

## PAA BUSINESS

### PAA Fall Board Meeting 2011

#### Record Response to PAA Call for Papers

By Rosalind King, Secretary-Treasurer

The PAA Board of Directors met on November 4, 2011 in Washington, D.C., with President David Lam presiding. Among the issues discussed were a set of member-initiated initiatives to support under the PAA Fund Campaign, rebounding membership numbers, review and approval of the 2012 budget, and planning for the 2012 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA.

The PAA Fund Campaign is nearly halfway to its goal of raising matching donations from members for the \$1 million from foundations (Hewlett, Gates, Rockefeller, MacArthur and Packard). Nearly 10% of donations have come from international donors. Earlier this year, members of the PAA Initiatives Committee (Marcia Carlson, Kyle Crowder (Chair), Kathleen Mullan Harris, Douglas Massey and Robert Schoeni) reviewed 10 proposals submitted from PAA members for Member-Initiated Projects to support from the PAA Campaign Fund. The Board approved 5 proposals totaling \$50,000 for the following activities:

- \$10,000 to support an international conference on methods to survey hard-to-reach populations.
- \$15,000 for a project to improve demographic training in francophone sub-Saharan Africa.
- \$11,000 to support a mini-conference and special-edition journal on marriage patterns, union stability, and HIV in sub-Saharan Africa
- \$5,000 to support a workshop at the 2012 PAA meeting on the Integrated Fertility Survey Series.
- \$9,000 to support an international seminar on “Population Estimates and Projections: Methodologies, Innovations and Estimation of Target Population.”

The \$50,000 allocated by the Initiatives Committee was matched by a total of \$154,000 in funds secured by the principle investigators from other sources.

Shelly Lundberg, the outgoing Chair of the Finance Committee, summarized the current status of PAA Award accounts and changes made to ensure separate monitoring of PAA Fund Campaign revenue and expenses from regu-

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lar PAA operating budget line items. She noted that PAA's managed investments are currently valued at about \$1.4 million, remaining relatively flat over the past year. Given the economic circumstances over this time, avoiding a loss is positive news. Vanguard Asset Management Services has been managing PAA's investments since early 2009 with the goal of long-term growth. The committee recommended and the Board approved that PAA continue with Vanguard for 2012 for the actively managed account, but the committee will investigate insured deposit options for the funds currently in the money market account.

Secretary-Treasurer Rosalind King reviewed the current state of 2011 revenue and expenses and presented the 2012 proposed operating budget. The PAA is doing well with regard to 2011 budgeted revenue and expenses. The operating budget for 2012 projects a deficit of \$28,241. However, this budget is based on conservative revenue projections which will be revisited in the coming months. First, this amount includes a fixed, regular draw of \$35,000 from the PAA Reserve Fund. The Board recommended switching the draw from a fixed amount to a given percentage, as is the practice for foundations. For the coming year, the draw will be 4 percent of the average balance for the most recent three years, a larger amount than the current fixed draw. Second, current revenue from *Demography* significantly exceeds projections for this year, so the expected revenue for 2012 will be adjusted upward once the final amount for 2011 is known. Thus, we expect a surplus for 2012. Regular operating expenses are expected to be about \$715,000. The Board approved the 2012 operating budget.

President-elect Daniel Lichter reported on preparations for the 2012 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA. Yet again, PAA members submitted a record number of papers for consideration—2,836—and one session received 135 submissions. Overflow sessions were allocated based on number of papers received once the submissions process closed. Given that only approximately 25 percent of submitted papers can be accepted under the current structure of 200 total sessions, the Board discussed whether an additional group of sessions could be added in the late afternoon on Saturday, May 5, 2012. The Board also decided to repeat the 2011 version of the Alumni Night Party where the PAA provided dessert but did not have music.

Several other presentations and committee reports were discussed, including an update on the PAA Fund Campaign by development specialist Eleanor Weis. The "Honor a Colleague" program is going extremely well. The newest honoree is Sam Preston and several more honorees will be announced soon. For 2012, the Campaign will emphasize encouraging PAA members to each commit "One Big Act," such as making a donation, hosting a local gathering, adding a codicil to their will, writing a testimonial, or starting an "Honor a Colleague" campaign. There will be a President's Circle reception for those who have made a gift of \$1,000 or greater at the PAA Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 2, 2012, from 6:00–9:00 pm, underwritten in part by Springer (the publisher for *Demography*).

The Government and Public Affairs Committee report from Mary Jo Hoeksema highlighted FY2012 appropriations, staff changes at NIH and other government agencies important for population research and data, and PAA activities on the Hill, including visits by members to their Congressional offices during the March 2011 PAA annual meeting which was held in Washington, D.C. and Hill briefings that featured PAA member research on the demographics of disasters and the scientific importance of the Economic Census.

Chair of the Membership Committee, Jennifer Glick, noted that overall membership has rebounded from last year's decline of 4%. Other than a small increase in student memberships between 2010 and 2011, the composition of membership categories stayed relatively constant between 2010 and 2011. An increase in membership may be based on the location of the 2011 Annual Meeting (Washington, DC) which is usually a larger meeting than other venues. However, this increase in membership also helps allay some of the previous concern that there would be a drop in membership based on the implementation of the policy allowing non-members to participate in the Annual Meeting. There were 40 attendees with 8 mentors at the ninth annual PAA Career Mentoring Lunch at the 2011 Annual Meeting. The Board passed a motion that the Membership Committee should develop an idea for an event for early career professionals at the next annual meeting, as well as continuing the mentoring event.

