Celebrating
125 YEARS OF
SOCIOLOGY
1895–2020
The Catholic University of America
Dear Reader:

Welcome! This booklet celebrates The Catholic University of America’s Department of Sociology on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

Founded in 1895, the very year that Emile Durkheim established the first department of sociology in France, ours is among the oldest sociology departments in the world, and the first at any U.S. Catholic institution.

This booklet provides an introduction to some of the key figures who shaped our department’s history and summarizes their contributions. Today we are rebuilding the department in a way that both honors and builds on our distinguished legacy. Our hope is that our ongoing work will contribute in important ways to the University, the discipline, the Church, and the world.

A brief overview of our history follows, along with short professional summaries of some of our faculty, past and present. Many thanks to them, to our alumni, and to you.

— Brandon Vaidyanathan, chair
In the early years...

1895

The Sociology Department at The Catholic University of America was founded in 1895 with the purpose of strengthening the fields of moral theology and Catholic social teaching. At first offering only graduate courses, most of them philosophical, the department conferred its first doctorate in 1904.

1921

Ours was the first sociology department at any U.S. Catholic institution and was one of the founding departments of Catholic University’s School of Social Sciences, giving rise to the National Catholic School of Social Service in 1921 (later incorporated back into Catholic University), as well as the Department of Anthropology in 1934.

Instrumental faculty members during these early years include Father William Kerby, who inspired the foundation of the National Catholic School of Social Service, and Father Paul Hanly Furfey, who was a faculty member for 42 years and chaired the department for 32.

Father Furfey combined his passion for social justice with his research in sociology, believing that responsible social action was based on good sociological research, and that good research was oriented to the remedy of social evil. During his time as chairman, he transformed the Sociology Department into a fully modern contributor to sociological scholarship. In collaboration with Father Thomas Harte, Father Furfey founded the Bureau of Social Research, which garnered more than $1 million dollars in grants for research on immigration and the urban poor.

Father Raymond Potvin became chair of the department and moved it away from practical and solely Catholic interests to more mainstream European and American scientific and theoretical research. That said, the department retained a strong focus on religion, particularly in the work of Father Potvin and Dr. Dean R. Hoge, who conducted important studies on religion and youth, on seminarians, and on the priest shortage.

The department received a grant to form the Youth Research Center, changing its name to the Life Cycle Institute and incorporating research across behavioral science disciplines. Funding it brought in allowed the department to expand and add new faculty members who enriched the scope of its research, adding a new international component with the works of Dr. Che-Fo Lee, who focused much of his research on the demography of China, and Dr. Bronislaw Misztal, who explored social, religious, and political movements in Eastern Europe.
Dr. Lee began as a professor in the Sociology department Catholic University from 1971 until his death in 2005. His research interests were in quantitative methods, demography, healthcare, drug abuse, education, and international affairs. An immigrant from Taiwan, he was especially interested in fostering bilateral dialogue between Taiwan and the People’s Republic of China, in both political and nonofficial spheres. In 1982, he was the first Chinese-American invited to China to do just this, becoming a member of the All-China Federation of Taiwanese Compatriots and working with Chinese government officials to invite other Taiwanese educators and scholars for dialogue. He also invited Catholic University’s Dr. Dean Hoge and Dr. Raymond Potvin to accompany him to China to establish Social Science departments in Chinese universities; several graduates of those departments currently serve as policy-makers, academics, and leading professionals in the United States and elsewhere. In 2004, Dr. Lee founded an International Biennial Symposium with Bronislaw Mistal to bring together research from leaders in the field of sociology. In addition to his work in China, Lee was also sponsored by the United Nations to lecture in Iran, and throughout his career authored over 70 publications and received numerous research grants and contracts from government agencies.

