PPOL Students and Faculty:

I hope this summer issue the Going Concerns finds you all enjoying the slower summer pace (and getting some research done!). I have a few items I wanted to draw your attention to below. As always, if you have news to share about publications, grants, job opportunities, or anything else, please feel free to let me know and I will include it in the next Going Concerns.

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1--Summer Qualifying Exams Update and Request

We are gearing up for another offering of the Qualifying Exams. If you have completed the core courses, you should be preparing for the exams. Please send me a note to confirm that you are on the list to take the August exams. Here’s the schedule we will be following:

Monday, August 16, 8:00am-2:00pm—Economics
Wednesday, August 18, 8:00am-12:00pm—Quantitative Analysis: Statistics
Wednesday, August 18, 1:00pm-5:00pm—Quantitative Analysis: Program Evaluation
Friday, August 20, 9:00am—NOF Exam Delivered
Monday, August 23, 9:00am—NOF Exam Due

Please note the one slight change to the Quant exam. This will now be a two-part exam with an analysis question available in the morning session, a break, and then a separate session in the afternoon to focus on the program evaluation question. We made this change to address a recurring problem in answers over the past couple of years of exams and the PPOL Exam Subcommittee felt this change would help address those problems in a way conducive to student performance on that exam.

2--Summer and Fall Classes Posted

As you know, summer session is well underway. There is still time for those interested to get into the Grant Writing course for second summer session. The fall schedule is up, though I expect there will be additional changes over the summer due to continued shifts in faculty personnel and teaching assignments. I will announce those changes if/when they arise.

Please consult with your advisor for help in determining your courses for the fall. If you have not yet identified an advisor, I will be more than happy to provide any help I can.
3--Dates to Note

I wanted to draw you attention to several dates coming up this summer and ask that you mark those on your calendar that relate to you.

The first of these is a special event recognizing another milestone. We will graduate our 20th doctor this summer and to recognize the work of these graduates from the program, we are working on hosting a special alumni event on August 20th. We are tentatively planning that this will be a mini-conference on some of their research in a morning session, a catered lunch, and then professional job talks from those alums that entered academia and those that entered analyst or government positions. That evening, we will also try to host a happy hour to help kick off the new semester too. All the alums, current students, and faculty will be invited and future announcements will include additional details and we continue to try and pull this together under the leadership of Drs. Leland and Swartz.

Other important dates to note include:

Application for Graduation/Candidacy Deadlines

- Summer Session I 2010 Graduation: May 25
- Summer Session II 2010 Graduation: July 7
- December 2010 Graduation: September 1

Doctoral Dissertation and Masters Thesis Deadlines

- Summer Session I 2010 Graduation-Dissertation and Thesis: June 24
- Summer Session II 2010 Graduation-Dissertation and Thesis: August 7
- December 2010 Graduation-Dissertation: October 22
- December 2010 Graduation-Thesis: November 19

Fall Graduate Student Orientation—Saturday, August 21 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Fall graduate student orientation is scheduled for **Saturday, August 21st from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** The details of the day are still being confirmed, but the orientation will include general degree information, campus resources and a library orientation. If not already scheduled, please plan your department’s orientation around the Graduate Student Orientation session.

Graduate Teaching Assistants Required Training – Friday, August 19 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

According to our accreditation, the University is required to train all graduate teaching assistants. In partial fulfillment of that requirement, the Graduate School has scheduled the Fall TA Orientation on **Friday, August 19th, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** New TAs will receive information about this training. We would appreciate it if you would share this with students as they are hired.
4--Dissertation Defense: Galen Smith

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

Galen Smith
Barnard 244
Tuesday, June 8
10:00 am

RACIAL AND GENDER CONCORDANCE: EFFECTS OF UTILIZATION OF HEALTH SERVICES AMONG INDIVIDUALS ENROLLED IN A PRIMARY CARE CASE MANAGEMENT DELIVERY SYSTEM

Dissertation Committee Chair: Dr. Teresa L. Scheid (SOCY)