In closing, we wish a fond farewell to outgoing Past President Robert Mare, Vice President Wendy Manning, and Board members Jennifer Glick, Grace Kao, Shelly Lundberg, and Robert Schoeni, whose terms end December 31, 2011. PAA will also greatly miss Ann Biddlecom, whose term as Secretary-Treasurer ended in June 2011. PAA is dependent on volunteers from its membership, and the organization has benefited tremendously from the time, talent and insights they have so freely given.

## **PAA FUND CAMPAIGN**

Thank you to the more than 700 PAA members who have contributed to the PAA Fund Campaign. Our goal is to match member contributions to the \$1 million challenge grants from major foundations. The foundations share our vision of excellence in population research and training. So far, the PAA Fund has supported travel scholarships to the PAA meetings for researchers from developing countries, as well Congressional briefings and small conferences.

If you haven't yet made a donation, please commit to \$350 or whatever amount you can afford. We are grateful for every gift. The campaign currently stands at approximately \$475,000.

If you would like to make your donation in honor of a mentor, colleague or collaborator, please indicate that when you make your donation ([www.popassoc.org](http://www.popassoc.org)). When gifts in honor of a colleague reach \$5,000, the honoree will have his/her name, a short biography and the list of contributors placed on the PAA website. There are 15 members honored already and more than 25 other campaigns are on the way. If you are thinking about starting a campaign to honor your mentor or your favorite PAA member, contact Eleanor Weis at [ec\\_weis@yahoo.com](mailto:ec_weis@yahoo.com).

Congratulations to Sam Preston who is our newest PAA Honoree!

Several PAA Development Committee members, along with Sam Preston, provided their reflections on how the PAA has helped to foster their career. You can read more at: (<http://www.populationassociation.org/2011/06/15/development-committee-reflections>).

Here are the reflections of Greg Duncan, past PAA president and PAA Development Committee stalwart:

*"I can't remember my first PAA meeting—perhaps it was the 1991 gathering in Washington, D.C. I thought of myself as a labor economist rather than a demographer. But my long years working on and ultimately directing the Panel Study of Income Dynamics had forced me to confront the complications of the demographic turbulence of the U.S. population almost every day.*

*I liked that meeting a lot. All of the sessions I attended had good quality papers and discussants. I saw a lot of people who shared my research interests, and I was able to sample new areas to discover their current ideas. My first PAA service was on the Committee on Population Statistics. I confess to wondering what I had gotten into when a side conversation between two members turned into a boasting match over which one had visited the most U.S. counties.*

*But I stuck with it, became a regular at the meetings, served on the Board and ultimately as President. Most striking during my year as President was that no one ever said no to a request for serving the organization. PAA members care deeply about their science and the integrity of the data that fuels their work. I am happy to make generous annual contributions to the PAA Fund to help advance the worthy goals of its members."*

—Greg J. Duncan, University of California, Irvine

# GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

November 2011

## Appropriations Update

Although Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 officially began on October 1, Congress has not enacted any appropriations bills. Since the end of September, Congress has enacted a series of Continuing Resolutions (CR) to keep the government operating. The current CR keeps the federal government open until November 18. At press time, however, there was important progress being made towards a final resolution. The Senate was packaging several appropriations bills into “minibus” proposals that could be voted on separately. During the week of October 17, the Senate began consideration of H.R.2112, the legislative vehicle for the Agriculture, Commerce, Justice and Science, and Transportation/HUD appropriations bills. If this strategy works, the House of Representatives hopes to pass other appropriations bills in a similar manner and avoid taking up a very large omnibus bill. Regardless, it is clear the FY 2012 appropriations process will linger well into December 2011.

Despite the lack of floor activity, the House and Senate Appropriations Committees have been actively drafting and passing their own versions of the 12 appropriations bills that fund all federal agencies. As a result, we have proposed funding levels for all of the PAA/APC agencies of interest that will be used to negotiate final spending levels in an omnibus appropriations bill or a series of minibus bills. Below is a table comparing the proposed House and Senate numbers with the President’s request and the final fiscal year 2011 mark.

| Agency        | FY 2012 House   | FY 2012 Senate  | FY 2012 President’s Budget | FY 2011 Final Budget |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| NIH           | \$31.7 billion  | \$30.5 billion  | \$31.7 billion             | \$30.7 billion       |
| Census Bureau | \$855 million   | \$943 million   | \$1.02 billion             | \$986.3 million      |
| NCHS          | \$136 million   | \$173 million** | \$161.7 million            | \$138.7 million      |
| NSF           | \$6.86 billion* | \$6.69 million  | \$7.76 million             | \$6.86 billion       |
| AID FP/RH     | \$461 million   | \$700 million   | \$769 million              | \$615 million        |

\*FY 2011 amount minus \$7 million across the board cut.

