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### CONGRATULATIONS

- Drawing on policy research conducted through ISERP-administered grants, Robert Shapiro (Political Science) recently served as an expert witness and provided a report to the U.S. Justice Department in hearings related to the new campaign finance law. Shapiro has also been awarded the Converse Award for his first book "The Rational Public: Fifty Years of Trends in Americans' Policy Preferences" (with Benjamin I. Page, University of Chicago Press, 1992), published in the field of voting and public opinion.
  - John Huber (Political Science) has been awarded the Gregory Luebbert, William Riker, and Richard Fenno prizes for "Deliberate Discretion? Institutional Foundations of Bureaucratic Autonomy" (with Charles R. Shirpan, Cambridge University Press, 2002), and his contribution to the fields of comparative politics, political economy, and legislative studies.
  - ISERP Visiting Scholar Leslie Santee Siskin has recently published a book on education policy with Martin Carnoy and Richard Elmore. "The New Accountability: High Schools and High-Stakes Testing" explores the current wave of assessment-based accountability reforms at the high school level and investigates key issues and variations in the positions and philosophies of different schools, questions of leadership and capacity, and consequences for school subjects.
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### SEED GRANTS

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 March 1, 2004. For more details, please visit: [http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/initiatives/seed\\_grants/grant\\_program.html](http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/initiatives/seed_grants/grant_program.html)

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### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FALL 2003 SEED GRANT RECIPIENTS

- Erik Gartzke (Political Science)  
*Research on Commitment in International Relations*  
Building upon ongoing research on political commitment, Erik Gartzke will study the associated importance and complications of commitment in the anarchic international environment. In examining general theories of war, international processes, and domestic processes, his research will propose a logic of commitment, which is central to new understandings of international relations and foreign policy.
  - Lynn Meskell (Anthropology)  
*Making Heritage Pay: Social and Economic Empowerment in South Africa*  
Lynn Meskell will examine the role of new socioeconomic and political initiatives around cultural heritage in South Africa. She will conduct interviews and participant observation in Kruger National Park (KNP) and outside its boundaries in order to investigate the intersections of KNP and global and national communities and institutions.
  - Mignon Moore (Sociology and African-American Studies)  
*"Invisible Families of New York": A Sociological Study of Gay Relationships and Motherhood among Black and Latina Women*  
Through surveys and in-depth interviews, Mignon Moore will examine the intersections of sexuality, race, and ethnic identity for African-Americans, Latinas, and women of Caribbean descent. Specifically, the study will focus on how issues of independence and belonging may play out in unique ways for gay women of color.
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### VISITING SCHOLARS

This month, ISERP welcomes Delia Baldassari, of the University of Trento, Italy, who will be

conducting sociological research at Columbia through August 2004. Academic interests include social movements and collective action, public opinion and political behavior, and social institutions and inequality.

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## ISERP WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

ISERP sponsors or co-sponsors regular workshops and seminars. Starred workshops meet weekly; others meet once or twice a month.

- \*Contentious Politics (M 4-6)
- International Politics Seminar (M 4-6)
- \*Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (M 6:30-8:30)
- 20th Century Amer. Politics & Society (Th 4:10-6)
- \*Human Decision Making Seminar (Th 5:15-6:30)
- American Society and Politics (F 10-12)
- Health & Society Scholars (F 10-12)
- ISERP Graduate Fellows (F 12-2)
- Historical Dynamics (TBA)
- Political Economy (TBA)
- Political Psychology (October 18)

For more details on schedules and locations, please visit:

[http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/news/calendars/workshop\\_schedules.html](http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/news/calendars/workshop_schedules.html)

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## RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

Please visit the Research Development Office's website for information on grant development and administration services at ISERP, including grant seeking support, proposal submission, grant administration and human subjects assistance. On the site you will also find useful tools for proposal development including a budget worksheet and tips on NSF Fastlane submissions. If you have any questions or comments, please send them to Kristin Murphy ([km632@columbia.edu](mailto:km632@columbia.edu)).

[http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/services/services/research\\_development.html](http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/services/services/research_development.html)

Also, please note that all new human subjects protocols must now be submitted through RASCAL, Columbia's on-line grants processing system. To arrange RASCAL training sessions for departments or individuals, call the RASCAL Help Line at (212)870-3480. For more information about RASCAL, please visit: <https://www.rascal.columbia.edu>.

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## 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](mailto:cw2036@columbia.edu).

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## HEALTH & SOCIETY SCHOLARS PROGRAM AT COLUMBIA - SHORT COURSES

The following short course is 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](mailto:chssp@columbia.edu) and we will notify you as soon as the short courses open for registration.

- January 15-16: Short Course - "Analyzing Developmental Trajectories," presented by Daniel

Nagin (9am-5pm, IAB 270B with computer classroom time in 558 Schermerhorn).

\*Registration required\*

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

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#### 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.

The next seed grant deadline is March 1, 2004. For more details about applying, please visit: <http://www.chssp.columbia.edu/content.asp?cid=9>

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#### Congratulations to the Fall 2003 H&SS Seed Grant recipients

- Jeanne Brooks-Gunn and Yange Xue (National Center for Children and Families) "Neighborhood Socioeconomic Structure, Social Processes, and Children's Physical Health."

Jeanne Brooks-Gunn and Yange Xue will examine the associations between neighborhood socioeconomic conditions and parent reports of children's physical health. Based on multilevel analysis of data from the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (PHDCN), the study will identify those mechanisms through which the effects of neighborhood structure are mediated in order to locate potential sites of intervention and prevention.