



year in review • 2009



institute for policy research

northwestern university



IPR's 40th Anniversary Conference
April 16–17, 2009

Dynamics of Inequality in America — 1968 to Today



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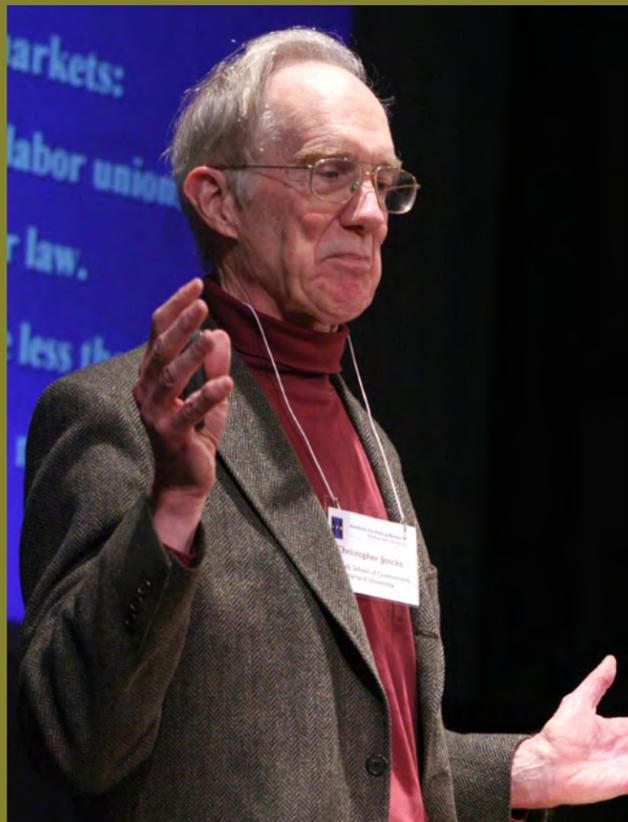
See back inside cover for captions.

“Inequality has remained a major theme woven through our faculty research over the years—research that began with studies of racial disparities and redlining in Chicago and expanded to encompass issues of poverty, gender, health, crime, politics, and education, with an emphasis on providing hard data and workable models for policy-relevant solutions.” — IPR Director Fay Lomax Cook

institute for policy research

40th anniversary conference

Dynamics of Inequality in America —1968 to Today



In his keynote lecture, Harvard sociologist Sandy Jencks presented his research on economic inequality around the world and how much inequality is “too much.”

■ ■ IPR celebrated its 40th year of conducting and disseminating policy-relevant research by holding a two-day conference on “The Dynamics of Inequality in America from 1968 to Today.”

“Inequality has remained a major theme woven through our faculty research over the years—research that began with studies of racial disparities and redlining in Chicago and expanded to encompass issues of poverty, gender, health, crime, politics, and education, with an emphasis on providing hard data and workable models for policy-relevant solutions,” said Fay Lomax Cook, IPR’s director.

Following presentations by some of the nation’s leading social policy researchers, participants launched into engaging dialog and debate on a host of interrelated issues: persistent racial/ethnic and education gaps, concentrated poverty and housing, inequality in men’s and women’s wages, links between poverty and crime, and the widening chasm between the richest and poorest Americans and how this is contributing to a rift in the democratic process.

Statistics presented in the panels show that progress has been made, yet much remains to be done: blacks and Hispanics are three times more likely to be poor than whites. Black and Hispanic children have lower high school and college graduation rates and face higher risks for heart disease and diabetes. Crime in major metropolitan areas is down from all-time highs in the early 1990s but still affects low-income, minority neighborhoods disproportionately. Women earned about 58 cents on the dollar compared with men in 1968 and 78 cents today, but only a handful lead Fortune 500 companies or wield substantial political power.

“While there are areas where progress has been made, inequality is still with us, as a persistent and pernicious force, a threat to social, economic, and political progress in our nation,” Cook said. “Yet this remarkable cadre of academics, including many current and former IPR faculty, embody the Institute’s hallmark—that rigorous scholarship can help us better understand social inequality and pave the way to the development of creative and coherent policies to tackle these disparities.” ■ ■

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In 2009, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Institute for Policy Research's founding with a conference on "The Dynamics of Inequality in America from 1968 to Today." The theme of inequality serves to encapsulate four decades of IPR faculty's wide-ranging, interdisciplinary, and policy-relevant research—from our very first studies of redlining and racism in Chicago to more recent national, longitudinal studies of how childhood stress affects health disparities in adults.

In particular, the conference looked at inequality in six areas—race, gender, the city, education, health, and politics—that cut across our research programs. We discussed persistent racial and gender gaps in education and income, concentrated poverty and housing, links between poverty and crime, and health inequities across the lifecourse, among other issues.

“ Our faculty examine a diverse range of socially relevant topics, always demonstrating an interdisciplinary mindset and using the best methodological practices. ”

Helping to place the research within the broader context of the dynamics of U.S. inequality were our former colleagues Becky Blank, now Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs, and sociologist Sandy Jencks of Harvard's Kennedy School. They were joined by other former fellows, such as University of Chicago education professor Charles Payne, many current IPR fellows, renowned researchers from the wider academy, and all four former directors of IPR, including founding director Raymond Mack.

A second highlight of the year was the methodological workshops run by several IPR faculty. We welcomed scholars from around the country who came to learn about cutting-edge issues in research methodology. From cluster-randomized trials in education to biomarkers in population studies to experiments in political science, IPR faculty shared their expertise on how to run more powerful and reliable social science studies.

The Institute also saw its total number of funding grants increase in 2009, in spite of the ever more competitive funding environment. We believe this growth is due to the high quality and innovative nature

of IPR scholarship. Our faculty examine a diverse range of socially relevant topics—from studies on earnings inequality among women and on negative group stereotypes and stigmatization to the effects of school vouchers and the use of racial categorization in biomedicine—always demonstrating an interdisciplinary mindset and using the best methodological practices.

IPR faculty fellows continue to receive major recognition for their scholarly work. Economist Charles F. Manski was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Psychologists Alice Eagly and Jennifer Richeson each received a career award from the American Psychological Association. And sociologists Monica Prasad and Celeste Watkins-Hayes both received National Science Foundation CAREER awards for their research projects on the origins of the U.S. tax system and how women of color deal with HIV/AIDS, respectively.

Faculty had an outstanding year for publications as well, authoring 13 new books and several hundred journal articles and working papers, including several papers recognized for outstanding scholarly contributions to their fields.

Our 40th anniversary celebration is now behind us, but we maintain our commitment to understanding the extent of inequality and its causes, consequences, and policy solutions in the multiple arenas in which Americans must grapple with it. In addition, we will continue to capitalize on the strengths of new faculty as they join us, link our research to wider university initiatives, and bring research to bear on emerging social problems and policies to address them.



Fay Lomax Cook, Director
Professor of Human Development and Social Policy



Fay Lomax Cook

IPR Research Programs

- Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies
- Poverty, Race, and Inequality
- Education Policy
- Philanthropy and Nonprofit Organizations
- Politics, Institutions, and Public Policy
- Social Disparities and Health
- Quantitative Methods for Policy Research
- Urban Policy and Community Development

IPR Mission and Snapshot 2009

“ The mission of the Institute for Policy Research is to stimulate and support excellent social science research on significant public policy issues and to disseminate the findings widely—to students, scholars, policymakers, and the public. ”

- Faculty Fellows: 35
- Faculty Associates: 65
- Postdoctoral Fellows: 8
- Graduate Research Assistants: 31
- Undergraduate Research Assistants: 25
- Active Grants: 42

■ **IPR Marks 40 Years of Research**

IPR organized a two-day research conference on “The Dynamics of Inequality in America from 1968 to Today” to celebrate its 40th anniversary. More than 250 participants attended the events held on April 16–17 and heard some of the nation’s leading researchers analyze and debate the character of inequality in the United States over the last 40 years. Panels discussed the state of inequality in areas that cut across much of IPR’s faculty research over its four decades: race, gender, health, politics, education, and urban issues.



IPR Director **Fay Lomax Cook** (r.) and economist **Burton Weisbrod** congratulate **Rebecca Blank**, a former IPR fellow now at the U.S. Department of Commerce, following her keynote address on income inequality.

Keynote talks were given by sociologist **Sandy Jencks** of Harvard University, political scientist **Larry Bartels** of Princeton University, and **Rebecca Blank**, Under Secretary for Economic Affairs in the U.S. Department of Commerce. Jencks opened the conference by pointing to the explosion in economic inequality in the United States over the last two decades and its hidden costs. Bartels discussed why some voters, particularly the working poor, consistently ignore their best economic interests and vote for Republican candidates, who belong to the party least likely to represent those interests. Blank reviewed how changes in family structure over the past 30 years, such as more women in the workforce, and increased earnings inequality have increased inequality since the 1950s.

“While there are areas where progress has been made, inequality is still with us, as a persistent and pernicious

force, a threat to social, economic, and political progress in our nation,” said IPR’s director **Fay Lomax Cook**. “Yet this remarkable cadre of academics, including many current and former IPR faculty, embody the Institute’s hallmark—that rigorous scholarship can help us better understand social inequality and pave the way to the development of creative and coherent policies to tackle these disparities.” (See the front cover for a special section on the conference.)

■ **High Honors for IPR Fellows**

Several IPR faculty fellows received major awards in 2009 in recognition of their research. Economist **Charles F. Manski** was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, one of 72 new members recognized for their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Manski’s work spans econometrics, judgment and decision making, and social policy analysis.

Psychologist **Alice Eagly** was one of three recipients of the 2009 Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award from the American Psychological Association (APA). A pioneer in social psychology, the psychology of gender and of attitudes, and meta-analysis, she also received the Gold Medal for Life Achievement in the Science of Psychology from the APA’s American Psychological Foundation. Social psychologist **Jennifer Richeson** received the APA Distinguished Early Career Scientific Contribution Award in social psychology. Richeson studies the ways in which social group memberships, such as race and gender, impact the way people think, feel, and behave.

Two IPR sociologists received the National Science Foundation’s prestigious Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award,



James Bray, then-president of the American Psychological Association, presents an early career contribution award to **Jennifer Richeson**.

Monica Prasad and **Celeste Watkins-Hayes**. Prasad is exploring the paradox of how the United States developed the world’s most progressive tax code while restricting development of an extensive welfare state. Watkins-Hayes, who also received a Robert Wood Johnson award for her project, is studying the economic survival strategies of women living with HIV/AIDS.

■ **Training on Biological Measurement in Naturalistic Settings**

IPR’s Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health hosted its fourth Summer Biomarker Institute on the Evanston campus of Northwestern University, June 8–10. The institute provided vital interdisciplinary training on integrating biomarkers into population-based, social science research to more than 30 participants from across the nation. Run by anthropologists **Thomas McDade** and **Christopher Kuzawa** and developmental psychobiologist **Emma Adam**, the annual institute covers technical as well as conceptual issues associated with biological measurement in naturalistic settings.

■ **Conference Examines Experiments in Political Science**

More than 100 political scientists and graduate students from across the country gathered at Northwestern University on May 28–29 to discuss and critique papers that will be included as chapters in the first “Handbook of Experimental Political Science.”

The participant list read like a who’s who of pioneers of experimental methods in the field—**Shanto Iyengar** and **Paul Sniderman** of Stanford University, **Alan Gerber** and **Donald Green** of Yale University, **Diana Mutz** of the University of Pennsylvania, and **Skip Lupia** of the University of Michigan, to name a few. Conference organizer and IPR political scientist **James Druckman** noted the importance of holding the conference at Northwestern, where the father of quasi-experimentation, Donald Campbell, spent most of his career and where social scientists such as IPR’s **Thomas D. Cook** and **Larry Hedges** continue to carry the banner of improving social science research methodologies. Druckman is one of the handbook’s

co-editors and the first political scientist named as a lead editor of *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

■ **Workshop Showcases Original Political Science Research**

More than 90 social scientists and graduate students from across the Midwest came to discuss an array of original research projects at the third annual Chicago Area Political and Social Behavior Workshop on May 8. Washington University political scientist **James Gibson** discussed how campaign contributions can threaten judicial legitimacy.

University of Chicago political scientist **Eric Oliver** shared his research exploring whether political beliefs have biological origins. **Scott McClurg**, a political scientist at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, demonstrated that a person’s social networks can influence “correct” vote choices, or voting in line with one’s stated political beliefs. And IPR political scientist **Victoria DeFrancesco Soto** spoke about how ethnically targeted political ads affect voters. IPR political scientist **James Druckman** organized the workshop.

■ **Conference Dissects Methods for Education Research**

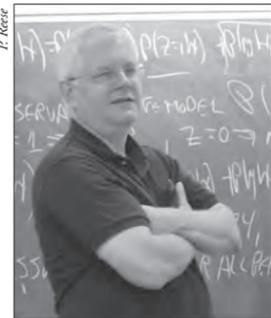
The Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE), which is housed at IPR, held its second annual conference on March 1–3 in Washington, D.C. Its theme was “Research on Educational Effectiveness: Methods That Matter.” Plenary sessions were given by **Robert Granger**, president of the William T. Grant Foundation, who talked about relevance in experiments, and IPR economist **Charles F. Manski**, who spoke on policy choice with partial knowledge of policy effectiveness. IPR education researcher and statistician **Larry Hedges** is president of the society and one of its founding members.



Skip Lupia (l.) of the University of Michigan talks with IPR’s **James Druckman** at the Experimental Political Science Conference.

■ **Expanding IPR Colloquia**

IPR's colloquium series continues to attract faculty, students, researchers, and the public to its weekly events. The recent addition of a series on education policy has increased the breadth and number of IPR colloquia held over the year.



Economist **Derek Neal** gives a Labor & Education Policy Seminar.

The Joint IPR/Economics Department Labor & Education Policy Seminar Series, organized by IPR education economist **David Figlio**, welcomed eight speakers over its first full year, including University of Chicago economist **Derek Neal**, who spoke on “pay for percentile,” and education economist **Susan Dynarski** of the University of Michigan, who discussed her research on new estimates of price elasticity for private school attendance.

The Series on Performance Measurement, led by IPR economist **Burton Weisbrod**, welcomed five speakers, including **Julian Betts**, an economist at the University of California, San Diego, talking on the use of value-added models of student achievement to measure teacher effectiveness.

IPR's Cells to Society (C2S), directed by developmental psychologist **Lindsay Chase-Lansdale**, held four talks, including one by **Rachel Dunifon**, an associate

professor of social policy from Cornell University and a former IPR graduate research assistant, who discussed stepfather influences on early transitions to parenthood.



Emma Adam (front center) meets with the 2009 Summer Undergraduate Research Assistants.

■ **Fostering Undergraduate Research and Initiatives**

Twenty-five Northwestern undergraduates picked up invaluable skills as part of IPR's Summer Undergraduate Research Assistants Program. They worked with 23 IPR faculty members conducting research in diverse areas, such as teacher preparation programs, social networks in informal labor markets, and incarceration rates and political participation. Many of the undergraduates have little or no prior research experience, so the program is designed to lay out research basics and let students build their skills along the way, including training on statistical software.

“Students gain a real advantage in their careers—whether in academia, social service, or other policy-related areas—when they are introduced to research early on in their education,” said developmental psychobiologist **Emma Adam**, who directed the program.

IPR also continues to support the Undergraduate Lecture Series on Race, Poverty, and Inequality, which is organized by undergraduates to introduce Northwestern students to a range of topics relating to inequality and to discuss the role of social science and policy-oriented research and activism. It held three series over the year on American energy policy, income inequality, and LGBT rights.

■ **President Marks Debut with Higher Education Symposium**

With his “dream team” of higher education economists, **Morton Schapiro**, Northwestern president, professor of economics, and IPR faculty fellow, marked his inauguration on October 9 with events that included a symposium on the economics of higher education. The distinguished panelists examined some of the field's critical questions, including access to higher education, financial aid, endowments, and rainy day funds. Panelists were **Michael McPherson**, president of the Spencer Foundation; **William Bowen**, president emeritus of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; **Catherine Bond Hill**, president of Vassar and professor of economics; and IPR faculty fellow **Burton Weisbrod**, John Evans Professor of Economics.



Burton Weisbrod (r.) participated in a symposium on the economics of higher education for the inauguration of Northwestern President **Morton Schapiro** (center).

An education economist, Schapiro is one of the nation's leading authorities on the economics of higher education. His research centers around college financing and affordability and trends in educational costs and student aid.

■ **New Books and Publications**

IPR faculty had a banner year for books, with 13 published in 2009. From the politics of welfare reform to public deliberation and handbooks on meta-analysis, the topics reflect the wide range and multidisciplinary nature of IPR faculty research. The faculty authors or editors were education and social policy professor **Fay Lomax Cook**; sociologists **Celeste Watkins-Hayes**, **Monica Prasad**, and **Robert Nelson**; education researcher and statistician **Larry Hedges**; political scientists **Andrew Roberts**, **Benjamin Page**, and **Daniel Galvin**; historian **Nancy MacLean**; psychologist **Joan Chiao**; and communication studies researchers **Eszter Hargittai** and **Jennifer Light** (see pp. 60–62).

IPR faculty fellows published 90 journal articles over the year. Sociologist **Leslie McCall**'s article “Inequality, Public Opinion, and Redistribution” was selected by *Socio-Economic Review* as its best paper submission for 2008. It was co-written with Lane Kenworthy.

■ **Faculty in the Media—A Selection**

From America to Asia, magazine and news organizations around the world picked up anthropologist **Thomas McDade**'s study of why childhood exposure to germs might lead to better adult health. *New York Times*

columnist **Thomas Friedman** cited research on carbon taxes by sociologist **Monica Prasad**. *USA Today* quoted education researcher **James Rosenbaum** on how counselors can help high school students who are unprepared for college. Political scientist **Victoria DeFrancesco Soto** appeared on Chicago Public Radio's “Eight Forty-Eight” and “The Today Show” to discuss immigration issues. The *Chicago Sun-Times* profiled a new study by sociologist **Celeste Watkins-Hayes** on how Chicago-area women cope with HIV/AIDS. In the *New York Times*, economist **David Figlio** pointed to racial segregation in the housing market as a key barrier to integrating Chicago public schools, and psychologist **Alice Eagly** discussed her research on women managers.

■ **First Joint Medical School Appointment**

When clinical and developmental psychologist **Lauren Wakschlag** joined IPR this year, she became the first faculty fellow to hold a joint appointment between the Institute and the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern. The appointment will specifically link the medical and social sciences at Northwestern by bridging IPR's Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health and the newly created Feinberg Department of Medical Social Sciences (MSS). Wakschlag will serve as MSS professor and associate chair for scientific development and institutional collaboration, in addition to her IPR/C2S faculty fellow appointment. Medical school faculty have long been part of IPR as faculty associates. This is, however, IPR's first term-appointed faculty fellow position within the medical school, further expanding the Institute's interdisciplinary faculty network (see pp. 9 and 39).

■ **New Ways to Connect**

In January 2009, the Institute launched the first issue of its e-news, a round-up of IPR news and events sent every four to six weeks between the fall and spring. It also added to its social media presence by launching Twitter (www.twitter.com/ipratnu) and Facebook (Institute for Policy Research) accounts to disseminate information about the Institute's research, events, and publications more quickly.





I. K. MacRae

Micaela di Leonardo

Professor of Anthropology
PhD, Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley, 1981

Cultural anthropologist Micaela di Leonardo studies race- and gender-inflected social and economic inequality, with a focus on street-level American urban life. Much of di Leonardo’s work aims to connect “the global and the local” in innovative ways. *New Landscapes of Inequality: Neoliberalism and the Erosion of Democracy in America* (SAR Press, 2008), co-edited with Jane Collins and Brett Williams, adds to the now-standard critique of neoliberal functioning at home and abroad and the contention that American neoliberal practices are fundamentally raced and gendered. The volume includes di Leonardo’s theoretical introduction and her case study on the neoliberalization of American consciousness.

di Leonardo’s awards and honors include a National Endowment for the Humanities Resident Scholarship in 2005–06 at the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe, N.M. She also holds an appointment in performance studies.



P. Reese

Laurel Harbridge

Assistant Professor of Political Science
PhD, Political Science, Stanford University, 2009

Laurel Harbridge’s research focuses on legislative behavior, organization, and the interplay between elections, Congress, and public policy. Her dissertation examined whether bipartisanship can persist in the U.S. Congress under periods of high party polarization. By focusing on the electoral incentives of members of Congress, she explores the persistence of bipartisanship despite increased party polarization. Her other research interests include budgetary politics and methodology in political science research. She spent the past year conducting research as a Northwestern College Fellow and will begin as an assistant professor in fall 2010.



L. Seligman

Rebecca Seligman

Assistant Professor of Anthropology
PhD, Anthropology, Emory University, 2004

Rebecca Seligman is a medical and psychological anthropologist who focuses on transcultural psychiatry, or the study of mental health in cross-cultural perspective. Her research interests involve critical examination of the social and political-economic forces that affect the experience and distribution of mental and physical illness, with an emphasis on how such forces become physically embodied. In particular, Seligman is interested in the relationships between psychosocial stress and traumatic experience and related outcomes, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, somatization, and dissociation. Her current research seeks to address these issues among Latino immigrants to the United States. Before joining Northwestern’s faculty, Seligman completed a postdoctoral fellowship, supported by the Canadian Institute of Health Research, in McGill University’s psychiatry department.



P. Barrera

Morton Schapiro

Northwestern University President and Professor of Economics
PhD, Economics, University of Pennsylvania, 1979

Alongside his role as Northwestern University’s 16th president, Morton Schapiro joined IPR as a faculty fellow in the fall. He is one of the nation’s foremost experts on the economics of higher education, with a particular focus on college financing and affordability. He also holds appointments in the Kellogg School of Management and the School of Education and Social Policy. He was recently elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

An economist, Schapiro has published more than 100 articles in academic journals such as the *American Economic Review*, *Science*, and *Demography*. He has also written five books and edited two others. The recently published *College Success: What It Means and How to Make it Happen* (College Board, 2008), co-edited with his longtime co-author and Spencer Foundation President Michael McPherson, examines the issue of how to define and measure college success from various perspectives, including those of students, faculty, and the college itself. Their 2006 volume, *College Access: Opportunity or Privilege?* (College Board), addresses the gap between the vision of America as the land of golden opportunity and the reality of low college enrollment and graduation among students from low-income families. Other books he co-authored with McPherson include *The Student Aid Game: Meeting Need and Rewarding Talent in American Higher Education* (Princeton University Press, 1998) and *Keeping College Affordable: Government and Educational Opportunity* (Brookings Institution Press, 1991).

Schapiro spent the past nine years as president of Williams College in Williamstown, Mass. From 1991 to 2000, he was a professor at the University of Southern California, where he served as dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences and as vice president for planning for his last two years.



P. Reese

Lauren Wakschlag

Professor and Associate Chair for Scientific Development and Institutional Collaboration,
Department of Medical Social Sciences
PhD, Human Development and Mental Health Research, University of Chicago, 1992

Clinical and developmental psychologist Lauren Wakschlag directs the developmental mechanism program in Feinberg’s Department of Medical Social Sciences (MSS). The program focuses on young children’s emergent mental health problems and early-life risk mechanisms. Wakschlag is a leading expert on developmentally sensitive characterization of disruptive behavior, with a primary focus on measurement science. A central focus of her work has been modeling the effects of prenatal exposure to cigarettes on children’s behavior “in context,” which encompasses the interaction of exposure with genotype and the quality of the parenting environment.

At Northwestern, Wakschlag is also directing MSS’s One Northwestern initiative, which seeks to integrate the life and biomedical sciences at the university level. She specifically promotes collaboration between the medical school and the Institute through her work with IPR’s Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health.

Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies

This interdisciplinary program, led by law professor **Dorothy Roberts**, combines the interests of IPR faculty studying the ways in which social programs, policies, and contexts affect the lives of families and children from birth to young adulthood. Drawing from the fields of human development and social policy, psychology, sociology, economics, and law, many faculty share common interests with scholars in IPR's Education Policy and Poverty, Race, and Inequality programs (see pp. 13–24)—particularly in studying the impact of public policies on America's poor. Faculty research covers:

- welfare institutions and services
- welfare reform and its effects on children, adolescents, and their parents
- racial disproportionality in child welfare systems
- health needs and outcomes of delinquent youth
- ethnicity, self-esteem, and adolescent mental health

Overview of Activities

■ Post-Welfare Reform and Well-Being

Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, a developmental psychologist, is co-principal investigator of Welfare, Children, and Families: A Three-City Study, a multidisciplinary study of 2,400 low-income children and families in Boston, Chicago, and San Antonio in its 15th year. The researchers analyzed three waves of data (1995–2005) to investigate the well-being of children and families in the post-welfare reform era. They focus on how families have coped with reform and how their strategies have affected children's development, health, and need for social services. Findings indicate that by 2005, youth aged 16 to 21 whose mothers either entered the labor force or increased from part-time to full-time work were less likely to have serious behavior

problems, including delinquency, than those youth whose mothers remained unemployed or only worked part-time. Funding for the Three-City Study has come from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and the Annie E. Casey, Joyce, Lloyd A. Fry, Robert Wood Johnson, and John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur foundations, as well as the Searle Fund for Policy Research and Woods Fund of Chicago.

Chase-Lansdale, former IPR postdoctoral fellow Heather Bachman, and Rebekah Levine Coley of Boston College were among the first to examine how mothers' marital status in low-income families affects the development of their children. Of the 860 adolescents, they find that those

with stably married parents had better academic, behavioral, and psychological well-being than their counterparts in stable cohabiting or single-parent families. However, when mothers married, the low-income youth saw no short-term benefits or risks, suggesting that public policies to encourage new marriages might not lead to improved adolescent or family outcomes, at least in the short term.

■ New Welfare Bureaucrats

Celeste Watkins-Hayes' new book from the University of Chicago Press, *The New Welfare Bureaucrats: Entanglements of Race, Class, and Policy Reform* (2009), explores how the professional and social identities of street-level bureaucrats shape the way low-income families receive welfare services under welfare reform. Against the backdrop of increasing income inequality, work requirements for impoverished mothers, and a restructured social safety net, this study provides a detailed look at the inner workings of a poverty relief agency.

Watkins-Hayes' research in Massachusetts reveals that, in recent years, caseworkers in state welfare offices have gone from being check-writers to welfare-to-work caseworkers, often with no additional training or reduction in caseloads. Welfare agencies wish to address the complicated needs of the families in crisis who are their clients while at the same time continuing their roles as efficient distributors of financial assistance. The new bureaucrats are caught in the middle. On one hand, the agencies stress treating clients holistically and meeting their needs systematically. On the other hand, caseworkers are most likely to be evaluated on their performance as paperwork monitors and fraud detectors. To improve welfare bureaucrats' assistance to families in a more holistic way that would benefit them and society as a whole, agencies need to employ different forms of evaluation and find creative ways to assist caseworkers, whether through advanced training, shrinking caseloads, or providing them with a broader array of economic resources to assist families.