The race (or gender) concordance hypothesis suggests that matching patients and health providers on the basis of race or gender improves communication and patients’ perceptions of care and, by extension, encourages patients to seek and utilize care. The creation of a climate that fosters minorities to seek care, combined with increases in the number of minority health care providers, could potentially reduce the troubling disparities in health outcomes associated with race and gender that characterize twenty-first century health care in the United States. Very few studies to date have directly examined the impact of race (or gender) concordance on the utilization of health services, a key component in the link between race (or gender) concordance and the narrowing of health disparities. This dissertation, grounded on the theory of Andersen's (1995) Emerging Model of Health Services Utilization (Phase 4), used a post-test only comparison design, propensity score matching techniques, factor analysis, and linear and logistic regression methodologies to determine that race and gender patient-provider concordance played a limited role in the utilization of health services among those enrolled in a primary care case management delivery system. The research informs policymakers tasked with determining the appropriate levels of resources that ensure adequate utilization of health services that may ultimately diminish disparities in health outcomes.

5--Dissertation Defense: Tammatha Clodfelter

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

Tammatha Clodfelter
Colvard 5100 (Criminal Justice Conference Room)
Wednesday, June 9, 2010
2:00 pm

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE: THE IMPACT OF ALCOHOL AND ILLICIT DRUG USE ON THE DETERRENT EFFECTS OF ARREST

Dissertation Committee Chair: Dr. Bobby Brame (CJUS)
Over the past thirty years the criminal justice system has employed numerous approaches to reduce intimate partner violence. Arresting perpetrators of intimate partner violence is a common response and therefore researchers have been interested in estimating the effects of arrest on future incidence of intimate partner violence. Various theoretical arguments have been applied to predict whether arrest will reduce future violence (deterrence), increase future violence (labeling and deviance amplification), or have any other discernible effects. Many questions still remain unanswered despite considerable research efforts. In particular, understanding how offenders of intimate partner violence perceive arrest and other law enforcement sanctions is critical for assessing the effectiveness of these interventions. Further, previous literature has shown that factors such as alcohol and illicit drug use influence perception. My research examines the effects of arrest within the context of the offender’s substance use and impairment. Specifically, the question is whether arrest has different effects on recidivism depending on whether the offender is under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs at the time the sanction is applied by law enforcement officers. Existing official record data from the Charlotte (North Carolina) Spouse Assault Replication Project was be used to conduct this research. My results show that consumption of alcohol and/or illicit drugs does not influence the impact of the sanctions applied to misdemeanor domestic violence offenders.

6--ICPSR Summer Program Workshop on “Health Care Change in the U.S.”

- Application deadline extended (June 9, 2010)
- Courses fees waived
- Limited number of travel stipends ($500) available

The ICPSR Summer Program is pleased to announce new details on the 5-day (August 2-6, 2010) workshop titled “Health Care Change in the United States: Working With The Community Tracking Study and Health Tracking Surveys”


A description of the workshop follows and also can be found – along with information on how to register – at http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/sumprog/courses/0121.

HEALTH CARE CHANGE IN THE UNITED STATES: WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY TRACKING STUDY AND HEALTH TRACKING SURVEYS

With funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Center for Studying Health System Change (HSC) has periodically conducted national surveys of households and physicians and conducted comprehensive site visits in a set of local health care markets since 1996. The Community Tracking Study (CTS) is a large-scale longitudinal investigation of the evolution of the U.S. health system change and its effects on people and providers. This workshop will focus on the household and physician surveys conducted by HSC and available through ICPSR. The first four rounds of these surveys, called the CTS Household and Physician surveys, had complex samples primarily clustered in 60 nationally representative local healthcare markets, allowing both national and market estimates. Beginning in 2007, with round 5, surveys adopted simpler national samples and were renamed the HSC Health Tracking Household and Physician surveys.

The household surveys contain detailed information on people’s healthcare access, satisfaction, use of services and insurance coverage. Information about health status, sociodemographic characteristics and employment is also collected. Physician surveys ask about source of practice revenue, problems respondents face in practicing medicine, quality of care, access to services, information technology, sources of practice revenue and compensation, as well as questions about their practice arrangements and care practices.
This workshop will meet August 2-6 and cover key features of the CTS and Health Tracking Household and Physician surveys, while also providing instruction on their use and on the analysis of survey data in general. It will begin with presentations by HSC staff, who will describe study design, sampling procedures, questionnaire content, complex survey variance estimation, weighting, and other topics. Participants will be asked to familiarize themselves with the content of the either the 2007 household or 2008 physician surveys and formulate research projects. HSC and ICPSR staff will assist participants in developing and pursuing their research projects. During the last two days of the workshop, participants will hear from researchers who have used the CTS and HT surveys, continue working on their research projects, and explore other HSC surveys.

