



POPULATION RESEARCH CENTER



The University of Texas at Austin
<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/>

Dr. Mark Hayward, Director

2006-2007

Newsletter

Director's Message

The intellectual liveliness of the PRC community is obvious as one pans across our faculty's and students' many and varied accomplishments. The PRC is attracting outstanding faculty, our faculty's research is being showcased in major books and scientific journals, and exciting new projects are being funded. Faculty and students are also winning recognition for their outstanding research by garnering local and national awards. You will find more information about these and other accomplishments below. Underneath these accomplishments, however, are what I regard as relatively rare qualities - an extraordinarily strong sense of community, a deep appreciation for scholarship outside one's own discipline, lots of laughter in the hallways, and a strong spirit of collegiality and collaboration - qualities that define us as an exciting community.

Can you tell that I like coming to work?

Every fall is an important time for renewal, and this fall is no exception. We welcomed 14 new graduate students and a new NICHD postdoctoral fellow, Angelica Ware to the PRC. Coming to us from the Big Apple, Angelica's research focuses on the consequences of poverty, immigration, and family dynamics for developmental outcomes of ethnic adolescents, and she is working with Aletha Huston on these topics. We also welcomed five new faculty members as research associates: Catherine Cubbin, Angel Harris, Patrick Krueger, Gretchen Ritter, and Su Yeong Kim. And, five other faculty members with emerging interests in the population sciences joined us as research affiliates: James Goodwin, Jean Freeman, Matt McGlone, Steve Hursting and Bugao Xu. Hailing from sociology, public health, political science, nutrition, human development, textiles, communications, and medicine, these faculty members add to the PRC's thriving interdisciplinary climate.

As a demographer, I can't help resist in commenting on the PRC's demography because it is predictive of the center's scientific future. Below, I've provided some real data on the "age structure" of the PRC. Especially important for a center such as ours is that there needs to be a healthy stock of faculty at the assistant professor rank to ensure leadership development within the center. At the same time, it is important to have a strong group of senior faculty to provide mentorship to junior faculty and also provide scientific leadership. As the numbers show, over half of the faculty in 2006 were assistant or associate professors. The number of faculty in these ranks grew considerably over the last five years, while the number of faculty at the professor rank remained relatively stable. The PRC "population" has grown younger, indicating that the long-term prospects for scientific growth within the center are excellent.

PRC Faculty Rank Composition by Year							
Rank	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Chng
Full	25	26	24	26	30	27	8.0%
Associate	9	10	11	11	15	16	77.8%
Assistant	12	15	18	21	19	20	66.7%
Totals	46	51	53	58	64	63	

The energy within the center is also evident in its financial "bottom line." In 2006, the amount and number of awards in the PRC hit all time highs of almost \$35 million and 110 awards.

Although I would like to highlight some of the major scientific contributions of our faculty, this short note imposes too great a challenge to prioritize some over others. As all of you know, however, your contributions necessarily constitute the core of the R24 renewal application which will be submitted in December. Let me invite you instead to take a look at the application after its submission. The application will be posted on the web so that it will be accessible to everyone. The application conveys in great detail all of your efforts to make the PRC one of the premier population centers in the United States.



Passing the Torch

I am sad and pleased at the same time to announce that the PRC will have a “changing of the guard” in the associate director role. Aletha Huston will be stepping down, and Elizabeth Vandewater will be stepping up.

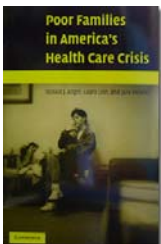
As all of you know, Aletha Huston has served as the PRC’s Associate Director for a number of years. The PRC has benefited in many ways. Her appointment has been instrumental in cementing a strong relationship between the PRC and Human Ecology, and it has also contributed to a national recognition of the centrality of developmental perspectives in the population sciences. Aletha has also played a major role as a mentor to a number of the PRC’s junior faculty across several departments. She has been a strong (and very sane) voice on the PRC Governing Committee. It is an understatement that she is one of the premier developmental scientists in the nation. None of these accolades are a surprise to any of us because we know her. Still, these accolades are important to mention, because Aletha has been an important force in making the PRC a nationally recognized center of excellence in the population sciences. All of us owe her a great debt of gratitude.

