

May 2015  
News from the School of Public Policy

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# UMBC SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY



## Public Policy Alumni and Students Share Time and Knowledge

Public Policy alumni may be gone from class rosters, but many return to campus to conduct seminars and teach. **Jamie Chriqui** (PhD, '00), a professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a senior research scientist at the Institute for Health Research and Policy, returned to UMBC in February to present her research on the influences of obesity-related policies on communities and schools. In May, **Steven Hemelt** (PhD, '09), assistant professor of public policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, conducted a brown bag seminar for faculty and students to discuss his research on how financial aid for low-income students affects college outcomes.

Below, left: Kathleen Zwarick (PhD, '03) with Jamie Chriqui, on right. Right: Steven Hemelt, after his brown bag session at UMBC.



Networking with alumni is valuable to students from a professional and personal perspective. According to **Mandi Koch**, a PhD student in the education track: "From a practical perspective, meeting with alumni exposes current students, such as myself, to possible career paths and ways of navigating those paths. From a personal perspective, meeting with alumni is encouraging; exposure to graduates who are both dedicated and enthusiastic about their work serves as a welcome reminder that my own work here at UMBC is worth all the effort."

PhD alumni also return to teach courses at UMBC, bringing their experiences from full-time jobs in government, nonprofits and industry into the classroom. Alumni teaching for UMBC include **Sarah Archibald** (PhD, '12), **Brent Gibbons** (PhD, '13), **Elyse Grossman** (PhD, '14), **Francis Kelly** (PhD, '06), **Arpit Misra** (PhD, '14), **Ryan Mutter** (PhD, '06), **Luis Pinet-Peralta** (PhD, '10), and **Danielle Schwarzmann** (PhD, '13).



Students in the UMBC Political Science Department selected urban track PhD candidate **Laszlo Korossy** (left) as the 2015 Part Time Teacher of the Year. One of 12 part-time instructors in the Political Science Department, he taught *Urban Politics* and *Chinese Politics*. Other current PhD students who have taught undergraduate courses at UMBC include **Charles Bondi**, **Jeremy Spahr**, and **Nadwa Mossaad**.

## Faculty News

**Tim Brennan** (Public Policy) was an invited speaker for two symposia this past spring. In May, he spoke about “Storage Market and Policy Issues,” at the Storage, Renewables and the Evolution of the Grid Symposium, sponsored by the MIT Energy Initiative. In March, he addressed “Policy Aspects of Time-Variant Pricing (TVP) of Electricity,” at a forum on the role of time-variant pricing in New York, sponsored by the New York Department of Public Service, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the New York University School of Law.

The University of Southern California has awarded a \$75,000 grant to **Scott Farrow** (Economics) and **Anupam Joshi** (Computer Science and Electrical Engineering) through the Maryland Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (MIPAR) to develop a set of detailed economic models that reflect cyber security microeconomic concerns. This project, a model that links economics with cyber security guidance taxonomies, may help guide investments and policies in cyber security.

The International Center of Mental Health Policy and Economics has awarded UMBC researchers **David Salkever** (Public Policy) and **Brent Gibbons** (PhD, '13, MIPAR), along with co-authors Robert E. Drake, William D. Frey, Thomas W. Hale, and Mustafa Karakus, an Excellence in Mental Health Policy and Economics Research Award – 2015 for the article "[Increasing Earnings of Social Security Disability Income Beneficiaries with Serious Mental Disorder](#)." The article, which was published in the *Journal of Mental Health Policy and Economics* (2014, Vol. 17 No. 2), reports the results of MIPAR research conducted in collaboration with Westat for the Social Security Administration. The award was presented on March 27 in Venice, Italy at the Twelfth Workshop on Costs and Assessment.

Public Policy Professor **John Rennie Short** gave a keynote address, “The New Imperative: Green Cities for an Urban World,” at the French Embassy in Washington, D.C. on March 6. The event was a forum that brought together mayors from the U.S. and France to start a long-term and formal cooperation among officials and practitioners concerned with sustainable urban development in France and the United States.

## Student News

Governor Larry Hogan appointed Public Policy PhD student **James Kruger, III** to the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission. The Sustainable Growth Commission makes recommendations on growth and development issues and celebrates smart growth achievements with an annual awards program. Commission members represent local and state government, business, and nonprofit organizations.

**Mandi Koch**, a PhD student in the education policy track, presented a paper she co-authored with **Lauren Hamilton Edwards** (Public Policy) at the 2015 Midwest Political Science Conference in Chicago, IL. The paper was titled: "Public participation as a strategy in planning: Evidence from Texas cities."



Public Policy PhD student **Cheryl Camillo** has been selected for a Fulbright award to carry out her dissertation work comparing approaches to monitoring population health. She will spend nine months on-site in Canada fostering exchanges between Canadian and U.S. health policy officials.

Cheryl is shown here with her dissertation mentor Dave Marcotte (Public Policy).

*Alumni and student photo credits: Sally Helms*

## Alumni News

**Kristerfer Burnett** (MPP, '11) has been named one of the Daily Record's 2015 "20 in their Twenties." He is the director of community organizing for CHAI Comprehensive Housing Assistance, Inc., a nonprofit organization that promotes healthy neighborhoods in Baltimore. He also serves as the board chair of the Edmondson Village Outreach & Empowerment Committee, as a member of the Harlem-Denison Avenue Community Garden project, B.E.S.T. Democratic Club, and the Greater Baltimore Leadership Association, and as a mentor in the Real Life 101 project.

