Richard Rogers chaired the session "Differential Mortality" at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America in Minneapolis, May 1-4.

Patrick M. Krueger presented a paper titled “Body Mass, Smoking, and Overall and Cause Specific Mortality among Older U.S. Adults” on behalf of his co-authors—Richard G. Rogers, Robert A. Hummer, and Jason D. Boardman—at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America, May 1-4, in Minneapolis. “We find that obesity shows persistent relationships with overall, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes specific mortality even at the older ages. Further, not only does smoking associate with increased risks of death from various causes, but smoking related weight loss also indicates heightened mortality risks. Finally, underweight individuals have increased short-run mortality, likely due to the presence of unobserved illness that leads to both weight loss and increased mortality, but over time their mortality risks converge with those of normal weight individuals. In sum, obesity remains a persistent health risk well into the oldest ages.”

Lori Hunter presented a paper, co-authored with Jeannette Sutton, entitled "Rural Out-Migration and Environmental Risk: Examining the Association between Hazardous Waste Facilities and Population Loss" at the Population Association of America Annual Meeting, May 1-4, in Minneapolis. Lori was also an invited discussant at the Population and Environment Session's panel on Migration and Land Use.

Professor Laura Taylor from Georgia State University will be a special visitor for the summer and fall semesters. Dr. Taylor is an Associate Professor of Economics and the Associate Director of the Environmental Policy Program in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. Her field of research is environmental and natural resource economics, with an emphasis on environmental valuation, land-use, and experimental economics.
ENVIRONMENT AND BEHAVIOR PROGRAM (CONT.)

During Professor Taylor's visit she will be working on several different projects: conducting research related to the valuation and provision of environmental and natural resources; developing several experimental economics projects which focus on individual decision making within the context of public-goods provision; exploring the behavioral responses of individuals to risky situations, including financial risks and personal mortality/morbidity risks using both revealed preference market data and individual choices observed in a laboratory setting; extending current research that focuses on the impacts of land-use choices on urban neighborhoods and quality of life; and, lastly, developing a project which investigates the role of regulatory information dissemination and the value of irrigation permits to farmers in a state which does not allow permit trading.

John Wiener made presentations on the Arkansas Water Bank Pilot Program at the first annual meeting of the Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance in Durango, February 27-28, and at the annual meeting of the Colorado Section of the American Water Resources Association on April 4 in Golden. Wiener also organized a panel at the request of the planning committee for the Arkansas River Basin Water Forum held March 27-28 in Pueblo. From April 29 to May 1, Wiener talked with the Grand Junction Valley Irrigation Company about water banks and issues in ditch management. In addition to the status of the Water Bank (http://www.colorado.waterbank.org), another topic was the potential for water bank operations in assisting small agriculture in recapitalizing. Wiener’s work has been supported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), directly through IBS, and through the Western Water Assessment Project, organized through the Cooperative Institute for Research on Environmental Sciences (CIRES).


Natural Hazards Center

The Social, Cultural, and Economic Dimensions of Health

Wanda Headley began working as a library assistant for the Natural Hazards Center in August 1999 and was appointed Library Manager in September 2001. She holds bachelors degrees in Geography and History, both from the University of Colorado.

The Natural Hazard Center’s mission is to serve as a national and international clearinghouse of information and research on natural hazards and human adjustments to hazards and disasters. Critical to this mission is the Center’s library - one of the nation’s largest (if not the largest) libraries devoted to the social dimensions of natural hazards. Although the library is open to anyone interested in natural hazards, its main audience is researchers and practitioners working to reduce human loss and suffering from natural disasters, and exploring how society prepares for, responds to, recovers from, and mitigates damage from natural hazards.

The library’s holdings consist of over 25,000 items, including books, periodicals, reports, videotapes, and compact disks. It is a unique collection of hazard-specific and multi-hazard research in bound and electronic form. HazLit, the library’s online bibliographic database provides worldwide computer access to the library’s holdings. HazLit is accessible through the Center’s web site at http://www.colorado.edu/hazards. Its main function is to help users identify publications they need and provide hard to obtain publications. With funding from the Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI), Center library staff are currently in the process of revising the HazLit database. Along with a new look, the upgraded HazLit will increase accessibility to the library collection, support faster and more complex searches, provide better ability to manipulate search results, and direct links to selected online documents.

The library also houses the “Referral Network for Sustainable Disaster Recovery” database. Designed for in-house use, this database contains information about experts in local disaster recovery, economic vitality, environmental quality, social equity, livability, and disaster resilience. Individuals, groups, or local governments, who need information about sustainable recovery, on-site assistance, or simply moral support can contact the library to find a person whose expertise matches their needs.