Application: Applicants need to include a one-page statement of their research interests and their curriculum vitae. Graduate students require a letter of support from their faculty advisor. All supporting materials can be submitted electronically through the Summer Program registration portal on each applicant's Summer Program account page.

Deadline: EXTENDED -- the new deadline for application is Wednesday June 9, 2010.

Fee: There will be no tuition fees for accepted participants.

Stipend: Robert Wood Johnson will offer travel stipends ($500 maximum) for a limited number of participants to attend the workshop.

7--Joanna R. Baker Memorial Graduate Fellowship

This UNCC fellowship program was established by friends and colleagues of Dr. Baker to recognize and continue her extraordinary vision of interdisciplinary research and the application of creative yet rigorous solutions to challenging public and social policy problems. Each year the Graduate School, in conjunction with the Joanna R. Baker Foundation, awards $2,250 to a graduate student who has a commitment to the study and application of solutions to problems related to public and social policy (e.g., criminal justice, health care, transportation, social welfare, public safety, management, and government). Any new or continuing master's or doctoral student who has a career interest as described above may apply for this award.

Application materials must include the following items:

1. A copy of the student's current curriculum vita.
2. A copy of the student's transcript.
3. Two letters of recommendation that address the applicant's academic ability and the applicant's career potential to develop rigorous solutions to challenging public and social policy problems. At least one letter must be written by a UNC Charlotte faculty member.
4. Personal statement written by the student that demonstrates how the student's academic training, work experience, and career goals address the intent of the Joanna R. Baker Memorial Graduate Fellowship

All materials should be sent to: The Joanna R. Baker Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee, The Graduate School, 210 Cato Hall, no later than 5 pm June 30, 2010. Please direct all questions to gradfunding@uncc.edu.
8--Conference on Survey Research Invitation (Proposals Due by June 30)

Hello,

I would like to invite you and your colleagues to participate in the 29th annual Southern Association for Public Opinion Research (SAPOR) Conference, October 7-8, 2010 at the Holiday Inn Brownstone in Raleigh, North Carolina. This year’s conference theme will be “A Decade in Review” and the keynote speaker will be Howard Hogan from the Census Bureau.

We are also offering a short course on October 6th, on the afternoon before the conference. The course is “Practical Tools for Nonresponse Bias Analysis” taught by Kristen Olson from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Jill Montaquila from Westat.

This is an excellent opportunity for those in your research area to increase their scientific stature, interact with representatives from a number of survey research organizations, and be exposed to the latest developments in survey research all in a very comfortable, encouraging atmosphere. In addition, all student papers will be included in the James W. Prothro student paper competition, which includes a cash prize of $250.

For more information about the conference, please see our website: http://southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org/participation_call.htm.

If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities for the 2010 SAPOR Conference, a copy of our Marketing Prospectus can be found here: http://southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org/docs/marketingprospectus.pdf.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in October!

Emily McFarlane Geisen
SAPOR Conference Chair
RTI International
3040 Cornwallis Road
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Phone: (919) 541-6566
egeisen@rti.org

9--Call for Papers: 2010 Annual Conference and Meeting of the Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis

Evidence and the "NEW" Policy Evaluation: Frontiers for Benefit-Cost Analysis

October 19-20, 2010 at the Washington Court Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Abstracts Due July 15, 2010

The Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis promotes the development and appropriate application of benefit-cost analysis to a broad range of public policy issues. This year, our Third Annual Conference and Meeting, “Evidence and the “NEW” Policy Evaluation: Frontiers for Benefit-Cost Analysis,” will be celebrating the increasing use of benefit-cost analysis across numerous policy contexts and the development of innovative analytic approaches. As always, we welcome abstracts on any topic related to improving the use of benefit-cost analysis, cost-effectiveness analysis, risk-benefit analysis, applied welfare economic analysis, and damage assessments in policy settings, from scholars, practitioners, and others interested in these areas who wish to present research at the conference.
Some examples of areas of interest including the following:

- Developing innovative analytic tools and testing their application in case studies
- Extending the use of benefit-cost analysis to new policy areas
- Improving the use of benefit-cost analysis in decisionmaking
- Incorporating research on happiness, life-satisfaction, and behavioral economics
- Developing principles and standards for benefit-cost analysis
- Determining the appropriate discount rates, and assessing risk and uncertainty
- Valuing costs and benefits and assessing distributional impacts
- Incorporating moral sentiments and equity considerations
- Evaluating the use of benefit-cost analysis by government or other institutions, in the U.S. and other countries
- Communicating analytic results effectively

Abstracts should be 200–300 words in length and provide adequate detail on the content of the research. Proposals for panels that include three to four speakers are also welcome, and should include a summary of the overall focus of the panel as well as a 200–300 word abstract for each presentation. Note that the program committee reserves the right to select the panel abstracts and to reorganize the panels as needed. Submission of an abstract is viewed as a firm commitment to participate in the conference if accepted. All submissions must include complete contact information for each prospective presenter.

Abstracts and panel proposals should be submitted as email attachments in Word document (.doc) format to sbcainfo@uw.edu along with complete contact information for all prospective presenters (name, title, affiliation, email, phone, and address), before July 15, 2010. Please write “Abstract: SBCA 2010” in the subject of the email.

For more information about the Society, please visit our website at www.benefitcostanalysis.org or contact sbcainfo@uw.edu. To receive information on registering for the conference when it becomes available, please consider becoming a member of the society; membership information is available on our website.

2010 Conference Program Committee
Glenn Jenkins, Coordinator (Queen’s University, Canada and Eastern Mediterranean University, Northern Cyprus)
Ekin Birol (International Food Policy Research Institute)
Scott Farrow (UMBC)
Sandra Hoffmann (Resources for the Future)
W. Kip Viscusi (Vanderbilt University)
Dale Whittington (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Manchester University)

10--Student and Faculty News

We have lots of news to report since early May. And again I encourage you to let me know if there are any announcements you would like me to include in future updates.

First, congratulations to Beth Wemlinger on the birth of her daughter, Hayley Judy Keiner. She was born on Monday May 3rd at 8:50am at a weight of 7 pounds 3 ounces, and 20 1/2 inches in length. Beth brought Hayley by last week and we started her GRE prep to get her ready to apply in the near future.
Second, I want to extend my congratulations to Martha Bottia. Martha was hooded at graduation last month and has since won a post-doc position here at UNC-Charlotte. We’re happy to have her able to stay nearby!

Third, I also want to congratulate Lilly Meng on her dissertation proposal defense last week. She did a very good job and is well on her way to getting her dissertation completed this year.

Silva Mathema is spending the summer in Washington DC undertaking an internship she won at the Migration Policy Institute in the National Center for Immigrant Integration Policy. This is a three month long summer internship which will be an outstanding experiential learning opportunity for her.

Dr. Ted Arrington’s (POLs) article came out in _Politics and Policy_ entitled “Affirmative Districting and Four Decades of Redistricting: The Seats/Votes Relationship 1772-2008.” We are sad to learn that Dr. Arrington has announced his retirement this summer from the university after an outstanding public career in higher education. He was instrumental in helping get PPOL launched and he will be sorely missed both in the department and at the university.

Dr. Beth Bjerregaard has been appointed as the new chair of the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology starting Aug 1. PPOL is quite fortunate to have so many great chairs in the departments with whom we work in PPOL, and Beth’s appointment will be another in that fortunate evolution.

PPOL alums Drs. Junfeng Wang and Huili Hao, presented a joint paper at this year’s AAG annual conference entitled: “The Health Impacts of Brownfields in Charlotte, NC: A Spatial Approach”

UNCC and PPOL were well represented at this year’s Southern Sociological Society annual meeting with several presentations by faculty:

Dr. Scott Fitzgerald (SOCY) presented “Indian Religion and Politics: Frame Analysis and the Case of the BJP” with co-author Damanvir K. Sidhu. Dr. Fitzgerald also presented “Frame Disputes within the Autism Movement” with co-author Caroline Jeanette Schierle.

