**DIRECTORSHIP CHANGES**

**Jeffrey Morenoff**
began his five-year term as PSC Director on July 1, 2013. He will be on leave for the winter term 2014 – taking a long-planned break to work on a new book. During these months, PSC will be in the capable hands of former director **David Lam** (1994-2003; 2008-2010).

[Jeffrey Morenoff]

**David Lam**

His research focuses on neighborhood environments and their impacts on the health and well-being of youth and adults. In particular, he examines the social determinants of crime, incarceration, and successful prisoner re-entry.

Jeff will continue to perform duties associated with PSC’s R24 center grant and NICHD training grant while on leave, and will be back at the helm on June 1, 2014.

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**PSC Alumni Support for Graduate Students**

The Center recently made research awards to two PSC trainees – **Nelson Saldaña** and **Sarah Seelye** – from the newly developed **PSC alumni fund**. The one-year awards are intended to help advance the research careers of these graduate students by providing essential support for travel, data collection, and/or conference expenses related to their research projects.

**Residential Mobility and Neighborhood Dynamics in a Depopulated Detroit Neighborhood**

**Investigator:** **Sarah Seelye**

Explanations for the departure of residents from Detroit are numerous, but less attention has been given to the reasons that residents of depopulated areas choose stay and the ways that they experience their neighborhood. Are these residents simply unable to leave, or do they have compelling reasons to stay? Through in-depth interviews with residents of one of Detroit’s most depopulated neighborhoods, this study examines: (1) the motivations and rationale behind their mobility decisions, and (2) their experiences and use of their neighborhood, and their social construction of place.

**Integrating Demographic and Cultural Approaches in the Examination of Neighborhood Change**

**Investigator:** **Nelson Saldaña**

Demographic methods play a fundamental role in the quantification of neighborhood change. While scholars have demonstrated the salience of race and socioeconomic status indicators in tipping models, less is known about how micro-behavioral factors contribute to change, particularly the influence of neighborhood organizations and institutions such as businesses. Using systematic social observation and photography in tandem with quantitative analyses of demographic change, this project investigates the extent to which demographic measures of change map onto observations on the ground in the three largest U.S. cities – Los Angeles, New York, and Chicago – and in Detroit, providing a comparative perspective that is often absent in neighborhood change research.
Hooked on Aging

Vicki Freedman on how and why she came to study population aging

In 2009, when I joined the Survey Research Center, I knew from the start I wanted to be affiliated with the Population Studies Center. So many demographers that I admire have had ties to PSC that I could not pass up the opportunity to get involved. I didn’t know how this appointment would evolve, but I hoped I would find opportunities to interact with the many talented PSC faculty and staff.

Through the years, I’ve been fortunate to find collaborators that share my sentiment that much can be done to improve older adults’ daily lives.

Today, I enjoy co-directing, with John Bound, Michigan’s Center on the Demography of Aging (MiCDA). This NIA-funded Center plays a key role in attracting new scholars to the study of aging, in seeding new interdisciplinary collaborations, and in promoting use of Michigan-based data collections, like the Health and Retirement Study and the Panel Study of Income Dynamics.

One of my favorite activities is the annual meeting of the MiCDA TRENDS network – a group of experts on late-life disability trends that has been meeting each spring in Ann Arbor for nearly a decade under Bob Schoeni’s leadership. Together we have churned through the evidence and puzzled through the direction and meaning of changes in population health at older ages. Sometimes the evidence is conflicting, but – in true PSC fashion – our wonderfully collegial group is usually able to agree that the data disagree.

How did I get here? It was the late 1980s, the waning years of the Reagan Presidency. I had just received my undergraduate degree in government and was a research assistant at the Congressional Research Service. I was assigned to a study called Retirement Income for an Aging Population. The report detailed more than any 21-year-old could possibly want to know about the aging of America, dependency ratios, and public and private pensions. A second report focused on health care for an aging America, and although the baby boom was only a midlife “bulge” in the population pyramid at that time, I was hooked.
All I needed was graduate training in (first) the demography of aging and (then) the epidemiology of aging, followed by some on-the-job-training in federal survey design and management, and I could join the cadre of researchers trying to understand population aging and its implications for the health and wellbeing of older adults.

