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Bill Axinn has a varied and long-time affiliation with the Population Studies Center.

Following his graduation from Cornell in 1986, Bill was a trainee at the Center until 1990, when he received his PhD in sociology. Bill has conducted ground-breaking research in Nepal for almost 30 years, starting with work for his dissertation (“Social Change, Family Organization and Fertility Decline: Tests of a Theoretical Model among the Tamang of Nepal”). He helped found the Chitwan Valley Family Study (CVFS) in 1995 – a mixed-method panel study tracking social, environmental, and population processes for more than 10,000 rural Nepalese. He has also directed the Population and Ecology Research Laboratory in Chitwan Valley, Nepal since 1994 – a research and training enterprise for Nepalese and Americans studying socio-environmental science.

Bill’s other involvement includes work with Bob Groves and a large ISR team to win the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) contract in 1999 – a special study to PSC because it is directly based on Ron Freedman’s pioneering national survey of fertility in 1955. The national survey was at PSC in 1955 and 1960 and Bob and Bill brought it back to ISR, where it remains.

Bill has worked with many other PSC faculty, including with Arland Thornton for many years on the Intergenerational Panel Study of Mothers and Children, and with Dirgha Ghimire, Tom Fricke, Arland, and Jennifer on several different studies connected to the CVFS.

Bill’s recent work continues to focus on difficult-to-measure population issues in the US and Nepal. After nearly five years of a pilot study conducted with Ron Kessler, Stephanie Chardoul, Dirgha, and colleagues associated with the World Mental Health Survey Initiative, Bill is launching a new project on family change and mental health in Nepal. This research is designed to measure both mental health and DNA-based genetic predictors of mental health. PSC’s Colter Mitchell is also involved in this NICHD-supported study. In September 2015, Bill launched the National Campus Climate Survey, which is based on the successful U-M survey collected in early 2015 and designed to measure sexual misconduct on campus. In November 2015, Bill launched the National Campus Climate Survey, which is based on the successful U-M survey collected in early 2015 and designed to measure sexual misconduct on campus.

Parents’ greatest impact? Taking me to live in Nepal at age 12.

1. First job? Waiter, Kellogg Center, Michigan State University (my favorite part was tending bar).
2. First website you access in the morning? Email at umich.edu, followed by cnn.com.
7. What ticks you off? Wasting data.
8. If you had a time machine, where and when would you visit? My dad while he was in college.
9. If you could have any three dinner companions? My wife and kids on Sunday night!
10. What super power would you like to have? The Force.
11. Life-changing moment? Being chased by a rhinoceros and living through it. I draw on this one every time I must lead a group activity with faculty.
13. Mind you’d most like to read? My wife’s.
14. Best award you ever won? NSF Young Investigator Award.
15. If money were no object, what would you like to finance? A multi-country family panel study in South Asia, with a face-to-face interview launch and monthly follow-ups in a mixed-mode (phone/web), cell phone-heavy design.
16. Memorable movie line or song lyric? “Get busy living, or get busy dying,” from The Shawshank Redemption (and yes, sometimes Colter is right).
18. Guilty pleasure? Knight’s Steakhouse.
19. Fitness workout? Hiking, cross-training, tennis.
20. If you could choose another career? “Paperback writer” - fiction.
21. What do you like about your work? Writing!

Bill and his family with Bill’s brother Paul in Tucson, 2014
full censuses; and (3) creating new longitudinal and intergenerational micro-data and processing programs to facilitate analyses of these data.

Martha Bailey
Evaluation the Lasting, Economic Benefits from the War on Poverty
Laura and John Arnold Foundation
7/14/2015 – 6/30/2016 $92,897
There is a confidentiality restriction on the award for this project. Contact Kerri Cross for more information: kerris@umich.edu

Although the proximate determinants of unintended fertility are clear (failure to use effective contraception and carrying unintended pregnancies to term), the underlying causes of these behaviors, and of race/ethnic/nativity differences, are not well understood. This project proposes two key distal determinants – reproductive knowledge and fertility motivation – that may explain unintended fertility and race/ethnic/nativity differences. We use three complementary datasets: the Relationship Dynamics and Social Life study (RDSL), the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health), and the 2009 National Survey of Reproductive and Contraceptive Knowledge (Fog Zone). Combining these data resources enables us to move beyond prior descriptive work to identify precursors of risky sexual behavior and unintended fertility. Our goal is to create reliable and valid measures to identify those at most risk for unintended fertility, which can then be applied to future research and interventions.

