

IGA

From the Institute

INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS ~ UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

ISSUE NUMBER 10

FALL 2009

Dear Friends of IGA:

To paraphrase the great Mark Twain, I want to assure you that the reports of our demise have been greatly exaggerated!

Our entire campus, along with the social and policy sciences community at Davis, faces a broad range of challenges – most of which involve doing more with less. All of us would prefer to do more with more, but the current challenge is to maintain and enhance the quality of our work under sometimes difficult circumstances. IGA will continue its historic commitment to support that effort.

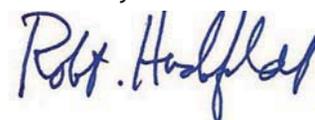
As the newly appointed director, I intend to continue and extend the outstanding work that has been accomplished by Alan Olmstead, our retiring director, as well as all the faculty and staff who have contributed to the success of IGA over the years. In particular, we will work with Barry Klein (the Vice Chancellor for Research), Ron Mangun (the Dean of the Social Science Division), and others to enhance and support the social and policy sciences at UC Davis. Please accept my invitation to participate in the effort, and do not hesitate to contact me if you have suggestions or concerns.

A great deal has occurred since our last newsletter. The institute absorbed a disproportionate budget cut that required the elimination of a position and the reduction of several others. Despite these reductions IGA has maintained high-quality and proactive service to the social and policy science community on the campus in all its areas of operation – research programs, grants, quantitative support, and public affairs programming.

Last year IGA events helped the campus community gain perspective on the evolving financial crisis and the changing world affairs scene. Our panel discussions *Understanding the Financial Crisis* and *Stimulus Smackdown* remain among the most popular UC Davis offerings on iTunes U.

The institute was also reviewed last year, and the committee's report recognized the indispensable role the institute plays on the campus. The level of faculty interest and participation in the review process was impressive, and the high regard that faculty have for IGA was readily apparent. Information gathered in the review process will surely guide discussions that are ongoing regarding the future structure and focus of the institute.

I welcome you back to campus and wish you a productive year.



Robert Huckfeldt, Director



Recent Grants

The institute has recently received awards totaling \$3,352,268 on behalf of social science faculty and graduate students for the following projects.

- Alston, Julian** (Agricultural & Resource Economics). *Institutional Innovations in Financing & Performing Public Agricultural R&D: Lessons for the United States*. \$150,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). This project analyzes other developed country's public research systems and how they may inform publicly funded agricultural research in the United States.
- Block, Fred** (Sociology). *Economic Stimulus & Innovation Capacity at the Department of Energy*. \$110,311 from National Science Foundation (NSF). This project examines how the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program responds to the massive infusion of funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.
- Block, Fred**. *Interdisciplinary Research on the U.S. Developmental State*. \$131,000 from the Ford Foundation. This project explores knowledge governance in the United States and focuses on problems of financing, intellectual property and large scale deployment.
- Carrell, Scott** (Economics). *Raising College Students' Grades: A Controlled Experiment in Peer Effects*. \$55,000 from the National Academy of Education (Spencer Fellowship). In this study, US Air Force Academy freshmen are the subject of a unique peer effects controlled experiment in which performance differences are measured.
- Clark, Gregory** (Economics). *All-UC Group in Economic History*. \$450,000 from UCOP Multicampus Research Programs and Initiatives. This funding will support the activities of the systemwide All-UC Group in Economic History over a five year period.
- Deeb-Sosa, Natalia** (Sociology). *Experiences of Mexican Women when Accessing Sexual & Reproductive Health in California & Mexico: Effects of Globalization & Immigration Policies*. \$21,570 from the Programa de Investigación en Migración y Salud (UCOP). This project explores how Mexican women who have recently migrated to California learn about and procure services and supplies for STIs, family planning, and abortion.
- Gartner, Scott** (Political Science). *Timing, Casualties, & Selection in Civil War Conflict Management*. \$25,100 from the Folke Bernadotte Academy. This project examines how conditions, such as timing and casualty levels, affect the observed effectiveness of civil war conflict management.
- Gartner, Scott**. *Why & When Do Civil War Dispute Resolution Efforts Do Poorly?* \$15,200 from the Folke Bernadotte Academy. This project examines two types of election effects-based questions: why are civil wars more likely to be hard to manage than interstate wars? and why mediation by regional organizations is especially unlikely to succeed?
- Hoynes, Hilary, Marianne Page, & Ann Stevens** (Economics). *The Impacts of Food & Nutrition Programs on Short & Long Run Economic & Health Outcomes: New Results Using Program Introduction*. \$99,995 from the USDA. This study uses variations in the timing of availability of the Food Stamp Program (FSP) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program to examine the impact of in utero and childhood exposure to the FSP on adult health and economic outcomes.
- Inman, Kris** (graduate student) (Political Science). *Voting Behavior in African Democracies*. \$12,000 from NSF. This project uses a multi-method approach to examine the effect of individual perceptions of legitimacy on voter behavior in nine Sub-Saharan African democracies.
- Maoz, Zeev** (Political Science). *Stimulating Research & Discovery in the Study of Religion*. \$121,438 from the Pennsylvania State University (Templeton Foundation). This project uses an extensive meta-analysis of research on definitions and typologies of world religions and their denominations to develop operational criteria for identifying and measuring religious adherence in a manner that allows coding and classifying religions over time and across space.

Okamoto, Dina (Sociology). *The Civic & Political Incorporation of Immigrants in Non-Traditional Destinations*. \$165,835 from the Russell Sage Foundation. This project systematically examines immigrant collective action to understand the civic and political incorporation of immigrants.

