



POPULATION RESEARCH CENTER



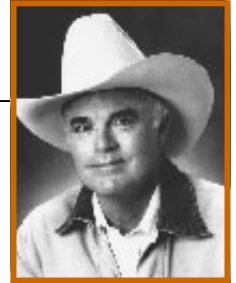
The University of Texas at Austin
<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/>

Dr. Mark Hayward, Director

2007-2008

Newsletter

Director's Message



W. Parker Frisbie

A few months ago, Parker Frisbie came by my office. I thought we'd talk about the "normal things" - ways of dealing with raccoons and armadillos, what's the best tequila, what was new with his granddaughters, and how his horse was acting up. I was wrong. Parker came in to tell me that he is retiring next summer. My jaw dropped and I couldn't think of a (printable) thing to say. I simply couldn't - still can't -- imagine the PRC without Parker.

Rarely does one person symbolize the heart and soul of an organization like W. Parker Frisbie does for the PRC. Parker is our community's icon. What are the qualities that made him so? In a nutshell, Parker has had a distinguished research career, he has mentored dozens of students (many of whom are distinguished demographers themselves), he has secured millions of dollars in NIH funding, and he has been almost continuously funded since 1976. His scientific contributions in the areas of urban ecology, family demography, and health and mortality are profound. Perhaps more important than these accomplishments, however, are the traits of Parker as a man. His integrity, honesty, dedication to mentorship, loyalty to his colleagues and students, and his tremendous work ethic - these are the traits of a great man. Throw in Parker's scientific accomplishments and it's little wonder that he is the icon for the PRC. Of course, Parker contributes more than a dash of color to our community. His cowboy boots and cowboy hat signal a very important aspect of Parker's identity - he is a Son of Texas.

Parker's professional and personal accomplishments clearly reflect where he's come from. He was born to Texas ranchers in 1940, married Elaine in 1959 right out of high school, and worked on the family ranch until the late 1960's, when he decided to go back to school and obtain his B.A. in sociology from Southwest Texas State University. Always strategic and with an eye on how best to raise the odds of getting back to Texas to pursue an academic career, he out-migrated from Texas to the University of North Carolina for his M.A. and Ph.D., both of which he completed in three years! Although universities like Michigan and Berkeley tried to recruit Parker, he returned to Texas in 1972 as an assistant professor position in sociology at UT-Austin, achieving the rank of full Professor in 1985. Parker served as PRC Director from 1993-1995. He remains fiercely loyal to both the State of Texas and to UT-Austin, as well as to his students and colleagues. The UT Sociology Department and the Population Research Center would not be nearly as strong as they are without his research record, his leadership, his loyalty, and his Texan work ethic. To boot, he continues to run his family ranch on weekends—running cattle, fixing fences, riding horseback, and educating his granddaughters in the ways of Texas ranching. He is truly both a first-rate scholar and a cowboy, and perhaps the most unique yet down-to-earth and honest person in our field and the University.

I mention all these things as a long-winded way of saying - thanks. Thanks for making the PRC what it is today. Thanks for shaping our field through your mentorship and scholarship. Thanks for your hard work and humor. Most of all, thanks for being such a great friend to all of us.

Faculty News



Passing the Torch

After four years of service, **Joseph Potter** steps down as PRC Graduate Training Director. The torch has been passed to **Kelly Raley**, who assumed her new post on September 1st.



A special note of thanks to both of them!

Faculty Promotions

- ◆ Mark Regnerus from Assistant to Associate Professor, Department of Sociology
- ◆ Sharmilla Rudrappa from Assistant to Associate Professor, Department of Sociology
- ◆ Art Sakamoto from Associate to full Professor, Department of Sociology
- ◆ Chandra Muller, Associate to full Professor, Department of Sociology



New PRC Faculty

Keith Robinson (Ph.D. Michigan), Sociology. Robinson's research focuses on the determinants and implications of test score (achievement) inequality in K-12 education.



Brian King (Ph.D. Colorado, Boulder), Geography. King's research concentrates upon human-environment interactions, conservation planning, and the impacts of development processes upon local populations.



Rebeca Wong (Ph.D. Michigan), Economics, Department of Community Medicine, UTMB. Wong's current area of research focuses on old-age consequences of life cycle economic and family decisions, mortality and health consequences of Mexico-U.S. migration and cross-national comparisons of health and social inequality in Latin America.