Along with gathering and organizing materials, library staff devote a great deal of time to answering patron inquiries. In addition to contacting the library via the phone or in person, there is a link on the Center’s web page to connect users with library staff. These various forms of communication allow staff to answer questions or point users in the right direction(s) quickly. In addition, for a small fee, library staff will conduct a custom search of its library holdings. Staff is also available to conduct research for users with specific questions they wish answered using the extensive materials available in the center's collection.
POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE PROGRAM

Lee Alston gave a presentation at Harvard University at the meeting on Political Institutions and Economic Policy on May 17.

Tom Mayer presented a paper, "Class Dynamics in the United States 1988-2002," on April 19 at the annual meetings of the Southwestern Social Science Association in San Antonio, Texas. With the paper Mayer presents a method of estimating the power of social classes and applies this method to the United States. Results suggest that class power tends to diverge during Republican administrations and to converge during Democratic administrations. The paper is being revised on the basis of suggestions received at the conference. Two of Mayer's undergraduate sociology honors students also gave excellent presentations at this conference. Laura Gustaferro gave a paper on "The Social Organization of Breast Cancer Support Groups" and Vanessa Hannemann spoke on "Social Action and Its Absence in a Protestant Church."

PROBLEM BEHAVIOR PROGRAM

Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence

Jane Grady presented “Threat Assessment Seminar-Secret Service Training” during the Safe-Communities Safe-Schools meeting held at the Mesa County School District in Grand Junction, Colorado, April 22-23. Grady addressed an audience of school administrators, law enforcement and mental health workers about the importance of creating safe schools and communities. Grady offered safe school planning services to any school in the state from staff of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence.

Richard Jessor was the discussant at the panel on “Risk and Protective Factors for Youth” during the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, May 1-4, in Minneapolis. Jessor was in Cairo, Egypt as result consultant, May 5-8, on an intervention project to improve the life-chances of out-of-school adolescent girls in rural villages along the Upper Nile. The project is being carried out by the Population Council with funding from the United Nations Foundation and support from UNICEF and WHO.

BITS AND BYTES FROM CCRS

On May 13-15, Jani Little attended a three-day, hands-on class offered by the USGS. It emphasized using ArcGIS to make full use of digital line graphs, digital orthophotoquads, national land cover data, national elevation data, digital

Bits and Bytes from CCRS continues on page 5
raster graphics, satellite imagery, other USGS data, as well as data from the Census Bureau, NRCS, and other federal agencies.

IN THE NEWS

Ann May writes an eloquent description of her observations while conducting fieldwork in Dar es Salaam in an article titled “An Anthropological Epilogue” published in the February 2003 issue of The Bookpress, Vol. 13 (1) pgs. 5 & 7. “While Tanzania at the turn of the twenty-first century could not be equated with Zambia in the late 1980s, as a country experiencing “demodernization,” the benefits of its economic progress were nevertheless benefiting only a privileged few. For me, it was not just the impoverished conditions most people lived in that engendered a sense of anguish. It was more that the enormous rift between the lives of those fortunate few and all the rest seemed so utterly unbridgeable. There is something unspeakable about the visible daily juxtaposition of extremes of wealth and poverty.”

RESEARCH PROPOSALS SUBMITTED

Environment and Behavior Program

Tierney, K.  
ITR Proposal on Urban Crisis Response  
U.C.A. – Irvine  
10/01/03-09/30/08  
new  
$498,244

Problem Behavior Program

Grotpeter, J.  
Sexual Violence: Longitudinal, Multigenerational Evidence from the National Youth Survey  
DOJ  
10/01/03-09/30/06  
new  
$292,783

RESEARCH PROPOSALS GRANTED

Environment and Behavior Program

McCabe, T.  
Integrated Assessment of Pastoral Wildlife Interactions  
CSU  
07/01/01-09/30/03  
supp  
$6,344

Mileti, D.  
Communication of Emergency Public Warnings: A Social Science Perspective and State-of-the-Art Assessment  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
01/02/03-06/30/03  
new  
$26,813
RESEARCH PROPOSALS GRANTED
continued from page 5

Population Program

Rogers, R.
(Boardman as co-PI)
Collaborative Research: Religious Involvement and Adult Mortality in the U.S.
NSF 05/15/03-04/30/04 new $49,015

Ogra, M. (Silvey as faculty sponsor)
Doctoral Dissertation Research: Rural Livelihoods and Contested Spaces: An Examination of the Gender Dimensions of Human - Wildlife Conflicts in Uttaranchal, India.
NSF 05/15/03-04/30/04 new $11,860

Problem Behavior

Elliott, D.
Supplement to: Safe Communities – Safe Schools
CO Trust 10/01/99-09/30/05 supp $96,900

Jessor, R.
Adolescent Risk Behavior and Development in China and the U.S.
Wm T. Grant Foundation 05/01/03-04/30/04 cont $75,000

Menard, S.
Inhalant Abuse Across Generations in a National Sample
HHS 04/20/03-03/31/04 new $111,000