

Newsletter 05/2003

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REMINDER - ISERP END OF THE YEAR REPORTING

Directors of ISERP-funded centers, projects, workshops and seminars and ISERP's graduate and post-doctoral fellows must submit end-of-the-year reports by 5 p.m. tomorrow, May 2nd, 2003. For guidelines on reporting, please contact Lisa Ballard (lb2239@columbia.edu). Seed grant reporting is due Friday, May 15th, by 5 p.m.

IN REMEMBRANCE

A University memorial service will be held tomorrow, Friday, May 5th in honor of Robert Merton. The service will begin at 4:00 p.m. and will be followed by a reception in the Faculty Room (Low Library 207).

NEW GRANTS

Congratulations to:

Ira Katznelson (Political Science/History)

The Substance of Representation: Studying Policy Content and Legislative Performance

National Science Foundation

Ira Katznelson will undertake an ambitious empirical effort to better understand the dynamics of legislative performance in Congress. Using a new theoretically- derived coding scheme to classify legislation and roll call votes by policy areas, Katznelson will code all public statutes and roll calls from the end of Reconstruction to the present, in order to systematically analyze the sources and character of congressional behavior.

William McAllister (ISERP)

Transformations in Elite Recruitment Structures of the American Administrative State

National Science Foundation

William McAllister will investigate recruitment processes for elite administrative government positions, and trace transformations of these recruitment structures over time. Focused on the paradoxical intersection of research on elite recruitment and state-building, McAllister will analyze how relatively unstructured processes of recruitment produce employees with appropriate skills and identification with the state.

SEED GRANTS

Congratulations to:

Alayne Adams (Public Health)

Gender Inequity, Social Vulnerability and HIV/AIDS

Policy Seed Grant

Alayne Adams, of the Department of Population and Family Health, has proposed a collaboration with BRAC, a large multi-sectoral NGO in Bangladesh committed to health and poverty alleviation. The joint research initiative aims to impact rural people's knowledge, attitudes, and practices around reproductive health in general, and HIV and gender awareness in particular.

Nicole Marwell (Sociology/Latina/o Studies Program) and Rodolfo de la Garza (Political Science)

Making It Isn't Enough: Strategies for Intergenerational Class Transfer Among Latinos

Research Seed Grant

Nicole Marwell and Rodolfo de la Garza will investigate the processes of intergenerational class transmission from middle-class Latino parents to their adult children. Through open-ended interviews focused on participants' family, school, leisure, work, and peer group experiences, Marwell and de la Garza will propose the factors underlying various class transmission outcomes.

Rajeev Dehejia (SIPA/Economics)
Child Labor and Access to Credit
Policy Seed Grant

Rajeev Dehejia will examine the political potential of employing access to credit as a tool for fighting child labor and poverty. Using detailed household panel data from Tansania and Vietnam, Dehejia will analyze the impact of access to credit on decisions regarding child labor and schooling, and assess whether families resort to child labor in order to cope with both household and community income shocks

Kimberley Johnson (Barnard, Political Science)
Stateways: Public administration, state capacity, and state governments in the Jim Crow South, 1930-1954
Research Seed Grant

Kimberly Johnson will explore the tension between the modernization of state governments in the American South and the maintenance of the Jim Crow system. Rather than seeing the modernization of the South as occurring solely due to pressures from the federal government or the Civil Rights movement, Johnson suggests that southerners themselves played a distinctive role determining how the Jim Crow system would intersect with a modern administrative state.

Duncan Watts (Earth Institute/Sociology)
Dynamics of Information Exchange in a University
Research Seed Grant

Duncan Watts will direct an endeavor to map, analyze, and understand the email communication network of the Columbia University community. This project will be the first academic study to take into account both the socio-demographic attributes of the users and the dynamical properties of a large-scale email exchange network.

ISERP's Seed Grant program supports the initial stages of new social science research projects, with a special emphasis on innovative, interdisciplinary, and collaborative research. The next deadline for new Seed Grant proposals is October 15, 2003. For more details, please visit: http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/initiatives/seed_grants/grant_program.html

QMSS - Master's students interested in RA work

Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (QMSS) is ISERP's interdisciplinary Master's degree program in quantitative methods. Through the program, QMSS students develop quantitative research techniques and analytical skills. Representing a diverse range of experiences and interests, QMSS students are well prepared for work in the social sciences, and many are eager to get involved in research opportunities with Columbia faculty. Many students are work/study eligible as well. To find out more about how these students might contribute to your project, please contact QMSS Director, Chris Weiss, at cw2036@columbia.edu.

HEALTH & SOCIETY SCHOLARS PROGRAM AT COLUMBIA - SHORT COURSES/SEMINARS

The following short courses and seminars are open free of charge to faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students at Columbia University, as well as faculty and postdoctoral fellows at other sites of the RWJ Health & Society Scholars Program. Please send an email expressing your interest to chssp@columbia.edu and we will notify you as soon as the short courses open for registration. No registration is necessary for the seminars.

- May 1, 2: Short Course - Sequence Analysis, led by Katherine Stovel (with 2 computer lab sessions). *Registration required*
- May 9: Seminar - Welfare Reform and Children's Development, presented by Greg Duncan (10am, IAB 220B).

For more details, please visit our calendar of events at: <http://www.chssp.columbia.edu>.

HEALTH & SOCIETY SCHOLARS PROGRAM - SEED GRANTS/MICROGRANTS

To promote new population health research at Columbia, the Health and Society Scholar's Program sponsors two internal grant competitions. The Seed Grant and Microgrant Programs are intended to support projects with innovative approaches in population health, which provide opportunities for Scholar training and investigation, and build connections between public health and the social sciences. All H&SS affiliate faculty and Scholars are eligible to apply.

For more details about applying, please visit: <http://www.chssp.columbia.edu/content.asp?cid=9>