



Institute for Policy Research

Northwestern University ■ Year in Review 2010



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



Institute for Policy Research
Northwestern University
2040 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60208-4100
T: 847-491-3395
Visit us online at:
www.northwestern.edu/ipr
[www.twitter.com/ipratnu](https://twitter.com/ipratnu)
www.facebook.com/ipratnu



“ 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. ”

About the cover photos:

Top: IPR fellows David Figlio and Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach prepare their remarks for an IPR policy research briefing on Capitol Hill. Left: Austan Goolsbee, one of President Obama's top economic advisers, points to how his training as an academic proved invaluable in addressing the nation's financial crisis. Middle: IPR Director Fay Lomax Cook (r.) welcomes four of IPR's six new faculty fellows (see pp. 6–7). Right: Former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher discusses inequities in healthcare with sociologist and IPR associate Mary Pattillo. Photo credits: LK Photos (top), A. Malkani (left), and P. Reese (middle and right).

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Message from the Director

J. Zhu



Fay Lomax Cook

The Institute for Policy Research (IPR) continues to serve as a catalyst for interdisciplinary dialogue, education, and research on important social problems and policy issues at Northwestern and beyond. The past year was a good example of the multiple ways in which we do that:

We recruit superb faculty. This past fall, six new faculty fellows joined us—three economists, two sociologists, and one mass communication scholar. Their impact is already being felt in their contributions to our research portfolio and in their participation in IPR’s scholarly community, including its colloquia.

We choose important and relevant issues to study.

IPR faculty are examining why income inequality persists, what works in reducing crime, what Americans think about energy policies, how to

identify and measure prejudice and bias, and how to improve outcomes for children, young adults, and low-income parents through education and housing, to name only a few research projects. We are particularly excited about the team of researchers in our Cells to Society Center (C2S) who are investigating how socioeconomic status, social relationships, and neighborhood quality affect health by collecting and studying biomarkers of health in several major national and international studies. And we’re proud that IPR is housing one of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation interdisciplinary networks, drawing top scholars from across the nation to study the potential impact of affordable housing on outcomes for families and children.

We employ the best available methods to conduct our research. We have become a hub where researchers from across the United States come to receive training on best practices in research methods. In summer 2010, IPR hosted four national methodological workshops, drawing 180 researchers to campus to learn how to set up and gather biomarkers of health in the field; ways to conduct and analyze quasi-experiments; and how to design, implement, and evaluate randomized cluster trials in education.

We serve as a locus for sharing interdisciplinary dialogue and nonpartisan, policy-relevant research.

We held more than 40 colloquia in 2010 in our regular Monday series as well as in our series on performance measurement, on quantitative methods, and on labor and education policy. We also organized policy research briefings on Capitol Hill and in Chicago on what research says about improving No Child Left Behind. In addition, we brought high-level policymakers to campus to speak—including Austan Goolsbee, chair of President Obama’s Council of Economic Advisers, and Dr. David Satcher, U.S. Surgeon General from 1998 to 2002, joint with the Feinberg School of Medicine’s Program in Public Health.

We provide educational experiences to postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and undergraduates. IPR's Q-Center continues to train postdoctoral fellows, with support from the Institute of Education Sciences, and aims to produce a new generation of education researchers well-equipped to apply cutting-edge quantitative tools to address the pressing challenges of the American education system. IPR's Graduate Research Assistants Program, now in its 42nd year, supports graduate students as they work with IPR faculty on their research. Our Summer Undergraduate Research Assistants Program, which celebrated its 13th year in 2010, was also one of the first programs on campus to offer undergraduate students a unique, real-world experience in how to conceptualize and carry out policy-relevant, social science research.

We share our expertise broadly. In addition to publishing their research in journals and books, IPR faculty serve as editors and on the editorial boards of some of the leading journals in their respective fields. IPR faculty also share their expertise by serving on a variety of boards, national committees, governmental bodies, and foundations such as the Russell Sage Foundation, Foundation for Child Development, General Social Survey, National Science Foundation, National Research Council, and the U.S. Department of Education, among others. And our faculty frequently engage in cross-school and interuniversity collaboration. They are currently collaborating with the Initiative for Sustainability and Energy at Northwestern on Americans' opinions about new energy technologies and policy; co-organizing workshops on urban issues with Sciences Po, a university in Paris; and working with Fundação Getúlio Vargas, a university in Brazil, to develop new policy-relevant research and programs.

We are committed to and enthusiastic about the work that we do. In the year to come, we look forward to continuing to strengthen our interdisciplinary faculty, promote the highest quality of policy-relevant research, advance the development of our centers and program areas, work successfully with graduate and undergraduate students, and improve dissemination of our research findings. I invite you to learn more about our activities over the past year and about how we carry out our mission in the pages that follow.



Fay Lomax Cook
Professor, Human Development and Social Policy
Director, Institute for Policy Research
Northwestern University

IPR Mission and Snapshot

“ 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. ”

- 38 Faculty Fellows
- 69 Faculty Associates
- 10 Postdoctoral Fellows
- 30 Graduate Research Assistants
- 21 Undergraduate Research Assistants
- 64 Active Grants in 2010

Highlights of 2010

New Faculty Fellows

IPR welcomed six new faculty fellows in 2010, bringing new economic, educational, developmental, and sociological expertise to the Institute. Economists **Jonathan Guryan** and **Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach** came from the University of Chicago, economist **Kirabo Jackson** from Cornell, and sociologists **Anthony Chen** from the University of Michigan and **Christine Percheski** from a Robert Wood Johnson health fellowship at Harvard. Mass media researcher **Rachel Davis Mersey** has been at Northwestern's Medill School since 2008. (See pp. 6–7.)

Prominent Policymakers Discuss Economic Crisis and Health Disparities

More than 250 people turned out to IPR's Distinguished Public Policy Lecture to hear what **Austan Goolsbee**, one of President Obama's top economic advisers, had to say about finding and using data to deal with the nation's worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. **Dr. David Satcher**, Surgeon General under President Bill Clinton, spoke about his work to end disparities in health to an audience of more than 300 people at a talk co-sponsored by IPR's Cells to Society Center.



Dr. David Satcher met with IPR faculty, including Mary Pattillo (l.) and Dorothy Roberts, before giving the 2010 Hollister Lecture at Feinberg.

D.C. Briefing Takes Up No Child Left Behind

Three IPR fellows discussed what lawmakers should consider when they retool No Child Left Behind (NCLB) to an audience of Capitol Hill staffers, government officials, researchers, and advocates. Social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook** presented one of the most scientifically rigorous studies to date to show that NCLB has indeed

raised standardized test scores in public schools since 2002. Economist **Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach** presented evidence showing that NCLB appears to have made some of the lowest-achieving students worse off. And education economist **David Figlio** enumerated some of the unintended, and sometimes unfortunate, consequences of the law, such as gaming tests and depressing housing prices. (See p. 27.)

Four National Methodological Workshops

For a third year, IPR faculty held four methodological workshops that drew 180 researchers from across the nation—one on biomarkers of health, two on quasi-experimental research design and analysis, and a fourth on cluster randomization. Thirty researchers attended the intensive two-week, hands-on training session on the design, implementation, and analysis of randomized cluster trials, led by methodological expert **Larry Hedges**. Social psychologist

Thomas D. Cook led two weeklong workshops for 120 researchers to improve the quality of quasi-experiments—needed when random assignment is not possible or breaks down in the classroom setting. Developmental psychobiologist **Emma Adam** and biological anthropologists **Thomas McDade** and **Christopher Kuzawa** led a three-day workshop on best practices for integrating minimally invasive biomarkers of

stress and health into social science research for 36 researchers and academics. (See pp. 24 and 48–49.)

French/U.S. Workshop on “City and Schools”

IPR faculty continue to deepen collaboration with Sciences Po, one of France's most influential social science universities, and in particular, one of its major research institutes,

Observatoire Sociologique de Changement (OSC). Fifteen IPR faculty and Northwestern graduate students traveled to Paris in summer 2010 to participate in a two-day workshop, July 1–2, “City and Schools,” organized by IPR sociologist **Lincoln Quillian** and IPR education economist **David Figlio**, with OSC’s Marco Oberti. Due to the success of this workshop, a second one is planned for summer 2011 at Northwestern. (See pp. 56–57.)

Workshop Dissects Aspects of 2008 Election

The 2010 Chicago Area Political and Social Behavior Workshop took an in-depth look at the watershed 2008 election year. **John Zaller** of UCLA spoke on the “problem of ideology.” **Barry Burden** of the University of Wisconsin–Madison discussed public opinion and election reform. **Caroline Tolbert** of the University of Iowa examined how voting laws affect voter turnout, and IPR associate **Traci Burch** looked at how incarceration rates affect communities and voter turnout. Three prominent political scientists—Zaller, **Doris Graber**, and IPR associate **Benjamin Page**—also discussed the inspiration and key contributions of their seminal works. The annual workshop is organized by IPR political scientist **James Druckman** and co-sponsored by IPR. (See p. 39.)

Colloquia

IPR held more than 40 colloquia during the year in its regular Monday series and its four subseries on performance measurement, quantitative methods, social disparities and health, and labor and education policy. Speakers addressed a wide array of topics, such as a healthcare SEC by **Regina Herzlinger** of Harvard, the rich/poor achievement gap by **Sean Reardon** of Stanford, research design and causal inference by **Stephen West** of Arizona State, and probabilistic polling in the 2008 election by IPR economist **Charles F. Manski**. (See pp. 75–77.)

Student Research and Policy Engagement

Research is a dynamic process, and IPR’s Summer Undergraduate Research Assistants Program initiates

undergraduates into a world of models, statistical programming, and raw data. Between May and August, 21 Northwestern students worked with 17 faculty members on a wide variety of projects, including ones examining campaign websites, distributed leadership in schools, and beliefs about opportunity and inequality. IPR education researcher **James Rosenbaum** directs the program, which marked its 13th year in 2010.

IPR also supports two undergraduate-led initiatives: the Roosevelt Institute and the Undergraduate Lecture Series on Race, Poverty, and Inequality. The lecture series held two events over the year on community organizing and human rights in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The Roosevelt Institute organized events examining policy on capital punishment, affordable housing, and excellence in Chicago public schools, among others.

Major Faculty Awards

Two IPR faculty members were inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences: Northwestern University President **Morton Schapiro**, an education economist, and sociologist and legal scholar **John Hagan**. Sociologist **Anthony Chen**’s book, *The Fifth Freedom: Jobs, Politics, and Civil Rights in the United States, 1941–1972*, won three awards. Political scientist **James Druckman** had two of his papers recognized as outstanding. (See more faculty awards and honors on pp. 60–63.)

Seed Grants Support Policy-Relevant Research Projects

IPR seed grants provide support for innovative, multidisciplinary projects on a small scale, expanding their capacity to eventually attract additional funds and support. So far the Institute has awarded six grants, including ones to examine the Chicago Housing Authority’s Plan for Transformation, to use empirical research to protect juvenile due process rights, and to improve a dual-generation, postsecondary education and training intervention for low-income mothers and their children.



James Rosenbaum (front center) and IPR Director Fay Lomax Cook (back left) meet with IPR summer undergraduate research assistants.

New Faculty Fellows 2010–11



D. Dry

Jonathan Guryan

Associate Professor of Human Development and Social Policy; PhD, Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2000

Economist Jonathan Guryan's work spans various topics related to labor markets, education policy, and social interaction. His research interests include the causes and consequences of racial inequality, the racial achievement gap, the labor market for teachers, social interactions in the workplace, occupational licensure, youth violence, and lottery gambling. He also studies race and discrimination in the labor market and in education. In recent projects, he has investigated the extent to which racial prejudice contributes to racial gaps in pay and the long-term effects of early life access to healthcare on the black-white test score gap. Guryan is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a research consultant for the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and an associate editor of *Labour Economics*. In 2009, he received the John T. Dunlop Scholar Award from the Labor and Employment Relations Association. Prior to Northwestern and IPR, he was on the faculty of the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business.



LK Photos

Diane W. Schanzenbach

Associate Professor of Human Development and Social Policy; PhD, Economics, Princeton University, 2002

Economist Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach studies education policy, child health, and food consumption. Her recent work has focused on the impact of the social safety net, especially on children. She has investigated changes in student performance and other outcomes resulting from classroom composition and class size, small-school and charter-school reform policies, and school accountability policies, such as the federal No Child Left Behind Act. In an innovative new study, she and her colleagues are examining the life paths of almost 12,000 children who were randomly assigned to kindergarten classrooms in the 1980s as part of the Tennessee Project STAR experiment. Schanzenbach is a faculty research fellow at NBER and a visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. From 2002 to 2004, she was a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research at the University of California, Berkeley. Before arriving at Northwestern and IPR, she was a faculty member at the University of Chicago's Harris School.



J. Ziv

Anthony S. Chen

Associate Professor of Sociology PhD, Sociology, University of California, Berkeley, 2002

A political and historical sociologist, Anthony Chen is interested in the political development of U.S. public policy since the New Deal, with a special focus on the politics of social policy, civil rights, healthcare, and economic regulation. His first book, *The Fifth Freedom: Jobs, Politics, and Civil Rights in the United States, 1941–1972* (Princeton, 2009), chronicles the forgotten origins of race-based affirmative action, tracing the advent of such policies to the partisan politics of “fair employment practices” in the 1940s. It received three awards in 2010 (see the related mention, p. 60). He is now studying the origins and development of affirmative action in college admissions. Chen was a visiting scholar at the American Bar Foundation in Chicago in 2008. From 2005 to 2007, he was a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research at the University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco. He was a faculty member in sociology and the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan before joining Northwestern and IPR.



Courtesy of K. Jackson

Kirabo Jackson

Assistant Professor of Human Development and Social Policy; PhD, Economics, Harvard University, 2007

A labor economist, Kirabo Jackson studies education and social policy issues. His recent work analyzes the role of peer learning in teacher effectiveness and how student demographics directly affect the distribution of teacher quality across schools. He is also involved in a number of projects to understand when and why certain policies that reward teachers—or students—for student achievement improve student outcomes. Another research project examines the role of teacher-school “match quality” and its effects on student achievement. Preliminary findings show that how well a teacher fits with a certain school can be as important as teacher quality for some outcomes. Other projects look at the effect of single-sex schooling on student outcomes and investigate how much of the benefits in attending a high-achievement school are directly due to the fact that such schools also provide high-quality peers. A faculty research fellow at NBER, Jackson comes to Northwestern and IPR from Cornell University, where he was an assistant professor.



P. Reese

Christine Percheski

Assistant Professor of Sociology PhD, Sociology, Princeton University, 2008

Social demographer Christine Percheski is interested in family demography, social inequality, and health policy. She studies the interplay between family characteristics, income inequality, and employment, with a particular focus on American women and families with children. She has investigated whether becoming a father affects employment differently for married and unmarried men, as well as how employment patterns of new mothers vary by their partner status. In another project, she examined how the “child penalty” on women’s employment has changed across birth cohorts of professional women. She is currently working on a project to examine how complex family structures, children’s health insurance coverage, and healthcare use are linked, in addition to a project on changing patterns of income inequality among American women. Before starting at Northwestern and IPR, Percheski was a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research for two years at Harvard University.



J. H. Mersey

Rachel Davis Mersey

Assistant Professor of Journalism PhD, Mass Communication, University of North Carolina, 2007

Rachel Davis Mersey’s work centers on publications’ relationships with their audiences. She employs both quantitative and qualitative methods in analyzing audience identities, as well as journalism’s impact on sense of community, civic participation, and social capital. Her recent book, *Can Journalism Be Saved? Rediscovering America’s Appetite for News* (Praeger, 2010), presents a new theoretical framework—the identity-based model of journalism—for understanding individuals’ connections to media. She is also working with Dan Sullivan of the University of Minnesota to create a valid and reliable measure of the diversity of voices in the public sphere in the wake of the Federal Communications Commission’s decision to allow cross-ownership of newspapers and television stations in some markets. Mersey joined the faculty of the Medill School at Northwestern in 2008 and previously was an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities. She was also a features writer at *The Arizona Republic*.

Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies



Molly Metzger and Thomas McDade consider social policies that promote child health for better adult outcomes.

Research Topics:

- welfare institutions and welfare reform
- food stamps and outcomes
- obesity crisis and its effects
- health and outcomes of children and adolescents
- early childhood programs and behavior

Breastfeeding and Obesity

A study on breastfeeding by IPR anthropologist **Thomas McDade** and IPR graduate research assistant **Molly Metzger** shows that breastfed babies are on average 14 pounds lighter in adolescence when compared with their formula-fed siblings. The researchers studied 488 sibling pairs. The findings, published in the *American Journal of Human Biology* show that in addition to the significant weight difference between children who were breastfed and those who were not, breastfeeding significantly reduced chances of becoming obese as a teen. This confirms breastfeeding as a highly effective tool to help curb the nation's childhood

obesity epidemic and holds important policy implications for programs, such as the federally funded Women, Infants, and Children program, that involve obesity prevention, child nutrition, and lactation support for new mothers.

Food Packaging, Regulation, and Obesity

The nation's obesity crisis has led to increased scrutiny of the packaging, labeling, and marketing of food and beverage products. In particular, much attention has turned to the use of front-of-package (FOP) labeling systems, used to summarize and highlight a product's key nutritional aspects. Communication studies researcher and IPR associate **Ellen Wartella** is chair of a joint committee by the Institute of Medicine, Centers for Disease Control, and Food and Drug Administration to review current trends in FOP labeling and suggest improvements for the future.

Currently, there are a number of different FOP systems and symbols developed by food manufacturers, retailers, and health organizations. Little evidence has been gathered about which, if any, actually help consumers make healthier food choices. In its first phase, the committee addressed the goal of FOP labeling from a public health standpoint, identifying the information most important for consumers and comparing the advantages and disadvantages of various approaches. To be most effective, the committee finds, FOP labeling should appeal to a general audience and always prominently display serving size and total calories. In addition, FOP labeling should focus on the nutritional elements most strongly linked to U.S. health concerns—specifically, number of calories, saturated fat, trans fat, and sodium—rather than trying to provide a summary health rating or food group information. Wartella is Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani Professor of Communication.

Food Stamps and Buying Habits

IPR economist **Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach** is investigating the impact of food stamps on family food consumption. Her recent study with Hilary Hoynes of the University of California, Davis, shows that introduction of the food stamp program led households to increase their overall food spending while simultaneously decreasing out-of-pocket food spending. These findings are more robust than those of past studies, which compared participating and nonparticipating households within the pool of all available households. Since a family's decision to opt into the program could be a significant confounding factor, Schanzenbach and

About the Program



**Dorothy Roberts,
Chair**

This interdisciplinary 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. 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 programs on Poverty, Race, and Inequality; Social Disparities and Health; and Education Policy (see pp. 12–34)—particularly in studying the impact of public policies on America's poor.

Hoynes take a different approach, using data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics to examine how families changed their food buying habits after the program was originally introduced in their county—a change that took place at different times between 1963 and 1975. The researchers find that not only did participating families sharply increase their food spending when the program was introduced—by a monthly amount between \$17 and \$47—but those families within the sample that had been spending relatively less increased their food spending by relatively more. These results, published in the *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, are consistent with theoretical predictions about how consumers respond to cash and in-kind transfers.

Food Stamps and Health Outcomes

Although improving nutrition among America's poor is the program's main goal, most research on food stamps has been unable to establish a strong causal link to improved health outcomes. Thus, **Schanzenbach**, Hoynes, and Douglas Almond of Columbia University have undertaken a related project that links the program's introduction to county-by-county data on gestation, birth weights, and neonatal infant mortality. They find that food stamps led to a decrease in infant mortality and improvements in birth weights in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The impact on birth weights

was especially strong among the lowest birth-weight babies—a weight increase of 7 percent for whites and between 5 and 11 percent for blacks. Overall, food stamp benefits—which average just \$200 per household per month—seem to significantly improve newborn health in poor families. The findings were published in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

Rethinking Welfare Reform Analysis

In *Gaining Ground in Illinois: Welfare Reform and Person-Centered Policy Analysis* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2010), IPR social policy professor **Dan Lewis** summarizes data from the Illinois Families Study (IFS), a statewide consortium on welfare reform receipt that he led. 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 welfare. Thus, 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, better educational outcomes for children, and improvement in the families' mental health—did not, for the most part, materialize (see p. 64).

Effects of Parental Incarceration and Family Instability on Children

What difference does it make for a child to have a parent in prison during a key developmental period? Sociologist and legal scholar **John Hagan**, an IPR associate, is working with Holly Foster of Texas A&M on a study of parental incarceration, which affects 10 to 20 percent of elementary school children in the United States. Using data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health for

2,000 children of incarcerated fathers, Hagan and Foster are tracing the impact of parental imprisonment into mid-adolescence and early adulthood. One preliminary finding is that having an imprisoned father and also attending a school where many other children have fathers in prison can lower college completion rates from 40 to 10 percent. Hagan is John D. MacArthur Professor of Sociology and Law.

In another study of 1,300 youth using data from the Great Smoky Mountains Study of Youth, Hagan, Foster, and their co-authors find that family stability is more important than family structure, i.e. living in a single-parent household, in assessing a child's likelihood to engage in antisocial or illegal conduct. They also show that the amount of time a child remains poverty-stricken can affect whether that child is more likely to engage in risky behavior. The findings were published in the journal *Deviant Behavior*.

Juvenile Delinquency and Noncognitive Skills

Each year, between 300,000 and 600,000 youth spend time in juvenile detention facilities around the nation, with a disproportionate number being low-income and minority youth. IPR economist **Jonathan Guryan** and Jens Ludwig of the University of Chicago have undertaken a new project to examine the underlying problems that cause youth to become involved with delinquency and violence. Previous research indicates that deficits in noncognitive skills—such as self-regulation, impulse control, social information processing, and moral reasoning—might account for involvement with, and relapses into, delinquency.

Using a randomized experimental design, Guryan and Ludwig have begun collecting data on all the approximately 4,000 males, most of whom are Latino or African American, entering a county juvenile detention system over a 14-month period. These youth have been randomly assigned to either a typical residential center or one providing a cognitive behavioral therapy intervention to promote noncognitive skill development.

Northwestern Juvenile Project

Behavioral scientist and IPR associate **Linda Teplin** leads the Northwestern Juvenile Project, the nation's largest epidemiological study of the mental 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

P. Reese



John Hagan studies how imprisoning parents affects their children's education.

trajectories. Teplin and her colleagues are now focusing on health disparities, especially in HIV/AIDS, mortality, and other health outcomes. To reflect their new focus, the university has renamed the program “Health Disparities and Public Policy.”

Currently, the researchers are examining data on death rates. As of January 2011, 104 youth from the original sample had died, with 67 of them losing their lives to a bullet. That makes the death rate for youth in the study four times higher than the death rate for 15- to 19-year-olds in the general population. The data also reveal large racial and gender disparities, with African American and Hispanic males most at risk. The researchers are now expanding their analyses to examine how substance use, involvement in gangs, and the drug economy affect the likelihood of early violent death. They are addressing a significant omission in the empirical literature because most studies of mortality rely on records from medical examiners’ offices; however, death certificates do not contain information on behavior. Preliminary analyses show that youth who are involved in the drug economy are nearly five times more likely to die before they reach the age of 25.

The Racial Geography of Child Welfare

IPR law professor **Dorothy Roberts** continues her work on the “racial geography” of child welfare. Her research examines why, on average, black children are four times more likely than white children to be in foster care. She spoke about her research at a June 21 keynote talk in Portland, Oreg., to child welfare policymakers and practitioners from across the state. The conference was sponsored by many groups and governmental organizations, including the Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Commission on Children and Families, and the Governor’s Child Welfare Equity Task Force. Roberts is Kirkland & Ellis Professor.

High-Quality Preschools and Better Behavior

IPR developmental psychologist **Lindsay Chase-Lansdale** and her colleagues published a study in the journal *Child Development* that focuses on the longer-term effects of early childcare. Findings indicate that children enrolled in high-quality preschool programs tend to exhibit fewer behavioral problems in middle childhood (ages 7 to 11). Boys and African American children seemed especially likely to benefit from higher quality programs in early childhood.

The study was co-authored by Elizabeth Votruba-Drzal of the University of Pittsburgh, Rebekah Levine Coley of Boston College, Carolina Maldonado-Carreño of the Universidad de Los Andes, and Christine Li-Grining of Loyola University Chicago. It uses longitudinal data from Welfare, Children, and Families: A Three-City Study, a study of 2,400 low-income children and families in three major U.S. cities that Chase-Lansdale helped to lead. Votruba-Drzal and Li-Grining formerly worked with Chase-Lansdale as IPR graduate research assistants.