Dr. Lisa Rashotte (SO CY) presented “Race Status Belief” with co-author Tonya K. Frevert, UNC Charlotte.

Dr. Elizabeth Stearns (SO CY) presented “Paving the Gendered Path to Prestige: Individual and School-Level Influences on Academic, Arts, and Service Club Participation” with co-author Elizabeth J. Glennie, RTI.

Drs. Stephanie Moller, Elizabeth Stearns, and Roz Mickelson (all SO CY) presented their paper “The Contribution of Professional Climate and Curricula to Early Mathematics Gaps Across Schools.”

Drs. Harry Campbell (GEOG) and David Swindell (PPOL) had an encyclopedia piece come out this month entitled “Sports Arenas” in the _New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture_, vol. 17.

PPOL and UNCC continued to be well-represented in the media with numerous news and other media spots:

Campbell and Swindell

Dr. Vivian Lord (CJUS) was quoted in the Charlotte Observer article regarding “State hiring, slowly, for probation slots.” (Mar. 4)

Dr. Jen Hartman (CJUS) was quoted in a story by WCNC regarding “DNA proves father of Tiffany Wright’s baby.” (Mar. 5)

Dr. Roslyn Arlin Mickelson (SO CY) was quoted in an article in the Greensboro News & Record regarding diversity, “Wake County ditches its school diversity policy.” (Mar. 7)
Dr. Peter Schwarz (ECON) provided comments for News14Carolina segments “Spirit Airlines to charge for some on-board bags” and “New tarmac law may give travelers more headaches.” He also was interviewed by several media outlets regarding the U.S. Airways and United Airlines merger talks, including WCNC, WBT and News14Carolina. In addition, he served as a guest on WFAE’s “Charlotte Talks,” where he talked about President Obama’s offshore oil policy. For another WBT segment, he discussed the effect of the Icelandic volcano on the airline industry.

Dr. David Swindell (PPOL) served as a guest on WFAE’s “Charlotte Talks,” where he talked about the process of judge selection in North Carolina.

11--Jobs

Analyst position at the Food and Drug Administration

Introduction

This position is located within Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), Office of Planning & Informatics. The office is responsible for FDA CDER strategic planning and analysis, as well as business process support activities. This is an exciting opportunity to join a highly motivated team of analysts who assist senior CDER management by providing timely and relevant analyses of drug industry trends, CDER program operations, and the impact of these operations on various stakeholders.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Primary responsibilities include collection and analysis of data (both quantitative and qualitative) with an emphasis on defining the problem, collecting information, modeling, and identifying relevant policy implications.
- Study problems will often not be stated in explicit terms or with clear objectives, therefore the analyst will be responsible for investigating the issue involved, posing specific questions to be resolved, and determining detailed steps to be included in the analysis. This will require collaboration with other staff members within the program and relevant CDER offices in the process of data collection and problem solving.
- The incumbent will identify the most appropriate approach to explicitly describe and select the relevant factors in the problems studied. He or she will also determine the relevant variables and relationships, determine the constraints which are present, validate assumptions and propose alternate solutions.
- The incumbent will put forward analytical findings to senior management either in writing or through presentations.
- The incumbent may be asked to analyze problems related to development and analysis of performance measures for drug regulatory programs and analytical support for planning and evaluation in a broad range of areas including FDA/CDER oversight. The incumbent may also be asked to conduct quantitative analyses of drug industry trends or impact of FDA policies on various stakeholders.

Required Skills/Abilities

- Very strong analytical skills
- Ability to effectively communicate conducted analyses to various audiences verbally and in writing; ability to prepare effective presentations
- Experience analyzing data (qualitative and quantitative)
Other Requirements

- Must be a US citizen
- Must have at least 24 credit hours of quantitative coursework in courses such as statistics, operations research, research methods, applied mathematics, econometrics, etc.
- Must have at least 3 credit hours of calculus

Additional Information

GS-11 through GS-13 ($60,989 - $113,007)
Location: Silver Spring

If interested, please send a cover letter, up-to-date resume and a copy of relevant transcript(s) to maria.andrews@fda.hhs.gov.

