE!



Heath is a regular SSSS attendee. He is enrolled in the Counseling Psych Ph.D. program at the University of Kansas and is currently on internship at the University of California, Berkeley's Counseling and Psychological Services. Here he provides individual, group, and urgent drop-in psychotherapy to UC Berkeley students.

He titled his presentation *Toward Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Consensually Non-monogamous Clients: Results from a Mixed-Methods Analysis*. The project arose through an observation that very few clinicians seemed to be receiving training on how to support non-monogamous clients. Given the pervasive societal stigma and size of this population (4-5% of the US population), failing to train clinicians seemed to overlook the welfare of individuals who represent a sizable minority of those accessing mental health services. Heath worked with Dr. Amy Moors and Dr. Teri Conley's lab to collect data for his dissertation regarding the experiences of non-monogamous identified individuals in therapy to determine which practices they found to be most and least helpful. In light of the results, he proposed an initial set of treatment guidelines for clinicians.

Over the next few months, Heath will be leading a professional development seminar about coming out at work, co-facilitating a three-part Exploring Non-monogamies workshop for Cal students, and undertaking a project on promoting greater visibility and understanding of relationship structure diversity (e.g., monogamous, non-monogamous, questioning) through simple modifications to client intake paperwork. Besides this, he is also currently attempting to publish his dissertation, and as a result of his research, has been presented with a few upcoming speaking engagements, including a session on polyamory on behalf of the Coalition of Allies for LGBT Health at the American College Health Association (ACHA) annual national meeting, and a case presentation discussion to close the Community-Academic Consortium for Research on Alternative Sexualities (CARAS) annual national conference.

Get your news in the next edition of the Sex Science Newsletter!

If you have any content that you'd like included in upcoming newsletters (announcements, accomplishments, news, obituaries, job openings, research-related posts, etc.) feel free to send them in by **April 15th, 2016** for inclusion in our next



Still Ahead in this Issue...

- Member news
- Job Openings
- Your Memories from Albuquerque
- SSSS 2015 Meeting Photos

The Ira and Harriet Reiss Theory Award

The purpose of the Ira and Harriet Reiss Theory Award is to highlight and support theoretical advances in social science theories concerning human sexuality. A winner is chosen annually for the best social science article, chapter, or book published in the previous year (2015) concerning the theoretical development of sexual attitudes and behavior. In addition to careful theoretical development, stress will be placed on the use of relevant empirical evidence to examine the validity of the theoretical explanations.

This \$1000 award is jointly sponsored by the Foundation for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (FSSS) and by the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS).

To apply, send an electronic copy of the article or chapter (published in 2015), along with a letter explaining why this publication should be considered for this award. Contact Dr. Paul Vassey for more information about nominations: PAUL.VASEY@uleth.ca

Why Should You Update Your Member Info in the SSSS Directory?

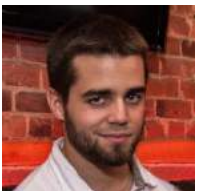
The SSSS Member directory is the best way to connect with other experts for potential collaborations and for media visibility!

Help people who want to connect and to talk about your work find you – Update your info when you renew your membership this year!

Missed an issue of Sexual Science? Check out our archives online!

http://www.sexscience.org/archives/sexual_science/

Member News



Carl Rodrigue of the Université du Québec à Montréal recently published a paper! Rodrigue, C., Blais, M., Lavoie, F., Adam, B. D., Magontier, C., & Goyer, M. F. (2015). The structure of casual sexual relationships and experiences among single adults aged 18-30 years old: A latent profile analysis. *The Canadian Journal of Human Sexuality*, 24, 215-227.

Chelsea Reynolds – University of Minnesota – has been invited to present her dissertation research about Craigslist sex forums to the Science Museum of Minnesota's Science of Sex opening. This is an adults-only evening event that embeds presentations about the latest sex research within regular Science Museum exhibits. <https://www.smm.org/socialscience>

Chelsea was also featured in a Huffington Post Gay Voices podcast about "straight" men who have sex with men. HuffPost called it one of the best sex podcasts of 2015. From Nov. 19, 2015: "*Here's what it's like to be a straight man who has sex with other men.*" http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/heres-what-its-like-to-be-a-straight-man-who-has-sex-with-other-men_564df334e4b00b7997f97d8b



Your Memories from SSSS 2015 in



Abuquerque New Mexico



Which concurrent session / plenary / workshop proved to be most worth your while, and why?

Our attendees mentioned specifically enjoying the Consent Themed CE sessions led by **Muehlenhard**, **Humphreys**, **Jozkowski**, and **Peterson**, as well as the Plenary presentations by **Stephanie Sanders** and **Mandy Carter** – “It is great to see SSSS reach out to activists and especially when it comes to increasing the racial diversity of our organization.” – as well as the Plenary by **Doug VanderLaan**: “Theoretically grounded, plainly presented, and backed with a ton of empirical data. He certainly demonstrated why his work is award-worthy.”

Another highlight was the session on building bridges between sex researchers and the media, led by **Lehmiller**, **Vrangalova**, and **Ley**: “The information presented was very useful, especially because it was less prescriptive and more thoughtful and experience-based (e.g.: ‘if this is your goal, I’d suggest this because my experience was this’ or ‘if you do this, expect this reaction, which may include a lot of hate mail etc’)... There was one person from the media there, and she briefly shared some of her expertise, which was very useful.” The sessions on **Social Media** and **Non-Monogamy**, as well as **Amanda Gessleman’s** presentation on the stigma associated with adult virgins were very popular too.