Jennifer Barber
Distal Determinants of Race-Ethnic Variation in Unintended Fertility
Bowling Green State University
(\textit{P=National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)})
7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016 $98,897

Two key tasks will be undertaken at the interrelated goals: 1) provide estimates of the ROI (benefit-cost ratio) for the services and programs provided by BGCA to youths; and 2) identify the strengths and limitations of these estimates and offer ideas for obtaining more precise and robust estimates in the future. The ROI can be thought as the product of two components: the short-run causal effects of the BGCA activities on youth outcomes, and the longer-term economic consequences of those short-run outcomes.

Daniel Eisenberg
Estimating the Return on Investment (ROI) for Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
4/1/2015 – 12/31/2015 $75,000
This project has two interrelated goals: 1) provide estimates of the ROI (benefit-cost ratio) for the services and programs provided by BGCA to youths; and 2) identify the strengths and limitations of these estimates and offer ideas for obtaining more precise and robust estimates in the future. The ROI can be thought as the product of two components: the short-run causal effects of the BGCA activities on youth outcomes, and the longer-term economic consequences of those short-run outcomes.

Jeffrey Smith
The Literacy Laboratory Project (LLP) under the Northern Uganda Literacy Program
Economic and Social Research Council
5/1/2015 – 4/30/2019 $1,487,660
In Uganda only 44.52 of children pass basic literacy tests. Similar to other African countries, Uganda has many problems in its education system, including undertrained teachers, lack of materials, no systems for tracking pupil performance, and lack of support from parents, communities and local officials. This project will scale up and evaluate the Mango Tree (MT), a private educational tools company that has piloted a literacy project in northern Uganda. U-M researchers conduct a randomized control trial of the program over 4 years to measure the effectiveness of the instructional model, teacher training and methods, and literacy materials in 188 schools. The study collects a rich set of pupil, parent, teacher, classroom, and school-level longitudinal data. Learning outcomes are measured principally in terms of improvements in reading and writing assessment scores.

Dean Yang
Collaborative Research: Fingerprinting to Reduce Risky Borrowing
National Science Foundation (NSF)
6/7/2015 – 5/31/2018 $92,744
This project will quantify the credit market and household-level impacts of improved personal identification of borrowers in Malawi. Researchers will collect digital fingerprints of microloan borrowers, which, given the absence of alternative effective means of establishing personal identity, will Malawian lenders implement dynamic repayment incentives - conditioning future credit on a borrower’s past repayment performance. Microlenders will provide fingerprint matched credit records to commercial credit reference bureaus, which should increase the impact of the intervention. Impacts will be assessed using administrative data from microlenders in combination with two years of survey data on borrowers and loan officers.
Margaret Hicken and coauthors, on the ramifications of their finding that 44% of black American women have an incarcerated family member: “[M]ass imprisonment has fundamentally reshaped inequality not only for the adult men for whom imprisonment has become common, but also for their families.” San Francisco Bay View, 5/27/2015.

Lisa Neidert, on why so many women’s view of men as ‘helping out’ with family and household tasks contributes to inequality in the division of labor: “As long as the phrase ‘he helped’ is used, we know we have not attained gender equality.” New York Times, 5/8/2015.

Pamela Smock, on the fact that people are choosing not to remarry upon the end of a marriage: “The relative size of the divorced and separated population has tripled, but this is not just an indication that divorce is more common than in the past. It also reflects the fact that people are choosing not to remarry upon the end of a marriage.” New York Times, 7/6/2015.

Reuben Miller, on how reviews of correctional facilities by former inmates on Yelp - a site with millions of reviews written by business customers - may increase recidivism: “These laws destroy what’s valuable about someone’s freedom: You’re a pariah virtually everywhere, you can’t live in most neighborhoods, and nobody wants to date, marry or socialize with you. You can’t find a job because no one will hire a sex offender... For some of these people, prison is a better option than trying to survive on the outside.” Detroit Free Press, 5/18/2015.

Elizabeth Armstrong, on why limited measures of population health such as race, income, and education, are inadequate to studying group disparities: “There are effects of living in high-poverty, racially segregated neighborhoods – the life experiences people have, the physical exposures, a whole range of things - that are just not good for your health.” Huffingon Post, 5/8/2015.

