



Maryland Population Research Center

in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
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Newsletter

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New Faculty Associates

Brian Kim, Assistant Research Professor, Joint Program in Survey Methodology,



focuses on sampling hard-to-reach populations using network sampling methods, particularly respondent-driven sampling. He has done research on population size estimation of these

groups, as well as developed diagnostics for evaluating how the sampling process performs. This is of particular interest to getting actionable estimates of prevalence and size from populations that are difficult to sample and survey due to factors such as social stigma.

Sharan Sharma, Assistant Research Professor, Sociology and Joint Program in Survey Methodology, is a survey methodologist and applied statistician with interests in interviewer effects, interviewer-respondent interaction, survey falsification, paradata, and modeling of complex survey data. He is working with Feinian Chen and Sonalde Desai to design and implement the third wave of the India Human Development Survey. One part of this will involve migrant panelists - a first for IHDS3.



New Affiliates

External Affiliates

Sojin Yu, Independent Researcher, Seoul, Korea, is working with Feinian Chen and Sonalde Desai as part of the WEDGE team. Her work considers the intersection of migration, gender, and race / ethnicity as a means to approach the social dynamics behind social inequality. She is interested in gender inequality in developing countries, and

Continued on page 2

Director's Note

Here we are, at the end of a fall semester like no other! MPRC has, since the pandemic's full announcement coinciding with the 2020 Spring Break, been following university guidelines to conduct research activities remotely to the fullest extent possible. Thanks to all the staff, and especially to Administrative Core Coordinator Betty Sitka, for transitioning us successfully to remote operations. This is still work in progress, as we monitor when we may plan for a return to in-person, onsite activities at Morrill Hall. The health of our staff and the MPRC community continues to be of paramount importance as we make these plans and continue with our prudent approach of remote research infrastructural support and intellectual virtual community. Special thanks to Acting Associate Director and Development Core Director, Susan Parker (see on this page), for a stimulating and very successful virtual MPRC seminar series over this fall semester. And thanks to the MPRC community for your participation in the series. I welcome also to the MPRC community new Faculty Associates Brian Kim, who recently transitioned to an Assistant Research Professor appointment at JPSM, coming with a Statistics PhD from UCLA; Sharan Sharma, also with an Assistant Research Professor appointment at JPSM, and who is strongly engaged with the larger project environment growing around the India Human Development Survey; and postdoctoral scholar Alexandra (Alex) Kissling, who has joined the Delaware Contraceptive Access Now Evaluation project. The extended global reach of MPRC research for years ahead has this fall been assured with new external research grant awards to Sangeetha Madhavan (NICHD R01, 2020-2025; with UMD Co-Investigators in the schools of Public Health, Kirsten Stobenau, and Agricultural and Resource Economics, Ken Leonard), to Jessica Goldberg (NSF, 2020-2023, see 'Research Profile' in this issue), and to Susan Parker (NSF, subaward, 2020-2023). We are always especially encouraged by awards to our Associates from NICHD's Population Dynamics Branch, and this summer and fall, in addition to Sangeetha's R01, I am thrilled to congratulate Assistant Professor Mónica Caudillo on her R03 on demographic outcomes of the opioid epidemic, and Sandy Hofferth and Liana Sayer for their COVID-19 two-year Administrative supplement for a well-being module to be added to the American Time Use Survey (see 'Research News'). MPRC's contributions to COVID-related scholarship in the immediate years ahead will be further enhanced by new NSF-funded research on employment



Continued on page 3

Susan W. Parker to serve as MPRC Acting Associate Director for 2020-21

Professor Susan W. Parker, Public Policy, will serve as Acting Associate Director of MPRC during the 2020-21 academic year. She currently is working on several projects, including an MPRC Seed Grant: "How Ending a Conditional Cash Transfer Program Impacts Children's School Enrollment: Evidence from Mexico" examines the dismantling of the conditional cash transfer program Prospera (formally known as Progresa / Oportunidades). Her MPRC Seed Grant will study the effects of this elimination on the school enrollment of children in the months following the announcement. This will provide initial evidence for supporting a larger grant proposal on the range of possible effects from this policy change, including effects on education attainment, health, and poverty of beneficiary families.



