Charles Moskos Meets The Russian Military

Prof. Charles Moskos made history last year when he became the first American to address the Lenin Military Political Academy in Moscow. The Academy trains senior political officers in the Soviet armed forces and is in charge of political education of soldiers.

Moskos was in the Soviet city to deliver a paper on changing world military policy to a multinational gathering of sociologists who study the military. The chair of the Academy’s philosophy department invited Moskos to speak at the college.

“The discussion veered between old-style socialist vocabulary and new thinking,” explained Moskos, “with the latter clearly dominant.

“The exchange was probably more open than a visiting Russian would find with a counterpart group of Americans,” said Moskos, who has written about the sociology of military systems for more than 25 years.

When the Vietnam War was mentioned, it was raised not to criticize it but to help better understand how that war affected the military’s standing in the U.S. so that Soviets could better comprehend how the war in Afghanistan affects the military in Soviet society, according to Moskos.

Northwestern/University of Chicago Group Gets $1.4 Million to Train Graduate Students in Poverty Research

The National Science Foundation has awarded a $1.43 million five-year joint training grant to Northwestern University and the University of Chicago as part of a new program to improve graduate education in the behavioral and social sciences. Twenty core faculty from both campuses — including seven members of Northwestern’s sociology department — will be involved.

The program will train 22 pre- and post-doctoral students each year in research on urban poverty and related policy issues. The two institutions will receive equal portions of the annual awards, and collaborate in teaching and training the students. The first-year allocation is $202,000 to each university.

Christopher Jencks, Northwestern professor of sociology and a leading researcher in the field of urban poverty, will direct the Evanston component of the program. His counterpart at Chicago is sociologist William J. Wilson, author of the landmark book in the field, The Truly Disadvantaged (1987). Wilson is administering the Chicago program through its Graduate School of Public Policy Studies.

The project, “Research Training Group in Studies of Urban Poverty,” was one of 10 groups funded by NSF in a national competition for $15 million in grants. The NU/UC grant, effective Sept. 15, was the only joint proposal among the finalists and the only one focused on urban poverty.

The faculty will teach courses in social demography, sociology, economics, human development, and public policy, at both universities and alternate biweekly faculty-trainee workshops on the two campuses.

Their own areas of research will form the nucleus of the training program. These include: how neighborhoods affect social behavior; how community, family and school factors influence educational attainment and problem behavior in schools; how low-wage labor markets function; the causes and consequences of residential mobility in and out of urban ghettos; evaluation of social welfare programs; and transitions from adolescence.

ART STINCHCOMBE John Evans Chair

Art Stinchcombe didn’t set out to become the leading organizational theorist in the field of sociology. In fact, he spent three of his undergraduate years as a math major. However, fate had other plans for him.

“I attended a weak college and in order to have an intelligent conversation, you had to go into a field that had some intellectuals,” he explained. “I found that in sociology.

“So, I changed my major to sociology and in the years after graduation that I spent in the army, I read a lot on the subject.” After the army, he went back to school and received a PhD in sociology from the University of California/Berkeley.

After earning his degree, the slim professor joined the faculty of Johns Hopkins University, where he later served as chair of sociology. After

Continued on page 4

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Alumni Gift Received

The Department wishes to thank alumnus James Schadt (Sociology, ’60 and newly appointed University trustee) and his wife, Barbara, who generously donated $37,000 in endowment to Sociology this past spring. James is president and CEO of Cadbury-Schweppes, and Barbara is an attorney for the Connecticut law firm, Kelley, Drye and Warren.

The money will provide financial assistance to graduate students participating in sociological meetings such as those sponsored by the Law and Society Association and American Sociological Society.

Participation in ASA Meetings

Several grad students and faculty members participated in the August ASA meetings held in Washington, D.C. Over 3000 members met for the annual meeting which explored "Sociology and the Public Agenda."


