

PPOL Students and Faculty:

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1--POLS Public Policy Faculty Candidate Visit

Many of you have met with the first candidates. The third candidate will be visiting today (Thursday) and Friday. She will be meeting with the graduate students Thursday at 11:00 in the Political Science Conference Room. Her research presentation will be later that day at 2:00 in the Friday Building, Room 106. Her talk is entitled "Beyond Access Expansion: Congressional Attention to Quality in Domestic Policy".

I hope you all can join in this important process, both to see how the academic hiring process operates, learn about some new policy research, and provide input into our program as we seek to have a new faculty member join the program.

To that end, I would like to ask those of you that had the opportunity to meet the candidates and/or see their research presentations to email me your observations in terms of the strengths and weaknesses you noticed. As chair of this search committee, I want to make sure we include the viewpoints of the students in our faculty deliberations.

2--PPOL Happy Hour (Friday Feb. 24)

PPOL Students and Faculty,

Happy Hour is good for the spirit. Please join us at the Flying Saucer on Friday, February 24th, from 5pm, for some spring socializing.

Flying Saucer Draught Emporium

9605 N Tryon St
Ste A
Charlotte, NC 28262
(704) 717-8179

3--Graduate Education Week Events

Next week is UNC Charlotte's Graduate Education Week. There are some wonderful programs and workshops scheduled. Please share the [schedule](#) with your students. In addition, please make note of these special programs:

- [Non-academic Careers for Humanities and Social Science Grads](#): Four professionals with degrees in Math, English, History and Health Research discuss their unique career choices. Students will have an opportunity to talk with each panelist at a reception following the discussion. *Monday, 2/27 at 3:00 pm in Student Union 200.*
- Jorge Cham brings his comic, Piled Higher and Deeper, to the big screen with ["Ph.D. the Movie"](#) – *Wednesday, 2/29 at 7:00 pm in the Student Union Theater* – FREE
- [Graduate Community Forum with the Chancellor](#): Grad students opportunity to talk directly with the Chancellor, Provost and Dean of the Graduate School – *Thursday, 5:00 pm in the Student Union Multipurpose Room C.*

Please note that [applications](#) for 2012-2013 Graduate Life Fellows are due on **March 19th**. Students selected receive a \$5000 award. Information sessions are offered during Graduate Education Week.

4--Game Theory Opportunity

Many of you were unable to take the Game Theory course we offered this semester. However, if you are interested in learning more about Game Theory, two professors from Stanford University are offering an online course on the subject (but for credit, but it is for free). The course begins in late February and is asynchronous.

If you are interested in learning more about game theory, feel free to sign up. Go to:

<http://www.game-theory-class.org/>

5--BioEnergy Symposium

The UNC Charlotte IDEAS Center and its Environmental Assistance Office (our educational and community outreach unit) are pleased to welcome you to our Second Annual BioEnergy Symposium scheduled for March 13-14, 2012. This year's event will focus on transportation biofuels and will include sessions on market, feedstocks, policies, and investment outlooks. Our speakers will include academics, producers, and regulatory and policy stakeholders who will be tasked with bringing attendees up to date on the latest technologies, policies, challenges and opportunities related to regional biofuel advances.

Additional information, agenda, registration, and scholarship details are available at:
<http://eao.uncc.edu/bioenergysymposium.html>

6--Student Paper Awards (due March 15)

Each year the Health Services Research Academy conducts graduate student paper, junior investigator, and community service competitions as described below.

Student Paper Awards (1 for Master's and 1 for Doctoral student authored papers)

Complete papers of no more than 35 pages are eligible, 12 point font, double spaced. Papers must have been completed within the past year while the student was enrolled in a degree program. Co-authors must specify their unique contributions; it is expected any co-authors will be students in which case all authors will receive the award.

Submissions and Nominations Due March 15, submit materials to tlscheid@uncc.edu.

7--Graduate Life Fellowship (Due March 19)

The Graduate School is accepting applications for the 2012-13 academic year class of Graduate Life Fellows.

The Graduate Life Fellows Program (GLF) helps build a sense of community within the graduate student population. The fellows coordinate activities and events on or near campus that foster diverse social and academic engagement. They also work with incoming graduate students as mentors, offering guidance and first-hand experience with the UNC Charlotte academic system. The GLF program continues to provide engaging opportunities for graduate students to give back to the local Charlotte community via philanthropic efforts.

Most recently, GLFs have coordinated wine and cheese networking events, a Web design workshop, a community service project "Operation Sandwich," a panel discussion about preparing for the Graduate Research Fair and a Chinese cultural event. Future events include an etiquette dinner, a Habitat for Humanity build and a high ropes course challenge.

"The Graduate Life Fellows program has made remarkable progress in building more cohesion among graduate students," said Katherine Hall-Hertel, assistant dean of the Graduate School. "It's been wonderful to have such a diverse and talented group of students representing six of our campus colleges. As we enter the fifth year of our program, we hope to build on their success."