Family Health Insurance and Timely Care

One of the main goals of the recent healthcare reform law was to increase the number of insured Americans, including children. But insurance coverage, whether public or private, is not enough to ensure that children will receive timely, quality care, according to new findings by IPR social demographer

Christine Percheski.

Using data from the National Health Interview Survey and the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Percheski and Sharon Bzostek of Harvard are the first to link national data on health insurance coverage and medical care utilization among siblings.



Christine Percheski studies how family dynamics affect income and healthcare.

P. Reese

Though siblings in most American families are covered by a single plan, complex insurance arrangements are common among the rising numbers of children growing up in stepfamilies. The difficulties that parents face in navigating multiple healthcare bureaucracies often lead to a decrease in preventive care, as well as an increase in emergency room visits. Because emergency care is so much more expensive than regular doctors visits, multiple insurance plans within the same family could be contributing to a rise in overall medical costs for public and private health insurance programs.

Poverty, Race, and Inequality



Traci Burch shares data from her original study on the spillover effects of mass incarceration for voter turnout rates.

Research Topics:

- housing and residential mobility
- poverty and income inequality
- class dynamics and social mobility
- affirmative action and college admissions
- race, interracial relations, and prejudice

Spillover Effects of Incarceration

Of all voting-age citizens in the United States, 13 percent of black men and 6 percent of Latinos are unable to vote due to felon disenfranchisement laws. New research by political scientist and IPR associate **Traci Burch** is uncovering additional “spillover” effects of incarceration for voting in prisoners’ home neighborhoods. Burch matched neighborhoods in Charlotte, N.C., and Atlanta in the 2008 election and compared those where at least one resident was sent to prison before the election versus after.

Her preliminary analyses suggest that imprisoning neighborhood residents has at least some impact on voter turnout. In some cases, one incarceration can lead to the loss of as many as 11 votes in the community. One important implication is that the quality of democracy suffers in such cases because politicians tend to look where the votes are, possibly ignoring neighborhoods where large numbers of residents are moving in and out of prison.

How Housing Matters for Families and Children

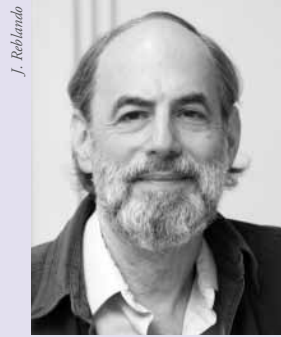
With a major grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, IPR social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook** is leading an interdisciplinary team of social scientists in carrying out a longitudinal study of how housing matters for families and children. The new housing and families network is 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 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 housing voucher 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?

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—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.

Race, Class, and "Choice" Policies

"Choice" has become a buzz word across the policy spectrum, especially in debates about housing, schools, and healthcare. In ongoing work, **Pattillo** questions the assumptions, ideology, and philosophy that undergirds

About the Program



James Rosenbaum,
Chair

In the program on Race, Poverty, and Inequality, 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. 8–11) and Urban Policy and Community Development (see pp. 56–59).

choice in the policy arena and presents data from two small qualitative studies—one on parents choosing high schools for their children and the other on individuals using a Housing Choice Voucher (formerly called a Section 8) to search for an apartment. Preliminary results suggest that many on the receiving end of these policies are not even aware they have a choice and that there are socioeconomic differences in who chooses. In addition, these studies reveal a misalignment between what policymakers and the targets of these policies deem important.

Social Mobility in the United States and Europe

From colonial times to the present, Americans have persisted in their vision of the United States as the land of opportunity—offering extraordinary opportunities for geographic, occupational, and financial mobility, both within and across generations. In a new study, economist and IPR associate **Joseph Ferrie** assesses the empirical basis for this belief in American exceptionalism. He uses historical census data on individuals and families in the United States from 1850 to 1930 to compare their mobility experiences both with their contemporaries in Europe and with Americans later in the 20th century.

These comparisons reveal that, in the past, the United States was indeed unique in its high levels of social mobility, as compared with the industrial economies of

Great Britain and France. However, U.S. mobility has fallen sharply since the 19th century, consistent with a decline in the U.S. advantage in education and a decline in the returns to internal migration—as city and regional growth rates have converged. Based on previous work, Ferrie also concludes that Americans’ lingering perceptions of mobility might account for their unique policy preferences—in particular, their tolerance for high levels of inequality and lack of support for taxation and government redistribution programs.

Affirmative Action in College Admissions

IPR sociologist **Anthony Chen** takes an interdisciplinary approach to examining the history and development of affirmative action and policies in America. Chen’s newest book project, with Lisa Stulberg of New York University,



Taylor Dark presents Anthony Chen with the American Political Science Association's Gladys M. Kammerer award for his book *The Fifth Freedom*.

looks at the origins of race-based affirmative action in college admissions. In contrast to others—most of whom focus on the role of the courts—Chen and Stulberg place institutions of higher education at the center of their analysis. Based on archival research at more than a dozen schools, Chen and his colleague find that affirmative action actually arose in two waves. Inspired by nonviolent, civil rights protests in the South, administrators at Northern schools launched a first wave in the early 1960s. A second wave emerged in the late 1960s, primarily as a response to campus-based student protests in the North. These findings underscore the combined importance of collective mobilization, elite perceptions, and status-group struggle in understanding patterns of institutional change in higher education.

Chen’s previous book, *The Fifth Freedom: Jobs, Politics, and Civil Rights in the United States, 1941–1972* (Princeton University Press, 2009), garnered three book awards in 2010 from the American Political Science Association (see p. 60). It chronicles the forgotten origins of affirmative action, tracing the advent of such policies to the partisan politics of “fair employment practices” in the 1940s and 1950s.

Social Class and the College Experience

Social psychologists **Jennifer Richeson** and **Eli Finkel** have recently completed four studies that add to the literature on social stigma and its harmful effects on an individual’s cognitive resources. Working with former IPR postdoctoral fellow Sarah Johnson, currently at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the researchers observe that coming from a relatively lower-income background produces identity-based concerns about academic competency for students at an elite, private university. In turn, lower-income students experience self-regulatory depletion as a result of managing these concerns.

This work presents several unique contributions to theories underlying stigma and social group threat. First, it supports the theory that burdens of stigma are truly context-based: many participants who expressed sensitivity about their socioeconomic status actually hailed from middle-class families and—before entering the elite university setting—had not previously experienced class- or income-based feelings of anxiety. Second, it shows that these concerns are not dependent on an outwardly visible group identity, such as one’s racial group membership. Instead, the process of managing a stigmatized identity—even one that is virtually invisible to one’s peers—can be, in and of itself, a source of cognitive depletion.

Furthermore, the research findings carry practical implications for the use of higher education as a social equalizer. If class-based stigma serves as a perpetual drain on self-regulatory resources, then students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds attending elite colleges and universities will regularly have fewer cognitive resources available to contend with the various other challenges of college life, from class assignments to personal relationships. Richeson is Weinberg College Board of Visitors Research and Teaching Professor and an IPR fellow. Finkel is an associate professor of psychology and IPR associate. Their research appeared in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

Refugees' Networks and Job Prospects

IPR 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 also 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.

With an IPR seed grant, Beaman is extending her work on network dynamics with Andrew Dillon of the International Food Policy Research Institute. The researchers are using an experimental design to map the spread of agricultural knowledge through farmers' social networks in the West African nation of Mali. Farmers in randomly selected villages will receive calendars with information on compost practices for crops common in their area. Beaman and Dillon will then track diffusion of the calendars throughout neighboring villages and conduct follow-up interviews to see how well farmers spread the information.



Lori Beaman (back center) meets with women in a farming village in Mali.

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 encouraging Internet business use outside of urban areas. Greenstein is Elinor and H. Wendell Hobbs Professor of Management and Strategy in the Kellogg School of Management. Forman is at the Georgia Institute of Technology, and Goldfarb is

at the University of Toronto. The study is forthcoming in the *American Economic Review*.

Changing Race and Class Dynamics

IPR 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. Through decades of fieldwork, di Leonardo has mapped the public/media consciousness of the city and its residents—especially varied and changing visions of political-economic shifts and their effects on New Haveners’ quality of life.

Minority and Mainstream Media

Despite the overwhelming press and scholarly attention to President Obama’s racial identity, mainstream media coverage of the 2008 campaign rarely reported on the actual apprehensions of African American voters—or the far-reaching commentary and powerful organizing efforts

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**, an IPR associate, with Chris Forman and Avi Goldfarb suggests otherwise. The three researchers looked at the relationship between advanced commercial Internet use and variation in local wage growth in the United States between 1995 and 2000. They find that advanced Internet business use such

of black media. Working to fill this gap, **di Leonardo** has been studying the political influence and listenership of the top syndicated black radio show, the Tom Joyner Morning Show (TJMS). The weekday, drive-time show features music, humor, and news as well as political commentary and is a key go-to site for Democratic politicians. It is broadcast on 105 black radio stations and boasts 8 million airwave and online listeners nationwide.

Yet di Leonardo finds that TJMS receives much less coverage than many white conservative talk shows with much smaller audiences. The *New York Times*, for example, has covered Howard Stern, Don Imus, and Rush Limbaugh (before his television show) in hundreds of stories each, but has mentioned TJMS a scant 17 times in the show's entire 16-year history. She is investigating various causes for the show's "hidden-in-plain-sight" status, including its heavy corporate sponsorship—contradicting typical notions of "progressive" media—and its appeal to a middle-aged, working-class audience—as opposed to more "ghettoized" or "glamorized" depictions of African American life. This research is part of a larger project exploring the changing worlds of American minority media outlets and their connections to more mainstream media. (See the related IPR working paper, p. 74.)

Biases in Risk Perception

With Devah Pager of Princeton University, IPR sociologist **Lincoln 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 were published in *Social Psychology Quarterly*.

Interracial Relations, Prejudice, and Negative Stereotypes

In Northwestern's Social Perception & Communication Laboratory, **Richeson** leads a team of researchers in exploring how concerns about either being or appearing racially biased influence subtle aspects of cognition, emotion, and behavior. They use state-of-the-art tools such as brain scans with functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), in addition to standard psychological tools and practices, to examine 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.

Improving Diversity Science

In *Psychological Inquiry*, **Richeson** and graduate student

Destiny Peery urge researchers to take into account both beliefs on color blindness inherent in the law and recent research on "color consciousness" in social psychology to improve scientific study of diversity. Given the law's historical precedent in creating racial categories based on constructs such as the "one-drop rule," in which one drop of nonwhite blood makes the person nonwhite, they concur that researchers must consider social categories in their particular sociocultural, historical, and legal frameworks.

However, Richeson and Peery also point out that researchers need to understand emerging social science evidence on the psychological effects of the colorblind ideology. Some studies, including those

by Richeson's lab, reveal that instead of eliminating racial discrimination, colorblindness can serve to increase racial bias for dominant groups, i.e., whites. They cite similar findings from other studies, including one by law scholar and IPR associate **Lee Epstein** and her colleagues on the importance of considering gender in judicial decision making (see p. 45). Epstein is Henry Wade Rogers Professor in the School of Law.



Lee Epstein is at work on a book manuscript examining the role of race, gender, and other identity factors in judicial decision making.

Social Disparities and Health



Celeste Watkins-Hayes (center) is leading a first-of-its-kind study of how women from diverse racial and economic backgrounds cope with HIV/AIDS—medically, socially, and financially.

Research Topics:

- social disparities, stress, and health
- families, interpersonal relationships, and health
- lifecourse and intergenerational perspectives on health disparities
- biomarker development, usage, and analysis

Economic Strategies of Women with HIV/AIDS

IPR sociologist and African American studies researcher **Celeste Watkins-Hayes** is in the midst of collecting data for her project Health, Hardship, and Renewal: A Research Study of the Economic Strategies of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (www.hhrstrategies.org). Over two years, she and her team of researchers are following 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, social, and financial challenges of living with the disease. The project aims to fill some of the major holes in previous AIDS research, which has focused mostly on white gay men or on preventing the spread of infection.

About the Center

K. McElroy



Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Director

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. 8–16 and 27–34). Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, a developmental psychologist, is C2S's founding director.

Specifically, this groundbreaking, ethnographic study addresses the experiences of low-income women of color—who represent one of the fastest-growing population groups affected by the virus. It also explores the short- and long-term effects of the disease on their families. It is supported by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, along with a National Science Foundation CAREER award that Watkins-Hayes received in 2009. IPR postdoctoral fellow **Jean Beaman**, who previously worked on the Sister-to-Sister pilot study, is also collaborating on the project.

Changing Age Patterns in Motherhood

IPR social demographer **Christine Percheski** and her colleagues are examining the age at which women have their first child, starting with women around World War II (1936–45) to Generation Xers (1966–75). Like previous studies, they find a dual pattern: Some women start to have children in their late teens and early 20s, with others delaying until their early 30s. To understand what accounts for this pattern, the researchers are analyzing data from the National Survey of Family Growth and Vital Statistics.

Another project on American fertility by Percheski and Christopher Wildeman of Yale University shows that white, non-Hispanic women born between 1944 and

1964 were less likely to have a child out of wedlock before turning 30 if they went to religious services weekly and grew up with both parents. The researchers estimate that changes in childhood experiences account for 22 percent of the increase in nonmarital first births across these age cohorts, though religion was less significant for Generation Xers. The study was published in the *Journal of Marriage and Family*.

Bedtimes and Parents' Work Schedules

IPR developmental psychobiologist **Emma Adam**, IPR graduate research assistant **Cassandra Hart**, and Emily Snell of MDRC examined parental work schedules and time-diary data of 5- to 18-year-olds in the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, a nationally representative sample. In accounting for the differences in how long children get to sleep, the researchers find wake times, not bedtimes, matter. Thus, a child whose parent or primary caregiver starts work between 7 and 9 a.m. wakes up earlier and sleeps less overall than one whose primary caregiver does not work.

Most surprising perhaps was that those children with a stay-at-home parent slept as little as children whose parents or caregivers work full-time. The researchers tested whether this might be because stay-at-home mothers were prone to more depression than their employed peers, thus affecting their children's sleep routines, but they did not find this to be the case. The children who slept the most were those with a primary caregiver holding a part-time job, the study shows, no matter whether the child lived in a one- or two-parent household.

Preschool Misbehavior: Normative or Risk?

IPR clinical and developmental psychologist **Lauren Wakschlag** has directed 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 developed and 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) questionnaire in a demographically stratified sample of 3,700 preschoolers.

Smoking Experimentation: Can “Family Talk” Distinguish Youth at Risk?

Teen experimentation with smoking represents transient risk taking for some—and the start of a chronic habit for others. How can one distinguish between these two groups? In a study published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, **Wakschlag** and her colleagues test the Family Talk About Smoking (FTAS) paradigm on a sample of 344 teens with a history of smoking experimentation. FTAS is a 10-minute, semi-structured method that uses flip cards with conversational “triggers” to jumpstart discussions on smoking-related topics between parents who smoke and their teens who are experimenting with it. Researchers directly observe and then code the conversations. The researchers find that FTAS, with its novel use of direct observations, has predictive power above and beyond that of questionnaire reports. It shows promise as a supplemental tool to define individual patterns in family communication about smoking and to identify those teens most at risk for persistent smoking.

Measuring Patient-Reported Outcomes

IPR associate **David Cella**, professor and founding chair of medical social sciences, continues his investigation of quality of life measurements and medical outcomes research in clinical trials and practice. As principal investigator of an NIH Roadmap Initiative to build a Patient-Reported Outcome Measurement Information System (PROMIS),

he and a research team validated 11 item banks and their corresponding short forms for common patient-reported outcomes on a diverse sample of more than 21,000 people.

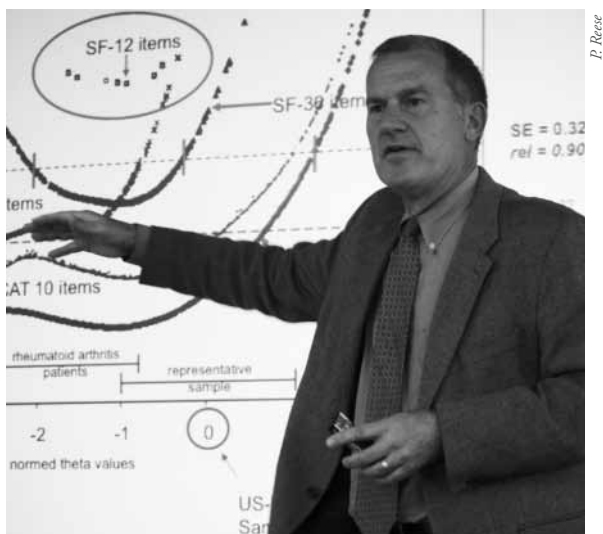
The researchers examined self-reported physical, mental, and social health, along with a 10-item Global Health Scale, finding them as reliable and precise as other well-validated and widely accepted “legacy” measures for evaluating new healthcare treatments. The findings were published in the *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*. Cella’s measurement research has been transforming opportunities nationally to include the patient perspective in determining the value of healthcare.

Guidelines for Assessing Heart Disease Risk

Preventive medicine professor and IPR associate **Philip Greenland** was chair of a joint task force that released the 2010 guidelines for assessing cardiovascular disease risk in adults. Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States, and it is estimated that eliminating it would increase life expectancy for Americans by 7 years. The experts proposed 23 guidelines based on reviews of studies between March 2008 and April 2010 to provide clinicians with an evidence-based approach to risk assessment. The American College of Cardiology Foundation and the American Heart Association released the report. Greenland is Harry W. Dingman Professor and senior associate dean for clinical and translational research in the Feinberg School of Medicine.

Exercise, Weight Gain, and Health

In a widely reported study of 3,554 men and women from the Coronary Artery Risk Development in Young Adults (CARDIA) study, epidemiologist and IPR associate **Mercedes Carnethon** and her colleagues—including lead author Arlene Hankison and Martha Daviglus, also in Feinberg—find that those who stay physically active as adults gain less weight as they age, especially women. The researchers tracked young adults starting between the ages of 18 and 30 over two decades. While almost all the participants gained weight, those who remained consistently physically active over that period took on fewer pounds overall—22 for men and 20 for women versus 28 and 33 pounds for those who exercised less. The key, the researchers note, was consistently exercising at high levels over the 20 years. In another study published in *Hypertension*, Carnethon and her colleagues estimate that raising the



David Cella gives an IPR colloquium on developing standards for self-reported health status in clinical and population science.

fitness level of those who are out of shape could decrease their risk for high blood pressure, and thus heart attacks, by as much as 34 percent.

Stress and Health Disparities

Adam and IPR anthropologist **Thomas McDade** continue to head a collaborative team of faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students on a five-year project to examine

how stress can lead to health disparities and affect adult health. They are collecting and examining biomarkers of health from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health), a nationally representative sample of approximately 15,000 U.S. adolescents. The team has completed four manuscripts, investigating the effects of social

relationships on overall health, of socioeconomic status on biomarkers of health, and of perceived life chances on health behaviors. Collaborating IPR faculty members include developmental psychologist **Lindsay Chase-Lansdale** and social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook**, who is Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice.

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 continue to explore how stress is linked to depression and anxiety in adolescents. One recent project—with Leah Doane of Arizona State University and others—looked at the cortisol awakening response (CAR) in 230

teens, ages 16 to 18. In the CAR, levels of the stress-sensitive hormone cortisol increase dramatically 30 to 40 minutes after waking. Teens with the largest baseline measure, they find, have the highest risk of developing depression the following year.

Stress and Loneliness in Adolescents

In another investigation, **Adam** and Doane examine whether feelings of loneliness were related to changes in cortisol levels and to bouts of depression or chronic stress in a sample of 121 teens. For teens experiencing high levels of loneliness, they replicated a previous finding—originally found for older adults—that high levels of loneliness and sadness on a particular day predicted an increase in cortisol the following morning. This supports an earlier hypothesis by **Adam** and her colleagues that adverse social experiences, such as loneliness, might provide an extra energetic “boost” to help the individual meet the demands of the next day. The study also reveals a link between a particular moment of loneliness and higher levels of momentary cortisol. Results were published in *Psychoneuroendocrinology*.

National Children's Study

In November 2010, the Chicago site of the of the National Children's Study launched efforts to recruit 2,000 women who are pregnant or expect to become pregnant and represent a wide range of races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic conditions. Led by pediatrician and IPR associate **Jane Holl**, the study will follow the volunteers' children from in the womb through age 21. The largest study of its kind in the United States, it will eventually include more than 100,000 children from 105 sites, 4,000 of whom will come from three counties in the greater Chicago area. The study is assessing the effects of various environmental and genetic factors on pregnant women, children, and adults. It aims to understand the underlying causes of some of the nation's most serious health problems, including asthma, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity—and uncover new avenues for prevention and treatment.

Health Disparities and Child Development

The Community Child Health Network is a longitudinal study examining 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 (CACHE). CACHE explores how



Much of Emma Adam's research hones in on the stress hormone cortisol and how it relates to sleep, stress, and risk for depression.

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 and IPR associate **Madeleine Shalowitz** is co-principal investigator, and several IPR/C2S faculty are involved.

Early Language and Conceptual Development

Psychologist and IPR associate **Sandra Waxman**, with Susan Hespos and Alissa Ferry of Northwestern, tested 3- and 4-month-olds on their language development, revealing that infants link language and concepts earlier than previously thought. The researchers showed 46 infants a series of pictures of either fish or dinosaurs. Half heard a naming phrase with a novel word (“Look at the toma”); the others heard a series of tones, matched in amplitude and duration to the naming phrase. By measuring eye movements, they find that the babies who heard the language while viewing the images were better able to “categorize,” or link the image to a category group, than those babies who heard the simple tones. These results suggest that in the context of hearing language, infants pay particular attention to the objects and events that surround them. The findings were published in *Child Development*.

Caregiver Speech and Child Language Growth

In a *Cognitive Psychology* article, IPR education researcher and statistician **Larry Hedges** and his co-authors reveal the important influence of caregiver speech for language growth in early childhood. The researchers conducted a longitudinal study of 47 child-caregiver pairs from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds. They examine the diversity of words and syntactic structures used by the child, starting at 14 months and at several points through 46 months, as well as the correlated speech patterns of the child’s caregiver at each of those points. They find that the diversity of earlier caregiver speech significantly predicts corresponding diversity in a child’s later speech. In addition, demographic factors such as socioeconomic status, which typically predict language growth among children, are at least partially mediated by caregiver speech.

The study was co-authored by Janellen Huttenlocher of the University of Chicago, Heidi Waterfall of Cornell, Marina Vasilyeva of Boston College, and Jack Vevea of the University of California, Merced. Hedges is Board of Trustees Professor of Statistics and Social Policy.

“Baby Media” and Brain Development

Communication studies researcher and IPR associate **Ellen Wartella** is investigating the impact of television and other digital media on the lives and development of children and adolescents. In a *Developmental Review* article with Rebekah Richert and Michael Robb of the University of California, Riverside, she looks at the rise of “baby media”—television, video, and computer content targeted to children under the age of 2, such as Teletubbies and Baby Einstein. They trace the industry’s origins back to the start of children’s television in the 1950s and identify several key factors of its growth. These factors include the ubiquitous role of television in American families, evidence of the educational benefits of some TV programs for preschoolers, and positive parental beliefs about the usefulness of such media in preparing young children for school. However, the researchers warn, there are constraints on what kinds of things babies can learn from screen media, and the longer-term effects of sustained, early exposure on brain development are unclear. Wartella is Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani Professor of Communication.

Cultural Neuroscience

Cultural neuroscience is an emerging field that integrates cultural psychology, brain sciences, and population genetics. In addition to contributing to empirical evidence, neuroscientist and IPR associate **Joan Chiao** is developing theory and methods that seek to address the novel opportunities and challenges in cultural neuroscience and population health disparities. In an article in *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, she and her colleagues



IPR associates Joan Chiao (l.) and Carol Lee discuss new developments in the emerging field of cultural neuroscience.

caution researchers to carefully consider their definition of culture as to avoid unintentional research biases. In human neuroimaging, for example, more than 90 percent of peer-reviewed neuroimaging studies come from Western, industrialized nations—which do not account for the cultural values, practices, and beliefs inherent in Eastern cultures that can also affect brain function and behavior.