Faculty participants included Prof. Allan Schnaiberg, organizer of two sections and a roundtable on environment and technology, organizer of a section on the construction of environmental policy, and presenter of "New Whine in Old Bottles: Recycling the Politics of Recycling;" Prof. Chris Winship, organizer of the section on unemployment and discussion leader for the section on methodology, advances in modeling; Prof. Carol Heimer, presenter of "Your Baby’s Fine, Just Fine: Uncertainty and the Supply of Information in Neonatal Intensive Care Units;" Prof. Albert Hunter, presenter of "The Neighbors and the Gang: A Modern Day Morality Play;" Assoc. Prof. Nicola Beisel, organizer and presider of a section on comparative historical sociology; and Mahmoud Sadri, visiting assistant professor, organized the roundtable, "Whatever Happened to the Rational Economic Man?"

In addition, Prof. Aldon Morris was elected to the ASA Nomination Committee and organized, presided and presented "Reflections on a Common Destiny" for the Association of Black Sociologists which met in Washington, D.C. just prior to the ASA meetings.

What is a Case?

Professors Charles Ragin and Howard Becker organized a symposium on basic social science precepts, "What is a Case?" last March that drew over 50 participants. The two-day event was cosponsored by the Department of Sociology and the MacArthur Chair and held on campus.

Topics discussed during the program included alternate definitions of case, case study, and case analysis; the relationship between analysis of cases and analysis of research literatures; and the different uses of case studies in social science. Featured presenters were Michel Wieviorka, CNRS, Paris ("What Is a Case?"); Andrew Abbott, Rutgers University ("What Do Cases Do?"); Douglas Harper, State University of New York ("The Case of Ethnography: Parts of a World"); Stanley Lieberson, Harvard University ("Small N’s and Big Conclusions: An Examination of the Reasoning in Comparative Studies Based on a Small Number of Cases"); Jennifer Platt, University of Sussex ("Case of Cases...of Cases?"); Diane Vaughan, Boston College ("Organization Theory: A Method of Elaboration"); John Walton, University of California ("Making the Theoretical Case"); and Harrison White, Columbia University ("Worldly Studies as Scientific Cases: For Identity, For Explanation, For Control").

Papers from the symposium will be included in a forthcoming book edited by Professors Ragin and Becker.

HOWARD BECKER:
MacArthur Chair of Sociology

Prof. Howard Becker is a "traveling man." This past spring, he spent two months in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil where he served as Fulbright Scholar at the Museu Nacional de Anthropolgy. Founded in 1946 by Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program has enabled over 167,000 scholars from all over the world to teach, conduct research, lecture and travel aboard.

He went abroad for two months in Paris last year where he served as a visiting director d’études associe at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales. There, Becker worked at Raymonde Moulin’s Centre de sociologie des arts et gave lectures at various research centers in Paris and Marseilles.

Also last year, Becker visited the Netherlands where he consulted with drug researchers in Amsterdam and gave a master class at the Helen Dowling Institute for Biopsychosocial Medicine in Rotterdam. He also gave the Charles Seeger memorial lecture at the annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology in Phoenix late last year.

In addition, Becker has authored the following publications:

"Theatres and Communities: Three Scenes," (with Michal McCall and Lori Morris), Social Problems, 36 (June):315.


Co-editor and co-author of introduction (with Michal McCall and Lori Morris), Social Problems, 36 (April): 93-112.

FACULTY AWARDS

Honorary Degree for Mack

Prof. Ray Mack received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from DePaul University during commencement ceremonies June 9. The degree, conferred by the university’s School of Music/Theatre School, cited Mack for having “shared with us the vision of enhancing the quality of higher education in the Chicago metropolitan area, and over the decades having been one of those most responsible for Northwestern’s commitment to excellence and the increased stature of the Chicago area as a national center of higher education. You have helped engender a spirit of cooperative scholarship between our two institutions, and in doing so have strengthened both Northwestern and DePaul.”

Mack has been on the Sociology faculty since 1953 after receiving his PhD from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He served as provost of Northwestern from 1974-87; vice president and dean of faculties, 71-74; director of the Center for Urban Affairs, 1968-71; and chair of the Department of Sociology, 1960-68.

