KUDOS

David Miklowitz, Problem Behavior Faculty Research Associate, Professor in the Department of Psychology, and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, received the Mogens Schou Award for Research at the Sixth International Conference on Bipolar Disorder. The conference, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, is devoted exclusively to highlighting new research into bipolar disorder. The Mogens Schou Awards were named in recognition and appreciation of Mogens Schou who until his death in September 2005 was the honorary president of the International Society of Bipolar Disorders and emeritus professor at the Psychiatric Hospital in Risskov, Denmark. The three awards given for research, distinguished contribution, and education and advocacy, in the words of David J. Kupfer, M.D., the Thomas P. Detre Professor and chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, honor “those heroes who are making major advances that bring hope to those suffering from bipolar disorder.” Miklowitz was acknowledged for his research on developing effective approaches to educate families affected by bipolar disorder on the many factors contributing to control of the disease and its relapse. His research focuses on family factors related to the longitudinal course of major, recurrent psychiatric disorders, notably bipolar disorder and schizophrenia, as well as family and individual interventions for adults and children with bipolar mood disorders.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

ENVIRONMENT AND BEHAVIOR PROGRAM

In Print

Hunter, Lori M., Jason D. Boardman, and Jarron M. Saint Onge. “The Association Between Natural Amenities, Rural Population Growth, and Long-Term Residents’ Economic Well-Being.” Rural Sociology 70, no. 4 (2005): 452-69. Population growth in rural areas characterized by high levels of natural amenities has recently received substantial research attention. A noted concern with amenity-driven rural population growth is its potential to raise local costs-of-living while yielding only low-wage service sector employment for long-term residents. The researchers’ work empirically models long-term rural residents’ economic well-being, making use of longitudinal data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics. In general, the results suggest that long-term rural families residing in high-growth amenity and recreation areas tend to have higher annual incomes than do their counterparts in non-growth amenity/recreation areas, regardless of the sex, race, or age of the family head. However, higher costs-of-living in these areas supplant any relative gains in income. As such, these analyses provide empirical evidence of patterns inferred by earlier anecdotal evidence and case studies.

Program Activities continue on page 2
Alston, Lee J., Marcus Melo, Bernardo Mueller, and Carlos Pereira. “Political Institutions, Policymaking Processes and Policy Outcomes in Brazil.” (EB2005-0007). The authors found that the driving force behind policies in Brazil is the strong set of powers given to the President by the Constitution of 1988. And, to have strong powers does not mean unbridled powers. Several institutions constrain and check the power of the President, in particular the legislature, the judiciary, the public prosecutors, the auditing office, state governors, and the Constitution itself. The electorate of Brazil holds the President accountable for economic growth, inflation, and unemployment. Because of the electoral connection, and perhaps reputational effects, Presidents in Brazil have a strong incentive to pursue stable fiscal and monetary policies as their first priority. At least for the past ten years, and more importantly with the new administration of President Lula, executive power has been aimed at pushing policy towards macro orthodoxy. Although orthodoxy may not lead to short-term growth, international financial markets provide additional incentives for discipline, as deviations are instantly punished with unfavorable consequences that are readily recognized by the electorate. Achieving stable macro policies required constitutional amendments as well as considerable legislation. To attain their goals, past administrations (Cardoso and Lula in particular) used their property rights over pork to trade for policy changes. The rationale for members of Congress to exchange votes on policy for pork is that the electorates reward or punish members of Congress based on the degree to which pork lands in their district. With the exception of the devaluation of 1999, macro policy has become more stable over time. The authors categorize macro policies in Brazil as “stable but adaptable.” The pursuit of macro orthodoxy comes at a cost; some policies in Brazil are “volatile and unstable.” The authors’ findings show volatility and instability in policies that have an ideological component, e.g., land reform, the environment, and poverty alleviation, or whose gains accrue at the Congressional district level, e.g., infrastructure projects. The volatility on ideological policies is no surprise and happens most when administrations change. For policies having a local rather than national impact, the volatility results from spending being based on the residual left in the budget after the President takes care of hard-wired and pork expenditures. The negative side of this is that many infrastructure projects (i.e. sanitation and local roads) have fallen into this residual category.

