

**REPORT ON  
RAY MARSHALL CENTER ACTIVITIES**

AN ADDENDUM TO THE LBJ SCHOOL'S  
NASPPA SELF-STUDY REPORT

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## **REPORT ON RAY MARSHALL CENTER ACTIVITIES**

Founded as the Center for the Study of Human Resources in 1970 by Ray Marshall, the Audre and Bernard Rapoport Centennial Chair in Economics and Public Affairs at the LBJ School and former Secretary of Labor (1977-1981), the Center was integrated into the LBJ School in Fall 1987. It was renamed in Marshall's honor in June 1999. The Center conducts applied, interdisciplinary research designed to foster improved policies, programs and practices in education, workforce development, childcare, and welfare policy. Dr. Chris King, LBJ School research scientist and the 2003-2005 Mike Hogg Professor of Urban Management, is the Center's director; research scientist Deanna Schexnayder is its associate director. In 2004-2005, the Center had a staff of eight professionals with graduate degrees in economics, business, geography, psychology and public affairs, as well as eight graduate research assistants and two support staff.

### **RESEARCH FUNDING**

Center research is funded almost exclusively through outside grants and contacts, averaging around \$1 million in annual research funding with support from federal, state and local governments, as well as foundations (e.g., Carnegie, Casey, Ford, Hitachi, Mott, RGK, Rockefeller, Sloan). For 2004-2005, funding exceeded \$1.1 million. (A list of 2001-2005 projects is attached.) Public and philanthropic sources provide more than 91 percent of the Center's funding, while the LBJ Foundation and UT shared indirect costs provide the remainder.

According to recent Office of Sponsored Projects data, among the University's Organized Research Units conducting social science research, the Center ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in outside research funds secured. Since its inception, the Center's work has had a profound impact on education, welfare, workforce, performance measurement, and childcare policy—in Austin, the State of Texas, nationally, and even internationally.

### **MAJOR ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The Center increasingly conducts its work through strategic partnerships with leading researchers, government, business and community leaders around the country. Major activities and accomplishments this year include:

- ❑ In collaboration with the Rockefeller Institute, Chris King and Burt Barnow of Johns Hopkins University published a final report (July 2005) on the implementation of the Workforce Investment Act in 8 states for the US Department of Labor. They presented their findings to Administration officials and national policy research meetings and disseminated them to members of Congress, researchers and state and local program administrators across the country. Their work has contributed substantively to the ongoing WIA reauthorization in Congress.
- ❑ Center researchers worked with governors' policy teams in 10 states fostering the adoption of leading-edge workforce development policies. Center publications were influential in this process. Center staff served as lead faculty in a series of policy academies in partnership with the National Governors Association and participating state workforce leaders with funding from the Ford Foundation and USDOL. The 2005 Integrated Performance Information 'Blueprint' that resulted from one academy influenced the Congressional reauthorizations of WIA, Carl Perkins and the Personal Responsibility Act, as well as current federal policy guidance.