**Sometimes the evidence is conflicting, but – in true PSC fashion – our wonderfully collegial group is usually able to agree that the data disagree.**

Through the years, I've been fortunate to find collaborators that share my sentiment that much can be done to improve older adults' daily lives. We've studied the family's role in long-term care, assistive technology use, the role of neighborhoods in older adults' health and functioning, time use and well-being of older adults, and the latest late-life disability trends. And even more enjoyable for me – we've been able to produce data for others to study aging, disability, and the wellbeing of older adults.

My hope is that through these efforts and programs like MiCDA, a whole new generation of researchers will want to understand the consequences of our aging population for older adults, their families, and the nation.

And if I'm really lucky, I might even find a few new colleagues ready to get hooked on aging.

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**NEW DIGS FOR THE CENTER: SPRING 2014**

The PSC Director’s Office and most other Center services will be moving from the first to the second floor of the ISR-Thompson building.

When ISR’s new Wing 4 construction is complete, our offices will be relocated to the second floor, near the offices of PSC faculty and trainees. The PSC Library will remain in its central location on the first floor.

This means that after a hiatus of about ten years, PSC will be together once again. Moves are slated to begin in the spring of 2014.

Stay tuned for more updates.
Sarah Burgard, on her study linking negative employment conditions to depression. Science Daily. 9/5/2013.

“These findings add to the growing body of evidence that employment is an important source of divergence in mental health across midlife, and suggest the need to consider the role of good jobs in both enhancing worker productivity and reducing the costs of depression for workers, their families, and healthcare systems.”

Yu Xie, on why recent findings on unemployment from the China Family Panel Studies are not alarming. Wall Street Journal. 7/26/2013.

“The unemployment situation is still better than other developing countries. Wages have gone up among manual laborers, a sign that China does not have a severe unemployment situation.”


“Even controlling for urban living and education, media access is still associated with higher odds of rejecting intimate partner violence in 14 countries. Overall, each of these mechanisms for diffusion of global norms has a substantial, independent effect...”

Lucie Kalousova, on why credit card debt, rather than other forms of debt like house or car loans, leads people to forego medical care. Science Daily. 05/08/2013.

“Holders of such debts may be more pressured to repay them to avoid interest and stress, and they may forego medical care to save money under this kind of pressure, even if they really need it.”

Sheldon Danziger, in response to a proposal from House Republicans to both allow drug testing of SNAP recipients and to cut back the benefit. Washington Post. 8/21/2013.

“Proposals to drug-test SNAP recipients don’t address the genuine challenges posed by drug and alcohol misuse in American society. Instead, poor families who seek a little help with the food money are being used as stage extras in a different, nasty ideological fight.”

William Frey, on why U.S. mobility among young adults, as compared to other age groups, has fallen and may stay low in the years ahead. Associated Press. 11/14/2013.

“The post-recession period has given a bigger boost to seniors than to young adults in their willingness to try out new places for retirement. Many young adults, especially those without college degrees, are still [financially] stuck in place. For them, low mobility might be more than a temporary lull and could turn into the ‘new normal.’”

Rachel Snow, lead author of the 2014 Global Review, on the second of two cross-cutting principles (rights and equality) that guided the review of progress made by the 176 governments surveyed toward the goals of the ICPD Programme of Action.

“The second point is often disregarded in the Programme of Action, but is actually a quite broad-reaching and profound point: The recognition that the
“High-ability whites are less likely to report prejudiced attitudes and more likely to say they support racial integration in principle. [But] there’s a disconnect between the attitudes they support in principle and their attitudes toward policies designed to realize racial equality in practice.”

