

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

### ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY PROGRAM

**John Wiener** gave a presentation to the US Committee on Irrigation and Drainage Urbanization and Irrigation (USCID) Conference in Phoenix, AZ in May which was entitled "Towards Better Water Transfers in Colorado and Cumulative Cost Avoidance."

#### In Print

**Wiener, John D.**, Kathleen A. Dwire, Susan K. Skagen, Robert R. Crifasi, and David Yates. "Riparian Ecosystem Consequences of Water Distribution along the Colorado Front Range." *Water Resources Impact* 10, no. 3 (2008):18-22. This article relates how water diversions along Colorado's Front Range have changed the west and its riparian zones and the issues that riparian management faces in this altered environment.

#### Working Papers

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

**Travis, William R.** "Geo-Engineering the Climate: Time for a Technology Assessment" (ES2008-0002). The threat of anthropogenic global warming has traditionally been met with plans to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (mitigation) and to help social and ecological systems cope with a changing climate (adaptation). There is some tension between advocacy and policy for mitigation vs. adaptation, but given a probable (though difficult to specify) "warming commitment" already extant and likely to increase before effective mitigation kicks in, greater attention is coming to adaptation (Pielke, Jr., et al., 2007). The human experience with natural hazards and other environmental problems also suggests that an increasing threat of global warming (and associated local and regional climate changes) will eventually evoke efforts to intervene physically in the climate system (Schneider, 2001), especially if the more extreme scenarios begin to look likely or to become manifest (Travis, in review). A flurry of proposals, conferences, and articles on "geo-engineering" (e.g., Crutzen, 2006; Wigley, 2006) reveals that the prevention response has gained salience, at least as a topic for discussion and rudimentary analysis (Cotton, 2008). The discussions evince enthusiasm for the great potential for fixing the problem as well as great caution in the face of myriad unknowns. Many commentators suggest that the cure might be worse than the disease, that serious attention to geo-engineering solutions might even worsen the problem by reducing our commitment to mitigation, and that even analyzing engineering solutions puts us on a "slippery slope" to relying on them instead of mitigation (e.g., Robock, in press). In this vein, the thinking goes, serious attention to climate cooling schemes might invoke a paradox that natural hazards researchers call the "levee effect" (i.e., that dams and levees encourage flood zone development, thus exacerbating future losses when inevitable failures occur). This essay examines some of the human dimensions of weather and climate geoengineering (WCGE), in a rough attempt to identify some of the elements likely to comprise a WCGE technology assessment.

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

*Continued from page 1*

### HEALTH AND SOCIETY PROGRAM

#### Working Papers

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

**Barham, Tania** and John A. Maluccio. “Eradicating Diseases: The Effect of Conditional Cash Transfers on Vaccination Coverage in Rural Nicaragua” (HS2008-01). Despite significant global efforts to improve vaccination coverage against major childhood diseases, vaccination rates, even in better performing regions, are expected to plateau below 90 percent. Yet, to eradicate diseases such as measles, vaccination rates close to 95 percent are needed. In this paper, the authors take advantage of a randomized experiment to investigate the effect of a demand-side approach, which uses conditional cash transfers, to improve vaccination coverage in rural Nicaragua. By using a rich set of administrative data, this article investigates possible measurement error which is inherent in vaccination data from household survey and spillover effects. The findings show the program led to large increases in vaccination coverage resulting in vaccination levels greater than 95 percent for some vaccines. The results were especially large and significant for those children who are harder to reach—those with less educated mothers or who live further from a health facility.

### POPULATION PROGRAM

**Rick Rogers** attended the National Research Council’s Committee on National Statistics workshop, “Vital Data for National Needs,” held at the National Academies, Washington, DC, April 30. Workshop participants discussed the current and future state of the vital statistics system. Rick presented “Use of Vital Statistics Data to Identify Mortality Trends” which demonstrated how crucial vital statistics data are in guiding research and making policy decisions.

**Rogers** participated in a review of population forecasts for the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Aging Society Network at the MacArthur Foundation, Chicago, IL, April 22.

**Rogers** presented “Sex Differentials in Mortality: The Importance of Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Behavioral Factors” to the Center for Population Dynamics (CePoD), Arizona State University on April 26 and at the Division of Social Statistics, University of Southampton, England on June 10.

**Rogers** taught “Demography of Adult Morbidity and Mortality” through the Southampton Statistical Sciences Research Institute (S3RI) at the University of Southampton, England, June 11-13. Course participants included graduate students, postdoctoral researchers and faculty, as well as staff members from government agencies, including Imperial College, University of York, University of Southampton, the Department of Health in Northern Ireland, and the Office for National Statistics.

