## The fascination of Sociology lies in the fact that its perspective makes us see in a new light the very world in which we have lived all our lives. ~ Peter Berger An Invitation to Sociology

On behalf of the department faculty and staff, I welcome you to the department of sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Our department includes faculty members with wide ranging interests, from macro-social comparative studies covering different countries ranging from the Middle East to Korea, and from Latin America to South East Asia to micro-level studies which also range from qualitative research about gender and race to quantitative research about homeless shelters and racial profiling of Blacks, Arabs, and Latinos. The diverse faculty provides rigorous training in methods and statistics as well as diverse theoretical approaches. The department has a good number of certificates: Gerontology, Urban Studies, Program Evaluation and we are working on approving two more certificates.

Our Bachelor degree in Sociology has the objective of preparing students for careers in various fields and to pursue advance degrees. Our undergraduate program benefits from a small student-to-faculty ratio. Our former graduate students are found in a variety of positions in businesses, law enforcement, counseling, law and paralegal, child and family services, teaching, government agencies, and research institutes. Stay tuned for event announcements from the Sociology Club. We strive to make this department a home for our students. We trust that our classes remain full, our students continue to excel, and our research productivity continues unabated.

In an attempt to preserve a scholarly community, we stress debate, dialogue, and collaboration. I encourage you to stay involved and help shape the department's future, join the sociology club or contribute to the newsletter. I encourage you to contact the faculty directly to get assistance before you approach those who are uninformed about the subject matter. Please save your papers and work because you will need them in your portfolio for the senior seminar. I invite you to preserve this scholarly community and make use of your time while you are here at the department. We have a comfortable corner in Greenquist 318 and hope to have a weekly social happy hour so you meet our faculty members, other students, and engage in intellectual discussions. Thank you for your interest in our department.

Laura Khoury, PhD Professor and Chair Department of Sociology Director, Center for Ethnic Studies Director, Urban Studies Certificate Greenquist 317 Phone: 262-595-2590 Email: <u>khoury@uwp.edu</u> University of Wisconsin-Parkside 900 Wood Road, Kenosha WI, 53144