\*\* This reflects a base budget of \$138.7 and an additional \$35 million for Prevention and Public Health Fund as part of the Affordable Health Care Act.

## Appropriations Highlights

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** – S. 1599, the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill, proposes cutting the NIH below its FY 2011 funding level. In a report accompanying the bill, the Committee “regrets that fiscal constraints prevent a higher recommended funding level for NIH” and “urges NIH to explore creative ways to rethink the way it allocates its funding.”

A draft of the House version of the FY 2012 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education bill recommended funding the NIH at the President’s request. As a result of higher domestic discretionary spending totals established by the debt ceiling legislation that was signed into law in August, the House Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee had a higher allocation. The Subcommittee Chairman, Chairman Rehberg (R-MT), chose to put the additional resources primarily into two programs, NIH and Head Start, and reduce funding for numerous other public health agencies. The House bill also includes several contentious provisions: it prohibits spending on programs authorized by the Affordable Care Act; requires NIH to support “at least 9,150 new and competing research project grants, an increase of about 450 from the fiscal year 2011 projection” (which

could restrict the agency's ability to make certain funding decisions); prohibits funding for the new National Center for Advancing Translational Science; and reduces the cap on salaries on extramural grants from the Executive Level I (\$199,700) to the Executive Level III (\$165,300). The draft bill was released on September 29, but never acted on as a separate measure because of objections from the subcommittee's conservative members who opposed the bill's overall spending total. The draft bill, however, will be used to negotiate a final agreement with the Senate.

With respect to other NIH-related programs that PAA and APC follow, both the House and Senate bills include \$193 million to continue the National Children's Study and \$1.13 billion and \$1.08 billion for the National Institute on Aging and \$1.35 billion and \$1.30 billion for the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, respectively.

- **Census Bureau** – In July, the House Appropriations Committee approved H.R. 2596, the FY 2012 Commerce, Justice, Science appropriations bill, which proposed funding the Census Bureau at \$855 million—\$169 million below the President's request and 25 percent below the agency's FY 2011 level. In light of this unexpected and extreme proposed cut, the agency announced it would be compelled to cancel the 2012 Economic Census and a variety of 2010 Decennial Census close-out programs, including the Count Question Resolution program, if the House number prevails. The Senate version of the bill recommends a slightly higher level of funding for the Bureau, \$943 million. This funding level would enable the Bureau to proceed with the core 2012 Economic Census, but it is still not sufficient to ensure continuation of all Census 2010 programs.

Throughout the deliberations, PAA and APC signed onto letters organized by the Census Project coalition, urging, at a minimum, the level recommended by the Senate Appropriations Committee and opposing any amendments that could be offered to further cut the agency's funding. The letters are posted on the Census Project home page at: [www.thecensusproject.org](http://www.thecensusproject.org). On September 26, PAA and APC cosponsored a congressional briefing organized by the American Economic Association regarding the Economic Census. The purpose of the briefing was to raise awareness about the Economic Census is, communicate how state, federal and private sector data users rely on it, and inform staff how canceling the Economic Census would impact adversely industries and governments. A summary of the briefing is posted at: [http://www.aeaweb.org/committees/Govt\\_Relations/index.php](http://www.aeaweb.org/committees/Govt_Relations/index.php).

- **National Center for Health Statistics** – The House Labor, Health and Human Services and Education bill provides NCHS \$136.7 million in total funding, about \$2 million less than FY 2011. The House bill also eliminates \$1 billion available through the Prevention and Public Health Fund, including any funding that is currently provided to NCHS. NCHS received \$30 million from the Prevention Fund in FY 2011. By comparison, the Senate spending bill provides NCHS with a base budget of \$138.7 million, consistent with FY 2011 levels. In addition, the Committee supplements NCHS's base budget with \$35 million from the Prevention and Public Health Fund. With this supplemental funding, NCHS's total budget would be \$173.7 million in FY 2012 under the Senate's spending bill—3 percent more than FY 2011 and 27 percent more than provided in the House's bill.
- **National Science Foundation (NSF)** – There is a sense of frustration and dismay that the Senate Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Committee cut the FY 2012 NSF budget below the FY 2011 level, especially given the Committee's allocation is \$2.5 billion more than the House CJS Committee. In the House, Chairman Wolf and Ranking Member Fattah want to budget NSF at the FY 2011 level. Despite this frustrating budgetary news, the good news is that thus far, feared amendments to eliminate the Social, Behavioral and Economic Directorate (SBE) have not materialized. PAA and APC have been actively working to rebuff any efforts to target SBE. This summer, the organizations signed onto a letter organized by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, expressing support for NSF, its merit review process, and SBE sciences. Over 140 scientific societies and universities endorsed the letter that was delivered to Rep. Harold Rogers (R-KY) and Rep. Norm Dicks (D-WA). The letter is posted on the PAA home page: <http://www.populationassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/Intersociety-NSF-letter.pdf>.

