

## STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

### ► ANTHROPOLOGY

Graduate Student **Justin Kent**, was awarded the 2020 SBS Student Leader Award.



**Emily Ruoff** (Anthropology alumni) was featured in a documentary, *Cornfield Shipwreck* on HBO. The show discovers the mystery of the Steamboat Arabia, one of the best-preserved shipwrecks in American history. [Read about it in Today magazine.](#)



Emily Ruoff sewing an item of clothing unearthed on the shipwreck Arabia.

### ► GEOGRAPHY

**Kenzie Shandonay** gave a speech, "Stratigraphy and Geomorphic Evolution of Sand Stringers in the Upper Mississippi River Basin" at the Geological Society of America National Meeting.

### ► GOVERNMENT

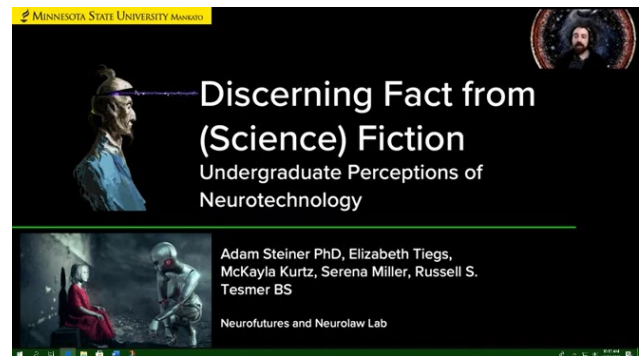
International Relations major, Ojashwi Adhikari, attended a special academic webinar organized by the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington D.C., on "*International Trade Policy: The Future of World Trade Organization*," with Renee Bowen, director of the Center for Commerce and Diplomacy and professor in the department of economics and School of Global Policy and Strategy, University of California, San Diego and Jennifer Hillman, senior fellow for trade and international political economy at the Council on Foreign Relations. Ojashwi

wrote a report from this meeting for a discussion forum in Dr. Tom Inglot's POL 106 – Politics in the Global Community class.

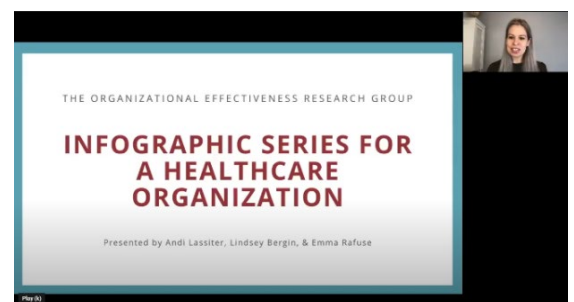
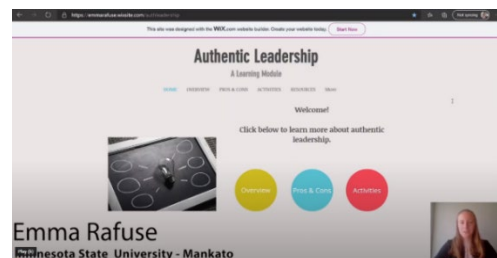
**Boni Njenga** (Bachelor of Science in Political Science Master of Arts in Public Administration alumni) ran for Hennepin County Commissioner, District 5.

### ► PSYCHOLOGY

**McKayla Kurtz, Serena Miller, Russell Tesmer, Elizabeth Tiegs & Dr. Adam Steiner** presented "Discerning Fact from (Science) Fiction: Undergraduate Perceptions of Neurotechnology" at *International Neuroethics Society*.



**Lindsey Bergin, Emma Rafuse** and **Dr. Andi Lassiter** were selected to present technology-based learning projects, "Infographics Series for a Healthcare Organization" by Bergin & Dr. Lassiter, "Authentic Leadership: A Micro-Learning Portal and Resource Library" by Rafuse & Dr. Lassiter at *DevLearn Digital Experience (DDX) DemoFest* held online.



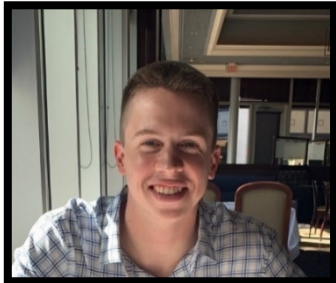
► **SOCIAL STUDIES**

**John Karl** attended *The Bob and Marion Wilson Teacher Institute of Colonial Williamsburg*, Williamsburg, VA. The conference was held virtually due to COVID-19. He is given the opportunity to represent MSU next year in Colonial Williamsburg.



*John Karl*

**Chad Korte** attended *Medal of Honor Legacy: Technology and the War on Terror* hosted by the Freedoms Foundation based in Valley Forge, PA. Chad participated virtually due to COVID-19.



*Chad Korte*

**Madison Morrissey** virtually attended *Medal of Honor Legacy: World War II*.



*Madison Morrissey*

**Brett Neel** was selected to attend 2020 St. Louis Federal Reserve AP Economics Summer Institute and 2020 Fort Ticonderoga Teacher Institute. He will be attending another virtual conference sponsored by Fort Ticonderoga in the fall. He is also invited to attend the 2021 Fort Ticonderoga Teacher Institute next summer.



*Brett Neel*

► **SOCIOLOGY**

**Serena Boyce** successfully defended her master's thesis titled "Disparities within School Discipline: An Examination of Race, English Language Learner Status, and Suspension" on November 3, 2020 as a part of the requirements for her master's degree in Sociology: Human Services Planning and Administration.