■ Welfare Reform in Illinois

Social policy professor **Dan Lewis** published *Gaining Ground in Illinois: Welfare Reform and Person-Centered Policy Analysis* (Northern Illinois University Press,

2010), a book summarizing the major findings of the Illinois Families Study (IFS). The legislation that created IFS was crafted by then-Illinois state Sen. Barack Obama to assess in a nonpartisan manner how welfare reform in Illinois was actually working. It was signed into law in 1997. From 1999 to 2004, Lewis led a major effort to conduct in-depth qualitative interviews and quantitative analyses of a random sample of people on welfare—mostly young single mothers—and track them over time. In the book, Lewis also offers a big-picture perspective, discussing the two competing views of welfare reform—conservative versus liberal—using IFS data to debunk major tenets of both.

Lewis' findings reveal that replacing the old welfare system, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) led to increased income for those who transitioned off of welfare, and very few families were worse off than four years earlier, despite liberals' fears to the contrary. On the other hand, conservatives' belief that getting people off the welfare rolls would lead to a host of social goods, such as families moving to better neighborhoods, improvement of children's educational outcomes, and improvement in the families' mental health, did not, for the most part, materialize. Ultimately, Lewis argues for a "person-centered" strategy that focuses on individual personalities and abilities to create good policy research and good public policy.

This past year, Lewis used the IFS data and funding from the Joyce Foundation to examine the links between welfare receipt, financial hardship, and crime in the Project on Women's Criminality with IPR graduate research assistant Lindsay Monte. In a longitudinal analysis, they found that the recent end of a welfare grant does result in an increased probability of arrest, but the effect is nowhere near as catastrophic as some had predicted it would be. Their analysis shows that



Dan Lewis recently completed a book on how welfare reform in Illinois affected poor families.



Chair

Dorothy Roberts, Law

This program combines the interests of IPR faculty studying the ways in which social programs, policies, and contexts affect the lives of families and children from birth to young adulthood.

as women enter TANF-mandated employment, work protects against criminal behavior. However, risk of criminality rises when financial resources are strained, and the loss of work under a regime without a safety net is a catastrophic shock that places individuals at a greatly increased risk of committing a crime.

IFS received funding from the U.S. Department of Education, NICHD, Administration for Children and Families, Chicago Community Trust, and the Joyce, MacArthur, and Polk Bros. foundations.

■ **Racial Disproportionality in Child Welfare**

In recognition of her research and advocacy for families and children in the child welfare system, **Dorothy Roberts**, Kirkland & Ellis Professor of Law, received the inaugural Family Defender Award from the Family Defense Center of Chicago in 2009. The Center applauded her landmark book, *Shattered Bonds: The Color of Child Welfare* (Basic Books, 2002), which



Dorothy Roberts (l.) accepts the Family Defender Award for her work on child welfare.

documents systematic racial inequality in the U.S. child welfare system and how it destroys African American families and communities. Her more recent work draws upon in-depth interviews of black women in

Woodlawn, a mostly black Chicago neighborhood, to investigate the neighborhood impact of disproportionate rates of foster-care placement. She pinpoints the shift in market solutions to poverty as creating a dearth of social programs and thus overreliance on coercive child protection services to meet basic needs. This leads to the paradox where most of the mothers in the study view the Department of Child and Family Services as both a major threat to and resource for their families.

■ **Northwestern Juvenile Project**

Social psychologist **Linda Teplin** leads the Northwestern Juvenile Project, the first large-scale

longitudinal study of health needs and outcomes of delinquent youth. Launched in 1995, the pioneering project regularly interviews its 1,829 participants and tracks their ongoing health needs and life trajectories. In contrast to other studies, Teplin and her colleagues are able to look at adolescents across different races, ethnicities, and gender. The group is investigating the relationship among substance abuse, mental disorders, and HIV/AIDS risk behaviors and infection from adolescence through young adulthood.

Recent findings include evidence that three years after detention, most youth have difficulty functioning day to day in many areas of their lives, and one in five is markedly impaired. In one study, the researchers find that only 7.5 percent of those interviewed had no measured impairments, but more than half were impaired in their community functioning, more than one-third were impaired in their school and work functioning, and a quarter were considered impaired because of substance abuse. The group's analysis reveals the ongoing costs to both youth and our society in failing to effectively rehabilitate youth after their detention. The results were published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health*. Teplin is Owen L. Coon Professor of Psychiatry.

■ **Youth Ethnic Pride and Mental Health**

Family and developmental psychologist **Jelani Mandara** is one of the first researchers to examine the simultaneous effects of changes in ethnic pride and self-esteem on young adolescents' mental health. Mandara, with Noni Gaylord-Harden and Maryse Richards of Loyola University Chicago and Brian Ragsdale of Walden University, studied 259 African American adolescents during the transition from seventh to eighth grade. The researchers looked at symptoms of depression and anxiety and found that regardless of the level of self-esteem, mental health improved in these teens as feelings of ethnic pride increased. These findings suggest that encouraging and enhancing youngsters' sense of ethnic pride could be an important strategy to help adolescents reconcile their group and self-identities and to help minimize the potential harm from negative images of African Americans in the media. Their findings appeared in the journal *Child Development*.

Poverty, Race, and Inequality

In the program on Race, Poverty, and Inequality, directed by education and social policy professor **James Rosenbaum**, IPR researchers look at various causes of poverty, racism, and inequality and their consequences, including continuation of an influential research line on the effects of public housing and residential policies on child and adult outcomes. Their examinations often overlap with other IPR research programs, in particular Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (see pp. 10–12) and Urban Policy and Community Development (see pp. 54–55). Faculty in this area focus on:

- housing and residential mobility programs
- poverty and income inequality
- racial inequality and discrimination
- labor markets, peer effects, and impacts on longevity
- the HIV/AIDS epidemic

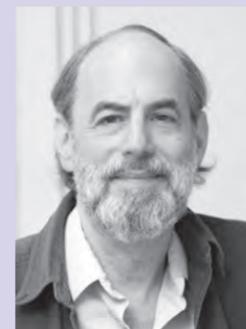
Overview of Activities

■ **MacArthur Network on Housing and Families with Children**

With a major grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook** will lead an interdisciplinary team of social scientists in carrying out a longitudinal study of how housing matters for families with children. The new housing and families network is comprised of some of the nation's top researchers in housing, poverty, and child development, including Harold Washington Professor **Mary Pattillo**, a professor of sociology and African American studies and IPR faculty associate. Over the next three years, the researchers will conduct a random-assignment study of 4,000 voucher-eligible families in three to four U.S. cities with Section 8

lotteries. In particular, they will observe housing effects on children from birth until age 8 and try to understand questions left unanswered in previous housing studies. For example, why do some families who receive vouchers use them to resettle in blighted neighborhoods that mirror those they left? Why is racial composition more important than income distribution when selecting a neighborhood to live in?

According to Cook, housing research to date has been largely one-dimensional. This new study will take a much broader, multidisciplinary approach. Pulling together theoretical perspectives from a variety of disciplines—including statistics, sociology, economics, urban studies, education, and child development—



Chair

James Rosenbaum, Education and Social Policy

IPR researchers examine issues of poverty, racism, and inequality and continue an influential line of research investigating the effects of public housing and residential policies.

the group will use both quantitative and qualitative methods to investigate how housing and the surrounding social, institutional, and family environment can affect children's health, education, behavior, and life outcomes. Cook is Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice.

■ **Economic Strategies of Women with HIV/AIDS**



Celeste Watkins-Hayes meets with members of her HIV/AIDS research team.

With support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, along with the National Science Foundation CAREER award she received in 2009, sociologist and African American studies researcher **Celeste Watkins-Hayes** is beginning

a new project on Health, Hardship, and Renewal: A Research Study of the Economic Strategies of Women with HIV/AIDS (www.hhrstrategies.org). Over two years, she and her team of researchers will follow 100 Chicago-area women from a variety of racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds to gain a better understanding of how these women adjust their lifestyles and cope with the personal and financial challenges of living with the disease. The project was designed to fill some of the major holes in previous AIDS research, which focused mostly on white gay men or on preventing the spread of infection. Her new study will specifically address the experiences of low-income women of color—who represent one of the fastest-growing population groups affected by the virus—and the ways in which they cope with the disease personally, socially, and financially.

■ **Residential Mobility and Outcomes**

Rosenbaum and Stefanie DeLuca of Johns Hopkins University are investigating the conditions under which residential mobility leads to better outcomes for families. They are looking at findings from two housing mobility programs: Gautreaux and Moving to Opportunity (MTO), which have generated somewhat conflicting conclusions for child and adult outcomes.

Gautreaux found more positive outcomes for those who moved into more advantaged neighborhoods while the randomized MTO experiment had more mixed ones.

The two researchers find large differences between the kinds of moves created by the two programs. They speculate that bigger moves by Gautreaux families, 25 miles on average versus less than 10 for the MTO families, might account for some of the discordance in results, especially since the MTO families did not radically change their social environment (i.e., most children in the MTO study continued to attend the same school or an equally bad school). While more information might be gleaned on housing mobility and improved outcomes from a new study in Baltimore, the Gautreaux study finds that the vast majority of low-income black families remain in suburbs 15 years after placement, suggesting they made permanent escapes from low-poverty, high-crime neighborhoods, which might have contributed to significant gains in education, employment, and racially integrated friendships, particularly for the children.

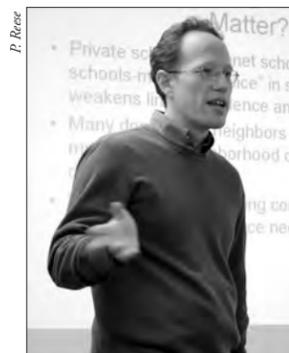
■ **Gentrification and Mixed-Income Communities**

Sociologist and African American studies professor **Mary Pattillo** has spent a year abroad in Colombia. She continues to study racial stratification and gave talks around the country based on her research on issues of race, class, and urban and housing policies, including the mixed-income community—currently the centerpiece of American housing policy. In an increasingly global world, Pattillo notes, U.S. cities are competing internationally for investments. By demolishing public housing, where a city's poorest residents live, and replacing it with mixed-income housing, geared to the middle class and above, planners and bureaucrats hope to attract more affluent residents, drive down crime rates, and widen their tax base. To justify the displacement of public housing residents, most of whom are black or Latino, city officials engage in what Pattillo has termed the “criminalization” of public housing and its residents in public discourse. In the midst of an affordable housing crisis, Pattillo says, such efforts are leading to increased racial and class gentrification, in which poor residents are being

systematically “erased” from the urban landscape under the guise of making cities “safe” for international investment, tourism, and elite residence.

■ **Mixed-Income Housing Group**

Several IPR faculty—including **Pattillo**, sociologist **Lincoln Quillian**, and economist **Greg Duncan**—have been part of a diverse, interdisciplinary group of nationally recognized scholars charged with identifying research needs and potential strategies to deepen knowledge about the costs and benefits of building mixed-income housing developments in American cities. This strategy has been the major thrust of housing policy in the United States since the mid-1990s. In addition to reviewing past housing studies, the group met with a range of relevant parties—including developers, community activists, and representatives of tenant organizations—to determine the most pressing issues surrounding mixed-income housing and its various effects. The researchers came to the conclusion that no one study could adequately address the wide-ranging questions that remain. Thus, in their final report, released in 2009, they outline five areas of study that together would provide a much more



Lincoln Quillian will use the MacArthur group's recommendations to study mixed-income housing.

comprehensive picture of how mixed-income housing plans play out in the real world: effects on individuals and households; governance and community; citywide structure and consequences of mixed-income redevelopment; housing choices, searches, and trajectories; and population movement and the stability of neighborhoods.

The Social Science Research Council, which organized the group with funding from the MacArthur Foundation, will use the report to guide future research on mixed-income housing. Quillian is a core researcher on one such project. With sociologists Robert Sampson of Harvard

and Robert Mare of the University of California, Los Angeles, he will help conduct a longitudinal study of families and neighborhoods that seeks to place mixed-income housing in its broader context.

■ **Segregation, Vouchers, and Neoliberals**

Historian **Nancy MacLean** is working on a book manuscript titled “Marketplace Solutions’: Segregationists and the Surprising Career of School Vouchers.” The story begins with the closing of the public schools in Prince Edward County, Va., from 1959–64, an outgrowth of segregationists’ policy of “massive resistance” to *Brown v. Board of Education* that included the first modern tuition grants (i.e., school vouchers). Scholars of civil rights have depicted the school closures as the twilight of massive resistance, yet a fresh look reveals it was also the dawn of the era of privatization, often described as neoliberalism. The research follows the Southerners’ discovery of allies in the nascent national conservative movement, their alliance building with proponents of libertarian economics—above all, the founders of public-choice economics—and their contributions to the “original intent” constitutionalism that later flowed into the Federalist Society and related efforts. The book will also chart their involvement with new institutional partners, such as conservative think tanks and the Republican Party, and examine their efforts to cultivate ties between evangelical Protestants and Catholics for voucher advocacy. How privatization is chipping away at social citizenship—and ultimately, democratic governance—is at the core of her study.

■ **Financial Intermediation and Policies**

Sergio Urzúa and Robert Townsend of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are analyzing the impact of financial intermediation on occupational choices and income. The two economists are studying a variety of structural-choice models to see if financial intermediation has an impact on productivity by easing credit constraints in occupational choice and/or an improved allocation of risk. They then interweave the analysis of these models with econometric information from natural experiments to assess how varying policies and financial institutions affect incomes, occupations, risk sharing, and other variables. In bringing these two

strands together, the researchers show how individuals respond to different financial arrangements, providing a natural framework for the analysis and design of different public policies.

■ **Explaining Inequality: Nature and Nurture**

Urzúa and Julio Guzmán of Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez in Chile have developed a structural model of income



P. Reese
Sergio Urzúa weighs the effects of innate abilities and human capital.

inequality that considers how parents' human capital and an individual's abilities directly and indirectly affect schooling decisions and labor market outcomes. Using data from Chile, they analyze how an individual's inherited characteristics—including natural abilities and family background—and endogenous decisions

(opportunities) might explain income inequality. Their results indicate that family background is actually more important than ability in explaining income inequality.

■ **Impact of Early Life on Adult Outcomes**

To trace the effects of early life circumstances on later life outcomes in the United States, **Joseph Ferrie**, an economist, and his colleagues have assembled a remarkable data set linking information from several separate sources for 2.5 million Americans from birth to death (starting in 1895 through November 2008). The combined records include detailed household and neighborhood information often missing from large longitudinal, epidemiological data sets, including information on economic privation, social isolation, birth order, parental income and socioeconomic status, and proximity to environmental hazards. The researchers hope to provide more accurate projections of the longevity and late-life health of older Americans and better cost-benefit calculations for public health initiatives.

■ **America's History of Social Mobility**

One would expect varying levels of public support for government redistribution programs to generally reflect

the possibility for upward social mobility within a society. Yet support for such programs is substantially lower in the United States than in France, despite similar rates of intergenerational mobility in the two countries. In a study published in the *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, **Ferrie** and French colleagues Jérôme Bourdieu of the Paris School of Economics and Lionel Kesztenbaum of the National Institute of Demographic Studies conduct a comparative analysis of the socioeconomic status of fathers and sons in each country over 30 years, starting in the mid-19th century. They find that the United States was a much more mobile economy in the past, suggesting that lingering perceptions of mobility might account for modern-day policy preferences.

In a related project, Ferrie analyzed wealth accumulation among European immigrants who arrived to the United States between 1840 and 1850. Using a new sample of immigrants linked from passenger-ship records to the 1850 and 1860 federal census, he found that their real wealth increased 10 percent with every year of U.S. residence. Because this rapid accumulation of wealth occurred regardless of the immigrants' nationality, occupation, and economic status on arrival, Ferrie credits these immigrants with a remarkable ability to quickly adapt to their new circumstances. The study was published in the *Journal of Economic History*.

■ **Biases in Risk Perception**

With Devah Pager of Princeton University, **Quillian** has completed a study of how social factors influence people's perceptions about their chances of experiencing a hazardous event. Their most recent work focuses on race and biases in perceptions of the risk of criminal victimization. Quillian and Pager examine how perceptions of the risk of becoming a victim of a burglary or robbery compare with actual victimization rates. By layering data from the Survey of Economic Expectations and census zip code information from 1994 to 2002, they find more people believe they will become crime victims than is borne by victimization rates. Their results also show that neighborhood racial composition is strongly associated with perceived risk of victimization among white respondents, although neighborhood socioeconomic status drives the risk

of actual victimization. Results of the study will be published in *Social Psychology Quarterly*.

■ **Friendship Networks of Multiracial Youth**

Using data on adolescent friendship networks from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health), **Quillian** and Rozlyn Redd conducted an analysis of the friendship networks of multiracial youth. They hypothesized that being multiracial places these adolescents in a unique position of being perhaps more or less likely to bridge racial segregation among groups, or potentially to form more friendships with one group over another. They find that multiracial adolescents are as popular as non-white adolescents and have social networks that are as racially diverse as the single-race youth with the most diverse networks of friends. Biracial adolescents with black ancestry have an especially high rate of friendship bridging between black persons and persons of other races, relative to black or white adolescents. The results held whether the adolescent's race was self-reported or reported by parents.

■ **Refugees' Networks and Job Prospects**

Economist **Lori Beaman** is using theoretical and empirical tools to examine the implications of social networks on labor market outcomes for a group of refugees resettled in the United States between 2001 and 2005. What matters, she finds, is not only the number of people in a person's network but the extent of their experience in the U.S. labor market. The chances of employment and higher pay increase notably among recent arrivals who have connections to more tenured members of the U.S. labor force. On the other hand, a large influx of new immigrants can damage the utility of the network as a whole.

In related research, Beaman is working with Jeremy Magruder of the University of California, Berkeley, on an experiment in Kolkata, India, to determine how networks lead to concrete employment opportunities. The experiment asks what happens when individuals must choose from among two job candidates when one is clearly more qualified, but from a social networking perspective, the other is a better match. To look at how referrals are chosen and how incentives created

by the firm affect that choice, the experiment allows a subset of randomly selected subjects to refer members of their social networks to subsequent rounds of the experiment and varies the incentive schemes offered to these participants. Results show that financial incentives effectively sway an individual's choice—making co-workers more likely to be referred than relatives—but also demonstrate a trade-off that individuals might face between the more productive referral and the potential for other network-oriented benefits.

■ **Changing Race and Class Dynamics**

Anthropologist **Micaela di Leonardo** is currently working on a book manuscript titled "The View from Cavallaro's," in which she provides a cross-class, cross-race, feminist historical ethnography of political economy and public culture in New Haven, Conn. Because of the lengthy period of fieldwork, di Leonardo has been able to map shifting public/media consciousness of the city and its residents—especially varied and changing visions of political-economic movements and their effects on the quality of life for New Haveners.

■ **Minority and Mainstream Media**

Through decades of fieldwork and analysis of the social, political, and cultural climate in New Haven, **di Leonardo** became especially interested in the role of black American media, particularly black radio shows. She is engaged in an ongoing case study of the most successful syndicated radio show, "The Tom Joyner Morning Show," which reaches 8 million listeners each weekday, yet remains unrecognized by mainstream media. This show, featuring music, humor, and politics, offers surprisingly progressive views and has directly engaged national political struggles far more than mainstream media analysts recognize. di Leonardo is now using this work to explore the changing worlds of American minority media outlets and their connections to more mainstream media.



P. Reese
Micaela di Leonardo studies race and class dynamics from a street-level perspective.

E ducation P olicy

Failing public schools, tumbling U.S. student achievement, declining school funding, persistent achievement gaps, and recruiting and retaining effective teachers are just a few of the critical issues that school districts across the nation face every day. More rigorous research is needed to understand the issues facing schools and educators and to create effective solutions to address them. IPR’s Education Policy program regroups faculty fellows from a variety of disciplines and overlaps with other programs, including Quantitative Methods for Policy Research (see pp. 47–53). Led by education economist **David Figlio**, faculty are investigating issues concerning:

- school finance, accountability, and vouchers
- education interventions and program evaluations
- teacher and principal characteristics and quality
- transitions from high school to college
- gaps in academic achievement

Overview of Activities

■ Demographics and School Finance

In new research, education economist **David Figlio** and Deborah Fletcher of Miami University looked at 20 suburban school districts around Northeastern and Midwestern cities to investigate the link between demographic change and school finance. By taking a historical look at postwar suburbanization in America, they explore how support for education funding changed as the Baby Boomers raised their families in these suburbs between the 1970s and 1990s. Their data reveal that—all else equal—once the Baby Boomers’ children were out of school, suburban school districts that developed earlier and with consequently older populations tended to cut back on school spending faster than did later-developing

suburbs with younger families. This effect was mitigated, however, in districts where voters held less local control over revenues and spending. Finally, the biggest differences appeared in districts with the widest racial and ethnic gaps between older and younger residents. Looking down the road, the authors posit what such demographic change could portend for local education policies in an aging America. Figlio is Orrington Lunt Professor of Education and Social Policy.

■ School Finance Reform and State Taxes

In ongoing research with Nathan Anderson of the University of Illinois at Chicago, public finance economist **Therese McGuire** is studying whether states

change their tax revenue structures to pay for court-ordered school finance reforms. The researchers look at 19 states that had court-ordered school finance reforms handed down at least once between 1980 and 2007, comparing them with states that did not experience such reforms. Preliminary findings suggest that for those states that experienced reform and had a state income tax, income taxes became more progressive. This trend indicates that states were not shifting the costs of such measures back to lower-income taxpayers. McGuire is ConAgra Foods Research Professor and director of Kellogg’s real estate program.

■ Effects of School Vouchers

Figlio continues to evaluate Florida’s Tax Credit Scholarship Program, the largest school voucher program of its kind in the United States. In 2008–09, the program awarded a total of \$88.6 million in scholarships to more than 24,500 low-income students in approximately 1,000 private schools. Of the one million children eligible for the program (as determined by family income), only around 3 percent apply to participate.



IPR graduate research assistants **Constance Lindsay** (l.) and **Cassandra Hart** meet with their advisers to discuss thesis research.

Figlio and two IPR graduate research assistants, **Cassandra Hart** and **Molly Metzger**, published a study in the *Economics of Education Review* presenting the first comprehensive evidence of selection and school choice in a statewide school

choice program. Matching scholarship application data with the state’s records on student test scores, schools attended, and family demographics, the researchers find that instead of a “cream-skimming effect,” whereby the best students leave their public schools for private ones, in fact, the opposite is happening: Voucher

take-up has been mainly by lower-performing students from poorly rated schools. The researchers speculate that such relatively large numbers of low-performing students leaving public schools might eventually help the public schools to perform better. They also find that school selection is fragmented, with students of different backgrounds choosing to attend different types of private schools. However, one common thread is that participating students, no matter their race, tend to select schools that have a white student majority.

■ School Practice and Accountability

How has school accountability affected student achievement and instructional policies and practices? **Figlio** and his fellow researchers collected original survey data from a three-wave census of public school principals in Florida and a two-wave survey of teachers in a state-representative sample of Florida schools. The surveys show that elementary schools that received an “F” in 2002 made marked improvements in student reading and math in the year following the failing grade, with the effects persisting three years later, and that the failing schools did so mainly by changing their policies and practices. The schools focused on low-performing students, lengthened instructional time, adopted new organizational methods, increased teaching resources, and decreased principal control. This research shows that accountability pressures in low-performing schools can change administrative behavior in such a way as to improve students’ test scores. The working paper was written with Cecilia Rouse, a member of the President’s Council of Economic Advisers, Dan Goldhaber of the University of Washington, and Jane Hannaway of the Urban Institute.

■ Teacher Quality

Education researcher **Michelle Reininger** is working with Chicago Public Schools (CPS) on a longitudinal



Public finance expert **Therese McGuire** is investigating school finance reform and taxes.



Chair

David Figlio, Education and Social Policy

Education policy faculty are conducting rigorous research on critical issues that affect schools, teachers, students, and parents across the nation.

study of student teachers (those who are training to be teachers). As the nation's third largest urban school district, CPS struggles each year to fill its classrooms with high-quality teachers, especially in hard-to-staff subjects such as math, science, and bilingual education.

Thanks to funding from the Joyce Foundation, Reininger is analyzing data on 3,000 CPS student teachers who have entered and exited the system's student-teaching program. The entry survey collects student teachers' opinions regarding their upcoming student teaching placement, including their preparedness, expectations, and career plans, with the exit survey following up on their experiences and plans.

One early finding is that teachers consider their student teaching experience fundamental to their professional preparation, and it can play a key role in their placement. Yet the administration of such programs, even within the same district, is often unsystematic. Reininger asked 478 student teachers placed at public schools to take an online survey. Of the 65 percent that responded, they described wide variations in the length and coordination of placements. In a district where less than 10 percent of the students are white, more than 60 percent of the student teachers were white. Once the student teaching module was complete, however, only 21 percent of the white student teachers accepted jobs in the district, compared with 39 percent of the black student teachers. Calling for further study, Reininger says these results suggest that districts should consider satisfaction with pre-service teaching a key factor in teacher recruitment and work to establish incentives and programs for earlier recruitment to the district.

■ **Distributed Leadership in Schools**

James Spillane, who is Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Professor in Learning and Organizational Change, is lead investigator of the Distributed Leadership Project, a longitudinal study of urban school leadership.



P. Reier
James Spillane has developed a new method for characterizing school leadership patterns.

Building on theories of distributed cognition, the central goal of the project is to make the "black box" of the practice of school leadership more transparent by analyzing how leaders think and act to improve math, science, and literacy instruction in their schools.

The study of school leadership has mainly relied on ethnographic and structured observational methods, such as shadowing, or annual questionnaires. While these methods have their merit, they also have limitations, for example, being too costly for large-scale studies. To this end, Spillane and his colleagues have worked on the design and validation of diagnostic instruments for research.

He and postdoctoral fellow Anita Zuberi looked at one such proposed instrument, the Leadership Daily Practice log, in which instructional leaders and school staff are asked to log one interaction per hour and complete questions about its nature. Though more expensive than school leader questionnaires, their testing shows it accurately captures leadership practices in school settings.

With some modifications, they demonstrate that it can be a less expensive and time-consuming alternative for large-scale studies over more costly, in-depth ethnographic studies.

■ **Principal Policy and Practice**

Launched in 2009, the Principal Policy and Practice (P3) Study relies on the research strengths of **Spillane** on school leadership and **Reininger** on teacher training and preparation to examine Chicago Public School principals. Studying the issue from a supply and demand perspective, they are looking at the principals' routes to preparation, recruitment, and retention, in addition to tracking their career paths. The two investigators hope the study will shore up a significant lack of data and contribute to better school policies, given the importance of the principal's role in shepherding school improvements.