#### In Print

**Reniers, Georges.** “Marital Strategies for Regulating Exposure to HIV.” *Demography* 45, no. 2 (2008): 417-38. In a setting where the transmission of HIV occurs primarily through heterosexual contact and where no cure or vaccine is available, behavioral change is

*Program Activities continues on page 4*

## IN FOCUS



**Lori Hunter**  
**IBS Faculty**  
**Environment and Society Program**

“The break from campus was much needed and, like sabbatical should be, the year was an eye-opening experience.”

### Sabbatical Lessons

*Lori Hunter received her BA from the University of Washington then went on to receive her MA and PhD from Brown University. She is an Associate Professor of Sociology and is in the Environmental Studies Program. Her main areas of interest and expertise are in Environmental Sociology and Demography.*

I recently returned from my first sabbatical leave after 11 years as an Assistant Professor (4 at Utah State University and 7 here at CU-Boulder). The break from campus was much needed and, like sabbatical should be, the year was an eye-opening experience.

The Population Reference Bureau (PRB; [www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org)), in Washington DC, was my intellectual home for the first several months of sabbatical leave – although they kindly allowed me to come and go for 2 week periods over the course of the Bixby Fellowship. I have used PRB’s materials in the classroom for years so was thrilled to have the opportunity to get to know the organization more closely. The PRB’s mission is to “inform people around the world about population, health, and the environment, and empower them to use that information to advance the well-being of current and future generations.” The organization has four core thematic areas of work: Reproductive Health and Fertility, Children and Families, Population and the Environment, and Population Futures—Aging, Inequality and Poverty, Migration and Urbanization, and Gender. Overall, the PRB represents a “bridge” between academic research and the broader public, including policy- and decision-makers – and they link these communities through synthesizing research findings into reader-friendly briefs, engaging charts, and interesting web-based dialogues and podcasts.

I was primarily affiliated with the Population-Health-Environment (PHE) group, housed within PRB’s International Programs division. The primary objective of the fellowship was to facilitate linkages between PRB’s PHE efforts and the academic community engaged in population-environment research. To this end, I met with many of PRB’s collaborators in the DC area including USAID, World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International, the Jane Goodall Institute and Eco-Agriculture Partners, to explore embedding research within their population-environment fieldwork. I also made several research presentations, both internal to PRB and policy presentations for external audiences, including in a panel at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars ([www.wilsoncenter.org](http://www.wilsoncenter.org)). The panel, organized by the Center’s Environmental Change and Security program, was entitled “HIV/AIDS, Agriculture, and Conservation: Impacts and Solutions” and I offered an overview of scholarship on the environmental dimensions of HIV/AIDS.

To facilitate use of population-environment scholarship by the broader public, I also wrote 3 research-based policy briefs for web dissemination (easily accessed via “[www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org)” with a search on my name):

- “HIV/AIDS and the Natural Environment”

*In Focus continues on page 4*

## IN FOCUS

*Continued from page 3*

- “Understanding How HIV/AIDS, Agricultural Systems and Food Security Are Linked.”
- “Climate Change, Rural Vulnerabilities and Migration”

The writing was challenging since the web pieces are to be pithy syntheses of research findings, without jargon, and written in a more journalistic style than our typical academic prose!

As another effort to “bridge” communities, I led a collaboration with PRB’s PHE Technical Director, Roger-Mark deSouza (now with the Sierra Club), and my South African colleague Wayne Twine, to compile a special issue of the journal *Population and Environment* focused on “HIV/AIDS and the Environment.” The special issue is now nearing publication and includes five interdisciplinary research contributions examining, for example, HIV/AIDS as related to food security, land use, and conservation. DeSouza also coordinated and compiled a review of three field projects that integrate HIV/AIDS issues into conservation agendas. The project descriptions were provided by World Wildlife Fund, Catholic Relief Services, and the International Center for Research on Women.

In very general terms, I came away from my sabbatical fellowship at PRB with two central observations:

1) PRB provides evidence (as does IBS!) of the amazing amount of high quality work that can be produced by a small number of talented, hard-working dedicated professionals. I was stunned that the organization wasn’t larger. The “output to staff ratio” is even more incredible given the time required for constant fundraising (like IBS!). Indeed, I was saddened that PRB staffers must spend so much time justifying the organization’s relevance and impact. The sadness is because of my second observation ....

2) ..... regarding the absolute necessity of organizations such as PRB to make demographic scholarship socially meaningful by getting it into the hands of individuals and organizations making decisions, policies, and building programs.

In addition to these general observations, the sabbatical time spent in Washington, DC at the Population Reference Bureau brought to my professional life an enhanced network of dedicated individuals working on population-environment issues outside of the academic realm. My experience at PRB will no doubt shape the trajectory of my career. Actually, it already has..... Stay tuned for more on this impact and on the second half of the sabbatical saga in a future edition of *In Focus* .....