Dr. Parker is also working on an NSF grant, "Using New Longitudinal Linked Data to Investigate the Determinants of Educational Attainment and Achievement in Mexico," a joint project with Dr. Petra Podd at University of Pennsylvania.

Research Profile

Jessica Goldberg, Economics

Engaging Women in the Market for Mobile Money, NSF, \$236,685



Mobile money has been shown to reduce aggregate poverty and improve outcomes for households and businesses. However, not everyone has equal access to this important economic tool. In low income communities, women lag behind men in participation in both mobile money and labor markets. Prof. Goldberg's research project will use experimental methods to study how discrimination against women in the mobile money market affects their labor market participation, human capital formation, and other social outcomes. It also studies whether employing women as mobile money agents decreases labor market discrimination against women generally and improves their social outcomes.

The results of this research will provide guidance on policies to decrease labor markets against women but could also provide mechanisms to decrease poverty and reduce income inequality. Hiring women as mobile money agents offers an opportunity to increase economic opportunities for women, change social attitudes towards women's labor force participation, and improve their access to mobile money.

The project uses a randomized controlled trial to measure the causal effects of employing women as mobile money agents on the economic and other social outcomes in low-income environments. It also studies the effects of work on the incomes, skill accumulation, and autonomy of women compared to men; and whether the availability of female mobile money agents increases the use of mobile money by female customers. The research will study how female labor supply responds to the number of women working as mobile money agents by randomly assigning subsidies to 500 shops for hiring either male or female employees. On the demand side, the researchers will randomize the digitization of loan repayments at 90 BRAC branches, which increases the demand for mobile money by female customers. The results of this research will not only provide guidance on policies to decrease labor market discrimination against women but could also decrease poverty as well as reduce income inequality.

Tribute

Scientific and Technical Core Lead Sarbartha Bandyopadhyay retires

Coordinator of the Center's Scientific and Technical Core, Bandy has worked at MPRC since 2002 and has served four Directors with distinction. He has ensured that our Faculty Affiliates, who come from several university departments, have the resources they need to conduct demographic and other analysis on a variety of scales: setting up a dedicated server or virtual server cluster; wrangling paperwork and configuring the



Bandy (right), with MPRC Founding Director Suzanne Bianchi

appropriate set up for access to confidential data sets; or working with an Associate's Research Assistant to configure a statistical program or query. For 18 years Bandy has done it all and has contributed to the development of MPRC's strategic vision.

One of Bandy's great assets has been his willingness to share his knowledge with other members of the MPRC team, helping to develop the talent and expertise of other staff and acting as a resource for other system administrators in the college and larger university. Bandy explores any question in depth, often offering alternatives that re-shape the issue and inevitably improve the outcome. In 2013 he was recognized by the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences with the Outstanding Staff Award on the basis of his contributions to the College over the years.

New Affiliates, continued from page 1

particularly Asia. Her most recent work on women's empowerment aims to use innovative ways to measure complex conceptions of women's empowerment using large datasets and statistical analysis.



Yu

Postdoctoral Scholar

Alexandra Kissling, MPRC, is working with Michael Rendall on the DelCAN



Evaluation project.

Her work is motivated by the fundamental question: what can gender and family dynamics tell us about health inequalities in the U.S.? She seeks to

answer questions about how reproductive health inequalities reflect and are reflected by larger unequal structures, such as gender and family relationships. Specifically, how are the gendered dynamics of everyday interactions, especially within the family, a case to better understand health disparities? She brings a wide range of methods, including interview methods and statistical analysis, to bear in answering these questions.