- **United States Agency for International Development** – PAA and APC are primarily interested in how funding for the Family Planning/Reproductive Health (FP/RH) account fares in the annual appropriations process. It is through this account that the USAID Office of Population and Reproductive Health are supported. This office, via a contract mechanism, supports the Demographic Health Surveys (DHS), which collects, analyzes and disseminates accurate and representative data on population, health, malaria, HIV/AIDS, and nutrition through more than 260 surveys in over 90 countries. While there is plenty to worry about for the overall FP/RH fiscal year 2012 budget—the House bill limits the total to \$461 million from all accounts, compared to the FY 2011 final \$615 million—the DHS is not a suggested target for cuts currently. The Senate number, \$700 million, is better, but still \$69 million below the President’s request.

#### **NIA and NICHD appropriations report language**

In a report, #112-084, accompanying S. 1599, the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill, the Senate Appropriations Committee included the below language, praising demographic and economic research programs at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and National Institute on Aging:

#### **Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development**

*Demographic and Economic Research* – The Institute’s investment in population-representative longitudinal studies, such as the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, the National Longitudinal Study of Youth Child Supplement and Panel Study of Income Dynamics has yielded groundbreaking scientific research and served as a model for making publicly funded research data widely available, spurring cost-effective research in numerous disciplines and across multiple institutions. The Committee urges NICHD to continue investing in these large-scale population data sets and to sustain support for critical research infrastructure for demographic and behavioral population science.

#### **National Institute on Aging**

*Demographic and Economic Research* – The Committee commends NIA for prioritizing support of the Health and Retirement Study [HRS], which includes data from a representative sample of 20,000 Americans aged 50 and over regarding their health and healthcare needs, income and savings, and work and retirement plans. NIA is especially encouraged to continue its successful collaboration and co-funding agreements for the HRS with the Social Security Administration. The Committee commends NIA’s initiative in developing comparable international surveys, particularly in countries that have aged faster than the United States. The Committee anticipates important research advances regarding gene-environment interactions once the genome-wide array study of the HRS sample is fully implemented.

#### **Debt Ceiling and Deficit Reduction Issues**

The FY 2012 appropriations process was delayed due to negotiations between House and Senate leaders and the White House regarding the federal debt ceiling and federal deficit reduction goals. On August 2, after months of ongoing negotiation, and with just hours to spare before the Federal Government “defaulted,” congressional leaders and the Obama administration reached agreement, passed, and signed into law the Budget Control Act of 2011, a bipartisan plan to reduce the deficit and raise the debt limit. The agreement averted the immediate debt crisis and, among other things, created the United States Congress Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction. This committee, also known as the “Supercommittee,” is comprised of six members of the House and six members of the Senate who are charged with making recommendations for reducing the federal deficit by \$1.5 trillion over ten years. A timeline for their activities in 2011 and 2012 is as follows:

- Sept. 13: First hearing of joint committee.
- Oct. 14: Deadline for standing congressional committees to forward their recommendations to joint committee.
- Nov. 23: Deadline for joint committee to vote on legislative proposals.
- Dec. 2: Deadline for joint committee to formally report proposals.

- Dec. 23: Deadline for House and Senate to vote on proposals, without amendment.
- Jan. 15: Deadline for enactment of at least \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction, or across-the-board spending cuts, taking effect on January 2, 2013.

PAA and APC signed onto a letter organized by the Coalition for Health Funding (CHF), encouraging the joint committee to not disproportionately impact discretionary health programs as part of its overall plan to reduce the deficit. At press time, the letter was still being circulated for signatures. It will be posted on the CHF home page at: [www.publichealthfunding.org](http://www.publichealthfunding.org) after October 21.

### **Legislative Update**

**S. 679, Presidential Appointment and Efficiency Act of 2011** – The bill eliminates required Senate approval of specified presidentially appointed positions in approximately 30 federal agencies and departments. During mark up of the bill in June, Senator Thomas Carper (D-DE) offered an amendment, which was adopted, allowing the Census Bureau Director to serve two five-year terms. On June 29, the full Senate passed the bill by a vote of 79–20. It is being held at the Senate desk, pending consideration by the House of Representatives under Suspension of the Rules. However, it is not clear if and when the House will consider this bill.

### **Agency News**

**NICHD Vision Process** – As you may recall, between January and March 2011, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) hosted nine workshops related to its Vision initiative. The purpose of this initiative is “to identify the next decade’s most promising scientific opportunities across the Institute’s diverse research areas. Unlike strategic planning efforts, in which the Institute sets specific priorities for its individual components, the Vision process will set a direction for the NICHD as a whole.”

During the summer, papers from the nine workshops were posted on the NICHD home page for comment. PAA commented on five of these papers (Behavior, Developmental Origins of Disease, Environment, Pregnancy and Pregnancy Outcomes, and Reproduction). On June 23 and 24, the Institute hosted a meeting where invited participants discussed the papers, comments, and what has been missed by the dialogue to date. Over two days, attendees selected 3 to 5 specific projects that the community should be pursuing over the next 5 or 10 years. PAA and APC members who were invited to attend the Vision meeting included Mary Jo Hoeksema, Robert Moffit, Rebecca Clark, Arland Thornton, Jason Boardman, and Ann Meier.

In September, Dr. Guttmacher presented slides, outlining the proposed final draft of the Vision document to the Institute’s advisory council. The final document will be published in a scientific journal and posted on the NICHD home page before the end of the calendar year.