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

*Continued from page 2*

imperative for containing the epidemic. Abstinence, faithfulness, and condom use most often receive attention in this regard. In contrast, this article treats marriage as a resource for HIV risk management via mechanisms of positive selection (partner choice) and negative selection (divorce of an adulterous spouse). Retrospective marriage histories and panel data provide the evidence for this study, and results indicate that men and women in Malawi increasingly turned to union-based risk-avoidance strategies during the period that the threat of HIV/AIDS materialized. Although both sexes strategize in a similar fashion,

*Program Activities continues on page 5*

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

*Continued from page 4*

men are better equipped than women to deploy these strategies to their advantage. The article concludes with reflections on the long-term and population-level implications of these coping mechanisms.

### Working Papers

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

**Reniers, Georges** and Rania Tfaily. "Polygyny and HIV in Malawi" (POP2008-06). In this working paper, the authors review HIV prevalence rates among individuals in monogamous and polygynous marriages in Malawi and disentangle the process that leads to higher HIV prevalence in polygynous than in monogamous unions. They are interested in two processes: first to assess whether men and women in polygynous unions more often engage in risky sexual behavior, and secondly to evaluate the selection of HIV positive women into polygynous unions.

## IN THE NEWS

**David Miklowitz** was featured in an article on the University of Colorado online News Center for his book "The Bipolar Teen: What You Can Do to Help Your Child and Your Family." The article, entitled "CU Professor's New Book Offers Tips to Parents of Bipolar Teenagers," can be found at:  
<http://www.colorado.edu/news/r/957eabe96d309a0d4b5b43764281ace0.html>

## 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

Alston, Lee (Co-PI)	Collaborative Research: Adapting to Climate Change: Decision Making, Science and Federal Land Management Policy under a Changing Climate	National Science Foundation	09/01/08 - 08/31/13	New	\$ 1,181,882
---------------------	--	-----------------------------	---------------------	-----	--------------

### Population Program

Menken, Jane Co-PI, Tania Barham Co-PI, Nizam Khan	Long-term Effects of Health and Development Interventions in Rural Bangladesh	National Institutes of Health/NIA	04/01/09 - 03/31/14	New	\$4,132,972
--	---	-----------------------------------	---------------------	-----	-------------

Menken, Jane Co-PI, Tania Barham Co-PI, Nizam Khan	Long-term Effects of Health and Development Interventions in Rural Bangladesh	National Institutes of Health/NIA	04/01/09 - 03/31/14	New	\$4,132,972
--	---	-----------------------------------	---------------------	-----	-------------

Boardman, Jason Co-PI, Matt McQueen, IBG	Social Demographic Moderation of Genome Wide Associations for Body Mass Index	National Institutes of Health/NICHHD	07/01/09 - 06/30/14	New	\$3,479,488
--	---	--------------------------------------	---------------------	-----	-------------

*Research Proposals Submitted continues on page 6*

## RESEARCH PROPOSALS SUBMITTED

*Continued from page 5*

### Problem Behavior Program

Thornberry, Terry	Intergenerational Transfer of Risk for School Disengagement National Institutes of Health/NICHD	07/01/09 - 06/30/14	New	\$3,053,147
-------------------	--	---------------------	-----	-------------

## RESEARCH PROPOSALS AWARDED

### Population Program

McKinnish, Terra Co-PI, Randall Walsh	Decomposing Neighborhood Change National Institutes of Health	02/01/08 – 01/31/10	New	\$151,500
---	--	---------------------	-----	-----------

### Problem Behavior Program

Wadsworth, Tim	What's Behind the Increase: Explaining Recent Trends in Suicide Among African American Males Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation	01/01/08 – 12/31/08	New	\$151,500
----------------	---	---------------------	-----	-----------

Jane A. Menken, Institute Director

<p><b>Environment and Society Program</b> Lee J. Alston, Director <u>Natural Hazards Center</u> Kathleen Tierney, Director</p> <p style="text-align: center;">■</p> <p><b>Political and Economic Change Program</b> Edward S. Greenberg, Director</p> <p style="text-align: center;">■</p> <p><b>Problem Behavior Program</b> Terence P. Thornberry, Director <u>Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence</u> Delbert S. Elliott, Director</p>	<p><b>Health and Society Program</b> Richard Jessor, Director</p> <p style="text-align: center;">■</p> <p><b>Population Program</b> Richard G. Rogers, Director <u>CU Population Center</u> Richard G. Rogers, Director <u>Population Aging Center</u> Jane A. Menken, Director</p> <p style="text-align: center;">■</p> <p><b>Computing and Research Services</b> Jani S. Little, Director</p>
---	---

**IBS Newsletter Staff:**

Melissa McNabb Editor	Nancy Thorwardson and Thomas Dickinson Website Coordinators
--------------------------	--