



Maryland Population Research Center

in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
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Newsletter

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New Faculty Associates

Erich Battistan, Professor, Agricultural and Resource Economics, explores the interplay between measurement of individual responses and the channels through which their behavior



is influenced, the econometrics of causal inference and the implications for economic policy and social inequalities. His current projects cover broader areas of policy relevance, focusing on the unintended and unforeseen consequences and spill-overs of education, labor market and migration policies. His interests cover a variety of fields of applied economics, ranging from empirical work on education and labor markets to methodological aspects in policy evaluation and measurement. A careful investigation of the identification problem, the core of assumptions needed to retrieve the causal parameter, is a distinctive feature of his investigations.

Amelia Branigan, Assistant Professor, Sociology, is a social demographer with central interests in inequality, health,



and the criminal justice system. She has several projects ongoing. The first project considers the social consequences of variation in visible phenotype, specifically focusing on body mass and

skin color. A second project uses Scandinavian registry data to consider how infertility, defined as the inability to conceive a wanted pregnancy, is associated with differential outcomes in children

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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, and to extend a special welcome to new Associates. We have an exciting semester of activities at MPRC, beginning with this Friday's (September 7) Center Meeting, and continuing on Monday, September 10, with our first speaker of the weekly Spring seminar series, Christine Mair, Professor of Sociology at University of Maryland Baltimore. This fall begins the first year of our five-year population research infrastructure (P2C) award to the Maryland Population Research Center from NICHD's Population Dynamics Branch, following on from the prior R24 award. MPRC has now been an NICHD-funded center of population research since 2002, at that time led by our late founding director, Suzanne Bianchi. The P2C competition was especially tough this year, and the granting of this award is to the great credit of our Faculty Associates' research achievements and vision for the next five years of population science at UMD. Since our Spring newsletter, MPRC Seed Grant awardees Meredith Kleykamp (Sociology) and Kerry Green (Behavioral and Community Health) obtained major external funding, respectively in the form of an NSF grant on the employment of military spouses (Kleykamp) and an NIA R01 grant on the early life antecedents of later life health (Green). Additionally, three other Seed Grant awardees resubmitted applications to NICHD in the Spring, and two of these are currently "award-pending." This together represents an outstanding tribute to our Seed Grant program's success in fostering innovative population research, and to its fostering the careers especially of scholars from their junior to midcareer phases, on topics broadly within the NICHD Population Dynamics Branch mission. Our Development Core leadership and MPRC Executive Committee are looking forward to receiving and reviewing proposals for the coming year's Seed Grant fall and spring competitions. This Spring, MPRC hosted the biennial Time Use research conference,



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Special Interactive Panel Discussion

Might the gender revolution strengthen the family?



Goldscheider (left) and Cherlin

MPRC will present an interactive panel session with guest speaker Prof. Andrew Cherlin, Benjamin H. Griswold III Professor of Public Policy & Chair of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University, and Frances Goldscheider, Prof. Emerita, Brown University and MPRC Faculty Associate.

The two will review the trends in marriage dynamics from the Industrial Revolution. Dr. Goldscheider is one of a group of scholars arguing that a new equilibrium is emerging under the "gender revolution." With men

doing more at home, marriages may once again be more attractive to young adults and longer-lasting. Birth rates may stabilize or even increase. Is this the future? Or are there strong forces that will prevent this future, such as the absence of strong, family-friendly policies, and high levels of inequality? What might this new era look like in the United States? Goldscheider will elaborate on her writings at this seminar, and Andrew Cherlin will offer some thoughts on why the new equilibrium may not emerge as strongly and as uniformly as some observers predict.

Research Profile

Meredith Kleykamp

Tied migration and anticipatory discrimination against military spouses seeking work, NSF

Research is unequivocal in establishing a labor force penalty for being married to someone serving in the armed forces. Military spouses, 93% of whom are women married to military men, experience higher rates of under- and unemployment relative to comparable spouses of civilians. These substantial and pervasive employment disadvantages are hypothesized to stem from a series of structural challenges facing military spouses including: frequent relocations hindering accumulation of job experience and firm-specific human capital; the relatively limited labor markets in which many military installations are located; and possibly employer discrimination in hiring military spouses owing to presumptions of future mobility. Tied migration occurs when a spouse moves along with her partner even though her own career may not benefit from the move, and military spouses experience tied migration repeatedly over their careers. A growing body of evidence repeatedly documents the military spouse employment penalty, little empirical research explicitly tries to adjudicate the mechanisms – such as frequent moving due to tied migration – generating such outcomes. This project, based in part on research supported by an MPRC Seed Grant, seeks to fill this gap.