■ **NCLB: Is It Working?**

Has the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) raised achievement? Social psychologist and education researcher **Thomas D. Cook** with IPR researchers Manyee Wong and Peter Steiner conducted the most scientifically rigorous study to date to show that NCLB has indeed raised standardized test scores in public schools since 2002. The study uses data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) to compare public school students nationally to students in Catholic and non-Catholic private schools, which are not subject to NCLB. Their findings show NCLB raised math achievement by an average of six months between 2002 and 2009 for the nation's public school fourth-graders and by more than 13 months for eighth-graders, narrowing the gap between public and private schools by about half.

Given that each state is free to designate its own standards for student proficiency, Wong, the study's lead author, with Cook and Steiner, then drilled into a state-level comparison. Looking at NAEP scores before and after NCLB was implemented, they find that a state's improvement under the law is significantly tied to its proficiency threshold—as well as to the consequences for schools who fail to bring their students up to par.

For example, 35 percent of students reached proficiency on the NAEP, on average, across public schools in both Maine and California. In Maine, the average passing rate on the state test linked to NCLB was about the same—37 percent. But in California's schools, where the proficiency threshold was much lower, an incredible 84 percent of students passed the state test. As a result, many more schools in Maine than in California failed to make adequate yearly progress (AYP) and faced sanctions or forced reforms—sometimes as serious as firing all of the teachers or shutting down completely. Bringing these methods to bear across all 50 states,

the researchers found that states that enacted a higher threshold—as well as those that enacted more serious consequences for failing to make AYP—saw bigger gains in achievement by 2009. Cook is Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice at Northwestern.

■ **Assessing Spatial Learning**

With his colleagues in Northwestern's Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center (SILC), statistician and education researcher **Larry Hedges** is working to achieve a better understanding of spatial relationships, which serve as the foundation for a wide range of reasoning and communication skills. Yet few methods

exist for assessing young children's spatial skills. Hedges, Board of Trustees Professor of Statistics and Social Policy, is leading the SILC project to develop and distribute a spatial assessment battery, a standardized instrument for assessing spatial cognition. One of the key technologies in the battery is the CogSketch software. Available for free, CogSketch is being used to explore

how people reason and learn and then apply these concepts to improve student learning. Improving the level of spatial functioning in America's schoolchildren could lead to significant improvements in workforce effectiveness and, eventually, issues of social equity.

■ **Gaps in U.S. Academic Achievement**

Hedges and his colleagues are documenting the social distribution of academic achievement in the United States by examining various achievement gaps, including those of gender, race, ethnicity, and social class, in different ways. A major part of this study evaluates patterns of between- and within-school variability of student achievement. The researchers also examine whether different sources of evidence lead to the same conclusions and attempt to coordinate the limited longitudinal evidence with repeated cross-sectional evidence. They expect that combining such



P. Reier
IPR graduate research assistant Jennifer Stephan talks with education researcher Thomas Cook.

data might help to explain differences in patterns of academic achievement between minorities. They hope to find out more about how large achievement gaps are when students enter school and how they evolve over time, how social and school contexts affect these initial gaps and their subsequent growth, and whether between-school differences grow over time.

■ **Evaluating After-School Programs**

After-school programs have come to be seen as a catchall solution for reducing a host of teenage social ills from stemming dropout rates to improving attitudes. But do they work? **Hedges** is working with education and social policy professor **Barton Hirsch** on the evaluation of After School Matters.

This nationally recognized nonprofit organization offers Chicago teens in more than 60 public high schools out-of-school activities through programs and apprenticeships in various domains, such as science, sports, performing arts, and new technologies. Hirsch and Hedges have just completed a random assignment evaluation of the program to evaluate its effectiveness. The evaluation uses an experimental design, in which youth who sign up for a specific 20-week apprenticeship are randomly assigned to the intervention or control condition. The multiyear study included 508 intervention and control group youth across 13 apprenticeships in 10 high schools, measuring four outcomes—positive youth development, marketable job skills, academics, and problem behavior. Results will be made available in late 2010.

■ **College Access and Success**

In the United States, 95 percent of all high school seniors plan on attending college, yet half of students who plan to get a college degree fail to do so, and this number is much lower for African American students.

This gap is the unintended result of an implicit policy that education and social policy professor **James Rosenbaum** has called “college for all.”

Rosenbaum’s earlier research showed how high schools have radically changed the educational goals they pose for students, but they have not always changed their procedures to enable students to be prepared for these new goals. In examining students’ college plans and the kind of information and help they receive from guidance counselors, Rosenbaum and his team are also looking at which informational sources can reduce socioeconomic and ethnic gaps in college information, plans, attendance, and the institution attended.



Several projects led by **James Rosenbaum** seek to understand and alleviate the barriers that disadvantaged students face in each step on the way to earning a college degree.

With Spencer Foundation funding, Rosenbaum and his team also completed a small study of 12 guidance counselors in four high schools, finding that while high schools have improved institutional procedures to aid students in the college search and application process, the procedures they employ vary widely. Thus, the researchers are embarking on a new three-year study that will survey guidance counselors in 82 Chicago public high schools. In addition to surveys of administrative

personnel, they will gather administrative data on the high schools’ program offerings and college-related performance indicators. The new data will become part of the Consortium of Chicago School Research’s database of CPS students, one of the nation’s most comprehensive urban school data sets.

■ **College Attendance and “Coaching”**

Despite the high percentage of students who say they want to go to college, only 64 percent of those with college plans actually attend. **Rosenbaum** is looking at possible causes for the gap. He and his graduate students are analyzing barriers to the college enrollment process for first-generation college students. Their

findings indicate that college coaching programs might help improve the number of students who successfully enter college directly from high school.

Rosenbaum and his team have undertaken a study of the advising model that Chicago Public Schools implemented in some of its high schools in 2005 to improve students’ college outcomes. In the program, “college coaches” are charged with identifying and reducing cultural barriers to college access for disadvantaged students. Analyzing ethnographic data, Rosenbaum, with IPR graduate research assistants Jennifer Stephan, Michelle Naffziger, and Lisbeth Goble, seeks to understand the subtle cultural elements that impede disadvantaged students, how college coaches try to identify and overcome these cultural barriers, and how the students respond. The researchers also analyze a survey of all seniors in the district before and after the onset of the program to estimate the effect coaches have on college enrollment, to determine the extent to which actions and specific college plans mediate coach effects, and to discern whether effects vary by students’ social status, academic achievement, and race/ethnicity.

Their results suggest that among students with general college plans, the coaches do benefit students in certain cases—in particular, disadvantaged students—by giving them skills and “cultural capital” that are often taken for granted. They identify three specific areas where college coaches can assist students: by showing them how to weigh colleges’ pros and cons, how to align colleges with their needs and interests, and how to identify what admission counselors value in applicants and present themselves accordingly.

■ **Why Many Students Never Finish College**

Just half of new college students earn a degree within eight years of enrolling, and the rate is especially low at public two-year colleges. If already enrolled, what holds so many students back from completing their degrees? In a study with IPR graduate research assistant Jennifer Stephan and Ann Person of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, **Rosenbaum** uses propensity score methods to examine both the process of selection into different

types of higher education institutions and institutional effects on students. This method addresses a weakness in previous research, which assumed unlikely similarities between students at four- and two-year colleges.

Findings support the dominant view of four-year colleges as offering many advantages for degree completion, but only among students who are already likely to enroll in such institutions. Moreover, among the group that is likely to pursue an associate’s degree in the lower tier of postsecondary education, rates of degree completion are much higher at private two-year colleges than public ones. Qualitative work has suggested that some institutional differences between public and private two-year colleges might help explain this graduation gap. The researchers plan to continue their investigation into which procedures—already in place at some private two-year colleges—could potentially boost degree completion if implemented at public community colleges.

■ **College Completion Initiative for Low-Income Parents**

To boost postsecondary educational attainment among young, low-income parents with young children, developmental psychologist **Lindsay Chase-Lansdale** is concluding an exploratory project that received funding from the Gates

Foundation. She and her colleagues are developing a two-generation education intervention, in which high-quality, early childhood centers, in collaboration with community colleges, workforce agencies, and public schools, serve as a vehicle to support parents’ continuing education. Carried out in early learning



Lindsay Chase-Lansdale’s new study links parental education to improved child outcomes.

centers in Chicago, Denver, and Miami, the pilot study included interviews with more than 50 low-income mothers about their educational aspirations for themselves and their children, as well as their education, employment, and life circumstances. Combined with 17 focus groups with center teachers and staff, the interviews suggest that these mothers, who all see college attainment as a necessary stepping-stone to success in today's workforce, would benefit from the personal and community support these centers can provide and the peace of mind that comes with seeing their children learn and thrive.



IPR education economist **David Figlio** meets with **Marco Oberti**, professor of sociology, visiting from Sciences Po in Paris.

The study also underscored the women's varying levels of readiness for postsecondary pursuits, indicating that programs should be designed to take into account the educational and life readiness of each parent. Very few mothers were able to identify the link between their own educational attainment and their children's achievement. However, raising young children is a strong motivator for parents to seek postsecondary education and training and to fulfill their desire to serve as educational role models for their children. Chase-Lansdale and IPR postdoctoral fellow Teresa Eckrich Sommer are collaborating with the Ounce of Prevention Fund and Jeanne Brooks-Gunn of Columbia University on the project.

■ Abilities, Schooling Choices, and the Labor Market

For many years, economists focused on the role of cognitive ability as a determinant of schooling, labor market, and behavioral outcomes. Yet economist **Sergio Urzúa** and others are uncovering evidence that socioeconomic capabilities might be more important—and relevant—than IQ and other indicators of cognitive intelligence. While more and more social scientists recognize the need for socioemotional traits to be measured, Urzúa indicates a pressing need for better

definitions of the traits and better longitudinal data to measure such traits directly.

In one study using data from the 1979 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY79), Urzúa created a model of the relationship between abilities, schooling

choices, and racial gaps in labor market outcomes. In his analysis, he distinguishes observed cognitive and noncognitive measures from unobserved cognitive and noncognitive abilities. He analyzes schooling decisions based on future earnings, family background, and unobserved abilities. The results indicate that, even after controlling for abilities, significant racial labor market gaps exist. They also suggest

that the standard practice of equating observed test scores might overcompensate for differentials in ability.

■ Comparative Studies of Urban Education

While questions of domestic social policy have framed IPR's research from its founding, many IPR faculty also demonstrate a strong interest in comparative studies. As empirical and theoretical issues on a host of questions, particularly for education, transcend national boundaries more and more, IPR has begun looking at how it can leverage its strong faculty interest in education and international studies. To this end, IPR faculty have welcomed faculty from Sciences Po in France, one of the country's most prestigious *grandes écoles*. In April 2009, Sciences Po sociologist Marco Oberti gave a talk at Northwestern on "The Representation of Social Life and Residential Environment in Working Class Neighborhoods: The Case of Four Municipalities in Paris' Suburbs." He and several IPR faculty held discussions about building closer research and training ties. Several IPR faculty have also visited and taught at Sciences Po, and planning is underway for a joint conference on French and American urban education issues.

Philanthropy and Nonprofit Organizations

From education to healthcare reform, the past year has seen many key areas of the rapidly growing and evolving nonprofit sector come under increased scrutiny. Yet too few researchers pay attention to the sector's unusual organizational structures, in which major service industries—such as nursing homes, universities, and museums—often compete against or collaborate with for-profit and government organizations. These interactions among institutional forms in mixed industries are a key research focus of this program and its chair, economist **Burton Weisbrod**. Faculty in this area examine:

- performance measures of both nonprofit and public service organizations
- accountability in the nonprofit and public sectors
- comparative behavior among different forms of institutions
- healthcare costs and competition

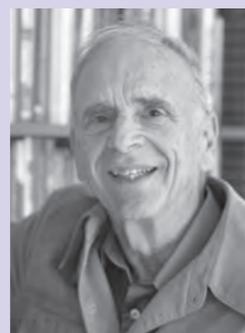
Overview of Activities

■ Performance Measurement of Nonprofits

Fundamental to problem solving for any firm, be it nonprofit, public, or for-profit, is how to empirically measure "performance" or "outcomes" to enhance performance. Yet to gauge nonprofit and public services by a private profitability metric does not adequately reflect their true societal contributions and thus misses key aspects of their performance. Against this backdrop, economist **Burton Weisbrod** heads a unique interdisciplinary group exploring how to improve performance measures in the public and nonprofit sectors and how to translate such measures into effective and efficient reward systems for the persons involved, including teachers, police, and museum and hospital administrators.

Weisbrod, John Evans Professor of Economics, organizes the ongoing IPR Seminar Series on Performance Measurement around the core belief that the challenges of measuring performance and establishing rewards are the same regardless of the area of application. The series includes a multidisciplinary line-up of Northwestern researchers as well as experts from around the United States.

The series' third year began with Northwestern sociologist Wendy Espeland, who discussed how measurement and quantification themselves need to be understood as sociological phenomena because of their growing importance in the making of public policy. Education economist **David Figlio** presented his work



Chair

Burton Weisbrod, Economics

Weisbrod heads a unique interdisciplinary group that explores how to gauge and improve performance measures for nonprofit and public sector organizations.

on public school performance measurement and rewards for performance using data from Florida's school grading program. Weisbrod considered the questions of how and why for-profit, governmental, and nonprofit hospitals behave differently. Kellogg School of Management doctoral student Yang Zhang examined surgical patient sorting and information disclosure, specifically asking whether the best surgeons see the toughest cases.



Before his seminar, economist **Julian Betts** (l.) of the University of California, San Diego, talks with **Burton Weisbrod**.

The series also welcomed economist Julian Betts of the University of California, San Diego, who reviewed issues in the use of student achievement to measure teacher effectiveness for merit pay. Andrew Reschovsky, public affairs professor at the University of Wisconsin, discussed his work on modeling

and measuring the impact of possible reforms in public school funding in Wisconsin. Joseph Galaskiewicz, University of Arizona sociologist, presented his research on how nonprofits, for-profits, and government agencies in the Phoenix metropolitan area are accountable to their stakeholders in different ways.

To foster the study of performance measurement as an element of public policy, plans are being developed to increase doctoral and undergraduate research opportunities, welcome visiting scholars, and organize interdisciplinary conferences.

■ How Performance Measurement Affects Stakeholders in Schools

Much of the research into measuring performance focuses on public and nonprofit organizations' responses to ratings, rankings, and other measurements. Recently, however, researchers are examining the reactions of stakeholders outside of the organizations being

measured. In a study published in the *Journal of Public Economics*, **David Figlio** and economist Lawrence Kenny of the University of Florida take the first look at stakeholder reactions to performance measures in the education sector: how contributors to public schools in Florida altered their support as school "grades" were assigned. In 2002, Florida implemented a new school rating system, which assigned a grade, A through F, to public schools based on student test scores. Using unique data drawn from surveys of the schools' principals, Figlio and Kenny were able to track private, voluntary contributions to each school, such as those from PTAs and business sponsorships, alongside the schools' ratings over time. The researchers found that low grades are associated with substantial reductions in financial support, as much as a two-thirds decrease for an F-rated school. Schools with high grades did not see increased contributions, except for schools with very high minority-student enrollments.

■ The Business of Higher Education

College and university endowments plunged on average nearly 19 percent in fiscal year 2009, and many of the wealthiest schools lost even more. Harvard's endowment dropped from \$36.6 billion in 2008 to \$26.5 billion in 2009, and Stanford's fell from \$17.2 to \$12.6 billion. Drawing on the research and insights in their book on the business of higher education, *Mission and Money: Understanding the University* (Cambridge University Press, 2008; paperback, 2010), **Weisbrod** and project coordinator Evelyn Asch argue that many colleges and universities—as well as other nonprofit organizations with large endowments—have lost sight of the true purpose of the endowment as a rainy-day fund. In articles in the *Stanford Social Innovation Review* and *Change Magazine*, they write that these organizations should use their endowments to offset other income losses in tough economic times, rather than cutting programs and personnel.

Weisbrod and Asch also examined a specific situation showing how money and mission can conflict. Football powerhouse University of Florida rewards its football coach with up to \$450,000 in performance bonuses for team wins, but the coach's contract with the university

does not include any incentives for helping players to graduate. Weisbrod and Asch obtained contracts for football coaches at public universities playing in the top NCAA division. Not one of the 70 contracts the researchers examined offered a bonus for student-athletes' academic success that was at all comparable to the coaches' bonuses for winning games. In their *San Francisco Chronicle* editorial, the authors conclude that for these schools, football revenue is more important than the education of the student players.

■ Entrepreneurship in Academia

Jeannette Colyvas, assistant professor of human development, social policy, and learning sciences, is working on a project to delineate better indicators of knowledge transfer and university entrepreneurship. Past studies have shown that traditional benchmarks lead to uneven outcomes due to metrics that fail to capture how much entrepreneurial practices have become sustainable in academic settings. She is exploring better options for organizational mechanisms, such as policies and procedures, and for network mechanisms, such as the personnel make-up of inventors' research teams and their collaborative structure. In a chapter in *Measuring the Social Value of Innovation* (Emerald, 2009) written with Stanford education professor Walter Powell, Colyvas notes the importance of distinguishing between those metrics promoting entrepreneurial practices and those that reinforce their institutionalization. In addition, she analyzes how early involvement in commercial science endeavors affects the subsequent academic careers of graduate and postdoctoral students. Her next project will examine the academic entrepreneurship of British and German life scientists.

■ When Illness Strikes the Uninsured

More than 4 million Americans over age 55 lack health insurance. What happens to their finances if they become seriously ill? Healthcare economist **David Dranove**, Northwestern economics doctoral student Keziah Cook, and Kellogg health researcher Andrew Sfekas have analyzed how a major illness, such as cancer or stroke, affects the finances of Americans between 51 and 64 years old. The uninsured in this group tend to suffer losses in their household assets of between 30

and 50 percent, compared to the assets of insured people in the same age group. Without extending coverage, the researchers point out, "millions of Americans are potentially one illness away from financial catastrophe."

■ Market Forces in the Hospital Industry

When a hospital is on the verge of closing, public outcry sometimes leads to government bailouts to keep the facility open. **Dranove** finds evidence that most bailouts are a mistake. In an article in the *Journal of Health Economics*, he and co-authors Cory Capps and Richard Lindrooth show that market forces operate to push hospitals that cannot at least break even financially out of business. These hospitals do not create more value than cost, and their closure results in gains for state and federal governments in lowered costs. Though communities could have the impression that closures are reducing hospital access, policymakers should resist the pressure to keep inefficient hospitals afloat. Capps is a partner at Bates White, and Lindrooth is a health economist at the Colorado School of Public Health.

■ Tort Reform and Insurance Premiums

One of the main arguments made in favor of tort reform is that reducing healthcare providers' tort exposure will bring down healthcare costs. Healthcare economist **Leemore Dafny**, Northwestern Law School's Max Schanzbach, and Ronen Avraham of the University of Texas at Austin Law School are finding direct evidence that tort reform does reduce healthcare costs. Using a data set of health plans representing more than 10 million Americans annually between 1998 and 2006, the authors find that caps on noneconomic damages, collateral source reform, and joint and several liability reform each reduced PPO premiums by 1 to 2 percent. Reductions are not observed for premiums of managed care plans, which suggests these plans (largely HMOs) are already reducing "defensive" healthcare costs.



Jeannette Colyvas studies university-industry collaboration.

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Politics, Institutions, and Public Policy

This broad multidisciplinary program looks at the ways in which social, political, and institutional dynamics shape and constrain national policymaking in the United States and in comparison with other advanced industrial societies. Directed by political scientist **James Druckman**, scholars in the program are researching various topics such as:

- public opinion, political deliberation, and political communication
- decision making in the policy process
- Social Security and pension reforms
- how gender affects attitudes and social policies
- the impact of new information technologies and online behavior
- diverse topics concerning institutions and politics, such as adaptive social planning, the quality of democracy, and tax and energy policies

Overview of Activities

■ Public Opinion and National Energy Policy

With the introduction of a new energy bill in Congress and the massive Gulf oil spill, attention is being refocused on new sources of energy and U.S. energy policy. Yet whether this will lead to a comprehensive national energy policy remains to be seen. Past research by social policy professor **Fay Lomax Cook** and IPR graduate research assistant Toby Bolsen argued that developing a national energy policy hinges on what the public thinks, but much remains to be done to flesh out a more comprehensive understanding of citizens' views and what they would be willing to support.

To this end, political scientist **James Druckman** is launching a new study with Cook and Bolsen on public

attitudes about energy policies. The study will examine Americans' changing knowledge and attitudes about traditional energy sources, alternative sources of energy, and lifestyle choices that could affect energy production and consumption. The researchers will also interview other critical actors about their role in—and thoughts on—the energy policy process, including policymakers and scientists. Their survey, which received funding from Northwestern's Initiative for Sustainability and Energy, is slated to get underway in summer 2010.

■ Public Deliberation and American Politics

Written by **Cook**, Lawrence Jacobs of the University of Minnesota, and Michael Delli Carpini of the University of Pennsylvania, the book *Talking Together: Public*

Deliberation and Political Participation in America (University of Chicago Press, 2009) challenges the conventional wisdom that Americans are less engaged than ever in national life and the democratic process. The authors draw on their original and extensive research—a national survey of 1,500 Americans—to illuminate how, when, and why citizens talk to each other about the issues of the day. They find that—in settings ranging from one-on-one conversations and e-mail exchanges to larger and more formal gatherings—80 percent of Americans regularly participate in public discussions about pressing issues of concern, from the Iraq War to economic development and race relations. Pinpointing the real benefits of public discourse while considering arguments that question its importance, the authors offer an authoritative and clear-eyed assessment of deliberation's function in American governance, as well as concrete recommendations for increasing the power of talk to foster political action.



IPR director **Fay Lomax Cook** talks with economist **David Figlio** after a colloquium.

■ Public Trust in Government: A Natural Experiment with Social Security

Can public trust in government be increased by expanding knowledge of the activities that government already performs? **Cook**, Jacobs, and Dukhong Kim of Florida Atlantic University took advantage of a naturally occurring experiment—the Social Security Administration's distribution of personalized statements—to examine the impact of greater program information on the public's knowledge and confidence. After analyzing a large Gallup survey of attitudes on Social Security, the authors find that recipients of personal Social Security statements were more knowledgeable about, and had more confidence in, Social Security than those who did not receive such statements. These results, published in the *Journal of Politics*, suggest that the quality and quantity of information distributed to citizens is reflected in their evaluations of government institutions.

■ Political Engagement: The "Obama Effect"

During the 2008 election year, political commentators reported an "Obama effect" in terms of political participation and political interest, but rarely have they tried to differentiate whether this impact—to the extent that it actually existed—differed by age. Cook and IPR graduate research assistant Meredith Bintz Czaplewski use American National Election Studies' data from five presidential elections between 1992 and 2008 to go beyond examining voting as a measure of political participation. They investigate how other forms of political participation, such as persuading others, donating money, attending political events, and displaying candidate support, changed in 2008 compared with earlier elections for five different age groups. In one paper, they examine differences in political participation between older Americans and younger generations. In another, they gauge how the political participation of younger adults has changed over time, particularly around the 2008 election.

■ Framing Theory of Political Communication

Druckman and fellow political scientist **Dennis Chong** have developed a theory of how citizens form political opinions and how political and media elites affect these views. Framing occurs when in the course of describing an issue or event, a speaker's emphasis on a subset of potentially relevant considerations causes individuals to focus on these concerns when constructing their opinions. For example, if a speaker describes a hate-group rally in terms of free speech, then the audience will subsequently base their opinions about the rally on free speech considerations and tend to support the right to rally. In contrast, if the speaker uses a public safety frame, the audience will base their opinions on public safety considerations and oppose the rally. Nearly all previous work examines situations where citizens receive either one frame or the other—despite the fact that most political situations involve competition between frames. The two researchers have completed the first



Chair

James Druckman, Political Science

This broad multidisciplinary program looks at the ways in which social, political, and institutional dynamics shape and constrain national policymaking in the United States.

part of their project exploring what makes a given frame successful in competitive environments.

Chong, who is John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Professor, and Druckman, who is Payson S. Wild Professor, are now working on the second part of their project, which considers how these framing effects evolve over time in the presence of competing arguments, as happens in political campaigns and policy debates. In two novel studies, the two researchers find



Political scientist **Dennis Chong** (r.) discusses research on framing effects with **Don Kinder** of the University of Michigan.

that how participants process and retain the information received, the amount of prior knowledge about a particular issue, the quality of the frame, and the passage of time all clearly matter.

For example, participants who engage in memory-

based processing, in which they recall recent events to form opinions, are strongly influenced by the latest messages, even if the frames are weak. Druckman and Chong's findings emphasize the need for public opinion researchers to largely recast how they study framing effects—as a dynamic process unfolding over time.

In a related project, **Druckman** and Bolsen look at the extent to which people's initial opinions about new technologies and factual information shape how they process and interpret ensuing information. On election day 2008, they used competing frames in asking 621 randomly sampled Cook County, Ill., voters about two little-known technologies, carbon-nanotubes and genetically modified foods. They then recontacted respondents by e-mail 10 days later with additional information and asked them to reiterate their support for a particular technology. They find that facts about each of the technologies held limited sway over opinions—they did not have more impact than other factors such as voters' values. Also, when included, the facts did not make arguments more persuasive, and individuals often processed them in a biased manner.

The findings show that providing individuals with facts does not lead a person to a more rational opinion on a particular topic. Thus, the scientists recommend providing individuals with alternative ways of thinking about new technologies and then encouraging them to weigh these frames against one another. Their research will be published in the *Journal of Communication*.

■ Public Opinion and Presidential Decisions

Private presidential polling operations run out of the White House got their start under the Kennedy administration, and their quantity sharply rose over the ensuing decades. In a project with Lawrence Jacobs of the University of Minnesota, **Druckman** is studying the strategic collection and use of public opinion information by three American presidents: Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and Ronald Reagan. Using public statements, private polls, memoranda, and other archival materials, they are exploring the impact of public opinion on American presidents. In a forthcoming study, Druckman and Jacobs investigate how responsive Nixon and Reagan were to public opinion and how they incorporated it in their decision-making processes. The authors find that both presidents selected policy issues linked to public opinion. But they also polled on issues related to their public persona, even tailoring polling to issues of narrow importance to certain strata, such as high-income earners and social conservatives. Their findings reveal the complexity of presidential representation and also point to a troubling trend whereby presidents could become more responsive to certain segments of the population at the expense of the sovereignty of the American people.