Narayan Sastry, on why hurricane Katrina evacuees who returned to New Orleans within a year differ demographically from those who did not: “Most of the displaced adults likely faced considerable economic and institutional barriers in being able to move back to the city, such as the lack of affordable rental housing.” CityLab, 8/23/2015.

“Shafer analyzed the census data... to determine the growth of the virtually cashless poor since welfare reform. His results were shocking: Since the passage of TANF in 1996, the number of families living in $2-a-day poverty had more than doubled, reaching 15 million households in early 2011.” From a review of $2.00 a Day, a book by Kathryn Edin and H. Luke Shafer, New York Times Sunday Book Review, 9/3/2015.

Bill Frey, on why politicians like Trump should stop their fear mongering about immigrants and minorities: “Racial minorities will represent all of the growth in our labor force for the next 20 years, and their success will translate into economic prosperity and future contributions to Social Security and Medicare.” Washington Post, 7/17/2015.

James House, on what the US needs, beyond better access to health care, to improve population well-being: “The greatest opportunity for making Americans healthier lies in improving access to education, income and better occupational and residential conditions.” The Guardian, 9/6/2015.

Kristin Seefeldt, on why legislation restricting daily cash withdrawals to $25 from public assistance debit cards is punitive: “Banks have traditionally not located themselves in neighborhoods that they perceive either to be unsafe, or where there’s no customer base. If that’s the way [welfare beneficiaries] are getting cash, that can be a real chore and a challenge.” Washington Post, 3/21/2015.

JJ Prescott, on why sex offender registries may increase recidivism: “These laws destroy what’s valuable about someone’s freedom: You’re a pariah virtually everywhere, you can’t live in most neighborhoods, and nobody wants to date, marry or socialize with you. You can’t find a job because no one will hire a sex offender... For some of these people, prison is a better option than trying to survive on the outside.” Detroit Free Press, 5/18/2015.

Margaret Hicken and coauthors, on the ramifications of their finding that 44% of black American women have an incarcerated family member: “[M]ass imprisonment has fundamentally reshaped inequality not only for the adult men for whom imprisonment has become common, but also for their families.” San Francisco Bay View, 5/27/2015.

Pamela Smock, on why politicians like Trump should stop their fear mongering about immigrants and minorities: “Racial minorities will represent all of the growth in our labor force for the next 20 years, and their success will translate into economic prosperity and future contributions to Social Security and Medicare.” Washington Post, 5/8/2015.

Reuben Miller, on how reviews of correctional facilities by former inmates on Yelp - a site with millions of reviews written by business customers - may serve several purposes, including to “shame” or “voice frustration or some glimmer of hope,” and to reinforce “public surveillance of criminal justice actors.” Tech Insider, 9/5/2015.

Narayan Sastry, on why so many women’s view of men as ‘helping out’ with family and household tasks contributes to inequality in the division of labor: “As long as the phrase ‘he helped’ is used, we know we have not attained gender equality.” New York Times, 5/8/2015.

Elizabeth Armstrong, on why women continue to be drawn to Tinder – a ‘hookup app’ that many women claim to hate: “For young women the problem in navigating sexuality and relationships is still gender inequality. We need to puzzle out why women have made more strides in the private arena than in the public arena.” Real Clear Politics, 8/1/2015.

David Lam, on why recent slowdowns in the labor force growth of China and Europe are good for American workers: “The intense downward pressure on wages that’s come from the rest of the world is going to ease off a bit.” Bloomberg Business, 7/18/2015.

James House, on what the US needs, beyond better access to health care, to improve population well-being: “The greatest opportunity for making Americans healthier lies in improving access to education, income and better occupational and residential conditions.” The Guardian, 9/6/2015.
Paula Fomby
Exploring the roles of family change and social context in children’s development

One of the most consistent and robust findings in this line of research is that family instability when children are young is strongly associated with children’s verbal ability and behavior across the early life course. This association holds across national contexts and in research designs that take parents’ background, more proximate instability, and children’s neighborhood, school, and peer contexts into account.

Before joining ISR, I sat in my office and muttered questions to myself or anyone passing by about whether there might be a neurological explanation for why family instability during a specific life stage was so persistently associated with specific domains of child development. I could see no way I might ever answer the question on my own. And of course, it’s not a question one person can answer — it requires the interdisciplinary, investment, and collaborative nature of places like PSC, SRC, and ISR to happen.

