Mess Hall: Joseph Cunanan
Desirable Qualities of an Urban Greenway
Friday, May 15, 2 p.m.
990 W. Fullerton Ave, Suite 3100
Following the great critical and popular success of the High Line Park in New York and the Promenade Planteé in Paris, elevated urban greenways are likely to become a more common feature of city landscapes. This research seeks to identify the important qualities and design elements of urban greenways that lead to a higher quality of life for nearby residents and their communities.

The focus of Cunanan’s study is the 606 park and trail system on Chicago’s Northwest Side, which is converting an abandoned freight rail line, formerly known as the Bloomingdale Line, into a modern elevated park that runs through four Chicago neighborhoods. The $95 million public-private partnership project has been in the planning stages for over a decade and is officially scheduled to open on June 6, 2015. While similar to the High Line project in Manhattan, this park’s infrastructure is located in a very different urban environment.

Cunanan is using Qualtrics to gather survey data, targeting residents who live at least one mile from the 606. Besides neighbors of the trail, he’s also interviewing people from local community associations and those involved with planning and implementing the park project. Cunanan will present information about the park, his methodology, and his preliminary findings.

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Jessica Speer leaves DePaul
For the last 4 years, it has been my great pleasure and privilege to work with DePaul’s community of dedicated scholars on their projects. I’m grateful for the experience, for the kindness and generosity I’ve been shown here, and for the great colleagues I’ve had at the SSRC who have taught me so much. I am excited to be starting a new chapter of my career in a public library, but will miss the friends and colleagues here at DePaul. Best of luck to you all!

Happy Hour
Friday, April 24, 5 – 9 p.m.
Lincoln Station, 2432 N. Lincoln Ave.
Come by and get 50% off appetizers and 25% off draft beers and say farewell to SSRC Research Specialist Jessica Speer on her last day and last (probably) happy hour.