■ Experiments in Political Science

On May 28–29, more than 100 political scientists and graduate students from across the country met to critique papers that will be included as chapters in the first "Handbook of Experimental Political Science." The book will help political scientists overcome issues in the design, implementation, and analysis of experiments, which they are not historically accustomed to addressing. IPR co-sponsored the conference, which was organized by **Druckman**. As one of the handbook's co-editors and the first political scientist named as a

lead editor of *Public Opinion Quarterly*, he is leading the charge to improve methodology in the field.

The conference was held at Northwestern—home to the "father of quasi-experimentation," Donald Campbell, for many years—and welcomed other experimental methods pioneers, such as Shanto Iyengar and Paul Sniderman of Stanford University, Alan Gerber and Donald Green of Yale University, and Diana Mutz of the University of Pennsylvania. The National Science Foundation is providing support for the project, and Cambridge University Press is slated to publish the handbook in 2011.

■ American Attitudes on Income Inequality

The American Dream has come to typify American beliefs about economic opportunity and inequality—that if you work hard you will get ahead. But research by sociologist **Leslie McCall** paints a more complex picture. She points to a need for other ways to describe opportunity than just "hard work gets you ahead." Using General Social Survey (GSS) data, she has identified five ways in which Americans think about economic opportunity. This research is part of her book manuscript, tentatively titled "The Undeserving Rich." McCall is finding that while Americans clearly want a more equal society, the perceived lack of viable alternatives pushes them to desire wider opportunities in the form of educational attainment and economic growth as the best means to the end. The book will expand on perceptions of inequality by examining the "undeserving rich," looking at how processes of social distribution are barriers to opportunity, and situating American norms of equity in historical contexts.

McCall also published a paper in *Perspectives on Politics* that looks at the impact of rising income inequality on social policy formation. Using GSS and International Social

Survey Programme data from the 1980s and 1990s, she and co-author Lane Kenworthy of the University of Arizona contradict two widespread beliefs about how Americans perceive inequality and efforts to address it. Their research indicates that Americans generally object to rising inequality and believe that government should take steps to tackle it—though not through traditional rich-to-poor income transfer policies. McCall and Kenworthy suggest that increased support for education spending is a way for Americans to respond to growing concerns that inequality restricts opportunity. They also suggest this support might be driven by a lack of cohesive solutions to—and spotty media coverage of—this complicated issue.

■ Politics and America's Wealthiest Citizens

Political scientist **Benjamin Page** is leading a new project that will survey the political attitudes and behavior of America's wealthiest citizens, specifically those with incomes in the top 0.1 percent. Working with social scientists such as IPR's **Thomas D. Cook**, Harvard's Sandy Jencks, Princeton's Larry Bartels, and Minnesota's Lawrence Jacobs, Page will weave together data from a variety of sources, including NORC, R.R. Donnelly, and the GSS. Eventually they will paint the first national picture of America's wealthiest citizens and their political views—which have never been comprehensively studied despite their enormous political influence. The survey seeks to answer two fundamental questions: To what extent are affluent Americans concerned for the common good, and how do they engage it? The survey will explore their civic engagement and charitable activities; political participation; perceptions of national problems; beliefs about markets, government, equal opportunity, and the American Dream; and policy preferences on issues ranging from jobs, healthcare, poverty, education, pensions, and taxes, to financial reform and macroeconomic policy.



Political scientist **Benjamin Page** (r.) and IPR graduate research assistants **Toby Bolsen** and **Meredith Bintz Czaplewski** participate in a panel on social networks and voting.

■ **Fiscal Sociology**

Sociologist **Monica Prasad** continues her work on analyzing the development of neoliberal policies in the United States and other countries and studying the origins and development of systems of taxation from a comparative and historical perspective. She received a young faculty CAREER award from the National Science Foundation to pursue her work on piecing together the puzzle of why the United States has developed the most progressive tax system of all



A. Campbell
Monica Prasad received a National Science Foundation CAREER award to study interactions between U.S. taxation and welfare.

advanced industrial economies, yet maintains one of the smallest public welfare states. Prasad believes that understanding this inverse correlation could shed new light on the old question of American exceptionalism. Prasad's main hypothesis is that more progressive tax systems focus

the attention, efforts, and resources of the Left on the attempt to "soak the rich" rather than to use the state to improve conditions for the poor. She also plans to explore interactions between U.S. taxation and welfare over the 20th century to develop a framework for the "sociology of taxation," which she hopes will yield insights into other aspects of modern society and political economy.

The interdisciplinary volume *The New Fiscal Sociology: Taxation in Comparative and Historical Perspective* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), of which Prasad served as editor with Isaac Martin of the University of California, San Diego, and Ajay Mehrotra of Indiana University, provides an overview of the emerging field of fiscal sociology and a window onto the changing social contract via the study of taxation. It examines issues from the historical origins of the tax code to the social and cultural consequences of taxation. The chapters

come from papers presented by some of the nation's top comparative scholars at a 2007 conference held at Northwestern and co-sponsored by IPR.

■ **Bipartisan Cooperation in Congress**

How has bipartisanship changed over the last 40 years in Congress? Political scientist **Laurel Harbridge** is examining this issue and its implications for policy formation. She looks at changes in congressional agenda control, how legislative bipartisanship responds to presidential popularity, public preferences, and whether public opinion contributes to persistent polarization. Harbridge argues that despite what has traditionally been seen as increases in party polarization, members have continued to engage in bipartisanship and, thus, to show responsiveness to their districts. Due to members' electoral incentives (i.e., their desire to be re-elected), there exists an equilibrium level of bipartisanship in Congress. Some of her findings include that members from districts with greater two-party competition are more likely to engage in bipartisanship than those from heavily single-party districts. The form of bipartisan cooperation, however, has changed, moving from roll-call votes to bill co-sponsorship coalitions. This change reflects changes in the content of the congressional agenda and the policy priorities of party leaders.

■ **Polarization in Congress**

Why is it that congressional polarization persists if the public claims to want to see less of it? In a paper with Neil Malhotra of Stanford University, **Harbridge** explains that part of the answer might lie with the differences in how voters evaluate Congress as a whole versus individual lawmakers. While all voters might like to see Congress acting in a more bipartisan manner, some groups tend to prefer the opposite when it comes to judging their own representatives. In a survey, the researchers find Independents and weak partisans are most supportive of bipartisan behavior, but strong Democrats and Republicans (who are most likely to be party activists, volunteers, and financial contributors) express greater disapproval of their members who voted with the opposing party, despite desiring bipartisanship from Congress as a whole.

■ **Party Strategy and the Federal Budget**

Harbridge and Sarah Anderson of the University of California, Santa Barbara, are looking at how party strategy influences federal budget dynamics. In particular, they are using a unique budgetary database to explore interaction between three factors: congressional turnover; party control and budgetary constraints on spending outcomes, including ending or creating programs; and the alteration of funding levels. They hope to shed light on how parties translate political mandates into policy as compared to the policies that are enacted when compromise is required but there is no mandate. In one line of research, they analyze how budgetary incrementalism, or small changes, might have an impact on the process. They find party control reflects greater influence on micro-level budget decisions, while divided government manifests a greater impact on aggregate-level budget decisions.

■ **Probabilistic Polling and Predictions of the 2008 Election**

In most polls, respondents are typically asked how "strongly" they might agree or disagree with a particular statement. However, economist **Charles F. Manski** and Adeline Delavande of RAND propose that probabilistic polling, which asks persons to state in percent-chance terms the likelihood that they will vote and for whom they will cast their vote, might be a better method for capturing voter intent.

Using the American Life Panel Internet survey, they asked voters seven waves of questions about presidential preferences before the 2008 presidential election and then matched actual voting behavior to the responses. The results show verbal and probabilistic responses performed better at different points during the survey (probabilistic doing better earlier in the election cycle and verbal later), but the best predictor of actual voting behavior throughout the sample period was obtained by using a combination of the two methods. Manski is Board of Trustees Professor in Economics.



P. Reese
 Much of psychologist **Alice Eagly's** work centers around leadership, gender roles, and stereotypes.

■ **Stereotypes of Leaders**

Psychologist **Alice Eagly** continues her research on male and female leadership roles and skills. While women have taken on leadership roles in many nations in addition to exhibiting somewhat more effective skills than their male counterparts, men and women on average still prefer to have a male boss. Eagly's past meta-analytic studies have shown that leader roles, though becoming more androgynous, remain culturally masculine. This creates a mismatch between stereotypes of the female gender role and leader roles, making it seem like women lack "what it takes" to lead. The mismatch produces a "double-bind" problem for female leaders, whereby women leaders are buffeted by cross pressures and sanctioned for either being "too masculine" or "too feminine." In a forthcoming article, she examines whether "transformational leadership," or a leadership style in which a manager inspires and motivates employees to achieve performance objectives, can be one route to women's promotion. Eagly is James Padilla Chair of Arts and Sciences.

■ **Gender, Social Roles, and "I Do"**

To test the social role theory of mate preferences, **Eagly**, Paul Eastwick of Texas A&M, and Mary Johannesen-Schmidt of Oakton Community College conducted two novel experiments. In the first, they asked 73 women and 66 men to imagine themselves as being married with children, choosing to be either a stay-at-home parent or a full-time breadwinner. They then conducted another experiment with 96 male and 129 female participants who were asked to write an essay on a randomly assigned topic as a married person with children younger than 5 years old. For the essay, these participants could choose to see themselves as either the family's sole full-time breadwinner, the secondary (part-time) breadwinner, or a stay-at-home parent. In both experiments, those participants who envisioned themselves as stay-at-home parents revealed more

traditional mate preferences: They wanted to marry someone who would be a good provider and was relatively older. Less traditional roles, however, were preferred by those in the study who imagined the wife with more provider responsibility. Published in *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, the study confirms that men and women anticipate somewhat different marital roles, which in turn influences their choice of mates and produces sex differences in the qualities preferred in mates.

■ **Politics, Policies, and Maternal Employment**

Sociologist **Ann Orloff** continues work on her book manuscript, tentatively titled “Farewell to Maternalism: State Policies, Social Politics, and Mothers’ Employment in the United States and Europe.” In it, she examines shifts in gendered policies

and politics around parenthood, welfare, and employment in four countries: Sweden, Italy, the Netherlands, and the United States. Following welfare reform and other shifts toward employment for all, motherhood is no longer a basis for making entitlement claims in the U.S. welfare state. Orloff discusses the general movement of the social welfare system from one supporting women

as full-time caregivers to one pushing their move into the workforce. Yet across these nations, there are varying levels of support for childcare and other caregiver activities, as well as varying efforts to reduce poverty. Taking into account the politics of gender and welfare, social policies, capitalism and democratic accountability, and pluralism and diversity, Orloff explores whether a dual earner/dual career society is realistic for the United States.

■ **Gender and Class Inequality**

McCall is studying earnings inequality among women, a subject that has received scant scholarly attention. As part of the project, she is looking at changes in family demography and is developing new population-linked measures of economic dependency and gender inequality. To link marital status and men and women’s relative dependence on family income, she correlates a person’s earnings to his or her total family income, calculating the figures separately for men and women and decomposing them into elements related to family composition, assortative mating, and earnings inequality. Her findings show that the correlation for white women increased substantially between 1970 and 2000. Perhaps surprisingly, given the wives’ increasing earnings, the men’s correlation barely budged due to a number of factors offsetting one another. While the results indicate a definite increase in women’s levels of independence, men have not experienced a similar increase in family dependence. This research also explores the contradictory dynamics of assortative mating and inequality. Increasingly similar incomes among spouses decrease measures of economic dependency between men and women but increase income inequality among families.

■ **Quality of Democracy**

As more of the world turns democratic, scholars have begun to worry about the quality of new democracies. Many suffer from weak rule of law, low government accountability, and high rates of corruption. Political scientist **Andrew Roberts**’ new book, *The Quality of Democracy in Eastern Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), provides a comprehensive analysis of the quality of democracy via issues of electoral accountability, policy responsiveness, and the informativeness of political campaigns in 10 Eastern European countries. Roberts presents a new framework of democratic quality that defines it as the degree to which citizens are able to hold leaders accountable for their performance and keep policy close to their preferences. Surprisingly, perhaps, Roberts’ studies show that despite facing difficult economic circumstances and an unfavorable inheritance from communism, these countries rapidly constructed relatively high-quality democracies.

Roberts is also launching a new project that specifically looks at public opinion, democracy and inequality in new democracies. Using a unique data set of policy-relevant questions culled from public opinion surveys in two post-communist countries since 1989, the study seeks to answer if citizens are ruling themselves and if they should be.

■ **Political Campaigns and Websites**

How do campaigns work? What determines the messages candidates put forth? Political scientists **Druckman**, Michael Parkin of Oberlin College, and Martin Kifer of Mathematica Policy Research address these questions, with a particular focus on U.S. congressional campaigns. The researchers have developed a framework and are currently testing their predictions with a unique data set that comes from content analyses of more than 1,000 candidates’ websites from five election cycles between 2000 and 2008. The data also enable them to explore the evolution of new media in the context of campaigns. Since virtually all candidates now have websites, the project is providing the researchers with a special opportunity to test multiple campaign theories—from issue engagement to image ownership and position-taking—in addition to comparing strategies across different media.

Druckman recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation to extend data collection through to the 2010 campaign and broaden the project’s scope by including data on website design, campaign strategies and effects on voters, and follow-through on campaign promises. The data will be released to the public.

In a soon-to-be published study, Druckman and his colleagues, including Northwestern graduate student Cari Hennessey, use website data from four congressional election cycles, from 2000 to 2006, to look at the robustness of debate among congressional candidates. Despite the capacity of the Internet to allow candidates to present their positions at length on a wide variety of issues, the candidates strategically choose to include on their websites only a few electoral issues of salience to the public—and on which they are willing to engage their opponents.

■ **The Digital Reproduction of Inequality**

In her ongoing Web Use project, communications researcher **Eszter Hargittai** continues her study of digital inequality. A recent study of more than 1,000 ethnically diverse college freshmen and digital natives—those young adults who grew up with the Internet—reveals that higher-level Internet skills and more sophisticated Internet usage still divide up along lines of socioeconomic status. The study confirms Hargittai’s earlier findings that though all social classes have increased their online presence, serious disparities persist. In terms of policy, Hargittai points out that the Federal Communications Commission’s plan to wire the nation with high-speed Internet access will not by itself ensure that all Americans have meaningful access to the Web. She suggests that the National Broadband Plan should also focus on Internet education and training. Failure to do so, she comments, would be equivalent to giving people cars without providing driver’s education. The study appears in *Sociological Inquiry*.

■ **Ethnically Targeted Political Advertising**

Political scientist **Victoria DeFrancesco Soto** is studying how ethnically targeted political ads influence voters, most recently through an online survey experiment she headed in Los Angeles County in fall 2008. Can such strategies effectively woo Latino voters—or backfire politically with non-Latinos? DeFrancesco Soto and her collaborators examine how different levels of Latino ethnic targeting influenced voting for

Obama and McCain. Past research has disproved the assumption that all Latinos respond similarly to the same messages or even prefer such targeted messages in the first place. The researchers found strong evidence for



Andrew Roberts’ work analyzes post-communist democracies in Eastern Europe.



Victoria DeFrancesco Soto presents her research on ethnically targeted advertising at the 2009 Chicago Area Political and Social Behavior Workshop.

the presence of unintended or “ricochet” effects—which were negative for blacks, and in some cases for whites. Yet positive ricochet effects were found for Asians, probably due to a cultural and language outgroup affinity with Latinos.

■ **Immigration and Assimilation**

In an article published in the *Journal of Latino-Latin American Studies*, **DeFrancesco Soto** considers the political opinions of Latino migrant workers on two issues that affect them directly: globalization and NAFTA. In the experiment, DeFrancesco Soto and her colleagues use pro and con free-trade messages to influence the migrants’ opinions. The researchers find that such messages directly affect highly sophisticated workers. Her ongoing research on assimilation considers how panethnic identities, such as Latino or Asian American, are alternative manifestations of assimilation and how these identities influence the political attitudes and behaviors of immigrant-rooted communities.

■ **Imprisonment and Political Participation**

By 2007, more than 2 million people were in prison in the United States. While sending people to prison obviously hinders their political participation, what about the people they leave behind? In this project,



Traci Burch studies how neighborhood incarceration rates affect voter turnout.

political scientist **Traci Burch** is exploring whether the removal and incarceration of individuals depresses voter registration and turnout not only among convicted offenders, but also among their families, friends, and neighbors. The study explores participation by individual offenders and communities in which residents were

incarcerated in the months leading up to the 2008 general election. Using data from states’ departments of correction, boards of elections, and the U.S. Census

Bureau, in addition to extensive new fieldwork, Burch looked at incarceration and voter turnout in Chicago, Atlanta, and Charlotte, N.C. Her preliminary findings indicate that incarceration produces spillover effects that extend to family, friends, and the wider community. For every two people incarcerated in prison, she finds 11 eligible voters from their communities do not cast votes.

■ **The Power of Belief—Right or Wrong**

Some six years following the Sept. 11 attacks, one in three Americans said they still believed Saddam Hussein was behind the attacks, according to a September 2007 CBS News/New York Times poll. In an article published in *Sociological Inquiry*, **Prasad** and her colleagues examine why such surprising numbers of Americans continue to cling to this misperception—despite clear evidence to the contrary. Using data from the 2004 presidential election, a point at which the Saddam–Sept. 11 link was still robustly and widely believed, the researchers used voting records to target low-income, white Republicans who voted for Bush in 2000. In one-on-one “challenge interviews,” the researchers presented 49 respondents with statements from the Sept. 11 Commission—and President Bush—casting doubt on the connection between Saddam Hussein and the Sept. 11 attacks. Yet all of the interviewees, except for one, steadfastly hung onto the connection. Several interviewees even resorted to a backward chain of reasoning, or what the authors call “inferred justification,” noting that since President Bush—a politician they trust—started the war in Iraq, there must have been a good reason for it. In other words, the interviewees believed that because we invaded Iraq, Saddam must have been behind Sept. 11. The researchers’ findings indicate that misinformation was not the only culprit. While innuendo might have planted the original idea, the resilience of false beliefs is likely due to cognitive dissonance, or how people process—or ignore—information in an attempt to resolve their support for the war.

■ **Quantifying Sexual Violence in War Zones**

While the United Nations now considers sexual attacks in conflict zones as war crimes, it is difficult to quantify such crimes as there are often few witnesses and little

direct evidence. Taking the case of Sudan, social scientist **John Hagan** set out not only to quantify incidents of rape in the country, but also to chart responsibility for them. Hagan and his colleagues, Wenona Rymond-Richmond of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and Alberto Palloni of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, confirmed attacks by combining U.S. State Department data with novel interview techniques, such as interviewing women in refugee camps across the border in Chad—away from Sudanese officials—and using second-hand reports to avoid methodological issues associated with self-reports. The study shows a significant increase in both rape and racist attacks during joint ground attacks by Arab Janjaweed militias and Sudanese armed forces on non-Arab, black African farming villages. It also provides evidence of genocide, tracing responsibility for it to the country’s highest government officials, including Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir. This first peer-reviewed study of sexual violence in a war zone was published in the *American Journal of Public Health*. Hagan is John D. MacArthur Professor of Sociology and Law and co-director of the Center on Law & Globalization at the American Bar Foundation.

■ **Presidential Party Building**

Modern presidents are often depicted as “party predators” who neglect, undercut, or exploit their parties, yet this portrait changes under political scientist **Daniel Galvin**’s careful research into presidential behavior and party organization. In *Presidential Party Building: Dwight D. Eisenhower to George W. Bush* (Princeton University Press, 2009), Galvin uncovers new archival evidence showing distinct differences in how Republican and Democratic presidents interacted with their party organizations. Republican presidents typically saw party building as a means of strengthening their party when it was in the minority, in the hopes of forging a new political majority in their image. Though their efforts rarely produced immediate electoral successes, they had an important impact on the GOP’s long-term organizational development. Democratic presidents, in contrast, were primarily interested in exploiting the majority they inherited, not in building a new one. They eschewed party building, ignoring the long-term effects of their actions—until their majority disappeared during Bill Clinton’s presidency.

■ **Gender on the Bench**

Judges and researchers alike have long debated possible differences between men and women on the bench without any causal evidence. A recent study by law professor **Lee Epstein** and her colleagues is the most comprehensive and statistically rigorous to date to show how gender affects judicial outcomes. The researchers surveyed federal appellate judges around the country and then paired men and women based on a number of relevant traits. Their use of statistical “matching” accounted for the role of other identity factors—such as age and political ideology—often shared by women judges.



Law professor **Lee Epstein** studies how gender and other identity factors influence judicial decisions.

Out of 13 areas of law, from affirmative action to abortion, the study shows gender to be irrelevant in the outcome of cases—until it looks at sex discrimination cases, where the differences are marked. On average, female judges were 10 percent more likely than male judges to decide in favor of the plaintiff in such cases. Additionally, the study shows that male judges behave differently when they sit on a panel with one or more women, though again only when the case involves sex discrimination. The study’s results indicate that appointing more female judges and possibly abandoning random assignment of judges in favor of creating mixed-sex panels would likely increase pro-plaintiff outcomes in sex discrimination cases—should that become a policy goal. The study appears in the *American Journal of Political Science*. Epstein is Henry Wade Rogers Professor in the Northwestern School of Law.

■ **Local Wages, Internet Access, and Policy**

Subsidizing broadband access in the rural United States has often been touted as a policy solution to jump-starting economic activity in these areas; however, research by management and strategy professor **Shane Greenstein** with Chris Forman and Avi Goldfarb

suggests otherwise. The three researchers looked at the relationship between advanced commercial Internet use and technology and local wage growth in the United States between 1995 and 2000. They find that advanced Internet business use such as e-commerce is associated with wage growth—but only as a one-time relative gain and only in more urban locations already in the top 25 percent of income that are also well off in terms of education and industries. While some recent studies suggest that Internet use might lower the costs of operating a business in rural areas, they could not find any proof that wages in these areas gained as a result—or that the Internet has helped rural areas to develop much at all. Instead, their results point to a large gap in advanced Internet use between urban and rural areas. Thus, the researchers suggest that policymakers focus on tailored regional development instead of the current trend of encouraging Internet business use outside of urban areas. Greenstein is Elinor and H. Wendell Hobbs Professor of Management and Strategy at Northwestern. Forman is at the Georgia Institute of Technology, and Goldfarb is at the University of Toronto.

■ Networks of Politically Active Lawyers

Longtime law school professor **John Heinz**, Anthony Paik of the University of Iowa, and Ann Southworth of the University of California, Irvine, analyze the characteristics of lawyers and the structure of their networks. Using network analysis, they study contacts between lawyers active in domestic politics and their patterns of integration and cleavage. Recently, the researchers studied how lawyers in the conservative coalition organize and mobilize interest groups. In continuing work, they have uncovered a stark divide between the network's social and religious conservatives and other conservative and libertarian legal advocates.

In their current project, Heinz and his colleagues employ data on organizations and lawyers drawn from the full range of American politics and then focus on

a set of policy issues that were particularly salient in 2004–05 (when the network data were collected), such as gay rights, abortion, and the Terri Schiavo case.

For analytic purposes, the organizations—and the lawyers connected to their causes—were divided into eight groups that reflect the conservative and liberal establishment and activist wings, as well as business and other separate interests. The researchers are looking both at the structure of the overall network—including lines of cooperation and conflict—in addition to whether characteristics of the lawyers vary by the causes served or types of organizations represented. Thus far, their analysis suggests that women are overrepresented among lawyers serving liberal activist groups and strikingly underrepresented among those serving social and religious conservative organizations. Heinz is Owen L. Coon Professor Emeritus in the Northwestern School of Law.

■ Jury Deliberations and Decision Making

Shari Seidman Diamond, a law professor and psychologist, continues her innovative line of research on jury deliberations. Despite the popular view that deliberation does not have much of an impact on jury verdicts, Diamond finds that both classic and more recent literature on the subject—particularly when combined with findings from cognitive psychology on the dynamics of group decision making—indicate the importance of the deliberative process on jurors' decision making. In the *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, she and American Bar Foundation researcher Jessica Salerno advocate further investigation of the cognitive processes during deliberation that could potentially explain the transition between pre-deliberation preferences and a jury's ultimate verdict. They have also identified certain cognitive concepts—such as recall, information pooling, error correction, analogical reasoning, heuristics, and perceptions of others' confidence—that could be especially valuable for understanding jurors' deliberative behavior.



L. Riene

Shari Diamond studies jury deliberations and verdicts.

Social Disparities and Health

IPR's Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health continues to expand its scope of activities to understand how social, economic, and cultural contexts affect physical and mental health, as well as cognitive achievement, at the population level. Faculty research overlaps with other IPR program areas, including Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies; Poverty, Race, and Inequality; and Education Policy (see pp. 10–24). **Lindsay Chase-Lansdale**, a developmental psychologist, is C2S's founding director. Currently, the center has three signature research themes:

- social disparities, stress, and health
- families, interpersonal relationships, and health
- longevity, mortality, and preconception-to-adult models of health

Overview of Activities

■ First Joint Appointment with the Medical School

Clinical and developmental psychologist **Lauren Wakschlag** became the first IPR/C2S faculty fellow from Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine to hold a term appointment. The position will specifically link the medical and social sciences at Northwestern by bridging C2S and the newly created Feinberg Department of Medical Social Sciences (MSS). In addition to her IPR/C2S faculty fellow appointment, Wakschlag serves as MSS professor and associate chair for scientific development and institutional collaboration. With this appointment, IPR is advancing the One Northwestern initiative that seeks to integrate research conducted on the Chicago and Evanston campuses in the life, biomedical, and social sciences.

MSS was founded in 2009 by **David Cella**, an international leader in biomedical outcomes research. This department is affiliated with C2S and is part of a growing effort by Northwestern to more closely integrate biomedical and social sciences to improve health and healthcare delivery in diverse populations over the lifespan. MSS focuses on developing measurement methods and approaches applicable across a range of health and disease states. It also aims to rapidly translate basic discoveries into applications for treating specific diseases, such as cancer, neurological disease, and early onset psychopathology.

■ Add Health and Biomarkers

A team of C2S researchers is investigating the impact of socioeconomic status, social relationships,



Chair

Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Human Development and Social Policy

The goal of C2S is to integrate the social, behavioral, biomedical, and life sciences to illuminate pathways contributing to health inequalities and to develop translational and policy solutions.

and neighborhood quality on biomarkers of health collected as part of the fourth wave of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, also known as Add Health. Anthropologist **Thomas McDade** and developmental psychobiologist **Emma Adam**, the project's lead investigators, helped design the biomarker protocols for the Add Health study, which includes a nationally representative sample of approximately 20,000 U.S. adolescents. The five-year project is the most comprehensive investigation to date of how social stressors influence physical and mental health across the transition from adolescence to young adulthood. It is examining how stress can lead to health disparities

and affect adult health outcomes. Additional C2S faculty members collaborating on the project include developmental psychologist **Lindsay Chase-Lansdale** and social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook**. Cook is Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice. McDade is Weinberg College Board of Visitors Research and Teaching Professor.



