



Maryland Population Research Center

in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
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Newsletter

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New Faculty Associates

Kirsten Stoebenau, Assistant Research Professor, Behavioral and Community Health, is interested in the social and structural determinants of women's sexual and reproductive health, with a geographical focus on sub-Saharan Africa. With respect to women's sexual behavior she has examined the roles of race and ethnicity in shaping women sex workers' health concerns and has contributed to defining, measuring and conceptualizing "transactional sex" and its role in young women's HIV risk. With respect to fertility, her work has considered the relationship between gender inequality and fertility decline, and the determinants of adolescent fertility. Most recently, she has begun to explore social change in marriage in Kenya and Uganda and is interested in continuing to develop a body of research that will improve measurement around union formation and status and examine the consequences of social change in marriage for women's and their children's wellbeing in the sub-Saharan African context.



Nolan Pope, Assistant Professor, Economics. Dr. Pope's recent research focuses on how measuring and rating teacher quality affects both students and teachers through their entire educational process and how public policies influence underprivileged groups such as immigrants and low-income populations.



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

www.popcenter.umd.edu

Director's Note

It is a pleasure to welcome everyone back to an exciting semester of activities at MPRC, beginning with the Monday January 29th Center Meeting and continuing on Monday February 5th with our first speaker of the weekly Spring seminar series, Urban Institute Senior Researcher Steven Martin speaking on "Rising mid-life mortality in the United States." I would like here to congratulate the Principal Investigators (Sonalde Desai, Sandra Hofferth, Liana Sayer, and Reeve Vanneman) and their co-investigator colleagues at MPRC for their recent major grant success (see Grant Awards on the back page of this Newsletter) on research projects associated with the India Human Development Survey (IHDS) and the American Time Use Survey (ATUS). MPRC has long been recognized for its founding and ongoing intellectual and infrastructural contributions associated with both. On time use, the trajectory is exceptionally strong moving ahead, with our second renewal award of the NICHD R01 time use data integration grant (Hofferth MPI), and with our first NICHD R13 time use conference grant (Sayer PI). New funding for archival of IHDS Wave 2 (Vanneman PI) and for data collection methodological innovations to be piloted in advance of Wave 3 (Desai PI) promises much for current and future IHDS users both at Maryland and in the population research community throughout the world. It is noteworthy in the best of ways too that the IHDS data innovations being supported include those associated with time use data collection. MPRC continues to place a high priority on support for, and fostering of, these two particular areas of strength. Congratulations again both to our MPRC Faculty Associates and to our MPRC support staff who have spearheaded and enabled these invaluable contributions to demographic research.



Special Interactive Panel Discussion

China's One-Child Policy: Success or Failure? Are we asking the right question?

On February 16 a panel organized by MPRC Associate Director Sangeetha Madhavan and moderated by Faculty Associate Feinian Chen, Professor of Sociology, will discuss various aspects of questions raised in Daniel Goodkind's 2017 *Demography* article and further research points published in *Science* the same year. The panel will include:



Goodkind

Dr. Goodkind, Independent Researcher, whose research has focused on population trends, social change, and fertility in East Asia;

Stan Becker, Professor of Population, Family, and Reproductive Health at Johns Hopkins University, whose research interests include estimation of fertility and mortality in developing countries and population and the environment;

Guo Chen, Associate Professor of Geography and Urban Studies at Michigan State University and current fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; and

Klaus Hubacek, Professor of Geographical Studies, University of Maryland, an ecological economist with a research focus on conceptualizing and modeling the interaction between human and environmental systems.

The two-hour panel session will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in the Prince Georges Room, Adele Stamp Student Union, on the University of Maryland campus.

New Associate Research Profile

Caryn Bell, African American Studies

Examining the fast-growing rate of poverty and health inequity in the suburbs

Dr. Bell is one of a select group of early-career scholars chosen to join the 11th cohort of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's New Connections program. The 12-month grant provides \$50,000 of support for Dr. Bell's research project, which examines the movement of poverty into suburban areas.