Graduate Life Fellows receive an award annually for their contributions to the UNC Charlotte graduate student community. Applications for the program will be accepted through Monday, March 19. Two information sessions about the program will be held during Graduate Education Week, Feb. 25-March 2. Full-time master's and doctoral students are encouraged to apply. For information and an application, visit the [Center for Graduate Life website](#).

8--Doctoral Fellowship Opportunity (Due May 2)

This would be a very good fellowship for students with any interests in justice policy issues.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) seeks proposals for funding under the **Ph.D. Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) program**, which provides awards for research on crime, violence, and other criminal justice-related topics to accredited academic universities that offer research-based doctoral degrees in disciplines relevant to NIJ's mission.

The GRF program is intended to support universities that sponsor students who are in the final stages of graduate study. Awards are granted to successful applicants in the form of a grant to cover a doctoral student fellowship. Currently, the GRF fellowship is \$25,000. Additional information may be found through the following means:

- [Read the solicitation "NIJ Ph.D. Graduate Research Fellowship Program FY 2012 \(pdf, 19 pages\)](#)
- [View a list of past fellows and their projects.](#)
- [View all current funding opportunities from NIJ.](#)

Questions should be directed to lee.mockensturm@usdoj.gov.

9--Student and Faculty News

PPOL student Joseph Cochran and Dr. Beth Bjerregaard (CJUS) have co-authored a piece together entitled: "The Role of School-Related Bonding Factors and Gender: Correlates of Gang Membership Among Adolescents" in *Women & Criminal Justice*, Vol. 22(1).

Dr. Peter Schwarz (ECON) has a new piece coming out in the *Journal of Regulatory Economics*: "Using Real-Time Electricity Data to Estimate Response to Time-of-Use and Flat Rates: An Application to Emissions."

Dr. Martha Kropf (POLS) and co-author and David Kimball have a new book out: "Helping America Vote: The Limits of Election Reform," from Routledge (2012). Dr. Kropf also has a new article out with several co-authors: Jessica N. Link, Martha Kropf, Mark Alexander Hirsch, Flora M. Hammond, Jason Karlawish, Lisa Schur, Douglas Kruse and Christina S. Davis. (2012) "Assessing Voting Competence and Political Knowledge: Comparing Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injuries and 'Average' College Students." *Election Law Journal*, 11(1).

Dr. Bill Brandon (POLS) has a new article out: "Building Strong Research Associations: Interdisciplinarity, Theory-Building and Policy in Politics and the Life Sciences and in Health Services Research," forthcoming in *Politics and the Life Sciences*, 30 (No. 1, 2011): 56-60. In addition, Dr. Brandon just had a paper accepted for oral delivery at the triennial meeting of the World Federation of Public Health Associations meeting Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in April, entitled "Health Care Reform in the U.S. and the Transformation of Medicaid."

PPOL Alumnus Dr. Dustin Read (FIN) provided comments for a recent Charlotte Observer article “Chiquita to assist execs with Charlotte move.

Dr. Bob Kravchuk (POLs) was the guest on WFAE Charlotte Talks on Feb. 14th discussing Russia as the next energy superpower.

10--Post-Doc Opportunity

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
The Center for Community Capital

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
The Center for Community Capital at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill seeks a Post-Doctoral Fellow whose primary responsibility will be to research issues related to affordable homeownership and wealth generation. This is a full-time position that carries an annual stipend of \$50,000 and an annual accrual of 10 days of vacation leave and 12 days of sick leave. This is a temporary appointment contingent on the continued availability of funds.

The post-doctoral fellow will:

Research: Conduct and write literature reviews; develop interesting and relevant research questions based on the literature; write peer reviewed articles; present analyses to center staff and to wider audiences as needed.

Data Analysis: Import, clean, and merge data; create variables and datasets; conduct descriptive analyses; research appropriate methods for use in statistical analyses; conduct statistical analyses; interpret findings.

Successful applicants will hold a doctoral degree from a program in economics, public policy, statistics, math, sociology, planning, or a related discipline. The ideal applicant will be interested in topics related to economic inequality *and* will be trained in using statistical analyses to assess what factors contribute to or mitigate inequality.

The Center for Community Capital engages in multi-disciplinary research to inform economic development policy. The Center's work focuses on the revitalization of America's distressed communities through wealth building strategies that are sustainable. More information is available here: www.ccc.unc.edu.

Applications should be submitted via e-mail, and the subject line of the email should be titled “Post-Doctoral Fellow” Position available May 2012 and open until filled. Please submit a cover letter and resume/vita to the following email address: communitycapital@unc.edu.

More information is available at:

http://www.publicservicecareers.org/?pageid=616&site_id=631&jb=9634471

11--Jobs

RAND Corporation
Health Policy Researcher

The RAND Corporation is a non-profit research organization providing objective analysis and effective solutions that address the challenges facing the public and private sectors around the world.

RAND Health (www.rand.org/health) is looking for researchers at all levels of experience who can support, expand, and extend our health policy research agenda. Persons with strong training in health policy research and analysis, and an interest in building a health policy research portfolio and a collaborative, entrepreneurial spirit are encouraged to apply.

