

## **PPOL Students and Faculty:**

Please find the next Going Concerns below. We have a few upcoming deadlines and events about which you should be aware, as well as several items worth celebrating! As always, if you have news to share (papers, articles, interviews, awards, interesting job listings, etc.), please forward them to me for inclusion in the next update.

### **In this issue of PPOL's Going Concerns:**

- 1--Congratulations to Chengxiu Sun
- 2--Stivender Dissertation Defense
- 3--New PPOL Student Organization Officers
- 4--Progress on New Administrative Assistant
- 5--New STATA Newsletter
- 6--Urban Affairs Association Conference Call for Papers (Abstracts due Oct. 1st)
- 7--Preliminary Call for Proposals: MPSA Due 10/8/10
- 8--Upcoming Lecture on Nanobiotechnology (October 14)
- 9--AAG Annual Meeting Call for Papers (Abstracts due Oct. 20)
- 10--PPOL Guest Lecturer
- 11--MPA Alumni Conference October 29th
- 12--Student and Faculty news
- 13--Fellowship Opportunity
- 14--Jobs

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### **1--Congratulations to Chengxiu Sun**

Last week, Chengxiu Sun successfully defended his dissertation to a packed house of students and faculty. He is now working on the final revisions and will have the final version delivered by the deadline in order to officially graduate in December. What is particularly impressive is the speed with which Chengxiu managed to write this dissertation, which was based on a rather complicated structural equations model. While using data provided from a previously conducted survey, he completed the full draft in less than three months! That has got to be a PPOL record! Chengxiu is the 21<sup>st</sup> PPOL student to successfully defend a dissertation and we congratulate him on this impressive achievement!

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### **2--Stivender Dissertation Defense Announcement**

In keeping the momentum moving forward for the program, Carol Stivender is preparing to defend her dissertation next week. This is open to the public and all PPOL faculty and staff are invited to attend. Below is the official announcement that was sent to the university community:

Doctoral Dissertation Defense Announcement  
Ph.D. in Public Policy Program

Carol Ogden Stivender

Friday Building Room 4  
Friday, October 1, 2010  
10:00am – 12:00pm

Three Empirical Essays on State Lotteries

Dissertation Committee Chair: Dr. Suzanne Leland (POLS)

This dissertation examines three issues related to state lotteries. The first essay focuses on racial gaps in participation and spending by estimating probabilities of participation and spending conditional on play. Censored Tobit and a two-tier model pairing probit with OLS is utilized. The estimated probability for white respondents is about 8.9 percentage points higher than for black respondents, and black respondents outspend white respondents by nearly 130 percent, *ceteris paribus*. Gaps in outcomes were decomposed into portions due to differences in characteristics and marginal effects of those characteristics. About 74 percent of the probability gap is due to differences in mean characteristics, while the gap in spending is due mostly to differences in coefficients. The second essay explores the impact of state earmarking of net lottery revenues to education. Using state level panel data for thirty seven states over a twenty year period, a fixed effects model estimates lottery sales in states without education earmarking and states that partially earmark for education to be about 25 percent and 17 percent lower, respectively, than sales in states that earmark 100 percent to education, holding all other determinants constant. In the third essay, county level cross-sectional data from 2008 is used to identify the determinants of lottery outlet location. Results suggest that lottery outlet location is positively correlated with population density and median household income, perhaps refuting the notion that lottery outlets are strategically placed in lower income neighborhoods. As this is one of the first empirical studies of outlet location, this essay offers suggestions for further research in this area.

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### **3--New PPOL Student Organization Officers**

Below is an announcement from out-going PPOL Student Organization president Beth Wemlinger welcoming the new officers of the student organization as we have a peaceful transition of power from one administration to another.

Hello all,

I am happy to announce the new set of officers for the Graduate Public Policy Association. If anyone else would like to play a more active role in the organization please contact one of the new officers to become a Senator for the organization. Thank you everyone for volunteering for these positions.

President: Melissa Duscha  
Vice-President: Allison McMurry  
Treasurer: Judith Walsh  
Secretary: Karen Okhoya

Thank you,  
Elizabeth Wemlinger

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### **4--Progress on New Administrative Assistant**

The application period for the program assistant position has closed and we are reviewing the applicants. The hope is to interview finalists next week and make a decision by the end of the week in order to have a new assistant in place as soon as October 11<sup>th</sup> if at all possible.

