



THE SOCIETY FOR THE  
SCIENTIFIC STUDY  
OF SEXUALITY

# SEXUAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

July 2016



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## From the President – Terry Humphreys

Dear Members,

I hope your summer months will be productive ones, whether you are moving forward some research projects, writing a manuscript for publication, teaching summer courses, continuing your clinical practice, or the multitude of other sexuality related career activities that we do. I hope you make space for some downtime too.

The Society's Board of Directors and various subcommittees have been very busy with improvements to our organizational structure, outreach, and plans for upcoming annual conferences. Our Spring BOD meeting (April 2016) was held in Chicago in conjunction with the Society for Sex Therapy and Research (SSTAR) meeting. Three successful ventures came out of our Spring meeting:

(1) **The George Washington University Symposium.** The latest successful SSSS one day symposium on "The intersection of health, gender and sexuality: A multidisciplinary symposium" was a collaboration between George Washington University and SSSS member Stephen Forssell. This event was co-hosted by Mark Schoen and Michael Vigorito.

(2) **Bylaw changes.** As part of ongoing improvements to the efficiency and success of the Society, additional bylaws changes were proposed by the BOD and overwhelmingly approved by the voting membership. This change lengthens the terms of the President and President-elect to two years, removes the Past-President from the EC and BOD, but retains the Past-President

as the nominations committee chair for two years, and elevates the Membership Chair to an elected position on the EC. The student involvement chair on the BOD also changes from a one-year to two-year term. The main impetus for this change has been the routine complaint of SSSS Presidents that they only truly understand all the "inner workings" of the Society by the time their one-year term is finished. Providing an additional year will help Presidents think about and implement larger projects and actually see them through to completion. This will also provide President-Elect's another year to become more familiar with all of the moving parts of the organization before they take on the role of President. It was thought that a six-year stint (i.e., if the President-elect, President, and Past President all had two year terms) was potentially too daunting to volunteers who might want to run for President, but could not commit to six years in office. For that reason, the Past President's role was reduced. The Membership Chair was added to the EC to keep a productive number of people on the EC and because the Membership Chair plays a key role in the organization with both financial and overall health implications - worthy of a seat on the EC. The EC and BOD conducted their due diligence prior to proposing these changes by exploring a number of possible configurations and then examining other organizations with the proposed structure to ensure it functioned well. Although bylaws are typically very bureaucratic and boring, we believe this particular change will provide Presidents with the opportunity to be

more visionary and less like a "caretaker" when they assume their responsibilities.

(3) **60th Anniversary Planning.** It is hard to believe that our Society will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2017! It is time, once again, to come together and celebrate the 60 years of blood, sweat, and tears that have led to the sexual liberties we have today and the struggles that lie ahead. The program co-chairs for our 2017 annual conference have been selected: Carlos Rodriguez-Diaz, Robin Milhausen, Kristen Jozkowski, and Justin Lehmler. And the venue is...wait for it... Puerto Rico!! What better place than Puerto Rico to celebrate 60 years of sexuality progress, to rejuvenate our sexual energy, and to reinvigorate for the next 60 years! You are going to want to put this one in your calendar now! Come join us!

In the near future, our plans for **the 2016 annual conference in Phoenix Arizona** are in place and we are looking forward to another great conference in the sun! The lineup is very exciting, including plenaries on technology (Nicole Prause), sexuality education (J. Mase III), Viagra, Sexual Behavior, and HIV Prevention (David Malebranche), and a panel examining sexual science and its relationship with the media (Marty Klein, Pepper Schwartz, Laurie Betito, and Zhana Vrangalova)! But wait, there's more! Two plenary talks related to awards include Anthony Bogaert (Reiss Award) and Cynthia Graham (Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award)! In addition, we are infusing more research oriented, skill-based sessions into the conference. Look for these in the upcoming program. I hope to see you in Phoenix!

## **Award Winning SSSS Members!**

### **2016 Fellows of the Society:**

David Bimbi and Margaret  
Rosario!



Fellows are elected for outstanding contributions to the sphere of sexual knowledge.

