



**CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST**

E-Bulletin

April 2008

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CPPA News

Save the Date for the CPPA Graduation!

The 2008 CPPA graduation celebration will take place on Thursday, May 22 from 4-6 p.m. in the Ball Room at the Lord Jeffrey Inn. Alumni are encouraged to help celebrate the achievements of our current graduates – please contact Kathy Colón at kcolon@pubpol.umass.edu to RSVP.

Faculty News

Krista Harper Presents paper at Conference



Krista Harper presented her paper, "Across the Bridge: Using PhotoVoice to Investigate Environment and Health in a Hungarian Romani (Gypsy) Community," at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings in Memphis, TN, on March 28, 2008. Her presentation was part of the panel, "Visualizing Change: Emergent Technologies in Social Justice Inquiry and Action," a two-part session organized by Harper and Aline Gubrium (Public Health, UMass). Harper teaches CPPA's course, "Qualitative Research Methods for Public Policy and Administration" and established the new "PhotoVoice Research Lab" as a resource for policy-oriented research and teaching.

La Raja Offers Comments in the Journal Sentinel

Ray La Raja (Political Science & CPPA) lent his expertise on campaign financing on April 20th in an article entitled "Financing decision looms for Obama." Obama previously claimed he would accept public financing - and the spending limits associated with it - if he won the nomination. However, some past candidates claim that accepting public funds for campaigning was a mistake due to the strict spending limitations. According to La Raja, "I think Obama is very nervous. He watched what happened to Kerry last time. . . . I think Obama recognizes this primary campaign has exposed his vulnerabilities and these conservative groups can figure out targeted messages against him."



To read the article, please see: <http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=741426>

Castañeda to advise Student Bridges



Mari Castañeda (Communication & CPPA) has been appointed the faculty advisor to Student Bridges, a UMass program that aims to increase college access and success for underrepresented students. The program primarily partners with schools and other programs in the Holyoke-Springfield area, and offers UMass students the opportunity to use their talents to coordinate youth-centered events, college preparatory workshops and campus visits for local schools and programs.

Castañeda's research focuses on digital-cut media and information technologies, especially as it relates to Latino communities. Her commitment to enhancing educational access for underrepresented students runs deep, and she plans on using her extensive experience developing community-university relationships in her role as faculty advisor.

For more information, please see the "In the Loop" article featured on April 17, 2008.

Nancy Folbre Offers Critical Perspective on the Economics of Care

Professor Nancy Folbre (Economics & CPPA) focuses much of her research on the social organization of care, and coordinates efforts to build a network for research on these issues through her blog, "Care Talk." As a Family Research Scholar with the Center for Research on Families, Folbre has connected a group of interested faculty at UMass Amherst and connected with a larger statewide group to form a Massachusetts Care Policy network.



Folbre was recently asked by the journal Science to contribute to their "Perspectives" by offering a brief summary of research on an important topic. Focusing on the impact of personal interactions and emotional connections on the economics of care services, she created a piece entitled "When a Commodity is Not a Commodity."

The piece can be found at: <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/319/5871/1769>

Student News

From CPPA to a PhD

Christie Barcelos (graduating 2008) will begin working on a PhD in Public Health/Community Health Education here at UMass this fall. As part of her doctoral work, Christie plans to develop and implement a doula/childbirth educator program for low-income women based on a peer health education model.

First year Students Set for Summer Internships

Many of the first year students have their required summer internships inline. Some examples:

Carrie Bernstein will be working for the UMass Donahue Institute in Hadley, Massachusetts and will participate in a project on an alternative to the census estimates for Massachusetts residents living in group quarters.

Emily Mew will be working for the Central Mass Regional Planning Commission in Worcester, MA. She will be participating in a sub-regional outreach program.

Caitlin Gould will be working for the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), a renewable energy advocacy non-profit organization in Washington, D.C. She will work as a Membership Intern, helping to manage the membership databases and encourage new renewable energy organizations to join.

Haley Keenan-Gray is interning with the William J. Clinton Foundation in Little Rock, Arkansas. She will help with the Foundation's Healthier Generation Initiative--a partnership with the American Heart Association and Nickelodeon aimed to fight childhood obesity in the U.S.

Raija Vaisanen will continue her work with the UMass Donahue Institute in Hadley, Massachusetts, continuing with the Economic and Public Policy Research Unit. She will be working on a variety of research projects that involve industry studies, survey analysis, economic impact analysis, and economic development research and data analysis.

Diana Gerardi will intern at the Free Press in Florence, MA. She will be working with members of the campaign team on several projects critical to advancing the Free Press' media reform agenda.

Nyudlia Araevea is working with the Valley Community Development Corporation located in Northampton. She will work on its foreclosure prevention project.

Student Profile



Originally from Idaho, Zach Mallavia graduated in 2003 from Boise State University with a B.S. in Political Science and a B.A. in French. The following year he successfully managed a state legislative campaign that elected the first openly gay official in the state of Idaho. He then spent the next year teaching English at a public high school in the alpine city of Grenoble, France before settling down in Northampton the summer of 2005.

His focus and interests during his time at CPPA have been the intersection of health and social policy, and he hopes to effect change in that sector in his post-graduate employment. Zach is especially interested in state legislatures, and hopes to find a position either within a legislative office, or doing advocacy and lobbying at the state level.

Alumni Updates

Susan Labeja (Wanjau), '06 – Susan welcomed the birth of her first son on November 17, 2007. Opidi Myles Labeja is very healthy and Susan is enjoying juggling work and motherhood.

ALUMNI - We'd love to hear from you! Send your updates to info@pubpol.umass.edu or use the online alumni update form.

<http://www.masspolicy.org/index.php?section=alumni&page=alumniupdateform>

Events

Spring 2008 CPPA Colloquium Series: The Human Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st Century City

Rudd Platt, GeoSciences
Monday, May 5, 2008
620 Thompson Hall
12:00 pm

Spring 2008 STS Colloquium Series: Aging in Place with ASSIST Environment

Cynthia Jacelon and Al Hanson, UMass Amherst
Tuesday, May 6, 2008
620 Thompson Hall
2:00 pm

2008 Tay Gavin Erickson Lecture Series: Failure to Launch? Delayed Departure from the Family Home in Western Europe and Japan

Katherine S. Newman, Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University
Monday, May 12, 2008
620 Thompson Hall
2:00 pm

CPPA Graduation Celebration

Thursday, May 22, 2008
The Ball Room at the Lord Jeffrey Inn in Amherst
4:00-6:00pm

Questions or comments about the CPPA E-Bulletin?

Please contact Colleen O'Shaughnessy at colleen@pubpol.umass.edu or 413-577-0239.