Michele Shedlin (Ph.D. Columbia) College of Health Sciences, University of Texas-El Paso. Shedlin is a medical anthropologist with U.S. and international experience in qualitative health research.



New PRC Faculty Affiliates

- ◆ Kyriakos Markides, Associate Director for Research, UTMB, WHO Collaborating Center on Aging and Health and Professor, Division of Sociomedical Sciences, Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, UTMB.
- ◆ Kristen Peek, Associate Professor, Division of Sociomedical Sciences, Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, UTMB.
- ◆ Laura Rudkin, Associate Professor, MPH Program Director, Department of Preventive Medicine & Community Health, UTMB.
- ◆ Karen Kim, Research Affiliate, Center for Immigration Research, University of Houston.

A Fond Farewell to Departing Faculty

The PRC community also bids farewell to three of its members: **Angel Harris** (Sociology), **Rachel Smith** (Communications) and **Emily Skop** (Geography). Harris was recruited by Princeton, Smith joined the faculty at Penn State, and Skop was hired on at Colorado State. We wish them well in their new endeavors and know that the PRC is forever a part of their professional heritage.

Faculty Spotlight



Norval Glenn, Ashbell Smith Professor of Sociology, has been awarded the “Warren E. Miller award for Meritorious Service to the Social Sciences.” This award is presented on an annual basis by the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan, in memory of Warren E. Miller’s lifetime of contributions to the social sciences.

Toni Falbo, an expert on single-child families, was awarded the Newman-Proshansky Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Population Psychology. The award was presented on August 19th in San Francisco at the annual American Psychological Association (APA) convention.

Aletha Huston was honored with the Reuben Hill Award from the National Council on Family Relations.

Andres Villarreal received a Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation fellowship for his project, “Women’s Economic Status and the Risk of Intimate Partner Violence in Mexico.”

Marc Musick was named Associate Dean of Student Affairs in the College of Liberal Arts at The University of Texas. His tenure began January 1, 2007.



Ron Angel, Professor of Sociology and PRC Faculty Research Associate, has been invited to serve on the Board of the Scientific Counselors at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Cynthia Buckley has received a Teaching Fellowship from the Social Science Research Council for her undergraduate course, “Introduction to Central Asian Societies”.

Edward Anderson is a 2007 recipient of the President’s Associates Teaching Excellence Award. This award was established in 1980 to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching at The University of Texas at Austin. Awards are based upon nominations received from deans and department chairs in the colleges of Liberal Arts and Natural Sciences.

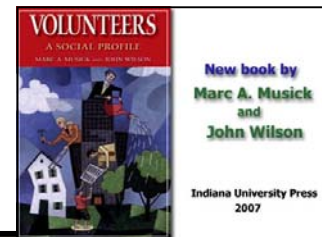
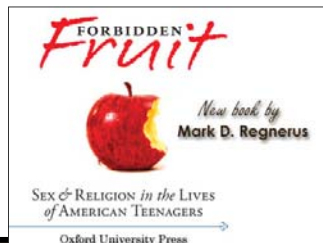
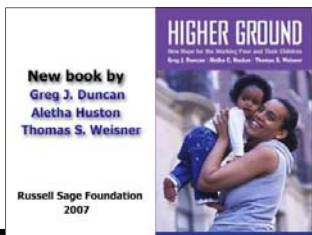


Robert Crosnoe is a recent fellowship recipient from the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences. Crosnoe also won the 2007 Early Career Award from the Society for the Study of Human Development (SSHD), a multi-disciplinary professional society dedicated to the study of the full span of the human life course and its applications to human development policies and programs. The award is given periodically to recognize scholars in the early stages of their career who have significantly contributed to the study of human development.

Population Research and Policy Review now edited at the PRC

The Population Research Center is the new editorial home of the journal *Population Research and Policy Review*, sometimes referred to as *PRPR* or PR-squared. **Thomas Pullum**, a PRC Faculty Research Associate and Professor of Sociology, is transitioning into a three-year term as the journal's editor-in-chief. Pullum has been processing new submissions since April 2007, but the transfer of editorship is gradual because of the time between submission and publication. His first issue as editor will appear sometime in 2008. While the journal is based at UT, the deputy editors will include **Mark Hayward**, **Bob Hummer**, **Cynthia Osborne**, and **Kelly Raley**.

Recent Books by PRC Researchers



Higher Ground: New Hope for the Working Poor and Their Children, by Greg J., Duncan, Aletha Huston, and Thomas S. Weisner. Russell Sage Foundation.