Stein-Rokan to Ragin

The prestigious Stein-Rokan prize for research in sociology was awarded last spring to Prof. Charles Ragin. His book, The Comparative Method, was cited as being the best contribution to comparative historical literature.

The book proposes a synthetic new strategy, based on an application of Boolean algebra, that combines the strengths of both qualitative and quantitative sociology. Accessible and germane to the world of all the social sciences, The Comparative Method’s strength lies in its originality and it’s cogent, practical exposition of the possible applications of this new approach in several areas of social science research. It is published by the University of California Press.

The prize is awarded by the Stein-Rokan Foundation, Paris.

Lee Founders Award to Daniels

Prof. Arlene Kaplan Daniels received the 1989 Lee Founders Award from the Society of the Study of Social Problems and is the 1990 holder of the Cheryl Miller Lecture-ship at Loyola University.

The Lee Founders Award is presented annually to a member whose career demonstrates “service to the betterment of human life” while the annual lectureship at Loyola is funded by memorial bequests in the name of Cheryl Miller. The lectureship features the nation’s leading feminist scholars in sociology.

Daniels is currently examining the roles of women who have championed feminist causes in their careers and co-authoring, with Val Lorwin and Alice Cook, a book on women in the union movement, The Most Difficult Revolution: Women in Trade Unions.

Her 1988 book, Invisible Careers: Women and Civic Leaders from the Volunteer World, continues to receive praise as an occupational analysis of contemporary philanthropic women who have become civic leaders, showing how their volunteer work has become a professional activity.

FACULTY TRAVEL

A Trip to Turkey

Prof. Aldon Morris was one of four American professors to speak at a conference on the American South to educators and students in Turkey last year. The conference, which attracted some 300 participants, was sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency and was intended “to disseminate knowledge to other countries about the United States,” according to Morris.

Morris was chosen to attend the conference because of his extensive research on the American South. His book, Origins of the Civil Rights Movement, is currently being used as a text in both his classes - Social Inequality: Race, Class and Power; and Political Sociology.

“I was struck there by the com-

monality of people, irrespective of culture, geography, race and ethnicity,” he said. Morris added that he hopes to make his students aware of the need to study other cultures.

“Americans tend to be very ethnocentric: we tend to think the rest of the world revolves around us,” he continued. “We don’t analyze or think about societies in a serious way.

“When we better understand other communities of the world, we can better understand ourselves and our place in it.”

Other American speakers included Charles Wilson, a professor at the University of Mississippi; Marcus Smith, a professor at Loyola University in New Orleans; and Padgett Powell, a Fulbright professor working at Bogazici University.

A Year in Spain: Feldman

Prof. Arnold Feldman spent the 1988-89 academic year at the Center of Sociological Research (CIS) in Madrid. The CIS is the only publicly-funded sociological research center in Spain and the political polling organization for the party in power.

Feldman was asked to participate in the CIS ongoing seminar on the new social movements. This allowed him some integration with the scholarly community in Spain, as well as the opportunity to learn about current economic, political and social movements.

His main concern was working with extant and existing occupation-al data sets and he developed a new five-digit occupation code by examining all titles in the Spanish Dictionary of Occupations. This new set of categories is now used extensively in the Center’s work and forms the basis of his own completed and ongoing research on the issues of class and regional ethnicity.
Undergraduate News

EXUM AWARDS

The Third Annual William Henry Exum Award was given to co-winners Neely Carpenter (“Being Brown in a Black and White World”) and Laura Olson (“Comparisons and Casual Considerations of White and Black Political Participation, 1964-84”) during ceremonies held May 9 in the Black House. Mrs. Helen Exum, Exum’s mother, was guest of honor at the event.

The award is given in honor of the late associate professor who served in the departments of Sociology and African-American Studies. Joining Northwestern in 1977, Exum was actively involved in scholarly work and service on behalf of minority students in higher education until his death in 1986 at the age of 37. He also wrote the book, Paradoxes of Protest.