MPRC PAA Annual Meeting scholarship

A diverse group of 45 MPRC scholars attended the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America in Denver last Spring.

Twenty-four Associates attended, presenting papers in 14 sessions and co-authoring papers in 20 others. One associate presented a poster and 10 others were co-authors. MPRC scholars served as discussants in 7 sessions, session chairs in 2 sessions, and as a panelist for a special presentation on Publications in Demography.

Nineteen MPRC Student Affiliates presented papers in 7 sessions, all of them co-authored by an MPRC Associate; they presented 8 posters.

Visiting scholars and post-docs presented one paper and one poster, respectively.

Student Affiliate Zhiyong Lin (above) was awarded best in session for his poster “Sexual Orientation and Relationship Dynamics in Early Adulthood: Evidence From Taiwan”.

Reminder: The 2019 PAA Annual Meeting will be held April 10-13 in Austin Texas. Proposals are due **September 16**.

2018 Bianchi Summer Research Fellowship



Soomin Ryu, Public Policy, was awarded this year’s Suzanne M. Bianchi Summer Research Fellowship. She used the funding to work over the summer to prepare a proposal for the 2019 PAA Annual Meeting on “The Effects of Grandparental Preschool Children on Mother’s Working Hours in South Korea.”

The paper examines whether grandparental care for preschool children allows mothers to work more in Korea, using panel data based on an instrumental variable approach with a view to understand the role of informal childcare in women’s employment and to suggest policy implications on better family support systems for working mothers.

New Faculty, continued from page 1

ultimately conceived. Two new projects consider the interaction between health and the criminal justice system: the first interrogates the association between parental incarceration and child physical health; the second asks how shifts in spatialized neighborhood violence, operationalized as transitioning gang boundaries in Chicago, affect a range of individual-level and neighborhood-level health and educational outcomes. Studies from some of these projects have been published in journals including *Demography*, *Social Forces*, and *Sociology of Education*.

Student and Faculty News

Esha Chatterjee’s article (with **Sonalde Desai** and **Reeve Vanneman**) in *Demographic Research*, “Indian Paradox: Rising education, Declining women’s employment,” has been given an Editor’s Choice designation by the publication’s editorial board. Ms. Chatterjee’s work on the article was supported in part by a Bianchi Fellowship award she received in Spring 2017.

The Department of Sociology supported two MPRC student affiliates with awards recently. **Fatima Zahra** received the Harriett B. Presser Fellowship to support dissertation research on population and gender; **Sara Schmidt** received the Sociology Graduate Student Summer Fellowship for Research Collaborations support her collaborative work with **Feinix Chen**.

Alumni

Shengwei Sun, Sociology, has completed her Ph.D. and will be taking a post at the Washington University in St. Louis. She will continue collaborative work with **Wei-hsin Yu** as a Visiting Scholar at MPRC.

Cristian Sanchez, Economics, has accepted a post as Assistant Professor at the Center for Economic Research and Department of Economics, ITAM (Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México).

Faculty

Alok Bhargava, Public Policy, was honored with the Glorious India lifetime achievement award.

Monica Caudillo, MPRC Postdoctoral Scholar, will transition in Spring 2019 to Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland.

Kerry Green, Behavioral and Community Health, received an R01 grant from the National Institute on Aging, “Understanding the Aging Process of Urban Af-

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Faculty News, continued from page 2

ican Americans Across the Life Course: Identifying Early Risk and Protection for Cognition and Health in Midlife.”

Susan Parker was awarded a grant from Women’s World Banking USA, “G2P Training Evidence Review.”

Thurka Sangaramoorthy, Anthropology, was promoted to Associate Professor and was awarded the Clark Taylor Professional Paper Prize, Society for Medical Anthropology’s AIDS and Anthropology Research Group.