### **2016 Distinguished Service to SSSS: Herb Samuels**



This award is granted to a member of the Society in recognition of outstanding service to the organization.

### **2016 Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award: Cynthia Graham**



This award recognizes professionals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of sexology. It is presented to honor scientific contributions in the areas of research, education, or therapy.



## **Thinking about Switching to R? Need a Refresher? Join Dr. Sakaluk at SSSS!**

### **This Year there is a New Statistics Workshop being Offered at the SSSS Annual Meeting Pre-Conference!**

Are you interested in learning R? Do you need to brush up on the current best practices for different statistical analyses used during scale development and validation? Have you been craving a learning environment that is both comprehensive and accessible? There's now a SSSS workshop for that.

I am very pleased to announce that for the first time—at least in the decade I've been attending SSSS—there will be a statistics workshop offered during the annual meeting pre-conference. I will be instructing the 3-hour workshop, during which we will cover analyses used for scale development and validation, including: exploratory factor analysis,

confirmatory factor analysis, structural equation modeling, and brief introductions to latent class analysis and item response theory models.

During the workshop, I will instruct attendees how to use R to carry out these analyses. Despite R's almost unlimited analytic capability, its amazing price tag (free), and being Mac and Windows compatible, social scientists are sometimes hesitant to explore R as an SPSS alternative because of its syntax-based nature. The workshop will therefore also include a very accessible introduction to the bare necessities of using R. I will also be supplying attendees with tons of accessible exemplar code—most of the commands we will use for analyses will only take up a line or two of text!

*Continued on next page*

Of course, you cannot learn everything there is to know about these types of analyses in 3 hours. Nevertheless, attendees can expect to leave the workshop with a better understanding of: (1) the foundations of these analyses; (2) the code to run these analyses on their own data in R; (3) how to interpret and report the resulting output; and (4) additional accessible and comprehensive resources to further learning of analyses for scale development and validation.

So if you are a faculty member or a student who is interested in finally taking the R plunge, and learning some of the finer points of latent variable analysis, consider joining us (with some of your own data, preferably) at the **Latent Variable Analyses in R Made Easy pre-conference workshop**.

See you in Phoenix!

John Sakaluk,  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology  
University of Victoria



## Have you Checked out the SSSS Mini-Grants?

Members of The Society can apply to use a SSSS mini-grants to support a variety of events. Including: local conferences or symposia that are focused on sexuality research / education / therapy; new developments bringing sexuality researchers / educators / therapists together to conduct workshops; sponsoring sexuality researchers / educators / therapists to provide talks to the local community, etc.

The purpose of these grants is not only to give back to our members, but also to broaden the SSSS brand. We are looking to expand awareness of our organization and possibly its numbers. **Think about how you might utilize one of these mini-grants to further the wonderful sexual science happening in your local area.**

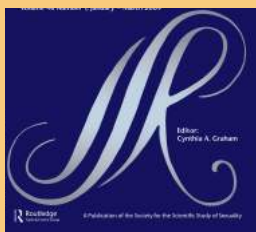
If you are interested in applying for one of these grants, we are interested in hearing from you! Check the SexScience.org website to access the application form.

Bring some SSSS to your hometown!



Abstract Decisions Notices have gone out and a Preliminary Program has been released for The Annual Meeting in Phoenix! We're excited to get together with you in the desert this Fall! Don't forget to take advantage of the early bird rates!

## Update from Cynthia Graham, Editor of the Journal of Sex Research.



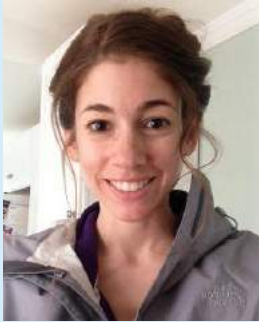
**2015 Impact Factor** for the Journal of Sex Research is **2.862**, an increase from last year and also the highest IF that the journal has ever received! The **5-year Impact Factor** also increased to **3.274**, again the highest 5

year IF we have received. "I am thrilled at the news that both the 2-year and 5-year Impact Factors for our journal have increased! This is a reflection of much hard work by the team of Associate Editors for the journal and the quality research that we aim to publish." The cited half-life index is again >10, illustrating the longevity of the articles published in JSR.