Rev. Raymond Potvin was a sociologist and a priest at Catholic University for more than 40 years (until his death in 2011). He is widely regarded for his research into the Roman Catholic priesthood, Catholic schools, and the propagation of the faith, having authored several books, articles, and studies commissioned by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and other Church bodies. He served as chair of the Sociology Department for a time, and collaborated with Dr. Dean Hoge on projects investigating religious practice and affiliation. In addition to his work in the sociology of religion, Rev. Potvin was also involved in the field of industrial sociology; his study “Belgian Enterprise Councils: Attitudes and Satisfaction of Management and Labor” was cited in the Department of Defense’s Authorization for Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2001 Report.
DEAN HOGE
Dr. Hoge was an acclaimed sociologist, widely known for his work in the sociology of religion and the Catholic Church, writing over 25 books and 100 articles and book chapters. Book titles include The Future of Catholic Leadership: Responses to the Priest Shortage, Young Adult Catholics: Religion in the Culture of Choice, and American Catholics: Gender, Generation, and Commitment. Dr. Hoge earned his graduate degrees at Harvard University and taught at Princeton Theological Seminary before joining the sociology faculty at Catholic University in 1974. In addition to his work on Catholicism, he also produced important studies on Mainline Protestantism in the United States, such as Vanishing Boundaries: The Religion of Mainline Protestant Baby Boomers and Pastors in Transition: Why Clergy Leave Local Church Ministry. He served as the president of the Religious Research Association from 1979–80, and president of the Society for the Scientific Research of Religion from 2007 until his death in 2008. Journalists relied on his expertise when covering stories on the Catholic Church and religion in America.

JOHN MCCARTHY
Dr. McCarthy came to Catholic University from Vanderbilt University in 1974, serving as chair of the department from 1986–89 and acting director of the Life Cycle Institute at the University. He is an acclaimed researcher in the areas of social and political movements, particularly in the United States, co-authoring six books and writing dozens of journal articles. McCarthy was a Senior Fulbright Research Scholar from 1995–96, and served as a member on the editorial boards of several scholarly publications. He has received funding from the National Science Foundation, notably to study the causes and consequences of the citizens’ movement against drunk driving, and also to study the bias of media coverage of demonstrations in Washington, D.C. He has also worked as principal and co-principal investigator in sociological capacities for the Department of Transportation, the National Science Foundation, and the Aspen Institute, among others. In 1997, he became a professor at the Pennsylvania State University.

DOUGLAS SLOANE
Dr. Sloane was a post-doctoral fellow in 1980 at the Life Cycle Institute at Catholic University. He was awarded tenure in the department in 1989, served as its chairman from 1989–1997, and remained a member of the department until 2000. Sloane has had additional appointments during that time and since as an assistant director and supervisory statistician with the U.S. Government Accountability Office in Washington, D.C. from 1992–2013, and as an adjunct professor and member of the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research (CHOPRE) at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia from 1995 to present. He has also, since 2011, been a visiting professor at the Center for Health Services and Nursing Research at Catholic University in Leuven, Belgium. While Sloane’s early academic work was primarily in the areas of crime and delinquency, demography, and methods, his work over the past two decades has been focused on hospital organization and health outcomes. He has been a co-principal investigator on more than a dozen projects funded by various sources, including the National Institute of Health, the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Robert Wood Johnson.

DAVID BAKER
Dr. Baker joined the faculty in 1984, distinguishing himself in the field of education research, with particular focus on international contexts and applications. During his time at Catholic University, Dr. Baker served in several capacities for the U.S. Department of Education, as well as for the World Bank and the Chilean Government. With research grants from the Lilly Endowment Foundation, he conducted research into the future of American Catholic schools and Catholic census data. In 1996, he received the Alpha Delta Gamma Outstanding Teacher Award. He is currently teaching a professor of sociology, education, and demography at Pennsylvania State University.
SANDRA HANSON