Geoffrey Wodtke, on inconsistent responses for high-ability whites on attitudes toward and support for racial equality. Daily Mail. 8/11/2013.

“College completion...increased by 2 to 7 percent for children whose mothers had access to family planning, relative to children who were born in the same location just before family planning programs began.”


“[A] negative interest rate is making it so that savers get less and making things easier for borrowers. Like any change in prices, it helps some people and hurts others, but in a broader sense, by getting employment back in gear, it helps everyone.”


“Cohabiting families are choosing to stay together, they are becoming more committed, and they are seeing their families, many with children, as a legitimate family form.... The question becomes not who cohabits, but who doesn’t?”


relationship of population to development is so intertwined with questions of poverty, patterns of production and consumption, and issues of equality that none of these could be fruitfully investigated or addressed in isolation.”

Arline Geronimus, on why hypertension is more prevalent and a bigger factor in infant mortality for black women in Michigan than it is for white. NPR - Michigan Radio. 05/14/2013.

“If you think about hypertension as a stress-related disease, you can begin to understand why groups who have less and are subject to marginalization would have more exposure to, and need to cope actively with stressors.”


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21 questions with Geoffrey Wodtke

Geoff Wodtke, a PSC predoctoral trainee, arrived at the center in 2008 as a PhD student in sociology and an MA student in statistics. He has since finished his degree in statistics and plans to complete his PhD in the spring of 2014. His PSC advisor is Dave Harding.

Broadly, his research examines the social, economic, and ideational processes that generate and maintain inequality. One line of his research examines links between class structure, defined in terms of property and authority relations within production, and recent growth in aggregate income inequality.

In another line, he investigates urban poverty and the impact of spatially concentrated disadvantage on child development. Using novel methods for estimating the causal impact of long-term exposure to neighborhood poverty, he has found that growing up in a disadvantaged area has devastating consequences for child educational attainment.

Geoff also studies the determinants of intergroup attitudes. Recently, he investigated the effects of cognitive ability on anti-black prejudice, support for racial equality in principle, and support for a variety of policies aimed at remediating racial inequality. He found that cognitive ability has strong effects on some attitude domains but not others, and that the effects of cognitive ability emerged only among birth cohorts socialized after the Civil Rights Movement.

A sociologist, demographer, and statistician by training, Geoff combines data from large nationally representative surveys with innovative quantitative methods to shed new light on questions about social stratification.

1. **First job?** Washing cars at Car Cleen Car Wash in Grafton, WI.
2. **First website you access in the morning?** This time of year? Yahoo fantasy football. Otherwise, google news.
4. **First music you ever bought?** Hmm, don’t remember for sure. It was probably Metallica or Notorious BIG when I was in middle school.
5. **If you could choose another career other than sociologist?** Carpenter.
6. **Current favorite vacation destination?** I hate traveling, so I don’t much like vacations and don’t take very many. A few spots that have been worth the hassle though were Lassen Volcanic National Park in northern California and camping on Madeline Island, WI, but I haven’t been to either in years.
7. **What makes you laugh out loud?** My friends, dog, and wife.
8. **What ticks you off?** Not much.
9. **If you had a time machine, where and when would you visit?** My house. Tomorrow. Like I said, I hate traveling, especially time travel, haha.
10. **If you could have any three dinner companions?** Marx, Proudhon, and Adam Smith. That group should make for a lively dinner conversation.
11. **If you could trade places with any person for a day?** Aaron Rodgers, QB for the Green Bay Packers.
12. **Life-changing moment?** Going to college.
13. **Parents’ greatest impact?** Sending me to college. But my parents are just awesome overall. I hope I can be as good of a parent as my mom and dad.
14. **Mind you’d most like to read?** My dog’s.
On August 15, 2013, we held a going-away tea for Laura Krinock, the Center’s administrative assistant, at the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. Laura left PSC to do student teaching in Ann Arbor.