Alston, Lee J. and Joseph P. Ferrie. “Shaping Welfare Policies in the United States, 1895-1965: Economic Interests and Political Institutions in the South.” (EB2005-0006). The U.S. welfare system developed later and was more decentralized than its European counterparts. The more decentralized federal political system in the United States, which grants much more policy discretion to states, explains some of this difference. But the difference also results from the role of economic interests in the southern United States and their disproportionate political power. Until the mechanization of cotton cultivation in the southern United States, large scale agricultural interests in the South had the economic incentive and the political ability to prevent the expansion of the welfare state in ways that would interfere with prevailing race or labor relations in the South. With the mechanization of cotton and accompanying technological advances in seeds, defoliants and gins, the authors saw profound changes in the South’s political landscape that also manifested themselves at the national level such that currently the South’s attitudes toward welfare differ far less from the attitudes of the rest of the nation.
The Challenge Newsletter

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV) recently received a five-year, $1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools (OSDFS) to design, write, publish, and disseminate *The Challenge* newsletter. **Del Elliott**, CSPV Director, serves as the Principal Investigator (PI). **Jane Grady**, CSPV Co-Director, is Co-PI. **Susan Lineberry**, Professional Research Assistant, is Project Editor, and **Darci Card**, Professional Research Assistant, is Resource Manager.

*The Challenge* is the principal vehicle by which OSDFS communicates with the field. Disseminated at no charge to over 60,000 subscribers, it provides information on research-based activities, best practices, and other information related to effective drug abuse and violence prevention strategies. Key recipients of the newsletter include state and local education agencies, OSDFS discretionary grantees, prevention specialists, and public and private organizations involved with safe and drug-free schools programs.

The U.S. Department of Education understands that although research exists on alcohol and other drug abuse and violence prevention strategies that have positive results, too often this research is unknown to school personnel and is not translated into practice. CSPV will take this opportunity to highlight pertinent research being conducted at the University of Colorado and other research institutions and showcase effective programs, such as CSPV’s Blueprints for Violence Prevention for drug abuse and violence prevention.

The key to preventing drug abuse and violence still rests with our ability to scientifically document which of the many strategies for prevention and intervention are truly effective and then implement them with fidelity. After more than ten years of research, we now know that “something works.” Science possesses the knowledge and tools needed to reduce or even prevent much of the most serious violence and drug abuse. The biggest challenge now is to communicate that message to professionals working in fields related to drug abuse and violence prevention.

In addition to a printed edition, the quarterly newsletter is now posted on *The Challenge* website at www.thechallenge.org. To make the newsletter more accessible to those who may have participation barriers, CSPV will offer online versions of the newsletter in Spanish and English. Other features will include resources on drug abuse and violence prevention, effective programs, educational organizations, and links to agencies that provide support for prevention specialists. We will solicit feedback and story ideas to better serve our readership.

A design for the newsletter and the website that will be used throughout the five years of the grant award is under development.
POPULATION PROCESSES PROGRAM

Jarron Saint Onge, Steven Doublet, and Richard Rogers attended the Southern Demographic Association’s 36th annual meeting November 3-5 at the University of Mississippi. Saint Onge and Rogers presented “Blood Pressure Measures and All-Cause Mortality.” Doublet presented “From World War I to Iraq: U.S. Military Casualty Trends and Medical Advances.”

PROBLEM BEHAVIOR PROGRAM

Terence P. Thornberry, Problem Behavior Director and Director of the Rochester Youth Development Study, was one of only 16 experts invited to speak October 27 at a White House conference entitled “Helping America’s Youth” organized by First Lady Laura Bush. The conference was designed to help communities throughout the country provide better, more scientifically-based programs that help children and adolescents. Thornberry used the Rochester study findings to identify both risk factors for problem behaviors and effective programs for helping at-risk youth.

Sharon Mihalic attended the American Society of Criminology Meetings in Toronto, November 15-19, and presented the paper, “Findings from the Blueprints Replication Initiative: Ensuring Implementation Success.”

Mihalic also attended a meeting held by the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF) at the Alex Haley Farm in Clinton, Tennessee, December 4-7. One in three black male babies born in 2001 will go to prison at some point in his life. CDF is committed to dismantling the “cradle to prison pipeline.” The meeting of team members from ten innovative and successful jurisdictions and research experts included presentations, discussion, and brainstorming sessions. The goals were to share strategies for success, discuss the common elements of and challenges to developing comprehensive and integrated services, and develop a joint blueprint for change.