At Council, Dr. Guttmacher unveiled eight scientific themes, and an accompanying bold scientific idea for each theme, that emerged from the deliberations: reproduction; pregnancy; developmental biology; behavior and cognition; early origins of health, disease, growth, and development; plasticity and rehabilitation; conduct of science; and, population dynamics. The “Population Dynamics” theme was explained with the following bullet points:

- The Modern Family – Understand the implications for the life and health of the mother, father, child, family, and society of such factors as: extremes in maternal and paternal age; family formation and structure; urbanization; migration; new technologies; and changing societal demographics.
- Special Populations – Explore populations with distinctive genetic backgrounds and explore populations with distinctive environmental experience.
- Population Dynamics Bold Idea – Develop more effective health care, housing, employment, and social options that plan for the increasing longevity of those with intellectual, developmental, and/or physical differences.

PAA and APC will send Dr. Guttmacher a letter, commenting on this theme. It is not clear yet how and if the Vision statement will lead to structural changes in the Institute.

## **HHS Proposes to Update Rules Governing Human Subjects Research**

On July 26, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published in the *Federal Register* proposed changes to the “Common Rule,”—the law governing federally supported research involving human subjects. Public comments are due by October 26, 2011.

PAA and APC submitted joint comments, reflecting general observations and concerns expressed by members about the implications of these new regulations. The letter and a white paper submitted by several social and behavioral sciences organizations and endorsed by PAA and APC are posted on the PAA home page at: <http://www.populationassociation.org/2011/10/27/paa-and-apc-comment-on-proposed-regulations-to-federal-law-governing-human-subjects-research/>.

## **Census Director Appoints New Members to Scientific Advisory Committee**

On September 22, U.S. Census Bureau Director Robert Groves named ten new members and a chairwoman to the Census Bureau’s Scientific Advisory Committee, which provides advice on the design and implementation of Census Bureau programs. The committee meets twice a year to address policy, research and technical issues relating to a full range of Census Bureau programs and activities, including communications, decennial, demographic, economic, field operations, geographic, information technology and statistics. Among the PAA members appointed to this committee are Dr. Irma Elo, University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Robert Hummer, University of Texas-Austin.

## **PAA in Washington, DC**

*Annual Coalition for National Science Funding Capitol Hill Poster Session*

On May 11, the Population Association of America (PAA)/Association of Population Centers (APC) participated in the 17th Annual Capitol Hill Exhibition sponsored by CNSF. The purpose of this event is to educate members of Congress and congressional staff about the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the diverse, innovative scientific research the agency supports.

At this year’s event, PAA/APC featured the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) and the National Historical Geographic Information System (NHGIS) projects that are based at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Catherine Fitch, Associate Director, Minnesota Population Center, presented, “IPUMS and NHGIS: Population Data for Policy Analysis, Research, and the Classroom.” Her poster described how policymakers use both data sets to inform important policy and programmatic decisions and how educators are accessing and using the information as well. Pictures from the event are posted on the PAA home page at: <http://www.populationassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/CatherineFitch2.jpg>.

## **Meetings on Capitol Hill and at NIH**

On May 25, select PAA members, conducted a series of meetings on Capitol Hill and at the NIH. Dr. Christine Bachrach, Dr. Narayan Sastry, Dr. Greg Duncan, Dr. Linda Jacobsen, Dr. David Lam, and Ms. Mary Jo Hoeksema met with Mr. John Bartrum, Professional Staff Member, House Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Committee, to discuss PAA support for NIA and NICHD. Later that day, the same individuals were joined by other PAA colleagues, Dr. Mark Shuster, Dr. Elizabeth Cooksey, Dr. Hans Peter-Kohler, Dr. Michael Shanahan, Dr. Martina Morris, in a meeting with Dr. Alan Guttmacher, NICHD Director, and Dr. Yvonne Maddox, NICHD Deputy Director, and at a later meeting with the new Director of the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Science, Dr. Robert Kaplan. The purpose of the NICHD meeting was to update the Institute’s leadership on exciting research activities and advances that NICHD supports. The purpose of the meeting with Dr. Kaplan was to welcome him to NIH, inform him about the PAA and ask for continued OBSSR support of trans-NIH activities important to the population sciences.

## **Recent PAA Sponsored and Co-Sponsored Congressional Briefings**

On July 18, PAA and APC held a congressional briefing: *The Demographics of Disasters: Informing Recovery Decisions*. The speakers discussed how disasters impact the size, make-up, and well being of affected individuals and communities. Mr. Russ Paulsen, Executive Director for Hurricane Recovery at the American Red Cross, explained

how relief organizations use data to assess recovery needs. Dr. Elizabeth Frankenberg, Duke University, presented her findings on the aftermath of the Sumatra tsunami. Dr. Mark VanLandingham, Tulane University, discussed his research on recovery after Hurricane Katrina. Information about the briefing is posted on the PAA home page at: <http://www.populationassociation.org/government-affairs/congressional-activities/>.