Forbidden Fruit: Sex and Religion in the Lives of American Teenagers, by Mark D. Regnerus. Oxford University Press.

Volunteers: A Social Profile. by Marc A. Musick and John Wilson, Indiana University Press.

PRC Leadership Changes

Cecilia Dean and Starling Pullum retired from The University of Texas at Austin and the PRC on August 31, 2007.

Cecilia served for many years as the director of the PRC's Administration Core, and in the past year she served as the Assistant to the Director. Of her 31 years at UT, she spent 18 years in our Center. When she joined the Center in 1989, it was virtually a "one horse" core. Cecilia was instrumental in developing the administrative core that we have today.

Starling served as our director of the Computing and Information Services core for many years, and her tenure at the PRC was 21 years. It's hard to imagine all of the changes that occurred in computing infrastructure. Under Starling's stewardship, the PRC developed an outstanding computer infrastructure.

Although the Center has been experiencing major losses in leadership, we very pleased to announce that **Mary de la Garza** has agreed to serve as the director of the PRC's Administrative Core; she will continue in her role as core supervisor. We are equally pleased to announce that **Steve Boren** has agreed to serve as the director of our Computing Core; Steve has served for many years as the PRC's Windows network administrator. Mary and Steve continue the legacy of outstanding leadership of our major infrastructure cores.

The Center is thankful to both Cecilia and Starling for their many years of truly outstanding service and for their enormous contributions in making the PRC what it is today.

Student News



Undergraduate Program News

The Center's Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program, funded by the National Science Foundation, recently completed its 18th year! Ten students (4 from UT; 6 from outside institutions) participated in the summer 2007 program. During the summer, these 10 very talented students took a formal course in the social demography of minority groups, learned computing programs, and wrote an empirical research paper on a topic of their choosing. All 10 participants then presented their papers at this year's annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, which was held October 11-13 in Birmingham, Alabama. As always, the students did a great job presenting their papers and enjoyed attending the conference. Many of the students have plans to soon attend graduate school. Over the years, more than one-half of the students who participated in the REU program have gone on to graduate school, and a number of former program participants are now teaching at universities around the country, including Johns Hopkins University, Penn State University, Rice University, University of Kansas, University of Denver, University of Texas, and more! The call for our 19th annual REU Summer Program is on our web site, www.prc.utexas.edu (go to "Training and Fellowships"); please encourage talented undergraduate students to apply!

2007 REU Student Collin Payne Receives Best Paper Award at SDA

2007 REU student Collin Payne received the award for best undergraduate paper at the annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association (SDA), held recently in Birmingham, Alabama.

Collin, an undergraduate student at the University of Wisconsin, was a Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) student at the PRC during summer 2007, during which he was mentored by graduate student Hyeyoung Woo. His paper, entitled "The Effects of Religious Switching at Marriage on Marital Stability and Happiness," used data from the National Survey of Families and Households to show that religious switching at marriage does indeed have impacts on the stability and happiness in marriage in what seems to be negative ways. Such impacts are more pronounced, as might be expected, when individuals make major religious switches at the time of marriage. Collin has been encouraged to send out his paper to be considered for publication.

A PRC REU participant has been the recipient of the Best Undergraduate Paper Award at the Southern Demographic Association every year since the award's inception in the late 1990s.

Graduate Student Awards and Honors

Madlene Hamilton (Education Administration) was awarded a predoctoral research fellowship by the National Institutes of Health, entitled, "Poverty, Child Development and Early Education."

Kimberly Huyser (Sociology) received an American Sociological Association (ASA) Minority Fellowship funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.

Kate Sullivan (Human Development and Family Science) is the 2007 recipient of the Student Research Award presented by the Society for Research in Identity Formation (SRIF), given to recognize high quality accomplishments in a master's theses.

Sara Yeatman (Sociology) was awarded the Population Association of America Travel Scholarship to attend the Fifth African Population Conference in Arusha, Tanzania, December 10-14, 2007. She is also the 2007 recipient of the William H. Hildebrand Endowed Graduate Fellowship awarded by the Office of Graduate Studies at The University of Texas at Austin.

Margaret Vaaler (Sociology) received a Summer 2007 Bradley Fellowship from the RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service at the UT Austin LBJ School of Public Affairs.