University of Baltimore
Schaefer Center for Public Policy

The job announcement is posted below, and can also be accessed at the following url:

http://www.ubalt.edu/template.cfm?page=318&posting=493

University of Baltimore
Schaefer Center for Public Policy
Vacancy Number 2010-057UBW

Position Type: Regular exempt grant-funded position with benefits package
Opens: 03/05/10   Re-opens: 04/02/10   Closes: Open Until Filled

Salary: $40,000 - $50,000

NOTE: Some evening and weekend work is required.

NOTE: Applicants submitting resumes for the original posting are being considered and do not need to reapply.

Duties

The Survey Lab Manager oversees the Center's survey operations including telephone and mail surveys and participates in writing research proposals, developing survey designs, engaging in questionnaire construction, administering survey research projects, interacting with clients, and preparing reports of findings. The Manager ensures the smooth operation of the day-to-day operations of the Center's Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) survey research lab.
Duties include:

- Managing the day-to-day operations of CATI Lab and ensuring the timely, cost efficient, successful completion of projects and its smooth operation.
- Scheduling telephone interviewers based on project needs and cost efficiencies.
- Monitoring and reviewing interviewers’ performance and taking appropriate action as required.
- Ensuring accuracy and quality of surveys.
- Ensuring compliance with CATI Lab policies and procedures.
- Interviewing, selecting and training CATI Lab staff.
- Summarizing the specific status of a project and communicating it on a timely basis to project managers, clients, and other supervisory staff.
- Generating reports to determine, predict or prevent potential problems for a specific project, identifying and assessing phone and computer equipment problems and troubleshooting any system difficulties or other problems in the CATI lab.
- Making arrangements for focus study groups.
- Proofreading and editing survey instruments.
- Programming of surveys in Ci3 or WebSensus.
- Participating in writing research reports.
- Preparing summary graphs and tables for inclusion in final reports.
- Proofreading and editing final reports (test and graphics).

Qualifications

Position requires bachelor’s degree in public administration, public policy, sociology, marketing, or related discipline and 3 years of related experience, including one year in a supervisory role. Graduate degree or coursework can be substituted for relevant experience on a year for year basis.

Experience in proposal development, project management, data analysis, report preparation or Ci3/Web Sensus programming is a plus. Experience with Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) systems is desirable. Also requires excellent interpersonal, administrative and organizational skills; excellent written and oral communication skills; and excellent project management skills. Also requires ability to balance multiple projects; ability to troubleshoot problems, monitor work progress, motivate and critique employees; and strong computer skills including SPSS, Excel, Microsoft Office Suite, and Ci3/Web Sensus.

Research Specialist I/II
The Woodrow Wilson School

The Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University has an opening for a research specialist to conduct research in political economy of international economic policy, globalization, and technological change. The Research Specialist will conduct research on a variety of topics, as assigned by faculty. He/she will locate and compile statistical data, edit data for accuracy and completeness, run statistical analyses, and perform other duties as assigned.

The initial appointment will be for one year beginning as early as May 15, 2010, with the possibility of renewal.
Minimum BA/BS degree, in a social science discipline such as Economics, Political Science, etc. Strong computing skills, including programming in STATA and other statistical packages, and experience in compiling and manipulating large data sets are essential.

- Knowledge of statistics is essential
- Excellent research and writing skills
- Knowledge of standard internet tools and HTML is necessary
- Familiarity with standard social science or international economics related data sources is important.

The candidate should be well organized, flexible, attentive to detail, and able to respond to deadlines in a timely fashion.

Research Specialist level will be determined based on level of education and work experience.

Please submit letter of application with curriculum vitae and samples of original work online at http://jobs.princeton.edu. Search open positions for research specialist.

Preferred Qualifications: Advanced degree (Masters or PhD) preferred.

The Analyst Institute

The Analyst Institute is growing because the value of randomized controlled experiments is increasingly recognized in politics; it's an exciting time to do behavioral science. As we ramp up for the 2010 Midterm elections we are hiring three more people at all levels of experience. If you know smart undergraduates, master's students, PhD candidates, or recent PhDs who might be interested in working with us in 2010, please pass this along to them.