**Rank in Psychology, Clinical Category:** 24/121

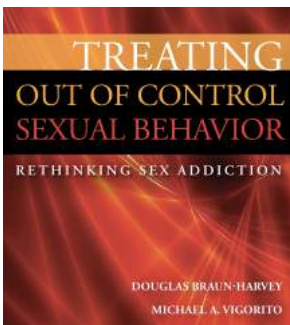
**Rank in Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Category:** 2/93





## Update from The Senior Student Involvement Co-Chair

Greetings fellow SSSS Members! As your current Senior Co-Chair, I wanted to provide you with a few awesome updates about the 2016 meeting in Phoenix. Currently Sasha Canan, my Junior Co-Chair, and I are diligently working on creating **a round table grant discussion** geared towards early professionals and students. The round table will include students and faculty who have had some experience with writing, receiving and finding grant opportunities; something many of us are interested in learning more about! The goal of this talk will be to provide some basic tips and tricks for students and early professionals looking to break into the grant world. Sasha and I are also busy planning new games for the meeting, along with finding a bar to hit for the student/early professionals night out! In addition to planning events for SSSS, remember that **a call for Ambassadors will be coming out in the next few weeks**. Ambassadors are student and early professional members who volunteer at the meeting throughout the weekend and in return, are reimbursed part of their membership fee. (woo hoo!) Lastly, Sasha and I are beginning the process of creating a list serv. for all student and early professional's to join; this will be specifically geared towards our younger members to provide them with information on finical opportunities, awards they could apply for and nominate others towards, and master/doctoral/post doc openings. While Sasha and I are bringing new ideas to the table and are excited for the upcoming meeting, we also always love to hear from our members! Please feel free to email me at [tlmarcan@email.uark.edu](mailto:tlmarcan@email.uark.edu) with any ideas or thoughts you would like to see at future SSSS meetings for students and early professionals. Until November 2016 keep rocking out SSSS members and enjoy your summer! Sincerely, Tiffany Marcantonio



### A Review of *Treating Out of Control Sexual Behavior* By Douglas Braun-Harvey and Michael A. Vigorito

Reviewed by Ruth Cohn



Occasionally a book comes along that truly inspires me to change the way I work. This has been the case with *Treating Out of Control Sexual Behavior: Rethinking Sex Addiction*. Over the last decade or so, the specter of 'sex addiction' has cast a pall, not only over our field, but also over the larger culture. As a relationship and sex therapist, I began receiving alarmed and desperate calls from couples in distress.

Eli Coleman (2003) and David Ley (2012) helped greatly in illuminating how the designation of 'sex addiction' was a loose cluster of 'symptoms' and behaviors that were primarily culturally, morally, and even economically driven—completely without nosology, precision, or science of any kind. Although I was relieved and heartened by their contributions, I continued to struggle to find sex positive and applicable treatment approaches to assist clients who were truly suffering. Braun-Harvey and Vigorito have brilliantly provided just that: a user friendly, kind, coherent, and practical approach – one that is both grounded in science and data, and that is effective.

Braun-Harvey is no stranger to longtime SSSS members. I remember his presentation at one of our conferences, possibly a decade ago, when he presented equally ground-breaking findings about treating sexual issues. His ideas stuck in my mind, because they were radical, evidence based, kind, and they worked. He has done it again, this time with his co-author Vigorito, with whom he demonstrates a seamless collaboration.

Beginning with six absolute principles: *Consent, Nonexploitation, Protection from HIV/STI's and unintended pregnancy, Honesty, Shared values, and Mutual pleasure*; the individual or couple is encouraged to define his/her/their own vision of sexual health. Based in attachment theory and the dual process model of human behavior, the authors lay out a framework for clients to understand their own sexual conflict. Using a combination of group, individual and couple's therapy, the authors show a sex positive, spacious, and hopeful path through and out of this conflict.

