



INSTITUTE OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE ■

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

AT BOULDER ■ FEBRUARY/MARCH 2007 ■

NEWSLETTER

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PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY PROGRAM

Kathleen Tierney gave an invited presentation “Crossing Boundaries: The Value of Multidisciplinary and Interdisciplinary Research for Disaster Loss Reduction” at the Frontiers of Human Dimensions Science Research Series in Boulder on January 23. The series is sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Society and the Environment of the National Center for Atmospheric Research.

Tierney was interviewed extensively and appears in the 2006 documentary film “The Water’s Edge.” The film, by the award-winning producer Marshall Freck, is about the 2002 Central Texas floods and focuses on the growing problems that floods present to our ever-urbanizing society. It is currently airing on public television stations around the United States.

Lori Hunter presented her research on how HIV/AIDS affects agriculture, nutrition, and land use at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Environmental Change and Security Program in Washington D.C. on January 17. Her panel addressed “HIV/AIDS, Agriculture, and Conservation: Impacts and Solutions,” and included Richard Skolnik of the Population Reference Bureau who presented current and future trends of the wide-ranging impacts of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and Judy Oglethorpe of the World Wildlife Fund who discussed how the disease influences conservation efforts and security issues.

Natural Hazards Center

The Natural Hazards Center (NHC) welcomes **Laurie Schmidt**, who joined the staff in early February as the NHC editor. Laurie will be compiling and editing the *Observer* newsletter and assist with coordination of special projects and publications. Laurie holds an M.S. degree in science communication and a B.A. in English. Before joining the Natural Hazards Center she worked for the Phoenix Mars Lander mission in Tucson, Arizona, developing educational content for the mission’s website. From 2001-2005 she served as editor of the NASA DAAC Alliance Annual publication, based at the National Snow and Ice Data Center in Boulder. Her interests include communicating earth science concepts to lay audiences, particularly with regard to correcting public misconceptions about geologic processes and natural hazards.

The center also welcomes **Corey Reynolds**, who joined the staff at the beginning of the year as the NHC program associate. Corey will be compiling and editing the Disaster Research e-newsletter, managing the center’s website, coordinating special projects and publications, and managing the Quick Response Research Program. Corey holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism and political science from the University of Colorado where he worked in communications and outreach at the nation’s largest student-run

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PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

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environmental center. Before joining the Natural Hazards Center, he was a reporter for newspapers in central and northern Colorado. His interests include the role of the media before, during, and after disaster; the effect of trauma reporting on media organizations and individuals; risk communication; and emergency management public policy.

In Print

The Natural Hazards Center (NHC). 2005. *Learning from Catastrophe: Quick Response Research in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina*. Special Publication no. 40. Boulder: Natural Hazards Center. This peer-reviewed edited volume is a collection of eighteen chapters from thirty-nine researchers who conducted social science research when or immediately after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita made landfall on the U.S. Gulf Coast in September 2005. At that time research teams were deployed under the Center's Quick Response program, the National Science Foundation's Small Grants for Exploratory Research effort, or through support of other various academic institutions. The devastation and social and institutional failures wrought by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, unfortunately, provided ample fodder for quick response research. Quick response studies are important because they frequently identify research questions for future and longer-term research. Disasters inevitably bring surprises, and quite often those surprises turn into researchable topics. Because of the multiple severe impacts and the utter devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, rapid response field work was especially challenging—perhaps more so than in any recent U.S. disaster. Field workers witnessed catastrophe and its depredations first hand and are now bringing the human story of Katrina and its research and policy implications to a wider audience through the publication of this edited volume. For additional information, visit www.colorado.edu/hazards/publications/katrina.html.

HEALTH AND SOCIETY PROGRAM

Richard Jessor was an invited participant in the year-long Psychology Speaker Series organized by the psychologists at RAND in Santa Monica, CA on January 18. His talk dealt with the findings from the Denver-Beijing-Zhengzhou collaborative study of risk and protective factors in adolescent risk behavior and development. Jessor's presentation emphasized that the underlying explanatory account of risk behavior was largely invariant across such radically different societal contexts.

POPULATION PROGRAM

Working Papers

<http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/pop/pubs/wp.html>

Ogeunmefun, Catherine and **Enid Schatz**. "*Caregivers' Sacrifices: The Opportunity Costs Of Adult Morbidity and Mortality on Female Pensioners in Rural South Africa*" (POP2006-11). The authors explore the impact of adult morbidity and mortality on the socioeconomic well-being of female pensioners and their households. As mortality rates escalate from HIV/AIDS and other causes, older women are bearing the brunt of responsibilities related to caregiving for the sick and orphaned. These women often use their state funded non-contributory pensions during crises related to caregiving. The

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IN FOCUS

IBS Welcomes New Faculty with Broad Interests in Health-Related Behaviors



Stefanie Mollborn
IBS Faculty
Health and Society Program

Stefanie Mollborn is an IBS faculty member in the Health and Society Program and an Assistant Professor of Sociology. She received her bachelor's degree in sociology from Harvard University in 1997. From 1997 to 1999 she lived and worked in Sweden and attended a doctorate program in social work. She attended Stanford University where she received her master's degree in sociology in 2000 and her doctorate in 2006.