**FACULTY & DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

► **ANTHROPOLOGY**

**Dr. Rhonda Dass** presented "Indigenous Mankato: Past, Present, and Future" for the Greater Mankato Growth Leadership Academy at the Blue Earth Historical Society Museum on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

**Dr. Chelsea Mead** has been awarded a system Multi-Campus Collaboration Grant. Her proposal, "Ojibwe Language Consortium" was fully funded to support and expand upon Minnesota State Mankato's emerging collaboration with Bemidji State University teaching Ojibwe language courses.

She has also received \$726,338 through GEER grant for her proposal "Equitable Teaching in the Time of Covid-19" to provide more quality education during pandemic.

**Dr. Chelsea Mead** celebrated the first day of fall semester with her annual pencil cake, social distancing style.



## ► ETHNIC STUDIES

**Dr. Wayne Allen** presented "The Tipi Time Machine: Going Back in Time and Exploring Traditional Tools and Where They Come From" at *Makato Wacipi - Mankato Powwow -Education Day* as a member of the Metis Nation of North America.

**Dr. Lu Yan** was interviewed by Jacob Sanders from Wallethub.com on the topics of race and ethnicity in the most and least diverse states in the U.S.

## ► GEOGRAPHY

**Dr. Sudarshana Bordoloi** published her first book based on her doctorate dissertation, *The Political Economy of Uneven Rural Development*. Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore on July 16, 2020.



*Dr. Sudarshana Bordoloi*

**Dr. Jose Javier Lopez** was a keynote speaker at 2020 9th International Conference on Social Science and Humanity, which was held online from Sept. 19 – 21, 2020. The event was hosted by Nishinippon Institute of Technology, Kitakyushu, Fukuoka, Japan. The title of his speech was "The Geography of Bias-Motivated Crimes".



*Dr. Lopez was awarded the 2020 Distinguished Professor Award from the SBS Advisory Board.*

## ► GOVERNMENT

The Department of Government started podcast series, Let's Talk Government. New episodes come out every Tuesday starting Sept. 29 to Dec. 8, 2020. Visit [sbs.mnsu.edu/lets-talk-gov](https://sbs.mnsu.edu/lets-talk-gov) to catch up now!



*Let's Talk Government Podcast*

**Dr. Josh Berkenpas** gave a presentation titled "Populism in the 21st Century" for the Mankato Kiwanis Club on Sept. 8, 2020.

He also received an award for "Exceptional Dedication to and Excellence in Teaching Writing in Political Science" after participating in his third Writing Across the Curriculum Master Class.

New publications by **Dr. Tomasz Inglot**

- Petrova, Tsveta and **Tomasz Inglot, eds. Special Section:** "Politics and Current Challenges of Demography in Central and Eastern Europe, in *East European Politics, Societies, and Cultures*, no.4, vol. 34 (November) 2020: 879-1004.
- Petrova, Tsveta and **Tomasz Inglot,** "Introduction: Politics and Current Challenges of Demography in Central and Eastern Europe," *East European Politics, Societies, and Cultures*, no.4, vol. 34 (November) 2020: 879-892.
- **Inglot, Tomasz.** "The Triumph of Novelty over Experience: Social Policy Responses to the Demographic Crises in Hungary and Poland since the EU Enlargement," *East European Politics, Societies, no.4, vol. 34 (November) 2020: 984-1004.*

**Dr. Fred Slocum** published a review of Aram Goudsouzian's book (2019), *The Men and the Moment: The 1968 Election and the Rise of Partisan Politics in America*. University of North Carolina Press. in *Journal of Southern History*, 86(2), 535-536 in May 2020.

**Dr. Fred Slocum** was also interviewed by multiple news agencies for stories pertaining to the 2020 election including the Minneapolis Star Tribune, WCCO Radio, KEYC-TV, and MinnPost. Courthouse News Service published an article about this interview.

**Dr. Fred Slocum & Dr. Kevin Parsneau** were guest speakers at *Election Day 2020: What Can You Expect?* on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Dr. Slocum was interviewed for a follow-up story on the panel on KEYC-TV.

They were also interviewed by Jonathan Fjeld from KMSU Radio for the station's Southern Minnesota News Project on October 28<sup>th</sup>, for a story pertaining to *the Election Day 2020* event.

### ► PSYCHOLOGY

**Dr. Kristie Campana** was featured in WalletHub's recent piece about the Happiest States in America.

**Dr. Karla** Lassonde presented *Enhancing Memory and Attention Through the Science of Learning* at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Frontier Forum on Oct. 29. Presentation slides and a recording will be available soon at [sbs.mnsu.edu/frontier-forum](https://sbs.mnsu.edu/frontier-forum).



*Dr. Karla Lassonde*

**Dr. Eric Sprankle** was cited in an article in InsideHook about the nature of porn research.

### ► SOCIAL WORK

**Dr. Nancy Fitzsimons** published the article, Reframing the Problem of Sexual Victimization of People with Disabilities in *JSM Sexual Med* 4(4), 1039 on June 4, 2020.

MSW students **Michaela Bruder**, **Courtney Colton**, **Allyson Endersbe**, **Julia Lutz-Lawlor**, **Marissa Mammenga**, and **Jessica Schisel** had their letters to the editor printed in the Mankato Free Press and Waseca County News!

- Michaela Bruder: [Difficulties in the current rental/housing market \(subscription required\)](#)
- Courtney Colton: [Ripple effect immense \(YMCA Brother/Sister Program\)](#)
- Allyson Endersbe: [Students shouldn't have to rely on creditors for survival](#)
- Julia Lutz-Lawlor: [Respect Covid restrictions for people with disabilities](#)
- Marissa Mammenga: [America's middle class is close to vanishing](#)
- Jessica Schisel: [Mankato lacks affordable off-campus housing](#)

### ► SOCIOLOGY

**Dr. Carol Glasser** completed an assessment for the University of International Students and their experiences with COVID-19 at MSU.



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