"Though poverty is often considered among urban minority or rural white populations, the health of the suburban poor is understudied," she notes. "Poverty rates are growing fastest in suburban locations, and there are additional demographic changes with an increase in suburban African American populations." Through this study Dr. Bell will examine the effects of the suburbanization of poverty on health and racial health disparities, as well as the role of racial residential segregation in suburban contexts on the suburbanization of poverty and health.

Dr. Bell's research interests examine the interrelationships between race, place, socioeconomic status (SES), and cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factors. She examines race disparities in obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and related behaviors and compares various race-SES groups, utilizing geographical information systems to examine the role of racial segregation in health-related resources across the SES spectrum. Dr. Bell also assesses the effects of racial differences in SES-related and social factors among middle- and upper-class African Americans and whites, examining how these differences affect various CVD-related outcomes.



In particular, his research looks at how to improve inequality through longitudinal studies of students through the education system. It also looks at how immigrants and overall inequality are affected by immigration policies and the teaching of English as second language in the United States education system. In addition, he studies how low-income individuals are more adversely affected while traversing the criminal justice system.

Quynh Nguyen, Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, is a social epidemiologist focusing on contextual and economic factors as they relate to health.



She has extensive experience using numerous national and international population-based health surveys to examine social and economic predictors of health, and to quantify national and international patterns in health disparities. Her current research program focuses on creating and validating neighborhood indicators constructed from nontraditional Big Data sources such as social media data. She is principal investigator of two NIH K-award career development grants through the Big Data to Knowledge Initiative (BD2K) to pursue this research program.

Caryn Bell, Assistant Professor, African American Studies, is a social and behavioral scientist who examines the intersection of race, socioeconomic status and cardiovascular disease risk factors. She does this by exploring racial disparities within higher socioeconomic status groups such as the college-educated and those living in suburban locales. (See *research profile, this page.*) She examines the role of racial differences in neighborhood quality and resources, residential segregation, as well as social networks and norms. She uses large, nationally representative datasets as well as geographic information systems techniques, drawing upon publically available data.

Suzanne M. Bianchi Student Summer Research Grant Awardee bound for PAA Annual Meeting in Denver

Esha Chatterjee, Sociology (below at PAA in 2009), will present a poster, "Women's Autonomy, Gender Norms and Unintended Births in the Indian Context," at the PAA Annual Meeting in April, following a successful proposal based on work she accomplished over the summer supported by MPRC's Suzanne M. Bianchi Summer Research Grant.



The grant provides summer funding for an MPRC Student Affiliate to conduct research leading to a September submission to the PAA for a presentation at the next year's Annual Meeting.

Proposals are submitted

through the MPRC website. The deadline for submitting a proposal for Spring 2018 is Friday, March 30, 2018.

Further information 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 February 16 and April 18. The first meeting will be in conjunction with MPRC's special symposium on fertility in China (see *article, page 1*), discussing a *Demography* paper by Daniel Goodkind. The second meeting will examine work by Faculty Associate Edmond Shenassa, Family Science, Director of the Maternal and Child Health program.

Journal Club meetings involve the participation of a population scientist speaking about a specific publication and about the issues scholars face when approaching publication.

Parker assesses impact of Seguro Popular

Writing in *Demography*, Faculty Associate Susan Parker and colleagues find that Mexico's national public health program has a "significant positive impact" on resident participation in health services.

Parker, S.W., Saenz, J. & Wong, R. *Demography* (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13524-017-0645-4>

Seed grant funds DeRose initial family structure study

Faculty Associate Laurie DeRose was awarded an MPRC Seed Grant in November 2017 for her proposal, "Family Structure and Educational Progress: A Macro-Level Gendered Perspective Across Low- and Lower-Middle Income Countries." The proposal was a resubmit from 2016 after review committee suggestions. It represents preliminary research toward an NIH R03 proposal to examine the effect of the retreat from marriage on educational progress across low- and lower-middle-income countries, including whether the gender gap in educational outcomes is conditioned by the prevalence of lone parenting.

Faculty Associates at 2017 IUSSP Conference



Several MPRC Associates contributed to the 2017 conference of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) in Capetown, South Africa, in December. **Sonalde**

Desai chaired two sessions, presented two papers, and co-authored six others; **Sangeetha Madhavan** chaired a session on AIDS treatment and care, presented one paper, and co-authored one other; **Feinian Chen** delivered a paper and served as a discussant for a session on gender and educational attainment; **Kris Marsh** served as a discussant for a session on educational expansion and disparities; and **Reeve Vanneman** co-authored several papers.