Culture and Medical Treatment

IPR anthropologist **Rebecca Seligman**'s research adds to growing awareness of how various cultural and social factors help shape individual experiences of mental and physical illness. Her recent work focuses on disparities in mental and physical health among Mexican immigrants in the United States. Findings from her mixed-methods research on diabetes and depression among first- and second-generation Mexican immigrants suggest that, in this population, negative emotions are closely associated with social, economic, and political hardship. Such emotions are perceived as tightly linked to blood sugar control, so for many of the participants in her study, structural factors were experienced as directly affecting diabetes control. Her findings also suggest that participants prioritized family well-being over individual health and considered family more central to diabetes management than either doctors or the ill individual.



Rebecca Seligman studies the way in which cultural and social factors shape individual experiences of illness.

Both sets of findings have major implications for diabetes self-care practices, expectations for medical management, and the development of effective, culturally sensitive medical interventions for Mexican Americans with diabetes. Seligman has also started working on a new project to investigate whether culturally mediated cognitive and embodied dimensions of selfhood affect emotion processing and risk for depression among adolescents in the context of transnational migration between Mexico and the United States.

Globalization and Health Outcomes

IPR/C2S faculty continue to examine how globalization affects health outcomes through two ongoing longitudinal studies: the Tsimane Amazonian Panel Study in Bolivia,

for which **McDade** is a faculty contributor, and the Cebu Longitudinal Health and Nutrition Survey in the Philippines, for which anthropologist **Christopher Kuzawa** is a primary collaborator. Both McDade and Kuzawa use data from these two studies to look at issues related to disease risk and development and gene-environment links. In addition to furthering knowledge about the long-term health effects of early environments, these studies can provide additional insight on domestic health outcomes.

Environment, Geography, and Disease Risk

With several colleagues, **Kuzawa** took part in a study that looked at distributions of the $\epsilon 4$ allele of the apolipoprotein E (APOE) gene around the world. APOE is linked to high cholesterol levels and heart disease and has been shown to vary in humans and by latitude. Their study is the first to match worldwide APOE allele frequency and patterns with latitude, temperature, and elevation readings while controlling for population differences in genotype.

They find a strong geographic pattern, with the lowest frequencies found in humans who live in the mid-latitudes, or more temperate climates, where the human body requires less energy to cool down or keep warm. Because metabolic rates are elevated in hot (around the equator) and cold (around the poles) environments and thus lead to increased cholesterol levels, this adds to the evidence that natural selection might have shaped

distributions of the $\epsilon 4$ allele in humans across the globe. The findings were published in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*.

Inflammation and Disease Risk

McDade continues to study inflammation and disease risk. One study using Cebu data that measured levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) in infants has received widespread media attention. Its main takeaway is that 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 to protect against inflammation-related diseases in adulthood.

Published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society: Biological Sciences*, the study's co-authors are **Kuzawa**, Linda Adair of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Julianne Rutherford of the University of Illinois at Chicago. The findings also played a role in a new grant from the National Science Foundation to further study the dynamics of inflammation in an environment characterized by high levels of infectious disease.

Brain Energetics and Evolution

Kuzawa is collaborating on a five-year, NSF-funded study with geneticists and research scientists at Wayne State University that explores why the human brain learns so quickly in childhood and adolescence and then tapers with age. The brain consumes enormous amounts of energy in the form of glucose during this learning ramp-up. By comparing human glucose consumption in the brain with that of primates across their respective lifespans, the researchers hope to identify differences between the two and pinpoint what gives the human species its extraordinary cognitive abilities.

Infant Weight Gain and Male Maturity

In another study using Cebu data, **Kuzawa**, **McDade**, and their colleagues examined a variety of physical characteristics, including weight, height, and muscle mass, in 770 Filipino men from birth until their early 20s. The researchers find that rapid weight gain by male infants in the first six months of life—a time at which all male infants experience a testosterone “surge”—has long-lasting biological effects. Those infants who gained weight most rapidly grew taller and stronger and had higher testosterone levels as young adults. Similar patterns were not observed in the female participants in the study, suggesting that differences between young men and women in the study are also linked to early infant nutrition, providing more support that nurture plays an important role in development. Published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the study's findings were reported by *National Geographic*, *Scientific American*, Chicago Public Radio, and others.



Christopher Kuzawa (front right) meets with colleagues at the School for Advanced Research in Sante Fe, N.M., for a seminar on “Rethinking Race and Science: Biology, Genes, and Culture.”

Sex Ratios and Male Lifespan

There are areas around the world where there are more men than women (as in China) or more women than men (as in Latvia and Estonia). In an article for *Demography*, IPR sociologist **Jeremy Freese** and his co-authors are the first to show how the ratio of available female and male mates corresponds to individual health and survival rates for men. Using 50 years of data from Medicare and the Wisconsin Longitudinal Survey, they began by indexing the number of possible female partners for more than 7.5 million men. The researchers find that in those areas with more sexually mature men than women, male death rates were higher. The death rates might be affected by the men having to wait longer to get married—or not getting married at all—having fewer partners to choose from, or experiencing stress in the competition for a suitable mate.

Social Science Perspectives on Sexuality Research

Sociology professors **Héctor Carrillo** and **Steven Epstein**, both IPR associates, are co-conveners of The Sexualities Project (TSP) at Northwestern, a new initiative that promotes interdisciplinary research and education on sexuality and health in social context. The project has recently fielded a competitive request for faculty research proposals that address critical and

interdisciplinary perspectives on the topic and has posted calls for applications for graduate student summer research and dissertation fellowships for 2011–12. In addition, TSP is helping to build the field of sexuality studies through an open competition for a two-year postdoctoral fellowship; fellows will be located in gender studies and another social science department at Northwestern.

The project also organized its first workshop for spring 2011 on “Epistemologies of Desire: Beyond Single-Discipline Approaches,” with lectures by Yale historian and gender studies professor Joanne Meyerowitz and sexual historian and theorist David Halperin of the University of Michigan. TSP is a project of Northwestern's department of gender

studies in collaboration with C2S and the Science in Human Culture Program. Epstein is John C. Shaffer Professor in the Humanities.

Ideology and Equality Between the Sexes

A study by IPR social psychologist **Jennifer Richeson** and Anne Koenig of the University of California, San Diego, in *Social Psychology* sheds light on the debate popularly characterized as “women are from Venus and men from Mars.” If equality between the sexes is a goal, the researchers ask, then to what extent do men and women believe that differences between them should be either emphasized or ignored? Building on the racial diversity models of colorblindness and multiculturalism, the researchers define two gender ideologies: “sexblindness,” in which people ignore gender as a means to achieve gender equality, and “sexawareness,” in which people recognize and celebrate gender differences. Using a 12-item scale, they tested the attitudes and beliefs of more than 200 males and females. Findings indicate participants were more likely to support sexblindness in a work setting, suggesting that people perceive it as a way to reduce sexism. In social settings, those with more sexblind attitudes also seemed to be less sexist. Richeson is Weinberg College Board of Visitors Research and Teaching Professor.



A recent study by Jennifer Richeson looks at the competing ideologies of “sexblindness” and “sexawareness” in public life.

Politics and the HPV Vaccine

When a vaccine for the human papillomavirus (HPV) arrived on the market in 2006, religious conservatives decried the government’s approval of the vaccine as

implicitly sanctioning teen sex and encouraging promiscuity while advocates applauded its potential to prevent 4,000 cervical cancer deaths in the United States each year. *Three Shots at Prevention: The HPV Vaccine and the Politics of Medicine’s Simple Solutions* (Johns Hopkins Press, 2010), co-edited by **Epstein**, explores the national debate that erupted over the controversial vaccine intended to protect against HPV, the most common sexually transmitted infection. The volume addresses moral, ethical, and scientific questions when public policy, sexual health, and the politics of vaccination collide (see p. 65).

Race and Biotechnology

A decade after the Human Genome Project proved that human beings are not naturally divided by race, IPR law professor **Dorothy Roberts** finds that a spate of new technologies, including personalized medicine, reproductive technologies, and DNA databanks, underscore subtle efforts to recast race as a biological category. Her forthcoming book *Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-First Century* (The New Press) traces race’s constantly shifting definition and its expanding use in current biomedical research and technology. Roberts’ in-depth interviews with scientists and policymakers help expose the political consequences of a racial ideology that pushes away a society-wide focus on eliminating social disparities in favor of an individual’s responsibility for managing his or her health at a genetic level. Project funding came from the National Science Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Roberts is Kirkland & Ellis Professor.

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, led by IPR associate **Teresa Woodruff**, was developed to address the complex health-care and quality-of-life issues that concern young cancer patients whose fertility might be threatened by cancer or its treatment.

The consortium represents 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. Recently, the consortium collaborated with the Cancer Legal Resource Center, Fertile Hope, the Lance Armstrong Foundation, and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine to write fertility preservation legislation, since introduced in the California State Assembly, that would provide cancer patients and others fighting diseases through aggressive treatments with insurance coverage for fertility preservation technology.

Woodruff is Thomas J. Watkins Memorial Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and head of the Division of Fertility Preservation at Northwestern; she also directs the NIH-funded Center for Reproductive Research.

Genetics and the Social Sciences

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. Freese and Sara Shostak of Brandeis University wrote about the gene-environment interaction and medical sociology for the 6th edition of the *Handbook of Medical Sociology* (Vanderbilt University Press, 2010). They hold up the discipline as an example to others by pointing to how medical sociologists are at the forefront of attempts to integrate genetic and social science inquiry, with particular efforts focusing on how gene-environment interactions contribute to disease development. These sociologists incorporate a broad, cross-disciplinary mix of theories and methods—combining for example, ethnographic, content, and public attitude analyses with genotypic data—in their studies.

Heritability vs. Genes as Covariates

In a 2010 IPR working paper (see p. 74), IPR economist **Charles F. Manski** distinguishes between two types of work relating human genetics to personal outcomes: the old literature on heritability, which erupted with IQ research

in the 1960s and 1970s, and more recent research using genes as covariates. Heritability research has generally tried to determine the relative influence of “nature” vs. “nurture” by sorting variation in observed outcomes into unobservable genetic and environmental components. In particular, large estimates of heritability have been interpreted as implying small potential policy effectiveness. Manski shows that this interpretation is incorrect because it only addresses outcome variation in the present environment. Social planners, on the

other hand, are more interested in how population outcomes might improve if environmental factors were changed, and heritability is completely uninformative in this context.

Meanwhile, Manski illustrates the informative potential of research using genes as covariates. For example, if researchers find that the outcomes of certain medical treatments or education interventions vary systematically across persons with observed genetic covariates, then physicians or school counselors could productively tailor treatment decisions on these covariates, even without a full understanding of the causal mechanisms at work. He suggests that biologists, medical researchers, and social scientists work in concert to understand the interaction of genetic and environmental factors, their

combined as well as relative predictive power, and the set of genetic covariates that are most relevant for determining individual outcomes.

Science of Science Policy

Prior to 1950, the lone scientist made most breakout scientific discoveries. Since then, teams of scientists have been responsible for almost all blockbuster discoveries. Having documented this “near universal sea-change” in scientific investigation, management and strategy professor **Brian Uzzi**, an IPR associate, is using an IPR seed grant to access the ISI Web of Science database and expand his study of interdisciplinary teams and networks, particularly in the public health and science policy arenas. Specifically, he and his colleagues are investigating how multidisciplinary teams affect scientific impact and whether increased funding for multidisciplinary teams is warranted. They are also



Jeremy Freese is examining differences in population sex ratios and how these ratios affect the average lifespan of males in the community.

investigating how the trend might affect U.S. leadership in science. Uzzi is Richard L. Thomas Professor of Leadership and Organizational Change.

C2S Welcomes Former Surgeon General, Leading Scholars

Dr. **David Satcher**, former U.S. Surgeon General under President Bill Clinton, spoke on October 28 to a crowded auditorium of more than 300. As head of the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, he reviewed his institute's efforts to train and develop a diverse group of health leaders, to advance comprehensive health system strategies, and to actively promote policies and practices to reduce and, ultimately, eliminate health disparities. C2S sponsored the 2010 Hollister Lecture with the Feinberg School of Medicine's Program in Public Health.

C2S also welcomed U.K. epidemiologists **Richard Wilkinson** and **Kate Pickett** on January 12 in Evanston. The two scholars discussed how large gaps in income equality cause a range of problems, including low life expectancy, illiteracy, stress, and high crime rates. They pointed to a wide range of studies supporting this correlation, which were enumerated in their best-selling book, *The Spirit Level: Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger* (Bloomsbury USA, 2009).

On May 7, **Ilan Meyer** of Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health lectured on "Sexual Orientation and Disparities in Mental Health." Meyer spoke about his well-known model of minority stress that describes the relationship of social stressors and mental disorders and helps to explain lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender health disparities. C2S co-sponsored his talk with the Center on the Science of Diversity at Northwestern.

Fostering a Multidisciplinary Community

Through its colloquia, C2S continues to foster a community of scholars interested in multidisciplinary research, human development, health, and well-being. Over the year, C2S brought in several speakers, including sociologist **Mark Hayward**, director of the Population Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin. Hayward spoke on November 8 about his research on how social relationships, such as marriage and divorce, affect adult health. **Douglas Granger**, a psychoneuroendocrinology researcher now at Johns Hopkins, gave a talk on May 3 about using salivary alpha-amylase, a surrogate biomarker of stress, in research. (See p. 76.)

Biomarker Methodology and Training

C2S' Summer Biomarker Institute celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2010. It is organized by **Adam McDade**, and **Kuzawa**, all nationally recognized leaders in biomarker development, implementation, usage, and analysis. At the 2010 workshop, 36 participants learned about biological theory and methodology and received hands-on training for salivary and blood-spot biomarkers. Several guest speakers were also featured, including IPR associate **Ann Borders**, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, who

gave a presentation on diverse populations and biomarker research, and Feinberg genetic epidemiologist/anthropologist **Geoffrey Hayes**, who spoke about studies using DNA.

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. Three new projects seek to expand this methodological toolkit to include measures of inflammatory cytokines or messenger proteins, ovarian function, and exposure to heavy metals in a few drops of finger-stick whole blood. Adam is also working to improve salivary measures of cortisol.



Participants of the C2S Summer Biomarker Institute learn to collect dried blood spots for incorporating biological markers into research.

Education Policy



Therese McGuire moderates an IPR policy research briefing on Capitol Hill evaluating the impact of No Child Left Behind.

Research Topics:

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

Retooling No Child Left Behind

At a February 2010 IPR policy research briefing on Capitol Hill, three researchers discussed what lawmakers should consider when they retool the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), passed under President Bush in 2002.

Starting with whether NCLB has raised achievement, IPR social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook** provided one of the most scientifically rigorous sources of evidence to date to show that NCLB has indeed raised standardized test scores in public schools. Using data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP, from 1990 to 2009, Cook presented multiple analyses. Some compared public schools in the nation at large with both Catholic and non-Catholic private schools, and others compared states that chose to implement NCLB in ways that led to larger or smaller amounts of school reform being required.

About the Program



David Figlio, Chair

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 aligns with other programs, including Quantitative Methods for Policy Research (see pp. 48–55).

All these national and state analyses show that after 2002, NCLB affected fourth- and eighth-grade performance in math but not in reading. Cook, who is Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice, co-authored the study with former IPR colleagues Manyee Wong, now of the American Institutes for Research, and Peter Steiner, now at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Despite NCLB's goal to "leave no child behind," IPR economist **Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach** has found that many were. She and colleague Derek Neal of the University of Chicago followed two groups of children in Chicago Public Schools (CPS) before and after the introduction of NCLB. Different cohorts took either a low- or high-stakes test before and after NCLB's implementation. Grouping students by their baseline math and reading achievement decile, they find scores remained the same, or worsened, for the highest- and lowest-scoring students, but improved for those children in the middle who scored close to the passing margin. These "bubble kids" provide additional evidence that teachers and schools engage in "educational triage," giving extra attention to those low-performing students with the best chances of passing while the rest are left behind. Schanzenbach noted that, looking across all grades in Chicago, this practice affects 25,000 to 50,000 low-achieving students. The study was published in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

In the ongoing quest for ever-higher test scores, some schools try to "game the system" and reach for a special score boost on test day. IPR education economist **David Figlio** has documented several such scenarios, from feeding students high-calorie snacks, with positive, short-term cognitive effects, to suspending or expelling low-achieving students on test days. His studies confirm the need for a high-proficiency threshold as confirmed by Cook and his colleagues, but schools also need to measure gains for those students who do not achieve it, as Schanzenbach's study suggests. Thus, he recommends a hybrid system for accountability. Figlio is Orrington Lunt Professor of Education and Social Policy.

School Finance Reform and State Taxes

One of the most important external shocks to state government finances over the past 40 years has been court-ordered school finance reform. In ongoing research with Nathan Anderson of the University of Illinois at Chicago, IPR public finance economist **Therese McGuire** is studying whether states change their tax revenue structures to pay for these 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 in the Kellogg School of Management.

Demographic Changes and School Finance

A new study by **Figlio** and Deborah Fletcher of Miami University, forthcoming in the *Journal of Public Economics*, links demographics and education funding in 20 suburban school districts around Northeastern and Midwestern cities between 1970 and the 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. The authors posit what such demographic change portends for local education policies.

Vouchers and Public School Test Scores

Competition from private-school vouchers might lead to small, but significant, academic gains in surrounding public schools. That is one conclusion from a new study by **Figlio** and IPR graduate research assistant **Cassandra Hart**. In examining low-income students in Florida's tax credit voucher system, they find students in public schools with a number of private schools in the area had better test scores than students in other public schools. Pressure to improve increased as the number and variety of private schools increased. The researchers also find that the Florida students using vouchers differed little in academic performance compared with students in public schools. Figlio cautions against seeing vouchers as a cure-all, however, since the gains are small, though significant. This finding stems from Figlio's ongoing evaluation of Florida's Tax Credit Scholarship Program, the largest school voucher program of its kind in the United States.

Student Pay and Test Scores

IPR labor and education economist **Kirabo Jackson** and Dartmouth economist Bruce Sacerdote are examining the short- and long-term impact of a New York City program that pays high school seniors for achieving a score of 3, 4, or 5 on Advanced Placement (AP) exams. Jackson has already evaluated a similar program in Texas, which pays low-income and minority students for scoring well on their AP tests. The Texas study shows that schools offering students \$100 to \$500 for scores of 3 or higher have more students taking AP courses, more scoring well, and 8 percent more going to college. In addition, Texas students' SAT and ACT scores rose by 30 percent. In a follow-up study tracking students through college, he finds that those students who received the incentives in high school attend college in greater numbers, are more likely to remain in college beyond their freshman year, and have better GPAs. He also uncovers evidence of increased college graduation rates for black and Hispanic students. Findings from the Texas study were published in the *Journal of Human Resources*.

School Context and Teacher Effectiveness

Using data from North Carolina, **Jackson** is investigating the importance of the match between teachers and schools for student achievement. From a sample of mobile teachers, he documents that teacher effectiveness—as measured by improvements in student test scores—increases after a move

to a different school. He then estimates the importance of teacher-school match quality for the resulting improvement in student outcomes. Preliminary results show that between one-quarter and one-half of what is typically measured as a teacher effect is, in fact, due to the specific teacher-school pairing and is not portable across schools. Moreover, he finds that match quality is as economically important as teacher quality in explaining student achievement.

In related work, he is also analyzing how the opening of a charter school affects teacher turnover, hiring, effectiveness, and salaries at nearby traditional public schools. By analyzing a variety of teacher outcomes, he hopes to paint a relatively comprehensive picture of how charter school entry affects both the demand for and supply of teachers at pre-existing traditional public schools.



P. Reese

Kirabo Jackson presents evidence that match quality between teachers and schools has a significant impact on student achievement.

School Accountability and Teacher Mobility

In a 2010 IPR working paper (see p. 74), **Figlio** and his colleagues provide the first causal evidence that school accountability measures affect the teacher labor market. They exploit a 2002 change in Florida's statewide accountability system, which exogenously shocked some schools to receiving higher accountability grades and others to receiving lower accountability grades. Using microdata from the universe of Florida public school teachers, they then measure whether teachers in these "shocked" schools were more or less likely to keep their current jobs or move. It turns out that after a school faces a downward shock—especially to the lowest grade—its teachers are much more likely to leave, even for another school in the same district. Meanwhile,

schools that see an upward shock are more likely to retain more teachers. These patterns affect the distribution of teacher quality, in terms of value-added measures for students, although the average differences are not large across all schools. The study was co-authored by Li Feng of Texas State University and Tim Sass of Florida State University.

Accountability Pressures and Children's Health

Under NCLB, schools facing increased pressure to produce academic outcomes might reallocate their efforts in ways that inadvertently affect the health of their students, for example, by cutting back on recess and physical education in favor of more classroom time.

Schanzenbach, Patricia Anderson of Dartmouth College, and Kristin Butcher of Wellesley use data from schools in Arkansas to test the impact of NCLB rules on student obesity rates. Schools on the margin of meeting NCLB requirements see the obesity rates among their students increase, and the evidence suggests that such schools have changed their health-related policies in a manner that might lead to the observed increase.



James Spillane's research looks at the organizational routines of school leaders, most recently through a large-scale study of school principals.

Student Teachers and Placement in Public Schools

With funding from the Joyce Foundation, education researcher and IPR faculty affiliate **Michelle Reininger** is completing a longitudinal study of 3,000 Chicago Public School (CPS) student teachers who have entered and exited the district's student-teaching program. 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. Preliminary data from two online surveys indicate that more than half of student teachers plan to continue working as a teacher or in education generally following the program. Yet after their student-teaching placement, just 25 percent say they have a greater interest in teaching in CPS and 30 percent show less interest in staying within the district. More student teachers expressed having "no plans" of continuing in CPS after they finished their placement than before, suggesting that the district needs to improve its placement program if it hopes to retain participants.

Principal Policy and Practice

The Principal Policy and Practice (P3) Study relies on the research strengths of education professor and IPR associate **James 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 principal's importance in shepherding school improvements. Spillane is Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Professor of Learning and Organizational Change.

Leadership Development in Schools

Spillane is investigating an approach to leadership development that centers on school practice rather than focusing exclusively on principals' knowledge and skills. Specifically, he has launched a four-year research study with Brian Junker of Carnegie Mellon University and Richard Correnti of the University

of Pittsburgh to determine the impact of a structured "walk-through" routine for school leaders. This routine, called the Learning Walk®, involves principals and other school leaders conducting brief visits to classrooms on a regular basis for the purpose of observing classroom instruction.

Online vs. In-Class Learning

The rise of online universities and the explosion of online class offerings has been driven to some extent by advances in technology and budget cuts at universities, but does online learning confer the same educational benefits as live lectures for college students? In a study forthcoming in the *Journal of Labor Economics*, **Figlio** and his University of Florida colleagues Mark Rush and Yu Lin are the first to compare how live versus online delivery of large lectures affects student learning. Their data come from an experiment in which 327 students at a major university were randomly assigned either to an online section or to a live section of an introductory economics course taught in an identical

manner by the same instructor. The only difference was that one group only viewed the lectures live and the other only on the Internet. The researchers find a slight effect for better achievement with live lectures, but when stratifying the results, they show that low-achieving and male students in the online sample tend to have worse grades. While online and distance learning courses seem to be more cost-effective, the authors caution universities to proceed carefully. They conclude that in the rush to supplant live instruction with online courses, universities could leave some behind.

College Attendance and “Coaching” Programs

More than 80 percent of Chicago public high school students say they want to go to college, yet only 64 percent actually attend. IPR education researcher **James Rosenbaum** is looking at possible causes for the gap, in particular for low-income students, who are less likely to enroll in college. Starting in 2005, he, IPR postdoctoral fellow **Jennifer Stephan**, and graduate student Michelle

Naffziger began gathering ethnographic and administrative data from a new college-counseling program in Chicago Public Schools (CPS) that targets disadvantaged students, many of whom are the first in their families to attend college. The program helps students overcome cultural barriers by pairing them with “college coaches,” who advise them on their options for college, demonstrate how to work with admissions counselors, and assist with scholarship applications. Using comprehensive surveys of nearly all CPS seniors from their senior year through the fall after high school and comparing outcomes before and after the onset of the program, Rosenbaum and Stephan find significant improvements in outcomes for students in the coaching high schools over comparable students in other high schools in the district. In detailed observations, Rosenbaum and Naffziger describe how coaches engage students and improve the types of colleges students attend.