Dr. Hanson became an assistant professor of sociology at Catholic University in 1986, concentrating her research on the analysis of gender in education and occupation systems. Increasingly, she focused on science education and occupations. She also began work on the American dream, with an emphasis on the nature and history of the dream. Hanson’s research became more international during this period. She received two Fulbright Fellowships at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, to study gender in Polish culture and education/occupation systems. She was a Fulbright Expert on gender and globalization at Leipzig University from 2012–15. In 2009, she testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Research and Science Education for a hearing on “Encouraging the Participation of Female Students in STEM Fields.” Hanson is the author of four books, several articles, and has presented her work throughout the world, receiving funding from the National Science Foundation on multiple occasions for her research. In 2011, she became chair of the Sociology Department. Her 2011 book, The American Dream in the 21st Century, on the intersection of the Dream with politics, religion, race, gender, and generation in America, is widely acclaimed, and her 2016 volume The Latino/a American Dream is also widely acclaimed. In 2010, she became the chair of the Sociology Department. Her 2011 book, The American Dream in the 21st Century, on the intersection of the Dream with politics, religion, race, gender, and generation in America, is widely acclaimed, as is her 2016 volume The Latino/a American Dream. In 2014, she received a Fulbright Scholarship from Jagiellonian University. She was also a Fullbright Expert from 2012–2015 at Leipzig University at their Center on Globalization; was funded by the National Science Foundation to work with a geographer at the Humboldt Institute in Berlin; and was a Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer from 2015–2018.

WILLIAM D’ANTONIO

Dr. D’Antonio became a visiting research professor with the sociology faculty in 1993, having held positions at the University of Notre Dame and the University of Connecticut, serving at both institutions as chair of the Department of Sociology. Before coming to Catholic University, he served as the chief executive officer of the American Sociological Association until 1991. D’Antonio’s research interests lie in politics and Catholicism, authoring several books and articles, including the book chapter “Religion and the American Dream: a Catholic Reflection in a Generation Context,” in Sandra Hanson’s book The American Dream in the 21st Century. His work has also been published in mainstream publications such as the National Catholic Reporter, where he presented his findings on political participation among Catholics. He was a Senior Fulbright Scholar in Italy in 2004, and received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from St. Michael’s College in Vermont. He is currently an associate researcher at Catholic University and fellow at the Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies.
PAUL SULLINS
Rev. Paul Sullins is a retired professor of sociology from Catholic University, and currently a senior research associate at the Ruth Institute and a fellow at the Marriage and Religion Research Institute. He is a married Latin-Rite Catholic priest, being a former Episcopal priest re-ordained into the Roman Catholic priesthood. His research is primarily focused on marriage and the family, with an emphasis on the study of married Roman Catholic priests. He is the author of the book, *Keeping the Vow: The Untold Story of Married Catholic Priests*, and co-editor of *The Conjugal Family: an Irreplaceable Resource for Society* published by the Pontifical Council for the Family. Recently, he has garnered attention for his studies of same-sex marriage and the adopted children of same-sex couples. He has also conducted research on homosexuality in the Catholic priesthood.

In the intervening years...

After the first 100 years, the department made significant additions to its faculty, research, and curriculum, in areas that continued to reflect religion and social justice but which increasingly took on a global emphasis. With the arrival of Dr. Enrique Pumar in 2000, the areas of global focus expanded to Latin America and to the movement of people across borders. Pumar initiated an interdisciplinary minor in Immigration Studies as part of the changes in the curriculum reflecting the new global focus.

JIM LOEWEN
Dr. James W. Loewen has been a research associate with the sociology faculty of Catholic University since 1997, and has enjoyed great success as the author of several books on American history, with his most popular, *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, selling over 1,750,000 copies, making it the bestselling book by a living sociologist. His research interests lie primarily in race, the American South, and how Americans remember, interpret, and teach their history. While his books are written primarily for K-12 students and the general public, they are nonetheless pieces of serious scholarship, such as his newest title, *Sundown Towns*, where he investigates the persistence of white-only residential communities in America. Other notable titles include *Teaching What Really Happened*, *The Confederate and Neo-Confederate Reader*, *Lies Across America: What Our Historical Sites Get Wrong*, and *Mississippi: Conflict and Change*. Loewen has received the Oliver Cromwell Cox Award, the American Sociological Association’s Cox-Johnson-Fraizer Award, and the National Council of Social Studies’s Spirit of America Award.
The department expanded its curriculum on global issues with the addition of courses such as Global Social Problems, introduced by Dr. Pumar; Gender and Globalization, introduced by Dr. Sandra Hanson; and Globalization, introduced by Dr. Bronislaw Misztal. The changes in the Department were also reflected in three new areas of specialization within the major: Globalization, Public Policy, and Criminology.

