

Howard T. (Ted) Welser

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Ohio University

2007- Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Cornell University

2006-07 Post Doctoral Researcher
Institute for the Social Sciences
Project Theme: "Social Sciences in the Age of Networks"

EDUCATION

University of Washington

2006 Ph.D. in Sociology
Committee: Edgar Kiser (Chair), Michael Hechter, James Kitts, and Kate Stovel
Title: "A Theory of Status Achievement"

Miami University

1997 M.S. in Sport Studies
Committee: Valeria Freysinger (Chair), Allan Ingham, and Mary McDonald
Title: "Finding Life: The Meanings of Climbing to Dedicated Climbers"

1993 B. Phil in Interdisciplinary Studies

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2008 Microsoft Research Grant, "*Content Analysis for Role Identification in Online Community.*"

2006 Best Paper (with Danyel Fisher and Marc Smith), HICSS, Digital Media and Communication Mini-Track. "You Are Who You Talk To: Detecting Roles in Usenet Groups."

2004 [NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant #SES-0402607](#)

- 2004 Herbert L. Costner Award for Distinguished Graduate Paper: “A Theory of Status Achievement.” UW Department of Sociology
- 2004 [Graduate Fellow](#) of the [American Academy of Political and Social Sciences](#)
- 2003 ASA Graduate Student Paper Award for the [Rationality and Society Section](#) “For Love of Glory: Performance, Self Evaluation and Competition for Status among Rock Climbers.”
- 2002-03 Distinguished Teacher Award, UW Department of Sociology
- 2001-02 Research Improvement Grant, UW Department of Sociology

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Welser, Howard T., Eric Gleave, Danyel Fisher, and Marc Smith. 2007. “[Visualizing the Signatures of Social Roles in Online Discussion Groups.](#)” *The Journal of Social Structure.* 8(2). [Pdf version.](#)
- Welser, Howard T., Eric Gleave, and Deborah Vaughan. 2007. “[Cultural Evolution, Disproportionate Prior Exposure and the Problem of Cooperation.](#)” *Rationality and Society.* 19(2): 171-202.
- Turner, Tammara, Marc Smith, Danyel Fisher and Howard T. Welser. 2005. “[Picturing Usenet: Mapping Computer-Mediated Collective Action.](#)” *Journal of Computer Mediated-Communication.* 10 (4).

BOOK CHAPTERS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Gleave, Eric, Howard T. Welser, Marc Smith, and Thomas Lento. (Forthcoming in 2009). “A conceptual and operational definition of social roles in online community.” In *Proceedings of the 42nd Hawaii International Conference on Systems Sciences (HICSS)*, January 5-8. Computer Society Press.
- Welser, H. T., Lento, T, Smith, M. A. Gleave, E., & Himelboim, I. (2008). “A picture is worth a thousand questions: visualization techniques for discovery in computer mediated interaction.” Nicholas Jankowski (Ed.), *e-Research: Transformations in Scholarly Practice.* (ch.10). London: [Routledge.](#) [[Pre-print](#)]
- Lento, Thomas, Eric Gleave, Marc Smith, and Howard T. Welser. 2008. “Some users pack a Wallop: Measuring the impact of core users on the participation of others in online social systems.” *ICWSM '08*, April 1-2, 2008, Seattle, WA, USA. [[Paper](#); [Poster](#)]
- Welser, H. T, Smith, M. A. Gleave, E., & Fisher., D. (2008). “Distilling digital traces: Computational social science approaches to studying the internet.” In N. Fielding, R. L. Lee and G. Grant (Eds.), *Handbook of online research methods.* (pp 116-140). London: [Sage Publications.](#) [[Pre-print](#)]