The Analyst Institute conducts randomized controlled experiments to increase the impact of voter contact and communication strategies for progressive organizations. For more information please visit www.analystinstitute.org

All the best,

Todd Rogers

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
UW SURVEY CENTER

Official title: SR RESEARCH SPEC(T16BN) OR RESEARCH SPECIALIST(T16DN) OR ASSOC RESEARCH SPEC(T16FN)

Principal duties:

UWSC is an organization which collects data for social science survey research projects. Interviews are conducted by telephone, mail, web, through focus groups or (CAPI)interviews in person. Most non-mail interviews are conducted on a sophisticated computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) system.
This position, which reports to the Project Management Director of the Survey Center, will involve a wide variety of duties associated with data collection activities for all types of survey projects.

These duties will included:

30% Consulting with clients on survey research and sampling methodologies; serving as the liaison between UWSC and clients; developing survey questionnaires in consultation with clients at the UW, other universities and state government agencies.

35% Managing and coordinating all aspects of survey projects; innovating methodological solutions; training and supervising staff.

30% Managing data through the use of statistical software packages such as SPSS, SAS and other tools; compiling tabular reports of survey findings, writing technical documentation of survey methods and response rate reports for projects.

5% Miscellaneous projects designed to improve efficiency and data quality at UWSC.

Additional information and application instructions available at:
http://www.ohr.wisc.edu/pvl/pv_064137.html

The George Washington Institute of Public Policy
Senior Research Associate Job Description:

The George Washington Institute of Public Policy (GWIPP) seeks a Senior Research Associate to serve as a project manager and analyst for the Significant Features of the Property Tax project, a collaborative ongoing effort undertaken by GWIPP and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (LILP). The project produces a compendium of information on the property tax in the 50 states and the District of Columbia for policymakers, practitioners, elected officials, researchers, journalists, and the public (see http://www.lincolninst.edu/subcenters/significant-features-property-tax/). Primary areas of responsibility include supervising research assistants collecting data for annual updates; developing management tools to ensure consistency and comparability of data across states and years; and preparing written reports. Additionally, the incumbent will consult with LILP and their website developers to expand the functionality of the online data management system and the Significant Features website. As the project progresses, the Senior Research Associate may also be involved in additional research projects related to the Significant Features data.

The preferred candidate should have a Master's degree or a Ph.D. with some experience managing research projects. Coursework in the areas of public finance, state and local finance, state and local government, urban policy, or a related field is desirable as is research project management and database management experience. While the position is a permanent one, applicants who wish to be considered for the position for a more limited period (but at least two years) will also be considered. Salary will be in the range of $50,000-$60,000, depending on qualifications and experience. Please send a letter of interest, a CV, and the names of three references to Charlotte Kirschner at ckirsch@gwmail.gwu.edu, or contact Ms. Kirschner at 202-994-5170 for further information. The position will remain open until filled, but consideration of applicants will begin by June 15th.
Temple University

Title: Director, Institute for Survey Research (ISR)

The Institute for Survey Research (ISR) of Temple University is one of the oldest and most highly regarded academic survey research units in the United States. The Institute is actively seeking the third Director in its history. This uniquely qualified individual will play a key role in shaping the Institute’s future focus. Since its founding in 1967, ISR has made numerous research contributions to policy planning at local, state, and national levels through surveys using personal, telephone, mail, and Web-based interviews; program evaluations; and focus group research. The Institute has particular strength in field work, achieving outstanding response rates and maintaining high data quality even with challenging populations. The Institute has worked in the past with NIH, SAMHSA, NIJ, ABA, Presidential Commissions, private foundations and other academic institutions.

The successful candidate will bring a broad social science perspective and be a leader with the ability to adopt a scientific vision consistent with the field of survey research, together with the entrepreneurial spirit to grow the Institute’s capacity and research volume. He or she will play a key role in achieving the Institute’s objective of effective growth and continuing to be a national presence in survey and evaluation research. The Director will support and foster an environment to encourage research collaborations with University Faculty members as well as researchers at other institutions and organizations in the public and private not-for-profit sectors. He/She will continue the commitment to the submission of grants to federal agencies and corporations.