Job Qualifications: Candidates should have demonstrated expertise in an area of health policy research. Researchers with substantive concentrations in a variety of different areas will be considered. Specializations of particular current interest include: Health services delivery, Quality of care, Health care financing and organization, Maternal/child health, Mental health and substance abuse, Aging, Public health and disease prevention, International health, Health information technology, Health Care reform, Obesity and comparative effectiveness.

OPTIMAL Solutions Group
HEALTH ECONOMIST/RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

OPTIMAL Solutions Group is inviting health economists and policy researchers to join the Health Policy Research Center in conducting cutting edge projects in Medicaid, Medicare, health care performance measurement, substance abuse, mental health, and disabilities. Our current work includes studies on health care financing and organization, public health and disease prevention, injury epidemiology, fraud waste and abuse, adolescent and school health, community health, hospital and ambulatory care quality indicators, and smoking, and reproductive health. OPTIMAL is a leading non-partisan public policy research firm that conducts studies and provides technical assistance on health care, education, welfare, housing, community development, and related subjects. Our mission is to provide policy makers with rigorous and timely studies that enable our clients, which include federal, state, and local government agencies, as well as private foundations, to improve public well-being. Our company is located in College Park, Maryland. For more information see www.OptimalSolutionsGroup.com.

Health Economists/Research Associates are responsible for managing complex projects at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and other departments of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (i.e. ACF, HRSA, and SAMHSA). Responsibilities include project management, including oversight of staff and the project budget, providing subject area expertise, overseeing the development of sophisticated data analyses, and presenting results to technical and non-technical audiences.

Additional information available at: http://www.publicservicecareers.org/?pageid=616&site_id=631

**American Institutes for Research
Survey Methodologist**

The American Institutes for Research (AIR) is one of the largest behavioral and social science research organizations in the world. AIR is a collaborative organization that works with clients to examine a wide range of projects from early childhood development to adult education as well as individual and organizational performance. AIR prides itself in conducting high-impact, high-stakes projects for significant federal, state, and private organizations. AIR's vision is that research-based problem solving can improve the lives of all people. We are currently seeking a Survey Methodologist to join our Federal Statistics Program (FSP) in Washington, DC.

Responsibilities:

The Survey Methodologist is expected to assist FSP with all aspects of survey operations, quality improvement, and data analysis.

More information available at: http://www.publicservicecareers.org/?pageid=616&site_id=631

**School of Public and International Affairs
Virginia Tech University
Assistant Professor of Public Administration and Policy**

The mission of the Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP) is to promote the common good of our constitutional republic and the advancement of public service by providing outstanding education, research, and outreach in the theory and practice of public administration, management, and policy. We are seeking to fill a tenure-track faculty position at the assistant professor level at the main campus in Blacksburg, VA, to begin in August 2012. The successful candidate will join a dynamic faculty of scholar-teachers engaged in a wide spectrum of research on public administration, public policy, and public management. CPAP is a nationally-ranked public affairs program offering an accredited Master of Public Administration degree and the PhD in Public Administration and Public Affairs. Both degrees are offered in Blacksburg and Alexandria, VA, and the MPA is also offered in Richmond, VA. CPAP is a program unit in the School of Public and International Affairs, which also houses programs in Government and International Affairs and Urban Affairs and Planning.

Additional information available at: http://www.publicservicecareers.org/?pageid=616&site_id=631

**Kansas University
School of Public Affairs and Administration
Assistant/Associate Professor Position**

The KU School of Public Affairs & Administration invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professor or a tenured associate professor position expected to begin in August 2012. KU seeks to hire an outstanding scholar in the area of non-profit or urban policy/management. Candidates should have a strong research agenda, a commitment to graduate and undergraduate teaching, and a strong commitment to professional service.

The University of Kansas is especially interested in hiring faculty members who can contribute to four key campus-wide strategic initiatives: (1) Sustaining the Planet, Powering the World; (2)

Promoting Well-Being, Finding Cures; (3) Harnessing Information, Multiplying Knowledge; and (4) Building Communities, Expanding Opportunities. See <http://www.provost.ku.edu/planning/themes/> for more information. The successful candidate for the position must be eligible to work in the U.S. prior to the start date of the appointment.

Required Qualifications:

Evaluation of the following requirements will be made through (1) descriptions of work experience and educational experiences in letter of application; (2) record of accomplishments and productivity addressed in c.v.; (3) teaching and research statements; and (3) information provided from professional references.

--Ph.D., ABD, or terminal degree, in Public Administration or related field expected by the start date of the appointment --Demonstrable research and teaching qualifications commensurate with appointment --Evidence of excellence or potential for excellence in research and teaching

Apply online at <https://jobs.ku.edu> (search for position #00066230) and submit the following documents: cover letter, curriculum vitae, one or two article-length manuscripts or other writing samples, and a list of three references. In addition, applicants should have 3 letters of reference sent via email to Diana Koslowsky (dianak@ku.edu).