

CPC Training Program News (12.08.2006)

CPC Training Program News is an electronic publication produced by the CPC Training Program Office, and published on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Comments and/or suggestions should be sent to Jan Hendrickson-Smith via email at jhsmith@unc.edu.

1. Action Items for CPC Trainees
 2. Transitions (and more)
 3. Spring 2007 CPC Seminar Series
 4. Fall 2006 Training Program Progress Reports due January 12
 5. New IPUMS-International Data
 6. NIH Funding Process Seminar: April 2007
 7. PRB 2007 -08 Fellows Program in Population Policy Communications
 8. Training Opportunity: A Primer on Empirical Research on Sexual Minorities
 9. Career Opportunity: Harvard Assistant Professor (Demography)
 10. Postdoc Opportunity (Aging and Demography): University of Chicago
 11. Postdoc Opportunity: Michigan State University
 12. Next TPN Publication Date: December 22, 2006
-

1. Action Items for CPC Trainees

Please be sure to check and respond to CPC-related deadlines, due dates, and time-dependent opportunities in:

3. Spring 2007 CPC Seminar Series
 4. Fall 2006 Training Program Progress Reports due January 12
-

2. Transitions (and more)

**** Endings ****

Lindsay Cook (CPC Training Program Assistant; UNC-CH Senior-Geography and Environmental Science) will leave CPC at the end of December to begin a study-abroad semester in Sydney, Australia. A farewell celebration in Lindsay's honor will be held on December 18 at 1:00 in the kitchen of CPC South. All are invited!

**** Alumni Update ****

Congratulations to Dr. Jeff Edmeades (CPC Predoc, 1999-06; 2006 Ph.D, Sociology) on his new position as Social Scientist/Demographer at the International Center for Research on Women in Washington DC. Jeff can be reached via email at jedmeades@icrw.org.

**** CPC Faculty Fellow Suchindran in China ****

Professor Suchindran (CPC Faculty Fellow; Professor of Biostatistics) recently returned from China where he delivered several invited lectures. Please visit (http://www.sph.unc.edu/school_of_public_health_news/biostatistics_professor_suchindran_enhances_unc-pekking_university_health-care_collaboration_3334_1957.html) to read more about his journey. During his travels, Dr. Suchindran took time to visit with Xiaochun Qiao (1999-2003 CPC Postdoc; Professor, Institute of Population Research, Peking University).

3. Spring 2007 CPC Seminar Series

The spring 2007 series will kick-off on January 12 with a presentation by John Stover (President, Futures Institute). Dr. Stover will discuss "Estimating and Projecting National HIV/AIDS Prevalence: Data, Approaches, Problems and Results" at noon in Room 405 CPC East. Please contact Jan Hendrickson-Smith if you would like to meet with Dr. Stover during his CPC visit.

4. Fall 2006 Training Program Progress Reports due January 12

Progress reports for the period September-December 2006 are due on January 12, 2007. A report template will be sent via email early next week.

5. New IPUMS-International Data

The Minnesota Population Center is pleased to announce the latest expansion of the IPUMS-International data series (<http://international.ipums.org>). In December 2006, 16 new samples for Belarus, Cambodia, Greece, the Philippines, Romania, Spain, and Uganda were added. The data series now contains 185 million person records from 63 samples and 20 countries.

Several enhancements have also been added. In addition to the 400 harmonized IPUMS variables, users can now view and extract over 5,000 unharmonized variables specific to the individual samples. These have undergone differing degrees of processing, but they generally contain all of the useful information in the original samples that do not pose a confidentiality concern. A second enhancement is the ability to filter all variable documentation based on user sample selections, limiting the information on the screen to what is relevant to the researcher. Finally, some complex variables now have additional "general" versions utilizing only their first digit or two, making them easier to use. Please visit (<http://international.ipums.org/international/news.html>) to learn more about the latest enhancements.

6. NIH Funding Process Seminar: April 2007

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and local partners will sponsor an NIH Regional Seminar on the NIH funding process -- from application preparation to post-award administration. The seminar will take place April 24-26, 2007, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

Please visit (<http://research.unc.edu/grantsource/documents/NIHSeminarAnnouncement.pdf>) and (http://www.ncbiotech.org/services_and_programs/intellectual_exchange/2007NIHRegionalSeminar.html) for additional information.