Prof. Arlene Daniels chaired the event with help from committee members Profs. Ray Mack, Charles Payne, and Bernie Beck, Sociology; grad student Marisa Alices; and Prof. Leon Forrest, African-American Studies.

MORE MAJORS EVERY DAY

Undergraduate enrollment in Sociology continues to grow. This current school year, 101 students are declared majors. That compares with 24 in 1967 and 33 in 1977. In addition, many more students, such as those in Medill School of Journalism and Communication Studies, have a “concentration” in the discipline.

During the 1989-90 school year, 1,581 students took a sociology class fall term, 1,607 winter term and 1,157 spring term for a total of 4,345 students.

In June, 1990, the Department graduated 25 sociology undergraduates.

Undergrad Award for Payne

Congratulations to Prof. Charles Payne who was named to the Associated Student Government faculty honor roll in April. The award is based on teaching excellence and is decided by student ballot.

NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

Moving In: Faculty Arrivals

Nicola Beisel has been named an assistant professor beginning in the fall, 1990. Beisel comes from the University of Michigan, and her main research interests are the role of culture and the family in upper class formation and reproduction, the issues of class and gender in moral reform movements, and the contribution of art and culture to the reproduction of social inequality.

Also joining the faculty in the fall as an assistant professor is Bruce Carruthers who comes to the Department from the American Bar Foundation. Northwestern is his first teaching position. Carruthers’ areas of interest include historical sociology, political sociology, theories of the state, organization theory, and economic sociology. His current research projects involve double-entry bookkeeping as a form of rhetoric, the relationship between political parties and public finance, and the relation between states and markets in the revision of American and British bankruptcy laws, and the tax system of American states in the 1930s.

Wendy Nelson Espeland has been appointed a fellow in the Center for Dispute Resolution for the fall, 1990. She, too, comes from the American Bar Foundation, where she served as a research assistant, and will receive her PhD from the University of Chicago. Espeland’s main areas of interest include culture, organizations, theory, and qualitative methods. She will join the faculty of the Department of Sociology as an assistant professor in fall, 1991.

$1.4 Million NSF Grant from page one conces to adulthood.

In addition to Jencks, the Northwestern core faculty is comprised of sociologists Thomas Cook, Roberto Fernandez, Aldon Morris, Charles Payne, James Rosenbaum, and Christopher Winship; and economists Joseph Altonji, Rebecca Blank, and Bruce Meyer. All ten are research faculty at the Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research, which is administering the grant in Evanston.

“The support for a joint NU/UC training program could encourage a lot more collaborative teaching and interdisciplinary research between the two campuses for both faculty and students,” said Jencks. Many scholars feel this approach is especially critical in attacking the formidable problems of poverty in the cities.

The idea of an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach to poverty research crystallized while Jencks and his colleagues were organizing a major Conference on the Truly Disadvantaged, presented by CUAPR and the Social Science Research Council in October, 1989 (see related story). “The conference helped convince people there was enough common interest to make an NU/UC collaboration seem plausible,” said Jencks, who was working on the NSF pre-proposal at the time.

Among the University of Chicago faculty involved in the program is Susan Mayer, a longtime collaborator with Jencks, who received her PhD in sociology from Northwestern in 1986. She is now an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Public Policy Studies.

Gerald Selzer, NSF program director for special projects, says the new NSF Training Program is filling a need for additional funds for training at the undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral level. He says NSF has been seeking “to sponsor new activities that might otherwise have a tough time getting money, especially for interdisciplinary training. We looked at where we will need researchers five or ten years from now.”

The other universities who received NSF training grants under the new program were Oregon, Continued on page 8
Stinchcombe, from page one

Graduate Publications


Amy Lusk was awarded third prize in the Mary Rue Bucher Graduate Student Paper Competition at the Midwest meetings in April. She received the award for her paper, “Dyads and Triads in Domestic Service Work: An Application and Extension of Simmel’s Typograph,” a revised version of her second-year paper.


Recent PhD News

The most recent PhD grads from the department authored the following dissertations:

Marisa Alicea, “Dual Home Base Phenomenon: A Reconceptualization of Puerto Rican Migration.”