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## 5--New STATA Newsletter

Hello!

It is my pleasure to announce that the electronic version of the Stata News, Volume 25, Number 3 <http://www.stata.com/contactadmin/link.php?M=97804&N=81&L=43&F=H>, is now available. A highlight of this issue of the Stata News is a detailed article discussing the features of the margins command. Inside this issue:

- Stata makes a difference at the Health Policy Institute of Ohio
- In the spotlight: Margins of predicted outcomes
- New from Stata Press
- New from the Stata Bookstore
- Additional featured titles
- The Stata Journal: Have you subscribed?
- Public training courses
- Visit us at the American Public Health Association (APHA) 2010
- Upcoming NetCourses
- 2010 Italian Stata Users Group meeting

The print edition of the Stata News has been mailed and should reach subscribers soon.

The Stata News is free and is mailed to registered Stata users. If you are not a registered Stata user but would like to subscribe, or if you would like to change the mailing address of your subscription, you can do so on our website <http://www.stata.com/contactadmin/link.php?M=97804&N=81&L=14&F=H>.

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## 6--Urban Affairs Association Conference Call for Papers (Abstracts due Oct. 1st)

Reclaiming the City: Building a Just and Sustainable Future  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
Sheraton New Orleans Hotel  
March 16-19, 2011

Rebuilding efforts--in New Orleans, Port au Prince and other parts of the world-- provide an opportunity to examine the paths selected for public policy and private investment, and how these decisions shape the future of urban places.

Six years after the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans is in the midst of a large-scale rebuilding effort and redefinition of place. Powerful dynamics at the local, regional, national and international levels filter various values and interests to yield powerful development logic. This logic determines the nature of change, its impacts, and most importantly, who benefits and who ultimately pays.

New Orleans provides a dramatic and significant context to examine the processes and outcomes of change. However, developmental change in New Orleans has much in common with transformative processes that occur in other urban places. Critical perspectives suggest that change and transformation of cities across the globe, increasingly favors private capital, large institutions, and visitors. This bias poses certain challenges to the possibility of building a just and sustainable future for cities. The conference is an invitation to consider a broad range of concepts and strategies for rebuilding that can yield urban futures that are both equitable and sustainable.

The challenges embedded in seeking such futures are significant. The conference will seek to identify ways to overcome those barriers while reclaiming the city.

Submission and other conference information are available at:  
[http://www.udel.edu/uaa/annual\\_meeting/index.html](http://www.udel.edu/uaa/annual_meeting/index.html)

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### **7--Preliminary Call for Proposals: MPSA Due 10/8/10**

Call for proposals for the 69th Annual MPSA conference. March 31-April 3 2011, Chicago Palmer House Hilton, USA

Paper submission deadline: October 8, 2010  
Poster submission deadline: December 3, 2010

Program Co-Chairs: Christoffer Green-Pedersen, Aarhus University, Denmark  
Laura A. Reese, Michigan State University; Tracy Sulkin, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Please remember to submit a proposal <<http://conference-info.info/go.php/716272/119301/4698371>> to present at the 2011 MPSA National Conference.

- More research papers are presented here than any other political science conference.
- Over 1,100 panels in all fields of Political Science.
- Opening Reception Wednesday night; Exhibitor Reception Thursday evening; President's

Reception Saturday night.

- Everything happens in the centrally located, newly restored Palmer House Hilton in Downtown Chicago.

Please forward this Call for Papers to colleagues you think may be interested. Founded in 1939, the MPSA is located in Bloomington, Indiana (320 West 8th Street, Suite 218). Visit our website: [www.mpsanet.org](http://www.mpsanet.org) <<http://conference-info.info/go.php/716272/119301/3870624>>

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### **8--Upcoming Lecture on Nanobiotechnology (October 14)**

PPOL Students are invited to attend this presentation hosted by the Center of Applied and Professional Ethics. Breakfast is included but you must RSVP in advance. Details are below.