On September 12, PAA and APC cosponsored a congressional briefing with the Coalition for Health Funding titled: *Public Health 101: Restoring Order After the Cameras Leave*. The briefing featured speakers who discussed how public health work continues long after disasters strike. The speakers included Dr. Jerry Suls, University of Iowa Department of Psychology; Dr. Isaac Weisfuse, Deputy Commissioner, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; and, Mr. Clayton Williams, Assistant Secretary for Public Health, State of Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals. More information about the briefing is posted at: [http://publichealthfunding.org/dev/uploads/flyer\\_lores.pdf](http://publichealthfunding.org/dev/uploads/flyer_lores.pdf).

On September 26, PAA and APC cosponsored a congressional briefing: *Hi-Beams for the Economic Road Ahead: The Importance of the 2012 Economic Census for Business and Government Decision-Making*. Senator Tom Carper (R-DE), Representative John Campbell (R-CA) and Representative Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) co-hosted the event. The impetus for the briefing was a budget impact statement to OMB from the Census Bureau that the Economic Census could be cancelled due to inadequate FY2012 funding. Panelists included: Dr. Steve Landefeld, Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis; Dr. Katharine Abraham, Council of Economic Advisors; Mr. Tim Maney, US Chamber of Commerce; Dr. William Shobe, University of Virginia; and, Dr. Charles Schultze, Brookings Institution, who moderated the event. More information about the event is posted on the AEA home page at: [http://www.aeaweb.org/committees/Govt\\_Relations/index.php](http://www.aeaweb.org/committees/Govt_Relations/index.php).

## **JOBS! JOBS! JOBS!**

### **Center for Research on Child Wellbeing at Princeton University: Postdoctoral Research Associate**

The Center for Research on Child Wellbeing (CRCW), affiliated with the Woodrow Wilson School and the Office of Population Research at Princeton University, invites outstanding researchers to apply for appointments each academic year. CRCW conducts research on children's health, education, income, and family structure. Our three major initiatives are the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study, the Future of Children Journal, and the Princeton Global Network on Child Migration.

CRCW is offering highly competitive Postdoctoral Research Associate positions to individuals with documented interest in the study of children and families, and in interdisciplinary collaborations. Appointments are for one year with the possibility of renewal, pending satisfactory performance, with negotiable starting dates for the next academic year. This appointment is for scholars who have obtained their PhD within the past three years.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Postdocs are expected to have outstanding potential and be self-motivated, goal oriented and capable of successfully communicating ideas to diverse audiences. They must also be able to build on existing strengths, bridge different fields, and be motivated to work with faculty on complex projects. Preference will be given to candidates that have obtained the Ph.D. less than two years ago. Postdocs will participate in all of the Center's activities, including student-faculty seminars, workshops, and public lectures.

Applicants should apply online at <https://jobs.princeton.edu> and submit:

- a cover letter describing areas of interest, graduate training, relevant background and possible fit within the center
- a recent CV
- names, e-mails and phone numbers of three references

Princeton University is an equal opportunity employer and complies with applicable EEO and affirmative action regulations.

### **Population Research Center (PRC) at The University of Texas at Austin: the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award and NICHD Postdoctoral Traineeship**

The Population Research Center (PRC) at The University of Texas at Austin will have two openings for NICHD-funded postdoctoral positions starting September 1, 2012. These positions are for one year, but are potentially renewable for a second year. The PRC is an interdisciplinary research and training unit of the University of Texas at Austin (UT) that provides infrastructure support services and project development support for a very productive, interdisciplinary group of faculty, postdocs, graduate students, and undergraduate students at UT. Most of the research is concentrated in four overlapping and reinforcing thematic areas: Health disparities, Educational Inequality & Opportunity, Partnership, Parenting, & Human Development, and Work and Stratification.

As part of a research unit with a strong culture of collaboration, postdocs are expected to spend about half of their time working independently and about half of their time working together with research associates. We strongly encourage potential applicants to contact research associates to discuss collective interests prior to submitting an application. In addition, postdocs are expected to regularly attend the weekly PRC brownbag, present at least once at the brownbag during their period of support, and submit research for presentation at the Population Association (PAA) meetings. Postdoctoral fellows must have a Ph.D. in sociology, demography, public health, family studies or a related social science discipline and be citizens, or Permanent Residents, of the United States at the time of appointment. Screening of applications will begin on January 28, 2012 and will continue until the positions are filled.

Send letter of interest with information about research interests and plans, anticipated postdoctoral faculty mentor, and future employment goals; CV; and examples of written work. In addition, please submit three letters of recommendation. All documents must be submitted electronically to: [training@prc.utexas.edu](mailto:training@prc.utexas.edu)

For more information about the PRC research activities and faculty see our website: <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/prc>. For more information about this position, contact the NICHD Program Coordinator: [training@prc.utexas.edu](mailto:training@prc.utexas.edu). The University of Texas is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

### **Population Studies & Training Center, Brown University: Two Post-Doctoral Positions Available**

The PSTC has two openings for one or two-year postdoctoral positions starting as early as July 1, 2012. The PSTC is an interdisciplinary research and training unit of Brown University that provides an environment for intellectual exchange, infrastructure support services, and project development support for a very productive, interdisciplinary group of population-related faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students.

