

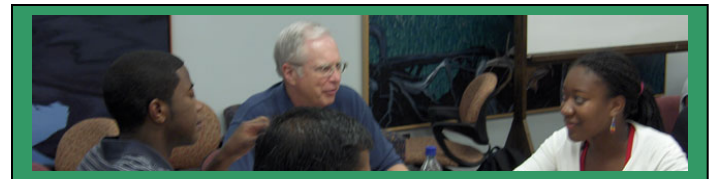


New Faculty Hires

The PRC is very pleased that **Dr. Mark Hayward**, currently Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Pennsylvania State University, will be joining the faculty as Professor of Sociology on July 1, 2005. Hayward will also become Director of the PRC at that time, replacing Bob Hummer, who served as Director since July of 2001. Professor Hayward is an internationally recognized demographer who specializes in health, retirement, and aging issues, and has had his work funded by the National Institutes of Health for most of the last two decades. He has previously served as Director of Pennsylvania State University's Population Research Institute and, thus, will bring a wealth of experience to the table at the University of Texas.

Also joining the Population Research Center and the faculty of the University of Texas at Austin this fall will be **Dr. Cynthia Osborne** and **Dr. Wei-hsin Yu**. Osborne received her Ph.D. in Demography and Public Affairs from Princeton University in 2003, where she wrote her

dissertation on child well-being in the United States. Since then, she has been a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Research on Child Well-being at Princeton. She will become Assistant Professor of Public Affairs at the LBJ School of Public Affairs. Yu received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Chicago in 1999, where her dissertation focused on gender and labor force outcomes in Japan and Taiwan. Since then, she has worked as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Japanese Studies at the National Institute of Singapore and as Research Associate in the Institute of Sociology at Academia Sinica in Taiwan. Yu will be joining UT-Austin as an Assistant Professor of Sociology



New Grant Funded Projects

A number of new research projects were funded over the past year! Here, we provide the title, principal investigator, and funding agency of each. More details are available on our website (www.prc.utexas.edu).

Oral Contraceptive Use along the U.S.-Mexico Border
PI: Joseph E. Potter
Funding Agency: NICHD

NICHD Study of Early Childcare, Phase IV
PI: Robert L. Crosnoe
Funding Agency: NICHD

Endogenous Mortality Risk and Educational Attainment
PI: Li Gan
Funding Agency: NICHD

Market and Non-Market Activities of Older Americans
PI: Daniel S. Hamermesh
Funding Agency: Social Security Administration

How Americans Eat: Time and Goods Inputs into Meals
PI: Daniel S. Hamermesh
Funding Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Oral Contraceptive Use on the U.S.-Mexico Border: A Qualitative Study
PI: Kristine L. Hopkins

Funding Agency: NICHD
Interventions, Economic Security, and Child Development
PI: Aletha C. Huston
Funding Agency: NICHD

Welfare Reform and the Well-Being of Children
PI: Jennifer L. Matjasko
Funding Agency: NICHD

Race and School Contexts of Adolescent Social Relations
PI: R. Kelly Raley
Funding Agency: NICHD

Race and Religion in Adolescent Sexual Norms and Conduct
PI: Mark D. Regnerus
Funding Agency: NICHD

Religious Organizations, Local Norms, and HIV in Africa
PI: Mark D. Regnerus
Funding Agency: NICHD

Project on Religion and Economic Change
PI: Robert D. Woodberry
Funding Agency: Metanexus Institute of the Templeton Foundation

Recent Student Placements Continue Long-Running Success of PRC Graduates

As an educational institution, our scientific impact on population research and the field as a whole is not strictly limited to our research productivity. Indeed, a number of graduate students trained at the PRC over the last few years by PRC researchers have been placed into important academic and governmental positions very relevant to population research in the past year. Just in the last year alone, these placements included:

*Anna Campbell, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Central Florida

*Reanne Frank, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University

*Michelle Frisco, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Pennsylvania State University

*Julie Dowling, Assistant Professor of Latino/a Studies, University of Illinois * Lizy Wildsmith, Robert Wood Johnson Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

*Ann Moore, Senior Research Associate, Alan Guttmacher Institute

Congratulations to these graduates!

Discover Our "Population and Public Policy" Bridging Disciplines Program

The PRC is also home to the newly developed "Population and Public Policy" undergraduate concentration at UT, part of the university's Bridging the Disciplines Program (BDP). See <http://www.utexas.edu/student/connexus/bdp/index.htm> for the program's website. The Population and Public Policy program began in spring of 2003, with two-time former Director of the PRC Omer Galle teaching a one-hour seminar to help recruit students into the concentration. A group of 10 faculty members serves as the faculty panel for the concentration, which is one of only six of its kind at UT. Undergraduate students accepted into the Population and Public Policy concentration take required and elective courses in population studies (across a number of different academic departments), and have the opportunity to intern on faculty research projects at the PRC, or in other suitable placements. The aim is to help produce graduates who are better trained to enter graduate

school in a population-related field of study or enter the work force directly into a related area. Two of the first graduates of the Population and Public Policy program were Edgar Morales and Ron Romero, respectively. Morales entered the Ph.D. program in the Kennedy School of Public Policy at Harvard University in the fall of 2004. Romero entered the MPH program, focusing on environmental health, at Yale University in the fall of 2004. Not a bad way to start!