Second, I was delighted to have the opportunity to present research with colleagues from Colorado in the fall 2014 PSC brown bag seminar series. In that work, my co-authors Joshua Goode, Stefanie Molbom, and I demonstrated that sibling and, particularly half-sibling and step-sibling relationships formed through parents’ multipartner fertility, has an independent association with children’s early behavior problems that may partially explain how family instability operates to shape children’s socioemotional development. The thoughtful and challenging questions from brown bag participants substantially informed how we approached the final manuscript, which is now forthcoming in Demography.

PSC has provided two opportunities to pursue new directions to explain this association. First, a grant from the PSC Ford Fund allowed me and Colter Mitchell to organize a series of seminars in the Center during the 2014-15 academic year to introduce neuroscience perspectives and methods to demographic research. The interdisciplinary seminars brought together developmental psychologists, sampling methodologists, and education researchers to consider how data from neuroimaging technology paired with strong theory and population-representative samples can advance our understanding of how biology and environment interact to shape and respond to demographic processes. Participating in this series felt like a gift. Before joining ISR, I sat in my office and muttered questions to myself or anyone passing by about whether there might be a neurological explanation for why family instability during a specific life stage was so persistently associated with specific domains of child development. I could see no way I might ever answer the question on my own. And of course, it’s not a question one person can answer — it requires the interdisciplinary, investment, and collaborative nature of places like PSC, SRC, and ISR to happen.

We presented our preliminary results at the ASA meetings in Chicago this summer (in short: students whose parents had some college are more likely to attend college themselves but no more likely to finish compared to students whose parents never attended college).

Outside of ISR, my interests include making condiments (let’s talk about mustard!), swimming, running, reading, traveling, and making semi-functional bowls (for mustard!) – it requires the interdisciplinarity, investment, and collaborative nature of places like PSC, SRC, and ISR to happen.

Prior to joining PSC and the Survey Research Center, I was a research scientist at Johns Hopkins University and an assistant professor of Sociology at University of Colorado Denver. Over the past decade, I’ve developed a research agenda that has broadly considered the question of whether and how changes in family structure influence the well-being of family members, and particularly children. Within this area, I am particularly interested in the effects of family instability, or parents’ frequent changes in union status as a child is growing up.

PSC has also been an invaluable resource for beginning a new line of research on the family backgrounds of first-generation college students. At CU Denver, I met many students who hoped to be the first in their families to earn a four-year college degree. Some had a parent or sibling who had spent some time in college but never finished. As I watched these students both strive and struggle, I wondered whether having family members with “some college” experience was a help or a hindrance, or of no consequence, to the achievement of these students whose first-generation status was ambiguous even to themselves. Since joining PSC, I’ve had the very fun chance to investigate this question using data from PSID and its child supplements in collaboration with Christina Cross, a PSC trainee and PhD candidate in Sociology and Public Policy.

The thoughtful and challenging questions from brown bag participants substantially informed how we approached the final manuscript, which is now forthcoming in Demography.

Paula Fomby is an Associate Research Scientist at PSC and the Survey Research Center.
New PSC Research Affiliates

Danny Almirall, Research Assistant Professor at the Survey Research Center, joined PSC as a Research Affiliate in June 2015. His current methodological research interests lie in the broad area of causal inference.

Margaret Levenstein, Director of the Michigan Census Research Data Center, became a PSC Research Affiliate in September 2015. She studies the evolution of information systems and relationships with firm organization and competition, information networks, and competition policies.

Pamela Davis-Kean, Professor of Psychology, joined PSC as a Research Affiliate in September 2015. Her research explores the relationships and pathways between parental SES - particular, parental education - and children’s achievement outcomes.

Jessica Faul, Associate Research Scientist at the Survey Research Center, became a PSC Research Affiliate in October 2015. Her work focuses on socioeconomic predictors of health and health disparities across the life course.

Joe Grengs, Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, joined PSC as a Research Affiliate in June 2015. His research focuses on transportation planning and how metropolitan land-use patterns contribute to uneven economic development and social disparities.

Paula Lantz, Professor of Public Policy, became a PSC Research Affiliate in September 2015. She studies the role of public health in health care reform, clinical preventive services, and social inequalities in health.