15. **Best award you ever won?** 2010 Intramural Softball Championship.

16. **If money were no object, what would you like to finance?** Food for everyone.

17. **Memorable movie line?** “Cash rules everything around me.” Wu-tang Clan.

18. **Favorite room in home?** Living room.

19. **Guilty pleasure?** Good whisky I guess, but I don’t actually feel that guilty about drinking it. Celebrity gossip magazines might also qualify here.

20. **What do you like about your work?** It doesn’t feel like work.

21. **Where do you see yourself in ten years?** Hopefully at a university somewhere doing the same thing I’m doing now.

**you laugh out loud?** My friends, dog, and wife.
Recently Published Papers by PSC Affiliates

RECENT JOURNAL ARTICLES


RECENT PSC RESEARCH REPORTS


Recently Funded Projects at PSC

Pamela Smock

Funding for Demography Editorship
Population Association of America
5/1/2013 - 4/30/2015
$300,000
The project supports the editor of Demography for the 2014 – 2016 volumes of the journal. In fall 2012, the PAA Board of Directors appointed Pamela Smock as the editor. She will provide overall oversight of the Demography journal activities and manage all phases of work. Smock will be responsible for coordinating a team of deputy editors who will be assigned incoming manuscripts in their area of expertise. The deputy editors will then make suggestions for external reviewers of incoming manuscripts.

Arlene Geronimus

The Political Origins of Health Inequality: Political Parties and Infant Mortality
Russell Sage Foundation
7/1/2013 - 8/31/2014
$148,825
This project focuses on developing an understanding of the mechanisms by which political actors and institutions affect inequalities in health. Results from our own research show that, relative to trend, national and race-specific infant, neonatal, and postneonatal mortality rates decrease under Democratic administrations and increase under Republican administrations (1965-2010). The purpose of the proposed research is to further investigate these trends. We plan to identify enough exogenous, natural variation across levels of analysis and time for causal inference. Our methodological approach is a combination of time series, hierarchical modeling approaches applied to natural experiment scenarios.

Dirghe Ghimire

Innovation in the Measurement of Community Contextual Features
Arizona State University; Prime: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
6/15/2013 - 3/31/2014
$207,479
Spatial data on community context is an increasingly important part of social, behavioral, and medical studies. These data are designed to capture aspects of a respondent’s surrounding at a level of measurement above the single individual. There are several challenges, however, that impede the collection of accurate, spatially explicit community context data. This project aims to collect better measurements of community context data using two innovative approaches: respondent-focused CAI design and efficient field-based GIS. Dirgha Ghimire, as Co-Investigator/Institutional PI at the University of Michigan collaborates with Scott Yabiku and other project team members at Arizona State University. Tasks overseen at U-M include: 1) conceptualization and design of context-specific measures of community change and instruments, 2) training of field research staff in Nepal, 3) supervision of data collection activities at the field site in Nepal and data processing at U-M.

Yu Xie

Heterogeneous Treatment Effects in Demographic Research
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
8/8/2013 - 5/31/2014
$330,998
One essential feature common to all demographic phenomena is variability across units of analysis. Individuals differ greatly not only in attributes and outcomes of interest to social and behavioral scientists, but also in how they respond to a common treatment, intervention, or stimulation. We call the second type of variability “heterogeneous treatment effects.” The proposed research assembles an interdisciplinary team to investigate the consequences of and methodological approaches to heterogeneous treatment effects, providing new knowledge and practical solutions for addressing these effects in demographic research.
In October 2013, ARLINE GERONIMUS was elected to the Institute of Medicine, one of the highest honors in health and medicine. New members are elected by active IOS members who consider major contributions to the advancement of the medical sciences, health care, and public health. The IOM is both an honorific membership organization and an advisory organization. Established in 1970 by the National Academy of Sciences, IOM is recognized as a national resource for independent, scientifically informed analysis and recommendations on health issues. Geronimus’s work focuses on the complex influence of material, environmental, and psychosocial stressors on racial/ethnic health inequality from the societal to cellular level, with implications from fetal life through old age.