With Aletha stepping down, Elizabeth Vandewater has agreed to step up. As Associate Director, Elizabeth will take on the leadership role of the PRC’s developmental core. She will be working with me this year to learn the ropes of the PRC’s proposal bootcamp and also develop that component of the R24 renewal proposal. Elizabeth will also be leading efforts to develop interdisciplinary initiatives, including two emerging initiatives pertaining to obesity. Elizabeth is an expert in this area as well as a national figure in research on how media use influences child development and achievement. She brings an enormous array of scientific talents, ideas, and enthusiasm to her new role, and she is VERY excited to work with the PRC faculty to develop new ideas. Very important as well is the fact that Elizabeth will continue the PRC’s tradition of combining leadership from multiple departments/colleges. And, Elizabeth, like Aletha, will help the PRC continue developing the bridge between the developmental and population sciences - and bridge even more broadly to other disciplines.

We are very pleased to welcome Elizabeth in her role as Associate Director and want to thank Aletha for her tremendous contributions in this role.

Faculty News

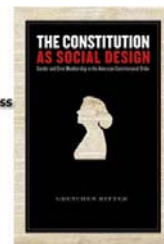
Recent Books by PRC Researchers



New book by
Ronald J. Angel
Laura Lein
&
Jane Henrici
from
Cambridge
University Press



New book by
Robert Crosnoe
from
Stanford University Press



New book from
Stanford University Press
by
Gretchen Ritter



New book edited by
Christopher S. Thompson
and
John W. Traphagan

Poor Families in America's Health Care Crisis, by Ron Angel and Laura Lein. Cambridge University Press.

Mexican Roots, American Schools: Helping Mexican Immigrant Children Succeed, by Robert Crosnoe. Stanford University Press.

The Constitution as Social Design: Gender and Civic Membership in the American Constitutional Order, by Gretchen Ritter. Stanford University Press.

Wearing Cultural Styles in Japan: Concepts of Tradition and Modernity in Practice, by Christopher S. Thompson and John Traphagan. SUNY Press.

Faculty News Continued

Five PRC faculty members, Chris Ellison, Norval Glenn, John Mirowsky, Catherine Ross, and Debra Umberson, were listed as "highly cited" among the top 299 social scientists nationwide by the Institute for Scientific Information. These PRC faculty were the only UT social science faculty listed, speaking to the scientific prominence of the PRC within the university. Nationally, the only other population center to match the number of "high cited faculty" is Princeton's Office of Population Research. The University of Chicago, UCLA, Penn State, and SUNY-Albany's center each placed three faculty on the list.

Faculty Promotions

- ◆ Ed Anderson from Assistant to Associate Professor, Department of Human Ecology
- ◆ Shannon Cavanagh from Postdoctoral Fellow at the PRC to Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology
- ◆ John Traphagan from Assistant to Associate Professor, Department of Asian Studies
- ◆ Elizabeth Vandewater from Assistant to Associate Professor (and PRC's new Associate Director), Department of Human Ecology
- ◆ Catherine Riegler-Crumb from Research Associate at the PRC to Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education

New PRC Faculty

- ◆ Catherine Cubbin, PRC (PhD Johns Hopkins); SES & health, neighborhood context and health (joined us last winter)
- ◆ Angel Harris, Sociology (PhD Michigan); Postdoc on PSID-CDS study; racial/ethnic differences, educational and cultural effects
- ◆ Jackie Angel, LBJ & Sociology (PhD Rutgers); family structures, inequality and health across the life course
- ◆ Ron Angel, Sociology (PhD Wisconsin); Race/ethnic disparities in aging and health, poverty and minorities
- ◆ Patrick Krueger, UT School of Public Health, Houston (PhD Colorado); Postdoc Penn; mortality, health behaviors
- ◆ Gretchen Ritter, Government & Center for Women's and Gender Studies (PhD MIT); gender, citizenship, political development
- ◆ Su Yeong Kim, Human Ecology (Ph.D., University of California at Davis); health disparities, children and families, education, transition to adulthood, and the labor force

New PRC Affiliates

- ◆ Jean Freeman, Preventive Medicine and Community Health, Internal Medicine, and School of Allied Health, UT-Medical Branch at Galveston (PhD Yale); administrative health data and their use in studying health and health behaviors
- ◆ James Goodwin, Geriatric Medicine, Internal Medicine, UT-Medical Branch at Galveston (MD Harvard); predictors of physical functioning and health in older populations
- ◆ Stephen Hursting, Human Ecology, UT-Austin and Professor of Carcinogenesis, UT-M.D. Anderson Cancer Center (PhD UNC-Chapel Hill); nutrition and cancer associations
- ◆ Matthew McGlone, Communication Studies (PhD Princeton); cognitive, cultural, and social foundations of interpersonal communication
- ◆ Bugao Xu, Human Ecology (PhD Maryland); biomedical research interests include 3-D imaging of the human body, biometrics for personal identification, and ultrasound prosthetic imaging