Lauren Wakschlag is developing new methods to identify early childhood behavior problems.

Integrating biomarker and survey data creates new opportunities for examining interactions between social and biological factors as well as the formation of health and developmental trajectories. Yet basic understanding of what biomarkers can do and how to effectively use them is a relatively new area of expertise for social scientists. Thus, McDade, Adam, and IPR postdoctoral fellow Laura Chyu, have undertaken a comparison of biomarkers used in Add Health (starting in 1994–95) to those in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (1999–2008). Both studies use measures of cardiovascular, metabolic, immune, and inflammatory systems, and the populations are similar, though differences exist in study design, recruitment, sample collection, and

assays. The researchers are comparing biomarker collection, measurement, assay techniques, and distributions of biomarkers across the two, in addition to examining sociodemographic patterns.

■ Preschool Disruptive Behavior: Phenotype and Risk Mechanisms

Wakschlag directs several large-scale initiatives to validate tools that characterize the phenotype of disruptive behavior in preschool children. Their common goal is to provide standardized methods for distinguishing between clinical problems and the normative misbehavior of early childhood. She recently validated the Disruptive Behavior Diagnostic Observation Schedule (DB-DOS), the only direct observation method for assessing clinical patterns of disruptive behavior in young children. Her current “MAPS” study is validating the Multidimensional Assessment of Preschool Disruptive Behavior (MAP-DB) in a demographically stratified sample of 3,700 preschoolers.

Wakschlag is also leading a number of studies to examine how prenatal smoking contributes to disruptive behavior in children. This line of research has included modeling of disruptive behavior patterns across development, examining the interaction of exposure with genotype and parenting, studying psychosocial exposure in context, and developing innovative methods to model exposure.

■ Health Disparities and Child Development

Phase II of the Community Child Health Network is a longitudinal study that will examine health disparities in fetal growth and preterm birth, child development, obesity, and asthma at five sites, including the Illinois site, Community Action for Child Health Equity (CACHÉ). CACHÉ explores how community, family, and individual influences interact with biological influences, resulting in disparities in perinatal health outcomes and infant and early childhood mortality and morbidity. Pediatrician **Madeleine Shalowitz** is co-principal investigator, and several C2S and IPR faculty are involved. IPR graduate research assistant Chelsea McKinney received a supplement from NICHD to study the role of the extended family, particularly grandmothers, in mothers' decisions to breast-feed.

■ National Children's Study

Pediatrician **Jane Holl** leads the Chicago site of the National Children's Study, which will be recruiting and following a total of 4,000 children in DuPage, Will, and Cook counties. It is part of the largest study of child health and well-being ever conducted in the United States and will eventually include more than 100,000 children from 105 U.S. sites. The study is assessing a wide range of environmental and genetic factors on pregnant women, children, and adults. Its goal is to prevent and treat some of the nation's most serious health problems, including autism, birth defects, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity.

■ Stress and Teen Depression

Adolescent depression is a major health issue that affects approximately 15 to 20 percent of all U.S. adolescents at some point. In the longitudinal study Daily Experiences, Stress, and Sleep over the Transition to Adulthood, **Adam** and her colleagues are exploring how exposure to stress affects the development of depression and anxiety in adolescents. One recent project—with Nilly Mor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Leah Doane of Northwestern, among others—asked 278 adolescents about emotional disorders and later had them record their current stress level and mental and emotional state in 18 diary entries over three days. The project is the first to link depression and anxiety orders to ruminative self-focus and negative emotion on a day-to-day basis. In particular, the effect was stronger in those teens who reported a recent bout of depression.

Adam also investigated the stress responses among family members by measuring the cortisol levels of mothers and their teen daughters in 45 families. She conducted the study with Lauren Papp of the University of Wisconsin–Madison and Patricia Pendry of Washington State University. Collecting salivary measures and diary entries over two days, their study is one of the first to measure a family's cortisol levels in a home environment and reconfirms previous findings of family effects on adolescent stress and physiological development. It also goes a step further in finding that such linkages were stronger in close-knit families, where parents spend more time with their daughters, including

monitoring and supervising them. In particular, the researchers found higher stress and linkages in those families where mothers and daughters both showed signs of depression and other negative emotions. The findings appear in the *Journal of Family Psychology*.

■ Globalization and Health Outcomes

IPR/C2S faculty are interested in how globalization affects health outcomes, and faculty members have been part of two ongoing longitudinal studies: the Tsimane' Amazonian Panel Study in Bolivia and the Cebu Longitudinal Health and Nutrition Survey in the Philippines. Both are rich resources for studying the long-term health effects of early environments and provide additional insight on domestic health outcomes.

The Cebu Survey has followed more than 3,000 mothers who were pregnant in 1983 and their children, who are now young adults and having children of their own. Working with U.S. and Filipino collaborators, anthropologist **Christopher Kuzawa** studies the influence of fetal/infant nutrition and growth on adult health and function in the Philippines. The survey is supported by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. The Tsimane' study started in 1999 and aims to link the effects of globalization to health and early developmental conditions to later outcomes. Until the late 1940s, the Tsimane', who currently number around 8,000, lived like many other pre-contact Amazonian societies—hunting, fishing, gathering wild plants, and practicing slash-and-burn agriculture in small villages. **McDade** is one of seven faculty collaborators on the project.



Psychobiologist **Emma Adam** tests saliva samples for a study of stress and cortisol levels.

■ **Germs, Inflammation, and Disease Risk**

In two different studies published over the year, **McDade** used Cebu data to investigate levels of C-reactive protein (CRP), an indicator of inflammation and thus cardiovascular disease risk. One study, published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society: Biological Sciences*, received global media attention. It is the first study to look at how exposure to microbes in infancy affects the function of inflammatory systems in adulthood. McDade and his colleagues followed more than 1,400 participants beginning in utero through 22 years of age. Blood tests showed that CRP was at

least 80 percent lower for study participants in the Philippines when they reached young adulthood, relative to their American counterparts, though the Filipinos suffered from many more infectious diseases as infants and toddlers. The main takeaway was that infants' contact with germs, dirt, and other microbes early in life—especially in the first year—helps the body learn how to regulate its immune responses and perhaps protect against

inflammation-related diseases in adulthood. The study's co-authors are **Kuzawa**, Linda Adair of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Julienne Rutherford of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

■ **Socioeconomic Status and Nutrition**

Research has found a persistent and significant link between socioeconomic status (SES) and an individual's health in industrial societies, with each step down the SES ladder leading to worse life outcomes. Does this link hold up in more traditional societies? Measuring the social rank and nutritional status of more than 280 men in an Amazonian Tsimane' village, **McDade** and his colleagues find SES does seem to follow the same lines in both types of societies. Interestingly, however,

differences do show up between older and younger men in the traditional society, suggesting that social status could decrease as the men age. After controlling for psychosocial factors (stress, social capital, etc.) that influence health pathways in Western societies, the authors find no influence on Tsimane' males' SES. They hypothesize in *Social Science and Medicine* that the links between higher social status and well-being in the Tsimane' social structure are culturally influenced by factors such as the respect they are attributed due to their high social status.

■ **Prenatal Environment and Disease Risk**

With funding from the National Science Foundation, **Kuzawa** is exploring whether the connection between a mother and her child during pregnancy and during breastfeeding can signal social and physical environments from generation to generation—and perhaps even offer possible reasons for why humans get sick. In an article for the *Annual Review of Anthropology*, Kuzawa and Northwestern graduate student Elizabeth Quinn point to evidence that environmental factors can have intergenerational influences on gene expression. As one example, levels of leptin—a hormone that reflects the amount of body fat—can transfer information on maternal energy stores to an infant via breast milk or via the placenta—possibly signaling the environment into which the infant will be born and also influencing its birth weight. However, such a capacity for “predictive adaptation” requires a reliable maternal cue to trigger appropriate biological settings in offspring. Thus, the authors underscore the importance of documenting a mother's cumulative health and nutritional history as a likely influence on biology and health in the next generation.

■ **Genetics and the Social Sciences**

Sociologist **Jeremy Freese** continues to pursue a place for sociology in interdisciplinary research that spans social, psychological, and biological analyses within the context of social and technological change. Though the field of genetics is rapidly expanding, relatively little contact occurs between geneticists and social scientists. Yet what started with a trickle of a few social scientists incorporating techniques from quantitative and molecular genetics into their work will eventually

lead to a flood, as the use of genetic information and techniques becomes cheaper, more accessible, and thus more embedded in the social sciences. In an article for the *Annual Review of Sociology*, Freese and co-author Sara Shostak of Brandeis University review the state of these two fields in relation to one another. Most social scientists have been wary of genetics because of the deterministic and reductionistic tendencies they see in using genetic information to explain human behavior. Freese and Shostak point out that if sociologists ignore genetic findings, they will most likely overstate the results of a change in social conditions. Social scientists are also interested in studying public awareness of genetics. The authors caution that since public understanding does influence technological adoptions and social policies in determining, for example, which treatment for a particular disease might be pursued, this could eventually lead to genetic causes overtaking social explanations and interventions for human problems—and eventually affect the causal potency of genes.

■ **Race-Based Medicine**

The recent resurgence of scientific interest in race-based genomic variation and the use of racial categorization in biomedicine is being critically examined by law professor **Dorothy Roberts**, Kirkland & Ellis Professor. She investigates the expansion of race consciousness in biomedical research and technologies in its sociopolitical context to determine how it is related to race consciousness in social policies. A prominent example of the new race-based medicine is BiDil, a therapy for black patients with heart failure and the first drug to be labeled by the Food and Drug Administration for a specific race. If race is a political and social classification only, as Roberts argues, then there are serious implications to assuming genomically and biologically based racial differences. Roberts concludes that the impact of racism on health must be recognized at the same time that race—a sociopolitical category—not be used as a biological category in biomedical research. Drawing on her larger study of race consciousness in biotechnology, law, and social policy, including interviews of 30 scientists, activists, and bioethicists, Roberts is finishing a manuscript that explores how the resuscitation of biological concepts of race in genomic

science and technologies reinforces a new biopolitics that preserves racial inequality in the post-Civil Rights era. Project funding comes from the National Science Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

■ **Interracial Relations and Prejudice**

In psychologist **Jennifer Richeson**'s study of how people control the expression of prejudice, she explores how concerns about either being or appearing racially biased influence subtle aspects of cognition, emotion, and behavior. She directs Northwestern's Social Perception & Communication Laboratory, which seeks to better understand the effects of diverse environments on individuals' feelings and behavior and to investigate the antecedents and consequences of prejudice and stereotyping.

By 2050 it is predicted that whites will no longer be in the majority in the United States. What might this portend for interracial relations? While many studies have found that interracial contact is perceived as a threat

by both blacks and whites, few have looked specifically at the role stress and coping play. In a *Personality and Social Psychology Review* article, **Richeson**, Sophie Trawalter of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Nicole Shelton of Princeton University propose a new research framework for understanding behavior during interracial interactions that is built on the stress and coping literature. Such a model would account for the stress experienced by individuals during interracial interactions and the coping response elicited by the experience of this threat—in which individuals antagonize, avoid, freeze, or engage—thus allowing for more accurate predictions of behavior. In addition to improving research on the topic, they also see it as a means to foster more positive interracial relations.



Christopher Kuzawa gives a talk on modes of human adaptability.



Jennifer Richeson and **Sophie Trawalter** discuss their study of interracial interactions.

■ **Negative Group Stereotypes and Stigmatization**

Many companies, schools, and other organizations strive to increase their diversity, yet how do stigmatized individuals fare within them? **Richeson** is examining the experiences of racial minorities and members of other low-status groups as they attempt to persist—and even succeed—in the face of low numbers and negative group stereotypes.

Richeson and IPR postdoctoral fellow Sarah Johnson developed a new framework in the *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology* for thinking about the social identities of racial minorities. They asked 66 black, white, and Latino university students to take a psychologically demanding test either as one of a group of their same race or as the only person of their race in a group. They find that white participants were mentally taxed after having participated as the only white person in a mixed-race group, yet blacks and Hispanics showed little, if any, cognitive depletion when they were the only representative of their race in a mixed group. The research indicates that though there may be costs to managing an “undervalued” social identity as a member of racial minority group, it also seems that dealing with such pressures could foster positive attitudes and behaviors as part of the process of coping with racism, prejudice, and other societal challenges.

■ **Reducing America’s Heart Disease Risk**

Preventive medicine professor **Philip Greenland** continues his risk assessment research on cardiovascular disease, peripheral vascular disease epidemiology, and nutritional aspects of high blood pressure. His recent research includes reviewing the use of biomarkers to assess the risk of heart disease in clinical studies. In articulating its 2020 goal, the American Heart Association relied on some of his findings as a rationale for committing the organization to improving Americans’ cardiovascular health by 20 percent while reducing deaths from cardiovascular diseases and

stroke by 20 percent. Greenland is Harry W. Dingman Professor and executive associate dean for clinical and translational research in Northwestern’s Feinberg School of Medicine.

■ **Diabetes and Coronary Artery Risk**

In a study of 3,989 black and white men and women from the Coronary Artery Risk Development in Young Adults (CARDIA) study, **Mercedes Carnethon** and her colleagues tested the association between changes in fitness over time and the risk of developing diabetes in middle age. Overall, they show that fitness declined for both men and women at the seven-year mark, with women seeing a 7.6 percent decline and men, 9.2 percent. The risk of diabetes was almost 20 percent higher for these individuals. Over 20 years, participants who developed diabetes experienced significantly larger declines in relative fitness versus those who did not develop the disease. Lower baseline fitness was associated with a higher incidence of diabetes in all race-sex groups. The findings appeared in *Diabetes Care*.

■ **Politics of Difference in Medical Research**

Sociologist **Steven Epstein**’s award-winning book *Inclusion: The Politics of Difference in Medical Research* (University of Chicago Press, 2007) was released in paperback in 2009. Until the mid-1980s, scientists often studied groups of white middle-aged men and assumed that conclusions drawn from studying them would apply to the rest of the population. But struggles involving advocacy groups, experts, and Congress led to reforms that forced researchers to employ a more diverse set of participants in their clinical trials. The book charts the rise and assesses the consequences of these new ways of managing difference—especially for gender and race—within U.S. biomedical research. At present,

Epstein is studying the politics of health, sexuality, and knowledge production with a focus on the introduction of new vaccines against HPV (human papillomavirus). He is John C. Shaffer Professor in the Humanities.



Steven Epstein studies diversity in biomedical research trials.

Courtesy of Rice University

■ **Latino Immigrants and HIV Care**

Héctor Carrillo, associate professor of sociology and gender studies, is co-investigator of a recently launched study looking at how HIV-positive Latino immigrants access HIV services in two California counties where Latinos have disproportionately high HIV rates. This can be traced back to issues such as language barriers, fear of deportation, and isolation, all of which become compounded and put Latino/a immigrants at greater risk for new health problems, including obesity, diabetes and HIV infection. Language barriers could also make it more difficult for Latinos and Latinas to access and understand the medical care services that exist in their communities. In addition, they could partially explain why these immigrants typically learn about their HIV status at a relatively—and dangerously—late stage of infection. At the same time, the researchers seek to study how HIV health service providers market their services to Latino immigrants in these counties.

■ **Culture and Medical Treatment**

Western medicine has tended to rely on the assumption that all people can be diagnosed and treated based on a single set of standards, regardless of patients’ cultural, religious, or social differences. Anthropologist **Rebecca Seligman**’s research adds to growing awareness of how various cultural factors help shape individual experiences of mental and physical illness. In a recent project, Seligman examined the links between diabetes and depression among Mexican American immigrants. Using ethnographic interviews and the Beck Depression Inventory, she charted the relationship between negative emotion and diabetes onset, highlighting the vulnerability to contract both diabetes and depression. Her results suggest that for Mexican Americans, negative emotions are perceived as tightly linked to blood sugar control, and evaluations of successful disease management should include evaluations of how they are feeling both physically and mentally. Because links between emotion and glycemic control are experientially true for these individuals, they affect patient self-care and openness to medical management. The data hold important implications for developing more effective, culturally sensitive medical interventions for Mexican Americans with diabetes.

■ **Evolution of Biological Knowledge**

Psychologists **Sandra Waxman** and Douglas Medin of Northwestern are currently writing a book about their research on the evolution of biological knowledge and reasoning across cultures and across development. They led an interdisciplinary research team of psychologists, linguists, and anthropologists who interviewed young children and adults from a wide range of language and cultural communities. The participants included urban and rural U.S. English speakers from majority culture and Native American populations. Their research offers evidence of strong universal patterns in most fundamental notions of the natural world. It also highlights striking differences that illuminate intimate connections among culture, language, and the organization of knowledge. A recent study of the ways children and adults list the names of animals demonstrates that all ages and all communities (urban, rural, and Native American rural) name mostly mammals. But the rural groups tended to name more native species, with Native Americans naming the most.



Rebecca Seligman studies links between culture and mental and physical illness.

P. Reese

■ **Oncofertility**

Survival rates among young cancer patients have steadily increased over the past four decades in part because of the development of more effective cancer treatments. Today, both women and men can look forward to life after cancer, yet many may face the possibility of infertility as a result of the disease itself or these lifesaving treatments. The Oncofertility Consortium was developed to address the complex healthcare and quality-of-life issues that concern young cancer patients whose fertility may be threatened by their disease or its treatment. The Consortium represents

Quantitative Methods for Policy Research

a nationwide, interdisciplinary, and interprofessional network of medical specialists, scientists, and scholars who are exploring the relationships between health, disease, survivorship, and fertility preservation in young cancer patients. Their work and its findings might also extend to patients who have been diagnosed with other serious diseases and who must undergo fertility-threatening treatments.

Teresa Woodruff, Thomas J. Watkins Memorial Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, heads the Division of Fertility Preservation at Northwestern and directs one of the NIH Specialized Cooperative Centers in Reproductive Research. She also directs Northwestern's Institute for Women's Health Research and helped launch the Illinois Women's Health Registry, which currently has more than 4,500 participants.

■ Biomarker Methodology and Training

For the fourth year, C2S held its training and methodological development institute on June 8–10 at Northwestern. The institute welcomed 26 participants, who learned about biological theory and methodology and received hands-on training on salivary and blood-spot biomarkers. The three co-organizers—**McDade**, **Adam**, and **Kuzawa**—are nationally recognized leaders in the field of biomarker development, implementation, usage, and analysis. Several guest speakers were also featured, including **Seligman**, who gave a presentation on community-based psychophysiology.

McDade continues to refine the use of biomarkers as part of the Laboratory for Human Biology Research, which he directs. The laboratory works to develop methods for assaying biomarkers in a drop of blood collected on filter paper from a single finger prick—a method that has been implemented in some major longitudinal studies. Research by McDade and Mark Hayward of the University of Texas at Austin shows



Thomas McDade (r.) talks with **Andrea Danese** about Danese's work on the physiological connections between mind and body.

how using biomarkers to measure infectious diseases could provide exceptional opportunities to examine their social, economic, and long-term health consequences. The article appeared in *Biodemography and Social Biology*.

Adam is also working to improve salivary measures of cortisol, as their use is increasing in large-scale, population-based, or epidemiological research, where sample sizes can run from hundreds to tens of thousands of participants. Based on her acquired expertise, she enumerates best practices and other practical

considerations for social scientists as they consider salivary cortisol protocol collection, costs, response rates, data modeling, and interpretation within the parameters of their particular epidemiological studies. Her recommendations were published in *Psychoneuroendocrinology*.

■ Colloquium Series

Through its colloquia, C2S continues to foster a community of scholars interested in multidisciplinary research, human development, health, and well-being. Talks were held on such topics as the Internet's role in the sexual health of minority youth, by Brian Mustanski of the University of Illinois at Chicago, and stepfather influences in the early transition to parenthood, by Rachel Dunifon of Cornell University.

■ Postdoctoral Fellows and Students

Former IPR/C2S postdoctoral fellow **Sophie Trawalter** became an assistant professor of psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Graduate research assistant **Amy DeSantis** was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Integrative Approaches to Health Disparities in the University of Michigan's School of Public Health, and **Colleen Nyberg** was appointed assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

Most researchers and academics tend to stick with the research methods they know best, learned mainly in graduate school—even though those methods might not represent current best practices or the most appropriate method. This is why statistician and education researcher **Larry Hedges**, with the support of a group of distinguished interdisciplinary scholars, launched the Center for Improving Methods for Quantitative Policy Research, or Q-Center, at IPR. Hedges co-directs the center with social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook**. Q-Center faculty, whose projects often overlap with IPR's Education Policy program (see pp. 18–24), work on:

- improving designs, analysis, and synthesis in policy research
- designing better research methods for education
- developing new data sources and methods of data collection
- sharing best research practices across disciplines

Overview of Activities

■ Coping with Ambiguity in Policymaking

Social planners regularly face the difficult task of identifying the best policy with only limited knowledge of policy impacts. Economist **Charles F. Manski** continues his original work on coping with this ambiguity in policymaking, most recently analyzing how a planner might choose a vaccination policy with only partial knowledge of how vaccination affects illness rates. In a paper recently published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, he considers the problem from the perspective of the external-response function, or how the rate of vaccination will change the rate of illness among unvaccinated persons. In this scenario, a planner can expect the illness rate among unvaccinated persons to decrease at least somewhat as

the vaccination rate increases—even without knowing the exact preventative effects of the vaccine. Finally, he explains how use of the minimax or minimax-regret criterion can help such a planner decide on a particular vaccination rate for maximum results. Manski, who is Board of Trustees Professor in Economics, was elected a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences in 2009.

■ Adaptive Partial Drug Approval

Public discourse on drug approval has been dominated by debate over the length of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process. Pharmaceutical firms are eager for returns on investments and many patient advocates want fast access. Yet health researchers and patient advocates are already concerned that



Co-Chairs

Thomas Cook (l.), Psychology, Sociology, and Education & Social Policy; and Larry Hedges, Statistics and Education & Social Policy

Q-Center faculty aim to improve social policy research designs, data collection, analysis, and synthesis.

approval decisions are sometimes rushed and made with inadequate knowledge of treatment response. **Manski** suggests that making the FDA decide between full approval and complete disapproval needlessly constrains the set of policy options that warrant consideration. Instead, he recommends that the FDA institute an adaptive partial approval process, where the extent of the permitted use of a new drug would vary smoothly as evidence accumulates. To implement this proposal, the FDA would periodically grant a sales license permitting a firm to sell no more than a specified quantity of its new drug over a specified time period and then gradually increase the allowable sales as positive evidence of health outcomes became stronger. These recommendations were published in *The Economist's Voice*.

■ **Multilevel Methods in Education**

In a project supported by the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) in the U.S. Department of Education, education researcher and statistician **Larry Hedges** is developing improved statistical methods for analyzing and reporting multilevel experiments in education. He is also working on more efficient designs for such experiments that require the assignment of fewer schools. Such designs should reduce the costs



Larry Hedges analyzes multi-level research designs in schools.

of educational experiments, making them more feasible to conduct.

For those designs involving cluster randomization, Hedges has defined three effect sizes—and computing estimates of those effect sizes and their standard errors—from information that is likely to be reported in journal articles. A common mistake in analysis

of cluster-randomized trials is to ignore the effect of clustering and analyze the data as if each treatment group were a simple random sample. Hedges has provided a simple correction to the *t*-statistic that would be computed if clustering were incorrectly ignored. He is Board of Trustees Professor of Statistics and Social Policy.

■ **Alternatives to Randomization**

Many researchers believe that randomized experimentation is usually the best methodology for investigating issues in education. However, it is not always feasible. The usually advocated alternative—quasi-experimentation—has come under attack from scholars who contrast the results from a randomized experiment and a quasi-experiment on the same topic, where the quasi-experiment shares the same intervention as the experiment. Thus, the quasi-experiment and the experiment are supposed to vary only in whether the control group is randomly formed.

Social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook**, Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice, is critically examining this literature, comprising more than 20 studies. The project receives support from the Institute of Education Sciences and is part of a larger project examining methods for improving the design, implementation, and analysis of four specific quasi-experimental designs in education: regression discontinuity, case matching on the propensity score, short interrupted time series, and pattern matching. Cook is using Monte Carlo simulations and comparing quasi-experimental results to those from randomized experiments sharing the same treatment group to explore the specific advantages and limitations of each of the four designs.

■ **Improving Quasi-Experimental Methods**

Cook also continues his work on quasi-experimental alternatives to random assignment, focusing mostly on two methods: regression-discontinuity designs and propensity score matching.

In conjunction with IPR senior research associate **Peter Steiner**, Cook is examining the use of matching as an analytic substitute for randomization. Cook and Steiner demonstrate why propensity score methods—coupled with observational data—can be used to recreate the results of a randomized experiment. Looking at within-study comparisons, they find that the key to reducing selection bias when faced with the unreliability of predictors is to select the “right” covariates and to make sure those covariates are measured well. With support

from the William T. Grant foundation, Steiner is now working to develop better guidelines for conducting propensity score analyses—helping researchers to pick out which covariates are the “right” ones to use.

Along with Cook and Steiner, IPR graduate research assistant Vivian Wong is examining regression-discontinuity designs with multiple assignment variables and cutoffs. The three researchers have shown that the design can estimate an overall treatment effect across a multidimensional cutoff frontier and that effects may be decomposed into a weighted average of two univariate, regression-discontinuity effects. Using simulation data, they are also exploring the contexts and conditions in which four methods for estimating treatment effects—the frontier, centering, univariate, and instrumental variable approaches—can produce unbiased estimates.

■ **Forecasting for Areas of Human Capital**

Statistician **Bruce Spencer** is working on estimates and forecasts for selected areas of human capital, such as those that categorize U.S. workers employed in science and technology jobs according to skill. Past studies of U.S. educational attainment have tended to focus on differences in averages across groups. This is consistent with most demographic research, which has focused on rates rather than totals. Total numbers of people with certain types of human capital are important for U.S. competitiveness, however. Spencer is developing a new model, which can allow for aging and retirement, international movement, and policy effects of improved incentives for attracting and training students.

■ **Statistical Accuracy and the Judiciary**

Much of **Spencer's** work also focuses on the accuracy of public statistics and the use of statistics to inform and improve social processes and systems. He recently completed the first stage of a project on the accuracy of jury verdicts, which indicated that juries give wrong verdicts in at least one out of eight cases—and judges' performance was estimated to be not much better. This sample was specialized and not a basis for generalizations. Utilizing statistical models known as latent class models, he also estimated probabilities of erroneous conviction and erroneous acquittal. Spencer

is currently developing methods for quantifying the uncertainty for these estimates to assess whether they can be used for large-scale monitoring of the accuracy of verdicts.