Jason Owen-Smith, Professor of Public Policy and Sociology, became a PSC Research Affiliate in June 2015. He studies economic sociology, organizational and network theory, the sociology of science and technology, and research methods.

Tiffany Veinot, Associate Professor in the School of Information and the School of Public Health, joined PSC as a Research Affiliate in July 2015. Her work identifies factors that affect health information access in marginalized communities and families.

Jukka Savolainen, Director of ICPSR’s National Archive of Criminal Justice Data, became a PSC Research Affiliate in September 2015. His research focuses on the causes of crime, violence, and delinquency.

Alexandra Stern, Professor of American Culture, became a Research Affiliate at PSC in August 2015. She studies the history of eugenics and the uses and misuses of genetics in the United States and Latin America, as well as the history of public health.

Sarah Stoddard, Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, became a PSC Research Affiliate in August 2015. She studies the interactions among individual and social/environmental factors that shape the psychosocial and health trajectories of at-risk urban youth.

Heather Ann Thompson, Professor of History, joined PSC as a Research Affiliate in August 2015. Her research and writing focus on the history of mass incarceration and its current impact.

New PSC Research Affiliates

Natasha Pilkauskas, Assistant Professor, Ford School of Public Policy, joined PSC as a Research Affiliate in October 2015. Her broad research interest is the health, development, and well-being of low-income families.

Carlos Mendes de Leon, Professor of Epidemiology, became a Research Affiliate at PSC in June 2015. He studies an array of social and psychological determinants in the development of disability, cognitive decline, and other common age-associated health conditions.

Belinda Needham, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, became a PSC Research Affiliate in June 2015. Her research focuses on health disparities and biosocial interactions.

Jennifer Mitchell, Associate Professor at the Survey Research Center, became a PSC Research Affiliate in June 2015. His research focuses on nonresponse error, quality indicators for survey data, and responsive or adaptive design.

Brady West, Research Assistant Professor at the Survey Research Center, became a PSC Research Affiliate in July 2015. He studies the implications of measurement error in auxiliary variables and survey para-data for survey estimation, survey nonresponse, and interviewer variance.

Kristine Witkowski, Research Investigator at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, became a Research Affiliate at PSC in July 2014. She studies methods that develop and use historical and spatial data; and migration dynamics in the Great Plains.

PSC People: http://www.psc.isr.umich.edu/people/
Recently Published Papers by PSC Affiliates


PSC Center News - Fall 2015

New PSC Predoctoral Trainees

Ariel Binder
PSC Mentor: Bound
Program: Economics
Prior Degrees: B.A. Mathematics, 2011 Williams College
Research Interests: labor economics, economics of the family, the market for higher education, and structural education methods

Shauna Dyer
PSC Mentor: Burgard
Program: Sociology
Prior Degrees: B.A. Social Sciences, 2004 California State University, Chico
Research Interests: Effects of inequality and public policy on education and health

K. Michael Evangelist
PSC Mentor: Burgard
Program: Social Work and Sociology
Prior Degrees: M.P.P., 2007 University of Michigan; B.A., 2000 University of Notre Dame
Research Interests: Social welfare policy, neighborhoods, and labor market inequalities

Yuan He
PSC Mentor: Thornton
Program: Sociology
Prior Degrees: Bachelor of Law, 2013 Peking University
Research Interests: Family structure, family values, the impact of ideology, quantitative methods

Jeffrey Lockhart
PSC Mentor: Bruch
Program: Sociology
Prior Degrees: M.Phil. Multi-Disciplinary Gender, 2015 University of Cambridge; M.S. Computer Science, 2014 Fordham University; B.S. Computer Science, 2013 Fordham University
Research Interests: Sexual and gender minority populations; conversations between qualitative and computational research methodologies

Kendra Opatovsky
PSC Mentor: Bruch
Program: Sociology
Prior Degrees: B.A. Sociology, 2011 Colgate University
Research Interests: Race, urban communities, neighborhood change, segregation

Brenden Timpe
PSC Mentor: Bound
Program: Economics
Prior Degrees: B.A. International Relations, 2004 University of North Dakota
Research Interests: Intersection of labor, public, and economic policies

See all recent publications by PSC affiliates at: http://www.psc.isr.umich.edu/pubs/browse.html

Continued next page →
Valentina Duque
PSC Mentor: Yang
Fellowship: PSC Postdoctoral Fellow; Postdoctoral Fellow, Economics
Prior Degrees: Ph.D. Social Policy, 2015 Columbia University; M.A. Economics, 2008 University of Los Andes; B.A. Civil Engineering, 2004 University of Los Andes
Research Interests: Topics related to human capital formation, health, and development. In particular, she studies the short- and long-term effects of early-life circumstances on individual’s human capital, the role that community factors play in improving levels of health and well-being in both developed and developing countries, and the interaction between early-life conditions and later life human capital investments.

Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz
PSC Mentor: Morenoff
Fellowship: NIA Postdoctoral Fellow
Prior Degrees: Ph.D. Sociology, 2015 University of Washington; M.P.H. Epidemiology, 2010 UCLA; B.A. Psychology, 2007 UC Berkeley
Research Interests: Social and structural inequalities in neighborhood context and the consequences of such inequality for behavior and health over the life course and across generations. Recent work used the PSID to investigate the effects of prolonged and timing-specific exposure to neighborhood disadvantage throughout childhood and adolescence on self-rated health status, obesity incidence, and smoking behavior in early adulthood, as well as racial disparities therein. Current research examines the long-term effects of neighborhood air pollution on older adult mortality, functional limitations, and chronic disease, as well as the extent to which individual-, household-, and neighborhood-level stressors heighten vulnerability to the impacts of such exposures.

Michael Mueller-Smith
PSC Mentor: Smith and Yang
Fellowship: NICHD Postdoctoral Fellow
Research Interests: Social and structural inequalities in neighborhood context and the consequences of such inequality for behavior and health over the life course and across generations. Recent work used the PSID to investigate the effects of prolonged and timing-specific exposure to neighborhood disadvantage throughout childhood and adolescence on self-rated health status, obesity incidence, and smoking behavior in early adulthood, as well as racial disparities therein. Current research examines the long-term effects of neighborhood air pollution on older adult mortality, functional limitations, and chronic disease, as well as the extent to which individual-, household-, and neighborhood-level stressors heighten vulnerability to the impacts of such exposures.

Lauren Schmitz
PSC Mentor: Mitchell, Weir
Fellowship: NIA Postdoctoral Fellow
Research Interests: Theory and methods in economics, sociology, and genetic epidemiology to explore how biological predispositions interact with economic and social environments to affect health and social mobility across the lifespan. Current research focuses on how economic disadvantage and related social stressors combine with genotype to affect health disparities at older ages. This includes research on the impact of Vietnam-era military service, job loss, and shocks to income on smoking behavior, BMI, and cognition by genetic endowment. In addition, she conducts research on pathways between occupational characteristics, health, and retirement decisions using a data set that links information on job demands from the Occupational Information Network with sociodemographic information in the Health and Retirement Study.

Abigail Weitzman
PSC Mentor: Barber
Fellowship: NIA Postdoctoral Fellow
Research Interests: The intersection of gender and family demography. In particular, she asks how gender norms shape the timing and nature of pivotal demographic events in people’s lives, and how changes in population characteristics inform household gender dynamics. These questions have led to research on the effects of schooling laws and women’s labor force participation on intimate partner violence in Peru and India; the effects of childhood experiences on young adult women’s fertility desires in the U.S.; and the effects of firstborn sex on parents’ migration and sexual behavior in developing countries. Recent research estimates the effects of compulsory schooling laws on the age structure and gender composition of Peruvian households and the effects of sex composition of offspring on elderly adults’ health in Europe.

Barbara Anderson
PSC Research Professor
Barbara Anderson has been appointed Chair of the 21-member Census Scientific Advisory Committee by U.S. Census Bureau Director John H. Thompson.

The CSAC provides advice on the design, operation, and implementation of Census Bureau programs.

Anderson’s experience spans academic and public service work here and abroad. She has been a faculty member at Yale and Brown, a visiting member at the Institute for Advanced Study, and a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. She has conducted extensive research on the relation of population and development and the role of data and data quality in these areas. She has consulted on data and research with the governments of Estonia, China, and South Africa. She has published edited six books and more than 100 articles and chapters.

“A lot of the challenges that face the Census Bureau are common throughout the world,” Anderson said. “Having international experience in a comparative perspective is helpful in giving advice to my own government.”
PSC Picnic  September 20, 2015, Jeff and Soni Morenoff’s backyard.