Having been trained as a sociologist and social psychologist, I am broadly interested in health-related behaviors and the ways that they differ across social categories and according to the social and material resources available to people.

Trust between doctors and patients

I first became interested in this area through a Stanford-based research project on the predictors and consequences of trust within physician-patient interactions. Trust is difficult to conceptualize and measure, but it is known to be important for patients' compliance to treatments and other health outcomes. Through a combination of qualitative interviews and focus groups, and quantitative analyses of secondary national survey data, my coauthors and I investigated determinants of patients' trust in their doctors and doctors' trust in their patients. We found that trust in one's doctor matters for getting needed care in a prompt manner for most patients, but not for those without health insurance. In another project, we examined racial, ethnic, and language differences in various survey measures of patients' trust, finding that patients from most racial/ethnic minorities trust their doctors less than Caucasian patients in terms of specific trust-building behaviors. However, there were few racial or ethnic differences in more general measures of patients' trust in their doctors.

Teenage pregnancy and parenthood

Parallel with this collaborative line of research, I began my dissertation research on teenage pregnancy and parenthood. The United States has the highest rates of teenage pregnancy, abortion, and childbearing among industrialized countries. Besides its important implications for health, teenage childbearing is interesting to me because societal norms discourage it so strongly and because of its association with entrenched poverty for both the parent and the child. These issues of social norms and socioeconomic resources are the two aspects of teenage parenthood that have fascinated me most, together with the question of how the consequences of teenage fatherhood are similar to or different from those of teenage motherhood.

My dissertation consisted of four separate projects using primary and secondary nationally representative survey data, including the National Education Longitudinal Study and the Add Health survey. First, I found that material resources such as housing, and parenting responsibilities

Trust is difficult to conceptualize and measure, but it is known to be important for patients' compliance to treatments and other health outcomes. ... trust in one's doctor matters for getting needed care in a prompt manner for most patients, but not for those without health insurance.

IN FOCUS

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such as child care and paid work, account for a large part of the negative effect of becoming a teenage mother or father on educational attainment later in life. Second, I found that teenage fathers and mothers who disregard societal gender norms about which parenting responsibilities are appropriate fare better educationally than those who take on traditionally gendered parenting roles. Third, I identified predictors of norms against teenage pregnancy perceived by young people, finding variation in norms both by race/ethnicity and by neighborhood socioeconomic disadvantage. Fourth, I examined the consequences of these teenage pregnancy norms for family members' willingness to provide material resources and found that adults with stronger norms against teen pregnancy are hypothetically more likely to withhold needed resources from a teenage parent in their family. A future research project will explore other consequences of norms about teenage pregnancy, measuring their effects on teenage sex, contraception, pregnancy, abortion, and childbearing.

New research on childhood and adolescent health

Together with graduate students, I am now embarking on a new line of research about the effects of having a teenage father or mother on children's early development and health through age four. Little is known about this topic so early in children's lives, but the new Early Childhood Longitudinal Study will enable us to learn a lot. We will investigate the protective effects of material resources and other adult family members in the household on children's outcomes, as well as the influences of teenage parents' education, employment, and mental health.

I am also currently involved in two other collaborative research projects related to childhood and adolescent health. One examines the relationship between experiencing economic or health-related hardship in childhood and adolescence on subjective age (i.e., the feeling that one has "grown up too fast") in young adulthood. Older subjective age has been linked to a number of problematic outcomes in adolescence and young adulthood by other researchers. The second project links teenagers' reports of their sexual experience with parents' beliefs about their teenage children's sexual activity. We investigate the effects of parents' accurate knowledge about their children's sexual experience on the teenagers' subsequent sexual activity and health-endangering sexual behaviors. I have also become involved with a Colorado-based coalition of organizations serving teenagers that is conducting research to improve contraceptive use and prevent teenage pregnancy throughout Colorado.

I am loving being at CU and IBS and am enjoying meeting everyone. I find the interdisciplinary and collaborative atmosphere at IBS, and its focus on both basic and applied research goals very exciting.

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authors conducted in-depth and semi-structured interviews with thirty women aged sixty to seventy-five at the MRC/Wits Rural Public Health and Health Transitions Research Unit (Agincourt) study site in northeastern South Africa. They found that, in order to cover expenses incurred during crises, older women sometimes forego spending money and time on their personal needs, thus producing negative effects for them as individuals while contributing positively to the household. Despite the additional household income that pensions provide, many of the study respondents still found it difficult to recover from the financial impact of these crises.