During these years, Dr. John McCarthy received multiple grants from the National Science Foundation to study the dynamics and organization of social movements. Dr. Hoge and Dr. William D’Antonio combined the study of American civic life with the study of Catholicism, tracing the political behavior of Catholics in the United States.

Also during this period, Dr. Hanson continued her work on equity in science and received funding by the National Science Foundation to study the experiences of African American girls in the science classroom. She also began collaborating with Dr. John White in the Politics Department on research into the history and nature of the American dream. Dr. Pumar’s work in Latin American and Immigration studies received funding from the Smithsonian Institution. The department also retained a focus on domestic issues, with Dr. David Baker’s research on education and Dr. James Loewen’s widely acclaimed work on the legacy and persistence of racism in the country.
In the contemporary period...

In recent years, the Sociology Department has continued to evolve in order to confront the shifting dynamics of societies around the globe. In line with The Catholic University of America’s mission, “In service to the Church, the nation, and the world,” the department has retained its focus on religion and embraced research at the intersection of the Church’s social teaching and the country’s social policy in areas such as immigration, poverty, and justice.

ENRIQUE PUMAR

In 2000, Dr. Pumar became assistant professor of sociology as well as lecturer on international affairs in the Department of Politics. He specializes in immigration and Latin American studies, authoring two books and more than 50 publications, including serving as a contributing editor for the Handbook of Latin American Studies. He filled many capacities at Catholic University, including chair of the Department of Sociology from 2011–17, chair of the Global Migration Program from 2014–17, and fellow and member of the Executive Committee of Policy Research and Catholic Research from 2011–17. In 2017, he was a Fulbright Senior Scholar at the University of Valladolid in Spain, and in the same year became affiliated with the Social Mobility Project of the Institute of Public Economics at the University of the Basque Country. In 2017, Dr. Pumar became Fay Boyle Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology at Santa Clara University.
Dr. Misztal has had a prodigious career lecturing at universities throughout the United States and Europe, holding the position of dean of the sociology faculty at Catholic University from 2005–2011, and Jacques Leclercq Chair at the Université Catholique Louvain-la-Neuve. His work is primarily concentrated in religion, social movements, Poland, and the theory of sociology. Misztal became a Fulbright Senior Scholar for research at the University of Chicago, and among other awards, has received the Officer’s Cross of the Order of the Rebirth of Poland as well as the Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland. His work on social movements in a global perspective contributed to the department’s focus on social justice by mapping out the nature and evolution of social movements in Cuba and Poland. His expertise on the Solidarity Movement brought him many invitations to talk on global social movements at universities around the world. In 2012 Dr. Misztal was appointed Polish Ambassador to Portugal.

Dr. Tamborini has lectured in the Department of Sociology since 2006, and is a senior researcher in the Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics at the U.S. Social Security Administration. He is also affiliated with the Maryland Population Research Center at the University of Maryland and with the Institute for Policy & Social Research at the University of Kansas. His work crosscuts multiple areas in social demography, sociology, and public policy. A substantive stream of his research improves understanding of social inequality related to race/ethnicity, nativity, and gender by adopting a life course perspective and making use of longitudinal data. His work analyzes various policy-relevant issues related to aging and the life course. His publications have appeared in leading journals including the American Sociological Review and Demography.

Before joining the faculty as a lecturer in sociology, Mr. Liddi had a 30-year career with the FBI. At Catholic University, he taught courses in terrorism, border control, and surveillance until his retirement in 2019.