Darlene Conley, “Philanthropic Foundations and Organizational Change: The Case of the Southern Education Foundation (SEF) During the Civil Rights Era.”

Kathy Edin, “There’s a Lot of Month Left at the End of the Money: How Welfare Recipients in Chicago Make Ends Meet.”

Janet Feldgailer, “The Hospital in a State Health System: A Case Study in Quebec Health Care.”


Graduate Student Funding

Several sociology graduate students have received outside funding for the 1990-91 academic year. We would like to congratulate the following for this outstanding achievement:

Lorraine Hanson - National Science Foundation Fellowship; Mary Kate Kinney and Yvonne Newsome - Alumnae Dissertation Fellowship; Amy Lusk - Jacob Javits Fellowship; Alfonso Morales - American Bar Foundation Minority Fellowship in Law and Social Science; Sharon Sheehan - Mathematical Methods and Social Science; Sarah Willie - Spencer Fellowship; Lisa Staffen - National Science Foundation; Ronen Shamir - American Bar Foundation; and Jerry Van Hoy - American Bar Foundation.
FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Who Are the People in Your Neighborhood?

Prof. Albert Hunter extends his work in urban sociology with a just completed Ford Foundation study of "Changing Relations Among New Immigrants and Established Residents" in the Albany Park community of Chicago and in a series of case studies of ethnic institutions he is conducting with graduate students. Institutional relations between the welfare state and the local community are also the focus of his book, Pragmatic Liberalism (Rutgers University Press, forthcoming, 1981, with Carl Milofsky).

His work in research methods and the sociology of science is seen in two recently published books — Multimethod Research: A Synthesis of Styles (Sage Publications, 1989, with John Brewer) and The Rhetoric of Social Research: Understood and Believed (Rutgers University Press, 1990).

Gender Studies and Risk

Prof. Carol Heimer is working on a project on gender and responsibility which studies who accepts responsibility and why, and why women are more likely than men to embrace burdensome care-providing responsibilities even when the acceptance entails considerable sacrifice. These questions are being studied with data from interviews with parents who have had infants in one of two neonatal intensive care units. Additional data comes from medical records of infants who were in an intensive care unit, interviews with professionals who work in these units, and fieldwork in a variety of settings.

This Little Light of Mine

Prof. Charles Payne is working on a book which attempts to reconstruct the course of the civil rights movement of the early 1960s in one area of the Mississippi Delta. With the working title of This Little Light of Mine: Local Participation in the Mississippi Movement, the book focuses on the role played by local people in the early movement and is based on approximately 100 interviews with surviving movement participants. Its general argument is that their role was far more central than is commonly realized and that failure to understand this distorts the concept of how the larger movement was conceived.

Empty Nest Syndrome

Prof. Allan Schnaiberg recently published an article, "From Empty Nest to Crowded Nest: The Dynamics of Incompletely-Launched Young Adults," (Social Problems) which has achieved much media coverage. (See, New York Times, 3/12/89 p.1; NYT, 7/19/90, p. B7; Chicago Tribune, 9/6/90, p.C1.) The article, written with alumnus Shelly Goldenberg of the University of Calgary, discusses the family structure as older children return to live with their parents.

This major departure from post-1945 trends has been noted by a handful of social scientists, most of whom have attributed the phenomenon to delays in marriage or tighter employment markets. Schnaiberg has pushed these issues in two ways: by exploring a wider array of causal factors in the middle class and exposing his ideas to a wide array of media, thereby placing himself in the role of moral entrepreneur. The feedback from reporters and call-in audiences has been used as data to reframe some of the earlier models of this project, according to the professor.

The Chair

Prof. Christopher Winship took over as Chair of Sociology in September, 1988. He succeeds Charles Regin who held the position from 1985-88.

Winship holds a PhD from Harvard and worked at the University of Wisconsin and the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago before joining the Sociology Department at NU in 1980.

He is married to Nancy Winship (NU Development) and has two sons, David and Michael.