Unlike many programs, this reform benefits disadvantaged students more than relatively advantaged students. The researchers’ presentation to CPS administrators, including then-CEO Ron Huberman, helped convince district administrators to save the program from cuts.

Can College Be for All?

Rosenbaum received a new Spencer Foundation grant to continue research on his “College for All” project. While the nation’s high schools have embraced the idea of trying to get all high school seniors into college, little attention has been paid to the processes that increase the number of students who actually go and complete their degree. Rosenbaum’s research team is conducting a longitudinal study of all seniors at 82 public high schools in Chicago, examining the role of guidance counselors and other college-oriented

programs and indicators of college attendance. The study seeks to extend understanding of the varied institutional procedures that shape the college search and application process for students. It will examine procedures by multiple actors, students’ relevant college activities, and student outcomes, including college persistence.

“Gainful Employment” and For-Profit Colleges

In 2010, the U.S. Department of Education was considering a rule change called “gainful employment,” which would have discontinued federal student aid at for-profit colleges whose graduates rarely earn enough to pay back their student loans—and thus are prone to higher default rates. As an economic expert for the Association of Private Sector Colleges and Universities, IPR economist **Jonathan Guryan** wrote a report on how the proposed regulation would affect for-profit colleges and universities and their students. Analyzing data for 600,000 students in more than 10,000 programs at the association’s member institutions, he found that the proposed regulation would have had potentially devastating consequences: As many as 2,000 for-profit programs, representing one-third of students in the study, would have become ineligible for federal financial aid. Furthermore, he found that a disproportionate number of the 200,000 students potentially affected by the rule were low-income and/or minority. After the report’s release, Guryan briefed many policymakers on the research, such as U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, several of his senior staff, and senior congressional staff, including those whose members sit on the congressional black, Hispanic, and Asian caucuses. Subsequently, the U.S. Department of Education released a



James Rosenbaum (l.) talks with Stanford education researcher Sean Reardon, who presented his study of the widening rich-poor achievement gap at an IPR colloquium.

revised version of the rules that Guryan's research suggests would have a reduced but still significant negative impact on college access. The final rule, published in June 2011, addresses certain criticisms outlined in Guryan's public comment as submitted to the Department.

Mothers' Education and Child Development

IPR developmental psychologist **Lindsay Chase-Lansdale** and IPR research scientist **Teresa Eckrich Sommer** are expanding a unique dual-generation intervention that links



Lindsay Chase-Lansdale presents her pilot study of a dual-generation education intervention for mothers and their preschool-aged children.

postsecondary education and career training of low-income mothers to their children's development through early childhood education centers (ECEs). Their recent exploratory work indicates that such a program could harness mothers' hopes for their children as motivation for educational progress and

provide the mothers with supportive staff and peers. It also intervenes at a critical developmental point in the preschoolers' lives, likely providing more benefits than if the mothers were to wait until their children were in school to further their own education. The researchers will study and expand a pilot program, CareerAdvance, through the Community Action Project of Tulsa, Okla., with an IPR seed grant and additional support from the Administration for Children and Families.

Investment in Early Childcare Centers

Interest in childhood education is on the rise among global business and economic leaders, including Fortune 500 CEOs, Nobel laureates, Federal Reserve bankers, and even Grammy Award-winning artists. During the 2008 presidential campaign, Barack Obama pledged \$10 billion

for early childhood education. IPR economist **Sergio Urzúa** and graduate student Grace Noboa Hidalgo have examined the impact of public investments in early childhood education in Chile on a range of cognitive and noncognitive child development outcomes. Deriving average causal effects, their results reveal gains in nearly all areas of child development, particularly those concerning motor and cognitive skills. The positive effects are particularly high for children 7 to 12 months old who attend a public childcare center for seven months. Though some negative effects are found with respect to adult interactions, the authors highlight the policy challenges and rewards of expanding ECE coverage, in particular for low-income and young children, all the while maintaining high-quality, yet expensive, services.

Kindergarten Teachers and Future Earnings

Does it matter who your teacher is in kindergarten? In an innovative new study, **Schanzenbach** and her colleagues at Harvard and the University of California, Berkeley, test whether kindergarten classroom quality and student test scores make a difference in adult outcomes. They use data from the Tennessee Project STAR experiment from the 1980s, which randomly assigned nearly 12,000 children to kindergarten classrooms with varying class sizes and followed the student's progress through third grade. The researchers use tax data to link the students' kindergarten class experience and test scores to their adult wages, education, and other later outcomes. Their analysis shows that being randomly assigned to a high-quality kindergarten class improves wages, as well as a variety of other outcomes, in adulthood.

Abilities, Education, Race, 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 **Urzúa** and others are uncovering evidence that noncognitive measures of ability might be more important—and relevant—than IQ and other indicators of cognitive intelligence. 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.

Gaps in Academic Achievement

IPR education researcher and statistician **Larry 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 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. Hedges is Board of Trustees Professor of Statistics and Social Policy.



Larry Hedges talks to journalists at an education writers conference about how to better report the results of randomized studies.

Assessing Spatial Learning

Workers in a high-tech, global economy need adequate scientific, technical, engineering, and mathematical skills. Northwestern's Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center (SILC) aims to achieve a better understanding of spatial relationships, which serve as a basis for many of these skills. **Hedges** is leading the SILC project to develop and distribute a spatial assessment battery. One key element in the battery is CogSketch software, a sketch-understanding software that can be downloaded for free from SILC's website (www.spatiallearning.org). Researchers are gathering users' sketches to analyze how people reason and learn and how sketching might improve student learning.

Achievement Gap and Summer Reading

Once children enter school, a reading gap between students of high and low socioeconomic status (SES) appears and begins to grow, likely exacerbated by summer vacation, as low SES students are less likely to receive continued reading instruction over the break. **Guryan** is leading the evaluation of a five-year, multidistrict, randomized controlled trial of the READS program, Reading Enhances Achievement During the Summer. Already, the program is showing promise, moderately reducing "summer loss" and improving reading skills.

The program, developed by James Kim of Harvard University, will be administered to approximately 10,000 students in 70 North Carolina elementary schools over the course of the study. Students are sent two books biweekly over summer break. Matched to the student's interests

and reading level, the books are also paired with family activities to support summer reading. Members of the control group receive the books and activities at the start of school. Pretests and posttests, as well as reading tests, are used to measure impact. In addition to monitoring student achievement and overall progress, Guryan will examine different variations of READS that could improve its effectiveness. He will also measure its cost-effectiveness and identify those elements useful for replicating and further expanding the program.

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 staggering dropout rates to bad attitudes. But do they work? **Hedges** and IPR associate **Barton Hirsch**, an education and social policy professor, are currently evaluating After School Matters—a nationally recognized nonprofit organization providing out-of-school activities for teens in the Chicago area. The program operates at

more than 60 Chicago public high schools and offers programs and apprenticeships in various domains, such as science, sports, performing arts, and new technologies. Hirsch and Hedges use random assignment to evaluate the effects of the program for 535 youth at 10 high schools and 13 apprenticeships (for the treatment group). The multiyear study, for which results were recently released, measures four outcomes—positive youth development, marketable job skills, academics, and problem behavior. Their work is supported by the William T. Grant and Wallace foundations.

Preventing Truancy in Urban Schools

While urban high school dropouts have received a great deal of policy attention, the problem almost always starts much earlier with truancy from school. However, very little is known about the risk and protective factors that lead to truancy—and even less about effective remedies. To shed light on this issue, **Guryan** is leading the first large-scale randomized effectiveness trial of Check & Connect, a structured mentoring, monitoring, and case management program. This intervention focuses on reducing chronic absenteeism and improving school engagement by pairing a mentor with students at risk for dropping out of school. It is one of the few interventions where positive effects for staying in school have been found, based on two small trial studies.

Guryan is studying students in the second, third, fourth, and ninth grades who have a record of chronic absences in Chicago Public Schools (CPS). The study uses two-level randomization, across and within

schools, to identify the intervention's causal effects on the target students and other students within the same school. Researchers will start by randomly assigning between 450 and 700 CPS students to a Check & Connect mentor for two years. They will then compare the assigned students to control groups of more than 4,000 CPS students within the treatment and control schools. Other data, such as arrest records, will also be included, and researchers will conduct

personal surveys with students and their parents to pinpoint changes in family structure and dynamics that might contribute to the student's truancy.

Workshops on Education Data Sets, Methods

In recent years there has been a dramatic increase in the number and quality of student-level administrative data sets collected locally and statewide, but researchers are not necessarily aware of how best to make use of them. Thus, **Figlio** and **Rosenbaum** organized a one-day workshop in May 2010 to highlight how such data sets have been creatively and effectively used to study policy-relevant research questions for K-12 and higher education. Presentations were made by Stanford University's **Eric Bettinger** on college remediation and **Eric Hanushek** on teacher job matching, **Jane Hannaway** of the Urban Institute on value-added measures of student achievement, and **Melissa Roderick** of the University of Chicago on the Consortium for Chicago School Research. It was sponsored by the Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences in Northwestern's School of Education and Social Policy.

At a December 2 bootcamp for more than 30 journalists of the Education Writers Association, **Hedges** spoke about

research, design, and analysis in education, explaining how the writers can distinguish good studies from bad ones and improve their reporting on studies' data and results.

Joint IPR/Economics Labor & Education Policy Seminars

IPR continues its joint Labor & Education Policy Seminar Series with the economics department

at Northwestern. Speakers in 2010 included **Asim Khwaja** of Harvard, who discussed how providing school and child test scores affects educational markets, and **Magne Mogstad** of Statistics Norway and the University of Oslo, who demonstrated the potential for universal childcare to "level the playing field." IPR's **Jackson** also presented his study showing that student outcomes improve when teachers are better "matched" with the right school.



Jonathan Guryan (l.) talks with Asim Khwaja of Harvard after his joint IPR/Economics Labor & Education Policy Seminar on the market impact of providing school and child learning reports.

Philanthropy and Nonprofit Organizations



Leemore Dafny and Burton Weisbrod discuss differences between for-profit and nonprofit insurers after her seminar.

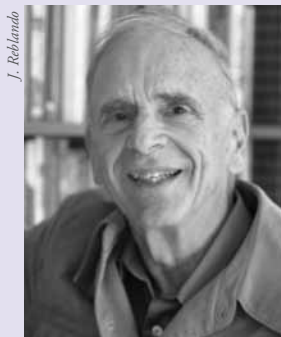
Research Topics:

- performance and accountability measures for nonprofit and public service organizations
- comparative behavior among different forms of institutions
- healthcare costs and competition in the hospital industry
- tort reform and medical malpractice
- risk, innovation, and technology

Public Goods Provision in Nonprofit, For-Profit, and Government Hospitals

As more cash-strapped states seek out creative ways to boost revenue, some legislators are beginning to question the property tax and sales tax exemptions of nonprofit hospitals. In ongoing research, IPR economist **Burton Weisbrod** asks, what does the public get back for these tax breaks? He examines public goods provided by hospitals in terms of research and education as well as charity care to determine whether subsidized nonprofit hospitals provide “more” than for-profit hospitals. After studying decades of data on all hospitals in California, his preliminary results suggest there are no significant differences in research and education across hospital ownership types, but substantial differences in charity care, with for-profits reporting far less charity care than nonprofits. Weisbrod is John Evans Professor of Economics.

About the Program



Burton Weisbrod,
Chair

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.

Quality Disclosure and Certification

Consumers rely on quality disclosure to make important purchases, whether for goods or services, from healthcare to education to finance. Healthcare economist and IPR associate **David Dranove** and University of Maryland economist Ginger Zhe Jin are reviewing the theoretical and empirical literature on quality disclosure and its effects on firms and consumers. They find that third-party disclosure generally provides consumers with more reliable information than direct—and often unverified—disclosure from companies or informal, word-of-mouth reviews. However, even outside certifiers sometimes face conflicts of interest that can muddy the quality ratings they report. Furthermore, many empirical studies have documented that consumers do respond to quality rankings when those rankings differ from preconceived notions of quality, but it is important that the disclosed information is easy to access and understand.

Market Forces in the Hospital Industry

Starting in the 1990s and continuing through much of the 2000s, hospital mergers became quite common. Despite arguments that such mergers would improve healthcare delivery, hospital costs continue to soar. **Dranove** has been following the consequences of large-scale horizontal integration in the hospital industry and investigating the

validity of similar efficiency arguments now being used to promote vertical integration in mergers between doctors and hospitals. He finds that—similar to hospital mergers—there is little evidence that these new Affordable Care Organizations (ACOs) will improve efficiency. In fact, his research suggests that ACOs will likely add to the already growing market power of providers and increase hospital spending rather than lower costs.

Evaluating an Individual Health Plan Exchange

Most U.S. workers fortunate enough to be offered health insurance through their employers are given a small number of choices: 80 percent of firms, accounting for 37 percent of workers, offered only one plan in 2005. Although there are merits of limited choice—including lower administrative costs for sponsoring employers and better pooling of risk within a given employee population—substantial consumer surplus is forgone by preventing employees from selecting plans that best suit their needs. In a project with Columbia University economist Katherine Ho and Kellogg graduate student Mauricio Varela, healthcare economist and IPR associate **Leemore Dafny** estimates this consumer loss using proprietary data on plan offerings and enrollment for more than 800 large employers between 1998 and 2006. Analysis of this data set, representing more than 10 million Americans annually, shows that the gains from increasing plan choice would likely outweigh potential premium increases associated with a transition from large group to individual pricing.

The researchers also examine a hypothetical scenario of “plan swapping”—keeping constant the number of options available to a given employee, but replacing the actual choice set with a set of plans the employee would have preferred. This analysis yields some unexpected results, including the fact that employees would not, on average, select more expensive plans than employers are currently offering but would instead choose plans with different characteristics. In particular, current choice sets do not reflect the strength of employee preferences for point of service plans, or for plans of all types offered by Blue Cross Blue Shield affiliates.

Tort Reform and Medical Malpractice

Law and finance professor **Bernard Black**, an IPR associate, continues his study of tort reform and medical malpractice suits. In a forthcoming book from Yale University Press, “To Sue is Human: A Profile of Medical Malpractice Litigation,”

he and his co-authors use data from approximately 16,000 Texas medical malpractice claims between 1988 and 2005 to examine the state's liability system and insurance markets. The book will provide the most detailed empirical study to date of the performance of the medical malpractice system.

Black, who is Nicholas D. Chabreja Professor, is writing the book with four of the nation's preeminent legal and health scholars: David Hyman of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, William Sage and Charles Silver of the University of Texas at Austin, and Kathryn Zeiler of Georgetown University. Black is also studying the impact of tort reform on medical spending and healthcare quality.

Patent Damages and Legislative Reform

Proponents of patent-reform legislation pending in Congress have cited cases with very large damage awards as evidence of the pressing need for change. Yet IPR associate **Michael Mazzeo**, associate professor of management and strategy, finds that these concerns are largely unwarranted. In a study with lawyer Jonathan Hillel and Samantha Zyontz of the Searle Civil Justice Institute at George Mason University, he uses the economic value of patents as a benchmark for comparison to conduct a systematic empirical analysis of patent damage awards. From a comprehensive list of 340 patent cases decided in U.S. federal courts between 1995 and 2008, supplemented with information about the litigants, their lawsuits, and the economic value of the patents at issue, the researchers demonstrate that the largest awards—dominating the current policy debate—actually come from isolated cases: Damage awards in the largest eight cases represent more than 47 percent of total damages in the database. Overall, the awards are in fact highly stable and predictable, and thus, Mazzeo argues, there is no empirical basis for the claims that excessive damages represent a pervasive problem.

National Patent Laws and Domestic Innovation

Marketing professor and IPR associate **Yi Qian** is expanding her work on how patent reforms affect inward foreign direct investment with a look at the international pharmaceutical industry. Drawing from her database of patent effects and pharmaceutical innovations in 26 countries, Qian shows that pharmaceutical patent protection alone does not stimulate domestic innovation. Rather, its impact depends on the country's development level, educational attainment, economic freedom, and

other variables. These findings contrast with previous estimates of patent effects for research and development that looked only at conditions in the United States. Qian's study also shows that terms of trade are likely to decline immediately upon the implementation of new intellectual property rights.

Academic Entrepreneurship in Europe

IPR associate **Jeannette Colyvas**' research focuses on intellectual property issues in academia and the relationship between public research and private industry. With Carolin Haeussler of the University of Munich, she is currently investigating how researchers in the life sciences engage in commercial activities and different forms of technology transfer. Using a sample of 2,200 life scientists in Germany and the

United Kingdom, the researchers test hypotheses of commercial engagement related to the scientists' individual attributes, their material and social resources, and perceptions about values and reputation. It appears that for the most advantaged academics, science and commerce go

hand in hand, but the relationship is less clear for the majority of life scientists in the study. Results also suggest that demographic and resource-based characteristics play an important role. For example, women in the study were equally active in consulting activities but much less likely to be involved in starting new companies. Colyvas is an assistant professor of human development, social policy, and learning sciences.



Jeannette Colyvas studies how policy affects innovation and entrepreneurship in academia.

P. Reese

Regulating Risk: The Case of Nanotechnology

Taking the case of nanotechnology, law professor and IPR associate **David Dana** is editing a book that looks at how the law can adequately track scientific risk without sacrificing technological innovation. As research on nanomaterials escalates, regulators are paying attention

to these materials and their nanoparticles because of a small body of scientific studies suggesting that certain nanomaterials could pose environmental, health, or safety risks. Yet these studies are too limited to provide a general basis for assessing risk for all nanoscale materials. Thus, the book's chapters explore how regulators can rise to the challenge of regulating new technologies by creating definitions of new materials in a manner flexible enough to capture changes in scientific understanding and technology without overregulation. The volume will also include a chapter by IPR political scientist **James Druckman** and Toby Bolsen, a former IPR graduate research assistant now at Georgia State University, that examines whether factual information influences the public's reactions toward new technologies such as nanotechnology. "The Nanotechnology Challenge: Creating Legal Institutions for Uncertain Risk" is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. Dana is Stanford Clinton Sr. and Zylpha Kilbride Clinton Research Professor.

The Business of Higher Education

Weisbrod's ongoing research examines the causes for variation within and across industries in endowment size. He is also in the midst of a project with labor economist Ron Laschever of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to examine the determinants of college donations and particularly whether athletics crowds out giving to other programs. Weisbrod and IPR project coordinator **Evelyn Asch** have examined athletics as one flashpoint area in the business of higher education—as the desire to make money from college sports seems to outweigh a university's mission to educate its students. 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, Weisbrod and Asch give the example of how the contract for the University of Florida's football coach rewards him with up to \$450,000 in performance bonuses for team wins, but contains no incentives to help his players graduate.

They conclude that for these 70 schools, football revenue is more important than the student-players' education.

Performance Measurement and Rewards

Weisbrod organizes the ongoing IPR Seminar Series on Performance Measurement and Rewards in the Public and Nonprofit Sectors around the core belief that the challenges of measuring and incentivizing performance are the same regardless of activity, from education to healthcare to policing. The series includes a multidisciplinary line-up of Northwestern researchers as well as experts from around the United States.

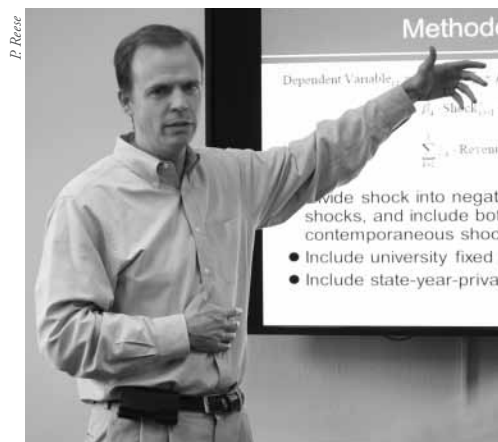
To kick off its fourth year, the series welcomed **Jason Saul**, CEO of Mission Measurement and Kellogg lecturer of social enterprise, who recounted his attempts to build a culture of measurement inside some of America's biggest nonprofits, including the American Red Cross and Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Weisbrod also gave a talk on his own

research comparing the endowments of schools, museums, charities, and other nonprofit organizations.

Two seminars in 2010 examined performance in the mixed public/private healthcare industry: **Dafny** discussed differences between nonprofit and for-profit insurers, and Harvard business professor **Regina Herzlinger** explained how creation of a "healthcare SEC" might bring greater transparency to the industry. Two other experts addressed performance measurement in the education arena: Finance professor **Jeffrey Brown** of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign presented his work on how market

shocks to university endowments affect payout policies and spending decisions, and Dartmouth economist **Douglas Staiger** showed evidence that objective performance data, including student test scores, are useful to principals in evaluating employees and improving productivity.

Weisbrod is working on a book manuscript that will address some of the unintended but predictable consequences of tying rewards to measured performance in a wide array of nonprofit and public organizations.



Jeffrey Brown of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign presents his research on the after-effects of shocks to university endowments as part of the IPR Seminar Series on Performance Measurement.

Politics, Institutions, and Public Policy



Benjamin Page, John Zaller, and Doris Graber discuss their seminal works during a panel at the Chicago Area Behavior Workshop.

Research Topics:

- public opinion, political deliberation, and political communication
- decision making in the policy process
- social welfare programs
- Congress—budgets and partisanship
- income inequality
- gender in attitudes and social policies
- news, technologies, and online behavior
- various aspects of government and politics, such as taxation, judicial behavior, and political parties and campaigns

Workshop Dissects Aspects of 2008 Election

The May 2010 Chicago Area Political and Social Behavior Workshop at Northwestern University examined aspects of the watershed 2008 election year. UCLA's **John Zaller** presented a new framework for understanding political ideology that mirrors that of political parties. **Barry Burden** of the University of Wisconsin–Madison showed that early and absentee voting laws do not necessarily boost voter turnout. **Caroline Tolbert** of the University of Iowa presented her study of public support for election reform, with one part of her study showing public awareness of a power imbalance among the states. IPR associate **Traci Burch** talked about the “spillover effects” of incarceration in prisoners’ home neighborhoods, including drops in voter turnout. Discussing the inspiration and key contributions of their seminal works were three prominent political scientists—**Doris Graber** of the University of Illinois at Chicago, IPR associate **Benjamin Page**, and Zaller. The annual workshop is organized by IPR political scientist **James Druckman** and co-sponsored by IPR.

About the Program



James Druckman,
Chair

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.

Research projects examine the role of government, public opinion, and the media, among others.

Public Deliberation

IPR social policy professor **Fay Lomax Cook** continues to work on various aspects of Americans' political deliberation following the publication of *Talking Together: Public Deliberation and Political Participation in America* (University of Chicago Press, 2009). In the book, she and her co-authors draw on original research to show that public discussions about policy issues are more widespread than initially thought, with 80 percent of Americans having participated in at least one such discussion in the past year. They also find one in four Americans engage in more taxing, formally organized, face-to-face group discussions, such as town hall meetings. She is writing a chapter on the consequences of public talk for the forthcoming "Oxford Handbook of Political Communication." She has also given several talks on the topic over the year, including a May 28 keynote address in Stockholm at an international conference on the dynamics of citizenship.

Public Opinion and National Energy Policy

The Obama administration continues to champion a move to clean energy and to scale back on fossil fuels, yet what do Americans think about such green technologies and policies? In summer 2010, **Cook** and **Druckman** conducted three surveys to gauge knowledge and attitudes about traditional and alternative energy sources, as well as how Americans support various energy policies and programs. The surveys are the first to compare views between citizens, scientists, and policymakers and consider the amount

of agreement between them. They will provide the most comprehensive picture to date of U.S. opinions on energy sources and policies. The public component also included three randomized experiments to examine the extent to which various factors affect opinions about energy policy. The researchers received funding for the project from the Initiative for Sustainability and Energy at Northwestern. They are currently analyzing survey data and working on a report with Toby Bolsen of Georgia State University, a former IPR graduate research assistant. Druckman is Payson S. Wild Professor of Political Science.

Public Opinion and Social Security

During the 2010 election in one of the most highly polarized political eras ever, many politicians seized on Social Security as a campaign theme, with some spreading misinformation about the program. Gov. Rick Perry, R-Texas, called it a "Ponzi scheme," and Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., told 25- and 30-year-olds they couldn't expect to get Social Security when they reached the age of eligibility. Working with IPR graduate research assistant **Rachel Moskowitz**, **Cook** asks whether Americans' views on Social Security change during times of fiscal and political challenges. They look at public opinion data between 1984 and 2010, finding that public support for Social Security remains consistently high despite concerns about its future, with an overwhelming majority of both Republicans and Democrats supporting the program. Their eventual paper will also consider the extent to which the public supports the recommendations of President Obama's bipartisan deficit reduction commission on Social Security.