Dr. Bynum has been a clinical associate professor of sociology at Catholic University since 2015. Her work is primarily in violence and adolescent mental health, as well as related public policy response. Bynum combines her academic interests with social advocacy, collaborating with nonprofit organizations and correctional facilities or projects involving urban youth. She currently serves as the senior research director for adolescent mental health at the National Alliance Against Disparities in Patient Health, and as a consultant for the Parlor Network, an agency that provides evaluation research services to nonprofit organizations. She has received the Rubin L. Davis Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award as well as the Life Pieces To Masterpieces Legacy Award.
Brandon Vaidyanathan arrived at Catholic University in 2017 as associate professor and took over as the new departmental chair in 2018. Dr. Vaidyanathan’s work on religion in global corporations and scientific workplaces complemented Hanson’s global work on equity in science education and occupations. In 2018, Dr. Laurie DeRose joined the Department as an assistant professor. Her global work on family structures and decision-making complemented Hanson’s work on family as a resource for African American girls in science.

In 2017, the department introduced a B.A. in Criminology that offers students unique instruction from an evidence-based and Catholic social teaching perspective, along with unparalleled opportunities to learn from top professionals in the D.C. area, both in the classroom and in the field. With several faculty members affiliated with law enforcement and government agencies, and many also with international backgrounds and areas of research, the department has deliberately sought to balance an emphasis on domestic issues with global concerns. To this end, it has kept pace with society’s increasing globalization by including researchers specializing in all areas of the world.

Brandon Vaidyanathan
Dr. Vaidyanathan is currently Associate Professor and Chair of the department. He holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business administration from St. Francis Xavier University and HEC Montreal respectively, and a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Notre Dame. His research interests lie in the cultural dimensions of religious, commercial, medical, and scientific institutions. He is author of Mercenaries and Missionaries: Capitalism and Catholicism in the Global South (Cornell University Press, 2019) and co-author of Secularity and Science: What Scientists Around the World Really Think About Religion (Oxford University Press, 2019). Dr. Vaidyanathan has also authored multiple peer-reviewed articles. His most recent research deals with wellbeing and mental health in scientific and religious communities.
KEVIN DAVIS

Before becoming a lecturer in the Sociology Department, Mr. Davis served as the 39th commissioner of the Baltimore Police Department from 2015–2018 following the 2015 Baltimore Riots and during the United States Justice Department’s ensuing civil rights investigation into the Baltimore Police Force. He has been affiliated with the dept since 2018. He negotiated a federal court-ordered consent decree and led substantial efforts in reforming the police department, receiving international attention and praise. Before leading the Baltimore Police Department, Davis served as the police chief for the Anne Arundel County, Md., Police Department and the assistant police chief for the Prince George’s County, Md., Police Department. In addition, Mr. Davis has served on the board of directors for the International Association of Chiefs of Police, as the Vice-Chair of the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission, first Vice President of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, and a member of Governor Larry Hogan’s Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board. A graduate of DeMatha Catholic High School, he was one of the 16 alumni to ever be recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus. He graduated from the John Hopkins University, where he received its Woodrow Wilson Award for Distinguished Government Service.

LAURIE FIELDS DEROSE

Prior to arriving at Catholic University as an Assistant Professor in 2019, Dr. DeRose had built up a distinguished career at other institutions including Brown University, University of Maryland, and Georgetown University. She also served as a consultant for the United States Agency for International Development; as an external affiliate of the Maryland Population Research Center; and as director of research for the World Family Map Project. DeRose focuses her research on family sociology, authoring several articles, three books, and contributing to two book chapters. She is very active reviewing articles and participating in conferences, having organized and chaired several conferences of the American Sociological Association and the Population Association of America.
JONATHAN FROEHLICH
Mr. Froehlich is a lecturer in the Sociology Department, specializing in counter terrorism and homeland security studies. In addition to his work at Catholic University, he also serves as a special assistant in the Director's Office Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and in the past has worked in the Bureau's Counterterrorism Division, the Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate, and the Leadership Develop-
ment Program. His work with the FBI has sent him all over the world, including a deployment to Iraq, and a detail in Islamabad, Pakistan, at the Bureau’s Legal Attaché Office. He has contributed to the security of events such as the Super Bowl and President Obama’s first Inauguration. His teaching experience includes lecturing at the George C. Marshall Center’s program on terrorism and security studies, and instructing government officials in several countries, such as the United Kingdom, Israel, and New Zealand.