A poster presentation, "Demographic and socioeconomic inequality in a highly educated and increasingly immigrant workforce: The case of biomedical research," co-authored by **Frances Carter-Johnson** (PhD, '11), received the best poster award at the Population Association of America 2015 Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA. Dr. Carter-Johnson is a policy fellow at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center for Scientific Review.

**Keith Elder** (PhD, '02) received the outstanding mentorship award from the Saint Louis University College of Public Health and Social Justice. Dr. Elder is professor and chair of the Department of Health Management and Policy.

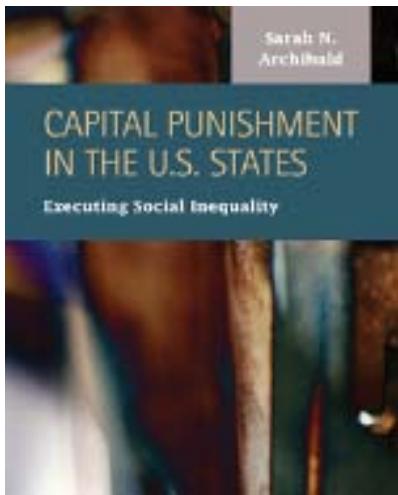
## New Publications

Public Policy PhD candidate and Hilltop Institute senior research analyst **Michael Abrams** co-authored a study published in the *Journal of Pediatrics* (2015, Vol. 166 No. 1), "[Transcranial Doppler screening of Medicaid-insured children with sickle cell disease.](#)" The study, conducted largely at the Hilltop Institute, found that letters to parents and doctors of children with sickle cell disease (SCD) did not succeed in increasing their use of a simple screening technique (Transcranial Doppler Imaging or TDI) for stroke risk, even as children with SCD are known to be at heightened risk for stroke.

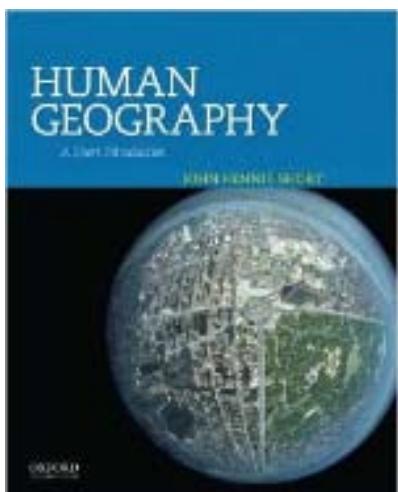
PhD candidate **Pradeep Guin** co-authored an article "[Health status and access to health services in Indian slums](#)" that found that the lack of sanitation, garbage disposal and potable water, along with a lack of government facilities and services and high health care expenses, indicate the continued vulnerability of the urban poor to acute illness, and the need for urgent government action. The article was published in *Health* (2015, Vol. 7 No. 2). He also presented a poster, "The impacts of exposure to natural disasters on children's education and health outcomes," at the Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) 40th Annual Conference in Washington D.C. in February.

An article by **George La Noue** (Public Policy emeritus), "Chiseling away the equal protection clause on campus," discusses two recent affirmative action cases that reached the Supreme Court. The article was published in the [Winter 2014 edition of Academic Questions](#), a publication of the National Association of Scholars.

**Nancy Miller** (Public Policy) and **Adele Kirk** (Public Policy) co-authored two articles with **Michael Kaiser** (PhD, '10) and PhD candidate **Lukas Glos** that examined health care disparities among US adults with disabilities. "[The relation between health insurance and health care disparities among adults with disabilities](#)" was published in the *American Journal of Public Health* (2014, Vol.104 No. 3). "[Disparities in access to health care among middle-aged and older adults with disabilities](#)" appeared in the *Journal of Aging & Social Policy* (2014, Vol. 24 No. 2). Dr. Miller, along with **Robert Rubinstein** (Sociology), also co-authored a study of certified nurse aid (CNA) duties that provides a description of the care tasks CNAs are allowed to perform in an attempt to find uniformity state-by-state. The article, "[Certified nurse aid scope of practice: state-by-state differences in allowable delegated activities](#)," was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association* (2015, Vol. 16 No. 1).



Sarah Archibald (PhD, '12) authored a book, [Capital Punishment in the U.S. States: Executing Social Inequality](#) (2015, LFB Scholarly Publishing), that identifies variables that can explain the variation not only in the adoption of the death penalty, but also in the implementation of capital punishment. Dr. Archibald is a research compliance specialist in the Human Research Protections Office at the University of Maryland, Baltimore and an adjunct professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.



"[City marketing](#)," an article by **John Rennie Short** in the International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences (February 2015, Elsevier), explores the symbolic reconstruction of cities through a discussion of strategies and tactics of city marketing.

In his latest book, [Human Geography: A Short Introduction](#) (2014, Oxford University Press), Dr. Short investigates the complex human geography of the contemporary world. The book is written for introductory college courses.



## Upcoming Events

Learn about the UMBC Master's Degree in Public Policy (MPP) at an information session on Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 pm in Public Policy Room 438 on the UMBC campus. Enjoy a light dinner and talk with faculty and current students about the field of public policy, career opportunities, and how to apply to our MPP program. Those interested in the PhD are also invited to the session.

This event is open to prospective students on and off campus. To register, e-mail your name, year, and major to Sally Helms ([helms@umbc.edu](mailto:helms@umbc.edu)).

[Go here for directions to UMBC and parking information.](#)

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