A Fond Farewell to Departing Faculty

The PRC community also bid farewell to five of its members: Li Gan (Economics), Carol Shuie (Economics), Pam Herd (LBJ), Teresa Sullivan (Sociology) and Ruth McRoy (Social Work). Gan was recruited by Texas A&M, Shuie was hired on at Colorado, and Herd moved to Wisconsin. Ruth McRoy, Professor of Social Work, retired. Teresa Sullivan was appointed as Provost at the University of Michigan. We wish them all well in their new endeavors and know that the PRC is forever a part of their professional heritage.

New Grant Funded Projects

A number of new research projects were funded over the past year. More details are available on our website.

Disparities in Infant Mortality

PI: Parker Frisbie

Funding Agency: NICHD

Educational Differences in U.S. Adult Mortality

PI: Robert Hummer

Funding Agency: NICHD

Intermarriage, Ethnic Identity, and the Generational Progress of Mexican Americans

PI: Stephen Trejo

Funding Agency: NICHD

Economic Liberalization and Social Inequality in Mexico

PI: Andres Villarreal

Funding Agency: NICHD

Maintaining Physical Activity in Ethnic Minority Women

PI: Catherine Cubbin

Funding Agency: NCI

Neighborhood Level Influences on All-Cause Mortality

PI: Catherine Cubbin

Funding Agency: NHLBI

Biological and Psychosocial Manifestations of Religion

PI: Christopher Ellison

Funding Agency: NIA

Welfare Reform and the Well Being of Children

PI: Jennifer Matjasko

Funding Agency: Casey Foundation

The Academic Preparation of English of English Learners and Other Linguistic Minority Students at the Secondary Level

PI: Chandra Muller and Rebecca Callahan

Funding Agency: American Educational Research Association

Women's Economic Status and the Risk of Intimate Partner Violence in Mexico

PI: Andres Villarreal

Funding Agency: John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation

Consortium of Digital Media Centers

PI: Elizabeth Vandewater

Funding Agency: NSF

Collaborative Research: Digital Media and Young Children

PI: Elizabeth Vandewater

Funding Agency: NSF

IRADS Collaborative Research Influences of Digital Media on very young children

PI: Elizabeth Vandewater

Funding Agency: NSF

The Parallel Strengths and Weaknesses of the Civil Society and the State: The Example of Katrina Survivors

PI: Ron Angel and Laura Lein

Funding Agency: NSF

Social Ties and Health Behavior Over the Life Course

PI: Debra Umberson

Funding Agency: NIA

Adolescent Development and the Social Organization of Schools: Pilot Study

PI: Chandra Muller

Funding Agency: William T. Grant Foundation

Evaluation of a Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers

PI: Aletha Huston

Funding Agency: DOE/WestEd/BPA

Gender Differences in Science and Math: Diversity and the Role of Social Context

PI: Chandra Muller/Catherine Riegler-Crumb

Language, School Context, and Hispanic Student Achievement and Integration in Texas

PI: Chandra Muller/Rebecca Callahan

Funding Agency: Ford/Spencer

Examining Inequality at the Intersection of Gender and Race

PI: Catherine Riegler-Crumb

Funding Agency: Andrew Mellon Foundation

The Roles of Language and Education in Immigrant Adolescent's Civic Integration during the Transition of Adulthood

PI: Chandra Muller

Funding Agency: Sage Foundation

Religion and Entrepreneurship in the Contemporary United States

PI: Christopher Ellison

Funding Agency: Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

Demographic Change and Economic Wellbeing at the Local Level in Mexico and Brazil

PI: Joseph Potter

Funding Agency: MacArthur Foundation

Texas Healthy Marriage Survey

PI: Norval Glenn

Funding Agency: TX-DHHS

Faculty Spotlight

PRC faculty have distinguished themselves as scientific leaders as reflected in professional awards



Chiquita Collins won the Career Enhancement Award for Junior Faculty (Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation). Collins was also recently named one of six scholars to receive a two-year fellowship from the Foundation for Community Empowerment. The fellowship is designed to support research efforts in applied research and policy analysis of issues that impact urban areas. Dr. Collins' research will focus on social capital, health and urban revitalization.