Okamoto, Dina. *Community Ties & Ethnic Youth Development*. \$60,000 from the William T. Grant Foundation. This research adds to our understanding of how community contexts influence youth in immigrant families.

Ovink, Sarah (graduate student) (Sociology). *Mexican-American Postsecondary Pathways: Investigating the College Attendance Gap*. \$7,500 from NSF. This project proposes and tests an improved model of Mexican Americans' postsecondary pathways.

Page, Marianne (Economics). *The Effects of Alcohol Policies on Fetal Health & Children's Development*. \$143,386 from the National Institutes of Health. The main objective of this study is to estimate how policies that restrict young adults' access to alcohol affect fetal health and longer-run measures of children's well-being.

Peri, Giovanni (Economics). *Brain Drain, Return Migration, & South-South Migration: Impact on Labor Markets & Human Capital*. \$200,000 from the World Bank. This research group will focus on the impact of skilled migration from Eastern Europe to Western Europe and on measuring the premium and economic relevance of return migration from immigration to the U.S.

Ryan, John (graduate student) (Political Science). *Information, Communication & Political Learning*. \$6,323 from NSF. This project uses multiple methods to examine the factors that promote and inhibit learning of political facts through social communication.

Shestowsky, Donna (Law). *Disputants' Preferences & Legal Procedures. Court-Connected Dispute Resolution Preferences*. \$190,212 from NSF. The main objective of the study is to analyze of disputants' preferences and pre- and post-experience attitudes for the same dispute.

Stevens, Ann (Economics). *Why are Recessions Good For You? Understanding Pro-cyclical Mortality*. \$380,310 from NSF. This project will improve our understanding of the mechanisms that lead to pro-cyclical mortality.

Stone, Walter (Political Science). *Political Context & Citizen Response in the 2010 Elections*. \$255,869 from NSF. This study makes systematic use of district informants in a large national sample of U.S. House districts in the 2010 mid-term elections to measure critical aspects of political context, especially candidate policy and valence differentials.

Taylor, Alan (Economics). *Globalization & Growth: Lessons from British Trade Statistics*. \$189,385 from the NBER (NSF). This project will analyze detailed historical data for British trade from the period circa 1700-1899 to better understand processes of globalization and growth.

Taylor, J. Edward (Agricultural & Resource Economics). *Rural Economies of the Americas Program (REAP)*. \$500,000 from the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation. This award provides general support for the Rural Economies of the Americas Program.

U, Eddy (Sociology) *The Making of Intellectuals: Politics & Identity in the People's Republic of China*. \$45,834 from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation (CCK). This project studies the social construction of the Chinese Intellectual *zhishifenzi* in the PRC.

U, Eddy. *Intellectuals, Professions, & Knowledge in Twentieth-Century China*. \$16,000 from CCK. This interdisciplinary conference brings together central issues in research on intellectuals, the professions, higher education, and science and technology by illuminating the processes that produce and reproduce relatively coherent sets of knowledge based on putatively scientific or modern-rational foundations.





Upcoming IGA Events

IGA continues to promote an awareness of the social and policy sciences through its public affairs programming. Highlights for the quarter are provided here. Be sure to check the IGA Web site for more details and additional events, as the quarter progresses.

IGA Open House
September 25th, 2:00 - 4:00 PM
360 Shields Library

Meltdown: Institutional Challenges Facing California
This special PolicyWatch series features a range of perspectives on the current institutional, fiscal, and policy challenges faced by the state. All talks in the Meltdown series will be held in 360 Shields Library.

September 30, 12:10 - 1:00 PM
Governing California: Is It Possible?
Daniel Weintraub, *Sacramento Bee*

October 14th, 12:10 - 1:00 PM
Meltdown: A Legislator's Perspective
Lois Wolk, California State Senator

October 28th, 12:10 - 1:00 PM
California Tax Reform? The Commission and Its Aftermath
Steven Sheffrin, Economics, UC Davis

November 4th, 12:10 - 1:00 PM
California Views of Constitutional Reform: The Results of the Latest Field Poll
Mark DiCamillo, *California Field Poll*

Economy Justice & Society (EJS) Seminars
October 21st, 3:30 - 5:00 PM
The Impact of Family Planning on the Health and Well-Being of U.S. Women and Children: Evidence from the War on Poverty and Title X
Martha Bailey, Economics, University of Michigan



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November 14, 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Family Characteristics and Economic Inequality among American Women

Christine Percheski, Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Research, Harvard University

December 3rd, 3:30 - 5:00 PM

Was there ever a ruling class? 800 years of social mobility

Gregory Clark, Economics, UC Davis

EJS seminars are held at the International House.

November 12, 2009

Conference on Motherhood and the State: Women, Surrogacy, and (Trans)Nationalism in Israel and India
360 Shields Library

This day-long conference, cosponsored by the institute and the Jewish Studies Program, will be held in 360 Shields Library.

October 15, 6:00 PM

The Financial Crisis: An Inside View

Phillip Swagel, Former Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy, U.S. Treasury

Cabernet Room, Silo

Cosponsored by the UC Davis Economics Department, The Levine Family Foundation, The Institute of Governmental Affairs, and Economy, Justice and Society.



SSDS Training Workshops

October 9, 1:00 - 3:00 PM, SSH 102

Stata Basics

This workshop introduces new users to Stata. No previous experience with Stata or other statistical programs is required. Maximum enrollment is 7, and early pre-registration is recommended. E-mail John Daniels, jedaniels@ucdavis.edu to enroll. (Additional sessions may be added, if there is sufficient demand.)