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Pampel, Fred C. “*Persistence of Educational Differences in Smoking, United States 1976-2005.*” (POP2007-01). Concerns about socioeconomic status (SES) disparities in smoking, and prospects that current anti-tobacco policies will reduce disparities, suggest the need to examine recent trends. This study describes changes in smoking prevalence by education level for race and gender groups from 1976 to 2005. The analysis uses a measure of self-reported current smoking gathered in twenty-three National Health Interview Surveys. Logistic regression models test for differences in smoking changes across four education groups (0-11, 12, 13-15, and 16+ years of schooling) and use quadratic coefficients for year to generate predicted values and smoothed trends in smoking for each education group (with race-gender groups both combined and treated separately). With controls for age, race, and sex, the results for the combined sample reveal that the gap in smoking between the lowest and highest education group declined by four percentage points from 1998 to 2005. However, this decline stemmed largely from trends among Hispanic men and women; in contrast, smoking disparities among white and African-American men and women show no evidence of narrowing. Further, smoking of high school graduates and those attending some college relative to college graduates widened rather than narrowed in recent years. Although educational disparities in smoking are no longer widening as they did decades ago, their persistence for most race-gender groups suggests that policies and programs more directly target low SES smokers.

Rogers, Andrei. “*Demographic Modeling of the Geography of Migration and Population: A Multiregional Perspective.*” (POP2007-02). The author focuses on the development and evolution of migration and population redistribution modeling within the spatial context of multiregional demography. It begins in 1965, when the state-of-the-art consisted largely of ideas and techniques imported from other disciplines (regression analysis, gravity models, Markov chains, and matrix cohort-survival population projection models) and then continues on to tell the story of multiregional demography, its evolution and emergence as a fully developed paradigm for studying the spatial dynamics of migration and population redistribution and, more recently, its approach for estimating the necessary migration input measures from inadequate data.

de Sherbinin, Alexander, Leah VanWey, Kendra McSweeney, Rimjhim Aggarwal, Alisson Barbieri, Sabina Henry, **Lori Hunter**, Wayne Twine, and Robert Walker. “*Rural Household Micro-Demographics, Livelihoods and the Environment.*” (POP2007-03). Population dynamics have been considered one of the primary drivers of environmental change. Early research on population and the environment generally assessed aggregate population impacts on the environment and natural resources. In the early 1990s, new research approaches were developed that began to couple economists’ and demographers’ understanding of the household economy and population dynamics with advanced statistical and geographic tools to explore the complexities of local-level population-livelihood-environment dynamics. The authors examine the evidence for linkages among household population dynamics, livelihoods, and the environment in four specific areas: household fertility, migration, morbidity, mortality, and lifecycles.

PROBLEM BEHAVIOR PROGRAM

Joanne Belknap gave a talk entitled “Gateways to Girls’ Illegal Behaviors” at the Understanding Girls’ Problem Behaviors Conference, Örebro University, Örebro, Sweden on February 22.

Program Activities continues on page 6

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

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Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence

In Print

Belknap, Joanne. 2007. *The Invisible Woman: Gender, Crime, and Justice, 3rd Edition.* Belmont, C.A.: Wadsworth Publishing Company. The first edition was published in 1996; the second edition in 2001.

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 Society Program

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| Tierney, Kathleen | A Guide to Transportation and Hazards Resources Transportation Research Board of the National Academies | 01/01/07-06/30/07 | New | \$75,000 |
| Hunter, Lori | Climate Variability, Migration, and Rural Livelihoods National Institute of Child Health and Human Development | 01/01/08-12/31/09 | New | \$383,930 |
| Wiener, John | Decision Support for Long-term Agricultural Water Security for Small and Medium Farms in Eastern Colorado USDA/NRI via NCAR | 10/01/07-09/30/10 | New | \$184,382 |

Health and Society Program

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|---------------------|---|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| Barham, Tania | The Effects of Childhood Health Interventions on Human Capital Development National Institute of Child Health and Human Development | 12/01/07-11/30/09 | New | \$151,500 |
| Mollborn, Stephanie | Understanding How Social Norms and Material Resources Affect Teen Parents' Lives University of Colorado (Innovative Grant Program) | 07/01/07-06/30/08 | New | \$50,000 |

Political and Economic Change Program

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|---|---|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| Mobarak, Mushfiq Maskus, Keith (Co-PI) | The Causal Impact of Foreign and Domestic Doctoral Students on Knowledge and Innovation in U.S. Universities: Evidence from Enrollment Shocks National Science Foundation | 07/01/07-06/30/10 | New | \$156,738 |
| Touchton, Michael Brown, David S. (faculty sponsor) | Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science: Institutions, Ideology and Governance: Polarization in Comparative Perspective National Science Foundation | 09/10/07-09/09/08 | New | \$8,432 |

Research Proposals Submitted continue on page 7

RESEARCH PROPOSALS SUBMITTED

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|-------------------|--|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| Greenberg, Edward | Alcohol Outcomes of Separation from Work: A Secondary Analysis of Panel Data National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism | 01/01/08-12/31/09 | New | \$298,744 |
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Population Program

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|------------------|---|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| Goldstein, Donna | Pharmaceutical Policies in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Mexico City, Mexico National Science Foundation | 07/01/07-06/30/10 | New | \$245,475 |
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|--------------|---|-------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Menken, Jane | Unpacking Self-rated Health in Aging Populations in Africa and Asia National Institutes of Health via Harvard University | 12/01/07-11/30/12 | Resubmission | \$301,463 |
|--------------|---|-------------------|--------------|-----------|

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Health and Society Program

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