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 writing a book about 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. They have published four papers on the topic, including a chapter in the 2011 Russell Sage Foundation volume, *Who Gets Represented?* In it, they show how private polling data in the Reagan White House led

to three groups—Republicans, the wealthy, and religious conservatives—wielding a disproportionate influence over Reagan’s policy positions.

Americans’ Beliefs About 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 IPR sociologist **Leslie McCall** points to a need for other ways to describe opportunity than just “hard work gets you ahead.” She is outlining how Americans think about economic opportunity in a book manuscript. While Americans clearly want a more equal society, she shows that the perceived lack of viable alternatives pushes them to desire wider opportunities in the forms 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.

What the Wealthiest Americans Think About the “Common Good”

Page is leading a 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 **Cook**, Jacobs, Harvard’s Sandy Jencks, and Princeton’s Larry Bartels, Page is weaving together data from a variety of sources, including NORC, R.R. Donnelley, and the General Social Survey. 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;

and beliefs about markets, government, equal opportunity, and the American Dream. It will also ask about policy preferences on issues ranging from jobs, healthcare, poverty, education, and pensions to taxes, financial reform, and macroeconomic policy. Page is Gordon S. Fulcher Professor of Decision Making.

Public Opinion Formation and Framing

Druckman continues to study the origins and nature of public opinion by exploring the effects of competition and over-time events such as campaigns, a subject that has received little attention from social scientists despite its significant implications for public opinion and politics. Druckman initially started the project with fellow political scientist **Dennis Chong**, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Professor and an IPR associate. The two have developed their theory of how citizens form political opinions and how political and media elites affect these views. They explore what makes a given frame successful in competitive environments, specifically isolating the causal

forces behind rhetorical success when various communications compete with one another, as when there is both a free speech and a public safety frame. The second part of their project explores the over-time dimension of political competition. They have developed a theoretical model of opinion formation that accounts for time lapses and implemented two new experiments. The paper based on this work was published in the *American Political Science Review*.

Other papers by Druckman have also looked at over-time communication effects, including

one published in the *Journal of Politics*. This article explores the relative impact of two prominent types of competing arguments—frames in the debate (for example, whether the debate centers on issues or personalities) and political endorsements over time. Druckman, graduate student Cari Hennessy, and former students Kristi St. Charles and Jonathan Webber show that only frames have initial direct effects, although endorsements exert initial indirect effects on opinion formation. Over time, the relative impact of frames and endorsements depends on individual differences



Dennis Chong studies the formation of public opinion in American national politics, including the effects of competing frames in campaigns.

P. Reese

in processing style. Druckman is now implementing experiments about over-time information search behaviors and how they affect opinion formation.

Ethnically Targeted Political Advertising

IPR political scientist **Victoria DeFrancesco Soto** is studying how ethnically targeted political ads influence voters 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 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.

Leadership and Diversity

The historic 2008 presidential election elevated issues of gender and race in leadership as Americans saw a white woman and biracial man vying for the Democratic nomination and the first white female Republican vice presidential nominee. Taking this example, IPR psychologist **Alice Eagly** and her co-author Jean Lau Chin of Adelphi University point out that it was a missed opportunity for scholars of leadership to contribute to these discussions because so few of them examine diversity issues in their study of leadership. This lack of attention is particularly surprising given the growing diversity of leaders in terms of race, gender, and sexual orientation.

Joining these two research streams, the authors explain, would provide greater insight into how being part of a diverse group shapes and enhances leadership potential. They trace how those outside of the traditional circle of white

male leaders might attain such roles. Eagly is James Padilla Chair of Arts and Sciences. The article appeared in a special issue on leadership and diversity in the *American Psychologist*.

Gender and Sex

Eagly continues her work on social psychological and evolutionary determinants of sex differences and similarities in collaboration with Wendy Wood of the University of Southern California. In the *Handbook of Social Psychology*, the field’s main reference work, the authors review the current state of research on gender. While in the past researchers have separated the terms “gender” and “sex,” the authors show it is difficult, if not impossible, for researchers to consider one without the other.

Eagly and Wood go on to provide a broad biological and sociocultural overview of the evidence on the thoughts, feelings, and behaviors of and about women and men.

Among other topics, they discuss gender stereotypes and evolutionary pressures on behavior, concluding with a theory of how biosocial processes account for change and stability in men’s and women’s roles in society.

Gender and Class Inequality

McCall is studying earnings inequality among women, looking at changes in family demography. 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.



Alice Eagly talks with Mark Hayward of the University of Texas at Austin about gender differences in health.

Increasingly similar incomes among spouses decrease measures of economic dependency between men and women but increase income inequality among families.

Research Trends in Income Inequality

Rising income inequality from the mid-1990s to the present was characterized by rapid income growth among top earners and new patterns of employment and income pooling across families and households. Research on economic inequality expanded from a more narrow focus on wage inequalities and labor markets to other domains including incentive pay, corporate governance, income pooling and family formation, social and economic policy, and political institutions.

In the *Annual Review of Sociology*, **McCall** and IPR sociologist **Christine Percheski** review and provide a critical discussion of recent research in these new domains, such as research that uses income tax records instead of household surveys to measure income, especially for high earners. They suggest areas where sociological research might provide new insight into the character and causes of contemporary income inequality.



Leslie McCall presents her research on gender, income, and inequality at an IPR colloquium.

Recession and Women's Financial Well-Being

Is the current recession affecting women's economic well-being differently than the recession of the early 1980s did? Using Current Population Survey data, **Percheski** is investigating how women's employment, earnings, and total family income during the current recession compare with those of 1980s' recession. She is focusing on differences by marital and parental status to show how the social profile of who is most affected by a recession has changed over the last two decades.

Fiscal Sociology

IPR 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 is piecing together the puzzle of why the United States has developed

the most progressive tax system of all 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. Her 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. This research is supported by a CAREER award from the National Science Foundation.

The Credit / Welfare State Trade-Off

One of the ironies of the financial crisis is that it uncovered a striking divergence in the development of U.S. and European banking regulations.

Prasad finds current theories of political economy fall short of explaining how the supposedly more liberal United States has, until very recently, had a banking system more tightly regulated than any

in Europe. In the 1990s, the United States attempted to imitate the looser European regulations, yet this led to more disastrous consequences in the United States than in Europe. Sketching a "demand-side" theory of comparative political economy, Prasad shows a trade-off between reliance on credit and reliance on the welfare state across advanced industrial countries. She traces how banking-sector deregulation is associated with a rise in household debt in countries with less developed welfare states like the United States—but not in countries with more developed welfare states, such as those in Europe. However, European countries were drawn into the crisis to the extent that their banks were exposed to American financial markets.

The Regulatory State Since Nixon

By exploiting variation in the trajectory and character of deregulation across selected sectors of the economy since the 1970s, IPR sociologist **Anthony Chen** is exploring changes in the balance of regulatory authority between

Congress, interest groups, federal agencies, and the federal courts over time. He is interested in understanding how the transformation of the regulatory state has affected the distribution of economic risk between taxpayers and the private sector and to what extent the observed changes are linked to the political mobilization of business interests.

Polarization in Congress

Why does congressional polarization persist if the public claims to want less of it? In a paper with Neil Malhotra of the University of Pennsylvania, IPR political scientist **Laurel Harbridge** explains that part of the answer might lie with 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 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 strong Republicans (who are most likely to be party activists, volunteers, and financial contributors) express greater disapproval of individual members who voted with the opposing party, despite desiring bipartisanship from Congress as a whole.



Laurel Harbridge talks with fellow political scientist Daniel Galvin before the IPR Distinguished Public Policy Lecture.

Agenda Control and Declining Bipartisanship

Harbridge is examining how bipartisanship has changed over the last 40 years in Congress. In an IPR working paper, she starts from the premise that there has been an increase in polarization in Congress since the 1970s but little to none in public attitudes. One might assume that these two patterns of polarization indicate that congressional members have become less responsive to their constituents. Harbridge, however, takes a broader view of bipartisan cooperation, looking at House roll call votes and bill cosponsorship coalitions. She finds that while roll call votes have become more partisan, bill cosponsorship coalitions have not. This suggests that responsiveness has declined for roll call voting, but increased for cosponsorship coalitions. She reconciles

these divergent patterns with how parties control the content of the congressional agenda. In effect, she argues that political parties are contributing to a rise in party polarization by selecting which bills face roll call votes—thus calling the public's attention to an increased upswing in congressional polarization and declining bipartisanship.

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 changes in funding levels. In a *Public Administration Review* article, they explore the dynamics of budgetary incrementalism. Previous research has never specified what constitutes a “small change,” nor shown how multiple levels of aggregation can affect

such incrementalism. The authors find major volatility, with one out of every five budget subaccounts changing by more than 50 percent, and nearly half changing by more than 10 percent. This volatility upends the idea that agency budgets are relatively stable and protected from political gridlock. The authors point to a need to elaborate formal theories of incrementalism for future research.

Budgetary Bargaining

Why is it that in 2010 the United Kingdom was able to quickly slash its budget by \$130 billion over four years while U.S. lawmakers struggled to pass a 2011 budget, with smaller proposed cuts, halfway into the fiscal year? IPR associate **Daniel Diermeier**, professor of managerial economics and decision sciences, and his co-author Po Han Fong of City University of Hong Kong have developed a new model to help explain the conditions under which governments find it easier to cut back. The two researchers

model government budgeting as a multidimensional policy process, finding a correlation between budget size and allocation. They show how agenda-setters—i.e., politicians of the party in power—motivated by either personal or constituent interests, must negotiate with the other political party, or parties, and most importantly, how these negotiations are influenced by current expenditures.

Using two- and three-party simulations, Diermeier and Fong demonstrate that the agenda-setter in a three-party system—i.e., a prime minister supported by a permanent coalition—is likely to negotiate more with opposition parties to achieve a consensus. Thus, allocations tend to be more equally distributed among the parties concerned. However, in a two-party system, the agenda-setter—the president—faces an ever-shifting array of coalitions and will likely appeal to the interests of those most disadvantaged by the status quo because their votes are “cheaper” to obtain. Especially when the proposed budget is smaller than the current one, this situation leads to a more unequal allocation of funds, making it more difficult to obtain collective support. Overall, the model implies that, given the status quo, a prime minister will be more likely to initiate budget cuts than a president, indicating why politicians in the United Kingdom might find more success at budget cutting than those in the United States. The findings were published in *Social Choice and Welfare*. Diermeier is IBM Professor of Regulation and Competitive Practice.

Party Legacies and Adaptive Capacities: Democrats in the Rust Belt, 1970–2010

What factors facilitate or frustrate the capacities of left-of-center parties to adapt to changing environmental conditions? In examining Democrats in the “Rust Belt”—the region of the United States hit hardest by globalization-related trends—political scientist and IPR associate **Daniel Galvin** finds surprising variation in the adaptive capacities of the Democratic parties of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Wisconsin. He argues that this variation can be explained, in part, by these parties’ historical ties to organized labor, urban machines, and liberal interest groups—and the relative strength of these ancillary partners in each state. Building upon theories of party adaptation and challenging the standard characterization of “decline” in the Democratic Party, Galvin shows how these parties’ organizational legacies shaped their efforts to negotiate programmatic and coalition change during a time of socioeconomic upheaval.

Judicial Behavior

Judges play a central role in the American legal system, but given the secrecy with which the system often shrouds judges, their behavior and decision-making processes are not well understood. More recently, social scientists—political scientists, economists, and psychologists, among others—have used increasingly sophisticated theoretical concepts and quantitative tools to conduct more scientific study of judicial behavior. Yet no single book provides a comprehensive, up-to-date overview of this new learning about judicial behavior. Law professor and IPR associate **Lee Epstein** and her colleagues are working to fill this gap with a combination of survey and original research. In a recent study that will appear in their forthcoming book, Epstein and her colleagues find that out of 13 areas of law, from affirmative action to abortion, a judge’s gender appears to be irrelevant in the outcome of cases—except for 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. Epstein is also working on another book project that will take a comprehensive look at how case selection on the U.S. Supreme Court sets the nation’s legal agenda. She is Henry Wade Rogers Professor.

Videoconferencing vs. Live Bail Hearings

During the 1990s, videoconferencing became common practice in many U.S. courts for a variety of legal proceedings, including criminal matters prior to the actual trial. But could this technology threaten the due process rights of defendants? IPR associate **Shari Seidman Diamond**, a law professor and psychologist, has led the first empirical study of how videoconferencing can affect bail outcomes. In a study published in the *Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology*, Diamond and her colleagues analyze data on more than 645,000 bail hearings in Cook County, Ill., between 1991 and 2007. Halfway through this period,



Award committee chair Valerie Hans (r.) presents Shari Diamond with the Law and Society Association’s Harry J. Kalven prize for empirical legal scholarship.

J. Zisch

the county required nearly all felony defendants in Chicago to appear for bail hearings via closed circuit television from offsite. Their analysis reveals a sudden spike in bond amounts for all types of cases that were switched to televised bail hearings. Bond rates for those cases continued to climb in the eight years following the change, increasing an average of 51 percent—or roughly \$21,000. In contrast, the average bond amount for homicide and sexual assault cases, which were not allowed to use videoconferencing and thus continued to have live hearings, showed almost no change at all. The severe disadvantage that videoconferencing produced for defendants appears to be linked to the poor quality of the videos, as well as to the “rapid-fire” nature of televised hearings—public defenders had little time to meet with their clients, and the average televised bail hearing lasted just 30 seconds. Yet it remains unclear whether any improvements in timing or technology would make up for the defendant’s physical presence in the courtroom. Thus, in 2008, after preliminary results of Diamond’s study were disclosed to all counsel in a federal lawsuit challenging the use of videoconferencing for bail hearings, Cook County voluntarily reverted back to live bail hearings for all cases.

Empirical Research and Juvenile Due Process

IPR associate **Jeannette Colyvas**, assistant professor of human development, social policy, and learning sciences, is conducting exploratory research with graduate student April

Faith-Slaker on the role of empirical knowledge of child and adolescent development in the juvenile court system. Since the 1960s, the U.S. juvenile justice system has shifted from its protective role to a more punitive one, and preliminary data indicate that courts rarely make use of relevant social science information. For example, a 14-year-old defendant in one recent case was determined by a psychologist to have the mental capacity of a 5-year-old, but the teenager was tried anyway and found guilty. Colyvas and Faith-Slaker hope the project will highlight the seriousness of the threat to the right to a fair trial for this vulnerable population.

Web Content Reliability and Branding

While the Internet is awash in information, not all of it is reliable. For a study published in the *International Journal*

of Communication, communication studies researcher and IPR associate **Eszter Hargittai** and her graduate students conducted in-depth interviews with 102 ethnically diverse, first-year college students to provide the most complete picture to date of how users search for and evaluate online information. The researchers started at the moment when students chose a search engine, following through to their actual “landing” on a Web page with the sought-after content. Branding was immensely important, with 98 percent of students mentioning a brand (Google, Yahoo!, MapQuest, etc.) at some point during their assigned tasks. Search engine brands were highly influential, with trusted brands conferring an air of credibility on those pages that appeared in the top of their rankings. The researchers point to varying skill sets amongst users and the need for an education intervention on how users can critically evaluate online materials. The study is part of Hargittai’s ongoing Web Use Project, which studies digital inequality and differences in users’ Web skills.



Eszter Hargittai leads the Web Use Project, which studies differences in Web users’ skills and digital inequality.

Gender, Grades, and Social Networks

In another study published in the journal *Information, Communication & Society*, **Hargittai** and graduate student Yu-Li Patrick Hsieh use a sample of 1,060 first-year college students to look at the intensity of students’ usage of social network sites, like Facebook, and whether this is related to their grades. They find, not surprisingly perhaps, that those who spend more time at such sites are

more engaged in online social activities than those who use them less. In terms of gender, women tend to use the sites to strengthen existing relationships while men are more inclined to use them for activities with weaker social ties. Despite widespread concerns to the contrary, no systematic link existed between students’ grade point averages and what they did and how much time they spent while on social network sites.

Political Campaigns and New Media

The Internet and social media have transformed how politicians campaign and how they shape their messages. Political scientists **Druckman**, Michael Parkin of Oberlin College, and Martin Kifer of High Point University continue their research into how these new communication

technologies affect the way electoral campaigns are run. The researchers add to their unique data set through content analysis of more than 1,300 candidates' websites from five election cycles between 2000 and 2010, layering in detailed information about the candidates' backgrounds, the districts and states, and the campaign. To date, Druckman and his colleagues have published four papers on the topic, two of which won awards in 2010 (see p. 60).

Among their recent findings, Druckman and his co-authors show in *Social Science Computer Review* that 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. Another finding published in *Political Communication* highlights that candidates are just as likely to go negative online as they are in their television ads, showing that it is Web behavior that mimics what is done on television and not the other way around. Thus, until systematic evidence exists, analysts should be cautious in asserting that the Internet has transformed politics. The National Science Foundation recently awarded another grant to support data collection for the project.

The News Industry and the Demos

For 60 years, three pillars of social responsibility have guided the news industry: to serve as a public forum, to provide information, and to function as a watchdog. In today's bleak journalistic landscape, scholars are calling attention to the press' inability to meet its social responsibility. They argue that newspapers, in particular, are mortally wounded and that new producers, new media, and new delivery systems lack the Fourth Estate's best qualities, such as objectivity and accuracy. However, research by IPR mass communication scholar **Rachel Davis Mersey**, which includes data from her recent book *Can Journalism Be Saved? Rediscovering America's Appetite for News* (Praeger, 2010), gives newspapers a potential competitive edge by showing them how to move away from a "one-size-fits-all" strategy of news delivery to an identity-based model (see p. 64). Such a model means that newspapers might be better served by targeting specific demographics of readers such as public affairs followers or commuters. She also upends long-standing criticisms

of the identity-based model, with discussion of how newspaper circulation and penetration are weak indicators of community service, arguing that a distribution-based measure would better represent a diversity of voices within the public sphere.

The News Supply-and-Demand Gap

Media, technology, and society researcher **Pablo Boczkowski**, an IPR associate, is examining elite online news sites and the thematic gap that exists between the stories that their journalists consider most newsworthy (supply) and those that attract the biggest audience (demand). Building on several studies and his recent book *News at Work: Imitation in an Age of Information Abundance* (University of Chicago Press, 2010), he and his colleagues look at a variety of online and offline domestic and international media properties, with differing degrees of geographic focus (see p. 65). In every case but one, the thematic mismatch between the two groups reaches into the double digits. Geographical, ideological, or sociocultural differences do not affect the outcomes. The worry is what this might mean for a democracy if news organizations seek to shore up their declining revenues by departing from their sense of civic duty, moving away from financial, political, and policy news to weather, sports, and entertainment news—which seems to be more attuned with the public's news preferences.



Courtesy of Paley Center

Rachel Davis Mersey participates in a panel on reaching the audience at a Paley Center for Media conference.

Community Information Gaps

Some have argued that society has left the information age for the attention age, the justification being that the total—and seemingly unending—amount of information available has led to the commoditization of attention in a way previously unobserved. While evidence of such a shift exists, an overemphasis on attention neglects real concerns about differences between the "information rich" and the "information poor." Taking into account issues of information quality, quantity, and availability, **Mersey** is working with the Chicago Community Trust to detect and evaluate how individuals perceive information gaps in their communities. The project is designed to help the researchers identify which communities are underserved by the current media landscape.

Quantitative Methods for Policy Research



Thomas Cook (second-row center) and William Shadish (front-row center) pose with participants from the first of two workshops at IPR in summer 2010 on quasi-experiments in education research.

Research Topics:

- improving designs, analysis, and synthesis in policy research
- designing more robust methods to evaluate education interventions
- developing new data sources and methods of data collection
- sharing best research practices across disciplines and professional networks
- addressing common statistical problems such as selecting covariates, drawing causal inferences, and analyzing missing data

IPR-Led Methodological Workshops

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES)—the research wing of the U.S. Department of Education—supported two workshop series at IPR in summer 2010 to improve methodological practices in education research, each co-organized by an IPR fellow.

The Workshop on Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis in Education trained 120 researchers over two weeklong sessions between August 2 and 13. This series seeks to improve the quality of quasi-experiments, which are needed when random assignment is not feasible or breaks down in education settings. It is led by IPR social psychologist **Thomas D. Cook** and **William Shadish** of the University of California, Merced. Participants learn three distinct quasi-experimental techniques—regression discontinuity, interrupted time series, and nonequivalent group design using propensity scores and matching—and the advantages and disadvantages of each. In all, more than 450 researchers have received training since the program first got underway in 2006 with funding from the Spencer Foundation. Another series is scheduled for August 2011 with continued support from IES.

Thanks to continued support from IES' National Center for Education Research, IPR education researcher and statistician **Larry Hedges** and professors **Mark Lipsey** and **David Cordray** of Vanderbilt University led their third summer institute on randomized controlled trials (RCTs) in education, July 25 to August 6, at Northwestern. Thirty researchers from around the country participated in the two-week training, which focuses on the use of cluster-randomization—a methodological tool that helps account for the group effects of teachers and classrooms when measuring an intervention's effects on individual student achievement. Sessions cover a range of specific topics in the design, implementation, and analysis of education RCTs, from conceptual and operational models to sampling size and statistical power. Participants also learn to use software such as STATA and HLM to conduct hierarchical data modeling and work in groups to create mock funding applications for an education experiment. The next session will take place at Northwestern in June 2011.

IES Director **John Easton** visited Northwestern on August 4 and spoke to workshop participants about the importance of engaging school practitioners and answering questions that are most relevant for improving schools.

Multilevel Methods in Education

In a project supported by IES, **Hedges** is developing improved statistical methods for analyzing and reporting the results of multilevel experiments in education. Many education evaluations employ complex, multilevel designs to account for the effects of clustering—or the fact that students are situated within certain classrooms in certain schools.

In a 2010 paper published by IES' National Center for Special Education Research, Hedges, who is Board of Trustees Professor of Statistics and Social Policy, and IPR postdoctoral fellow **Christopher Rhoads** take a closer look at statistical power analysis in such studies. Incorporating the effects of clustering, they show that statistical power depends on a number of factors, such as the values of intraclass correlations and sample sizes at the various levels. Fortunately, statistical power can still be computed from standard power tables using operational effect sizes, or effect sizes multiplied by a design effect that depends on features of the complex experimental design. Hedges and Rhoads apply these concepts to the various research designs most frequently used in education field studies.

About the Center



Larry Hedges,
Director

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. The work of Q-Center faculty often overlaps with IPR's Education Policy program (see pp. 27–34).

Mixed Methods in Randomized Field Studies

Most randomized controlled trials (RCTs) focus on gathering quantitative data, with any qualitative analysis playing a secondary role. However, education researcher and IPR associate **James Spillane** demonstrates that qualitative approaches need not take a backseat to quantitative analysis, even in randomized field studies. As a case study, he uses his own research on a principal training intervention in a mid-sized urban U.S. school district.

From the outset, Spillane emphasizes, he and his colleagues mixed quantitative and qualitative approaches in various ways and to various ends. For example, the results of one type of analysis were often used to cross-validate results of another type or to provide context to puzzling or unexpected findings. Moreover, most RCTs evaluate treatment effects on average across large and diverse populations, sometimes overlooking the variation within. Qualitative data can help researchers dig beneath the aggregate-level results and describe not only whether a program does or does not work, but under what conditions it is most or least effective. Given the great cost and emerging press for RCTs, Spillane's work shows the value of a mixed-methods approach in collecting and analyzing data on education interventions. He is Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Professor in Learning and Organizational Change.

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.

Cook is critically examining this literature, comprising more than 20 studies, and is adding new studies to it with his colleagues. Using this database, he is comparing the results of quasi-experiments with and without specific design features to assess how well each reproduces the results from a randomized experiment sharing the same treatment group. The point is to evaluate the advantages and limitations of different kinds of quasi-experimental designs and of different ways of analyzing the data from these designs. The project

receives support from IES and is part of a larger project examining methods for improving quasi-experimental designs in education.

