

ASA Reception: August 18, 6:30 - 8:30

Mark your calendars, please. We are set for an awesome reception at ASA, and it's all due to our newest member of the faculty, Ryan Calder. In recommending Farmer Brown to us, Ryan has proved his worth already. That certainly augers well for the future – many thanks Ryan (and Michael Levien gets an assist. The two of them are buds from Berkeley; it is Michael who thought to check with Ryan).

If you don't recognize the name Ryan Calder, don't fret, you haven't missed an Alumni Update. Ryan is late arrival.

One of the things we do at these gatherings is introduce new faculty, and this year's list will be an exceptional one indeed:

- Julia Burdick-Will, coming from a post-doc at Brown, will be joint with the School of Education;
- Kathy Edin, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor and joint with the School of Public Health;
- Meredith Greif, from the sociology faculty at Georgia State;
- Steve Morgan, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor and joint with the School of Education;
- Sydney Morgan, who is coming from Cornell to head up the undergraduate International Studies Program (she will hold a Senior Lectureship in the department);
- Tim Nelson, a Senior Lecturer who held a like position at Harvard;
- Ryan Calder, finishing his PhD in Sociology at Berkeley and the successful candidate in an Islamic Studies search just concluded.

These little thumbnails are just to whet the appetite. If you make it to Farmer Brown's, you'll hear lots more.

And here a bit of background on our venue, also courtesy of Ryan: Two blocks from ASA, this farm-to-table neo-soul-food restaurant gets rave reviews from friends. Not only is it riding the California farm-to-table wave, but my understanding is that it sources as much as possible from local African-American vendors. It has a hip bar area and tasty cocktails of the sort served in Mason Jars. Review from the *Chronicle* [here](#). Menu [here](#) (click on "Food & Drink"). Yelp reviews [here](#). Pretty lively and therefore not the quietest of places, which may be good or bad depending on what you're looking for.

We don't have to worry about the noise, unless we make some for ourselves (and I hope we will): we're buying out the place for the evening! Those trendy cocktails, sadly, will have to be self-funded, but everything else is on the department (that's courtesy of our Consolidated Gift Account, so when Development hits you up for contributions, do remember this occasion – sometimes those checks do indeed go to a worthy cause!).

Our ASA meet-ups are always a big hit. We get to mix and mingle with our Alums and make new friends. There is an agenda, but it's none too stuffy. As mentioned, we introduce new faculty, and if there are other announcements of consequence, those too. And of course, this year I'll be saying goodbye, which, at least for me, elevates the occasion – I'll have to have Kathy remind me to bring along a double supply of hankies.

Mentioning retirements, please see the attached pix. Last Friday my friends here managed to pull one over on me. And a grand surprise it was! Kathy Edin and Stefanie DeLuca hosted the event in their research offices in The Owen House on Charles St, one of those stately old mansions. Terri Thomas and her good friend Jon Grant, with a bit of help from my Kathy, had the place decorated top to bottom with Karl memorabilia. And a massive turnout, at what must be the absolutely worst time of year, showered me with lots of love.

I had announced months ago that I wanted to go out quietly, without a lot of fuss. I guess they didn't hear. But if a fuss had to be made, this one was pitch perfect! Lots of friends and not an ounce of stuffiness. You can see for yourself from the tokens that were bestowed on me – no Hopkins tie, or Hopkins watch, or Hopkins lamp (all 3 of which I have from earlier milestone markings), but things useful and fun: O's gear, plus primo tickets to the July 1 home game, the first day of my new-found freedom. The other picture is absolutely scary. Did I really look like that back in the 70s? I guess lots of us did back then, but thank goodness I've outgrown the comb-over and thank goodness Kathy has helped me upgrade my taste in glasses!

Now back to San Fran and Farmer's Brown. We hope everyone will be there, but we know that not everyone will be able. We do, though, need a head count to finalize the contract, so please RSVP Terri: tthomas@jhu.edu.

And about Alumni Updates. I've got at least one more good one still in me. We anticipate that Steve Morgan's much anticipated appointment will clear Council by the end of the month, early June at the latest. I'll use that as the occasion to update everyone on other news.

Cheers to all,

Karl



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Hasn't changed
a bit 😊!





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