

Spring 2013



Society for the Study of Social Problems

COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Message from the Division Chair

Shelley McDonough Kimelberg,
Northeastern University

Greetings, members and friends of the Community Research and Development Division of SSSP. In this edition of the CRD newsletter, you'll find some important member news and announcements, as well as the results from our 2013 graduate student paper competition. As always, the committee received some excellent submissions, so it was a difficult decision. Congratulations are due to all!

As the academic year winds down, it's time to start planning for the annual meeting in New York City (August 9-11). Please remember that the pre-registration deadline for program participants is July 1, 2013.

On a personal note, this will be my last newsletter as Chair of the CRD Division. I will be handing over the reins to the incoming chair for the 2013-2015 term, Tamara G.J. Leech, in August. Please take a moment to welcome Tamara to her new role. I also want to extend a special thank you to Jill Eshelman for all of her hard work as newsletter editor during my term as chair.

In closing, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for making this such a pleasant and rewarding experience. I enjoyed getting to know many members over the last couple of years, and I look forward to seeing you in New York!

Incoming Division Chair

Tamara G.J. Leech,
Indiana University-Purdue Indianapolis

Tamara Leech is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Director of the Survey Research Center at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). Tamara holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Michigan and a B.A. in Public Policy and International Affairs from Princeton University. Her research interests include adolescent health risk behavior, health disparities and racial and gender contexts. Her current work explores neighborhood and community assets as pathways to translational solutions for many of today's most challenging public concerns.

Examples of Tamara's recent work in the area of community-based research include: "The Treatment Effect of Public and Subsidized Housing Residence: Disentangling the Relationship between Housing Assistance and Teen Violence and Substance Use" (Leech 2012) in *Youth and Society*; "The Significance of Race for Middle Class Neighborhoods: Perceived Difficulty of Collective Action and Levels of Social Cohesion" (Hobson-Prater and Leach 2012) in the *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*; and "Community Conversations on Teen Pregnancy and Parenting: A Report on Capacity and Needs in the Fall Creek Community," submitted to the Indiana State Department of Health. Tamara is a current William T. Grant Scholar (2012-2017) and past recipient of the Tonja Conour Faculty Service Award (University College, IUPUI) and Golden Apple Award for Teaching Excellence (Butler University).

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Tamara Leech,
Incoming Chair

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