Edmond Shenassa, Family Science, will serve this year as the President of the Association of Teachers of Child and Maternal Health.

Ruth Zambrana’s book *Toxic Ivory Towers: The Consequences of Work Stress on Underrepresented Minority Faculty* was just published by Rutgers University Press.

Visiting Scholar **Dan Tang**, Renmin University, has been working with **Feinian Chen** during the past year on two projects examining mental health outcomes in China. The first paper examines living arrangements and mental health in Chinese adults and has been submitted to a journal and presented at a conference. The second paper investigates mental health differences between migrating and left-behind populations in rural and city contexts.

6th Biennial Time Use Conference



Scholars from across the United States and six foreign countries met in June for the 6th Biennial Time Use conference, “Time Use Across the Life Course,” organized by **Liana Sayer** and sponsored by NICHD and the Maryland Time Use Laboratory.

A total of 76 researchers participated in 6 sessions as well as round-table discussions groups during the two-day event. A poster session featuring 17 poster presentations took place during a reception on the first day.

The group paused during the reception to honor the work of long-time Faculty Associate John Robinson with comments from Jonathan Gershuny, Stanley Presser, and Bridgid Schulte.

U.S. government agencies were well represented by scholars from the Economic Research Service of USDA, the Bureau of Census, the Department of Labor, and the National Institutes of Health. Participants included researchers from Argentina, Canada, India, Kenya, Mexico, and the United Kingdom.

Above, topic table discussions at lunch; Below, Jay Stewart (BLS) and Kimberly Fisher (UK Office for National Statistics) confer with other attendees.



Grant Submissions

Since January MPRC Administrative Core personnel helped population researchers to propose over \$5.3 million in new funding. Recently awarded projects (*) are listed on page 4.

Christine Bachrach

“Traversing Divides: Interdisciplinary Research in Population Health and Health Disparities,” NIMHD R13, \$35,915

Laurie DeRose

“Family Structure and Educational Progress: A Macro-Level Gendered Perspective,” NICHD R03sub, \$154,500

Sonalde Desai

“Women’s Economic Empowerment,” Hewlett Foundation, \$724,859

Sandra Hofferth

* “Time Use Data for Health and Well Being,” NICHD R01supp, \$135,652

Frauke Kreuter

“Investigating the Utility of Interviewer Observations on the Survey Response Process,” Subcontract Umich-Ann Arbor/NIH, \$24,920

Yan Li

“Estimation of Absolute Risks and Mediation Effects from Time-to-Event Data Collected with Complex Sampling,” NCI R03, \$147,852

Marian MacDorman

“Methodological Issues in Maternal Mortality Research,” NICHD R21, \$432,699

Sangeetha Madhavan

“Preparing Data from the Kinship Support Project in Nairobi, Kenya for Public Use,” NICHD R03, \$76,942

Susan Parker

* “G2P Training Evidence Review,” Women’s World Banking USA, \$36,372

Michael Rendall

“Cohort change in obesity trajectories by race / ethnicity, nativity and education,” NICHD R21, \$459,303

Liana Sayer

“Family Sleep and Social Rhythms: Novel Mechanisms Underlying Socioeconomic Disparities in Child Health and Development,” RAND / NIH, \$139,966

Reeve Vanneman

“Working Class Neglect in U.S. Culture: Text Mining and Content Analyses,” NSF, \$316,210

“Working Mothers and Their Families in a Changing Culture: Text Mining and Content Analyses,” NICHD R01, \$2,511,483

Population Working Papers Series

MPRC participates in the Population Working Paper Series project hosted by California Center for Population Research at UCLA. Faculty Associates can make papers available to an audience of population researchers. Info: mprc-support@umd.edu.

Research Profile

Quynh Nguyen, Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Neighborhood Looking Glass: 360 Degree Automated Characterization of the Built Environment for Neighborhood Effects Research, NIH R01



Faculty Associate Quynh C. Nguyen has been awarded an R01 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) / National Library of Medicine. The multi-year award will enable Dr. Nguyen to use Google Street View images and computer vision algorithms to assess the relationship between neighborhood features and health outcomes. It also enables construction of a national data repository of built environment features that the team will make publicly available.