■ **Sampling Methods for Network Analysis**

Traditional sampling methods have enjoyed considerable success for the study of populations of individuals. For studying connections between individuals in populations, however, new kinds of sampling methods and new methods of analysis are needed. **Spencer** has begun to work on understanding the limits of conventional sampling theory for making inferences about networks and to develop new sampling methods and new methods of analysis of samples for network analysis.

■ **Defining the “Household” in Survey Design**

Defining the “household” for research purposes usually involves some intersection of keywords related to residency, common food consumption, and shared income. Yet despite efforts to standardize such definitions, the exact criteria for counting individuals in a household still vary from survey to survey. Economist **Lori Beaman** and her colleague Andrew Dillon of the International Food Policy Research Institute conducted a survey experiment of 1,000 households in Mali to analyze the effects of varying definitions, both for household composition itself and for potential bias in later statistical analyses. They find that different definitions have a substantial impact on household size and composition and recommend that researchers carefully choose among the alternative definitions based on the goals of their work.



Lori Beaman examines how nonstandardized definitions of “household” affect research.

■ **Rounding Probabilistic Expectations**

Manski and Francesca Molinari of Cornell University continue their empirical research on various survey

response phenomena using data from the national Health and Retirement Study (HRS). Most recently, they have turned their attention to the familiar practice of “rounding,” or reporting one value whenever a real number lies in an interval. They find strong evidence that rounding occurs in responses to HRS questions that ask respondents to state the percent chance that some future event will occur. Though the extent of rounding varies across respondents, social scientists are equipped to infer a respondent’s rounding practice simply by examining that person’s response pattern across different questions, the result being interpretation of reported numerical values as interval data. In their related article in the *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, Manski and Molinari also consider potential consequences of rounding for empirical research based on recent developments in statistical analysis of interval data.



Charles Manski is testing theories of rounding in survey responses in the Health and Retirement Study.

More recently, with University of Chicago colleague Daniel Schmieder, Urzúa and Heckman have published supplements to their original research that offer additional power calculations and procedural descriptions, in addition to a concrete example based on decisions to stop education after high school or continue onto college. Applying their methods to the problem of estimating returns to schooling, they find evidence of sorting into schooling based on unobserved components of gains.

■ **Monotone Instrumental Variables**

In 2000, **Manski** and John Pepper of the University of Virginia introduced the concept of “monotone” instrumental variable assumptions, which replace equalities across treatment effects with weak inequalities. The two researchers are conducting further analysis of the monotone instrumental variable (MIV) idea using an explicit response model to enhance the understanding of the content of MIV and traditional IV assumptions. They study the identifying power of MIV assumptions when combined with the homogeneous linear response assumption maintained in many studies of treatment response. In addition, they consider estimation of MIV bounds, with particular attention to finite-sample bias.

■ **Copula Density Estimation by Total Variation Penalized Likelihood**

Many statistical applications require quantifying the dependence among two or more variables. For example, academics and practitioners in financial econometrics often wish to model co-movements between markets, risk factors, and other relevant variables. Thus, marketing professor and IPR faculty associate **Yi Qian** is conducting empirical research on copulas—an increasingly popular device for this purpose. A copula is a function that fully quantifies the dependence among random variables by connecting the marginal distribution of each variable to the joint distribution. In a *Communications in Statistics* paper with Leming Qu

■ **Correlated Random Coefficient Model**

When researchers are unable to conduct a controlled experiment, instrumental variables (IV) offer one method for estimating causal relationships. The recent IV literature describes models in which agents sort into treatment status based on gains from treatment as well as on baseline pretreatment levels. Yet the observing economist might not know the components of the gains known and acted on by the agents. Such models are called correlated random coefficient models. Sorting on unobserved components of gains complicates the interpretation of what IV estimates. In work with James Heckman of the University of Chicago, economist **Sergio Urzúa** explores the implications of the hypothesis that agents do not sort into treatment based on gains. The economists developed new tests to gauge the empirical relevance of the correlated random coefficient model and assess whether the additional complications associated with it are required. They also examined the power of the proposed tests and derive a new representation of the variance of the IV estimator for the correlated random coefficient model.

of Boise State University and Hui Xie of the University of Illinois at Chicago, Qian looks at the copula density function. Using a simulation study that presumes knowledge of the marginal distributions, the researchers present a total variation penalized likelihood copula density estimate. Such methods have the advantage of capturing sharp changes in the target function.

■ **Accounting for Missing Survey Data**

Missing data is prevalent in social science and health studies, both in the form of attrition—in which responses “drop out” of the data set after a certain point—and in “nonmonotone” patterns of intermittently missing values. Yet even within these patterns, not all missing data can be treated equally; certain trends in missing data may indicate wider trends that should be taken into account when forming conclusions about the data set as a whole. **Qian** and Xie make the first attempt to systematically address the problem of not distinguishing between these ignorable and nonignorable patterns of missingness in missing data analysis, especially when the missing data appear to be irrelevant but cannot be confirmed as such. Their approach is to test whether the standard analysis holds under conditions of nonignorable nonresponse. If so, the analysis can be considered credible. If, however, the analysis changes significantly under the condition that missingness is at least somewhat relevant, the researchers conclude that it should be re-examined.

■ **Handbook of Meta-Analysis**

Hedges published the second edition of *The Handbook of Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2009) with Harris Cooper of Duke University and Jeffrey Valentine of the University of Louisville. Updating the first edition, which was the field’s most-cited reference book, the new edition incorporates state-of-the-art techniques from all quantitative synthesis traditions. Distilling a vast technical literature and many informal sources, the handbook provides a portfolio of the most effective solutions to the problems of quantitative data integration. Among the statistical issues addressed by the authors are the synthesis of non-independent data sets, fixed and random effects methods, the performance

of sensitivity analyses and model assessments, and the problem of missing data. In response to the increased use of research synthesis in formulating public policy, the second edition includes several new chapters. One is on the strengths and limitations of research synthesis in policy debates and decisions. Another looks at computing effect sizes and standard errors from clustered data, such as schools or clinics.

■ **Time-Sharing Experiments**

Sociologist **Jeremy Freese** has greatly expanded the research capacity of the website Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS), which he launched with the University of Chicago’s Penny Visser with a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant in 2008. TESS is an NSF infrastructure project that offers researchers opportunities to test their experimental ideas on large, diverse, randomly selected subject populations. Once a proposal has passed an internal and external review process, TESS fields the survey or experiment on a random sample of the U.S. population via the Internet. TESS thereby allows investigators to capture the internal validity of experiments while realizing the benefits of contact with large, diverse populations of research participants. In the beginning, a 10-question survey would typically cap out at around 800 respondents—a fair number for some research questions. But thanks to the growing pool of resources and infrastructure added by Freese and his colleagues, the same survey could now yield upwards of 2,000 responses.



Sociologist Jeremy Freese led a redesign of a website to help researchers conduct more representative surveys online.

■ **Data Center for Census Research**

Northwestern University is the lead institution of the local consortium behind the Chicago Census Research Data Center. The center, located at the Federal Reserve



Statistician **Bruce Spencer** is interested in the accuracy of public statistics and the use of statistics to inform and improve social processes and systems.

Bank of Chicago, provides researchers an opportunity to engage in approved projects using Census Bureau microdata. **Spencer** has played a leading role in integrating the center at Northwestern and is currently working to make data more readily accessible to area faculty and graduate students. Other consortium members include the Argonne National Laboratory, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, University of Chicago, and University of Illinois at Chicago.

■ **Promoting a Methodological Network**

Hedges is active in fostering the methodological community at a national level as a founding member of the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE), which held its second annual conference in March 2009. By establishing a network of scholars in education, social policy, and behavioral sciences, the society seeks to advance and disseminate research on the causal effects of educational interventions, practices, programs, and policies. Robert Greenwald, who specializes in analyzing the cost effectiveness of educational interventions, became the organization's first director in January 2009.

At the 2009 conference, built around the theme of "Methods that Matter," **Manski** gave a plenary address on policy choice with partial knowledge of policy effectiveness. Presentations covered a range of topics, such as preschool education, math and science achievement, and strategies for reform. **Hedges**, who is

president of SREE, also led a pre-conference workshop on randomized field trials in school settings with Spyros Konstantopoulos of Michigan State University. Other session IPR presenters and discussants included Cook, education economist David Figlio, research associate Peter Steiner, postdoctoral fellows Manyee Wong and Christopher Rhoads, and several IPR graduate research assistants.

Hedges and Barbara Foorman of Florida State University continue to edit the organization's *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness*. The peer-reviewed journal published four issues for its second volume that covered a variety of subjects, including a special issue on effective practices for English-language learners in the middle grades.

Hedges and **Cook** are also founding members of the Society for Research Synthesis Methodology (SRS), a professional society concerned with statistical methods for evidence-based social and health policy research.

Hedges has also been leading a series of methodological short courses in different disciplines over the year. He and psychologist **Alice Eagly**, two leading authorities on meta-analysis, joined forces to lead a workshop on meta-analytic methods at the Midwestern Psychological Association's annual meeting on April 30 in Chicago. Their course served as an introduction on the topic, covering a variety of issues from how to choose a subject or hypothesis and compute effect sizes, to drawing conclusions and framing them to encourage new research. **Hedges** also trained National Science Foundation program staff in its education and human resources division on social science research methods on December 11–12.

■ **Workshop on Cluster-Randomized Trials**

Thanks to a grant from the National Center for Education Research in IES, **Hedges** and professors Mark Lipsey and David Cordray of Vanderbilt University have launched a summer institute on cluster-randomized trials in education research. In its second year, the institute welcomed another 30 researchers from around the country, who attended

two weeks of training, from June 21 to July 3, on Vanderbilt's campus.

The intensive, hands-on sessions cover a range of topics, such as describing and quantifying outcomes, specifying conceptual and operational models, basic experimental designs for education studies, sampling size and statistical power, and using software like HLM to conduct hierarchical data modeling. Participants also work on a group project, in which they conceptualize and submit a mock funding application for an education experiment. The institute will return to the Northwestern campus for its third session in 2010.

■ **Training Future Scholars**

Hedges has received a new award from the Institute of Education Sciences to allow him to continue funding a postdoctoral fellow training program at IPR. By providing two-year fellowships, the program aims to train postdoctoral fellows in applied education research and produce a new generation of education researchers dedicated to solving the pressing challenges facing the American education system through methodologically rigorous research. **Mimi Engel**, who recently completed her Q-Center fellowship, joined the faculty of Vanderbilt University's Peabody College of Education and Human Development in the fall.

Newly appointed postdoctoral fellow Nathan Jones studies the role of policy in shaping new teachers' work environments. Postdoctoral fellow Christopher Rhoads continues his work on developing better methods for dealing with missing data in experiments, procedures for evaluating measures of implementation fidelity, and ways to integrate measures of implementation fidelity into analyses of experiments.

■ **Practical Advice for New Researchers**

Communications researcher **Eszter Hargittai** published a new edited volume, *Research Confidential: Solutions to Problems Most Social Scientists Pretend They Never Have* (University of Michigan Press, 2009), which covers some of the basic practical issues and challenges researchers routinely face in the course of their projects. It aims to help new researchers avoid the mistakes

that past generations have already confronted and solved and also explore some of the new possibilities for groundbreaking research online and in other nontraditional formats. For example, **Hargittai's** chapter on the "Thumb Generation" addresses the decline of more traditional survey methods—in-person interviews and landline phone calls—among today's busy youth and shows how she and her colleagues still manage to gather time-diary data from this group using a new format—text messaging.

The book also includes a chapter by **Jeremy Freese** on secondary analysis of large social surveys, in which he discusses the benefits of using readily available data sets, for example, by making use of the money and expertise that goes into designing sampling, questionnaires, and survey fielding operations, as well as the original costs of implementation. While recognizing a trend away from largely generalizable designs toward survey questions with more specific causal links, **Freese** discusses two strategies—discontinuity and exogenous variation—that often prove helpful in drawing causal inferences from data sets that were not designed specifically for the topic in question.

Psychobiologist **Emma Adam** also co-authored a chapter in the book on the benefits of including biological data in social science research studies. Studies that make use of biomarkers are becoming increasingly common and important as more research shows socioeconomic and policy contexts, as well as emotions and interpersonal interactions, all have an impact on biological processes. The chapter also outlines basic tools, equipment, and protocol for collecting, storing, and analyzing biomarker samples.



Communications researcher **Eszter Hargittai** answers questions after her colloquium talk on the "digital divide."

Urban Policy and Community Development

IPR's urban policy and community development faculty examine the shifting landscape of urban life, considering myriad issues related to today's urban experience. Additionally, many IPR faculty work on projects that are closely tied to urban policy in areas such as education, housing, welfare reform, community policing, and philanthropy. The group, chaired by sociologist **Lincoln Quillian**, is targeting:

- urban poverty concentration and housing patterns
- community policing and criminal justice
- civic engagement and community building

Overview of Activities

■ Poverty Concentration in U.S. Cities

Sociologist **Lincoln Quillian** is examining various factors that influence poverty concentration in American cities. In one project, he assessed the role of public housing in the formation of high-poverty areas using a series of simple demographic simulations to relocate the residents of public housing to other residential locations. According to Quillian, past analyses have tended to overestimate the effects of public housing projects because they failed to account for where their residents would live otherwise. Overall, he finds that poverty concentration is not strongly influenced by public housing because it represents such a small percentage of all housing. However, it does have a moderately strong impact on creating areas with exceptionally high levels of concentrated poverty. Quillian finds that larger reductions in poverty concentration would require reducing class and race segregation in private housing markets.

■ Policing Immigrant Communities

Having spent decades evaluating the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) and other community policing programs around the country, political scientist **Wesley G. Skogan** has identified community trust and cooperation as essential elements in their success. However, in U.S. cities with large numbers of immigrants—many of them here illegally—he finds that police face several unique obstacles in forming positive relations with immigrant communities. While language can be an obvious barrier, he finds that non-English-speaking immigrants are also more likely to harbor suspicions toward law enforcement brought from their home countries, where police brutality and corruption may be the norm. A survey of Spanish-speaking Latinos in Chicago showed they were twice as likely as African Americans—and even English-speaking Latinos—to think that police brutality was a major problem in their neighborhood, though no disparity existed in actual reports of abuse.



Chair
Lincoln Quillian, Sociology

Faculty in urban policy and community development examine the myriad issues related to today's urban experiences from the perspective of multiple disciplines.

When the Bush administration began a push in 2002 to involve local authorities in immigration control, many local governments and police chiefs recognized that such efforts would run counter to their community policing goals. While some smaller and mid-sized cities cooperated with government programs aimed at rounding up illegal aliens, many larger cities—from Los Angeles to Houston to Chicago—actively resisted such efforts. However, Skogan concludes, police in these “sanctuary cities” could face increasing pressure from state governments to investigate citizenship whenever possible, as states are concerned about losing federal funding for other law enforcement programs.

■ Public Perceptions of Police and Crime

Two contradictory models exist to explain the correlation between public confidence in the police and neighborhood crime and safety concerns. In a recent project with the Washington, D.C.–based, nonprofit Police Foundation, **Skogan** seeks to untangle the causal link between them. Using two waves of survey data from residents in four low-income, diverse neighborhoods in Houston, he examined how individual perceptions of police and crime changed over time. The analysis accounted for both victimization and encounters with the police, as well as a reorganization of community policing in some neighborhoods between the survey's two waves. The study provides support for the “reassurance” model, in which confidence in the police influences public perceptions of crime; there was little evidence for the opposing model, in which police are held accountable for perceptions of crime.

■ Project CeaseFire

Despite 15 years of declining crime, Chicago continues to be one of the nation's leading cities for homicide. Project CeaseFire, a community-based initiative of the Chicago Project for Violence Prevention (CPVP), aims to address this issue by reducing gun and gun-related violence in targeted areas in Chicago and the state.

To investigate how effective a broad-based community partnership like the CPVP can be in reducing violent crime, **Skogan** and his team conducted a three-year evaluation of the multi-site program. In addition to conducting fieldwork, interviews, and surveys, the researchers also examined the impact of the program on shootings and killings through statistical analysis of time series data, a network analysis of gang homicide, and an innovative use of GIS-computerized crime mapping techniques. Skogan is currently at work on a book about the study. The National Institute of Justice and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation support the research.

■ Building Civic Engagement

Social policy professor **Dan Lewis** founded the Center for Civic Engagement at Northwestern in 2009. The Center seeks to promote active citizenship and social responsibility by engaging students, faculty, and staff in service-learning projects and community partnerships, as well as conducting and disseminating research. In October 2009, it held a conference on “Leadership for a Religiously Diverse World” with plenary speaker Eboo Patel, founder of the Interfaith Youth Core. The center also held a yearlong program of events for graduate students on “The Engaged Humanities Scholar as Public Intellectual.”



Wesley Skogan conducts research on trends in crime and policing.

■ Abundant Communities

John McKnight, co-director of the Asset-Based Community Development Institute, and Peter Block of Designed Learning have written *The Abundant Community: Awakening the Power of Families and Neighborhoods* (Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2010). The book defines those aspects of a good life that can only be “produced” by closely connected local people and are beyond the power of the market to provide. The authors outline effective approaches people use to transform their neighborhoods into villages with the power to raise a child, promote good health, provide security, enhance the environment, and foster entrepreneurship.

IPR Faculty Fellows: Awards, Honors, and Presentations of Note

Lindsay Chase-Lansdale

“The Importance of Parental Postsecondary Education and Employment for Children,” invited presentation, National Roundtable on the Educare Postsecondary Education Project, with Jeanne Brooks-Gunn, Diana Rauner, and Karen Freel, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, November 4–5

Fay Lomax Cook

“Fostering Interdisciplinary Research,” keynote address, annual retreat, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, October 30

Thomas D. Cook

Chair, Network on Housing and Families with Children, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Victoria DeFrancesco Soto

Planning committee member, Third Annual National Conference on Health Disparities, Morehouse College, December 2–4; “The Emerging Power of Ethnic/Racial Minorities in Congressional Elections,” invited address, national conference of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, Chicago, March 18

James Druckman

Most Cited Paper in Fast-Moving Front Research Area for “Political Preference Formation” (*Annual Review of Political Science* 3:1–24), Thomson Reuter’s ScienceWatch.com



James Bray, then-president of the American Psychological Association, presents Alice Eagly with a distinguished contribution award.

Alice Eagly

Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award and Distinguished Scientist Lecturer, American Psychological Association

Jeremy Freese

President, Evolution, Biology & Society Section, American Sociological Association; elected member, Sociological Research Association

Larry Hedges

“New Challenges for Social Surveys,” invited address, Committee on National Statistics, Irvine, Calif., February 5; “Problems with the Design and Implementation of Randomized Experiments,” invited address, IES Research Conference, Washington, D.C., June 8; “Robust Procedures for Dependence in Meta-Analysis,” presidential address, Society for Research Synthesis Methods, Seattle, July 13; “Infrastructure Needed For Urban Education Research,” invited address, America’s Urban Infrastructure: Confronting Her Challenges, Embracing Her Opportunities, Washington University in St. Louis, November 19

Nancy MacLean

John Hope Franklin Senior Fellowship, National Humanities Center; Senior Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies; “Marketplace Solutions: Segregationists and the Surprising History of School Vouchers,” Ella Baker Lecture, Duke University, April 7; “Freedom Is Not Enough: The Quest for Jobs and Justice Since the 1950s,” Lyon G. Tyler Distinguished Lecture Series, The College of William and Mary, March 3

Charles F. Manski

Elected member, National Academy of Sciences; member, Committee on Law and Justice, National Research Council; “Diversified Treatment Under Ambiguity,” Lawrence W. Klein Lecture, *International Economic Review*, University of Pennsylvania, April 16

Thomas McDade

Appointed member, Experienced-Based Brain and Biological Development Program, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Toronto; “Whither Demography and the PAA? A Panel and Town Hall Discussion,” annual meeting, Population Association of America, Detroit, May 1

Therese McGuire

Outstanding Service Award (as editor of the *National Tax Journal*, 2001–09), National Tax Association

Leslie McCall

Socio-Economic Review best paper award for “Inequality, Public Opinion and Redistribution” (6(1): 35–68); Elected Member, General Social Survey Board, 2010–12

Monica Prasad

Faculty Early CAREER Development Award, National Science Foundation, 2009–14

Michelle Reininger

Outstanding Professor, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University

Jennifer Richeson

Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contributions to Psychology (Social Psychology), American Psychological Association; fellow, Association for Psychological Science; fellow, Midwestern Psychological Association

Dorothy Roberts

Family Defender Award, The Family Defense Center; keynote address, Conference on Gender, Parenting, and the Law, *Stanford Journal of Civil Rights & Civil Liberties*, Palo Alto, Calif., February 7; “Race, Kinship, and the New Biocitizen,” Zora Neale Hurston Lecture, Institute for Research in African American Studies, Columbia University, March 10; “Why Ending Racial Disparity Will Transform Child Welfare,” keynote address, 30th National Adoption Conference, Adoption Network, Cleveland, April 23

James Rosenbaum

Invited Panelist, “Higher Education and Jobs,” Kids Count Symposium: Education for the 21st Century, Voices for Illinois Children, Chicago, February 27

Sergio Urzúa

Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) Research Fellow, Bonn, Germany

Celeste Watkins-Hayes

Faculty Early CAREER Development Award, National Science Foundation, 2009–14; Investigator Award in Health Policy Research, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2009–14; appointed member, Board of Trustees, Spelman College



Michelle Reininger’s research focuses on teacher quality, recruitment, and retention.

IPR Faculty Associates: Awards, Honors, and Presentations of Note

Traci Burch

E. E. Schattschneider Award for best doctoral dissertation in American government, American Political Science Association

Héctor Carrillo

“International Migration and the Globalization of Sexuality: What Do We Learn from the Mexican Experience?” keynote address, Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, November 6

Jenifer Cartland

Loretta Lacey Maternal and Child Health Advocacy Award for Research (for work on the Illinois Health Survey)

Joan Chiao

“Cultural Neuroscience of Consciousness: From Visual Perception to Self-Awareness,” plenary panel, Toward a Science of Consciousness Conference, Hong Kong, June 14; “Neuroscience and Culture,” invited lecture, World Congress of Cultural Psychiatry, Norcia, Italy, September 30

Lee Epstein

Keynote, 13th Annual Conference of the International Society for New Institutional Economics, Berkeley, Calif., June 19

Steven Epstein

John C. Shaffer Professor in the Humanities, Northwestern University; book awards for *Inclusion: The Politics of Difference in Medical Research* (University of Chicago Press, 2007): Distinguished Book Award from the American Sociological Association, Don K. Price Book Award from the American Political Science Association’s Section on Science, Technology & Environmental Politics, and Ludwik Fleck Book Prize from the Society for Social Studies of Science



John Hagan presents his study of war crimes in Darfur.

Philip Greenland

Anandi Sharma Visiting Professorship and Simon Dack, MD, Memorial Lecturer, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York

Shane Greenstein

Highly Cited Author Award for 2004–08, *Journal of Urban Economics*

John Hagan

Stockholm Prize in Criminology, Swedish Ministry of Justice; book awards for *Darfur and the Crime of Genocide* (Cambridge University Press, 2008): Albert J. Reiss Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award from the American Sociological Association’s Crime, Law & Deviance Section and Michael J. Hindelang Book Award from the American Society of Criminology; best article award for “How Law Rules: Torture, Terror and the Normative Judgments of Iraqi Judges” (*Law & Society Review* 42:605–44), Law & Society Association

Eszter Hargittai

Fellow, Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University; paper award for “Cross-Ideological Discussions Among Conservative and Liberal Bloggers” (*Public Choice*, 134:67–86), Communication and Information Technologies Section, American Sociological Association; “The Teaching and Learning Shift: Diversity and Technology in the 21st Century,” Presidential Symposium, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, April 30

Daniel O’Keefe

Owen L. Coon Professor of Argumentation and Debate, Northwestern University; keynote address, Rhetoric in Society Conference, University of Leiden, The Netherlands, January 23

Ann Orloff

President, Social Science History Association, 2009–10; “Farewell to Maternalism? State Policies, Feminist Politics and Mothers’ Employment,” plenary address, Australian Social Policy Conference, University of New South Wales, Sydney, July 9

Robert Porter

Distinguished Fellow, Industrial Organization Society

Yi Qian

Citation of Excellence for “Impacts of Entry by Counterfeiters” (*Quarterly Journal of Economics* 123:1577–1600), Emerald Management Reviews

Carl Smith

R. Stanton Avery Distinguished Fellow, The Huntington Library, 2009–10; “Reflections on the Plan of Chicago,” opening plenary panel, Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 5; “The Burnham Plan: 100 Years Later,” plenary address, Transport Chicago Conference, June 5; “The Plan of Chicago: The One Book for the One City,” One Book, One Chicago Lecture (based on *The Plan of Chicago: Daniel Burnham and the Remaking of the American City*, University of Chicago Press, 2006), October 24

James Spillane

Senior Research Fellow, Hong Kong Institute of Education, Asia Pacific Centre for Leadership and Change, 2009–12

Linda Teplin

“Crime Victimization in Adults with Severe Mental Illness,” keynote address, Violence Against Psychiatric Patients inaugural conference, Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, The Hague, Netherlands, September 3; “HIV Risk in Delinquent Youth: Key Findings from the Northwestern Juvenile Project,” presentation at the Turning Research into Prevention meeting, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, June 17

Brian Uzzi

Fellow Award, Association for Corporate Growth Chicago

Teresa Woodruff

Gender Equity Award, American Medical Women’s Association, Chicago Chapter; Distinguished Woman in Medicine and Science and Mentor of the Year awards, Northwestern University; “Pushing the Boundaries of Women’s Health Research,” inaugural seminar, Laura W. Bush Institute for Women’s Health, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, Texas, April 15; “Oncofertility: The Preservation of Fertility Options for Young People with Cancer,” plenary session, 15th World Congress on IVF, Geneva, Switzerland, April 20; “Oncofertility: Preserving Fertility in Young People with Cancer,” Jacob Probst Memorial Lecture, Washington University in St. Louis, November 3



Marketing professor **Yi Qian** talks with social psychologist **Thomas Cook**.

Recent Books by IPR Faculty Fellows

Fay Lomax Cook

Jacobs, Lawrence, Fay Lomax Cook, and Michael Delli Carpini. *Talking Together: Public Deliberation and Political Participation in America*. University of Chicago Press (2009).

Micaela di Leonardo

Collins, Jane, Micaela di Leonardo, and Brett Williams, eds. *New Landscapes of Inequality: Neoliberalism and the Erosion of Democracy in America*. SAR Press (2008).

James Druckman

Druckman, James, Donald Green, James Kuklinski, and Arthur Lupia, eds. *Handbook of Experimental Political Science*. Cambridge University Press (forthcoming 2011).