Nicole Angotti (Sociology) and **Jennifer March Augustine** (Sociology) were both awarded a 2007-2008 Graduate Research Fellowship by the College of Liberal Arts.

Jennifer Karas Montez (Sociology) won the US-Mexico/Borderlands Student Research Award in Spring 2007.

Michael Roemer (Sociology) is the recipient of the Jack Shand Research Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Constant Jacquet Award from the Religions Research Association. Roemer also received the Dissertation Improvement Grant from the National Science Foundation and Mitsubishi Graduate Research fellowship from the Asian Studies Department.

Jennifer Barrett (Sociology) received the University Co-Op/George H Mitchell Excellence in Graduate Research Award. The \$4000 award will support her dissertation research, "Doctors, Clerics, Healers and Neighbors: Religious influences on Maternal and Child Health in Uzbekistan." Barrett is also the recipient of a Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation for 2007-08.



2007–2008 National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Trainees

Predocctoral Trainees:

Kari White

Jennifer Montez

Patricia Ryan

Jennifer March Augustine

Kate Sullivan

Postdoctoral Trainee:

Angelica Ware (Ph.D. in Psychology, City University of New York) returned for her second year as NICHD postdoctoral fellow at the PRC. She continues working with **Aletha Huston** on the New Hope project. Her research interests are focused on the independent and relative effects of poverty, immigration, and family dynamics on the social and psychological development of adolescents with a particular emphasis on those from ethnic minorities.



Three PRC Posters Win Blue Ribbons at the 2007 PAA

Fourteen faculty members and 39 graduate students attended the annual meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA), held March 29-31 in New York City. Posters by **Erin Hamilton**, **Andrés Villarreal**, and **Bob Hummer**; **Eunice Vargas** and **Leticia Fernandez**; and **Anna Zajacova** were each awarded a blue ribbon.

Recent PRC Graduate Placements

Ernesto Amaral (P.h.D., Sociology, 2007) is employed as a researcher at CEDEPLAR (Center for Regional Development and Planning) at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil.

Amy Burdette (Ph.D., Sociology, 2007) accepted a position as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at UNC Chapel-Hill.

Gang-Hua Fan (Ph.D., Sociology, 2007) is a Postdoctoral Research Associate for the "Taiwan Youth Project: The Life Course and Living Experiences of Adolescents", Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica.

Kurt Gore (Ph.D., Sociology, 2007) accepted a position as Evaluation Analyst with the Austin Independent School District.

Maren Jimenez (Ph.D., Sociology, 2007) accepted a position as an Associate Population Affairs Officer at the Population Division (CELADE) of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). She is posted in Santiago, Chile.

Amy Langenkamp (Ph.D., Sociology, 2007) has accepted a teaching position with the UT Department of Sociology and a Postdoctoral Fellow position at the UT Population Research Center.

Jenny Trinitapoli (Ph.D., Sociology, 2007) has been appointed as an Assistant Professor in the School of Social and Family Dynamics (SSFD), a newly established interdisciplinary unit within Arizona State University, with an affiliation with ASU's new Center for Population Dynamics.



Gift Funds for Graduate Training and Research



The *Doug Forbes Fund* supports both graduate student travel to professional meetings and advanced training. These are activities for which the Population Research Center receives no university support, yet which are fundamentally important for the professional and scientific development of our students.

The fund is named in honor of our colleague and UT alumnus, Doug Forbes, and its purpose reflects Doug's long-standing commitment to student mentorship and professional development. Many of you probably know Doug, but for those who don't, he is a member of the sociology faculty at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. After completing his undergraduate work at Texas State in San Marcos, Doug decided to nurture his Texas roots by driving thirty miles up I-35 for graduate work at UT Austin. Doug entered graduate school with a lot of character-building job experience - he was retail clerk, an operator of heavy machinery, and he served in the military. But, it was in research and teaching in demography that he found the happiness and satisfaction that many of us spend our lives looking for. As a faculty member at UWSP, Doug combines scholarly expertise with a commitment to excellence in teaching that is extremely rare. He is a fine scholar and mentor and the kind of person that comes along on only rare occasions.

We hope you will help us support this fund in recognition of Doug's dedication and contributions as a distinguished alumnus who has always shown an immense concern for teaching and the welfare of students. Through your gifts to the Doug Forbes Fund, we can help current and future students pursue research and service in those areas that mean so much to all of us. Your gift can be made on line at <https://utdirect.utexas.edu/nlogon/vip/ogif.WBX>. Be sure to check "Population Research Center" after you have selected the "College of Liberal Arts" in the pull down boxes.