Faculty and Student News

Faculty News

Wade C. Jacobsen published two papers in the February 2020 issue of *Criminology*, examining education experiences leading to incarceration and impacts of incarceration on union dissolution.

Melissa Kearney, with colleague Ron Hopkins, edited the Spring 2020 issue of *Future of Children*, "How Cultural Factors Shape Economic Outcomes," published by Brookings and Princeton. It features eight chapters on a range of topics related to the general idea of how cultural factors shape children's economic outcomes and economic disparities in the U.S.

Student News

Deanna Barath, Health Policy and Management, advanced to candidacy in May and was awarded the *Kaiser Permanente Endowed Graduate Scholarship* from School of Public Health. She works with Faculty Associate Jie Chen in the Hospital And Public health interdisciplinary research (HAPPY) lab.

Continued on page 3

Director's Note, continued from page 1

(Haltiwanger/Abraham, Economics), social consequences (Co-Is Sayer in Sociology and Fish in Public Health), and a range of economic, social, and mental health outcomes (Kreuter, JPSM). Intellectual impact and recognition of MPRC Associates also took a major step forward this summer with the successful election to PAA President of Sonalde Desai (Sociology). MPRC looks forward with relish to supporting Sonal's leadership not only of the PAA itself, but of the Annual PAA Meeting. Finally, it is with great gratitude that we say farewell to S. (Bandy) Bandyopodhyay, who is retiring from UMD and from MPRC. Bandy has led our data and computing service and infrastructure since the foundation of MPRC as an NICHD-funded population research infrastructure Center in 2002 (see 'Tribute'). I am very pleased to announce that Heide Jackson will take over as Acting Scientific and Technical Core Coordinator, beginning December 21.

Summer Research Fellows

Ge Gao, Sociology, received this year's *Suzanne M. Bianchi Summer Research Fellowship* for his proposed paper "Doing it Alone or Together? The Effects of Job flexibility on Parents' Time Spend on Childcare". He finds, among other things, that "among professional / managerial occupations, gender inequality in childcare cannot be buffered by job flexibility since mothers tend to spend more time taking care of their children without fathers' help."

Mai Yang, Criminology and Criminal Justice, was awarded a Summer Research Fellowship to develop her paper, "Investigating Resilience in the Context of Exclusionary Discipline."

Faculty News, continued from page 2

While working to finish her program **Brittany Dernberger**, Sociology, has taken a full-time Researcher position at Insight Policy Research, where she provides research consultation to the Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office.

Omkar Joshi, Sociology, was awarded the *Anne G. Wylie Semester Dissertation Fellowship* for 2020-2021.

Alumni News

Esha Chatterjee, Sociology, has joined the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, as Assistant Professor.

Zhiyong Lin, Sociology, has taken a post-doctoral fellowship at University of Texas Austin.

Sai Luo, Economics, has taken a position as Assistant Professor at Shanghai University of Finance and Economics.

Grant Submissions

Since January MPRC personnel assisted researchers with proposals of \$6.41 million in new funding. Recently awarded proposals are indicated by an asterisk (*). A more comprehensive listing of Faculty Associate external funding appears on Page 4.

Sonalde Desai

"National Data Innovation Centre (India)", Gates Foundation, \$249,778

Frauke Kreuter

"National Science Foundation Research Traineeship (NRT) Program", NSF, \$1,273,316; subaward from NYU

* "COVID-19 Rapid Response", NSF, \$17,003, subaward from University of Southern California

Sangeetha Madhavan

* "Kinship, Nuptiality, and Child Health Outcomes in a Low Income Urban Area", NICHD R01, \$3,298,847

Susan Parker

"Do Enrollment Gains from CCTs Sustain Disruption? Studying the Rollback of a Successful CCT: Evidence from Mexico", NSF, \$406,105

"Life Course and Policy Impacts on Aging and Health of Mexican Adults", NIA P01; \$575,313