Thursday October 14, 2010  
Breakfast/Presentation  
7:30-9:00am  
Cone 210

“Governing Nanobiotechnology: A Case Study in Translational Research Ethics”

Speaker: George Khuschf, PhD, Department of Philosophy,  
Director of the Center for Bioethics,  
University of South Carolina

RSVP Requested:  
Please RSVP by Oct. 10th. To RSVP, email: [ethicscenter@uncc.edu](mailto:ethicscenter@uncc.edu)  
(please include your name, designation, title, company or department/major, and email address)

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## **9--AAG Annual Meeting Call for Papers (Abstracts due Oct. 20)**

### Call for Papers and Organized Sessions

The Association of American Geographers is accepting abstracts and organized sessions for the 2011 Annual Meeting to be held in Seattle, Washington in mid-April. The AAG accepts all submitted abstracts and organized sessions for presentation. If you have any questions about these guidelines please direct them to Oscar Larson at [meeting@aag.org](mailto:meeting@aag.org).

### Deadlines

The deadline to submit an abstract is October 20, 2010. The deadline to submit organized sessions is October 20, 2010. We encourage you to submit early for best placement in sessions and in the program. Additional information about the conference and proposal process is available at: <http://www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting>

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## **10--PPOL Guest Lecturer**

As previously announced, PPOL is hosting guest speakers this year. We had planned on having Dr. Frank Baumgartner join us this month, but we had to reschedule that (probably for February).

We are still planning on hosting Dr. Lawrence (Larry) O'Toole (University of Georgia) who will present his research ([http://padp.uga.edu/people/faculty/dr\\_laurence\\_j\\_otoole/](http://padp.uga.edu/people/faculty/dr_laurence_j_otoole/)) on Wednesday, October 27th from 12 to 1:00 pm (location TBA).

Dr. O'Toole will also be talking with students in Dr. Avellaneda's PPOL 8600 class which will be meeting Tuesday afternoon, October 26th at 3pm (location TBA). All PPOL students are invited (and encouraged) to take advantage of this time with Dr. O'Toole.

You will be notified of our upcoming guest lecturers in future issues of Going Concerns.

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## **11--MPA Alumni Conference October 29th**

The Master of Public Administration Alumni Association will be hosting a mini-conference here on campus on Friday, October 29th. PPOL students are invited and encouraged to attend. Here's the "Save the Date" information. I will send additional information on speakers as the date gets closer.

Dynamic Downtowns:  
Charlotte and Surrounding Towns Surge Back to Life  
Student Activity Center  
UNC-Charlotte  
8:30-11:30am

Breakfast will be served (RSVP required)

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## 12--Student and Faculty news

Hazel Sarmiento successfully passed her comprehensive examination. In celebration of passing her exam, Hazel also gave birth to her second child. Her announcement is below. Double congratulations to Hazel on these wonderful developments!

"We just want to let you know that Maddy's baby sister has arrived. Alessandra Lucianne Atienza was born today, September 19, at 9:50 am EST at Huntersville Presbyterian Hospital. She weighs 8 pounds 9 ounces and measures 20.5 inches. Her nickname is Sandy. I had the most difficult delivery ever. She is a big baby! Will tell you more about it later. So far we all good and doing well now."

Dr. Suzanne Leland's book *\_City-County Consolidation: Promises Made, Promises Kept?\_* was released with co-author Kurt Thurmaier on September 15th! The book has already garnered some early media covered such as a recent reference in the Wyandotte Daily News on August 27, 2010 on the success of Wyandotte County's city-county consolidation efforts. Congrats to Dr. Leland on this new volume!

Dr. Vivian Lord (CJUS) was interviewed for the WSOC-TV piece "Seven Jurors Selected in Trial."

Dr. Robin James (PHIL) contributed to the News14Carolina segment "Trial brings up debate over music's influence on behavior" [http://charlotte.news14.com/content/local\\_news/charlotte/630138/trial-brings-up-debate-over-music-s-influence-on-behavior](http://charlotte.news14.com/content/local_news/charlotte/630138/trial-brings-up-debate-over-music-s-influence-on-behavior)

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## 13--Fellowship Opportunity

The International Security and Foreign Policy Program of the Smith Richardson Foundation will award grants through its annual competitions for junior faculty and Ph.D. students at U.S. institutions.

The World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship is an annual competition to support Ph.D. dissertation research on American foreign policy, international relations, international security, strategic studies, area studies, and diplomatic and military history. The Foundation will award up to twenty grants of \$7,500 each. The deadline for submission is October 15, 2010, and the results will be announced by January 31, 2011.