The book can be used as a treatment manual and is also clear enough to be helpful to an intelligent lay-person. Although space limitations prevent me from saying more. I can't recommend this book highly enough. Doug and Michael will be featured at the AASECT Summer Institute this August in Saint Louis; their presentation is sure to be inspiring!

## An Interview with Jean Levitan - 2015 Distinguished Service to SSSS Award Winner!

***I recently had the opportunity to virtually “sit down” with Jean – an important mainstay at all the annual meetings I’ve attended – and asked her a few questions about her history with SSSS and what The Society means to her.***

***Jean, when did you join SSSS?***

I became involved with SSSS in the late 1970's. I was encouraged to attend meetings by my graduate school mentor- Dr. Deryck Calderwood. At that time New York University was unique in offering graduate degrees in Human Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Life Education.

I have clear memories of hearing Albert Ellis, Wardell Pomeroy, and John Money talk at a SSSS meeting in a NYC hotel. The 1970's were a fantastic time for studying sexuality, with so much being published and openly studied.



***You were recognized for your distinguished service to the society in 2015, why is working with SSSS important to you?***

SSSS has always been my professional home. While meetings allow me to be a better educator by learning from all the research presented, getting involved with the organization and people is what makes coming to meetings so memorable. I benefitted years ago from the older regional structure within the Society, which had a strong presence in the New York/Pennsylvania area. I feel I “worked my way up” from committee work to various positions of leadership. Being a regional representative to the Board of Directors and then returning years later as the Regional President helped me understand the challenges of running a volunteer, non-profit organization. Eventually I held various national positions as well.

In life, people bring different talents to the table. A commitment to service has always been part of who I am—both for SSSS and William Paterson University as well. The Society has had the benefit of a most dedicated Executive Director in Mandy Peters, but it is the continued commitment of volunteers for committee work and in positions of leadership that insure the viability of the organization. Apart from the need for and fulfillment that comes from volunteering, is the benefit of growing relationships with colleagues from diverse geography that develop by becoming involved.

***Do you have a favourite memory from SSSS, perhaps from an annual meeting that you would share?***

Since I've attended regional and national meetings for close to 40 years, selecting a favorite memory is so difficult if not impossible. I remember being so impacted by Sandra Bem as she challenged the audience to think about sexuality in more fluid rather than distinct categories. I think of how respected researchers took serious issue with each other's work, and finding that what I first learned in graduate school in the 1970's was wrong. There used to be a morning plenary panel with a review of the past year in research, education, and therapy; I could count on that to cover the bases of “what I should know.” And then the fun of good exhibits, seeing people, exploring new cities, and some wonderful FSSS events.

***You've seen and know a lot about SSSS history, where do you hope to see the Society go in the future?***

I naively thought for years that if important sex research was going on, SSSS would present it at a meeting. Our meetings attempt to do that, but we compete with other organizations. I see more growth in the field but often with more directed focus—HIV/AIDS, Reproductive Rights, LGBTQ and other identities, etc. The good news is that sex research is going on in many disciplines and appears on the programs of other professional groups. That said, I remain frustrated that funding is limited, and researchers have to carefully select where and to whom they present their work.

Organizations are competing for resources and talent. I continue to hope that SSSS brings new disciplines into the membership and that we remain the principal group for highlighting the latest and best research in the field. As someone committed to service, I also hope that younger members will find the time to carry out the responsibilities of their paid positions, including research, but also recognize the value of providing service to the organization.

# MEMBER NEWS!

**David Knox** and his team at **East Carolina University** recently published a new paper!

Fulle, A., I. J. Chang, D. Knox. 2016. Female sexual hedonism: Navigating stigma. *College Student Journal*. 50: 29-34



Congratulations to **Dr. Emily Kennedy**, who successfully defended her doctorate in Sociology at the **University of Kansas** this May. Her dissertation was entitled *Digital Desire: Commercial, Moral, and Political Economies of Sex Work and the Internet*. Great Work!!