One position is for a Postdoctoral Research Associate and the other is for an NICHD-Funded Postdoctoral Fellow. Candidates for both positions must have a Ph.D. in anthropology, economics, sociology, demography, or a related social science discipline. NICHD-Funded Postdoctoral Fellow candidates must be United States citizens, or Permanent Residents, of the United States at the time of application. Please visit our website for the full job description of each position at <http://www.pstc.brown.edu/jobs.htm>.

Screening of applications will begin on February 1, 2012, and will continue until the position is filled (for full consideration please submit materials by February 29, 2012). Send an up-to-date CV, examples of written work, and a letter of application with the following information: research interests and plans, anticipated postdoctoral faculty mentor(s), and future employment goals. It is preferred that all application materials be sent as a single PDF document; applications via regular mail will be accepted. In addition, please have three letters of recommendation sent. Submit all materials to: Susan Silveira, Population Studies & Training Center, Box 1836, Brown University, 68 Waterman Street, Providence RI, 02912; [susan\\_silveira@brown.edu](mailto:susan_silveira@brown.edu).

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## **Department of Anthropology, Brown University: Assistant Professor in Socio-Cultural Anthropology with Specialization in Population**

The Department of Anthropology at Brown University invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professor position in socio-cultural anthropology with a specific focus in population studies. The geographical area is open, but expertise on Africa, Asia, or the Middle East is a plus. The successful candidate will be expected to participate actively in Brown's Population Studies and Training Center, including pursuing an active research agenda and teaching and supervising graduate students in the department's anthropology and population track. Ability and experience teaching undergraduate courses in medical anthropology and/or the anthropology of international development are desirable, as are research interests in these areas. We seek a theoretically innovative scholar with demonstrated success conducting ethnographically grounded research and an exciting trajectory of future scholarship.

The PhD in Anthropology must be in hand before appointment. Candidates should send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and the names and addresses of three referees. Review of applications will begin immediately. Applications received by February 1, 2012 will receive full consideration. The appointment will be effective July 1, 2012. For further information or to apply, write to:

Search Committee Chair  
c/o Katherine Grimaldi, Department Manager  
Department of Anthropology, Box 1921  
Brown University  
Providence, RI 02912  
[Katherine\\_Grimaldi@brown.edu](mailto:Katherine_Grimaldi@brown.edu)

Brown University is an EEO/AA employer. Minorities and women and scholars from outside North America are encouraged to apply.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **2012 WLS Pilot Grant Program**

The Center for Demography of Health and Aging (CDHA) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will award two to three pilot grants to investigators using the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS) data for scholarly research. The WLS provides an opportunity to study the life course, careers, retirement, intergenerational transfers and relationships, family functioning, physical and mental health and well-being, morbidity and mortality, and gene-environment interactions from late adolescence to the retirement years. Selected recipients will receive \$5,000 to support their research, along with a travel stipend to WLS training workshops. The training workshop will take place in Madison on August 9th and 10th, 2012. The research workshop will be held one year later.

More information about the WLS and the pilot grant program including questionnaires, codebooks and public data may be found at the WLS pilot grant website: <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/wlsresearch/pilot/>. Please contact Carol Roan by e-mail [roan@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:roan@ssc.wisc.edu) or by telephone (608) 265-6196 if you have further questions.

### **Announcing the Integrated Health Interview Series Dataset: 12,000 Health-Related Variables Available for the Period 1963–2010**

The Integrated Health Interview Series (IHIS) at [www.ihis.us](http://www.ihis.us) now includes 12,000 health-related variables for 1963–2010. IHIS is a consistently-coded version of data from the U.S. National Health Interview Survey and is available for free over the Internet. Along with socioeconomic and demographic variables, IHIS includes data on a wide range of health conditions, health behaviors, and health care use and access for the non-institutionalized U.S. population (children and adults). Researchers can analyze these data using an online tabulator or can make a customized data extract with just years and variables needed for their research project and analyze the data using a statistical package.

### **PAA Career Mentoring Lunch at the Annual Meeting**

Thursday, May 3 – 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., Hilton San Francisco Union Square

Are you an advanced graduate student, new Ph.D., post-doc, junior faculty member or professional? Would you like to talk with other young professionals and more senior mentors to discuss career planning and opportunities in diverse settings? Are you interested in strategies for finding appropriate mentors and collaborators, fulfilling research, publication, teaching, or administrative responsibilities, and balancing other work or non-work commitments? Come join senior colleagues for lunch on the first day of PAA, and widen your professional networks in an informal setting.

Lunch groupings will be small (approximately 4–5 people per table) and based on common interests and a desire to create linkages across institutions. We are able to accommodate up to 40 early professionals and requests will be honored on a first come, first served basis. Registration forms for the luncheon are available with registration materials for the annual meeting, [www.populationassociation.org](http://www.populationassociation.org).

Individuals interested in serving as mentors for the luncheon should contact Emily Agree, Johns Hopkins University: [eagree@jhsph.edu](mailto:eagree@jhsph.edu).

### **Website on American Demographic History: 1790 to 2000**

The website is available at [www.demographicchartbook.com](http://www.demographicchartbook.com) and provides a wide-ranging audience of persons interested in American history—including historians, other social scientists, teachers, and students—with graphics portraying the demographic history of the United States, as shown by data from the decennial census of population. The graphics and supporting material on the website are available at no charge for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold. The content of the website was developed by Campbell Gibson, retired Census Bureau demographer.