- Kiser, Edgar and Howard T. Welser. 2007. "[The Microfoundations of analytic narratives](#)" *Sociologica*: The Italian Journal of Sociology on line. Issue: 3.
- Lento, Thomas, Howard T. Welser, Lei Gu, and Marc Smith. 2006. "[The ties that blog: Examining the relationship between social ties and continued participation in the Wallop weblogging system](#)" *WWW Third Annual Workshop on the Weblogging Ecosystem*, Edinburgh, Ireland.
- Danyel Fisher, Marc Smith, and Howard T. Welser. 2006. "[You are who you talk to: Detecting roles in usenet groups.](#)" In *Proceedings of the 39th Hawaii International Conference on Systems Sciences (HICSS)*, January 4-7. Computer Society Press.
(*Best Paper, Digital Media and Communication Mini-Track*)
- Smith, Marc and Howard T. Welser. 2005. "Collective action dilemmas." In Fisher, K E., Erdelez, S., & McKechnie, E. F. (Eds.). *Theories of information behavior: A researcher's guide*. Medford, NJ: Information Today.
- Uchida, Craig, Ted Welser, Josh Sadow, Tim Bynum, and T. Dave Chavez Jr. 2002. "Final report on truancy at AKMSA." Problem Solving Grant. Prepared for the Department of Justice.
- Welser, Howard T., Jane Cover, and Aaron Reynolds. 2001. "Preliminary report #1 on truancy at AKMSA." Prepared for the Seattle Police Department.

INVITED TALKS

- 2008 December 18-19, Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences 2: Communication Networks on the Web; European Science Foundation; University of Amsterdam.
Emergent Social Structures in On-line Communication Networks.
- 2007 April 9, University Lecture, Department of Sociology and Anthropology and School of Communication, Ohio University. *New Research Opportunities in Online Community.*
- 2007 March 13&14, Institute for the Social Sciences, Cornell University *Ongoing Wikipedia Projects: Evolution of Networks, Predicting Article Quality, Diffusion of Innovations, Policy Making* (with Dan Cosley, Gueorgi Kossinets, Vladimir Barash, Laura Black, Arnout van de Rijt).
- 2007 February 9, Communication Colloquium, Department of Communication, Cornell University. *Status Achievement in Online Communities: How Reference Groups can Shape Investment and Retention.*
- 2006 October 27, Institute for the Social Sciences, Cornell University *Explaining Retention in Voluntary Associations: The Role of Local Network Structure in Online Community* (with Tom Lento).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2008 Welser, Howard T., Daniel Cosley, Gueorgi Kossinets, Austin Lin, Fedor Dokshin, Geri Gay, and Marc Smith. "Finding social roles in Wikipedia." American Sociological Association, Boston.
- 2008 Black, Laura W., Howard T. Welser, Jocelyn M. DeGroot, and Daniel Cosley. "'Wikipedia is not a democracy': Deliberation and Policy-Making in an Online Community." International Communication Association, Montreal.
- 2008 Black, Laura, and Howard T. Welser. "Measuring Deliberation in Wikipedia Policy Discussions." Panel presentation in the 'Wikis for Politics' presentation. International Communication Association, Montreal.
- 2008 Gleave, Eric, Howard T. Welser, Thomas Lento and Marc Smith. "Social network Attributes of Roles in Computer Mediated Discussion Spaces." Sunbelt International Social Network Conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.
- 2007 Yuan, Connie, Daniel Cosley, and Howard T. Welser. "The Impact of Network Relations on the Diffusion of SuggestBot in Wikipedia." Panel on social network analysis in organizational communication. National Communication Association (Chicago, IL: November 2007).
- 2007 Kiser, Edgar and Howard T. Welser. "The Relationship between Theory and History in Evolutionary Biology: A Model for Historical Sociology?" European Sociology Conference, Glasgow (September 2007).
- 2007 Welser, Howard T., Eric Gleave, Marc Smith, and Tom Lento. "Social Networks and Accumulated Interactions: New Directions for Generating Simulated Networks", Lake Arrowhead Conference on Human Complex Systems, Lake Arrowhead: California.
- 2006 Gleave, Eric, Howard T. Welser, Danyel Fisher, and Marc Smith. "Two New Local Measures of Relative Degree." ASA: Montreal.
- 2006 Lento, Thomas, Howard T. Welser, Marc Smith, and Lei Gu. "Embedded Networks and the Growth of Voluntary Associations: Packing a Wallop" ASA: Montreal.
- 2006 Gleave, Eric, Howard T. Welser, Danyel Fisher, and Marc Smith. "Two New Local Measures of Relative Degree." Sunbelt: Vancouver.
- 2005 Vaughan, Deborah S., Eric P. Gleave and Howard T. Welser "Controlling the evolution of corruption: Sanction, Prestige, and Emulation." ASA; Philadelphia.
- 2005 Welser, Howard T., Marc Smith, Danyel Fisher, and Eric Gleave. "Visualizing the Signatures of Social Roles in Online Discussion Groups" ASA; Philadelphia.
- 2004 Welser, Howard T. "A More Powerful Affection: How Status Competition Generates Zeal and Affects Participation in Voluntary Associations." ASA; San Francisco: Rationality and Society section.

