New Faculty Associates

Dawn Dow, Assistant Professor, Sociology, conducts research focused on the intersection of gender, race, and class within the context of the family, the workplace, the law and educational settings. She is particularly interested in how these intersections complicate long-standing debates regarding the relative influence of economic and cultural resources on the experiences and life trajectories of members of the expanding African American middle and upper-middle class. Her work has been published in Sociological Perspectives, Journal of Marriage and Family, Gender & Society, and Sociology of Race & Ethnicity

Cecily Hardaway, Assistant Professor, African American Studies, investigates how socioeconomic status influences child development and family processes. She examines links between poverty-related risks (e.g., exposure to community violence and material hardship) and adolescents' socioemotional adjustment and academic achievement. Her research also focuses on understanding SES as a source of within-group variability among African Americans. She uses intersectionality as a conceptual tool to help illuminate how racism and economic disadvantage affect African Americans across classes.

Yan Li, Associate Professor, Joint Program in Survey Methodology, synthe-

The most up-to-date information about Center activities can always be found on the website :

www.popcenter.umd.edu

Director's Note

As we begin the second half of the academic year, the MPRC leadership team, including the Executive Committee, has been both looking back over the current cycle of NICHD population research infrastructure support and looking ahead to the future with our recent P2C submission (see Grant Submissions in this issue). In reviewing our primary research areas, we are retaining Gender, Family, and Social Change; Health in Social Context; and Social and Economic Inequality. We are replacing our 'People and Place' research area, which tended to act somewhat as a "catch-all" category, with the more focused **Migration and Immigrant Processes**, a new cross-cutting research area addressing processes of population mobility and processes impacting on first, second and subsequent-generation immigrant well-being and internal mobility within countries and regions. Most of our Faculty Associates conduct research in more than one of these research areas, and the first three remain the areas of broadest contributions. We count 50, 61, and 49 Associates respectively contributing to the Gender, Family, and Social Change, Health in Social Context, and Social and Economic Inequality research areas. Of particular note, we have seen a coalescing of cross-college research strengths in the Health in Social Context research area over the present cycle, with child and youth health and development, HIV/AIDS, and reproductive health topic areas all enjoying major successes both in scholarly contributions and external research support obtained over the current cycle. In the new Migration and Immigrant Processes area, we count 31 Faculty Associates as active contributors. The development of this new research area over the current cycle was greatly aided by the university's Migration cluster-hire initiative that enabled the Department of Sociology to recruit Professor Andres Villarreal, and the Department of Anthropology to recruit Assistant Professor Christina Getrich. Both have contributed vitally to the establishment in the present five-year cycle of this research area, with Dr. Villarreal also assuming a position of leadership as Director of MPRC's Scientific and Technical Core (previously Data and Computing Core). Dr. Villarreal also serves on the Advisory Board

Seed Grant Awards

The Executive Committee awarded two grants from a group of seven submitted for the Fall 2016 Seed Grant call.

Andrew Fenelon, Health Services Administration, $15,000
Co-Investigators Michel Boudreaux, HSA; Natalie Slopen, Epidemiology and Biostatistics
The Impact of HUD Housing Assistance Programs on Child Health in the United States

The quality and stability of housing has an impact on health and well-being, and improvements in housing can lead to better physical and mental health. Particularly for children, better housing quality and security can lead to improved health in childhood as well as more favorable outcomes throughout the life course. Federal housing assistance programs aim to provide safe and affordable housing to lower-income families, and this investment may have implications for population health and health disparities. Dr. Fenelon's proposal seeks to examine the impact of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) housing assistance programs on child health, well-being, and health care access. He and his colleagues will use an innovative data linkage program which combines two large federal household health surveys with administrative housing records from HUD. The linkage provides housing histories for respondents in the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), which will allow them to examine both self-reported and objective measured health outcomes among children in the HUD housing population. The analytical approach will make use of the longitudinal housing information in the linkage to compare children current-

New Associate Research Profile
Yan Li

Semiparametric Inference for Case-Control Studies with Complex Sampling, NIH / NCI R03

Population-based case-control studies with complex sampling - e.g. stratified multistage cluster sampling - are now increasingly used to study the role of genetic variants and gene-environment (G-E) interplay in the etiology of human diseases. Retrospective-based logistic regression estimators have been developed to exploit various covariate-distributional assumptions to gain efficiency in such studies when cases and controls are selected with simple random sampling. These methods, however, can lead to invalid inferences when cases or controls are selected with complex sampling.