Sandra Hofferth / Liana Sayer

* "COVID-19 Impacts on Time Use and Well-Being", NICHD Admin supplement, \$225,160

Chris Antoun / Brian Kim

"Modernizing NCSES Data Collection Approaches", NCSES-NSF, \$88,802; subcontract from University of Michigan

Brian Kim

"Evaluation and Application of Error Correction Methods in State Longitudinal Data Systems: 2020-2024", Institute of Education Sciences, \$278,648; subaward from Rutgers University

Research News

COVID-19 Well-Being Module for American Time Use Survey

Sandra Hofferth, Liana Sayer, and colleagues

NICHD has awarded a new administrative supplement to the Time Use Data for Health and Well-Being project that will use Bureau of Labor Statistics data sets to provide a well-being perspective to Time Use data specifically related to COVID-19.

The pandemic has changed the way Americans are leading their lives, creating stress and worry for many, and resulting in tremendous racial, gender, and social class inequities in health and well-being. A well-being module (WBM) with the federally funded nationally representative American Time Use Survey (ATUS) will provide data uniquely capable of examining changes in activities, time with family members and other individuals, and well-being, as well as how living arrangements, family and household characteristics, and geographic variation modify COVID-19-related behavioral responses and individual health and well-being. After processing, the researcher will incorporate the WBM data into IPUMS Time Use, which is easily and freely accessible to the research community.

The Time Use Data for Health and Well-Being project gives users easy access to the world's time use data through an online data access system comprising three archives: the American Time Use Study archive (ATUS-X), the Multinational Time Use Study archive (MTUS-X) and the American Heritage Time Use Study archive (AHTUS-X). To date, ATUS data from 2003-2019 have been incorporated as well as information from all supplementary modules to date, including the Well-Being, Eating and Health, 2011 Leave, and 2017-18 Leave and Job Flexibilities modules. The AHTUS is currently adding 1930s U.S. college women data.

The initial MTUS-X release, in June 2016, included data from the U.S., Spain, United Kingdom, and the Netherlands. The archive now showcases harmonized data from Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, France, Hungary, Israel, Italy, South Africa, and South Korea as well. With the expected addition of 2011 time use data from Mexico City, contributed by MPRC Faculty Associate Susan Parker, the project has begun expanding further into the Americas.

The project is headed by Faculty Associates Liana Sayer, Sociology, and Sandra Hofferth, MPRC, and collaborators include The University of Minnesota and the Centre for Time Use Research, University College London.

Faculty Impact

Sonalde Desai, Sociology

President-elect of the Population Association of America

The Population Association of America announced recently that long-time Faculty Associate Sonalde Desai has been elected President for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2021.

Dr. Desai's current research portfolio includes the third iteration of the India Human Development Survey, an NICHD R01 project she began with Professor Reeve Vanneman and others and the first-ever nationwide longitudinal survey of Indian households. In collaboration with National Council of Applied Economic Research in New Delhi, the multi-sectoral survey of over 40,000 households across India provides a rich resource for research on the relationship between poverty, gender inequality and public policy on the one hand and different dimensions of human development on the other. These data are publicly available to all researchers and are being used by more than 9000 users worldwide. Ongoing studies based on these data include intersection between caste and gender in India; changing nature of social stratification and caste inequalities; role of affirmative action in shaping education inequalities in India; gender inequalities in access to health services; and the role of social capital in shaping access to opportunities.

In 2018 she was awarded a three-year grant by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, "IHDS Enhancing Measurement of Women's Empowerment". In 2019 the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation provided funding for a three-year initiative, "IHDS Inclusion of WEE Measures" to expand those measures in upcoming IHDS waves. The Gates Foundation also provided funding in 2017 for a three-year project to establish the India National Data Innovation Centre, of which Professor Desai is Director.

Her research currently examines changes in the nature and composition of Indian middle classes in the context of India's movement from state-capitalism to market-capitalism and increasing involvement in the global economy.



