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INSTITUTE OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE ■

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UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

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AT BOULDER ■ DEC 2004/JAN 2005 ■

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## NEWSLETTER

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### KUDOS

**Delbert Elliott**, director of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence and professor of sociology, received a prestigious Distinguished Professor appointment from the CU Board of Regents at their December 9 meeting in Boulder. Elliott joins only 27 other CU-Boulder faculty members (including four affiliated with IBS) ever to be named Distinguished Professor. This honor is bestowed on members of the university's faculty "who have distinguished themselves as exemplary teachers, scholars and public servants, and who are individuals having extraordinary international importance and recognition."

Elliott is internationally recognized as an authority on violence prevention and is perhaps best known for conducting the longest national study of criminal behavior and drug use by a group of adolescents and young adults in the United States. Until 2003, he was the principal investigator of the ongoing 27-year study which has followed the individuals from age 11 to 44. He was the senior science editor for the U.S. Surgeon General's Report to the Nation on Youth Violence in 2001. Under his leadership, the violence prevention center coordinated the Safe Communities-Safe Schools initiative that offered safe school planning assistance to every school in Colorado. Elliott is the author of seven books on juvenile delinquency, drugs, and mental health. His latest book, *Good Kids From Bad Neighborhoods*, is forthcoming. He has received many national awards, including Medallion for Distinguished Service from the U.S. Public Health Service Surgeon General in 2001, and an outstanding achievement award from the U.S. Department of Justice in 1998. Elliott has taught at CU-Boulder since 1967.

**Lori Peek** of the Environment and Behavior Natural Hazards Center was recently awarded a PERIShip National Dissertation Fellowship in the amount of \$9,180. The fellowships are funded by the National Science Foundation and the Public Entity Risk Institute. Ten fellows who are completing dissertations in the areas of hazards, disasters, or risk were selected from across the United States. Peek's dissertation is entitled "The Identity of Crisis: Muslim Americans After September 11."

### PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

#### ENVIRONMENT AND BEHAVIOR PROGRAM

**Chuck Howe** gave a seminar at the School of Business of the University of Reading, UK on October 13. The topic included issues related to river basin management and the privatization of water services in the United States. Privatization of water and water services (e.g., urban supplies) has a long history in the U.S. in that surface and ground water supplies have legally been treated as private property in the western U.S. for over one hundred years. At the level of urban drinking water and waste water services, there have been some private companies since Aaron Burr established the Manhattan Water

*Program Activities continue on page 2*

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## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

*continued from page 1*

and Banking Company in the late 18th century (later to become Chase Manhattan Bank), but the vast majority of urban utilities are city owned and run.

### In Print

**Hunter, Lori M.**, A. Hatch, and A. Johnson. "Cross-National Gender Variation in Environmental Behaviors." *Social Science Quarterly* 85, no. 3 (2004): 677-94. This article presents a cross-national examination of gender variations in environmental behaviors. Research on environmental concern reveals modest distinctions between men and women, with women typically displaying higher levels of environmental concern and behavioral adjustments relative to men. Additionally, some prior research suggests that women appear more engaged in household-oriented (private) pro-environment behaviors (e.g., recycling), and men in community/society-oriented (public) pro-environment behaviors (e.g., protests). The analysis provided here offers an important extension to existing research through its cross-cultural, comparative perspective. The authors used the 1993 International Social Survey to explore gender differences in "private" and "public" environmentally-oriented behaviors across twenty-two nations and showed that women tend to engage in more environmental behaviors than men in many nations, particularly private behaviors. In addition, both women and men tend to engage in relatively more private environmental behaviors as opposed to public ones. The researchers concluded that the cross-national analysis provides support for gender distinctions with regard to some environmental behaviors within most of the incorporated twenty-two national contexts. Gender differences in the level of private environmental behaviors tend to be more consistent within nations at the upper end of the wealth distribution.

**McCabe, J. Terrence.** *Cattle Bring Us to Our Enemies: Turkana Ecology, Politics, and Raiding in a Disequilibrium System*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2004. Based on sixteen years of fieldwork among the pastoral Turkana people, McCabe examines how individuals use the land and make decisions about mobility, livestock, and the use of natural resources in an environment characterized by aridity, unpredictability, insecurity, and violence. The Turkana are one of the world's most mobile peoples, but understanding why and how they move is a complex task, as movement is influenced by politics, violence, historical relations among ethnic groups, and the government, as well as by the arid land they call home. As one of the original members of the South Turkana Ecosystem Project, McCabe draws on a wealth of ecological data in his analysis. His long-standing relationship with four Turkana families personalizes his insights and conclusions, inviting readers into the lives of these individuals, their families, and the way they cope with their environment and political events in daily life.

### POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE PROGRAM

**Marco Antonsich** presented his paper "Cardinal Markers as Geopolitical and Identity Markers: The Case of Finland" at FINN FORUM VII, an Interdisciplinary Conference in Finnish and Finnish-North American Studies. The seventh in a series of international conferences on Finnish Immigration and Ethnicity, occurring since 1974, this year's Finn Forum entitled "Cultural Encounters: Migration, Ethnicity, and Identities," was hosted by the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, October 28-30.

*Program Activities continue on page 4*

## IN FOCUS

### Environmental Inequality in the United States



**Liam Downey**  
Faculty Research Associate  
Population Processes Program

*Liam Downey, Assistant Professor of Sociology, is a Faculty Research Associate with the Population Processes Program. He received a B.A. in History from Oberlin College (1988), an M.S. in Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan (1994), and an M.A. (1996) and Ph.D. (2000) in Sociology from the University of Arizona.*

My research focuses on environmental inequality in the United States. Using mapping and statistical techniques, I have investigated the distribution of blacks, whites, and Hispanics around manufacturing facilities in multiple U.S. metropolitan areas and asked what role racism, migration, segregation, and class inequality have played in generating these distributions. I have found that environmental inequality levels vary from one metropolitan area to another and from one region of the country to another and that metropolitan area segregation levels and income inequality do not explain this variation. In addition, I have found that residential segregation and minority concentration in the urban core sometimes increase and sometimes decrease black and Hispanic proximity to polluting manufacturing facilities. These and other findings suggest that environmental inequality is the result of a complex interaction of historical factors, including the timing of industrial development, class and race conflict, and competition for valued resources.

In addition, I have conducted collaborative research investigating the physical and mental health impacts of living near polluting manufacturing facilities. In a recently completed project, my colleague and I found that in Illinois, residential proximity to polluting manufacturing facilities increased depression and feelings of powerlessness among survey respondents, and that the negative impact of residential proximity on psychological well-being was worse for blacks than it was for whites. In another project, my colleagues and I are examining the relationship between residential proximity to Detroit metropolitan area manufacturing facilities and self-reported health.

One goal in this research is to develop better methodology for identifying environmentally hazardous neighborhoods and testing causal hypotheses. I have spent considerable time using geographic information systems (GIS) software to develop better indicators of residential proximity and environmental risk. I have also developed causal explanations of environmental inequality and tested these explanations with regression and map analysis.

I have tried to broaden the focus of environmental inequality research by asking questions other researchers have failed to ask. For example, I recently completed a study that found that the percentage of single parent families in a neighborhood is an important predictor of neighborhood environmental hazard levels, and in my newest research project I ask whether factory pollution or factory employment is a stronger predictor of neighborhood demographic composition. The motivation for this

... environmental inequality is the result of a complex interaction of historical factors, including the timing of industrial development, class and race conflict, and competition for valued resources.

*In Focus continues on page 4*

## IN FOCUS

*continued from page 3*

latter project is to determine whether factories' socially beneficial or environmentally harmful attributes are stronger predictors of who lives in a neighborhood. I am eagerly awaiting the results of this research.

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

*continued from page 2*

### POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE PROGRAM

#### In Print

**Scarritt, James R.** "Ethnopolitics and Nationalism." In *Politics in the Developing World*, edited by Peter Burnell and Vicky Randall, 74-89: Oxford University Press, 2004. In this chapter Scarritt stresses the significance of both differences among ethnic, ethnopolitical, and national identities and different types of relations among groups having these identities in countries of the developing world. Ethnic identities are constructed and reconstructed over time, and some, but not all, are politicized. Specific processes for construction and politicization and their variations across countries are discussed. National identities in the developing world, which are inherently political, vary in strength as well as the degree to which they are civic, multiethnic, or ethnic, and the chapter explains these variations. Both types of identities have been strongly influenced by European colonialism. Based on the interaction of both types of identities with group morphology, group advantages and disadvantages, organizations, institutions, mobilization and state response histories, and international influences, ethnopolitical groups engage in conflict, competition, and cooperation with one another and the state in different countries and at different points in time. Different interaction patterns are explored. Since national identities are relatively weak in many developing countries while sub-national ethnopolitical identities and groups are often stronger, developing states more or less successfully engage in a variety of nation-building activities. The author describes these activities and explains their degree of success in the current era of electoral democracy and globalization.

### POPULATION PROCESSES PROGRAM

**Jarron Saint Onge** and **Rick Rogers** presented "The Effects of Pulse Pressure on Mortality" at the Southern Demographic Association meetings at Hilton Head, South Carolina, October 14-16. Pulse pressure (the difference between systolic and diastolic blood pressure) has received increased interest in the current medical literature. Elevated blood pressure contributes to increased chronic conditions, functional limitations, and risk of death. Yet the association between pulse pressure and mortality in the general population is under-examined in current demographic research. The results from linking the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey II to the National Death Index suggest a gradient increase in risk of mortality with each 10-unit increase in pulse pressure, controlling for demographic, SES, and health characteristics. The influence of pulse pressure on mortality remains after controlling for hypertension. This highlights the importance of pulse pressure as an independent indicator of mortality. This research underscores the importance of incorporating a biodemographic perspective to examine the relationship between pulse pressure and mortality in the U.S. population.