Alice Eagly

Eagly, Alice, and Linda Carli. *Through the Labyrinth: The Truth About How Women Become Leaders*. Harvard Business School Press (2007).

Larry Hedges

Cooper, Harris, Larry Hedges, and Jeffrey Valentine, eds. *The Handbook of Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis*, 2nd ed. Russell Sage Foundation (2009).

Borenstein, Michael, Larry Hedges, Julian Higgins, and Hannah Rothstein. *Introduction to Meta-Analysis*. John Wiley & Sons (2009).

Dan Lewis

Lewis, Dan. *Gaining Ground in Illinois: Welfare Reform and Person-Centered Policy Analysis*. Northern Illinois University Press (2010).

Nancy MacLean

MacLean, Nancy. *The American Women's Movement, 1945–2000: A Brief History with Documents*. Bedford/St. Martins (2009).

Charles F. Manski

Manski, Charles F. *Identification for Prediction and Decision*. Harvard University Press (2007).

Monica Prasad

Martin, Isaac, Ajay Mehrotra, and Monica Prasad, eds. *The New Fiscal Sociology: Taxation in Comparative and Historical Perspective*. Cambridge University Press (2009).

Andrew Roberts

Roberts, Andrew. *The Quality of Democracy in Eastern Europe: Public Preferences and Policy Reforms*. Cambridge University Press (2009).

Roberts, Andrew. *The Thinking Student's Guide to College: 75 Tips for Getting a Better Education*. University of Chicago Press (2010).

Dorothy Roberts

Roberts, Dorothy. *The New Biopolitics of Race in America*. New Press (forthcoming 2010).

Roberts, Dorothy, Rhoda Reddock, Dianne Douglas, and Sandra Reid, eds. *Sex, Power, and Taboo: Gender and HIV in the Caribbean and Beyond*. Ian Randle Publishers (2008).

Roberts, Dorothy, with Libby Adler, Lisa Crooms, Judith Greenberg, and Martha Minow, eds. *Mary Joe Frug's Women and the Law*, 4th ed. Foundation Press (2007).

Morton Schapiro

McPherson, Michael, and Morton Schapiro, eds. *College Success: What It Means and How to Make It Happen*. College Board (2008).

Celeste Watkins-Hayes

Watkins-Hayes, Celeste. *The New Welfare Bureaucrats: Entanglements of Race, Class, and Policy Reform*. University of Chicago Press (2009).

Burton Weisbrod

Weisbrod, Burton, Jeffrey Ballou, and Evelyn Asch. *Mission and Money: Understanding the University*. Cambridge University Press (2008).

Recent Books by IPR Faculty Associates

Pablo Boczkowski

Boczkowski, Pablo. *News at Work: Imitation in an Age of Information Abundance*. University of Chicago Press (forthcoming 2010).

Carolyn Chen

Chen, Carolyn. *Getting Saved in America: Taiwanese Immigration and Religious Experience*. Princeton University Press (2008).

Joan Chiao

Chiao, Joan, ed. Progress in Neuroscience Series, vol. 178: *Cultural Neuroscience: Cultural Influences on Brain Function*. Elsevier (2009).

David Dranove

Dranove, David. *Code Red: An Economist Explains How to Revive the Healthcare System Without Destroying It*. Princeton University Press (2008).

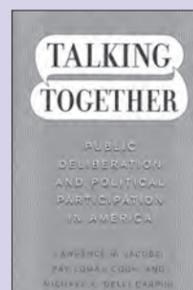
Lee Epstein

Epstein, Lee, and Thomas Walker. Constitutional Law for a Changing America Series: *Rights, Liberties, and Justice*, 7th ed. (2010); *Institutional Powers and Constraints*, 7th ed. (2010); *A Short Course*, 4th ed. (2008). CQ Press.

Epstein, Lee, Jeffrey Segal, Harold Spaeth, and Thomas Walker. *Supreme Court Compendium*, 4th ed. CQ Press (2008).

Steven Epstein

Epstein, Steven. *Inclusion: The Politics of Difference in Medical Research*. University of Chicago Press (2007).



Talking Together: Public Deliberation and Political Participation in America

by Lawrence Jacobs, Fay Lomax Cook, and Michael Delli Carpini

Challenging the conventional wisdom that Americans are less engaged than ever in national life and the democratic process, *Talking Together* paints a comprehensive portrait of public deliberation in the United

States. In settings ranging from one-on-one conversations to e-mail exchanges to larger and more formal gatherings, a surprising two-thirds of Americans regularly participate in public discussions about such pressing issues as the Iraq War, economic development, and race relations. With original and extensive research, IPR director **Fay Lomax Cook** and her co-authors pinpoint the real benefits of this public discourse and offer concrete recommendations for increasing the power of talk to foster political action.

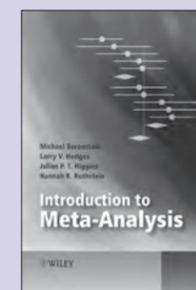


The Handbook of Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis, 2nd Edition

edited by Harris Cooper, Larry Hedges, and Jeffrey Valentine

When the first edition of *The Handbook of Research Synthesis* was published in 1994, it quickly became the definitive reference for researchers in both the social and biological sciences. In the

second edition, IPR education researcher and statistician **Larry Hedges** and his co-editors update the original text and add new chapters on such topics as computations from clustered data and the increasing use of research synthesis in the formation of public policy. The volume also includes updated techniques for locating hard-to-find "fugitive" literature, ways of systematically assessing the quality of a study, and progress in statistical methods for detecting and estimating the effects of publication bias.

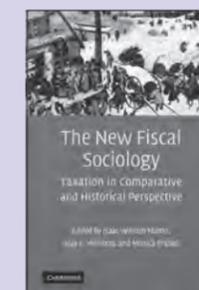


Introduction to Meta-Analysis

by Michael Borenstein, Larry Hedges, Julian Higgins, and Hannah Rothstein

This book provides a clear and thorough introduction to meta-analysis, or the process of synthesizing data from a series of separate studies. As meta-analysis has become a critically important tool in diverse fields—from

medicine, pharmacology, and epidemiology to education, psychology, business, and ecology—IPR education researcher and statistician **Larry Hedges** and his co-authors outline the role of meta-analysis in the research process. They cover various practical and theoretical issues, clarifying concepts with formulas and examples. The authors also explain how to avoid common mistakes and provide an overview of computer software that can be used to conduct a meta-analysis.



The New Fiscal Sociology: Taxation in Comparative and Historical Perspective

edited by Isaac Martin, Ajay Mehrotra, and Monica Prasad

This volume, co-edited by IPR sociologist **Monica Prasad**, offers a state-of-the-art survey of the new fiscal sociology that is emerging at the intersection of sociology, history, political science, and law. The

contributors, including some of the foremost comparative historical scholars in these disciplines, approach the institution of taxation as a window into a changing social contract. Their research addresses the social and historical sources of tax policy, the problem of how taxes persist, and the social and cultural consequences of taxation. They also trace fundamental connections between tax institutions and macrohistorical phenomena, such as wars, shifting racial boundaries, religious traditions, gender regimes, and labor systems.

Daniel Galvin

Galvin, Daniel. *Presidential Party Building: Dwight D. Eisenhower to George W. Bush*. Princeton University Press (2009).

Shane Greenstein

Greenstein, Shane, and Victor Stango, eds. *Standards and Public Policy*. Cambridge University Press (2007).

John Hagan

Hagan, John, and Wenona Raymond-Richmond. *Darfur and the Crime of Genocide*. Cambridge University Press (2008).

Eszter Hargittai

Hargittai, Eszter, ed. *Research Confidential: Solutions to Problems Most Social Scientists Pretend They Never Have*. University of Michigan Press (2009).

Craig LaMay

Minow, Newton, and Craig LaMay. *Inside the Presidential Debates: Their Improbable Past and Promising Future*. University of Chicago Press (2008).

Carol Lee

Lee, Carol. *Culture, Literacy, and Learning: Blooming in the Midst of the Whirlwind*. Teachers College Press (2007).

Jennifer Light

Light, Jennifer. *The Nature of Cities: Ecological Visions and the American Urban Professions, 1920–1960*. Johns Hopkins University Press (2009).

John McKnight

McKnight, John, and Peter Block. *The Abundant Community: Awakening the Power of Families and Neighborhoods*. Berrett-Koehler Publishers (2010).

Robert Nelson

Heckman, James, Robert Nelson, and Lee Cabatingan. *Global Perspectives on the Rule of Law*. Routledge-Cavendish (2009).

Benjamin Page

Page, Benjamin, and Tao Xie. *Living with the Dragon: How the American Public Views the Rise of China*. Columbia University Press (2010).

Page, Benjamin, and Lawrence Jacobs. *Class War? What Americans Really Think About Economic Inequality*. University of Chicago Press (2009).

Mary Pattillo

Pattillo, Mary. *Black on the Block: The Politics of Race and Class in the City*. University of Chicago Press (2007).

Robert Porter

Porter, Robert, with Mark Armstrong, eds. *Handbook of Industrial Organization*, vol. 3. Elsevier (2007).

Teresa Woodruff

Woodruff, Teresa, Laurie Zoloth, Lisa Campo-Engelstein, and Sarah Rodriguez, eds. *Oncofertility: Ethical, Legal, Social, and Medical Perspectives*. Springer (forthcoming 2010).

Publications by IPR Faculty Fellows

Emma Adam

Adam, E., and M. Kumari. 2009. Assessing salivary cortisol in large-scale, epidemiological research. *Psychoneuroendocrinology* 34(10): 1423–36.

Kumari, M., E. Badrick, T. Chandola, E. Adam, M. Stafford, M. Marmot, and M. Kivikami. 2009. Cortisol secretion and fatigue: Associations in a community-based cohort. *Psychoneuroendocrinology* 34(10): 1476–85.

Papp, L., P. Pendry, and E. Adam. 2009. Mother-adolescent physiological synchrony in naturalistic settings: Within-family cortisol associations and moderators. *Journal of Family Psychology* 23(6): 882–94.

Lori Beaman

Beaman, L., R. Chattopadhyay, E. Duflo, R. Pande, and P. Topalova. 2009. Powerful women: Does exposure reduce bias? *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 124(4): 1497–1540.

Fay Lomax Cook

Cook, F. L., and M. B. Czapski. 2009. Public opinion and social insurance: The American experience. In *Social Insurance and Social Justice: Social Security, Medicare, and the Campaign Against Entitlements*, ed. L. Rogné, et al., 251–78. New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Thomas D. Cook

Shadish, W. R., and T. D. Cook. 2009. The renaissance of field experimentation in evaluating interventions. *Annual Review of Psychology* 60:607–29.

Cook, T. D., and P. M. Steiner. 2009. Some empirically viable alternatives to the randomized experiment. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 28(1): 165–66.

Steiner, P. M., A. Wroblewski, and T. D. Cook. 2009. Randomized experiments and quasi-experimental designs in education research. In *The Sage Handbook of Educational Evaluation*, ed. K. E. Ryan and J. B. Cousins, 75–97. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage Publications.

Steiner, P. M., J. Eiserman, R. Soeliner, and T. D. Cook. 2009. Unbiased causal inference from an observational study: Results of a within-study comparison. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* 31(4): 463–79.

Cook, T. D., P. M. Steiner, and S. Pohl. 2009. How bias reduction is affected by covariate choice, unreliability, and mode results from two types of within-study comparisons. *Multivariate Behavior Research* 44(6): 828–47.

Micaela di Leonardo

di Leonardo, M. 2009. Whose homeland? The new imperialism, neoliberalism, and the American public sphere. In *Rethinking America: The Imperial Homeland in the 21st Century*, ed. J. Maskovsky and I. Susser, 105–201. Boulder, Colo.: Paradigm Publishers.

di Leonardo, M. 2009. The trope of the pith helmet: America's anthropology, anthropology's America. In *Anthropology off the Shelf: Anthropologists on Writing*, ed. A. Waterston and M. Vesperi, 160–71. New York: Blackwell Publishing.

James Druckman

Druckman, J. 2009. Competing frames in a political campaign. In *Winning with Words: The Origins and Impact of Framing*, ed. B. Schaffner and P. Sellers, 101–20. New York: Routledge.

Druckman, J., with L. R. Jacobs, G. Edwards III, and W. Howell. 2009. Presidential responsiveness to public opinion. In *The Oxford Handbook of the American Presidency*, 160–81. New York: Oxford University Press.



The Quality of Democracy in Eastern Europe: Public Preferences and Policy Reforms

by Andrew Roberts

How does democracy work in the new democracies of Eastern Europe? Do the people actually rule, or have the legacies of communism and the constraints of the transition weakened popular control? This book presents a new framework for

conceptualizing and measuring “democratic quality” as the degree to which citizens are able to hold leaders accountable for their performance and keep policy close to their preferences. Applying the framework to multiple countries, IPR political scientist **Andrew Roberts** comes to the surprising conclusion that citizens in Eastern European democracies exercise considerable control over their rulers, despite facing difficult economic circumstances and an unfavorable inheritance from communism.



The New Welfare Bureaucrats: Entanglements of Race, Class, and Policy Reform

by Celeste Watkins-Hayes

The welfare bureaucracy has undergone massive change since the advent of welfare reform in 1996. IPR sociologist and African American studies associate professor **Celeste Watkins-Hayes** offers a behind-the-scenes look at bureaucracy’s

human face in a compelling study of welfare officers and how they navigate the increasingly tangled political and emotional terrain of their jobs. Based on extensive fieldwork in two distinct communities in the Northeast, her analysis shows how the shift from simply providing monetary aid to helping recipients find jobs has made caseworkers more involved in their clients lives—and increased the importance of their own racial, class, and professional identities in the process.

■ ■ Unlike television advertisements or newspaper coverage, websites provide an unmediated, holistic, and representative portrait of campaigns. We find that incumbents and challengers differ across a broad range of behavior that reflects varying attitudes toward risk, that incumbents’ strategies depend on the competitiveness of the race, and that candidates link negative campaigning to other aspects of their rhetorical strategies. ■ ■

Druckman, J., M. Kifer, and M. Parkin. 2009. Campaign communications in U.S. congressional elections. *American Political Science Review* 103(3): 343–66 (p. 343).

Druckman, J., H. Kuklinski, and L. Seligman. 2009. The unmet potential of interdisciplinary research: Political psychological approaches to voting and public opinion. *Political Behavior* 31(4): 485–510.

Druckman, J., M. Kifer, and M. Parkin. 2009. Campaign communications in U.S. congressional elections. *American Political Science Review* 103(3): 343–66.

Alice Eagly

Eagly, A., P. W. Eastwick, and M. Johannesen-Schmidt. 2009. Possible selves in marital roles: The impact of the anticipated division of labor on the mate preferences of women and men. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 35(4): 403–14.

Wood, W., and A. Eagly. 2009. Advantages of certainty and uncertainty. In *The Handbook of Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis*, 2nd ed., ed. H. Cooper, L. Hedges, and J. Valentine, 455–72. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Eagly, A., and A. Fischer. 2009. Gender inequalities in power in organizations. In *Power and Interdependence in Organizations*, ed. D. Tjosvold and B. Wisse, 186–204 New York: Cambridge University Press.

Eagly, A., and S. Sczesny. 2009. Stereotypes about women, men, and leaders: Have times changed? In *The Glass Ceiling in the 21st Century: Understanding Barriers to Gender Equality*, ed. M. Barreto, H. Ryan, and M. Schmitt, 21–47. Washington, D.C.: APA Books.

Wood, W., and A. Eagly. 2009. Gender identity. In *Handbook of Individual Differences in Social Behavior*, ed. M. Leary and R. Hoyle, 109–28. New York: The Guilford Press.

Hart, W., D. Albarracin, A. Eagly, I. Brechan, M. Lindberg, and L. Merrill. 2009. Feeling validated versus

being correct: A meta-analysis of selective exposure to information. *Psychological Bulletin* 135(4): 555–88.

Eagly, A., and L. Carli. 2009. Navigating the labyrinth. *School Administrator* 66(8): 10–16.

Eagly, A. 2009. The his and hers of prosocial behavior: An examination of the social psychology of gender. *American Psychologist* 64(8): 644–58.

Eagly, A., and W. Wood. 2009. Sexual selection does not provide an adequate theory of sex differences in aggression. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 32(3–4): 276–77.

David Figlio

Figlio, D., and L. Kenny. 2009. Public sector performance measurement and stakeholder support. *Journal of Public Economics* 93(9–10): 1069–77.

Figlio, D., S. Hamersma, and J. Roth. 2009. Does prenatal WIC participation improve birth outcomes? New evidence from Florida. *Journal of Public Economics* 93(1–2): 235–45.

Figlio, D., and J. Roth. 2009. The behavioral consequences of pre-kindergarten participation for disadvantaged youth. In *The Problems of Disadvantaged Youth: An Economic Perspective*, ed. J. Gruber, 15–42. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Jeremy Freese

Freese, J., and S. Shostak. 2009. Genetics and social inquiry. *Annual Review of Sociology* 35:107–28.

Freese, J. 2009. Secondary analysis of large social surveys. In *Research Confidential: Solutions to Problems Most Social Scientists Pretend They Never Have*, ed. E. Hargittai, 238–61. Ann Arbor, Mich.: University of Michigan Press.

Freese, J. 2009. Preferences. In *The Oxford Handbook of Analytic Sociology*, ed. P. Hedström and P. Bearman, 94–114. New York: Oxford University Press.

Freese, J. 2009. Blogs and the attention market for public intellectuals. *Society* 46(1): 45–48.

Shostak, S., J. Freese, B. Link, and J. Phelan. 2009. The politics of the gene: Social status and beliefs about genetics for individual outcomes. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 72(1): 79–93.

Larry Hedges

Hedges, L. 2009. Effect sizes in studies with nested designs. In *The Handbook of Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis*, 2nd ed., ed. H. Cooper, L. Hedges, and J. Valentine, 337–56. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Hedges, L. 2009. Adjusting a significance test for clustering in designs with two levels of nesting. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics* 34(4): 464–90.

Konstantopoulos, S., and L. Hedges. 2009. Analyzing effect sizes: Fixed effects models. In *The Handbook of Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis*, 2nd ed., ed. H. Cooper, L. Hedges, and J. Valentine, 279–95. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Christopher Kuzawa

Kuzawa, C., and E. Sweet. 2009. Epigenetics and the embodiment of race: Developmental origins of U.S. racial disparities in cardiovascular health. *American Journal of Human Biology* 21(1): 2–15.

Kuzawa, C., and E. Quinn. 2009. Developmental origins of adult function and health: Evolutionary hypotheses. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 38:131–47.

Kuzawa, C., L. Gettler, M. Muller, T. McDade, and A. Feranil. 2009. Fatherhood, pairbonding, and testosterone in the Philippines. *Hormones and Behavior* 56(4): 429–35.

McDade, T., J. Rutherford, L. Adair, and C. Kuzawa. 2009. Population differences in associations between C-reactive protein concentration and adiposity: Comparison of young adults in the Philippines and the United States. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 89(4): 1237–45.

Charles F. Manski

Manski, C. F., and J. Pepper. 2009. More on monotone instrumental variables. *The Econometrics Journal* 12(S1): S200–16.

Manski, C. F. 2009. Diversified treatment under ambiguity. *International Economic Review* 50(4): 1013–41.

Manski, C. F. 2009. Social planning with partial knowledge of social interactions. *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* 165(1): 146–58.

Engelberg, J., C. F. Manski, and J. Williams. 2009. Comparing the point predictions and subjective probability distributions of professional forecasters. *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics* 27(1): 30–41.

Leslie McCall

McCall, L., and L. Kenworthy. 2009. Americans’ social policy preferences in the era of rising inequality. *Perspectives on Politics* 7(3): 459–84.

Thomas McDade

McDade, T., J. Rutherford, L. Adair, and C. Kuzawa. 2009. Population differences in associations between C-reactive protein concentration and adiposity: Comparison of young adults in the Philippines and the United States. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 89(4): 1237–45.

■ ■ The two halves of our review cover what are today two largely distinct enterprises. The first enterprise is trying to bring behavioral genetics into sociology and in so doing make behavioral genetics more of a social science. ... The second enterprise is wrestling with genetic science as a transformative social phenomenon. ... Especially as the social sciences begin to incorporate genetic information and techniques, it is vital that sociologists examine the processes and outcomes of these new modes of knowledge production as empirical phenomena. ■ ■

Freese, J., and S. Shostak. 2009. Genetics and social inquiry. *Annual Review of Sociology* 35:107–28 (p. 102).

■ ■ Our evidence suggests that Americans may be unsure or uninformed about how to address rising inequality and thus swayed by contemporaneous debates. However, we also find that Americans favor expanding education spending in response to their increasing concerns about inequality. This suggests that equal opportunity may be more germane than income redistribution to our understanding of the politics of inequality. ■ ■

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Monica Prasad

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Lincoln Quillian

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Jennifer Richeson

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Andrew Roberts

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Dorothy Roberts

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James Rosenbaum

Rosenbaum, J., S. Deluca, and A. Zuberi. 2009. When does residential mobility benefit low-income families? Evidence from recent housing voucher programs. *Benefits* 17(2): 113–23.

Rebecca Seligman

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■ ■ We develop a social psychological explanation for the belief in the link between Saddam and Al Qaeda. We argue that the primary causal agent for misperception is not the presence or absence of correct information but a respondent’s willingness to believe particular kinds of information. Our explanation draws on a psychological model of information processing that scholars have labeled motivated reasoning. ■ ■

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■ ■ The crux of the problem is simply this—women have taken on a greater share of breadwinning while maintaining their responsibilities as primary caregivers. But breadwinning has not always come with greater access to health benefits, and too often, women’s health has been compromised as women try to combine work and family responsibilities. ■ ■

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Wesley G. Skogan

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Sergio Urzúa

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Lauren Wakschlag

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Celeste Watkins-Hayes

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■ **Education Policy**

Coupling Administrative Practice with the Technical Core and External Regulation: The Role of Organizational Routines by James Spillane, Leigh Mesler, Christiana Croegaert, and Jennifer Zoltners Sherer (WP-09-04)

Public Sector Performance Measurement and Stakeholder Support by David Figlio and Lawrence Kenny (WP-09-08)

No Child Left Behind: An Interim Evaluation of Its Effects on Learning Using Two Interrupted Time Series Each with Its Own Non-Equivalent Comparison Series by Manyee Wong, Thomas D. Cook, and Peter Steiner (WP-09-11)

■ **Politics, Institutions, and Public Policy**

Diversified Policy Choice with Partial Knowledge of Policy Effectiveness by Charles F. Manski (WP-09-02)

Framing, Motivated Reasoning, and Opinions about Emergent Technologies by James Druckman and Toby Bolsen (WP-09-03)

Students as Experimental Participants: A Defense of the “Narrow Data Base” by James Druckman and Cindy Kam (WP-09-05)

Timeless Strategy Meets New Medium: Going Negative on Congressional Campaign Websites, 2002–2006 by James Druckman, Martin Kifer, and Michael Parkin (WP-09-06)

Issue Engagement on Congressional Candidate Websites (2002–2006) by James Druckman and Cindy Kam (WP-09-07)

Probabilistic Polling and Voting in the 2008 Presidential Election: Evidence from the American Life Panel by Adeline Delavande and Charles F. Manski (WP-09-09)

■ **Quantitative Methods for Policy Research**

Comment on “Tests of Certain Types of Ignorable Nonresponse in Surveys Subject to Item Nonresponse or Attrition” by Christopher Rhoads (WP-09-10)

■ **Urban Policy and Community Development**

Does Changing Neighborhoods Change Lives? The Chicago Gautreaux Housing Program and Recent Mobility Programs by James Rosenbaum and Stefanie DeLuca (WP-09-01)

“ This paper provides the first evidence of stakeholder financial reactions to changes in performance measurements in the education sector. We make use of rich population-based survey data on contributions to schools to measure how school contributions change after a major exogenous change in Florida’s school grading system was introduced in 2002. We find that schools facing low grades (“D” and especially “F”) experience substantial reductions in donations. ”

“Public Sector Performance Measurement and Stakeholder Support” (WP-09-08) by David Figlio and Lawrence Kenny

■ ■ Demands that local police in the United States become more involved in enforcing immigration laws ... have become a point of great contention because this involvement runs at cross-purposes with community policing and other strategies to engage more closely with the community. The depth of this conflict is illustrated with a discussion of the “sanctuary city” movement. ■ ■

Skogan, W. G. 2009. Policing immigrant communities in the United States. In *Immigration, Crime, and Justice*, ed. W. McDonald, 189–204 (p.190–91). Bingley, U.K.: Emerald Group Publishing.

IPR Colloquia

Winter 2009

- January 12, “Research on Policing” by Wesley G. Skogan, Professor of Political Science and IPR Associate Director and Faculty Fellow
- January 26, “‘Dying From’ to ‘Living With’ HIV/AIDS: Framing Institutions and Coping Processes of Infected Black Women” by Celeste Watkins-Hayes, Assistant Professor of Sociology and African American Studies and IPR Faculty Fellow
- February 2, “Can Electoral Laws Increase Women’s Representation?” by Andrew Roberts, Assistant Professor of Political Science and IPR Faculty Fellow
- February 9, “How School Vouchers Affect Students and Schools” by David Figlio, Orrington Lunt Professor of Education and Social Policy, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Chair of IPR’s Program on Education Policy
- February 16, “The Economics of Child Adoption” by Éva Nagypál, Assistant Professor of Economics and IPR Faculty Fellow
- February 23, “Parenting in Vain: Stepfather Influences on Early Transitions to Parenthood” by Rachel Dunifon, Associate Professor, Department of Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University *(C2S Colloquium)*
- March 2, “Transgenerational Influences on Birth Outcomes: Can Evolutionary Biology Help Us Design Better Pregnancy Interventions?” by Christopher Kuzawa, Associate Professor of Anthropology and IPR Faculty Fellow
- March 9, “Improving Generalizations From Social Experiments” by Larry Hedges, Board of Trustees Professor of Statistics and Social Policy, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Co-Chair of IPR’s Program on Quantitative Methods for Policy Research

Spring 2009

- April 2, “From Populations to Individuals and Back Again: The Role of Context and Populations in Health Research” by Ana Diez-Roux, Director, Center for Integrative Approaches to Health Disparities; Professor of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Michigan *(C2S Colloquium)*
- April 6, “Is Race Biological? What the Question Means and Who Should Answer It” by Dorothy Roberts, Kirkland & Ellis Professor of Law and IPR Faculty Fellow
- April 13, “Social Networks and the Dynamics of Labor Market Outcomes: Evidence from Refugees” by Lori Beaman, Assistant Professor of Economics and IPR Faculty Fellow
- April 20, “‘Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise?’ The Link Between Conditions in Childhood and Physical, Economic, and Cognitive Outcomes After Age 65 in the United States, 1895–2005” by Joseph Ferrie, Professor of Economics and IPR Faculty Associate



Joseph Ferrie presents his research on Americans’ health outcomes over the lifecourse.