Robert Hummer appointed as chair of the Department of Sociology effective September 1, 2006. Hummer (PI), along with Co-PI Darlene Grant (Office of Graduate Studies), also recently secured a 2-year grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to improve the recruitment and retention of under-represented minority students into the social and behavioral sciences at the University of Texas at Austin. This is part of a wider effort at the national level by NSF that originally was targeted toward the natural sciences, but has since expanded to the social and behavioral sciences as well. The effort led by Drs. Hummer and Grant at UT-Austin is in collaboration with partners at Texas A&M University, Stanford University, and the University of Southern California.

An important impetus for the grant is in the changing racial and ethnic demography of the State of Texas and the nation as a whole. About a year ago, Texas became a "majority-minority" state, joining California and Hawaii. Projections for the future of the State of Texas strongly suggest that the population will continue to diversify. However, at present, faculty members and graduate students in the state are overwhelmingly non-Hispanic white. Thus, to better serve the state, the diversification of university faculties and graduate studies is an important goal. The new grant focuses on better recruitment and retention practices at the University of Texas at Austin and the other partner institutions. At UT-Austin, a Diversity Program Coordinator for the Social and Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Joe Lott, has already been hired.

Robert Crosnoe won a Faculty Scholar Award from the W. T. Grant Foundation.

Catherine Cubbin received Smith Richardson Foundation Award for her project, "Is Marriage Beneficial for all Children?"

Toni Falbo's research on singletons featured in *Time* magazine. The July 10, 2006 *Time* magazine cover story "How your siblings make you who you are," by Jeffrey Kluger, featured a section highlighting Dr. Toni Falbo's research on singletons in the U.S., China, South Korea and elsewhere.

Aletha Huston received the Reuben Hill Award for the article, "Mothers' time with infant and time in employment as predictors of mother-child relationships and children's early development," which was published in the journal *Child Development*. The award is presented annual to the author(s) of the most outstanding research article in a family journal the year prior to the award.

Ted Huston won the Distinguished Career Award from the International Association of Relationships Researchers.

Yolanda Padilla won the best article award from the Society for Social Work and Research.

Mark Warr won the Hindelang Award for Most Outstanding Contribution to Research in the Field of Criminology.

Angel Harris' research with Joseph L. Mahoney (Yale University), and Jacquelyn Eccles (University of Michigan), on the positive consequences of youth participation in extracurricular activities and the lack of support for the over-scheduling hypothesis was profiled in *The New York Times*, UP, CBS News, BBC News and a number of health and education media outlets.

PRC's REU Application Successfully Renewed

The NSF grant funding the PRC's Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program on minority demography was successfully renewed, with the best score among all REU programs competing at NSF this year! This year's program increased in size from 8 to 10 participants, with 80% of the 2006 cohort being from under-represented minority groups. This year's REU students traveled to Durham, North Carolina to present their summer research papers at annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association.

Student News

Recent Student Awards and Honors



Ernesto Amaral, Ph.D. candidate, received the 2006 "Dissertation Fellowship in Population, Reproductive Health, and Economic Development," Supported by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Population Reference Bureau.

Heeju Shin, was awarded funds to support her dissertation fieldwork in Mexico by the UT Center for Latin American Social Policy.

Tricia Ryan was awarded a dissertation development grant from the Social Science Research Council. Ryan also received an IREX Individual Advance Research opportunity grant in summer 2006 and a 2006-2007 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship from the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

Elisa Jiexa Zhai has received the 2006 Fichter Research Grant award from the Association for the Sociology of Religion.

Sara Yeatman was awarded a dissertation improvement grant from the National Science Foundation and a UT Austin Liberal Arts Graduate Research Fellowship.

Margaret Vaaler received the 2006-2007 Bradley Fellowship form the RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service at the UT Austin LBJ School of Public Affairs.

Amy Burdette received the AD Hutchison Student Endowed Fellowship for 2006-2007.

Jaya Soni received a fellowship from the Smithsonian Institute and assisted with the research of Director Franklin Odo of the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Program this past summer.

Jenny Trinitapoli has been awarded a University Continuing Fellowship for 2006-2007.

Helen You and **Erin Hamilton** both received the Doctoral Level Student Paper Award sponsored by the Southwestern Sociological Association.

Javier Pereira was awarded a dissertation improvement grant from the National Science Foundation.

Former PRC graduate students **Jinyoung Kim** (PhD, 2006) and **Emily Durden** (PhD, 2006), received the best graduate student paper award from the American Sociological Association's Aging and Life-course section. Their winning paper, "Socioeconomic Status and Age Trajectories of Health," is currently under review at *Demography*.