Special Announcements

Wedding bells were busy ringing this past year as Prof. Albert Hunter married Rene Weber on St. Patrick's Day, Prof. Charles Regin and Mary Kate Kinney were wed June 23, and Prof. Howard Becker and Dianne Hagaman tied the knot June 24.

New faces arriving this past year include Michael, born last November to Prof. Chris and Nancy Winship and Kamaria Jasmine daughter of Prof. Aldon and Kim Morris, who arrived in August.

A Year's Leave...

Prof. William Sampson has taken a leave of absence from NU to head Chicago United, Inc., a local organization of 80 white and minority business leaders formed 17 years ago to improve race relations and economic opportunity in Chicago.

Other faculty who recently left the department include Janet Abu-Lughod, New School, New York; Jack Goldstone, University of California, Davis; and Susan Shapiro, American Bar Foundation, Chicago.

CUA News:

Conference on The Truly Disadvantaged

To commemorate it's 20th anniversary, the Center for Urban Affairs (CUA) co-sponsored a national conference on the urban underclass last year at Northwestern. Christopher Jencks, a sociologist in the Department, chaired the three-day event which focused on sociologist William Julius Wilson's landmark book on the underclass, The Truly Disadvantaged.

The conference, which attracted more than 100 social scientists from around the country, was organized by Profs. Jencks, Thomas Cook and Christopher Winship from NU's Department of Sociology, and Paul

Continued on page 8
NUSOCILOGY

Alumni Information

We would like to know what you have done since leaving Northwestern University and about your current work and families. Please complete this form and return it to us. If you have comments, suggestions or letters, please let us hear from you.

Name(s) ____________________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________

City _______________________ State _______ Zip _______

Phone _______________________

Class Year ______________________

Graduation name (if different) __________________________

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Michigan, Pittsburgh, Georgia, Minnesota, the University of California campuses at San Diego, Irvine, and Davis. Of 500 academic groups who submitted pre-proposals, 62 wrote formal proposals, 20 were site-visited, and half of these were funded.  

Stinchcombe, from page five  

narrow, modern theory in sociological analysis and the workshop in organizations to graduate students, Stinchcombe also serves as the graduate advisor, a position in which he feels particularly comfortable.  

"Because I like all kinds of sociology, I have no strong prejudices about what a graduate student should do," he explained. "So, I can be even-handed, which is very important for a department like ours."  

Stinchcombe is married to Carol Heimer, associate professor of sociology in the department, and is the father of six children: Max, an assistant professor of economics; Amy, a graduate student in sculpture; Adam, a graduate student in math; Kirk, an undergraduate student; Kai, a third grader; and Per, a preschooler. In his spare time, he enjoys cooking and childcare.  

His publications include the newly released and critically acclaimed Information and Organizations, and the older books, Economic Sociology, Theoretical Methods in Social History, and the aforementioned Constructing Social Theories.  

CUA News from page six  

Peterson of Harvard’s Social Science Research Council. The attendees represented 26 colleges and universities, 13 foundations and nine research centers or institutes.  

In a paper based on his long-term research into the causes of poverty, Jencks offered an analysis “Which Underclass is Growing?” In the paper, he presented four variants of the concept of underclass, with empirical estimates concerning their change or stability. James Rosenbaum, CUA-Education, along with Susan Popkin, CUA research associate, offered results from their research on Chicago’s Goutreaux housing relocation program for low-income inner-city blacks. Winship and University of Wisconsin sociologist Robert Mare teamed up to present their latest findings on “Assortative Mating, Economic Opportunities and Black-White Trends in Marriage,” in which they examined the effects of changes in economic opportunities at the age at which both blacks and white marry.  

Some of the papers presented new empirical evidence related to Wilson’s theories of how the social structure of the inner-city has been undermined by the exodus of middle- and working-class blacks and macroeconomic changes. Others reviewed existing literature relevant to Wilson’s hypothesis while still others attempted to reconceptualize thinking on particular topics. The conference proceedings will be published this year.  

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