NATHALIA HENRICH
In addition to being a lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Dr. Henrich is the director of the Oliveira Lima Library at Catholic University. Previously, she was a postdoctoral fellow and associate professor at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS) in Porto Alegre, Brazil. She has also been a visiting scholar at Georgetown University and at El Colegio de México (Mexico City, MX). Her research is focused on the history of social and political ideas in Latin America during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, particularly in Brazil. Henrich also works in the field of conservative political thought and authoritarianism and corporatism in a comparative perspective. She has published articles in journals in Brazil, Spain, Mexico, and is the co-author of the book, Projects of the State in Contemporary Latin America (1930–1960) (EdPUCRS, 2019).

ELISA ZHAI AUTRY
Dr. Autry is a lecturer in sociology at Catholic University. She is also the co-founder and executive director of the Washington Center for International Education. She is passionate about international education. She combines an Asia-focused academic background with expertise in non-profit organization management, as well as active engagement in the international education communities. Autry serves as an affiliate professor at the Center for Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation at George Mason University. In addition to her teaching, Autry has held various roles at the US-China Education Trust (USCET). At USCET, Autry worked with students, educators, and administrators from over 75 Chinese universities. She led programs on American society and culture, facilitated international conferences, and managed relationships with partners and stakeholders. Prior to joining USCET, Autry served as a program officer at the Institute for Global Engagement, where she worked with government officials, academics, and civic communities to implement global religious freedom initiatives. Before coming to Washington, D.C., Autry was assistant professor of sociology at Miami University. In addition to her teaching and research, she helped the university launch its Asian and Asian American Studies program. She has published widely in both English and Chinese. Autry received her Ph.D. and M.A. in Sociology from the University of Texas-Austin, and a B.A. in Sociology and Law from Peking University.

2019

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STEWART WHITSON
Mr. Whitson has a distinguished record of public service. As a U.S. Army Infantry Officer, he planned and led more than 300 combat missions in Iraq, including more than 22 joint missions with the Iraqi Army, one of which resulted in the successful rescue of an Iraqi hostage. While in Iraq, Whitson helped facilitate peace and humanitarian projects with political and religious leaders. After a successful career in the Army, Whitson joined the FBI, serving as the lead investigator following the first ISIS-claimed attack upon the U.S. homeland, and again deploying to the Middle East. He has served on the FBI’s SWAT team; as an FBI legal advisor for National Security-related matters; and has overseen hundreds of terrorism investigations. In addition to teaching for the Sociology Department, he is also currently the Unit Chief in the FBI’s Counterterrorism Division.

CHELSEA RAE KELLY
Dr. Kelly is a social psychologist and mathematical theorist who joined Catholic University as an assistant professor in the summer of 2020. Her mixed-methodology research program examines cultural dynamics of emotion, identity, and communication. Projects include a series of experiments disentangling cognitive mechanisms, the use of identity and emotion measures to model and predict relationship dissolution within hookup culture, and a collaborative international project on cultural similarities and differences in response to social interactions. She has a passion for teaching, helping students to understand a range of topics from principles of statistics to justice through microsociology. Dr. Kelly holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in sociology from the University of Georgia and a B.A. in sociology from the University of Delaware.
Today and tomorrow, the Sociology Department will continue to build on its heritage of excellence in research and teaching, while eagerly addressing life’s changing realities.