Recent External Funding

Following are some of the projects recently awarded to MPRC Associates.

NICHD-PDB

Sangeetha Madhavan

"Kinship, Nuptiality, and Child Health Outcomes in a Low Income Urban Area", NICHD R01, 09/19/2020-06/30/2025, \$2,669,378

Monica Caudillo

"Effects of the opioid epidemic on nonmarital fertility, marriage, and family structure", NICHD R03, 08/11/2020-07/31/2022, \$154,500

Sandra Hofferth / Liana Sayer

"COVID-19 Impacts on Time Use and Well-Being", NICHD R01 Admin supplement, 01/01/2021-12/31/2021, \$113,650

NSF-COVID

John Halliwanger / Katharine Abraham

"COVID:RAPID: The Impact of COVID-19 on Job Loss and Job Creation", National Science Foundation (NSF), 06/15/2020-05/31/2021, \$199,967

Frauke Kreuter

RAPID:COVID: Evaluating the Impact of COVID-19 on Labor Market, Social, and Mental Health Outcomes, NSF, 05/01/2020-04/30/2021, \$17,003; subaward from USC

Liana Sayer / Jessica Fish Co-Is

"COVID:RAPID: Assessing the Social Consequences of COVID-19", NSF, 05/01/2020-04/30/2021, \$110,399

NSF

Jessica Goldberg

"Engaging Women in the Market for Mobile Money", National Science Foundation (NSF), 08/15/2020-07/31/2023, \$236,685

Brian Kim / Christopher Antoun

"Collaborative Research: Impacts of Hard / Soft Skills on STEM Workforce Trajectories", NSF, 05/01/2020-04/30/2025, \$165,727; subaward from Utah State University

Susan Parker

"Using New Longitudinal Linked Data to Investigate the Determinants of Educational Attainment and Achievement in Mexico", NSF, 05/01/2020-04/30/2023, \$120,502; subaward from UPenn

Other

Amir Sapkota

"Maryland Climate Change Health Adaptation Coordination", Maryland Department of Health-DHHS, 04/15/2020-08/31/2021, \$251,298

Marie Thoma / Marian MacDorman

"Maternal and Child Health Field-Initiated Research Program: Examining Pregnancy-associated Drug Overdose Modality Using Enhanced National Death Certificate Data", DHHS Health Resources and Services Administration, 07/01/2020-06/30/2021, \$99,912

2020 Fall Seminars and Events

A full schedule of seminars and other events took place in Fall 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all seminars were hosted online via Zoom. We began on September 14th with Hans-Peter Kohler (right), F.J. Warren Professor of Demography and Director of the Population Aging Research Center (PARC) at the University of Pennsylvania. He presented "Mortality Risk Information, Survival Expectations, Sexual Behaviors and Covid-19". Other speakers included Jenifer Bratter, Rice University; Jen-



Kohler

na Nobles, University of Wisconsin Madison; Melanie Wasserman, UCLA Anderson School of Management; Julia Behrman, Northwestern University; Brian Thiede, Penn State University; Rebecca Wong, University of Texas Medical Branch; Jennifer Johnson-Hanks, University of California Berkeley; Dean Spears, University of Texas at Austin; Marcia Castro, Harvard University; Lucia Como, Cattolica University; and Naomi Sugie, University of California Irvine.

The student-organized Journal Club hosted two meetings this fall: On October 7 **Kirsten Stoebenau** (BCH) discussed her paper "Developing Experimental Vignettes to Identify Gender Norms Associated with Transactional Sex for Adolescent Girls and Young Women in Central Uganda", published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health*; on October 28 **Long Doan** (Sociology) discussed "Partner Characteristics and Perceptions of Responsibility for Housework and Child Care" published in the *Journal of Marriage and Family*.



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND

Maryland Population
Research Center

2105 Morrill Hall
College Park, Maryland 20742

301-405-6403 tel.

www.popcenter.umd.edu