Along with 23 other scientists, social innovators, artists, and humanists, SUSAN MURPHY was awarded a 2013 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. This prestigious award, with its no-strings attached stipend of $625,000, supports the work of “creative individuals with track records of achievement and the potential for even more significant contributions in the future.” Murphy is cited for her work developing new methods that evaluate treatment courses for chronic conditions and that allow researchers to test the efficacy of adaptive interventions in clinical trials.

In June 2013, the University of Michigan’s College of Literature, Science, and the Arts selected MARTHA BAILEY to receive the Class of 1923 Memorial Teaching Award, given each year to a faculty member recommended for promotion to associate professor. The award recognizes outstanding teaching, but “it is only given to individuals whose achievements and promise auger well for a productive career as a scholar.”

YU XIE was awarded the Henry and Bryna David Endowment in 2013 from the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education of the National Research Council. The award is for innovative research in the behavioral and social sciences. The winner delivers a lecture at NAS and has an article published in Issues in Science and Technology. Yu Xie’s lecture and article focus on the question: Is American Science in Decline? The lecture was April 30, 2013 at the National Academies’ Keck Center in Washington DC.

PSC Honors/Awards Archive: http://www.psc.isr.umich.edu/events/archive/honors.html
[Link to PSC Library Catalog]

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The following predoctoral and postdoctoral trainees joined the Center in fall 2013.

**PREDOCTORAL TRAINEES**

**Eric Chyn**, Economics  
PSC Mentor: John Bound  
Research Interests: Labor economics, industrial organization, demography, and public finance  
UM Admission Year: 2010  
Prior Degree: MA 2010, Economics, The American University

**Jessica Gillooly**, Public Policy & Sociology  
PSC Mentor: Sarah Burgard  
Research Interests: The spread of poverty and inequality across urban and suburban communities in the U.S.  
UM Admission Year: 2013  
Prior Degree: MPP 2013, Public Policy, University of Chicago

**Katrina Hauschildt**, Sociology  
PSC Mentor: Sarah Burgard  
Research Interests: Sociology of health, medical sociology, social demography  
UM Admission Year: 2013  
Prior Degree: BA 2009, Psychology, University of Denver

**Amelia (Molly) Hawkins**, Economics  
PSC Mentor: John Bound  
Research Interests: Disability, social welfare policy, poverty and inequality  
UM Admission Year: 2012  
Prior Degree: BA 2008, Economics, Williams College

**Min Hee Kim**, Social Work & Sociology  
PSC Mentor: Philippa Clarke  
Research Interests: Social, physical, and cultural context of aging among urban populations, health disparities in later life  
UM Admission Year: 2011  
Prior Degree: MA 2009, Seoul National University

**Rebecca Leinberger**, Public Health  
PSC Mentor: Arline Geronimus  
Research Interests: Racial/ethnic mental health disparities, psychological trauma, correlates of trauma-related disorders  
UM Admission Year: 2013  
Prior Degree: BA 2004, Psychology, University of New Mexico

**Dana Loll**, Public Health  
PSC Mentor: Rachel Snow  
Research Interests: Reproductive health outcomes in international settings, with particular interest in family planning and abortion  
UM Admission Year: 2013  
Prior Degree: MS 2010, Public Health, Johns Hopkins

**Nicole Novak**, Public Health  
PSC Mentor: Arline Geronimus  
Research Interests: Social epidemiology, stress biomarkers, structural inequality and health  
UM Admission Year: 2012  
Prior Degree: MS 2010, Medical Anthropology, University of Oxford

**Xiao (Steven) Wang**, Sociology  
PSC Mentor: Yu Xie  
Research Interests: Social stratification, health, education, quantitative methods  
UM Admission Year: 2013  
Prior Degree: MA 2013, Sociology, Peking University