In this project, Dr. Li and colleagues will develop statistical methods for taking into account the design complications in haplotype-based association studies with complex sample designs. They will explore the assumptions of Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium and G-E independence and develop an efficient estimator suitable for the case-control study with a complex sample design. The assumptions will be relaxed by proposing an empirical Bayes-type shrinkage estimator as a trade-off between bias and efficiency. The proposed methods will be evaluated using simulations under various complex sample designs as well as two population-based case-control studies. Furthermore, a unified software package will be developed to widely disseminate the research outcomes.

Student Summer Fellowship Awardees bound for PAA Annual Meeting in Chicago

For the past three years MPRC has offered summer research support to selected Student Research Affiliates who are preparing research for presentation to the Population Association of America Annual Meeting. Last year's award winners, Eowna Young Harrison - winner of the Suzanne M. Bianchi Award - and Jaein Lee submitted proposals which have been accepted by the PAA program committee.

Jaein Lee presenting a paper at the 2016 PAA Annual Meeting in Washington DC

Eowna Young Harrison's paper, "'Not My Body': A Mixed-Methods Analysis of Black Women's Contraceptive Decision Making" and

Jaein Lee's paper, "Class, Parenting, Structured time and Mental Health outcome in Childhood" will be presented during poster sessions.

Details about this year's summer research grant competition are available by contacting MPRC Information Services.

Journal Club meets twice this Spring

The MPRC Journal Club, coordinated by Sai Luo, Economics, and Yassamun Vafai, Family Science, plans two meetings this semester, on March 1 and April 12. Each of the meetings will involve the participation of a population scientist speaking about a specific publication and about the issues scholars face when approaching publication. The March 1 meeting will feature Dr. Andrew Fenelon, Health Services Administration, talking about "Revisiting the Hispanic Mortality Advantage".

sizes an academic background in survey methodology, statistics, genetics, and computer science to develop statistical methods for efficiently designing and analyzing complex samples in population research. *See research profile at left.*

Dr. Mónica Caudillo Contreras, Resident Postdoctoral Scholar, MPRC, received her Ph.D. in Sociology from New York University in January 2017. She joined MPRC the same month as a Dean's postdoctoral fellow, and joins the research team evaluating of the Delaware Contraceptive Access Now (Del-CAN) project (PI Rendall). Her dissertation explored contextual determinants of fertility and union patterns in Mexico, and her committee was co-chaired by Florencia Torche and Paula England. Family demography, community violence, education, gender, sexual and reproductive health, and sexuality are areas of specialization.

Global Labor Migration Inaugural Workshop

Faculty Associate **Andres Villarreal** is on the Advisory committee for this inaugural workshop being sponsored by the Center for Global Migration Studies with co-sponsorhip from MPRC.

The workshop will feature scholars from across disciplines and around the globe and will set the stage for a larger, international conference in the fall semester of 2018. Future plans include faculty and student exchanges, collaborative projects, virtual communities, workshops, conferences, and publications.

The April workshop will feature works-in-progress presentations by sociologists, anthropologists, historians, and legal scholars, as well as a keynote address by Ruth Milkman (Sociology, CUNY) titled "Precarious Lives: 21st Century Immigrants and the Global United States." The workshop will also include a lunchtime conversation with Cathy Feingold, AFL-CIO Vice President for International Affairs, on the policy implications of global labor migration research.

The unprecedented conditions surrounding global labor migration today provide the challenge and opportunity for studying migration through interdisciplinary collaborations and through a global framework, say organizers Prof. Julie Green and Prof. Ira Berlin, History.

Faculty News

Sandra Hofferth, with her SOCN collaborator Emilio Moran, Michigan State University, has edited a special issue of the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.* "The New Big Science: Linking Data to Understand People in Context" includes 10 articles designed to demonstrate the importance of linkages among such diverse data sources as administrative data, social media, census and surveys, ethnographic data, and randomized controlled trial data, to name a few. Contributors include recent MPRC alumna Rachel Shattuck. *Citation: Volume 669, Issue 1, January 2017*

Melissa Kearney was named Moskowitz Professor of Economics, an endowed Professorship funded in 2010 by Economics alumnus Neil Moskowitz. The award cited, among other things, Dr. Kearney's continued contributions to policy through her two-year leadership of the Hamilton Project at the Brookings Insitution; her supporting role to President Obama's Council of Economic Advisors; and nationally recognized scholarship linking children's education and teen reproductive outcomes to television programming.