#### In Print

**Kuhn, Randall**, and Steven Stillman. "Understanding Interhousehold Transfers in a Transition Economy: Evidence from Russia." *Economic Development and Cultural*

*Program Activities continue on page 5*

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

*continued from page 4*

*Change* 53, no. 1 (2004): 131-56. The authors use data from the Russian Longitudinal Monitoring Survey (RLMS) to describe and model the determinants of interhousehold transfers. Russian households have experienced large reductions in income during the transition period, with a particularly severe decline occurring in the fall of 1998. Russia is experiencing a most unique pattern of aging. Sharply declining fertility, increasing mortality, and past demographic catastrophes (the two World Wars and the famine of the 1930s) has left a population which is both young (few elderly) and old (one of the oldest working-age populations in the world). While Russia's economic institutions and social safety net are underdeveloped, the typical household structure closely resembles that found in wealthier countries. Although it is typically assumed that the elderly in Russia are a highly vulnerable economic group, we actually find that transfers flow strongly from the elderly to their children, who are typically in the early part of the life-course and often have young children. This is especially true for the elderly in rural areas and those in extended families. While households with higher longer-term resources receive on net more transfers, we also find strong evidence that transfers respond to economic needs (i.e., transitory fluctuations in resources).

Frankenberg, Elizabeth and **Randall Kuhn**. "The Role of Social Context in Shaping Intergenerational Relations in Indonesia and Bangladesh." In *Intergenerational Relations across Time and Place: Annual Review of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, edited by M. Silverstein. New York: Springer, 2004.

**Krueger, Patrick M., Richard G. Rogers, R. A. Hummer, and Jason D. Boardman**. "Body Mass, Smoking, and Overall and Cause-Specific Mortality among Older U.S. Adults." *Research on Aging* 26, no. 1 (2004): 82-107. The authors examine the relationships between body mass, smoking, and overall and cause-specific mortality among U.S. adults aged 60 and older using data from the National Health Interview Survey linked to the Multiple Cause of Death file and Cox proportional hazard models. The authors find that, compared to those who are normal weight, obese individuals have higher risks of overall, circulatory disease, and diabetes mortality. Furthermore, smoking status suppresses the relationships between obesity and overall, circulatory disease, and cancer mortality, and interacts with low body weight to increase mortality risks. Finally, underweight individuals initially face increased risks of death over the follow-up period, although over time their mortality risks diminish to those of normal-weight individuals, likely due to the presence of unobserved illness. Researchers and health practitioners must account for smoking status, body mass, and specific causes of death to understand and improve the health of our increasingly obese elderly population.

## BITS AND BYTES FROM CRS

*Computing and Research Services*

As of January 2005, CRS will no longer support computers that are running '98 or earlier versions of Windows. Please make arrangements with Gabe Westmaas for assistance with upgrading.

## UPCOMING COLLOQUIA

Please refer to the following webpage for the IBS colloquia schedules:  
<http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/events/colloquia.html>.

## RESEARCH PROPOSALS SUBMITTED

### Environment and Behavior Program

Tierney, Kathleen	Program to Award Dissertation Fellowships in Hazards, Risks, and Disasters Public Entity Risk Institute	09/01/05-08/31/08	New	\$65,104
Hunter, Lori	Coupled Human-Natural Systems in Namibia NSF/Desert Research Institute	07/01/05-06/30/09	New	\$316,000

### Problem Behavior Program

Thornberry, Terence	Intergenerational Transmission of Risk for Drug Use National Institute of Drug Abuse	09/01/05-08/31/10	Renewal	\$2,716,425
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## RESEARCH PROPOSALS AWARDED

### Environment and Economic Behavior Program

McCabe, J. Terrence	Alternative Consequences of Migration for Land Use and Conservation in Northern Tanzania MacArthur Foundation	01/01/05-06/30/06	New	\$99,992
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### Population Processes Program

Silvey, Rachel (van Riemsdijk, Micheline, Co-PI)	Doctoral Dissertation Research: Whiteness and the (In-)Visibility of Difference: The Case of Polish Immigrants in Norway NSF	01/01/05-12/31/05	New	\$12,000
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Jane A. Menken, Institute Director

#### Research Program on Environment and Behavior

Lee J. Alston, Director  
Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center  
Kathleen Tierney, Director

#### Research Program on Health Behavior

Richard Jessor, Director

#### Research Program on Political and Economic Change

Edward S. Greenberg, Director

#### Research Program on Population Processes

Richard G. Rogers, Director  
Population Aging Center  
Jane A. Menken, Director

#### Research Program on Problem Behavior

Terence P. Thornberry, Director  
Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence  
Delbert S. Elliott, Director

#### Computing and Research Services

Jani S. Little, Director

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