

Newsletter 2/2004

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NEW GRANTS

Congratulations to:

- Christopher Weiss (ISERP, QMSS) and Steve Laymon (GSAS)
Council of Graduate Schools/Ford Foundation
This planning grant from the Council of Graduate Schools' Professional Master's Program in the Social Sciences and Humanities initiative is designed to build connections between practitioners in a variety of fields and Columbia University's Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences MA program. The project will find new ways to link QMSS students to internships and innovative forms of instruction that can train students in the applications, statistical techniques and analytical concerns of employers in governmental, non-profit, and industrial settings.
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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

FACULTY FELLOWS

- Peter Levin, Assistant Professor in the Sociology Department at Barnard College, completed his Ph.D. in Sociology at Northwestern University in December 2003. His research and teaching fields include economics sociology, gender and inequality, organizations, qualitative methods and ethnography, and sociological theory. Current projects focus on the constitution of a market for air pollution and the ongoing politics of using markets to turn social problems into technocratic allocation problems.
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VISITING SCHOLARS

This month, ISERP welcomes:

- Francesco Fratto, who will be in residence at ISERP's Center for Organizational Innovation (COI). Fratto is currently a Ph.D. student at the Institute of Sociology of the University of Urbino, Italy. His research interests mainly include economic and political sociology, with a focus on local economic development, industrial districts (traditional, modern and technological), and on the development of the South of Italy. His dissertation examines individual and collective social capital as they affect the economic development of a territory.
 - Herman Lelieveldt is the Executive Director of the Netherlands Institute of Government as well as a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Twente, Enschede, in the Department of Political Science. While at ISERP, Lelieveldt will be building on his current research which concerns a critical examination of the role of social capital in the urban context as well as incorporating comparative perspectives on the subject.
 - Luca Pattaroni, also in residence at the Center for Organizational Innovation (COI), is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Sociology at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris as well as at the University of Geneva, France-Switzerland. While at COI, he will be working on projects related to his dissertation on urban sociology, with a focus on social urban policy and the ways in which urban order is produced.
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WORKING PAPERS

The following working paper is available at:

http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/initiatives/working_papers/papers/2004.html

Jennifer Hill (SIPA), ISERP Faculty Fellow

"Reducing Bias in Treatment Effect Estimation in Observational Studies Suffering from Missing Data"

Working Paper 04-0

Congratulations to Sean Farhang and Gregory Wawro (Political Science), whose ISERP working paper (02-07) "Institutional Dynamics on the U.S. Court of Appeals: Minority Representation Under Panel Decision-Making" appears in the *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*, 20 (Fall 2004).

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 (Fri 12-2)
- Political Economy (TBA)
- Political Psychology (May 1)

For more details on schedules and locations, please visit:

http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/news/calendars/workshop_schedules.html

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).

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/>

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

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 and we will notify you as soon as the short courses open for registration.

- February 27, 2004: Short Course on GIS, presented by Douglas Miller, ISERP (9am-4pm, GIS lab, S.W. Mudd Building). *Registration required*

This will be a short course designed to introduce faculty and graduate students interested in introducing geospatial information into their research to some of the common GIS tools and methods. The course will be broken into two parts. The morning session will give examples of kinds of (primarily) social-science research that use GIS. The afternoon session will have a slightly more technical orientation and will cover some of the pragmatic aspects of analyzing and using spatial data.

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

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>