In recent work with several IPR colleagues and former IPR postdoctoral fellow Peter Steiner, now at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, Cook finds several key

ways to reduce bias in quasi-experimental studies, including prior knowledge of close approximations to the unknowable true selection process; the use of pretest measures of the outcome taken at several different time points; the use of matching at school, city, or district levels before matching at the individual child level; and the use of reliably assessed covariates from the multiple different pretest domains,

especially when the pretest measures of the outcome are not available. Results also show that the mode of data analysis is much less important than which covariates are chosen and how well they are measured. Cook is Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice.

Multivariate Regression-Discontinuity Design

IPR postdoctoral fellow **Vivian Wong** is lead author on a 2010 IPR working paper with **Cook** and Steiner that introduces the multivariate regression-discontinuity design (MRDD) for use in quasi-experiments (see p. 74). This design adds multiple assignment variables and cutoffs to traditional regression-discontinuity designs. The researchers analyze an MRDD with two assignment variables to show that the effects can be decomposed into a weighted average of two univariate, regression-discontinuity effects. Using simulation data, they also explore the contexts and conditions under which four methods—the frontier, centering, univariate, and instrumental variable approaches—can produce unbiased estimates of treatment effects.

Covariate Selection and Reliability

When conducting an observational study, it is often difficult to choose those covariates that are highly correlated with the real (unknown) selection process and the potential outcomes of selection bias. In a recent article in *Psychological Methods*, **Cook** and his colleagues conduct a within-study comparison that contrasts a randomized experiment and a quasi-experiment to test multiple strategies for covariate selection. Various covariate sets are used to adjust for initial group differences in the quasi-experiment, which is characterized by self-selection into treatment. The adjusted effect sizes are then compared to the experimental ones, so as to identify which individual covariates—and which conceptually grouped sets of covariates—are most capable of reducing bias in the quasi-experiment. The results provide strong clues for identifying the “best” covariates for studies in which the true selection process is not known. Cook co-authored the paper with Steiner, Shadish, and M. H. Clark of the University of Central Florida.

In related work, Cook, Steiner, and Shadish now turn their attention to the question of unreliability of covariate measurement and its effects on studies that employ propensity score methods. The researchers simulate different degrees of unreliability in multiple covariates that are used to

Courtesy of IES



John Easton, director of the Institute of Education Sciences, presents an award to Vivian Wong, now an IPR postdoctoral fellow, for her outstanding work as an IPR graduate research assistant.

estimate propensity scores in two previous studies. They find that measurement reliability only promotes bias reduction when the covariates are effective to begin with. Increasing or decreasing the reliability of covariates that do not, on their own, reduce selection bias makes no difference at all. The study was published in the *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*.

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 IV estimates. In work with James Heckman of the University of Chicago, IPR economist **Sergio Urzúa** explores the implications of the hypothesis that agents do not sort into treatment based on gains. The economists develop 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 examine the power of the proposed tests and derive a new representation of the variance of the IV estimator for the correlated random coefficient model.

More recently, with University of Chicago colleague Daniel Schmierer, Urzúa and Heckman have published supplements to their original research that offer additional power calculations and procedural descriptions, as well as 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.

Probabilistic Polls and Random Utility Models

When researchers cannot evaluate public or consumer preferences based on actual choice data, they sometimes poll respondents about the actions they would choose in hypothetical scenarios. Data on stated choices are then used to estimate random utility models, as if they were data on actual choices. However, stated and actual choices may differ,

as researchers typically provide survey respondents with less information than they would have in similar, real-life scenarios. One way to overcome this problem is by eliciting choice probabilities, which permits respondents to express uncertainty about their behavior. In a recent article in the *International Economic Review*, IPR economist **Charles F. Manski** shows how to use elicited choice probabilities to estimate random utility models. He also reports estimates from a consumer case study in Israel that measured household preferences related to electricity reliability. Manski is Board of Trustees Professor of Economics.

Coping with Ambiguity in Policymaking

Social planners regularly face the difficult task of identifying the best policy with limited knowledge of policy impacts. Throughout 2010, **Manski** published several articles related to his line of original work on coping with ambiguity in policymaking. In a paper for the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, he considers the problem of a social planner who must choose a vaccination policy. From the perspective of the external-response function, Manski demonstrates that 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 preventive 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.



Ralph Cicerone (r.), president of the National Academy of Sciences, congratulates Charles Manski on his induction into the academy.

Courtesy of NAS

Manski's 2010 IPR working paper on "incredible certitude" (see p. 74), forthcoming in the *Economic Journal*, also addresses the problem of uncertainty in policy debates and develops a typology of poor analytical practices. Although it

is well-known in research circles that stronger assumptions produce weaker conclusions, Manski argues that public and professional pressure to produce concrete policy recommendations often leads planners to make stronger assumptions than they can reasonably defend. He suggests that planners might better promote positive policy discussion by characterizing the plausibility of various situations and the relative effectiveness of differing policies to address them.

Collective Decisions in Social Choice

Most economists, operating in a utilitarian framework, assume that individual choice represents the most efficient means of distributing private goods. The few arguments that have been made in favor of consensus action have relied on a hypothetical economy of altruistic agents. But in new research supported by the National Science Foundation, **Manski** investigates the efficiency of collective decisions in social choice situations with uncertainty. He shows that, based on the mathematics of aggregating individual payoffs, coordinated action can improve outcomes. Specifically, the mean of all actions that agents would choose independently will produce a larger mean payoff for all individuals in all states of nature.

A related conclusion, based on Jensen's inequality, is that in this particular context, it is better for social planners to prescribe the same action to all individuals rather than to diversify treatment across the population. The study was published in *Quantitative Economics*.

Measuring Consumer Uncertainty

Survey measures of consumer expectations have important consequences for both government and business. For example, public uncertainty about future inflation matters not only for forecasting inflation and other macroeconomic outcomes, but also for assessing a central bank's credibility and effectiveness of communication. **Manski** is currently exploring the feasibility of eliciting individual consumers' subjective probability distributions of future inflation outcomes in a project with Wändi Bruine de Bruin of Carnegie Mellon University and Giorgio Top and Wilbert

van der Klaauw of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. The researchers are also looking at how these measures vary over time and their correlations with point forecasts and respondent characteristics.

In another project, Manski and his RAND Corporation colleague Jeff Dominitz are measuring expectations of equity returns among potential investors to gain a better understanding of the determinants of investment in equities and other assets. Analyzing data from the Survey of Economic Expectations in 1999–2001 and the Michigan Survey of Consumers in 2002–2004, they find a population made up of “expectation types,” each forming expectations in a different but stable way. The study is forthcoming in the *Journal of Applied Econometrics*.



Bruce Spencer (l.) is developing statistical models of human capital for U.S. workers.

Forecasting for Areas of Human Capital

IPR 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. Thus, Spencer is developing a new model that allows for aging and retirement, international movement, and potential policy effects of improved incentives for attracting and training students. Having a framework for systematically organizing information about human capital could help U.S. policymakers both in tracking progress and in developing strategies to increase particular kinds of human capital. Spencer also hopes the statistics will be useful in discussions about the future of U.S. higher education, and, by extension, secondary, elementary, and even preschool education.

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.

Methods and Empirical Legal Scholarship

Law professor and IPR associate **Nancy Staudt** is advancing the use of causal directed acyclic graphs in empirical legal studies to help researchers identify causation, avoid bias, and interpret empirical results. Although this methodology has become popular in a number of disciplines, including statistics, biostatistics, epidemiology, and computer science, it has yet to appear in the empirical law literature. In a recent paper with Harvard colleague Tyler VanderWeele, she outlines the rules and principles underlying this methodology and shows how it can assist legal empiricists through both hypothetical and real-world examples. Staudt is Class of 1940 Research Professor.



Nancy Staudt discusses new methods for identifying cause and effect in empirical legal research.

Hypothesis Development and Testing

Widespread misuse of null hypothesis significance testing (NHST) has led many communication researchers to critique this framework and instead emphasize the use of effect sizes and confidence intervals. Communication studies researcher and IPR associate **Daniel O'Keefe** points out that this new approach is often functionally equivalent to NHST in current studies because communication researchers are currently limited by crude predictive capabilities. His analysis suggests that developing more refined predictive capabilities will require making good use of the additional information provided by effect sizes and confidence intervals—and careful thinking about how such refined hypotheses might be tested. He is Owen L. Coon Professor of Argumentation and Debate.

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 might indicate wider trends that should be taken into account when forming conclusions about the data set as a whole.

Marketing professor and IPR associate **Yi Qian**, in a project with Hui Xie of the University of Illinois at Chicago's School of Public Health, makes 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.

Qian and Xie are also investigating the use of a generalized additive missing data model that, contrary to the existing literature, does not assume a restricted linear relationship between missing data and the potentially missing outcome. Using a Wage Offer data set, they conduct an extensive simulation study. Their simulation shows that the proposed method helps reduce bias that might arise from the misspecification of the functional forms of predictors in the missing data model.

Adjusting Survey Data for Poor Memories

The category adjustment model proposes that estimates of inexactly remembered stimuli are adjusted toward the central value of the category of which the stimuli are members. Adjusting estimates toward the average of all category instances, properly weighted for memory uncertainty, should maximize the average accuracy of estimates, but only in

situations with symmetrical category distributions, such that the central stimulus value is also the mean. **Hedges** and his colleagues report two experiments using asymmetric distributions: one where the frequency distribution is skewed and the other where the frequency distribution shifts over time. In both cases, people adjust their estimates toward the category's running mean, which is consistent with the model—but not with alternative explanations for adjusting stimuli toward a category's central value. Published in the *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, the paper was co-authored by Sean Duffy of Rutgers, Janellen Huttenlocher of the University of Chicago, and Elizabeth Crawford of the University of Richmond.



IPR graduate research assistant Beth Tipton (l.), IPR postdoctoral fellow Christopher Rhoads, and other graduate students assist with presentations at the IES Summer Institute on Randomized Cluster Trials in Education.

Experiments in Political Science

IPR political scientist **James Druckman** is co-editor of the first comprehensive overview of how experimental research is transforming political science. Cambridge University Press will publish the “Handbook of Experimental Political Science” in 2011. The volume will offer methodological insights and groundbreaking research from 30 of the discipline's leading experimentalists, including Druckman, Shanto Iyengar and Paul Sniderman of Stanford, Alan Gerber and Donald Green of Yale, and Diana Mutz of the University of Pennsylvania. The handbook aims to ensure that political science experiments are conducted with the highest level of intellectual rigor, thereby enabling political scientists to provide policymakers with significant data and conclusions. The volume came together following a May 2009 conference at Northwestern University, which Druckman organized with support from IPR and funding from the National Science Foundation.

Time-Sharing Experiments in Social Science Research

IPR sociologist **Jeremy Freese** and Penny Visser of the University of Chicago continue to expand the research capacity of Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS), a website that facilitates original experiments on nationally representative samples at no cost to investigators. Recently, TESS joined forces with the Human Factors/Behavioral Sciences Division of the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate to encourage survey research related to terrorism and government countermeasures. Specifically, the partnership will allow social and behavioral scientists to investigate the factors contributing to terrorism-related attitudes, beliefs, judgments, and behaviors with a field study larger than normally permitted in a standard TESS proposal.

TESS was launched in 2008 as an infrastructure project of the National Science Foundation. Faculty, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers can simply submit their proposals for peer review, and if successful, TESS then fields the Internet-based survey or experiment on a random sample of the U.S. population.

Data Center for Census Research

The Chicago Census Research Data Center is a collaborative effort between the U.S. Census Bureau and a consortium of Chicago-area institutions to provide researchers with access to confidential Census Bureau microdata. Launched in 2002 and housed at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, it is one of only 12 such sites in the nation.

The center has recently added new data sets to its broad pool of census resources, including microdata on business establishments and firms, individual and household demographics, longitudinal employment dynamics, and even health data from partnering agencies such as the National Center for Healthcare Statistics. **Spencer** and Andrea Eisfeldt, associate professor of finance in the Kellogg School of Management, represent Northwestern on the board governing the consortium, whose current members also include the University of Chicago and University of Illinois.

Postdoctoral Training in Education Research

The Q-Center's postdoctoral training program, led by **Hedges** and supported by a grant from IES, continues to

provide unique, two-year fellowships in applied education research to recent PhDs. The goal of the program is to produce a new generation of education researchers who are equipped to tackle the pressing challenges of the U.S. education system with the best research methods available.

Currently, the center is hosting two postdoctoral fellows. **Nathan Jones** is studying the role of policy in shaping new teachers' work environments, and **Christopher Rhoads** is working to develop 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.

Promoting a Methodological Network

The Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE) held its third annual conference in March 2010, bringing 385 researchers to Washington D.C. for three days of presentations, panels, and workshops around the theme of "Research into Practice." Speakers included **Cecilia Rouse**, a member of the Council of Economic Advisers; **Thomas McLellan**, then deputy director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; **John Easton**, director of the Institute of Education Sciences; and **Anthony Bryk**, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Several IPR faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate research assistants also presented their work, including **Cook**, **Hedges**, **Rhoads**, and IPR economist **David Figlio**.

Founded in 2005, SREE is a professional society that brings together scholars from a diversity of disciplines in the social sciences, behavioral sciences, and statistics who seek to advance and disseminate research on the causal effects of education interventions, practices, programs, and policies. IPR houses the society and its director, **Rob Greenwald**. Hedges also serves as the society's president and as co-editor of its *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness*.

The Society for Research Synthesis Methodology, co-founded by Hedges and Cook, launched its own flagship journal in 2010, *Research Synthesis Methods*. In its first two issues, the journal covered a wide range of topics, such as statistical methods, empirical research and simulations, literature retrieval and information science, data extraction, and software. The journal's scope is intentionally broad

so as to appeal to researchers across many disciplines who face common methodological issues. Its first issue included an article by Hedges, IPR graduate research assistant **Beth Tipton**, and graduate student Matthew Johnson on estimating the covariance matrix of meta-regression coefficients that are applicable when there are clusters of internally correlated estimates. Tipton and Hedges have also developed related software for robust variance estimation, which is available for download on IPR's website. (See www.northwestern.edu/ipr/qcenter/RVE-meta-analysis.html.)

The journal's second issue also featured an introduction to fixed-effect and random-effects models for meta-analysis, co-authored by Hedges and three of his longtime colleagues, Michael Borenstein of Biostat, Julian Higgins of the U.K. Medical Research Council, and Hannah Rothstein of Baruch College. These four experts on meta-analysis are currently at work on a companion volume to their 2009 *Introduction to Meta-Analysis* (Wiley). The new book will focus on computing effect sizes for meta-analysis.



IPR graduate research assistants James Pustejovsky (l.) and Kelly Hallberg talk with Stephen West of Arizona State after his Q-Center colloquium.

Q-Center Colloquia

The Q-Center kick-started another round of colloquia in 2010 with Arizona State psychology professor **Stephen West**, who spoke on research design and causal inference, comparing the traditional approaches developed by Donald Campbell and Donald Rubin. Economist **Peter Schochet** of Mathematica Policy Research also gave a talk on the late pretest problem in randomized controlled trials in education. The series continues in 2011 with an interdisciplinary lineup of methodological experts.

Urban Policy and Community Development



IPR Director Fay Lomax Cook, OSC Director Alain Chenu (l.), and faculty co-organizers Lincoln Quillian of IPR and Marco Oberti of OSC welcome participants to a joint workshop on cross-national urban issues at Sciences Po in Paris.

Research Topics:

- urban poverty concentration and housing patterns
- community policing and criminal justice
- civic engagement and community building
- cross-national urban issues
- collective efficacy in communities

Urban Issues in France and the United States

IPR faculty are examining common issues of urban poverty, education, and housing in collaboration with scholars from Sciences Po, one of France's most influential universities, and in particular, one of its major research institutes, Observatoire Sociologique de Changement (OSC). In summer 2010, 15 IPR faculty and Northwestern graduate students traveled to Paris for a two-day workshop on "City and Schools."

During the panel on housing, segregation, and data collection, IPR sociologist **Lincoln Quillian** presented preliminary results from his model of household relocation decisions, which links the choice to household and neighborhood characteristics. The model includes housing and demographic data from the U.S. census that many researchers in France have historically been barred from collecting. OSC researcher **Mirna Safi** described how research trends in France are changing, with better data

collection and more attention paid to inequality, rather than just assimilation, in French immigration studies. Northwestern graduate student **Elizabeth Onasch** presented her study on debate following a proposal, eventually struck down, to allow French researchers to collect race and ethnicity data.

On a panel on school choice, IPR education economist **David Figlio** shared results from his study of Florida's school voucher program, indicating that public schools that faced increased competition to keep students improved their test scores slightly after the voucher program was introduced. OSC education researcher **Agnès van Zanten** painted a sociological portrait of middle-class parents, mindful of being in the "right school," who employ informal "hot knowledge" networks to validate housing and school choices. OSC doctoral student **Mathieu Ichou** showed that low-income immigrant parents in France are as equally engaged as their middle-class counterparts in their children's schooling.

Another panel looking at schools and meritocracy included a review by education researcher and IPR associate **James Spillane** of his work on organizational routines as key mechanisms by which school leaders attempt to link administrative goals and classroom instruction. **Marie Duru-Bellat**, an OSC sociologist, talked about how the increase in postsecondary degrees in Europe does not necessarily lead to better outcomes and can reflect social rigidity. IPR education researcher **James Rosenbaum** discussed how well-intentioned high school counselors create "hidden stratification" by recommending college programs with 80-percent failure rates to low-achieving students, instead of more realistic options.

Moving to housing, segregation, and inequalities, OSC professor emeritus **Edmond Préteceille** pointed to his research showing that, contrary to what the media report, most French immigrants live in predominantly white areas. OSC postdoctoral researcher **Bruno Cousin** discussed how upper-middle class Parisians are segregating themselves into enclaves on the west side of the city. IPR graduate research assistant **Hisham Petry** demonstrated a spatial modeling software he developed to explore the persistence of U.S. academic achievement gaps.

IPR associate **John Hagan**, a sociologist and law professor, presented his research on the 10 to 20 percent of U.S. children who have a parent that is incarcerated while they are in elementary school. This situation exerts a major roadblock for children to reach higher education and improve their socioeconomic status. Linking education and criminal records for 4,000 young adolescents, OSC researcher **Hugues**

About the Program



Lincoln Quillian,
Chair

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.

Lagrange showed that failed social integration was a likely reason behind higher rates of criminal behavior among those with Sahel—and, to a lesser extent, North African—origins. Northwestern graduate student **Robert Vargas** presented his analysis of peer interactions in three Mexican American adolescent groups, showing how status and power dependency help insulate them from ridicule, teasing, and peer pressure.

During another panel on social mobility, IPR developmental psychologist **Lindsay Chase-Lansdale** presented a new framework for simultaneously advancing the education of low-income children and their parents, whereby early childhood education centers serve as the access point for promoting the parents' postsecondary attainment. Examining U.S.-French master's degrees between 1970 and 2008, OSC sociologist **Louis Chauvel** links returns on investments in education with generational and social mobility, finding a decline in returns on French "educational assets" as compared with the United States. OSC graduate student **Jules Naudet** explored how a French or American's ethnic, racial, class, and national identity can have an impact on experiences of social success.

The workshop was co-organized by Quillian and Figlio with OSC's **Marco Oberti**. A second workshop is planned for summer 2011 at Northwestern.

Racial Segregation in U.S. Cities

Housing trends in many U.S. cities clearly reflect decades of racial segregation. But why do current residents continue to relocate along racial lines? **Quillian** is examining the

modern-day causes of urban racial segregation in a new project with Elizabeth Bruch of the University of Michigan. One hypothesis is that a community's racial make-up directly affects the decision to move—or not to move—to a certain community, either due to prejudice or a preference for living among neighbors of one's own race. A second hypothesis is that race only appears to matter because it is associated with other characteristics that do matter to households, such as school quality or poverty and crime rates.

S. Levy



Wesley Skogan's research looks at the effectiveness of community policing and other police policies.

To test these hypotheses, Quillian and Bruch have developed new methods for modeling residential mobility across neighborhoods. Their conditional logit model incorporates multiple characteristics of destination neighborhoods, thus improving the model's capacity for realism in replicating residential decision making. Preliminary results suggest that

racial composition is a major factor in residential mobility decisions, even controlling for housing prices, economic status, and other factors of the destination communities. The research is supported by the National Institutes of Health.

Effects of Mixed-Income Housing

Since the 1990s, the philosophy of U.S. housing policy has been steadily moving away from the creation of low-income high-rises to construction of more mixed-income housing. Still, little is known about how the burgeoning of mixed-income developments is playing out in cities across the nation. **Quillian** is a core researcher on one longitudinal study that seeks to place mixed-income housing in its broader social context. With sociologists Robert Sampson of Harvard and Robert Mare of the University of California, Los Angeles, he will help conduct a study of the long-term effects of mixed-income housing on families and neighborhoods. The project is supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. It was designed in part from the recommendations of the Mixed-Income Housing Group, an interdisciplinary circle of scholars organized by the Social

Science Research Council with MacArthur Foundation support to devise an agenda for future research on mixed-income housing. Quillian was a member of that exploratory research group, along with sociologist **Mary Pattillo** and economist **Greg Duncan**, both IPR associates.

Pattillo also continues to examine the mixed blessings of mixed-income neighborhoods with her study of the historic rise, alarming fall, and dramatic renewal of Chicago's North Kenwood/Oakland community. This work highlights common disputes between haves and have-nots, homeowners and apartment dwellers, and newcomers and old-timers as they clash over the social implications of gentrification.

Privatization of Public Housing

Ten years ago, the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) launched its "Plan for Transformation" and began demolishing densely populated, public housing high-rises across the city. Since then, 25,000 public housing units in Chicago have disappeared. So where are those residents now? IPR social policy professor **Dan Lewis** seeks to answer that question through a new study of the privatization of public housing, funded by an IPR seed grant.

The main goal of the CHA plan was to replace the old housing projects with a combination of mixed-income housing, scattered-site housing, and Housing Choice Vouchers (formerly known as Section 8). Over the last decade, much of this ambitious plan has been implemented, but its success is still under debate. Lewis plans to interview residents of one of Chicago's last remaining large-scale, public housing sites and follow their moves and housing choices to assess the impact of the CHA plan.

Challenges of Research-Police Partnerships

To improve police policies and practices, researchers and practitioners must work toward a shared understanding of when and how particular data and research efforts can be used. IPR political scientist **Wesley G. Skogan** draws on his years of experience working with the Chicago Police Department to establish some guidelines for building more effective research-police partnerships.

In exchange for granting researchers access and cooperation, police administrators often expect to receive information that is timely and useful for their own purposes. However, these expectations can be difficult for researchers to meet,

as the research process involves many time-consuming tasks—from procuring funding to developing an appropriate research design to collecting and analyzing data. Skogan suggests that police practitioners might benefit from a fuller understanding of the many steps involved in conducting quality research and how these steps relate to the timeliness and utility of research findings. He also suggests that researchers offer interim reports to police and administrators when possible and adopt a “strategic feedback” approach in communicating their overall findings. This approach involves answering questions such as what works and in what situations and identifying the policy and supervisory factors involved in making a particular strategy effective.

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, aims to address this issue by reducing gun and gun-related violence in targeted areas in Chicago and the state. With support from the National Institute of Justice and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, **Skogan** and his team recently completed a three-year, multisite evaluation of the program’s effectiveness. In addition to fieldwork, interviews, and surveys, the researchers also examined the program’s impact on shootings and killings through a statistical analysis of time series data, a network analysis of gang homicide, and innovative use of GIS-computerized crime mapping techniques. Skogan is currently at work on a book about the study.

Police Reform and Community in Brazil

At the 2010 annual meeting of the Law and Society Association in Chicago, **Skogan** presented his evaluation of an experimental community policing initiative in Brazil. The evaluation included repeated waves of interviews with treatment communities alongside a national survey of how Brazilians view police and other public security personnel. It shows changes in the views of residents of poor, high-crime communities following the program’s introduction, as well as changes in the attitudes of local police officers.

Collective Efficacy in Chicago

Collective efficacy refers to a community’s ability to maintain effective social controls without forced or externally induced actions, such as enforcement by courts or police. In a new project with Christopher Maxwell of Michigan State University and Joel Garner of the U.S. Department of Justice, **Skogan** revisits a landmark study of collective efficacy in Chicago from the mid-1990s. The researchers use updated and more extensive geocoded crime data collected by the Chicago Police Department from 1991–99, as well as archived data from the original study, to gain a better understanding of the geographic nature of criminal behavior.