Christine Bachrach has been named Executive Director of the Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (iaphs.org), which has established its leadership team and is now open for membership.

Devon Payne Sturges, Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health, was appointed to serve on CDC's National Center for Environmental Health / Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Board of Scientific Counselors. Outgoing U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell invited Dr. Payne Sturges to serve on the 16-member board.

ly receiving housing assistance with children in families waiting to enter assisted housing. The team will examine main effects of housing assistance and the heterogeneity of effects by program type and individual characteristics such as sex, race / ethnicity, age, and duration of assistance. The project will make a significant contribution to the literature by using nationally representative data and by generating plausibly causal estimates.

Meredith Kleykamp, Sociology, $15,000

Public and Employer Evaluations of Military Spouses Seeking Work

Research is unequivocal in establishing a labor force penalty for being married to someone serving in the armed forces. Military spouse employment is an extreme example of tied migration, wherein a spouse moves along with her partner even though her own career may not benefit from the move. While a growing body of evidence repeatedly documents the military spouse employment penalty, little empirical research explicitly tries to adjudicate the mechanisms generating such outcomes. This project see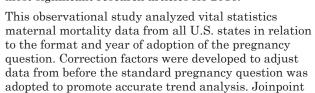ks to fill this gap. The proposed set of studies use complementary experimental and qualitative methods across three primary data collection efforts in four cities (a national survey vignette experiment, an audit study in four labor markets, and employer interviews in the same four labor markets) to identify whether and to what extent the general public and actual hiring agents treat military spouses seeking employment differently than similar civilian peers, and why.

Research Profile
Marian MacDorman

***Recent Increases in the U.S. Maternal Mortality Rate: Disentangling Trends From Measurement Issues,** Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vol. 128, Iss. 3, September 2016*

This article by Dr. MacDorman and colleagues Eugene Declercq, Howard Cabral, and Christine Morton attempts to reconcile differing statistical reporting over the 48 continental U.S. states and to thus enable an accurate view of the nation's maternal mortality rate. When it was published in August 2016 the article had tremendous impact, being picked up by many major media outlets and being featured as one of NICHD's 40 most significant research articles for 2016.

This observational study analyzed vital statistics maternal mortality data from all U.S. states in relation to the format and year of adoption of the pregnancy question. Correction factors were developed to adjust data from before the standard pregnancy question was adopted to promote accurate trend analysis. Joinpoint regression was used to analyze trends for groups of states with similar pregnancy questions. The researchers found that, despite global trends in the opposite direction, maternal mortality in most of the United States increased during the first 14 years of the new millennium. In 2014, nearly 24 women per 100,000 died during or

> *"There is a need to redouble efforts to prevent maternal deaths and improve maternity care for the 4 million US women giving birth each year."*

within 42 days of pregnancy, up from nearly 19 per 100,000 in 2000. In addition, maternal mortality in Texas doubled between 2010 and 2014, when compared with rates between 2000 and 2010. The news about Texas, and to a lesser degree the inverse news about California, led to a spate of news coverage. While the study's authors state clearly that the reasons for the extraordinary increase in Texas maternal deaths remain to be discovered, several stories focused on the state's restriction of reproductive health care and speculated that this might have been at the root of the change. When asked about this by CNN, Dr. MacDorman said, "It's certainly a theory, and I don't have a lot of other theories at the moment."

The aims of this study were to 1) develop and test methods for trend analysis of vital statistics maternal mortality data, taking into account state revision dates and different question formats; and 2) provide an overview of trends in U.S. maternal mortality rates from 2000 to 2014.

Research Profile
Julia Steinberg

Understanding the relationship between pregnancy outcomes and subsequent suicide risk, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

In order to be well-equipped to prevent suicide among women and to integrate suicide prevention programs into reproductive health services, we must better understand the relationship between pregnancy outcomes (elective abortion versus delivery) and post-pregnancy suicide and suicide attempts. Some studies have found an association between elective abortion and subsequent suicide, suicidal ideation, or self-injury, but these studies have failed to consider the extent to which other factors, such as prior mental health, may be accounting for this association.