Qualifications/Position Description:

The Director reports to the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and will direct all projects performed within the ISR as well as oversee all research and technical/statistical activities, research, development and marketing functions.

Flexibility exists for a tenure track or research track appointment depending on qualifications of the candidate. The Director would be expected to operate in an entrepreneurial spirit in setting strategic direction for the institute in the current economic climate.

Responsibilities of the Director include: establish schedules and deadlines for all ISR studies in conjunction with the Senior Study Director; develop and manage department budgets, and oversee the outcomes of all ISR projects. The ISR Director will develop and direct ISR policies and procedures, set employee/departamental goals, and make strategic decisions concerning the deployment of ISR resources. Additional responsibilities include develop and maintain relationships with internal and external contacts, meet and make presentations to Temple University employees, students, staff, and clients in reference to the Institutes various projects.

Required Education and Experience:

PhD in the social sciences or related discipline; demonstrated leadership experience such as Director, Associate Director or equivalent position in a research or survey center. Possibilities for a tenured appointment will be assessed upon applicant qualifications.
Required Skills and Abilities:

- Demonstrated leadership in social science research, including expertise in all phases and modes of survey research.
- Success in, and enthusiasm for, securing large scale grant or contract funding from federal, state or local government or private agencies.
- Significant record of scholarship including peer-reviewed publications and effective teaching/mentoring.

Program Evaluation expertise preferred.

Compliance Statement: In the performance of their functions as detailed in the position description employees have an obligation to avoid ethical, legal, financial and other conflicts of interest to ensure that their actions and outside activities do not conflict with their primary employment responsibilities at the institution. Employees are also expected to understand and be in compliance with applicable laws, University and employment policies and regulations, including NCAA regulations for areas and departments which their essential functions cause them to interact.

Response:

In order to be considered for this position, please send a letter of interest, and CV to the Chair of the Search Committee:

Heidi E. Grunwald, PhD
Interim Director
Institute for Survey Research
Temple University
1719 N. Broad St.
407 Klein Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6098
grunwald@temple.edu
215-204-2217

The review committee will begin assessing candidates upon receipt of letters of interest and Curriculum Vitae and continue until the position is filled. For full consideration, materials should be received by June 15, 2010. Finalists selected may be asked to submit letters of recommendation, examples of research reports and publications. AA, EOE, m/f/d/v. For more information about Temple University and the Institute for Survey Research, please visit our websites at www.temple.edu/isr
www.temple.edu
Group Health Research Institute, Seattle, WA

www.grouphealthresearch.org

The Group Health Research Institute is seeking a candidate for a managerial position to manage the research survey program and provide methods consultation to faculty. This position will have the opportunity to continue to develop an outstanding survey research program and to collaborate with epidemiological and health services researchers on a wide range of clinical and methodologic areas. This position offers a unique opportunity to work with researchers and to test innovative survey methodologies in a large, defined population.

The Institute (www.grouphealthresearch.org) is an internationally recognized academic research organization that primarily conducts government funded clinical, epidemiologic, and health services research. It includes 35 MD and PhD investigators, 15 biostatisticians, and over 250 staff members. The Institute and surrounding research centers are part of a vibrant research community. Current areas of research emphasis include behavioral medicine & mental health, healthy aging, cancer screening & control, chronic illness management, complementary & alternative medicine, health economics, pharmacoepidemiology, infectious disease, and women’s health. The Institute is the research division of Group Health Cooperative, a non-profit, consumer-governed, integrated health care organization and an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

Applicants should hold a master's degree in a relevant social science or behavioral science, or health sciences discipline. Excellent oral and written communication skills and a strong interest in active collaboration on public domain interdisciplinary research studies are required. Applicants should have a minimum of 3 â€“ 5 years managing a research survey program in addition to experience working within the field and expertise in all phases and modes of survey research. They should also have experience and interest to grow the survey program's capacity and research volume. Equivalent academic position titles, depending on the size of the institution may be Associate Director or Director of Survey Research. Salary is competitive.

Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. To be considered for the position, please submit a letter of interest and CV to the following web site:

http://www.ghc.org/careers/index.jhtml

by selecting Search for Jobs and then entering Job number 100886 for the Mgr; Survey Rsrch Prgm (GHRI) position.