**Michael Zabek**, Economics  
PSC Mentor: John Bound  
Research Interests: Labor economics, regional economies, and the effects of families on economic outcomes  
UM Admission Year: 2011  
Prior Degree: BA 2008, Mathematics and Economics, Kenyon College
POSTDOCTORAL TRAINEES

**Dustin Brown**, Sociologist  
PSC Mentor: Sarah Burgard  
Research Interests:  
Dr. Brown’s research broadly examines how socioeconomic status and social relationships influence population health. His recent research has examined educational differences in older adult mortality compression, the combined influence of education and marital status on older adult mortality, the relationship between marital biography and cumulative biological risk, and health differences between individuals in same-sex and different-sex relationships. His current research investigates various ways that educational attainment and marriage provide individuals with the material and non-material resources necessary to avoid health risks and accumulate health advantages over the course of their lives.  
Degree: PhD 2013, Sociology, University of Texas, Austin

**Patrick Coate**, Economist  
PSC Mentor: John Bound  
Research Interests: Dr. Coate’s current research analyzes the links between family relationships, internal migration decisions and labor market outcomes in the United States. In particular, much of his research is focused on the flows of resources between parents and adult children and how these flows vary by educational attainment and other characteristics of each generation. He has previously studied other topics related to sports economics and the economics of education.  
Degree: PhD 2013, Economics, Duke University

**Pawel Krolikowski**, Economist  
PSC Mentor: Melvin Stephens, Jr.  
Research Interests: Dr. Krolikowski’s research focuses on the consequences of job displacement. His dissertation proposes a successful explanation for the persistent earnings losses of displaced workers, and suggests that the driving mechanism may be partially responsible for the slow adjustment of unemployment and job openings after an aggregate downturn. He has also analyzed the post-displacement earnings experience of different worker subgroups using survey data (Panel Study of Income Dynamics) and found remarkable uniformity. His current research addresses the interaction between displacement, job search and (early) retirement.  
Degree: PhD 2013, Economics, University of Michigan

DEPARTING TRAINEES

**Zheng Mu**, PhD in sociology (2013). On to Assistant Professor, Center for Social Research at Peking University.


Remembering Suzanne Bianchi

Suzanne was at PSC in the mid-1970s and received her PhD in sociology at U-M in 1978. Her dissertation committee included PSC Research Professor Emeriti Ren Farley and Al Hermalin.

In her years since leaving U-M, Suzanne was a statistician/demographer at the U.S. Census Bureau (1978-1994), a Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland (1994-2009), a Professor of Sociology at UCLA (2009-), and a Faculty Associate at the Survey Research Center (2010-).

Her work focused on the dramatic changes in the American family – and on women’s roles in the family – since 1950. Her research was pioneering in its use of time diary data to chronicle the home and work lives of Americans. Her award-winning Changing Rhythms of American Family Life (2007), with Melissa Milkie and John Robinson, is among the most widely cited resources on work and family life in the United States today.

Suzanne was the recipient of many honors and awards for her research, including a Visiting Scholar year at the Russell Sage Foundation (2010), a William T. Goode Book Award, an Otis Dudley Duncan Award for Outstanding Scholarship Social Demography, a Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award, a Ruben Hill Award, and a Lawrence R. Klein Award. She was also active in professional activities, serving in numerous leadership positions for the Population Association of America, including president in 2000.

From the PAA profile of Suzanne:

“Suzanne’s Midwestern values have stayed with her, keeping her grounded in what’s important in life at home and at work. She fosters the careers of her students and colleagues, publishes for a broad audience, and pays attention to her three wonderful children. She would be the first to say that her career has also demonstrated the importance of having a fully-involved and supportive husband in Mark Browning.”

Caring Bridge journal by Suzanne’s family on her battle with cancer

PAA Campaign Fund page for Suzanne