The original study, published by Sampson, Raudenbush, and Earls in 1997, found that residential stability as well as concentrated immigration and poverty were three important factors associated with levels of neighborhood collective efficacy and that collective efficacy explained much variation in community violence. In particular, higher levels of collective efficacy appear to lessen the effects of concentrated disadvantage, leading to both decreases in homicide rates and perceived levels of violent crime. The findings were based on a survey of more than 8,000 residents across Chicago, who were divided into 343 neighborhood clusters. The revised analysis by Skogan and his colleagues also takes into account how residents’ responses might be related to the crime rates and community characteristics of clusters nearby their own area of residence.



Dan Lewis, director of the Center for Civic Engagement at Northwestern, helps kick off Civically Engaged Young Alumni Week.

Courtesy of the Center for Civic Engagement

Building Civic Engagement

Lewis continues to direct the Center for Civic Engagement at Northwestern, which 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. Its second annual conference was held in 2010 around the theme of “New Media and Political Engagement.” The center

also began collaborating with journalism professor and IPR associate **Jack Doppelt** to engage student translators in Doppelt’s Immigrant Connect project, an online community (www.immigrantconnect.org) for immigrants and second-generation children in and around Chicago.

Awards, Honors, and Presentations of Note

Faculty Fellows

Emma Adam

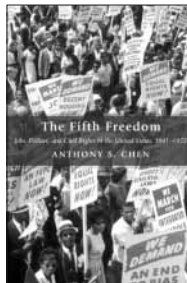
“Diurnal Cortisol Rhythms: Social Determinants and Role as a Risk, State, or Scar Marker for Major Depressive Disorder in Youth,” Biological Markers for Healthy Development: A Seminar on Recent Findings from Mental Health and Obesity Studies, Institute of Medicine/National Research Council Board on Children, Youth and Families, May 13, Washington, D.C.

Lindsay Chase-Lansdale

“New Directions in Early Learning: Current Successes and Future Opportunities,” keynote, President’s Summit on Early Learning, Washington State University, May 11, Seattle, and Board of Directors, Foundation for Child Development, June 24, New York; “Escape from Poverty: Parents’ Roles in Their Children’s School Success,” Board of Directors, Ounce of Prevention Fund, December 1, Chicago

Anthony Chen

Gladys M. Kammerer Award (for the best publication on U.S. national policy); Best Book Award from the Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Section; and J. David Greenstone Award from the Politics and History Section for *The Fifth Freedom: Jobs, Politics, and Civil Rights in the United States, 1941–1972* (Princeton University Press, 2009), American Political Science Association



Fay Lomax Cook

“The Dynamics of Public Deliberation and Political Participation: Talking Together and Acting Together,” keynote, Dynamics of Citizenship Conference, May 28, University of Stockholm; “Fostering Interdisciplinary Public Policy Research,” Fundação Getúlio Vargas, October 22, Rio de Janeiro

Thomas D. Cook

“Die Kausalitaet in der Evaluation: Normative und Empirische Betrachtungen,” Deutsche Gesellschaft für Evaluation, September 13, Luxembourg; “Status Quo and Issues of Evidence Use in the U.S. and U.K.,” International Symposium on Education Reform, National Institute for Educational Policy Research of Japan, September 10, Tokyo; “A Conversation with Tom Cook,” 4th Research Methods Festival, Economic and Social Research Council, July 5, Oxford University

Micaela di Leonardo

“The Shifting Relations of Scholarship on Women, Race, and Sexuality,” Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Anniversaries Conference, Yale University, April 17

James Druckman

Member, American National Election Studies Board, 2010–2013; Paul Lazarsfeld Best Paper Award in Political Communication for “Timeless Strategy Meets New Medium: Going Negative on Congressional Campaign Websites, 2002–2006,” with M. J. Kifer and M. Parkin, and Best Paper Award in Political Psychology for “Framing, Motivated Reasoning, and Opinions About Emergent Technologies,” with T. Bolsen, American Political Science Association

Alice Eagly

Highly Cited Researcher, Institute for Scientific Information; Member, Scientific Advisory Council of the Gender Equality Project; Chair, Feminist Transformations Task Force, Society for the Psychology of Women, American Psychological Association; “Women and Leadership: Don’t Just Trust Your Experiences—Listen to the Research,” Women Leaders—Not Business as Usual Conference, April 22, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee; “Through the Labyrinth: How Women Become Leaders,” Conference on Women in Educational Leadership, October 11, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

David Figlio

Outstanding Service Award, American Education Finance Association; founding member, Economics of Education Program, CESifo Group, Munich

Jeremy Freese

Member, Sociological Research Association

Jonathan Guryan

“For-Profit Colleges,” research briefings with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and staff, October 26, and Office of Management and Budget and congressional staff, April 23, Washington, D.C.

Larry Hedges

Member, Committee on National Statistics, National Academies; “Context Effects, Experiments, and Generalization in Education and Social Research,” U.K. Economic and Social Research Council, June 7, London;

“Towards a Future Education Research Policy,” National Academy of Education, November 6, Washington, D.C.

Christopher Kuzawa

“Advances in Epigenetics: Implications for Public Health,” 4th National Conference on Genomics and Public Health, National Institutes of Health, December 10, Bethesda, Md.

Dan Lewis

Faculty Honor Roll, Northwestern University

Charles F. Manski

Member, Committee on Deterrence and the Death Penalty, and Report Review Committee, National Research Council; “Studying Treatment Response to Inform Treatment Choice,” Jerry Lee Crime Prevention Symposium, April 19, College Park, Md.; Public Symposium on Social Interactions, Social Networks, and Implications for the Behavioral and Social Sciences, National Academies, April 27, Washington, D.C.; “Identification of Treatment Response with Social Interactions,” *The Econometrics Journal* Lecture, (EC)² Conference, December 17, Toulouse, France

Leslie McCall

“Intersectionality by Design: Epistemologies, Disciplines and Discourse,” Critical Race Studies Symposium, Schools of Law and Public Affairs, University of California, Los Angeles, March 11; “The Undeserving Rich? American Perceptions of Inequality, Opportunity, and Redistribution,” Great Expectations: Obama and the Politics of Reform speaker series, Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics, University of Oregon, May 4

Thomas McDade

Appointed member, Panel on Bio-Indicators and Genetics of Demographic Behavior, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population; Award for Distinguished Teaching, Weinberg College, Northwestern University; “Social Environment, Stress, and Physiological Indicators of Health,” invited participant, Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research, National Institutes of Health, and the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Science, National Academy of Sciences, May 11, Washington, D.C.

Therese McGuire

Alumni Master, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, November 10–12

Rachel Davis Mersey

Invited panelist, “Reaching the Audience in a Fragmented Media Landscape,” Future of Journalism Education Summit, Carnegie Corporation of New York and Paley Center for Media, February 12, New York; “News That Matters: An Assessment of Chicago’s Information Landscape,”

co-presenter, Advancing Chicago’s News Ecosystem: A Community News Summit, Chicago Community Trust, September 23, Chicago

Monica Prasad

Council member, Economic Sociology Section, American Sociological Association, 2010–2013

Jennifer Richeson

Weinberg College Board of Visitors Research and Teaching Professor, appointed professorship, Northwestern University

Dorothy Roberts

Dorothy Ann and Clarence L. Ver Steeg Distinguished Research Fellowship, Northwestern University; “From Morality to Public Policy,” plenary, Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Fair-Minded Words: A Conference on Life and Choice in the Abortion Debate, October 16, Princeton University; “Is Race-Based Medicine Good for Us? African American Approaches to Race, Biotechnology, and Equality,” World Forum on Human Rights, June 29, Nantes, France; “What’s Wrong with Race-Based Medicine? Genes, Drugs, and Health Disparities,” Dienard Memorial Lecture on Law & Medicine, February 3, University of Minnesota

James Rosenbaum

“College Coaching,” research briefings, CEO Ron Huberman and staff, Chicago Public Schools, March 8, Chicago

Morton Schapiro

Elected fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences; George F. Hixson Award, Kiwanis Club, October 5, Evanston

Lauren Wakschlag

Vice Chair for Scientific and Faculty Development, Department of Medical Social Sciences, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University

Celeste Watkins-Hayes

Distinguished Service Award, Department of African American Studies, Northwestern University; YWomen Leadership Award, YWCA, October 14, Evanston, Ill.; “Health, Hardship, and Renewal: The Social and Economic Experiences of Women Living with HIV/AIDS,” keynote, inaugural conference, Institute for African American Research, University of South Carolina, March 25



L. Bélice

Dorothy Roberts studies the role of race in legal and medical issues.

Faculty Associates

Bernard Black

Nicholas D. Chabreja Professor, appointed chair, School of Law and Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University

A. Campbell



Pablo Boczkowski researches the changing landscape of print journalism and the news preferences of journalists and their audiences.

Pablo Boczkowski

Innovations Grant, School of Communication, Northwestern University

Joan Chiao

“Cultural Neuroscience: Where Does Human Diversity Come From?” Center for Neuroscience & Society public talk, University of Pennsylvania, December 9

Jeannette Colyvas

Undergraduate Teaching Award, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University

Leemore Dafny

Faculty Impact Award, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University; “Paying a Premium on Your Premium? Consolidation in the U.S. Health Insurance Industry,” New Perspectives on Health and Health Care Policy Conference, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago/Institute of Government and Public Affairs, University of Illinois, March 22

David Dana

Stanford Clinton Sr. and Zylpha Kilbride Clinton Research Professor, appointed professorship, Northwestern University

Shari Seidman Diamond

Harry J. Kalven Jr. Prize for empirical sociolegal scholarship, Law and Society Association

Lee Epstein

Lasting Contribution Award for *The Choices Justices Make* (CQ Press, 1998), Law and Courts Section, American Political Science Association; Best Free Reference Website Award for the Supreme Court Database, Emerging Technologies in Reference Section, American Library

Association; “Are Judges Realists? An Empirical Study,” J.A. Corry Lecture, Queen’s University, October 29, Kingston, Ontario, Canada; “Why (and When) Judges Dissent: A Theoretical and Empirical Analysis,” Theorists & Jurists Presentation, Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, University of Buffalo Law School, May 17

Steven Epstein

John C. Shaffer Professor in the Humanities, appointed chair, Northwestern University; Distinguished Scholarly Book Award for *Inclusion: The Politics of Difference in Medical Research* (University of Chicago Press, 2007), American Sociological Association

Daniel Galvin

R. Barry Farrell Teaching Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Northwestern University

Loren Ghiglione

Distinguished Service to Journalism History Award, American Journalism Historians Association

Philip Greenland

“Whither Cardiovascular Disease Risk Prediction,” Ancel Keys Memorial Lecture, American Heart Association, November 16, Chicago

Shane Greenstein

Highly Cited Author Award for “How Did Location Affect Adoption of the Internet by Commercial Establishments? Urban Density Versus Global Village,” with C. Forman and A. Goldfarb, *Journal of Urban Economics*

John Hagan

Elected fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences; “The Displaced and Dispossessed of Darfur,” *British Journal of Sociology* public lecture, October 20, London School of Economics

Eszter Hargittai

Outstanding Young Scholar Award, International Communication Association

Carol Lee

Edwina S. Tarry Professor of Education and Social Policy, appointed chair, Northwestern University; Lifetime Achievement Award, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education; President’s Pacesetters Award, American Association of Blacks in Higher Education; “Soaring Above the Clouds, Delving the Ocean’s Depths: Understanding the Ecologies of Human Learning and the Challenge for Education Science,” presidential address, American Educational Research Association, annual meeting, May 2, Denver

Jennifer Light

Innovations Grant, School of Communication,
Northwestern University

Michael Mazzeo

Inaugural Samsung-Stanford Patent Prize for “Are Patent Infringement Awards Excessive? The Data Behind the Patent Reform Debate,” with J. Hillel and S. Zyontz, Stanford Law School, November 15

Daniel O’Keefe

Owen L. Coon Professor of Argumentation and Debate, appointed chair, and Galbut Outstanding Faculty Award, School of Communication, Northwestern University

Ann Orloff

“Remaking Power and Politics,” presidential address, Social Science History Association, November 20, Chicago

Mary Pattillo

Harold Washington Professor, appointed chair, Northwestern University; “Race, Class, and Crime in the Redevelopment of American Cities,” keynote, German American Studies Association, May 30, Berlin; “Acción Afirmativa y las Complejidades de Color, Clase Social, y Diversidad Etnica entre la Comunidad Afroamericana Estadounidense,” Universidad de los Andes, April 29, Bogota, Colombia

David Protes

National Intellectual Freedom Award, National Council of Teachers of English/Support for the Learning and Teaching of English

James Spillane

“Education Policy and Classroom Practice: Rethinking School Administration,” annual lecture, London Centre for Leadership in Learning, Institute of Education, University of London, March 18; “Challenges in Educational Leadership,” keynote, 11th Congreso Internacional Universitario de Organización de Instituciones Educativas, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, December 16, Cuenca, Spain

Linda Teplin

Invited panelist, “Mental Health, Special Needs, and Substance-Abuse Issues,” Cognition, Brain Function, and Learning in Incarcerated Youth Workshop, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Bethesda, Md.

Ellen Wartella

Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani Professor of Communication, appointed chair, Northwestern University

Teresa Woodruff

“Unveiling the 10-Year Strategic Plan for Women’s Health Research at the National Institutes of Health,” briefing, Congressional Caucus for Women’s Issues, September 30, Washington, D.C.; “The Oncofertility Consortium: Building Fertility Preservation Options for Cancer Patients,” John Whitney Memorial Lecture, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, February 4, Little Rock, Ark.

Faculty in the Media—Selected Mentions

A study by biological anthropologists **Christopher Kuzawa**, **Thomas McDade**, and their colleagues on how childhood exposure to germs can influence adult health was picked up by hundreds of media outlets around the world, including the *Guardian*, *Time*, CNN, UPI, and AFP.

The *New York Times* reported on a working paper co-authored by economist **Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach** finding that students with better quality kindergarten teachers can expect higher earnings and better achievement as adults.

The *Wall Street Journal*’s Real Time Economics and *SmartMoney* wrote about a working paper by economist **Jonathan Guryan** and his colleagues on prize-linked savings accounts that could turn the urge to gamble into one to save.

Newsweek covered a working paper by education economist **David Figlio** showing that when a school receives poor ratings, its teachers are more likely to leave, even for another school in the same district.

Health economists **Leemore Dafny**, **David Dranove**, and **Burton Weisbrod** provided commentary and analysis about various aspects of healthcare reform over the year to the *Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, and public television’s “Chicago Tonight.”

Political scientist **Victoria DeFrancesco Soto** discussed immigration reform with Chicago Public Radio’s “Eight Forty-Eight,” Univision, and Politico.



The Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences honors sociologists Steven Epstein and Mary Pattillo, both IPR associates, for their new named professorships.

Recent Faculty Books

Faculty Fellows

Anthony Chen

Chen, Anthony. *The Fifth Freedom: Jobs, Politics, and Civil Rights in the United States, 1941–1972*. Princeton University Press (2009).

Fay Lomax Cook

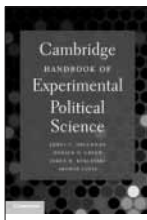
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Micaela di Leonardo

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James Druckman

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Alice Eagly

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Larry Hedges

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Dan Lewis

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Charles F. Manski

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Rachel Davis Mersey

Mersey, Rachel Davis. *Can Journalism Be Saved? Rediscovering America's Appetite for News*. Praeger (2010).

Monica Prasad

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Gaining Ground in Illinois: Welfare Reform and Person-Centered Policy Analysis

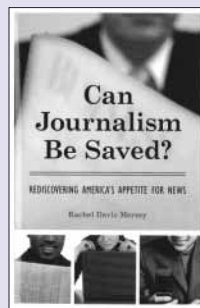


by Dan Lewis
Northern Illinois University Press

IPR social policy professor Dan Lewis combines data and lessons learned from his four years directing Illinois' study of welfare reform. The study was mandated by the state legislature and spearheaded by then-state Sen. Barack Obama. Lewis shows how welfare

reform affected the state's poorest citizens and seeks to give policymakers some direction in how to move past ideological debates and improve the lives of the poor.

Can Journalism Be Saved? Rediscovering America's Appetite for News



by Rachel Davis Mersey
Praeger

U.S. newspapers are facing challenging times, with declining circulations and ad revenues, staff cutbacks, and in some cases, outright closure. IPR mass communication scholar Rachel Davis Mersey traces the history of print journalism from its 19th-

century origins to current-day 24/7 blogs and Twitter feeds. She posits that newspapers can save themselves by placing readers' needs at the center of their efforts.

Dorothy Roberts

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Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-First Century.

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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).

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Morton Schapiro

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College Success: What It Means and How to Make It Happen. College Board (2008).

Celeste Watkins-Hayes

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Burton Weisbrod

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Mission and Money: Understanding the University.

Cambridge University Press (2008, paperback 2010).

Faculty Associates**Pablo Boczkowski**

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

Traci Burch

Hochschild, Jennifer, Vesla Weaver, and Traci Burch.

Transforming the American Racial Order. Princeton University Press (forthcoming).

Carolyn Chen

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Princeton University Press (2008).

Joan Chiao

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Daniel Diermeier

Bendor, Jonathan, Daniel Diermeier, David Siegel,

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Diermeier, Daniel. *Reputation Rules: Strategies for Building Your Company's Most Valuable Asset.* McGraw-Hill (2011).

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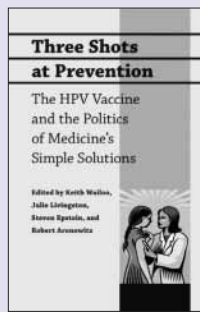
News at Work: Imitation in an Age of Information Abundance



by Pablo Boczkowski
University of Chicago Press

Media, technology, and society researcher Pablo Boczkowski, an IPR associate, argues that instant access to news has led to an increase in the volume of stories and frequency of dissemination but a decrease in the diversity of news presented to the public. He traces the dynamics and consequences of this paradox from the journalist's cubicle and distribution centers to its arrival on readers' media devices.

Three Shots at Prevention: The HPV Vaccine and the Politics of Medicine's Simple Solutions



ed. by Keith Wailoo, Julie Livingston, and Steven Epstein
Johns Hopkins University Press

Religious conservatives decried the government's approval of the HPV vaccine as implicitly encouraging promiscuity, while advocates applauded its potential to prevent thousands of cervical cancer deaths each year. This volume, co-edited by sociologist and IPR associate Steven Epstein, addresses the sexual and social politics confronting this and other public health initiatives.

David Dranove

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

Lee Epstein

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Epstein, Lee, and Thomas Walker. *Constitutional Law for a Changing America: A Short Course*, 5th ed. CQ Press (2011).

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Eli Finkel

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Daniel Galvin

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Shane Greenstein

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John Hagan

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

Eszter Hargittai

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Craig LaMay

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

Who Are the Criminals? The Politics of Crime Policy from the Age of Roosevelt to the Age of Reagan

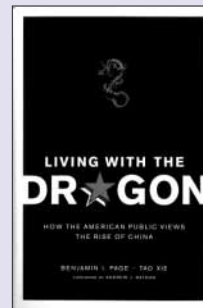


by John Hagan
Princeton University Press

As one of America's leading criminologists, IPR associate John Hagan tracks the politicization of crime in the 20th century, describing how it has transformed and distorted crime policymaking and led Americans to fear street crime too much and

corporate crime too little. He analyzes the recent history of American criminal justice from the age of Roosevelt (roughly 1933 to 1973) through the age of Reagan (1974 to 2008).

Living with the Dragon: How the American Public Views the Rise of China



by Benjamin Page and Tao Xie
Columbia University Press

China recently became the world's second-largest economy, right behind the United States. Given China's rapid economic rise and growing military and geopolitical influence, how do Americans really feel about the country? Public opinion research

by IPR associate Benjamin Page and fellow political scientist Tao Xie shows that, contrary to conventional wisdom, most Americans favor peaceful engagement with China.

Carol Lee

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Jennifer Light

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John McKnight

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Robert Nelson

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Mary Pattillo

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Robert Porter

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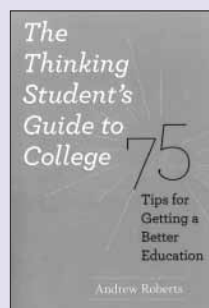
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Teresa Woodruff

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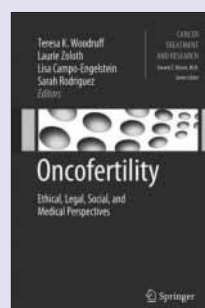
by Andrew Roberts
University of Chicago Press

Based on his experiences as a student and professor, political scientist and IPR associate Andrew Roberts offers 75 tips for incoming undergraduates “who want to leave college a better person than when they entered it.”

Roberts shows how students can

successfully navigate their way through college to arrive on graduation day with a more satisfying educational experience under their mortarboards.

Oncofertility—Ethical, Legal, Social, and Medical Perspectives



ed. by Teresa Woodruff, Laurie Zoloth, Lisa Campo-Engelstein, and Sarah Rodriguez
Springer

This volume, co-edited by IPR associate Teresa Woodruff, examines the social, legal, and ethical issues involved in the science of helping cancer patients with impaired fertility.

Joining the discussion are top oncologists, fertility specialists, policymakers, and social scientists, including IPR law professor Dorothy Roberts.

Published Articles and Chapters

Faculty Fellows

Emma Adam

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Cook, T. D., and P. Steiner. 2010. Case matching and the reduction of selection bias in quasi-experiments: The relative importance of pretest measures of outcome, of unreliable measurement, and of mode of data analysis. *Psychological Methods* 15(1): 55–68.

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James Druckman

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Alice Eagly

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David Figlio

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Jeremy Freese

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Laurel Harbridge

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Christopher Kuzawa

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- Manski, C. F., and F. Molinari. 2010. Rounding probabilistic expectations in surveys. *Journal of Business and Economics Statistics* 28(2): 219–31.
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“As expected, infants who were breastfed experienced less diarrhea, lived in wealthier households with better hygiene, and grew faster from B6M (birth to 6 months). Males with rapid B6M growth reached puberty earlier and, as young adults, had higher testosterone levels, were taller, more muscular, and had higher grip strength. They also had sex earlier and were more likely to report having had sex in the past month, resulting in more lifetime sex partners.”

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Christine Percheski

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Lincoln Quillian

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Jennifer Richeson

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Dorothy Roberts

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James Rosenbaum

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Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach

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Rebecca Seligman

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Wesley G. Skogan

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Sergio Urzúa

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Lauren Wakschlag

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Burton Weisbrod

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"Both the introduction of NCLB in 2002 and the introduction of similar district-level reforms in 1996 generated noteworthy increases in reading and math scores among students in the middle of the achievement distribution but not among the least academically advantaged students. ... Our results suggest that changes in proficiency requirements induce teachers to shift more attention to students who are near the current proficiency standard."