- 2004 Welser, Howard T., Eric P. Gleave and Deborah S. Vaughan “Emulation and the Problem of Cooperation: Lessons from Simulation.” Mathematical Sociology and Rationality and Society Mini-conference; San Francisco.
- 2004 Smith, Marc, Howard T. Welser, and Tammara Combs Turner. “Networks, Dilemmas, and Identities: The Sociological Analysis of the Usenet.” ASA; San Francisco, CITASA section.
- 2003 Welser, Howard T. “Local Status Achievement: A Formal Model.” ASA; Atlanta: Rationality and Society section.
- 2003 Kiser, Edgar and Ted Welser. “The Micro-foundations of Social Action” Society for the Advancement of Socio Economics: Aix, France.
- 2002 Welser, Howard T. “For Love of Glory: Performance, Self Evaluation and Competition for Status among Rock Climbers.” ASA annual meetings, Chicago.
- 2002 Kiser, Edgar and Ted Welser. “Classification in the Historical Sciences” Social Science History Association: St. Louis.
- 2001 Welser, Howard T. “A Theory of Status Communities” ASA; Anaheim.
- 1999 Kiser, Edgar and Ted Welser. “The Relationship between Theory and History in Evolutionary Biology: A Model for Historical Sociology?” Social Science History Association; Fort Worth.
- 1998 Welser, Howard T. “Accessing the Aesthetic Dimension in Cultural Practice; a New Perspective in Critical Sport Inquiry.” ISA World Congress; Montreal.

COURSES DEVELOPED

Ohio University

- (SOC 101) Introduction to Sociology
 (SOC 351) Elementary Research Techniques
 (SOC 419) Group Processes

University of Washington

- (SOC 316) Introduction to Sociological Theory
 (SOC 346) Group Processes
 (ENG 198) Interdisciplinary Writing

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2001- American Sociological Association
Communication and Information Technologies Section
Rationality and Society Section

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2005-06 Researcher, Microsoft Research, Social Computing Group
2004-05 Research Assistant, Edgar Kiser, Analytic Weberianism Project
2003-05 Research Assistant, Microsoft Research, Community Technologies
2002 Research Consultant, 21st Century Solutions
2000-02 Lead Researcher, Truancy Reduction Project, Seattle Police Department
1999 Interviewer, Arrestee Drug and Alcohol Monitoring project.
1996 Thesis fieldwork research, Hueco Tanks State Park, El Paso Texas

SERVICE

2008 Secretary & Treasurer; Rationality and Society Section of the ASA.
2007 Co-Organized [workshop](#) for [C&T 2007 Conference on Communities and Technologies](#) “Studying Interaction in Online Communities: from Data Sources to Research Results” (with Thomas Lento, Eric Gleave and Marc Smith)
2007 Co-Organized the [Cornell Microsoft International Symposium](#) on Self Organizing Online Communities. (With Geri Gay)
2004-06 Occasional reviewer:
American Sociological Review
Computational and Mathematical Organization Theory
Human-Computer Interaction
Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication
Journal of Social Structure
American Academy of Political and Social Sciences
2003 Workshop facilitator: [UW 2003 Conference on Teaching and Learning](#)
2002-04 Senior Teaching Fellow, Department of Sociology.
2001-02 President. UW Sociology Graduate Student Association
2000-02 Established and coordinated tutoring program at disadvantaged middle school.