One of the goals of the grant is to devise new ways to characterize neighborhood environments. Researchers have traditionally depended on neighborhood surveys and on-site visits to assess neighborhood environments, but those methods are costly and time-consuming and limit the number of areas that can be examined. Big data presents new opportunities for costs savings and efficiencies, and it allows for investigations of national patterns.

A team led by Dr. Nguyen will work to develop informatics techniques to produce neighborhood quality indicators. They will measure the accuracy of data algorithms and construct an interactive geoportal for neighborhood data visualization and sharing. This is an interdisciplinary team including top-notch researchers in the field of computer vision (Tolga Tasdizen), data management (Feifei Li), and clinical outcomes research (Kim Brunisholz).

2018 Fall Seminars, Workshops, and Events

A full schedule of seminars and other events is planned for Fall 2018. We will begin on September 10 with Christine Mair (right), Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, presenting "Aging Alone? Family Network Structures and Cross-National Friendship Patterns." Other visitors include Stephen Gilman, Senior Investigator and Social and Behavioral Sciences Branch Chief at NICHD; Selena Ortiz, Pennsylvania State University; Audrey Dorelien, University of Minnesota; Dylan Conger, George Washington University; Ashton



Christine Mair

Verdery, Penn State University; Ann Pebley, UCLA and Visiting Scholar at Russell Sage Foundation; Mark Mather, Population Reference Bureau; Caroline Hartnett, University of South Carolina; and

Stephane Helleringer, Johns Hopkins University. MPRC presenters will include Caryn Bell, Department of African American Studies; Lauren Porter, Criminology; and Kirsten Stobenau, Behavioral and Community Health.

In addition to the robust seminar events, MPRC also will sponsor a special discussion with Fran Goldscheider and Andy Cherlin from Johns Hopkins University on November 2nd titled, "Might the gender revolution strengthen the family?" There will be two workshops this fall, one on Using Add Health Data and one on federal Research Data Center Background and Usage. The student-organized Journal Club will host two meetings this fall as well. Complete Fall schedule and relevant, detailed information on topics and speakers can be found in the Events section of the MPRC website.

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for the first time partly funded under the NICHD R13 conference grant mechanism. The conference embodies MPRC's goals of fostering close relationships with the Federal Statistics community in addition to attracting top national and international scholars of time use studies. I congratulate Faculty Associate Liana Sayer and the organizing committee for their successful leadership of the conference and thank our MPRC staff for their invaluable logistical support. In addition to the regular seminar series, we look forward to symposia and other special events enriching the intellectual life of the MPRC community, including the "gender revolution" symposium featuring leaders in the field, Frances Goldscheider (UMD) and Andrew Cherlin (JHU).

Recent Awards

Kerry Green

"Understanding the Aging Process of Urban African Americans Across the Life Course: Identifying Early Risk and Protection for Cognition and Health in Midlife," NIA R01, \$3,397,909, 08/15/2018-06/30/2023

Sandra Hofferth

"Time Use Data for Health and Well Being," NICHD R01supp, \$135,652, 09/01/2018-08/31/2020

Meredith Kleykamp

"Tied Migration and Anticipatory Discrimination against Military Spouses Seeking Work," NSF, \$199,928, 03/15/2018-02/29/2020

Quynh Nguyen

Neighborhood Looking Glass: 360 Degree Automated Characterization of the Built Environment for Neighborhood Effects Research, NIA R01, \$355,252, 08/06/2018-07/31/2022

Susan Parker

"G2P Training Evidence Review," Women's World Banking USA, \$36,372, 07/30/2018-09/30/2018

Michael Rendall

"Maryland Population Research Center," NICHD P2C, \$2,162,877, 09/01/2018-08/31/2023

Seed grant funds DeRose family study

Faculty Associate Laurie DeRose was awarded an MPRC Seed Grant for her proposal, "Family Structure and Educational Progress: A Macro-Level Gendered Perspective Across Low- and Lower-Middle Income Countries." Dr. DeRose's project aims for development of an R03 application that will investigate how children's living arrangements in low- and lower-middle income countries condition trajectories of educational progress in the society as a whole.

The 2018-19 Seed Grant competition is open now. Check the MPRC website for details.



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