Another Successful Year of the PRC's Brown Bag Lectures

The PRC's longstanding Friday noon Brownbag Series has been a huge success again this year, with attendance regularly in the 40-60 range. Roughly ½ of the speakers were from UT-Austin; the rest were visiting population scientists to the PRC. Over just the last year alone, the visiting scientists included:

- Dudley Poston, Texas A&M University (and former Director of the PRC at UT-Austin)
- Karl Eschbach, University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
- David Smith and Ben Bradshaw, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- Mark Fossett, Texas A&M University
- Phil Morgan, Duke University
- Monica Kirkpatrick Johnson, Washington State University
- Mark Hayward, Pennsylvania State University
- Nancy Reichman, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
- Zhen Zeng, University of Wisconsin at Madison

U.S. News & World Report Ranks UT "Sociology of Population" Program 5th in Country

For the first time ever, U.S. News & World Report ranked "Sociology of Population" programs in U.S. graduate schools. These rankings were published in the 2006 Edition of their publication entitled America's Best Graduate Schools. UT's sociology of population program was rated tied for 5th in the country (with Penn State University), an impressive rating and the highest for UT among any of the sociology specialties that were examined. The University of Wisconsin at Madison was top ranked, with the ratings based on nominations by departmental chairpersons and directors of graduate programs at peer institutions.

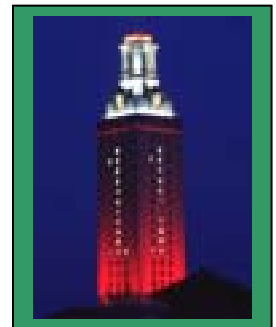
PRC's Summer REU Program Begins 17th Year



Eight wide-eyed and excited undergraduate students arrived on campus at the end of May to participate in the PRC's 17th annual Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program on minority group demography. This program, funded by NSF and originally the idea of Professor Terry Sullivan (now Executive Vice-Chancellor of the UT System), funds 4 UT-Austin and 4 non-UT students to participate in demographic coursework and a PRC research project over the course of the summer. They also write their first empirical research paper as part of the program and go on to present the paper in fall at the annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association. This year's REU students will be traveling to Oxford, Mississippi (home of the University of Mississippi) for the meeting. Students participating in this program have not only enrolled in graduate programs of sociology, economics, and more in high percentages over the years, but a number of them have also moved into academic positions. Professor Omer Galle continues to run the program, with assistance from Bob Hummer.

Recent Student Awards and Honors

- Terrence Hill was awarded the Harry E and Bernice Moore Fellowship by the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, resulting in a year's support of over \$25,000.
- Anna Strassmann Mueller was recently awarded a prestigious 2005 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. The fellowship provides funding for three years, including a stipend of \$30,000 a year and funds to cover tuition and fees.
- Amy Langenkamp received an American Education Research Association (AERA) Dissertation Grant. The Grant carries a project total of \$15,000.00.
- Benjamin Moulton was awarded a University continuing Bruton Fellowship from the University of Texas, Office of Graduate Studies. The stipend is \$1,000. This award entitles a student to pay tuition and fees at in-state rates for the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters.



Check Out Recent Books Published by PRC Researchers

Take a look at these books published by PRC faculty members in the last few years:

Death of a Parent: Transition to a New Adult Identity, by Debra Umberson. Cambridge University Press.

Social Causes of Psychological Distress, 2nd Edition, by John Mirowsky and Catherine Ross. Aldine de Gruyter Press.

Education, Social Status, and Health, by John Mirowsky and Catherine Ross. Aldine de Gruyter Press.

Demographic Change and the Family in Japan's Aging Society, by John Traphagan and John Knight. SUNY Press.

Planning the Family in Egypt: New Bodies, New Selves, by Kamran Ali. University of Texas Press.

PRC Hosts Vilmar Faria Fellows for Fourth Year

At the beginning of 2000, the Brazilian government and the PRC established the The Vilmar Faria Fellowship in Quantitative Analysis & Public Policy (Programa Vilmar Faria em Análise Quantitativa e Políticas Públicas [PVF] in Portuguese). The goal of the Vilmar Faria Fellowship Program, or VFFP, is to build the quantitative analysis capacity of Brazilian social scientists who focus on public policy issues. Through courses as well as supervised research on a topic of their own choosing, Faria Fellows increase their capacity to perform quantitative analyses related to the design and evaluation of public policies in Brazil. A particular aim of the program is to equip Fellows to deal comfortably with large data sets such as the PNAD (Brazilian household survey) and Brazilian censuses. The VFFP is a collaborative effort of the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel Foundation and the PRC, which hosts the program. The Ford Foundation provides supplemental funding for the program.

Each year, five Brazilian social scientists enter the program. Each fellow spends a year (January through December) at the PRC taking courses in statistics, public policy analysis, and other areas. The fellows also participate in a special year-long seminar dedicated to the evaluation of public policies in Brazil, designed as a forum in which the fellows develop and present their own research. While in Austin, fellows have an office at the PRC, ample access to computing facilities and data sets, as well as support developing their analytical designs and applying various packages such as SPSS, SAS, and STATA. This program is the brainchild of Dr. Vilmar Faria, a distinguished Brazilian sociologist who ended his career as Advisor to Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso. Following Vilmar's untimely death in November 2001, with CAPES' enthusiastic agreement, the program was renamed in his honor.

Population Research Center
The University of Texas at Austin
1 University Station, G1800
Austin, Texas 78712
(512) 471-5514
(512) 471-04886 (fax)