For further information on eligibility and how to apply, please visit the website of the International Security and Foreign Policy Program at the following address:

[http://www.srf.org/grants/world\\_politics.php](http://www.srf.org/grants/world_politics.php)

Smith Richardson Foundation  
60 Jesup Road  
Westport, CT 06880

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## 14--Jobs

### **Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Opening for Full-Time Policy Assistant Office of Policy and Planning**

#### **Organization**

The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies is a catalyst for research on topics of concern to African Americans and other people of color. Initially founded in 1970 to encourage African American political participation in the wake of the passage of the Voting Rights Act, the Joint Center continues to promote civic and political engagement and support black leadership as the primary route to greater equality and opportunity for people of color. Our approach includes identifying critical and emerging issues and developing research parameters, as well as collaborating with well-known scholars and experts in designing and conducting rigorous investigations, studies and reports.

For more information, please visit our Web site at [www.jointcenter.org](http://www.jointcenter.org)

#### **Position**

A fast-paced and forward-thinking organization seeks a dynamic individual to join a dedicated team of professionals and make contributions to public policy efforts related to addressing the underlying factors associated with the racial wealth gap and the current status of state and the current status of state-based efforts to promote asset-building among low-income families and individuals in four targeted states: California (CA); Illinois (IL); Oklahoma (OK); Texas (TX); and the SE region, which include Florida (FL), Louisiana (LA), and Mississippi (MS).

Addition details about the position are available at:

[http://www.jointcenter.org/index.php/about\\_the\\_joint\\_center/job\\_opportunities](http://www.jointcenter.org/index.php/about_the_joint_center/job_opportunities)

### **Tenure-track Position Decision Making and Public Policy Carnegie Mellon**

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND DECISION SCIENCES AT CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY seeks candidates to fill a junior tenure-track position in decision making and public policy.

Candidates should have a strong commitment both to applying decision-making research to public policy and to creating the scientific foundations for such applications. Their letter of application should describe a research program designed to influence public policy and contribute to basic knowledge. Although policy interests could be in any area, the department has strengths in environment, energy, health, safety, finance, national security, and risk. Teaching would support the department's educational programs.

The department is interdisciplinary, with faculty members from psychology, economics, political science, decision science, and history. Several have joint appointments in other departments, notably Engineering and Public Policy. Collaboration is a hallmark of the Department and University.

<http://www.hss.cmu.edu/departments/sds/>

Carnegie Mellon University is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity employer. We encourage minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities to apply.

Applicants should send a CV, two papers, three letters of recommendation, and a statement of research interests to:

Chair, Behavioral Decision Research and Policy Search Committee Carnegie Mellon University  
Department of Social and Decision Sciences Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890.

Please submit applications by December 1.

**The University of Illinois at Springfield  
Department of Public Administration  
Tenure-track Assistant Professor position  
Public Policy/Public Administration**

Qualifications for the position include an earned doctorate (at the time of appointment) in public administration, political science, or a related field, with strong teaching and research interests in one or more of the disciplines or sub-disciplines of public administration or public policy. Willingness to serve on DPA dissertation committees is important. Applications should have an emerging record of excellence in teaching, scholarship, and professional service and an established research agenda. Salary is competitive, depending on qualifications. This position will require teaching a portion of coursework in our online program. Experience in online teaching is desirable.

Located in the state capital, the University of Illinois Springfield is one of three campuses of the University of Illinois. The UIS campus serves approximately 5,100 students in 20 graduate and 23 undergraduate programs. The academic curriculum of the campus emphasizes a strong liberal arts core, an array of professional programs, extensive opportunities in experiential education, and a broad engagement in public affairs issues of the day. The campus offers many small classes, substantial student-faculty interaction, and a rapidly evolving technology enhanced learning environment. Its diverse student body includes traditional, non-traditional, and international students. Twenty-five percent of majors are in 17 undergraduate and graduate online degree programs and the campus has received several national awards for its implementation of online learning. UIS faculty are committed teachers, active scholars, and professionals in service to society.

Screening of applications will begin October 15th and will continue until the position is filled. Further information is available on the Department of Public Administration Web site at [www.uis.edu/pa/](http://www.uis.edu/pa/). Inquiries may be directed to the Department by e-mail at [mpa@uis.edu](mailto:mpa@uis.edu) or by phone at (217)-206-6310. Please send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references, and other pertinent information to:

Public Administration Search Committee  
University of Illinois at Springfield  
One University Plaza, MS PAC 420  
Springfield, IL 62703