

CPC Training Program News (10.01.2004)

CPC Training Program News is a bi-weekly electronic publication produced by the CPC Training Program Office. Comments and/or suggestions should be sent to Jan Hendrickson-Smith via e-mail at jhsmith@unc.edu.

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1. Transitions (and more)

Kristine Gonzalez (PhD student in HPAA; CPC Predoctoral Trainee) successfully defended her dissertation proposal, "The Effect of Health Insurance on Health Care Utilization in Mexico" on October 1. Congratulations Kristy!!

2. Upcoming CPC Friday Seminars

Dr. Shannon Davis, Sociologist and CPC Postdoctoral Scholar, will present "Is Justice Contextual? A Cross-National Analysis of Women's Perceptions of Fairness of the Division of Household Labor" at noon on October 8.

Dr. Giovanna Merli (Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison) will present "Assessing the Potential for Spread of HIV/AIDS in China" at noon on October 22.

*** Note: There is no seminar on Friday, October 15 (Fall Break). ***

3. Research Ethics Opportunity: October 5

The UNC-CH Graduate School will offer a research ethics seminar on Tuesday, October 5, from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in Room 3205 of the Student Union. Dr. Gary Comstock, (Professor of Philosophy and Director, Ethics Program, North Carolina State University) will present "History and Relevance of Research Ethics."

Please contact Leslie in the Graduate School at 962.8145 with any questions.

4. Call for Abstracts: Celebrating Women's Health Research

The Center for Women's Health Research is soliciting abstracts for the Sixth Annual Women's Health Research Day to be held Wednesday, March 23, 2005. Abstracts, for juried review, are due by Monday, November 29, 2004. The committee of jurors invites the submission of research abstracts in all areas related to women's health including: basic science, clinical, translational, epidemiologic, psychosocial, and health services research. All abstracts will be reviewed by a committee of jurors from within and outside of UNC-Chapel Hill and judged for originality of the research, scientific rigor, and importance to women's health. Submissions will be accepted from investigators within and outside of UNC.

To celebrate and acknowledge excellence in women's health research, the following prizes will be awarded: Center for Women's Health Research Award for Excellence, McMahon Young Investigator Award, Hulka Innovators Award, and the Judges Award.

Winners will be selected by an independent panel of judges and prizes will be presented at the close of Women's Health Research Day.

5. Voter Registration: From Chancellor Moeser

"November 2 is Election Day, and we at Carolina want to do everything we can to encourage faculty, staff, and students to vote. To ensure that you are able to vote in this year's election, you must be registered by October 8. Orange County registered voters may also vote early at the Carrboro Town Hall and Morehead Planetarium from October 18-30 (Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.). For information about registration in other counties, please refer to the latest edition of The University Gazette (<http://gazette.unc.edu/newsbriefs.html#7>).

You can pick up a voter registration form in the Student Government Office in the Union, in the community offices of the residence halls, and in Davis Library. You also can access voter registration information through the State Board of Elections' website (<http://www.sboe.state.nc.us>).

The website includes information addressing a variety of issues, such as absentee voting and polling sites. So please register, become informed, and vote."

6. Opportunities in Social Science Statistical Modeling Groups

The Odum Institute invites members of the UNC-CH community to participate in one or more social science statistical modeling work groups that will meet during this academic year. The working groups, listed below, grew out of the Kickoff Workshop that is part of the Latent Variables in the Social Sciences Program.

- **Longitudinal models
(Lloyd Edwards, lloyd_edwards@unc.edu)
- **Complex surveys
(Paul Biemer, biemer@email.unc.edu)
- **Multilevel and structural equation models
(Dan Bauer, dbauer@email.unc.edu)
- **Categorical observed variables
(Ken Bollen, bollen@unc.edu)
- **Model uncertainty
(David Dunson, dunson@stat.duke.edu)

The groups are composed of faculty, researchers, and students and represent the quantitative social sciences, biostatistics, and statistics. Backgrounds are varied, but all share an interest in learning more about the topic.