2006-2007 National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Postdoctoral Trainees

Erin Hamilton Kimberly Huyser Ryan Masters Jeremy Uecker Sara Yeatman

Postdoctoral Trainee:

Angelica Ware is the new NICHD postdoctoral fellow (Ph.D. in Psychology, City University of New York). She will be working with Aletha Huston on the New Hope project. Her research interests are focused on the independent and relative effects of poverty, immigration, and family dynamics on the social and psychological development of adolescents with a particular emphasis on those from ethnic minorities.

2006-2007 Latin American Hewlett Scholars

Ernesto Amaral Georgina Martinez Viviana Salinas Eunice Vargas Ana Paula Verona

Recent PRC Graduate Placements

Maureen Reindl Benjamins (Ph.D. Sociology, 2004) is working as an epidemiologist at Sinai Urban Health Institute in Chicago, Illinois. She is project director for the Jewish Community Health Survey, a representative survey of the two most concentrated Jewish communities in Chicago.

Belinda Needham (Ph.D., Sociology, 2006) chosen to be a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar. The program is designed to build the nation's capacity for research, leadership, and action to address the broad range of factors that affect health. Belinda will be working at the University of California San Francisco/Berkeley site. Her research will focus on identifying the physiological processes by which social factors or conditions influence health.

Jennifer Tovar (Ph.D. Sociology, 2006) - Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Texas Medical Branch/Galveston

Sarah Crissey (Ph.D. Sociology, 2006) Statistician/Analyst in the Education and Social Stratification Branch of US Census

Changhwan Kim (Ph.D. Sociology, 2006) - Postdoctoral Fellow at Minnesota Population Center

Jinyoung Kim (Ph.D. Sociology, 2006) - Research Assistant, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center

Emily Durden (Ph.D. Sociology, 2006) - Researchers, Thomson-Medstat

Sandra Valongueiro Alves (Ph.D. Sociology, 2006) - Researcher, Hospital of the Federal University of Pernambuco and Coordinator of the Materani Mortality Committee of the State of Pernambuco



Faria Fellows and PRC Trainees Meet with Former Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso

Fernando Henrique Cardoso, President of Brazil from 1995 to 2003 and a renowned sociologist, visited The University of Texas September 13-14.

President Cardoso's visit brought together the Brazilian and Brazilianist community in Central Texas and the University. Over 250 people participated in the events, which included a discussion of his new memoir "The Accidental President of Brazil" on 9/13 and a panel discussion on 9/14 on "Social and Economic Policy in Brazil: The Cardoso Legacy." Participants and topics included: Joseph Potter, Population Research Center, AIDS and Reproductive Health Policy; Kurt Weyland, Government, Social Policy Reform: Social Security, Education, and Health; William Glade, Economics, The Plano Real and Economic Reform; Robert Wilson, LBJ School of Public Affairs, Twenty Years of The Decentralized State: Improved Public Policy?; and Wendy Hunter, Government, Electoral Politics, Patterns, and Trends.

After the panel discussion, President Cardoso met with the 2006 Vilmar Faria Fellows in Quantitative Methods and Public Policy - Pedro Neiva, Marilia Ramos and Marluce Siqueira - as well as other PRC trainees involved in Brazilian studies, including Ernesto Amaral, Luis Fujiwara, Viviana Salinas, and Ana Paula Verona.



Latin American Demography Conference Planned for Spring 2007

Dr. Joseph Potter and Dr. Bryan Roberts, together with PRC graduates, are in the process of organizing a conference to be held in late April 2007 tentatively titled, "The Birth and Rebirth of Latin American Demography: The UT-Austin Experience." The purpose of the conference will be to assess what PRC graduates are working on, as well as priorities for future training and research efforts. The conference will involve the presentation of some of the most interesting research now being conducted by our graduates, as well as an interpretation of how things have changed over the past 35 years, and consideration of what the training mission for the PRC should be in the coming decades. It seems that an increasing proportion of our graduates are now involved in evaluating the impact of social programs, as well as, in some cases, designing and will implementing those programs. Certainly, the agenda and opportunities for our graduates have changed, and this conference provide an excellent opportunity to see where we can be most useful and effective in the future. More information about the conference will be posted on the PRC website as plans progress at <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/prc/>.



PRC Web site has a new face



The PRC is proud to announce the launching of its new Web site. The redesign was a collaboration by the PRC and the College of Liberal Arts. Though the initial launch is done, we will have much more to see in the coming months. You can browse our new site at

www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/prc/



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