MPRC alumni Tyler Myroniuk and Mark Gross, now at George Mason University and Brown University, respectively, also made presentations at the international conference.

Gift from Nan Astone Expands MPRC Library Resources

Through a generous donation from Nan Astone, MPRC will now host a complete set of research volumes on U.S. Vital Statistics from 1930 to 1995. The volumes will be stored in the small library space at MPRC, close to the almost complete collection of *Demography* donated a few years ago by William O'Hare.

Three special workshops bolster Spring seminar series

In addition to a 12-session seminar series, MPRC will sponsor three Special Topics workshops during the Spring semester. These workshops are designed to bring together scholars from across colleges and departments on common areas of population research.

March 9 - **Susan Parker**, Professor of Economics and Public Policy, will lead a Field Experiments in Population and Development panel, including Jessica Goldberg, Economics, and Kenneth Leonard and Pamela Jakiela, Agricultural and Resource Economics.

March 16 - **Christine Bachrach**, Sangeetha Madhavan, and others will present a networking event for linking Maryland faculty and graduate students working on reproductive health to connect and learn about research in progress.

April 6 - **Laurie DeRose** will lead a Global Perspectives on How Families Shape Children's Outcomes panel.



Parker

Research Profile

Sandra Hofferth, Liana Sayer

Time Use for Health and Well-Being

MPRC continues its commitment to time use research with the recent award of an NIH R01 to continue development of the IPUMS-Time Use research tool. This proposal seeks continued funding to integrate, document, and disseminate individual-level data on time use. By providing access to a broad array of harmonized data in one system, the infrastructure dramatically reduces the cost of research on time use, minimizes the potential for user error, and improves the reproducibility of research findings.

The first five-year phase of the project focused on integrating data from the American Time Use Surveys (ATUS), a series of annual surveys begun in 2003. During the past four years, Phase II, IPUMS-Time Use expanded to deliver harmonized time diary data from eight countries spanning Central / Western Europe and North America from the second half of the 20th century, allowing consistent analysis of variation over time and space. IPUMS-Time Use today consists of three integrated databases: the American Time Use Survey (ATUS-X), the American Heritage Time Use Study (AHTUS-X), and the Multinational Time Use Study (MTUS-X).

The third phase of IPUMS-Time Use will provide high quality cross-national data on countries of great importance for our future.

This most recent award seeks to expand the database, enhance the data and metadata, improve data infrastructure and access, and support the research community. There are four specific aims:

- 1) to add five new years of ATUS data from 2016 to 2020; to double the number of countries included in IPUMS-Time Use by incorporating new countries from Latin America (Brazil, Mexico), Eastern Europe (Hungary), Western Europe (Italy, Germany), South Asia (Pakistan), East Asia (Republic of Korea), and South Africa; and to incorporate newly-digitized U.S. time diary data from the 1920s and 1930s;
- 2) to create and disseminate a variety of new variables including time use of other family members, metabolic equivalents of energy exerted, activity context variables, household- and person-level variables, verbatim activity descriptions for some U.S. datasets, and variables describing sample characteristics;
- 3) to deliver alternative data formats, support online data analysis, develop new metadata to improve the delivery of critical sample- and variable-level information to users, and enhance search capacity; and
- 4) to develop new online training capabilities and to continue to provide user support, training, and outreach.

Drs. Hofferth and Sayer state that understanding time use is essential for research on health and well-being and that the third phase of IPUMS-Time Use will provide high quality cross-national data on countries of great importance for our future, not only representing North America and Central / Western Europe, but also Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America.

Research Profile

Jie Chen, Health Services Administration

Reducing Preventable Hospitalization and Disparity: Association with Local Health Department Mental Health Promotion Activities



A new study by Faculty Associate Jie Chen, Associate Professor of Health Services Administration, and colleagues suggests that low-cost mental health programs provided by local health departments can play a critical role in preventing costly and unnecessary hospitalizations.