The **Relationship and Sexuality Research Lab** at the **University of Waterloo** recently published some great papers:

Fallis, E. E., Rehman, U. S., Woody, E. Z., & Purdon, C. (2016). The Longitudinal Association of Relationship Satisfaction and Sexual Satisfaction in Long-Term Relationships. *Journal of Family Psychology*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/fam0000205>

Mueller, K., Rehman, U. S., Fallis, E. E., & Goodnight, J. A. (Published online 2015). An interpersonal investigation of sexual self-schemas. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10508-015-0638-6>

Preliminary results of a study by **Johnnie Ham**, MD, FABAARM, MBA, MSAE (**Coastal Prestige Medical Services**, Inc. Medical Director) on the MonaLisa Touch® fractional CO2 laser system have been able to show with an initial small sample size (n=20), not only is there a quantifiable increase in sensation, orgasmic strength and libido; it has also increased the individual's sexual frequency, and sexual experience. Learn more [www.coastalclinic.com](http://www.coastalclinic.com) and at his session at the 2016 Annual Meeting in Pheonix.

The **Program in Human Sexuality** (PHS) at the **University of Minnesota Medical School** celebrated its 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a spectacular gala event titled "Benefit with Friends" on April 7, 2016.

The evening started with an interactive exhibit where faculty presented their research and clinical practice to guests. Attendees took sexual health quizzes on iPads, attempted a body part matching game, watched video clips that were used in compulsive sexual behavior research studies, and played Genderland; an interesting roll-the-dice game where participants landed on "Advances" and "Barriers" in the realm of transgender health issues.

The dinner program brought remarks by noted dignitaries UMN President Eric Kaler, PhD; UMN Medical School Dean Brooks Jackson, MD; PHS Leadership Council member Colonel (IL) Jennifer N. Pritzker, IL ARNG (Retired); and PHS Director, Professor, and Chair in Sexual Health, Eli Coleman, PhD.

The Program in Human Sexuality brought the nationally renowned artist T Mychael Rambo to lead a sexuality cabaret. Gala guests, with the help of T Mychael, created a song on the spot about sex! Rounding out the night by dancing to the sounds of ten-piece band Synergy was a wonderful way to celebrate the 45 years of advancing sexual health with the Program in Human Sexuality.



UMN President Eric Kaler, PhD



PHS faculty Mike Miner, PhD and Columbia University faculty Walter Bockting, PhD



Former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders, MD, MS, and Joycelyn Elders Chair in Sexual Health Education Michael Ross, MD, PhD, MPH

Photos by Tim Rummelhoff

**A new report has been released by APS that provides a comprehensive review of scientific research on sexual orientation.** The review is designed to correct important misconceptions about the link between scientific findings and political agendas. You can check it out for free here: <http://goo.gl/KTscIt>

## OPPORTUNITIES!

Dr. Joy Whitman and Dr. Cyndy Boyd are soliciting **submissions** from Counsellors, Psychologists, Social Workers, and Practicing Therapists (5 – 10 ms. pages) for an upcoming book entitled "The Therapist's Notebook for Sexual and Gender Identity Diverse Clients: *Homework, Handouts, and Activities for Use in Counselling, Training, and Psychotherapy*"

This book will be published in 2018 by Harrington Park Press, previously the LGBTQ imprint of The Haworth Press, and now distributed by Columbia University Press.

Further details: <http://goo.gl/6svYmA>

**Faculty opening** for a tenure stream position in **Social, Personality, and Health Psychology** at the **University of Toronto** (Mississauga Campus). Applicants are expected to utilize ecologically valid approaches and advanced statistical methods in a program of research that focuses on understanding health or well-being outcomes, and to have demonstrated a publication record of excellence with regards to these criteria. Candidates should have expertise in a distinct methodology and subject area that will enhance and grow the health, adaptation, and well-being cluster. Candidates must be able to teach graduate level courses on advanced statistical methods. The **application deadline is September 15, 2016**.

All qualified candidates are invited to apply online at:

<https://utoronto.taleo.net/careersection/10050/moresearch.ftl?lang=en> and refer to job number 1600713.