- April 27, “The Representation of Social Life and Residential Environment in Working Class Neighborhoods: The Case of Four Municipalities in Paris’ Suburbs” by Marco Oberti, Professor of Sociology, Sciences Po, Paris
- May 4, “Childhood Experiences and the Emergence of Health Trajectories” by Andrea Danese, Wellcome Trust Research Fellow, Social, Genetic, and Developmental Psychiatry Centre, Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College, London *(C2S Colloquium)*
- May 11, “Killing Two Birds with One Stone? The 2008 Presidential Media Campaign” by Victoria DeFrancesco Soto, Assistant Professor of Political Science and IPR Faculty Fellow
- May 18, “Making Plans: Improving College Access from Urban High Schools” by James Rosenbaum, Professor of Education and Social Policy, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Chair of IPR’s Program on Poverty, Race, and Inequality; and IPR Graduate Research Assistants Michelle Naffziger and Jennifer Stephan
- June 1, “Emotions, Culture, and Health” by Ryan Brown, Assistant Professor of Human Development and Social Policy and IPR Faculty Fellow

Fall 2009

- October 12, “Psychological Consequences of Contending with Group-Based Discrimination” by Jennifer Richeson, Associate Professor of Psychology and IPR Faculty Fellow
- October 19, “State Rape: Sexual Violence and International Criminal Law” by John Hagan, John D. MacArthur Professor of Sociology and Department Chair, IPR Faculty Associate, and American Bar Foundation Fellow
- October 26, “Promoting the Sexual Health of Minority Youth: The Role of the Internet” by Brian Mustanski, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Illinois at Chicago *(C2S Colloquium)*
- November 2, “A National Evaluation of the Effects of No Child Left Behind on Student Achievement in Reading and Math” by Thomas D. Cook, Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Q-Center Co-Director; and Manyee Wong, IPR Postdoctoral Fellow
- November 9, “New Opportunities, Old Patterns? Participation in the Public Sphere in the Age of Digital Media” by Eszter Hargittai, Associate Professor of Communication Studies and IPR Faculty Associate
- November 23, “Parties as Political Institutions: Explaining Asymmetrical Organizational Change in the Democratic and Republican Parties” by Daniel Galvin, Assistant Professor of Political Science
- November 30, “Framing, Motivated Reasoning, and Opinions About Emergent Technologies” by James Druckman, Payson S. Wild Professor in Political Science, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Chair of IPR’s Program on Politics, Institutions, and Public Policy



Brian Mustanski gives an IPR/C2S talk on the sexual health of minority youth.

Labor & Education Policy Seminars *(Joint Series by IPR and Department of Economics)*

May 21, “Cheaper by the Dozen: Using Sibling Discounts at Catholic Schools to Estimate the Price Elasticity of Private School Attendance” by Susan Dynarski, Associate Professor of Public Policy, Ford School of Public Policy, and Associate Professor of Education, School of Education, University of Michigan

October 1, “Pay for Percentile” by Derek Neal, Professor of Economics, University of Chicago

October 22, “How Important is Labor Market Signaling? Evidence from High School Exit Exams” by Damon Clark, Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Florida

October 29, “Anti-Lemons: School Reputation and Educational Quality” by Miguel Urquiola, Assistant Professor of Economics, Columbia University

November 12, “Conscription and Crime” by Sebastian Galiani, Professor of Economics, Washington University in St. Louis

November 19, “Employment Adjustment and Labor Utilization” by Ija Trapeznikova, Doctoral Student in Economics, Northwestern University

December 3, “Contract Teachers: Experimental Evidence from India” by Karthik Muralidharan, Assistant Professor of Economics, University of California, San Diego

December 10, “Beware of Economists Bearing Reduced Forms? An Experiment in How Not to Improve Student Outcomes” by Scott Carrell, Assistant Professor of Economics, University of California, Davis



Economist **Miguel Urquiola** of Columbia University shares his research on school reputation and educational quality at a Labor & Education Policy Seminar.

Seminars on Performance Measurement

April 22, “The Competitive Effects of School Vouchers” by David Figlio, Orrington Lunt Professor of Education and Social Policy, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Chair of IPR’s Program on Education Policy

May 6, “Using Value-Added Models of Student Achievement to Measure Teacher Effectiveness: A Review of Some Technical Issues Related to Teacher Merit Pay” by Julian Betts, Professor and Chair, Department of Economics, University of California, San Diego

May 20, “The Design and Evaluation of State School-Funding Reform” by Andrew Reschovsky, Professor of Public Affairs and Applied Economics, La Follette School of Public Affairs, and Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Seminars on Performance Measurement, cont.

October 14, “Patterns of Accountability and Control Among Nonprofits, For-Profits, and Government Providers in Phoenix” by Joseph Galaskiewicz, Professor of Sociology, University of Arizona

October 28, “Do For-Profit, Governmental, and Nonprofit Organizations Perform Differently, and Why? The Hospital Industry” by Burton Weisbrod, John Evans Professor of Economics, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Chair of IPR’s Program on Philanthropy and Nonprofits

November 11, “Patient Sorting and Information Disclosure” by Yang Zhang, Doctoral Student in Management and Strategy, Kellogg School of Management

Conferences and Workshops

IPR’s 40th Anniversary Conference: “Dynamics of Inequality in America from 1968 to Today,” April 16–17
IPR’s 40th anniversary conference included panels on many of its longstanding research themes, including economic inequality, race, gender, health, education, politics, and urban issues. See front cover and p. 4 for more information.

Chicago Area Political and Social Behavior (CAB) Workshop, May 8

This annual workshop welcomes political scientists and graduate students from around the Midwest. It is organized by IPR Faculty Fellow James Druckman, Chair of IPR’s Program on Politics, Institutions, and Public Policy.
(Co-sponsored with the Political Science Department and Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences)

Experimental Political Science Conference, May 28–29

More than 100 political scientists and graduate students from across the country gathered at Northwestern University to discuss and critique papers that will be included as chapters in the first “Handbook of Experimental Political Science,” forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. The conference was co-sponsored by IPR and organized by IPR political scientist James Druckman.
(Co-sponsored with the National Science Foundation and the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences)

C2S Summer Biomarker Institute, June 8–10

This annual Cells to Society (C2S) workshop—organized by IPR/C2S Faculty Fellows Emma Adam, Christopher Kuzawa, and Thomas McDade—provides a hands-on introduction to state-of-the-art methods for integrating biomarkers into population-based social science research.
(Sponsored by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development)



At the Experimental Political Science Conference, **John Bullock** of Yale, **Cindy Kam** of Vanderbilt, and **Betsy Sinclair** of the University of Chicago hear feedback on their presentations, which will become chapters in a forthcoming handbook.

■ **Faculty Fellows**

Emma Adam, Human Development and Social Policy (on leave)
 Lori Beaman, Economics
 Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Human Development and Social Policy
 Fay Lomax Cook, Human Development and Social Policy
 Thomas D. Cook, Sociology
 Victoria DeFrancesco Soto, Political Science
 Micaela di Leonardo, Anthropology
 James Druckman, Political Science
 Alice Eagly, Psychology (on leave)
 David Figlio, Education and Social Policy
 Jeremy Freese, Sociology (on leave)
 Laurel Harbridge, Political Science
 Larry Hedges, Statistics/Education and Social Policy
 Christopher Kuzawa, Anthropology
 Dan Lewis, Human Development and Social Policy
 Charles F. Manski, Economics
 Nancy MacLean, History
 Leslie McCall, Sociology
 Thomas McDade, Anthropology
 Therese McGuire, Management and Strategy
 Monica Prasad, Sociology
 Lincoln Quillian, Sociology
 Michelle Reininger, Human Development, Social Policy, and Learning Sciences
 Jennifer Richeson, Psychology
 Andrew Roberts, Political Science (on leave)
 Dorothy Roberts, Law
 James Rosenbaum, Education and Social Policy
 Morton Schapiro, University President and Economics
 Rebecca Seligman, Anthropology
 Wesley G. Skogan, Political Science
 Bruce Spencer, Statistics
 Sergio Urzúa, Economics
 Celeste Watkins-Hayes, Sociology/African American Studies
 Lauren Wakschlag, Medical Social Sciences
 Burton Weisbrod, Economics

■ **Faculty Associates**

Henry Binford, History
 Pablo Boczkowski, Communication Studies
 Ann Borders, Obstetrics and Gynecology
 Traci Burch, Political Science
 Mercedes Carnethon, Preventive Medicine
 Héctor Carrillo, Sociology
 Jenifer Cartland, Pediatrics
 David Cella, Medical Social Sciences
 Carolyn Chen, Sociology/Asian American Studies
 Joan Chiao, Psychology
 Dennis Chong, Political Science
 Katherine Kaufer Christoffel, Pediatrics
 Jeannette Colyvas, Human Development, Social Policy, and Learning Sciences
 Leemore Dafny, Management and Strategy
 David Dana, Law
 Shari Seidman Diamond, Law
 Daniel Diermeier, Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences
 Jack Doppelt, Journalism
 David Dranove, Management and Strategy
 Lee Epstein, Law
 Steven Epstein, Sociology
 James Ettema, Communication Studies
 Joseph Ferrie, Economics
 Eli Finkel, Psychology
 Paul Friesema, Political Science
 Daniel Galvin, Political Science
 Craig Garfield, Pediatrics
 Loren Ghiglione, Journalism
 Philip Greenland, Preventive Medicine
 Shane Greenstein, Management and Strategy
 John Hagan, Sociology/Law
 Eszter Hargittai, Communication Studies
 Barton Hirsch, Human Development and Social Policy
 Paul Hirsch, Management and Organizations
 Jane Holl, Pediatrics
 John Kretzmann, Research Associate Professor
 Craig LaMay, Journalism

Faculty Associates (cont.)

Carol Lee, Education and Social Policy
 Donna Leff, Journalism
 Jennifer Light, Communication Studies
 Jelani Mandara, Human Development and Social Policy
 Maryann Mason, Pediatrics
 Michael Mazzeo, Management and Strategy
 Peter Miller, Communication Studies
 Robert Nelson, Sociology
 Daniel O’Keefe, Communication Studies
 Ann Orloff, Sociology
 Benjamin Page, Political Science
 Mary Pattillo, Sociology/African American Studies
 Robert Porter, Economics
 David Proress, Journalism
 Yi Qian, Marketing
 Eva Redei, Medicine
 William Rogerson, Economics
 Leonard Rubinowitz, Law
 Madeleine Shalowitz, Medicine
 Carl Smith, English
 Karrie Ann Snyder, Sociology
 James Spillane, Human Development, Social Policy, and Learning Sciences
 Linda Teplin, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
 Susan Thistle, Sociology
 Brian Uzzi, Management and Organizations
 Sandra Waxman, Psychology
 Teresa Woodruff, Neurobiology and Physiology

■ **Faculty Emeriti**

John McKnight, Communication Studies
 John Heinz, Law

■ **Postdoctoral Fellows**

Laura Chyu, Social Influences on Early Adult Stress Biomarkers; Adviser: Thomas McDade
 Sumedha Gupta, Social Influences on Early Adult Stress Biomarkers; Adviser: Thomas McDade
 Sarah Johnson, Consequences of Stigmatized Identity; Adviser: Jennifer Richeson
 Nathan Jones, Improving Methods for Quantitative Policy Research; Adviser: Larry Hedges
 Christopher Rhoads, Improving Methods for Quantitative Policy Research; Adviser: Larry Hedges
 Pamela Schuetz, College to Careers; Adviser: James Rosenbaum
 Teresa Eckrich Sommer, Educare Post-Secondary Education Project; Adviser: Lindsay Chase-Lansdale
 Manyee Wong, Improving Quasi-Experimental Design; Adviser: Thomas D. Cook



IPR education researcher **James Rosenbaum** (l.) and sociologist **Lincoln Quillian** discuss urban education issues following an IPR colloquium.

P. Reese

■ **IPR Administration**

Director

Fay Lomax Cook, Human Development and Social Policy

Associate Director

Wesley G. Skogan, Political Science

Business Administrator

Michael Weis

Director of Communications

Patricia Reese

■ **Executive Committee**

- Emma Adam, Human Development and Social Policy (on leave)
- Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Human Development and Social Policy
- Fay Lomax Cook, Human Development and Social Policy
- James Druckman, Political Science
- David Figlio, Education and Social Policy
- Jeremy Freese, Sociology (on leave)
- Larry Hedges, Statistics/Education and Social Policy
- Leslie McCall, Sociology
- Dorothy Roberts, Law
- Wesley G. Skogan, Political Science

■ **Staff**

- Eric Betzold, Grant Support
- Arlene Dattels, Accounting
- Ellen Dunleavy, Reception
- Sarah Levy, Editorial Assistant
- Alice Murray, Webmaster
- Ellen Whittingham, Assistant to the Director
- Beverly Zack, Purchasing Accounting

■ **Visiting Scholars**

- Frieda Molina, Deputy Director, MDRC

■ **Research Associates**

- Leah Doane, Research Assistant Professor and Lecturer, Social Influences on Early Adult Stress Biomarkers
- Peter Steiner, Senior Research Associate, Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis in Education

■ **Research Staff**

- Amanda Armour, Health, Hardship, and Renewal: A Research Study of the Economic Strategies of Women with HIV/AIDS
- Evelyn Asch, Commercialization of Higher Education
- Zena Ellison, Targeted Student-Teacher Recruitment Efforts in Chicago Public Schools
- Dawn Espy, Social Perception and Communication Laboratory
- Patricia Ferguson, Center for Improving Methods for Quantitative Policy Research (Q-Center)
- Robert Greenwald, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness
- Jeffrey Huang, Laboratory for Human Biology Research
- Patricia Lasley, Welfare, Children, and Families: A Three-City Study; and Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health
- Valerie Lyne, Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis in Education
- Hannah Wallerstein, Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health

■ **Graduate Research Assistants**

- Sara Bernstein, Human Development and Social Policy
- Toby Bolsen, Political Science
- Amelia Branigan, Human Development and Social Policy
- Maureen Craig, Psychology
- Meredith Bintz Czapslewski, Political Science
- Lori Delale-O'Connor, Sociology
- Brian Falb, Political Science
- Jia-Young Fu, Economics
- Lisbeth Goble, Human Development and Social Policy
- Kelly Hallberg, Human Development and Social Policy
- Cassandra Hart, Human Development and Social Policy
- Aryeh Jacobsohn, Anthropology
- Thomas Leeper, Political Science
- Christina LiCalsi Labelle, Human Development and Social Policy
- Constance Lindsay, Human Development and Social Policy
- Brandy Lipton, Economics
- Chelsea McKinney, Human Development and Social Policy
- Emily Mendenhall, Medical Anthropology
- Molly Metzger, Human Development and Social Policy
- Michelle Naffziger, Sociology
- Cassidy Puckett, Sociology
- James Pustejovsky, Statistics
- Katie Rotella, Psychology
- Clarissa Simon, Human Development and Social Policy
- Jennifer Stephan, Human Development and Social Policy
- Lindsay Till, Human Development and Social Policy
- Beth Tipton, Statistics
- Gregory Veramendi, Economics
- Vivian Wong, Human Development and Social Policy
- Michelle Yin, Visiting Graduate Student, University of Florida
- Kai Zeng, Political Science

■ **Summer Undergraduate Research Assistants**

- Kanchi Batra, Biological Sciences
- Stephan Bilharz, Economics/Mathematics
- Matthew Boucher, Political Science
- Manoj Budidha, Learning and Organizational Change
- Evelyn Carter, Psychology/Pre-Med
- Pei Chen, Learning and Organizational Change
- Jonathan Eng, Economics/Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences
- Michael Garson, Political Science
- Joel Haney, Economics/Political Science
- Lilia Hargis, English/International Studies
- Matt Johnson, Mathematics/Statistics
- Jeffrey Konowitch, Political Science/Theatre
- Mac LeBuhn, Political Science/Philosophy
- Faith McAuliffe, Social Policy
- Miles McGinley, Economics/Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences
- Georgia McKay, Art History
- Samantha O'Connell, Music Performance/Psychology
- Rachel Park, Economics/International Studies
- Francisca Rebelo, Political Science/Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences
- Jared Salisbury, Psychology/Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences
- Nandita Seshadri, Cognitive Science/Radio, Television, and Film
- Caitlin Sherman, Psychology
- Rae Shih, Social Policy/Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences
- Lauren Troy, Human Development and Psychological Services
- Zavia Wang, Economics/Mathematics

IPR graduate research assistants **Aryeh Jacobsohn** and **Lindsay Till** catch up after an IPR colloquium.



P. Reese

■ Foundations and Organizations

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Educare Post-Secondary Education Project,
Lindsay Chase Lansdale
The Effects of Disadvantaged Neighborhoods on the
Life Chances of Low-Income Families, Greg Duncan

Buffett Early Childhood Fund

National Forum on the Science of Early Childhood
Program Evaluation, Greg Duncan

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Planning a Network on Housing for Families with
Children, Thomas D. Cook
The Effects of Housing Vouchers on Long-Term Health
Outcomes, Thomas McDade
The Long-Term Effects of Neighborhoods on Low-
Income Youth (with Biomarker Supplement),
Greg Duncan



Thomas Cook (r.) and his quasi-experimentation research group: (from l.) **Peter Steiner**, **Manye Wong**, **Valerie Lyne**, and **Vivian Wong**.

Joyce Foundation

Criminality and Welfare Reform: A Descriptive
Analysis, Dan Lewis

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Health, Hardship, and Renewal: Economic Survival
Strategies Among Women Living with HIV,
Celeste Watkins-Hayes
Continuing Analysis of CeaseFire-Chicago,
Wesley G. Skogan
Race Consciousness in Biomedicine, Law, and Social
Policy, Dorothy Roberts

Smith Richardson Foundation

The Effects of School and Neighborhood Socioeconomic
Mix on Long-Term Youth Outcomes, Greg Duncan

Spencer Foundation

Comparative Analysis of the Community Effects of
Promise Programs, Lincoln Quillian
High School Procedures for Creating College-For-All,
James Rosenbaum

William T. Grant Foundation

Propensity Scores in Practice: How to Successfully
Conduct a Propensity Score Analysis, Peter Steiner

■ Government Agencies

National Institutes of Health

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Modeling the Developmental Origins of Adult Risk
Factors, Christopher Kuzawa
C2S: The Center on Social Disparities and Health,
Lindsay Chase-Lansdale
Community Child Health Network—Lake County, Ill.,
Emma Adam, and Minority Supplement for Graduate
Research Assistant, Chelsea McKinney (Adviser:
Lindsay Chase-Lansdale)
Environmental and Biological Variation and Language
Growth, Larry Hedges
Social Influences on Early Adult Stress Biomarkers,
Thomas McDade and Emma Adam
National Research Service Award in Support of Racial
Socialization, Interracial Contact, and Students’
Stress Development, Lindsay Chase-Lansdale

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

Obesity Development and CVD Risk-Factor
Clustering in Filipino Women and Offspring,
Christopher Kuzawa

National Institute on Aging

Behavior on Surveys and in the Economy Using
the Health and Retirement Study—Probabilistic
Thinking and Economic Behavior, Charles F. Manski
Respondent Tendencies for Nonresponse and Response
Error, Charles F. Manski

National Science Foundation

Tax Progressivity and American Political Economy
(CAREER Award), Monica Prasad
Resource Attainment and Social Context in Negotiating
Illness Among Marginalized Populations (CAREER
Award), Celeste Watkins-Hayes
Chicago Research Data Center: Louisiana State
University Project, Bruce Spencer
The Costs of Covering: Psychological and Physiological
Implications of Managing a Stigmatized Identity,
Jennifer Richeson

Fostering Positive Interracial Interactions, Jennifer
Richeson
Center for Advancing Research and Communication in
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
(ARC), Larry Hedges
Generalizability Research with Scaling Up SimCalc
Data, Larry Hedges
Experimentation in Political Science, James Druckman
A Light Bulb Goes On: Values, Attitudes, Social
Norms, and Personal Energy Consumption
(Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science),
Toby Bolsen (Adviser: James Druckman)
Identification and Decision, Charles F. Manski
Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences
(TESS), Jeremy Freese
Fetal Growth and a Cue of Matrilineal Nutrition
History in the Philippines, Christopher Kuzawa

U.S. Department of Education

Does Postsecondary Advising Improve Student
Motivation and Progress in High School?
James Rosenbaum

Institute of Education Sciences

Representing and Combining the Results of
Randomized Experiments in Education,
Larry Hedges
Randomized Controlled Trials Training Institute,
Larry Hedges
Continued Development of the Society for Research
on Educational Effectiveness, Larry Hedges
Improving Best Quasi-Experimental Practice,
Thomas D. Cook and Larry Hedges
Effects of Disadvantaged Schools and Neighborhoods in
the Education of Low-Income Youth, Greg Duncan

U.S. Department of Justice

National Institute of Justice

National Police Research Platform, Wesley G. Skogan

IPR is devoted to the pursuit of excellence in interdisciplinary public policy research. To this end, one of its core missions entails the dissemination of faculty research and news to a broad constituency that includes students, academics, policymakers, and the public. The Institute accomplishes this task through:

- www.northwestern.edu/ipr
- newsletters and brochures
- reports and working papers
- policy briefings and conferences
- colloquia and lectures
- media coverage

Overview

IPR's website, www.northwestern.edu/ipr, is a rich source of information on the Institute's research areas, faculty research, findings, publications, faculty bios, affiliated centers, institutional news and events, working papers, reports, multimedia files, and contact information.

IPR has several methods for disseminating faculty research and information. The Institute produces the *Year in Review*, an annual overview of its activities and faculty research. The IPR newsletter, in its 31st year, covers the latest in faculty research and findings, recent events, and other news. In January 2009, IPR also launched an e-newsletter, which is sent out approximately 4–5 times per year.

Given that faculty research can sometimes take years before it appears in academic journals and books, the Institute seeks to disseminate research results in advanced stages by publishing a working paper series. Many of the working papers can be downloaded directly from IPR's website free of charge.

On Mondays at noon from September to June, IPR holds its weekly colloquium series. For an hour, invited speakers and IPR faculty talk about their latest research and answer questions. The colloquia are open to the public, and the schedule is posted on IPR's website.

IPR faculty also are frequently found at the podium sharing their expertise by delivering briefings and lectures to the public, academic organizations, and government bodies. In addition, faculty organize and speak at conferences throughout the year and around the world. Each year, IPR holds its Distinguished Public Policy Lecture. Past speakers have included Brookings scholar Ron Haskins, Harvard Kennedy School Dean David Ellwood, and Rebecca Blank, Under Secretary for Economic Affairs in the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Recognized as among the top researchers in their fields, IPR faculty are often called upon by national and international media organizations to share their expertise and insights. Links to media clips can be found on IPR's website.

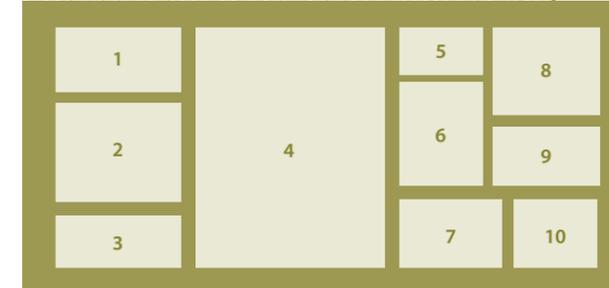
If you would like to be included on IPR's mailing list for publications and events and/or receive more information about the Institute's activities, please sign up at:

www.northwestern.edu/ipr/about/maillinglist.html



Some of the 13 titles published by IPR faculty in 2009.

Photos from IPR's 40th Anniversary



- (1) **Dolores Acevedo-Garcia**, a professor of health sciences at Northeastern University, answers a question about her research on racial disparities in childhood health, especially as they relate to urban poverty and pollution. IPR anthropologist **Christopher Kuzawa** also participated in the panel on social disparities and health, presenting his work on the developmental origins of race-based health disparities. (2) After his lecture on economic inequality and American democracy, **Larry Bartels** of Princeton (*center*) talks with Northwestern political scientists **Reuel Rogers** (*right*) and **Dennis Chong**, an IPR associate. (3) Three urban affairs experts discussed their research on concentrated poverty, housing, crime, and policing during the panel on inequality in the city: (*from left*) IPR associate director and political scientist **Wesley G. Skogan**; **John Mollenkopf**, director of the CUNY Center for Urban Research; and Harvard sociologist **Robert Sampson**. (4) IPR associate **Mary Pattillo**, a sociologist and African American studies professor, questions panelists on urban inequality and housing issues. (5) Sociologists **Larry Bobo** (*left*) of Harvard and **Ronald Angel** of the University of Texas at Austin share their research on how racial dynamics have changed in the United States since the 1960s. (6) IPR Director **Fay Lomax Cook** thanks a keynote speaker. (7) Retired law professor and IPR faculty emeritus **John Heinz** talks with political scientist and IPR associate **Traci Burch** after the Thursday keynote address. (8) Two former IPR fellows, (*from right*) University of Chicago sociologist **Charles Payne** and Yale economist

Joseph Altonji, participated in a panel on education inequality led by IPR education and social policy professor **James Rosenbaum**. Payne shared his work on community social capital, and Altonji discussed changes in U.S. skill distribution. (9) During the panel on gender inequality, moderated by (*from left*) IPR sociologist **Leslie McCall**, IPR psychologist **Alice Eagly**, Harvard political scientist **Jane Mansbridge**, and Stanford sociologist **Paula England** take questions from the audience. (10) In her keynote, **Rebecca Blank**, Under Secretary for Economic Affairs at the U.S. Department of Commerce and a former IPR fellow, provided evidence that increased inequality in earnings among workers has been the largest contributing factor to growing economic inequality in the United States. (*Conference photos by Patricia Reese and Jim Ziv*)

- (1) IPR's five directors—(*from left*) **Raymond Mack**, **Burton Weisbrod**, **Louis Masotti**, current director **Fay Lomax Cook**, and **Margaret Gordon**—reunite at the 40th anniversary celebration dinner. (*J. Ziv*) (2) IPR law professor **Dorothy Roberts** discusses her research on racial disproportionality in child welfare systems as part of the panel discussion on race and inequality that she moderated during IPR's 40th anniversary conference. (*J. Ziv*) (3) IPR sociologist **Jeremy Freese** introduces communications studies researcher and IPR associate Eszter Hargittai at her IPR colloquium examining the Web Use Project (*P. Reese*) (4) **James Bray**, then-president of the American Psychological Association, presents IPR social psychologist **Jennifer Richeson** with the early career award for distinguished contributions in the field of social psychology. (*Grant W. Martin Photography*) (5) IPR education economist **David Figlio** moderates a panel on education inequalities. (*P. Reese*)



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