"Unfortunately, we see a lot of people with chronic conditions like asthma, heart disease, and diabetes who are also suffering from a mental health issue," says Dr. Chen, lead author of the study published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. "Racial and ethnic minorities experience a disproportionate burden of these co-existing conditions, largely due to a lack of healthcare

access and the social stigma associated with mental illness. When local health departments provide mental health preventive care, we see significantly lower rates of inpatient hospital admissions for people with chronic physical conditions and coexisting mental disorders such as substance abuse, depression and anxiety."

The data analysis of Dr. Chen and colleagues also found that African Americans were less likely than whites to live in the counties with local health departments that were actively providing mental health preventive care. "If African American populations were to receive mental health services from their local health department it could yield a nine percent reduction in preventable hospitalizations for this group," Dr. Chen says.

Dr. Chen's research team analyzed multiple data sets from 2012-2013, including the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project State Inpatient Databases of the State of Maryland, the National Association of County and City Health Officials Profiles Survey, the American Hospital Directory, the Area Health Resource File, and U.S. Census data.

With recently secured funding from the National Institutes of Health Dr. Chen developed the Project System-level Multidisciplinary Integration for population health and Equity (SMILE) which will expand this study to examine national data.

2018 Spring Seminars, Workshops, and Events

A full schedule is planned out for Spring 2018. We will begin on February 5 with Steven Martin (right), Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute presenting "Rising mid-life mortality in the U.S.: When did it start, and who is it affecting?" Other visitors include Dan Tang, Visiting Associate Professor at MPRC

and Associate Professor at the Institute of Gerontology, Renmin University of China; Moussa Blimpo, World Bank; Greg Sharp, State University of New York Buffalo; Julie Phillips, Rutgers University; Wang Feng, University of California Irvine; Barbara Okun, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Pia Orrenius, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas; Maria Stanfors, Lund University Sweden; Pablo Gracia, Trinity College; and Derek Kreager, Pennsylvania State University. Faculty Associate Sangeetha Madhavan, African American Studies, will close the series.



A PAA Practice Session will be held on April 23.

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



UNIVERSITY OF
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Research Center**

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Recent Awards

Sonalde Desai

"National Data Innovation Center (India)," Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, \$1,158,948, 12/01/2017-11/30/2020

Sandra Hofferth

"Time Use Data for Health and Well-Being," NICHD R01, \$2,887,555, 09/13/2017-06/30/2022

Liana Sayer

"Time Use Across the Life Course: Family Inequality and Multigenerational Well-Being," NICHD R13, \$13,000, 05/05/2017-04/30/21

Reeve Vanneman

"Harmonizing and Archiving India Human Development Surveys," NICHD R03, \$128,040, 09/01/2017-08/31/2019

Andrés Villarreal

"Immigrant Assimilation", NICHD R03, \$152,000, 08/07/2017-07/31/2019

Grant Submissions

During the last year MPRC Administrative Core personnel helped population researchers to propose over \$31.4 million in new funding. (Recently awarded projects are listed above.)

Laurie DeRose

"Family Structure and Educational Progress: A Macro-Level Gendered Perspective," NICHD R03, \$152,000

Sonalde Desai

"India Human Development Survey," NICHD R01, \$6,972,151

Meredith Kleykamp

"Tied migration and anticipatory discrimination against military spouses seeking work," NSF, \$253,050

Frauke Kreuter

"Data Analytics and Job Creation and Economic Development," New York University, \$40,000

"Investigating the Utility of Interviewer Observations on the Survey Response Process," University of Michigan, \$24,920

Lei Lei

"Solo Male Migration and the Health of Left-behind Wives and Children in India," NICHD R03, \$152,000

Kenneth Leonard

"Long-term Assistance and Services for Research (LASER) - Concept Note," USAID, \$19,588,316

Marian MacDorman

"Methodological Issues in Maternal Mortality Research," NICHD R21, \$424,047

Sangeetha Madhavan

"Strengthening Social Support for Adolescent Moms in Kenya," Gates Foundation, \$99,785

"Union Formation, Kinship Support and Child Well-Being in Kenya," NICHD R01, \$3,294,271

Reeve Vanneman

"Working Class Neglect in U.S. Culture: Text Mining and Content Analyses," NSF, \$318,810