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IPR Working Papers

Politics, Institutions, and Public Policy

Lawyers in National Policymaking by Ann Southworth, Anthony Paik, and John Heinz (WP-10-01)

School Finance Reform and the Progressivity of State Taxes by Nathan Anderson and Therese McGuire (WP-10-04)

Tobin Meets Oates: Solidarity and the Optimal Fiscal Federal Structure by Xavier Calsamiglia, Teresa Garcia-Milà, and Therese McGuire, (WP-10-05)

Policy Analysis with Incredible Certitude by Charles F. Manski (WP-10-07)

Paint the White House Black: Black Media in the Obama Era by Micaela di Leonardo (WP-10-08)

“This small study reveals that first, we can see that [Tom Joyner Morning Show] taps into a broadly progressive black working-class audience—an audience and a citizenry about which both politicians and corporate advertisers are aware. The invisibility of this audience to the mainstream public sphere, though, distorts our understanding of the shape of larger American politics.” (WP-10-08, p. 33)

Genes, Eyeglasses, and Social Policy by Charles F. Manski (WP-10-09)

Bias in Political Communication Experiments by James Druckman and Thomas Leeper (WP-10-10)

Congressional Agenda Control and the Decline of Bipartisan Cooperation by Laurel Harbridge (WP-10-11)

“This research finds that although bipartisan cooperation and electoral responsiveness have declined in patterns of roll call votes, the same is not true for members’ use of bill cosponsorship coalitions. Rather, bipartisanship persists in bill cosponsorship coalitions, the stage where legislators are the most independent.” (WP-10-11, p. 21)

Education Policy

Competitive Effects of Means-Tested School Vouchers by David Figlio and Cassandra Hart (WP-10-03)

School Accountability and Teacher Mobility by Li Feng, David Figlio, and Tim Sass (WP-10-06)

Quantitative Methods for Policy Research

Analyzing Regression-Discontinuity Designs with Multiple Assignment Variables: A Comparative Study of Four Estimation Methods by Vivian Wong, Peter Steiner, and Thomas D. Cook (WP-10-02)

Colloquia and Events

IPR Monday Colloquia

January 11, “American Beliefs About Opportunity and Inequality: Is There a Connection, and Why Does it Matter?” by Leslie McCall, Associate Professor of Sociology and IPR Faculty Fellow

January 25, “Probabilistic Polling and Voting in the 2008 Presidential Election: Evidence from the American Life Panel” by Charles F. Manski, Board of Trustees Professor in Economics and IPR Faculty Fellow

February 8, “Mental Illness Stigma in Diagnosed Individuals and the General Public: Reflexive and Reflective Processes” by Galen Bodenhausen, Lawyer Taylor Professor of Psychology; Professor of Marketing, Kellogg School of Management; and Co-Director, Center on the Science of Diversity

February 15, “Causal Effect of Gender on Judicial Decisions” by Lee Epstein, Henry Wade Rogers Professor, School of Law, and IPR Faculty Associate

February 22, “The Internet and Local Wages: Convergence or Divergence?” by Shane Greenstein, Elinor and H. Wendell Hobbs Professor of Management and Strategy, Kellogg, and IPR Faculty Associate

March 8, “Dynamic Public Opinion” by Dennis Chong, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Professor of Political Science and IPR Faculty Associate

March 15, “If You Pay Peanuts Do You Get Monkeys? A Cross-Country Comparison of Teacher Pay and Student Performance” by Peter Dolton, Professor of Economics, Royal Holloway, University of London; and Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics

April 12, “In Search of a Cross-Immigrant Ecosystem: The Storytelling Springboard” by Jack Doppelt, Professor of Journalism, Medill School, and IPR Faculty Associate

April 19, “George W. Bush and the Redemptive Dream: A Psychological Portrait” by Dan McAdams, Professor of Human Development and Social Policy; Chair, Department of Psychology; and Director, Foley Center for the Study of Lives

May 10, “The Political Attitudes and Behavior of Wealthy Americans” by Benjamin Page, Gordon S. Fulcher Professor of Decision Making, Professor of Political Science, and IPR Faculty Associate

May 17, “Characterizing Organizational Responses to Labor Market Demands for Alternative Teacher Certification Programs” by Michelle Reininger, Assistant Professor of Human Development, Social Policy, and Learning Sciences and IPR Faculty Fellow

May 24, “Education Policy, School Administrative Practice, and Classroom Instruction: Using Organizational Routines to Forge Connections” by James Spillane, Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Professor in Learning and Organizational Change; Director, Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences; and IPR Faculty Associate

October 4, “Early Childhood Education Centers and Mothers’ Postsecondary Attainment: A New Conceptual Framework for a Dual-Generation Education Intervention” by Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Professor of Human Development and Social Policy, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Director of IPR’s Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health; and Teresa Eckrich Sommer, IPR Research Scientist

October 11, “The Judicial Power of the Purse: How Courts Fund National Defense in Times of Crisis” by Nancy Staudt, Class of 1940 Research Professor, School of Law, and IPR Faculty Associate



P. Reese

Micaela di Leonardo shares her research on minority media with colleagues at an IPR colloquium.

October 18, “The Widening Academic Achievement Gap Between the Rich and the Poor: New Evidence and Possible Explanations” by Sean Reardon, Associate Professor of Education, Stanford University

November 1, “Towards a New Human Population Biology: Early Origins of Inflammation as Case Study” by Thomas McDade, Weinberg College Board of Visitors Research and Teaching Professor, Associate Professor of Anthropology, and IPR Faculty Fellow

November 15, “Race, Poverty, and ‘Choice’ Policies” by Mary Pattillo, Harold Washington Professor of Sociology and African American Studies and IPR Faculty Associate

November 22, “Integrating Genetics into the Social Sciences: The Cautionary Tale of Taq1a” by Jeremy Freese, Professor and Chair of Sociology and IPR Faculty Fellow

November 29, “Black Elephant in the American Living Room: The Tom Joyner Morning Show, Race, and the American Public Sphere” by Micaela di Leonardo, Professor of Anthropology and IPR Faculty Fellow

Q-Center Colloquia

November 15, “Research Design and Causal Inference: Insights from Campbell’s and Rubin’s Perspectives” by Stephen West, Professor of Psychology, Arizona State University

December 7, “The Late Pretest Problem in Randomized Controlled Trials of Education Interventions” by Peter Schochet, Senior Fellow, Mathematica Policy Research

C2S Colloquia and Events

January 12, “Why More Equal Societies Do Better” by Richard Wilkinson, Professor Emeritus, University of Nottingham Medical School, and Honorary Professor, University College London; and Kate Pickett, Professor of Epidemiology, University of York, and U.K. National Institute for Health Research Career Scientist
(Co-sponsored with the Department of Medical Social Sciences)

May 3, “Integration of Salivary Biomarkers into Behavioral, Social, and Developmental Research: The Curious Case of Salivary Alpha-Amylase” by Doug Granger, Professor of

Biobehavioral Health and Human Development and Family Studies, Penn State University

May 7, “Sexual Orientation and Disparities in Mental Health” by Ilan Meyer, Deputy Chair for MPH Programs, Sociomedical Sciences, and Associate Professor of Clinical Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University (Co-sponsored with the Center on the Science of Diversity)

October 25, “The Case for Standardizing Self-Reported Health Status for Clinical and Population Science” by David Cella, Professor and Chair of Medical Social Sciences, Feinberg School of Medicine and IPR Faculty Associate

October 28, “Leadership in Reducing Disparities in Health” by Dr. David Satcher, 2010 Hollister Lecturer and Visiting Professor in Minority Health; 16th U.S. Surgeon General (1998-2002); former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Health; Professor in the National Center for Primary Care, Founding Director of the Satcher Health Leadership Institute, and Director of the Center of Excellence on Health Disparities, Morehouse School of Medicine (Co-sponsored with Feinberg School of Medicine’s Program in Public Health)

November 8, “Marriage, Divorce, and Biological Risk: Does the Body Forget?” by Mark Hayward, Professor of Sociology, Centennial Commission Professor in the Liberal Arts, and Director of the Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin

IPR Seminars on Performance Measurement

April 7, “Building a Culture of Measurement Inside America’s Biggest Nonprofits: How to Create Performance-Driven Organizations” by Jason Saul, Founder and CEO, Mission Measurement, and Lecturer of Social Enterprise, Kellogg School of Management

October 6, “Are Not-for-Profit Insurers Different?” by Leemore Dafny, Associate Professor of Management and Strategy, Kellogg, and IPR Faculty Associate

October 13, “‘Why I Lost My Secretary’: The Effect of Endowment Shocks on University Operations” by Jeffrey Brown, William G. Karnes Professor of Finance and



P. Reese

Doug Granger, now of Johns Hopkins University, gives a C2S colloquium on the use of salivary biomarkers for population research.

Director of the Center for Business and Public Policy,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

October 27, “Endowments of Schools, Museums, and Food Pantries: Good Performance?” by Burton Weisbrod, John Evans Professor of Economics, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Chair of IPR’s Program on Philanthropy and Nonprofit Organizations

November 17, “A Healthcare SEC” by Regina Herzlinger, Nancy R. McPherson Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

December 1, “Teacher Performance Under Randomized Assignment of Principals” by Douglas Staiger, John French Professor in Economics, Dartmouth College

Joint IPR/Economics Seminars on Labor & Education Policy

March 11, “Increasing College Enrollment Among Low- and Moderate-Income Families: An Intervention to Improve Information and Access to Financial Aid” by Philip Oreopoulos, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Toronto

September 23, “What Happens When the Local High School Closes? ‘Economies of Size’ in Illinois” by Sherrilyn Billger, Associate Professor and Interim Chair, Department of Economics, Illinois State University

November 10, “Report Cards: The Impact of Providing School and Child Test Scores on Educational Markets” by Asim Khwaja, Professor of Public Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

November 18, “Is Universal Childcare Leveling the Playing Field? Evidence from Non-Linear Difference-in-Differences” by Magne Mogstad, Research Fellow, Statistics Norway; and Researcher, Centre of Equality, Social Organization, and Performance, University of Oslo

December 9, “Match Quality, Worker Productivity, and Worker Mobility: Direct Evidence from Teachers” by Kirabo Jackson, Assistant Professor of Human Development and Social Policy and IPR Faculty Fellow

IPR Policy Research Briefing

February 22, Washington, D.C., and April 5, Evanston, Ill., “Improving No Child Left Behind: What the Research Says” by Thomas D. Cook, Joan and Sarepta Harrison Chair in Ethics and Justice and IPR Faculty Fellow; Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach, Assistant Professor, Harris School, University of Chicago; and David Figlio, Orrington Lunt Professor of Education and Social Policy, IPR Faculty Fellow, and Chair of IPR’s Program on Education Policy

IPR Distinguished Public Policy Lecture

April 26, “The Uses—and Non-Uses—of Economic Analysis in Difficult Times” by Austan Goolsbee, Chief Economist, President’s Economic Recovery Advisory Board, and Robert P. Gwinn Professor of Economics (on leave), Booth School of Business, University of Chicago



IPR Director Fay Lomax Cook and Vice President for Research Jay Walsh (r.) congratulate Austan Goolsbee, a top economic adviser to President Obama, on his Distinguished Public Policy Lecture.

Conferences and Workshops

May 7, Chicago Area Political and Social Behavior (CAB) Workshop, organized by IPR Faculty Fellow James Druckman

June 7–9, C2S Summer Biomarker Institute, organized by IPR Faculty Fellows Emma Adam, Christopher Kuzawa, and Thomas McDade and sponsored by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

July 1–2, Joint OSC/IPR City and Schools Workshop (Journée d’Études : Ville et École), Observatoire Sociologique de Changement (OSC), Sciences Po, Paris, co-organized by IPR Faculty Fellows David Figlio and Lincoln Quillian and OSC’s Marco Oberti

July 26 – August 6, Workshop on Cluster-Randomized Trials in Education, organized by IPR Faculty Fellow Larry Hedges with Mark Lipsey and David Cordray of Vanderbilt University and sponsored by the National Center for Education Research, Institute of Education Sciences

August 2–6 and August 9–13, Workshops on Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis in Education, organized by IPR Faculty Fellow Thomas D. Cook with William Shadish of the University of California–Merced and sponsored by the Institute of Education Sciences

IPR Community of Scholars and Staff

Faculty Fellows

Emma Adam, Human Development and Social Policy
 Lori Beaman, Economics
 Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Human Development and Social Policy
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 Thomas D. Cook, Sociology
 Victoria DeFrancesco Soto, Political Science
 Micaela di Leonardo, Anthropology
 James Druckman, Political Science
 Alice Eagly, Psychology
 David Figlio, Human Development and Social Policy
 Jeremy Freese, Sociology
 Jonathan Guryan, Human Development and Social Policy
 Laurel Harbridge, Political Science
 Larry Hedges, Statistics and Social Policy
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 Dan Lewis, Human Development and Social Policy
 Charles F. Manski, Economics (on leave)
 Leslie McCall, Sociology
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 Bruce Spencer, Statistics
 Sergio Urzúa, Economics (on leave)
 Lauren Wakschlag, Medical Social Sciences
 Celeste Watkins-Hayes, Sociology/African American Studies
 Burton Weisbrod, Economics

Faculty Associates

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 Bernard Black, Law
 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
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 Jack Doppelt, Journalism
 David Dranove, Management and Strategy
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 Steven Epstein, Sociology
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 William Funk, Anthropology
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 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
 Georgia Kernell, Political Science

Faculty Associates, cont.

John Kretzmann, Research Associate Professor
 Craig LaMay, Journalism
 Carol Lee, Learning Sciences
 Donna Leff, Journalism
 Jennifer Light, Communication Studies
 Jelani Mandara, Human Development and Social Policy
 Maryann Mason, Pediatrics
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 Peter Miller, Communication Studies
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 Daniel O'Keefe, Communication Studies
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 Mary Pattillo, Sociology/African American Studies
 Robert Porter, Economics
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 Yi Qian, Marketing
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 Susan Thistle, Sociology
 Brian Uzzi, Management and Organizations
 Sandra Waxman, Psychology
 Ellen Wartella, Communication Studies
 Teresa Woodruff, Obstetrics and Gynecology

Faculty Emeriti

Paul Friesema, Political Science
 John Heinz, Law
 John McKnight, Communication Studies

Postdoctoral Fellows

Jean Beaman, Survival Strategies Among Women Living
 with HIV/AIDS; Adviser: Celeste Watkins-Hayes
 Laura Chyu, Social Influences on Early Adult Stress
 Biomarkers; Adviser: Thomas McDade
 Nathan Jones, Improving Methods for Quantitative
 Policy Research; Adviser: Larry Hedges
 Shanette Porter, Motivational Components of Intergroup
 Interactions; Adviser: Jennifer Richeson
 Christopher Rhoads, Improving Methods for
 Quantitative Policy Research; Adviser: Larry Hedges
 Pamela Schuetz, College to Careers; Adviser:
 James Rosenbaum
 Jennifer Stephan, Postsecondary Advising Effects on High
 School Progress; Adviser: James Rosenbaum
 Elizabeth Sweet, Social Influences on Early Adult Stress
 Biomarkers; Advisers: Thomas McDade and Emma
 Adam
 Dana Sauter Van Ness, National Children's Study:
 Greater Chicago Study Center; Advisers: William
 Funk and Thomas McDade
 Vivian Wong, Improving Quasi-Experimental Design;
 Adviser: Thomas D. Cook

Adjunct Faculty

Greg Duncan (University of California–Irvine)
 Michelle Reninger (Stanford University)



Lauren Wakschlag's research uses clinical
 and translational approaches to better
 understand health disparities.

Administration

Fay Lomax Cook, Director

Wesley G. Skogan, Associate Director

Michael Weis, Business Administrator

Patricia Reese, Director of Communications



S. Levy

Patricia Reese and Michael Weis discuss the budget for an upcoming IPR event.

Executive Committee and Staff

Executive Committee

Emma Adam, Human Development and Social Policy

Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Human Development and Social Policy

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Leslie McCall, Sociology

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Arlene Dattels, Accounting Assistant

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Alice Murray, Webmaster

Beverly Zack, Program Assistant

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Rebecca McDonald (Sponsor: Jeremy Freese)

Francie Streich (Sponsor: David Figlio)

Research Associates

Evelyn Asch, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness

Ashley Cureton, Chicago Truancy Project

Megan Ferrier, Chicago Truancy Project

Rob Greenwald, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness

Amanda Hoffman, Sexual Fluidity Among Heterosexually Identified Men

Anindya Kundu, Reducing Juvenile Delinquency

Teresa Eckrich Sommer, Educare Post-Secondary Education Project

Coady Wing, Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis in Education

Research Staff

Zena Ellison, Targeted Student-Teacher Recruitment Efforts in Chicago Public Schools

Dawn Espy, Social Perception & Communication Laboratory

Patricia Ferguson, Center for Improving Methods for Quantitative Policy Research (Q-Center)

Jeffrey Huang,* Laboratory for Human Biology Research

Patricia Lasley, Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health

Valerie Lyne, Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis in Education

* *No longer at IPR.*

Graduate Research Assistants

Rayane Alamuddin, Human Development and Social Policy
 Elisabeth Anderson, Sociology
 Kelly Becker, Sociology
 Sara Bernstein, Human Development and Social Policy
 Amelia Branigan, Sociology and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences
 Sarah Cannon, Human Development and Social Policy and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences
 Kelly Hallberg, Human Development and Social Policy and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences
 Brian Harrison, Political Science
 Cassandra Hart, Human Development and Social Policy and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences
 Stuart Jenkins, Human Development and Social Policy
 J. Alex Kevern, Sociology
 Thomas Leeper, Political Science
 Sheena Lewis, Technology and Social Behavior
 Wei Li, Statistics
 Christina LiCalsi Labelle, Human Development and Social Policy and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences
 Arturo Marquez, Jr., Anthropology
 Matthew Masten, Economics
 Chelsea McKinney, Human Development and Social Policy
 Gemma Mangione, Sociology
 Molly Metzger, Human Development and Social Policy
 Rachel Moskowitz, Political Science
 Hisham Petry, Learning Sciences and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences
 Tiago Pires, Economics
 Cassidy Puckett, Sociology and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences
 James Pustejovsky, Statistics and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences
 Katie Rotella, Psychology
 Clarissa Simon, Human Development and Social Policy
 Stuart Taylor, Economics
 Lindsay Till, Human Development and Social Policy
 Beth Tipton, Statistics and Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences

Summer Undergraduate Research Assistants

Sourav Bhowmick, Political Science, Business Institutions Program, and Latin
 Philip Butta, Journalism
 Ariel Dreho, History and International Studies
 Carolyn Fallert, Economics and Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences
 Jordan Fein, American Studies and Political Science
 Greg Freedman, Economics and Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences
 Nora Gannon, American Studies and History
 Dennis Hsu, Economics
 Angela Kim, Social Policy
 David Kwon, Learning and Organizational Change and Psychology
 Curie Lee, Social Policy and Political Science
 Alexandra Markowski, Psychology
 Tara Patel, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences
 Erik Peterson, Political Science
 Heather Polonsky, Social Policy
 Samuel Rehberg, Economics
 Hanna Rutkowski, Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences, Economics, and Political Science
 Shainee Shah, Political Science and Global Health Studies
 Sarah Thomas, Psychology and Legal Studies
 Amy Wang, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences
 Brian Zou, Economics and Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences



IPR graduate research assistant Hisham Petry presents his work at a joint conference with Sciences Po in Paris.

Funding Organizations and Projects

Foundations and Organizations

American Institute of Bisexuality

Sexual Fluidity Among Heterosexually Identified Men:
Bisexual Behavior and Health Outcomes, Héctor
Carrillo

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

Foundation for Child Development

Third-Grade Skills with Later Attainment, Greg Duncan

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Planning a Network on How Housing Matters for
Families and Children, Thomas D. Cook
How Housing Matters for Families and Children:
A Research Network, 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

Joyce Foundation

Criminality and Welfare Reform: A Descriptive Analysis,
Dan Lewis
The Transition to Teaching Project: Understanding Entry
and Non-Entry into Teaching Among Recent Teacher
Preparation Graduates, Michelle Reininger
Targeting Recruitment Efforts at Promising Student
Teachers: A New Approach for Teacher Recruitment in
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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

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Health, Hardship, and Renewal: Economic Survival
Strategies Among Women Living with HIV/AIDS,
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Benjamin Page

Smith Richardson Foundation

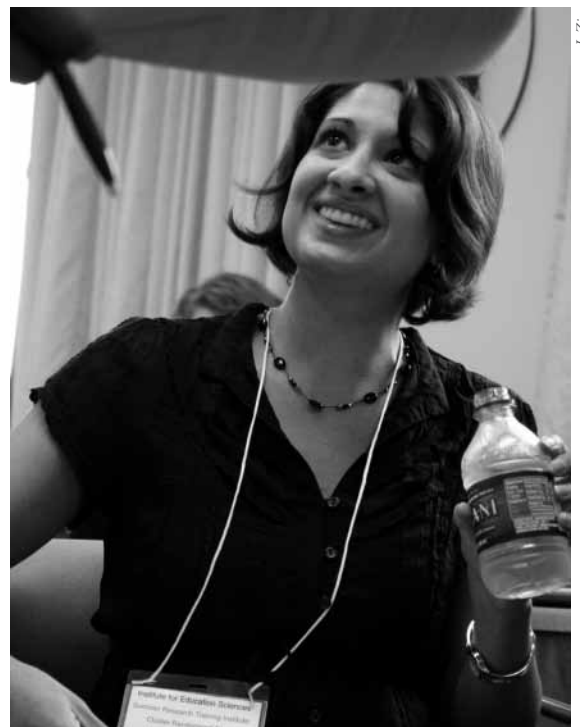
Reducing Juvenile Delinquency by Building Non-
Cognitive Skills: Experimental Evidence, Jonathan
Guryan
Assessing the Impact on Students of Closing Persistently
Failing Schools, Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach
The Effects of School and Neighborhood Socioeconomic
Mix on Long-Term Youth Outcomes, Greg Duncan

Spencer Foundation

Comparative Analysis of the Community Effects of
Promise Programs, Lincoln Quillian
High School Procedures for Creating College-For-All,
James Rosenbaum
Implementing College-for-All: Information Sources,
Plans, and Actions in Senior Year, James Rosenbaum
Achievement, Attention, and Behavior Across Middle
Childhood, Greg Duncan

William T. Grant Foundation

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



Amy Cassata-Widera talks with other participants of IPR's training on randomized cluster trials, sponsored by the Institute of Education Sciences.

Government Agencies

National Institutes of Health

Cognitive Aging in Context: Abilities, Genes, and the Social Environment, Jeremy Freese

Racial Bias and Mental Illness Stigma as Risk Factors for Mental Health Problems, Jennifer Richeson

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Community Child Health Network–Lake County, Ill., Emma Adam, and Minority Supplement for Graduate Research Assistant Chelsea McKinney (Adviser: Lindsay Chase-Lansdale)

C2S: The Center on Social Disparities and Health, Lindsay Chase-Lansdale

Intergenerational Transmission of Human Capital, David Figlio

Environmental and Biological Variation and Language Growth, Larry Hedges

Influence of Placental Structure and Function on Birth Weight in the Philippines, Christopher Kuzawa

Modeling the Developmental Origins of Adult Risk Factors, Christopher Kuzawa

National Children's Study: Biomarker Subproject for Greater Chicago Study Center, Thomas McDade

Social Influences on Early Adult Stress Biomarkers, Thomas McDade and Emma Adam

National Cancer Institute

Dynamic Models of Race and Income Segregation, Lincoln Quillian

National Institute on Aging

Wisconsin Longitudinal Study: As We Age, Charles F. Manski

Probabilistic Thinking and Economic Behavior, Charles F. Manski

National Institute on Drug Abuse

Translational Approaches to Multilevel Models of Prenatal Exposure to Cigarettes, Lauren Wakschlag

National Science Foundation

Campaigns in a New Media Age: How Candidates Use the World Wide Web, James Druckman

Experimentation in Political Science, James Druckman

Using Web Data to Study the Nature and Consequences of U.S. Congressional Campaigns, James Druckman

Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS), Jeremy Freese

Center for Advancing Research and Communication in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (ARC), Larry Hedges

Generalizability Research with Scaling Up SimCalc Data, Larry Hedges

Fetal Growth and a Cue of Matrilineal Nutrition History in the Philippines, Christopher Kuzawa

Identification and Decision, Charles F. Manski

Identification and Empirical Inference, Charles F. Manski

Ecology of Inflammation in Lowland Bolivia, Thomas McDade

Tax Progressivity and American Political Economy (CAREER Award), Monica Prasad

Fostering Positive Interracial Interactions, Jennifer Richeson

The Costs of Covering: Psychological and Physiological Implications of Managing a Stigmatized Identity, Jennifer Richeson

Resource Attainment and Social Context in Negotiating Illness Among Marginalized Populations (CAREER Award), Celeste Watkins-Hayes

A Light Bulb Goes On: Values, Attitudes, Social Norms, and Personal Energy Consumption (Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science), Toby Bolsen (Adviser: James Druckman)

Early Aspirants: A Longitudinal Study of the Path to Teaching, Michelle Reininger

U.S. Department of Education

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

Institute of Education Sciences

Improving Best Quasi-Experimental Practice, Thomas D. Cook and Larry Hedges

Better Warranted Quasi-Experimental Practice for Evidence-Based Practical Research, Thomas D. Cook

Workshops on Better Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis in Education, Thomas D. Cook

Center for Analysis of Longitudinal Data in Education Research (CALDER), David Figlio

Preventing Truancy in Urban Schools Through Provision of Social Services by Truancy Officers: A Goal 3

Randomized Efficacy Trial, Jonathan Guryan

Continued Development of the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness, Larry Hedges

Postdoctoral Research Training Fellowship in the Education Sciences, Larry Hedges

Randomized Controlled Trials Training Institute, Larry Hedges

Representing and Combining the Results of Randomized Experiments in Education, 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

Online Resources

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- Q-Center colloquia and events
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Institute for Policy Research

Northwestern University
2040 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60208-4100
www.northwestern.edu/ipr



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