All groups meet at the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) in Research Triangle Park. Car pooling is possible and parking is plentiful. The activities of these working groups and the Latent Variable Program are funded by an NSF grant to NISS. If you are interested in learning more about or in joining a group, feel free to contact the person listed in parentheses after the group name. Information is also available at: <http://www.samsi.info/200405/socsci/workgroup/index.html>.

7. Curriculum in Ecology Seminar: October 7

Dr. Donna Surge, Department of Geological Sciences, UNC-CH, will present "Pre-industrial Skeletal Recordings: Implications for Human-Climate Interactions" on Thursday, October 7 beginning at 4:00 p.m. in 128 Wilson Hall.

Dr. Surge's research interests bridge the fields of low-temperature geochemistry, paleoclimatology, paleoecology, and most recently archaeology. Recent efforts are focused on climatic and ecological archives contained in skeletal remains of coastal marine, estuarine, and freshwater shellfish and finfish.

8. Forum on Social Security

A "Forum on Social Security," sponsored by the UNC Institute on Aging and AARP will be held at the Friday Center, November 8 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with a reception to follow.

Featured speakers will be Bill Novelli, AARP Executive Director and Dr. Ridge Mullett, Federal Affairs Specialist with AARP in Washington, DC. Mr. Novelli will provide a brief analysis of the election and the expected impact on critical issues such as Social Security and Medicare. Dr. Mullett will present various substantive options being discussed nationally to reach solvency.

A panel of experts from North Carolina will react to the presentation and there will be time for questions and answers from the audience. The panel will consist of Dr. David Blau, Professor of Economics at UNC-Chapel Hill, Dr. Benjamin Newhouse, Dean of the School of Business at North Carolina Central University, Mr. David Mills, Executive Director of the Common Sense Foundation, and Ms. Rosemarie Downie, President of the Triangle Chapter of the Older Women's League.

9. October Postdoc Lunch: October 20

The next postdoc lunch will be held on Wednesday, October 20, from 12:15-1:15 in Room 405. Please email Jan if you plan to attend.

10. Funding Opportunity: Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Abroad Program

Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Research grants are available to PhD candidates who wish to engage in full-time dissertation research abroad in modern foreign languages and area studies (does not include projects focusing on Western Europe). Duration of grants is 6-12 months. The grant provides travel expenses, maintenance allowance for the grantee and his/her dependents, tuition, books, and other research related expenses and health insurance.

For more information, contact Beth-Ann Kutchma (bkutchma@email.unc.edu) and/or visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/iegsddrap/applc.html>.

11. Career Opportunity: NSFG

The Division of Vital Statistics of the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), announces one permanent job opening for a demographic or health statistician to work on the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG). The NSFG position offers an opportunity to work on all aspects of a major national survey, including survey design, analysis and research, interviewer training and instructions, and developing a contextual data file. Information on the NSFG can be found at the survey web site, <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nsfg.htm>.

Qualified individuals at all levels (BA, MA, PhD) in the areas of demography, sociology, statistics, public health, epidemiology, and related sciences are invited to apply. Candidates must be US citizens and have at least 15 semester hours of mathematics and statistics, at least 6 of which must be in statistics.

Candidates should have excellent oral and written communication and quantitative analytic skills, and should be willing and able to work as a member of a collaborative team. Experience or training in survey methods, especially in interviewing men, is desirable, as is demonstrated ability or willingness to write for publication, and experience with major computer software such as SAS, SUDAAN, STATA, WORD, Powerpoint, Excel, and others. For application instructions, visit: <http://www2.cdc.gov/hrmo/viwdetail.asp?AnnouncementNumber=1-04-2112&QuickHiReAnnouncement=Y>.

Direct inquiries to:
Stephanie J. Ventura, Chief, Reproductive Statistics Branch, NCHS
3311 Toledo Road, Room 7318

Hyattsville, MD 20782.
email: sjv1@cdc.gov

Applications for this position MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE. Instructions for providing supporting documentation (by FAX) are given in the vacancy information.

12. Next TPN Publication Date: October 22, 2004

The next issue of the Training Program News will be delivered to your in-box on October 22.

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October 1, 2004