- The Center began collaborating with Skillpoint Alliance, Capital IDEA, Austin Community College, *WorkSource*, Travis County and other stakeholders in 2004 to plan and implement the Central Texas Workforce Intermediary Initiative funded by the Rockefeller Foundation and others. The focus is on strategies for addressing critical nursing shortages working with Seton and St. David's Healthcare networks, ACC and others. The Center leads the initiative, which is part of a five-site national demonstration.
- In December 2004, Center researchers published a national benefit/cost analysis of 2-1-1 information and referral services for the United Way of America, providing an empirical justification for appropriation of public funds for 2-1-1 systems at all levels. This report has been disseminated to Congress and state and local officials and has contributed to bipartisan national legislation and led to a parallel study of 2-1-1 systems in Canada.
- In collaboration with UT's Center for Social Work Research, Center researchers published a report examining child care policies and program management over the six-years that subsidized child care in Texas has been devolved to the local level, placing lessons learned in the context of the Nation's child care policy environment. Deanna Schexnayder presented findings from this study to national audiences. A state legislative proposal to improve child care quality is based on their findings.
- A new child care research project is analyzing child care subsidy use and employment and welfare outcomes among all low-income families in Illinois, Maryland, and Texas. By collaborating with the U.S. Census Bureau and using individual-level census records, Center researchers, with research partners at the University of Chicago, Columbia University and the University of Baltimore, will be able to overcome past data restrictions that have impeded the study of the entire low-income population in a state.
- Center researchers completed the evaluation of the Bootstrap Project, a program created to help organizations around Texas increase their capacity to serve young, low-income fathers. The evaluation, with funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, examined the economic effects of Bootstrap services on low-income non-custodial fathers. This and earlier Center research led the Office of the Attorney General to initiate a process and impact evaluation by the Center of a multi-site demonstration program mandated by the Legislature in which judges order non-custodial parents to participate in workforce services. The project began in July 2005.
- With funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the Center is evaluating a three-year Austin Independent School District demonstration that seeks to increase the number of high-ability, low-income students who enroll in pre-advanced placement (AP) and AP courses. That evaluation will be completed in December 2006. Center researchers, under the direction of Chris King and Deanna Schexnayder, have also begun a project tracking post-secondary and labor market outcomes for Central Texas high school graduates with funding from the Texas Education Agency and the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. Initial planning and background research for this project was conducted as part of a 2004-2005 Policy Research Project at the LBJ School.
- The Center continued its innovative work as part of the 9-state Administrative Data Research and Evaluation (ADARE) project for the USDOL this year, producing the first quasi-experimental WIA net impact estimates in policy briefs (December 2004) and occasional papers (July 2005), collaborating with researchers at the Upjohn Institute and others. These are the only impact results available to Congress for the WIA reauthorization debate. The Center was a founding ADARE Consortium member in 1998.

## **RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS**

Center researchers presented scholarly research at national conferences and published articles, chapters, and books based on Center research. (A full list of Center publications can be found at [www.utexas.edu/research/cshr](http://www.utexas.edu/research/cshr).) Among their publications were the following:

Cihan Bilginsoy and Robert W. Glover, "Registered Apprenticeship Training in the U.S. Construction Industry," *Training+Education*, July 2005.

Toni Falbo, Robert W. Glover, W. Lee Holcombe, and S Lynn Stokes, "Antecedents and consequences of residential choice and school transfer," *Education Policy Analysis Archives* May 2, 2005, Vol. 13, No. 29.

Robert W. Glover, Christopher T. King and Daniel O'Shea, "Factoring Equity into Economic Development through Workforce Initiatives: Reflections through an Austin Lens," In Robert Giloth, Ed., *Economic and Workforce Development in the 1990s: Best Practices of Municipally Led Initiatives, Essays in Honor of Mayor Harold Washington*, Chicago, IL: DePaul University, 2005. (Submitted to several presses).

Christopher T. King and Peter R. Mueser, *Welfare and Work: Experiences in Six Cities*, Kalamazoo: The W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 2005.

Christopher T. King, "The Effectiveness of Publicly Financed Training in the United States: Implications for WIA and Related Programs," In Christopher J. O'Leary, Robert A. Straits, and Stephen A. Wandner, Eds., *Job Training Policy in the United States*, Kalamazoo: The W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 2004, pp. 57-99

Chris King has completed two additional edited book manuscripts—on globalization, training and social dialogue and workforce performance measurement—for which he is seeking publishers. Deanna Schexnayder and UT anthropology and social work professor Laura Lein are revising a book for UT Press on former welfare families' experiences in the post-welfare reform era.

## **TEACHING & STUDENT SUPERVISION**

Dr. King taught Political Economy I (now Applied Microeconomics for Policy Analysis) at the LBJ School in the Fall and Spring and will do so in 2005-2006 as well. He offered a Spring 2005 conference course on economic thought and its implications for public policy. With Deanna Schexnayder and Dr. Hannah Gourgey, deputy director of Skillpoint Alliance, he directed a 2004-2005 PRP examining postsecondary and labor market transitions of Central Texas high school students.

Dr. King served on one Ph.D. and 14 MPA committees this year and is currently co-chairing one Ph.D. committee and serving on another, while serving on several MPA committees. Ms. Schexnayder also served on an MPA committee this year. The Center employed and supervised 8 GRAs from the LBJ School this year, including Esmeralda Garcia (Class of '06), the Center's second Bryna and Henry David Fellow in Human Resources.