## **THE WAGER: BECKER V LAM ON FOOD PRICES**

At an event at Johns Hopkins University on October 14th, marking the arrival of the 7 billionth human on the planet, Professor David Lam of the University of Michigan and President of the Population Association of America, and Professor Stan Becker of Johns Hopkins University unveiled a bet on whether the prices of five foods would increase or decrease in the coming decade.

This bet is reminiscent of the one between Julian Simon and Paul Ehrlich on whether the prices of five metals would increase or decrease between 1980 and 1990. Lam believes that prices will go down as there will be plenty of food available despite continued population growth. Becker, on the other hand, believes resource constraints (e.g. limits on cheap water and oil, as well as arable land) will cause growth in food supply to lag behind growth in population and thus lead to increased prices. More specifically, the wager considers the average (inflation-adjusted) index price of five foods monitored by the Food and Agriculture Organization—cereals, dairy, meat, oils and fats, and sugar. Considering a food basket today with \$200 worth of each food group at the average index price for the years 2001–2010, in 2021 Lam and Becker will compare the average index price for the same food over the period 2011–2020. To constitute the wager, if each food increases by, for example, 10% then Lam will owe Becker \$100 (i.e.  $5 \times \$200 \times 0.10$ ) and the reverse if each food price declines by 10%. If Lam wins, Becker will contribute the calculated amount to an economic think tank named by Lam and if Becker wins, Lam will contribute to a group active in population named by Becker.

### **Wager: Will food prices go up or down over the next decade?**

**Up:** Stan Becker (SB)

**Down:** David Lam (DL)

**Data:** Annual FAO adjusted world price indices for: meat, dairy, cereals, oils and fats, and sugar

**Criterion variable:** Simple average of food price index for each item for 2011–2020 compared (ratio) to the index for the same item for 2001–2010.

**Wager:** Suppose there is a food basket containing \$200 worth of each food item at 2001–2010 prices. Multiply the (ratio – 1.0) of the criterion variable for a given food times \$200 and add these across each of the five foods. If the net sum is negative, SB owes that amount to DL. If positive, the reverse.

**Beneficiary:** If SB wins, the contribution from DL will go to the population NGO of Stan’s choice and if DL wins, the contribution from SB will go to the economic NGO of David’s choice.

Since percentages are not symmetric (i.e. 100% decline is maximum decline but increases can potentially go much higher), we will cap the increase at 100%.

**Publicity:**

1. Ask PAA for brief time at the plenary session in 2012 and 2022.
2. Contact media as mutually agreed.

**Unforeseen events:**

1. FAO changes things. They usually try to make comparable series if/when they change. We would agree on new measure.
2. Death. Our families are willing to continue the wager.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

PAA would like to welcome 79 new members from August 1 through October 31, 2011. Current membership now stands at 3,024.

## CONTRIBUTORS *PAA THANKS YOU!*

The contributors listed below and on the PAA web site include new donors and those individuals who have advanced to a new donor category from August 2 through November 1, 2011. A complete list of contributors is available on the PAA website and printed in the PAA Annual Meeting Final Program.

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PAA is a nonprofit, scientific, professional organization established “to promote the improvement, advancement, and progress of the human race by means of research into problems connected with human population, in both its quantitative and qualitative aspects, and the dissemination and publication of the results of such research.” Members receive the journal *Demography* (print and/or online only), and PAA Affairs online. An annual meeting is held in the spring. Dues in 2012 are: Regular member, \$118; Emeritus member, \$77; Organizational member \$321; members in these categories selecting online access only to *Demography* will have their membership fees reduced by \$15 (the cost of the print version of the journal that PAA would otherwise incur); Joint spouse members, \$55; Student member, \$47; Low-income country resident and citizen, \$39. To join, contact: Population Association of America, 8630 Fenton Street, Suite 722, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3812, 301.565.6710.

*PAA Affairs* is the official newsletter of the Population Association of America. Its purpose is to report to PAA members news of the Association in particular and of the profession in general. Brief news items of interest to people working in the population field may be sent to the Editor (see address at right), who reserve the right to select for inclusion among the items received, and to edit items for publication. Deadlines for submission of items for the quarterly issues are as follows:

|         |            |
|---------|------------|
| Spring: | January 15 |
| Summer: | May 1      |
| Fall:   | August 1   |
| Winter: | November 1 |

## **2012 President of PAA: Daniel T. Lichter**

### **Future PAA Meetings**

- 2012 May 3-5 San Francisco, California;  
Hilton San Francisco
- 2013 April 11-13 New Orleans, Louisiana;  
Sheraton New Orleans
- 2014 May 1-3 Boston, Massachusetts;  
Boston Marriott Copley Place
- 2015 April 30-May 2 San Diego, California;  
Hilton San Diego Bayfront
- 2016 March 29-April 3 Washington, DC;  
Marriott Wardman Park

*As stated in the Bylaws of the PAA Constitution, “Meetings of the Association shall be held only at places where there is written assurance that no member will be denied full access to facilities of the meeting place.”*

### **PAA Addresses**

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### **Related Publications:**

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