7. PRB 2007-08 Fellows Program in Population Policy Communications

The Population Reference Bureau (PRB) is now accepting applications for its 2007- 08 Fellows Program in Population Policy Communications. This year the Program is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), along with the Bixby Foundation. It is open to citizens of developing countries who are doctoral-level students currently enrolled in academic institutions in the United States and Canada. Developing-country applicants may be in any field of study, but must have a demonstrated interest in population, family planning, and reproductive health.

The goals of the Fellows Program in Population Policy Communications are to understand the process by which research informs the policy environment, and to learn various ways to communicate findings to policy audiences. The Fellows Program aims to bridge the gap between research findings and the policy development process.

The program has three parts:

(1) Washington Workshop:

Participants will attend a two-week workshop at PRB in Washington, D.C., scheduled for June 4-15, 2007. During the workshop, participants interact with PRB staff and outside experts active in policy research and communications. This workshop focuses on the role of research in the policy process and on techniques for effective communication of research findings to decision makers. During the workshop, participants are asked to work with their own research data to identify the policy relevance of their findings; Fellows learn how to draw implications of those findings and how to communicate them effectively to policy audiences.

(2) Research Project:

During the 2007-08 academic year, Fellows will apply the lessons learned at the Washington workshop to prepare written and oral presentations for policy audiences, based on their dissertations or related research topics. On the basis of their own research (usually but not exclusively dissertation research), the Fellows prepare a policy brief and a 12-minute policy presentation for the PAA workshop.

(3) PAA Workshop:

The Fellows formally present their research findings at a workshop held prior to the 2008 Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting. During the workshop, Fellows make 12-minute policy presentations to the other Fellows and to PRB and guest discussants. The workshop offers an opportunity to use skills learned at the seminar, as well as to obtain feedback on the briefs and presentations.

PRB covers travel, lodging, and per diem expenses for each Fellow to attend the Washington workshop and the PAA. PRB pays for the PAA registration for each Fellow and awards stipends of \$2,000 to cover Fellows' research expenses.

Who Should Apply

The majority of participants selected will be from developing countries that are supported by USAID; in addition, and pending funding, a small number of spots may be available for participants from other developing countries. Please check (http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/pop/countries/index.html) to determine if a country is supported by USAID.

Application Information

The application deadline is January 31, 2007. Awards will be announced in March 2007.

Applicants should send PRB a cover letter, an application form (available on the PRB website -- <http://www.prb.org>), an updated resume with a full list of educational and other professional activities, a two- or three-page research proposal, schedule for completing the dissertation, and two letters of reference. Completed applications may be submitted via email or regular mail to:

Sara Adkins-Blanch (saraab@prb.org)
Fellows Program Manager
Population Reference Bureau
1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 520
Washington, DC 20009
Telephone: 202.483.1100

PRB will also accept references by email if they are sent directly from the email account of the person writing the reference.

8. Training Opportunity: A Primer on Empirical Research on Sexual Minorities

The Williams Institute (UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles) is sponsoring a 1.5 day training session on February 22-23, 2007 for graduate

students pursuing research on sexual minorities called "A Primer on Empirical Research on Sexual Minorities." The broad goal of this training will be to enable scholars to find and appropriately use existing empirical data that permits the identification of sexual minorities. Sessions will also include strategies for pursuing a career with a focus on sexual minority research.

The broad topics of this two-day training include:

- *issues to consider regarding the measurement of sexual orientation,
- *availability of data that includes identification of sexual minorities and the measurement of sexual orientation, behavior, and attraction,
- *appropriate use of data sources that measure sexual orientation,
- *details on how to access and appropriately use U.S. Census data to study same-sex "unmarried partners"
- *possible research topics using available data, and
- *strategies for pursuing both academic and policy-focused careers that include sexual minority research.

Participants will be invited to attend the Williams Institute's 6th Annual Update on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy and Reception on Friday, February 23. This event features panels exploring recent developments in sexual orientation law, policy, and advocacy.