In Print

Smith, Carolyn A., Timothy O. Ireland, and Terence P. Thornberry. “Adolescent Maltreatment and Its Impact on Young Adult Antisocial Behavior.” Child Abuse & Neglect 29 (2005): 1099-119. Childhood maltreatment is known to be a risk factor for a range of later problems, but much less is known about adolescent maltreatment. This study investigates the impact of adolescent maltreatment on antisocial behavior, while controlling for sociodemographic characteristics and prior levels of problem behavior. Data are from the Rochester Youth Development Study, a cohort study of the development of problem behaviors in a sample of 1,000 urban youth followed from age 13 into adulthood. Subjects are 68% African American, 17% Hispanic, and 15% White youth. This analysis includes a maximum of 884 subjects, of whom 9.3% had substantiated maltreatment reports in adolescence. Among the maltreated adolescents, 14 experienced sex abuse, 36 experienced physical abuse, and 32 were neglected or emotionally abused. Outcomes explored in late adolescence (ages 16-18) and young adulthood (ages 20-22) included arrest, self-reported general and violent offending, and illicit drug use. Control variables included prior levels of these outcomes as well as sociodemographic characteristics such as poverty, parent education, and caregiver changes.
Thornberry, Terence P. “Explaining Patterns of Offending across the Life Course: Multiple Patterns of Offending across the Life Course and across Generations.” *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 602 (2005): 156-95. In this article the authors discuss four general topics. The first section uses data from the Rochester Youth Development Study to explore the development of antisocial careers across the life course. The second presents interactional theory’s explanation of offending. The theory recognizes that antisocial careers can begin at any point, from childhood through adulthood, and identifies causal influences associated with varying ages of onset. It then offers an explanation for changing patterns of offending. The third section presents an intergenerational extension of the theory, focusing specifically on the major pathways that mediate the impact of a parent’s own adolescent antisocial behavior on the chances that his or her children will also show antisocial behavior. The final section tests key parts of this intergenerational theory using data from the Rochester Intergenerational Study. Antisocial adolescent behavior is argued to have indirect effects on a child’s early delinquency, mediated by the disruption it causes to the parent’s development and his or her subsequent style of parenting.

Henry, Kimberly L., R.C. Swaim, and M.D. Slater. “Intraindividual Variability of School Bonding and Adolescents’ Beliefs about the Effect of Substance Use on Future Aspirations.” *Prevention Science* 6, no. 2 (2005): 101-12. This study examines the dynamic relationship between school bonding, beliefs about the deleterious effects of substance use on future aspirations, and subsequent substance use among a sample of 1065 male and female middle school students. First, a mediation model was assessed. Adolescents’ perceptions about the harmful effects of substance use on their future aspirations emerged as a salient mediator of the relationship between school bonding and subsequent substance use. Second, the intraindividual variability of school bonding and its effect on students’ beliefs about the potential harm of substance use on future aspirations was assessed through random-coefficient models. Students who tended to be poorly bonded to school were less likely to perceive that substance use may impede the attainment of their future goals. Furthermore, a strong intraindividual effect of school bonding was observed, indicating that as a student became more or less bonded to school his/her belief that substance use could affect future aspirations similarly changed.

Boardman, Jason D. “Health Pessimism among Black and White Adults: The Role of Interpersonal and Institutional Maltreatment.” *Social Science & Medicine* 59, no. 12 (2004): 2523-33. Using data from the 1995 Detroit Area Study (N = 1106), the author finds that black adults report significantly worse self-rated health when compared to whites with similar levels of self-reported morbidity. This relationship, called health pessimism, persists despite statistical controls for age, gender, socioeconomic status, health care access, and health related behaviors. Interpersonal maltreatment is found to be positively associated with health pessimism and, more importantly, when comparing adults who perceive similar levels of maltreatment, white and black adults do not differ with respect to health pessimism. This suggests that the increased risk of health pessimism among black adults is due in part to race differences in the perception of interpersonal maltreatment.

Boardman, Jason D. “Stress and Physical Health: The Role of Neighborhoods as Mediating and Moderating Mechanisms.” *Social Science & Medicine* 58, no. 12 (2004): 2473-83. Using data from the 1995 Detroit Area Study (N = 1106) in conjunction with tract-level data from the 1990 census, the author evaluates the relationship between...
residential stability and physical health among black and white adults. Results suggest that neighborhood-level variation in health is primarily mediated by key sociodemographic characteristics of individuals (e.g., age, race, and socioeconomic status). However, a significant portion of health differentials across neighborhoods is due to disparate stress levels across neighborhoods. Further, high levels of neighborhood stability provide an important buffer to the otherwise deleterious effects of increased stress levels on adults’ overall health.


UPCOMING COLLOQUIA

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

RESEARCH PROPOSALS AWARDED

Environment and Behavior Program

Hunter, Lori
HIV/AIDS, Elderly-Headed Households, Food Security, and the National Environment in Rural South Africa
Rockefeller Brothers Foundation
10/07/05-10/06/07 New $140,000

Jane A. Menken, Institute Director

Research Program on Environment and Behavior
Lee J. Alston, Director
Natural Hazards Center
Kathleen Tiemey, 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
CU Population Center
Richard G. Rogers, 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

IBS Newsletter Staff:
Barbara McLean and Marcia Richardson, Co-editors
Nancy Thorwardson and Thomas Dickinson, Website Coordinators