If you prefer to mail your gift, please make your check payable to The University of Texas at Austin and mail it to:

The University of Texas at Austin
Population Research Center -
Doug Forbes Fund
1 University Station G1800
Austin, TX 78712



Many thanks for helping us support the next generation of PRC graduate students.



LATIN AMERICAN DEMOGRAPHY: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Contributions of the UT Population Research Center Alumni (1968-2006)
Thompson Conference Center, Austin, TX, April 27-28, 2007

On April 27-28, the Population Research Center hosted an Alumni Conference on Latin American Demography that brought together 33 of the Center's graduates, and former faculty members Frank Bean and Harley Browning. The graduates came from five countries, with the largest foreign contingents coming from Brazil, Mexico and Argentina. The participants' experiences at the PRC spanned a wide range of time extending back over five decades.

The Conference Program included Research Sessions and four Round Tables. The former consisted of the presentation and discussion of formal papers (20 in total) in the areas of: Family and Gender, International Migration and Border Studies, Reproductive Health, Health and Aging, and Geographic and Occupational Mobility. The Round Tables addressed: The Legacy of the Population Research Center, the Evaluation of Social Policy, Challenges and Opportunities in Latin American Demography, and the Future Agenda and Role of the PRC in this broad area.

The Conference provided ample evidence of the wealth of scholarship now being produced by PRC graduates. It also provided an opportunity to reflect on what had made the Center work in the past, and what it should be doing in the future. In their reflections on the legacy of the PRC, graduates often pointed to the intellectual community that the Center had provided; the creative tension between new approaches, and older, more established ones; the emphasis on asking the right questions; and the matching of theory and data. It was noted time and again that the Center had provided a relatively egalitarian atmosphere where there was no one "right" answer or approach. They also made note of a continuing emphasis on fieldwork, starting with the study of migration, occupational mobility, and the process of stratification in Monterrey, Mexico published as a monograph in 1973.

A number of challenges and priorities were identified regarding the future of research and graduate training related to Latin America, the US-Mexico Border, and the Hispanic population of the US. First and foremost, participants in the conference pointed to the need for the Center and the University to recruit the faculty who would constitute the next generation of mentors. Another clear challenge is to forge stronger links between the Latin American component of the PRC's research program and its other components. It became clear in the course of the conference that many of the emerging themes in population research in Latin America were the very same topics comprising the PRC's US oriented research agenda. There was also widespread agreement that the demand by governments and international agencies for evaluations of social policies was growing rapidly, and that social demographers had an important role to play in such research. Finally, it was noted that in the current era of globalization, it no longer made sense to compartmentalize "area studies", and it was important for those working on Latin America to gain familiarity and expertise with developments in other regions.

In sum, the conference yielded a strong sense of accomplishment and community. It also identified some major challenges for the future; that is, to recruit faculty, raise fellowship funds, and achieve a better integrated program of training and research. Nobody doubted the importance and relevance of the work the Center had done in the past, and could do in the future, as well as the momentum we would bring to the challenges ahead.

The complete conference program can be found at:

<http://www.prc.utexas.edu/events/Program-LADemography-April27-28.doc>

Conference photos can be viewed online at:

<http://www.flickr.com/gp/8211632@N05/9d1p7>



New Grant Funded Projects

A number of new research projects were funded over the past year.

SBES Alliance: Diversifying Graduate Education in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic (SBE) Sciences

PI: Robert Hummer
 Funding Agency: NSF

The Intergenerational Transmission of Family Instability

PI: Shannon Cavanagh
 Funding Agency: NIH

Poverty, Child Development and Early Education

PI: Robert Crosnoe
 Funding Agency: NIH

Religiosity and Subjective and Psychological Well-being in Contemporary Japan

PI: Chris Ellison and Michael Roemer
 Funding Agency: NSF

The Ready to Learn Partnership: A Summative Evaluation

PI: Elizabeth Vandewater
 Funding Agency: DOE/WWCI/Michal Cohen Group

Connecting Media Use and Development of Obesity Across Childhood

PI: Elizabeth Vandewater
 Funding Agency: NIH

A Comparative Study of School Readiness and Child Well-Being

PI: Aletha Huston
 Funding Agency: Spencer Foundation/Northwestern University

Population Research Center - R24

PI: Mark Hayward
 Funding Agency: NIH



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