The training is free of charge and space is limited. Travel stipends to cover costs of transportation and overnight accommodation are available for students outside of the Los Angeles area.

Application procedures:

Training is open to graduate students in a variety of disciplines including Sociology, Psychology, Economics, Demography, and Political Science. Applicants must be currently pursuing or interested in pursuing empirical research on sexual minorities. Priority will be given to students who can demonstrate an active research agenda, especially if the research has clear public policy relevance.

Applications should include the following:

1. Cover letter briefly describing the applicant's research interests and background.
2. Curriculum Vitae or resume including applicant contact information.
3. Description of current or proposed research on sexual minorities (abstract or paper).

Applications are due by Tuesday, January 2, 2007 and can be submitted via email (williamsinstitute@law.ucla.edu) or regular mail to:

The Williams Institute
UCLA School of Law
405 Hilgard Avenue, Box 951476
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Accepted participants will be notified by Monday, January 8, 2007.

9. Career Opportunity: Harvard Assistant Professor (Demography)

The John F. Kennedy School of Government invites applications for a position in demography at the Assistant Professor level beginning September 2007. Applicants are sought with newly granted or expected doctorates and from persons who received their doctorates within the past two-three years. Qualifications for appointment include a distinguished Ph.D. record, strong evidence of a commitment to research, strong teaching skills, and a demonstrated interest in public policy issues. Applicants should send a curriculum vita, letters of recommendation, and papers and publications to:

Professor Christopher Avery
John F. Kennedy School of Government
Harvard University
79 JFK Street
Cambridge, MA 02138.

The deadline for receipt of applications is January 15, 2007.

10. Postdoc Opportunity (Aging and Demography): University of Chicago

With support from the NIA, the University of Chicago will offer two postdoctoral fellowships through its Center on Aging for the 2007-08 academic year. The goal of these postdoctoral fellowships is to train skilled, engaged, committed new practitioners and new scholars who will make use of and contribute to the field of demography and economics of aging by engaging in basic and applied research and policy making and analysis.

These NIA fellowships carry a stipend, health insurance, computing support, and travel support, and are renewable with acceptable progress. NORC at the University of Chicago also provides opportunities to supplement the stipend. Candidates must be interested in the demography and economics of aging and must have completed their Ph.D. by 2007. Fellowships are restricted to U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest, a statement outlining a research agenda, two letters of recommendation, and a sample of written work or a recent publication. Previous research in demography/economics of aging is not necessary; however, a future commitment is required.

Please send application materials by February 1, 2007 to:

Kathleen E. Parks, Administrative Director
Population Research Center
The University of Chicago
1155 E. 60th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

For more information, please contact Kathleen Parks (773.256.6302; parks-kathleen@norcmail.uchicago.edu).

11. Postdoc Opportunity: Michigan State University

A Ph.D. student or postdoctoral associate is sought to expand interdisciplinary studies on coupled human and natural systems. The Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability seeks highly motivated applicants with backgrounds in one or more fields, such as ecology, human demography, sociology, economics, geography, wildlife biology, biodiversity conservation, land use and land cover change, policy analysis, and human-environment interactions. Interests in integrating natural and social sciences are required. Strong quantitative skills (e.g., remote sensing, geographic information systems, computer modeling, mathematics, and/or statistics) are desirable. Stipends/salaries and benefits are competitive. Start date is negotiable.

Reviews of applications will be conducted periodically and will continue until the position is filled. Interested individuals are encouraged to provide the following materials as soon as possible:

- (1) cover letter indicating general and specific research interests/experiences,
- (2) statement of professional goals (e.g., plans after finishing the doctoral or postdoctoral training),
- (3) resume,
- (4) transcripts,
- (5) a list of three references (names, email addresses, phone numbers, and postal addresses), and
- (6) GRE scores and TOEFL scores (TOEFL scores are required for applicants whose native language is not English).

Please email, mail, or fax all application materials to:

Dr. Jianguo (Jack) Liu
Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824, USA

Fax: 517.432.1699

Email: jliu@panda.msu.edu

12. Next TPN Publication Date: December 22, 2006

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

CPC Training Program News
December 8, 2006