Using data from six Danish registries data, Steinberg and her collaborators are conducting a population-based cohort study (approximate n = 350,000) to better understand the association between abortion versus childbirth and subsequent suicide and suicide attempts. They hypothesize that compared to women who give birth, women who have an abortion will have an increased risk of suicide and suicide attempts when other factors are not considered in analyses. When other factors - such as prior mental health problems (assessed by International Classification of Diseases codes and including anxiety, alcohol, and drug abuse disorders), socio-demographic factors, and parental mental illness, which are associated with both having abortions and subsequent suicide and suicide attempts - are considered in analyses, we expect the association between abortion and subsequent suicide and suicide attempts to become non-significant. Furthermore, we expect that predictors of post-pregnancy suicide and suicide attempts will include prior mental health problems, social disadvantage, and parental mental illness.

In addition to this project, Dr, Steinberg is funded by an NICHD K01 training grant from the Population Dynamics Branch to gain advanced skills, drawing upon a network of mentor-scholars in this field.

2017 Spring Seminars, Workshops, and Events

A full schedule of seminars and other events is planned for Spring 2017. We will begin on February 6 with Emily Wiemers (right), Assistant Professor of Economics at University of Massachusetts Boston, presenting "Multigenerational Relationships and Economic Resources Among Black and White Families in the U.S." Other visitors include Susan Parker, Center for Research & Teaching in Economics (CIDE) in Mexico City; Kammi Schmeer, Ohio State University; Jamie Trevitt, University of Maryland Baltimore County; Enid Schatz, University of Missouri; Amy Tsui, Johns Hopkins University; and Laura Enriquez, University of California Irvine. MPRC presenters will include Oscar Barbarin, African American Studies; Kerry Green, Behavioral and Community Health; Natasha Cabrera, Human Development and Quantitative Methodology.

In addition to the robust seminar events, MPRC also will sponsor a working group dedicated to student research with Sandra Hofferth. There will be a PAA Practice Session workshop. The student-organized Journal Club will hold two meetings and the MPRC Computing Core will run introductory and intermediate SAS and STATA courses this spring.

The complete spring schedule and relevant, detailed information on topics and speakers can be found in the Events section of the MPRC website.

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of the new UMD Federal Statistics Research Data Center (FSRDC). We are planning ahead for biennial symposia featuring RDC research and research opportunities, and are delighted to announce our first MPRC Seed Grant award using UMD FSRDC data (see description of the award to Andrew Fenelon and colleagues in this issue). Especially relevant to the Gender, Family, and Social Change research area, we look forward to continuing our biennial Time Use Conference (led by Professor Liana Sayer) and Time Use Data Workshop (led by Research Professor Sandra Hofferth). The mission of promoting interdisciplinary research is fostered at the time use conference Organizing Committee level, which includes Katharine Abraham (Economics and Joint Program in Survey Methodology, Mary Zaki (Agricultural and Resource Economics), and Rashawn Ray (Sociology). We look forward to an exciting Spring semester Seminar Series, to awarding our third annual Suzanne M. Bianchi summer graduate student research fellowship (see notes), and beyond that to a thriving intellectual environment for population research in the years to come.

Recent Awards

One proposal submitted through the Proposal Development service offered by MPRC's Administrative Core was recently funded.

Michael Rendall
"Employment, Timing of First Birth, and Child Outcomes", NICHD R03 Diversity Supplement, $81,910, 09/01/2016-01/31/2018

Grant Submissions

Since August 2016 MPRC Administrative Core personnel helped Principal Investigators and their collaborators to propose over $6.5 million in new funding.

Sandra Hofferth
"IPUMS Time Use", NICHD R01, 3,534,090

Frauka Kreuter
"Investigating the Utility of Interviewer Observations on the Survey Response Process", University of Michigan subcontract/NICHD, $25,166

Michael Rendall
"Maryland Population Research Center", P2C Renewal, $2,714,211

Michael Rendall / Amy Lewin
"DC Family Planning Initiative Needs Assessment", Alexandar & Margaret Steward Trust, $150,004

Liana Sayer
"Time Use Across the Life Course: Family Inequality and Multigenerational Well-Being", NICHD R13, $96,300

MPRC offers comprehensive support for grant proposal development and management