Applications should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, teaching dossier (including a statement of teaching philosophy), a statement outlining current and future research interests, and copies of their top three publications. The research statement should include information about how the applicant has or intends to respond to issues of replicability and open science. All application materials should be submitted online. Please direct questions to [psychair.admin@utoronto.ca](mailto:psychair.admin@utoronto.ca).

**Call for submissions** celebrating the bravery of women of color academics in the 21st century. "We invite women of color scholars to reflect on their courageous acts as researchers, teachers, mentors, administrators, advocates, activists, and entrepreneurs, no matter the professional risks. All contributions should explicitly reflect upon risk-taking, speaking up and out, challenging oppressive norms, surviving and thriving, overcoming professional and personal obstacles, innovation, and/or entrepreneurship. We strongly encourage potential contributors to 1) inspire women of color (academic or not) and other marginalized people and/or 2) to offer specific strategies for women of color academics to harness their bravery."

More Information: <https://conditionallyaccepted.com/academicbravery/>

The Department of Psychology at **St. Francis Xavier University** is seeking applications for a **9 month limited term appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor or Lecturer commencing September 1, 2016**. Preference will be given to candidates with a completed Ph.D. We are looking for instructors with experience or ability to teach Introductory Psychology (PSYC 100) and Learning (PSYC 210). A summary of teaching experience, a statement of teaching philosophy and interests, and a CV should accompany the letter of application. This position is subject to final budgetary approval. **Consideration of applications will begin July 8, 2016** and continue until the position is filled. Electronic submission of a curriculum vitae, letter of application, teaching and research summaries, and three letters of reference should be sent to [psychology@stfx.ca](mailto:psychology@stfx.ca), or a copy submission can be sent to Dr. Peter McCormick, Chair, Department of Psychology: Phone [\(902\) 867-3926](tel:(902)867-3926); Fax [\(902\) 867-5189](tel:(902)867-5189); e-mail [pamccorm@stfx.ca](mailto:pamccorm@stfx.ca).



## Coming Up....

The **International Association for Relationship Research** (IARR) will be holding their annual conference in Toronto, Ontario from **July 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>**. This year will feature plenary talks by Harry Reis and William Fisher (and more).

More information: <http://iarr.psych.utoronto.ca/program.html>

The **Sexuality and Aging Consortium** at **Widener University** in partnership with the **Woodhull Sexual Freedom Alliance** will host a sexuality and aging training institute this **August 4<sup>th</sup>** in Alexandria, Virginia.

More information: <http://www.widener.edu/sexualityandaging>

The **American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists** (AASECT) will be holding their 2016 summer institute in St. Louis, MO from **August 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>**. This year's theme is: Revisiting 'Sex Addiction': Transformative Ways of Addressing Out of Control Sexual Behavior!

More information: <https://www.aasect.org/2016-aasect-summer-institute>

The **Canadian Sex Research Forum** will be meeting this **September 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>** in Quebec City, Quebec and is sure to be a great meeting. Registration is now open.

More information: <http://www.canadiansexresearchforum.com/2016/>

The **2016 Capstone Conference** (part of the New View Campaign) will be taking place this **October 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>** in Bloomington, Indiana. This year will feature keynotes from Lynn Paltrow and Leonore Tiefer. Critique – Resist – Transform

More information: <https://www.indiana.edu/~iucweb/newviewcapstone/>

The **2016 Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality** will be taking place this **November 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>** in Phoenix, Arizona. This year will feature plenaries from J. Mase III, Nicole Prause, and David Malebranche (and more!), as well as some amazing pre-con events!

**Look for the call for member posters at SexScience.org!**



**Registration is now open!**

More information: [http://sexscience.org/Events/2016\\_annual\\_meeting\\_phoenix\\_arizona/](http://sexscience.org/Events/2016_annual_meeting_phoenix_arizona/)

The **National Sex Ed. Conference** will be taking place this **December 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>** in Atlantic City, NJ. This year will feature keynote talks from Jaclyn Friedman and Francisco Ramirez (and more). Check out their video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cOaJbo9ik4>

More information: <http://sexedconference.com/>

*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 **September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016** for inclusion in our next newsletter: [newsletter@sexscience.org](mailto:newsletter@sexscience.org)