How did face-to-face interaction with those in your field of work enrich you professionally?

- “People explained their concepts more clearly. I was able to ask questions and get feedback from the creators of a concept. **Really great experience.**”
- “It was really **inspiring** to see so many young people doing such amazing things and being so successful. It helps to ease some intimidation and make the field seem more accessible.”
- “This was a **mixed** bag...”
- “Events like the SSSS meeting allow us to break the isolation as researchers and build **meaningful** professional contacts.”





What is your favourite memory from this year's SSSS Annual Meeting?

- “Memory? These weekends take a lot out of me! Probably the time Pat Koch brought the Widener people to a table and gathered other sexologists we read in our doctoral courses to speak with us. That was pretty neat.”
- “Being on the plane home with that feeling you get when you were just part of something awesome and meaningful and inspiring.”
- “The location/hotel was great, and the social outings (planned and impromptu) were as well.”
- “The people were all so nice! It really helps build a feeling of belonging and a desire to share.”
- “As an undergraduate student, attending the annual meeting for SSSS both last year and this year has given me the opportunity to network with some brilliant people in the field of sexuality. The conference has served as a way for me to reflect on my own personal goals and career aspirations with the added benefit of having approachable role models there to answer my questions. For me, the most beneficial aspect of attending the conference has been experiencing the atmosphere. Although I have not yet graduated with a bachelor’s degree, I have felt supported and engaged while there. The majority of attendees are welcoming and willing to answer questions and interact with anyone who shows an interest in their work- and I think that is an irreplaceable opportunity.”



Coming Up....

This summer the University of Trent will be hosting the first Sexual Consent Conference in central and eastern Canada. If you are a researcher working with an academic institution or doing community-based research on sexual consent, consider sharing your work in this multisectoral conference exploring this important issue from an intersectional approach. Their call for proposals is currently open. Details: <http://sexualconsentconference.com/>

The 38th Annual Guelph Sexuality Conference, one of the largest and longest running sexuality conferences in Canada is happening at the University of Guelph this June 23rd to 24th. This year will feature plenary talks by Francisco Ramirez, Emily Nagoski, and Jessica O'Reilly! More information here: <http://guelphsexualityconference.ca/plenary-sessions-2016/>

Job Openings!

Post-Doctoral Opportunities in Sexual Reproduction and Development

The Common Themes in Reproductive Diversity Program at **Indiana University** has **2 open positions** for 2-year NIH traineeships to support broadly integrative training in the areas of sexual reproduction and development. Training will focus on behavior and physiology in humans and other animals and will address key questions in three related themes: (1) genetic, epigenetic, environmental, and parental contributions to reproductive and social behavior; (2) the origins and expression of differences among the sexes; and (3) sex and immunity in health and disease. Indiana University's excellent support for research and its globally recognized strengths in animal behavior, endocrinology, human sexual health, and evolution of development will ensure high quality training. PhD in anthropology, biology, gender studies, neuroscience, psychology or a related field is required. For more information, make initial contact with one or more of the training faculty (<http://www.indiana.edu/~reprodiv/faculty.php>) who might serve as primary mentors. Positions begin as early as June 2016. Review of applications will begin as soon as 15 March 2016. Consideration of applications will continue until positions are filled. Applicants from groups underrepresented in science are encouraged. Indiana University is an equal opportunity employer.

Post-Doctoral Opportunities in HIV/AIDS and LGBT Sexual Health

The Center for HIV/AIDS Educational Studies and Training (CHEST) of **Hunter College of the City University of New York (CUNY)**, is hiring for **two full-time Post-Doctoral positions** (with 2-year commitments). As part of the City University of New York (CUNY) system, there are also opportunities for adjunct teaching. Positions have the opportunity to begin immediately, or in the next year.

1) Clinical/Counseling: This position will be approximately 60% clinical research and approximately 40% clinical practice. Research duties involve authoring and co-authoring manuscripts, assisting with grant writing, and collaborating with investigators on clinical research ethics and operations issues. Clinical duties involve provision of intervention content, based on motivational interviewing (MI) and/or cognitive behavior therapy (CBT), to research participants, as well as provision of individual and group supervision in these modalities to BA- and MA-level intervention counselors. The position also involves some neurocognitive assessment. Clinical supervision by a NY State licensed psychologist is available. Requirements: PhD or ABD in Clinical/Counseling Psychology; experience with clinical research related to health psychology; proficiency with (or strong interest in) MI, CBT, or preferably both intervention techniques; and interest in HIV/AIDS, sexuality, LGBT, and/or substance use research.

2) Behavioral Science/Biostatistics: This position will involve assisting with oversight and management of existing grant projects, supervision of staff, data analyses and manuscript writing, and grant writing. The fellow will be responsible for conducting complex multivariate analyses, and for supervision of more junior staff in statistical analysis and study design. Opportunities exist for the development of independent research projects/areas, as well as integration into existing funded projects. We are looking for a motivated junior researcher to become an integral part of our collaborative team. Requirements: PhD or ABD in social sciences with strong training in statistics; significant research experience (as evidenced by previous project management and peer reviewed publications); and significant proficiency with SPSS/SAS.

More information about CHEST can be found at <http://www.chestnyc.org>. **To apply**, please submit a cover letter describing relevant research (and clinical if appropriate) experience, a curriculum vitae, and 3-5 representative publications via email to Dr. Jeffrey Parsons (JParsons@chestnyc.org) with the subject line CHEST Post Doc Positions. Candidates should also provide the names and email addresses for three individuals familiar with their work who can be contacted for recommendations. Only those applicants who are selected for interviews will be directly contacted.