

December 2021 Newsletter

Welcome from the Director

Dear Public Policy community,

As we head into the close of the semester and the start of the New Year, I want to express my gratitude for all of the support we have received from alumni, students, staff, faculty, community partners, and the UMBC community as a whole.

After more than twenty months of hybrid learning due to COVID-19, we are still delivering top-tier public policy education to our graduate students. Our faculty continue to produce cutting-edge research and publish on a global scale. None of these successes would be possible without support from all of you.

In November, we hosted our 9th annual Judith A. Shinogle Award Lecture featuring the 2021 fellow Zippora Kiptanui. Ms. Kiptanui presented her doctoral research in our second online-only Shinogle event, and demonstrated how these yearly traditions can be kept alive and thrive in a new setting, regardless of event style. We hope to share this annual event with you in person next year, but we know that the incredible work of our students like Ms. Kiptanui will continue regardless.

From all of us at the School of Public Policy at UMBC, we wish you a peaceful winter holiday season and a very happy New Year.

Nancy A. Miller, Ph.D.

Director

School of Public Policy



****Congratulations** to our
December 2021 graduates!**

Felix Facchine, M.P.P.
Alex Nguyen, M.P.P.
Eduardo Reyes Balbuena, M.P.P.
Colin Sullivan, M.P.P.
Jordan Veney, M.P.P.
John Skinner, Ph.D.

Student Highlights

Judith A. Shinogle Memorial Fellowship and Lecture

In November, the School of Public Policy hosted its annual Judith A. Shinogle Memorial Lecture.

The 2021 Fellowship awardee and speaker was **Ph.D. candidate Zippora Kiptanui**. Through her dissertation, Zippora explores the conflict between the need for innovative medicines and the value assigned to them. At the Lecture in November, she presented her talk "Evidence-base for Novel Drug Approval, Coverage and Cost-Control Strategies."



Zippora Kiptanui, 2021 Shinogle Fellow

The Judith A. Shinogle Memorial Fellow is chosen by a faculty panel and awarded each year to a Health Policy doctoral student for their notable contribution to research in Health Policy. Dr. Judith Ann "Judy" Shinogle was a former Senior Research Scientist with the Maryland Institute for Policy Analysis and Research and Adjunct Associate Professor of Public Policy, who passed away in May 2012.

[You can find this year's and previous Shinogle lectures here.](#)

Health Policy **Ph.D. student Hala Durrah**, was a keynote speaker at the [International Conference on Communication in Healthcare](#) in October. Her presentation focused on the Importance of Equitable Patient Family Engagement and Partnerships in Care Communication. She was also part of a panel presentation, "Growing the tent in health system transformation: A multi-generational approach to complex care," in October, at the annual conference for the [National Center for Complex Health and Social Needs](#).

In October, **M.P.P. student Matt Clark** headlined the event "[Reflections on managing the pandemic in Maryland](#)," where he spoke as a previous part of the Hogan administration, and as part of UMMS. Mr. Clark is the Senior Vice President of Marketing and Communications at University of Maryland Medical System. Prior to joining UMMS, Mr. Clark was the Chief of Staff to Governor Larry Hogan of Maryland. His time as Chief of Staff included the first months of the pandemic. Mr. Clark is also a UMBC undergraduate alumnus.

The School of Public Policy is thrilled to offer a new fellowship for M.P.P. and Ph.D. students: the **Adam Yarmolinsky Fellowship**. Mr. Adam Yarmolinsky devoted his life to civil service, education, and social justice – serving in the Kennedy, Johnson, and Carter Presidential administrations and later joining UMBC as Provost. This year, we welcomed our first cohort of Yarmolinsky fellows:

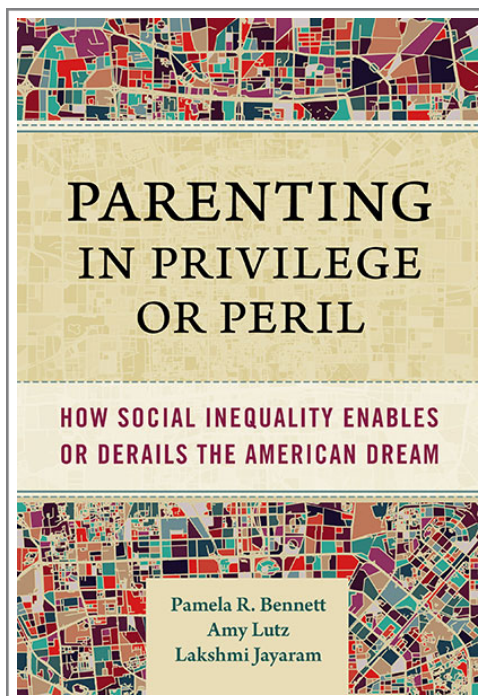
- **Doha Chibani**
- **Adebola Daramola**
- **Catherine Mata Hidalgo**

[Learn more about our student fellowships here.](#)

Faculty Highlights

Professor Jane A. Lincove co-authored an article titled "When the Walls Come Down: Evidence on Charter Schools' Ability to Keep Their Best Teachers Without Unions and Certification Rules." In the article, the authors test if teacher labor markets may be inefficient because schools lack autonomy to incentivize performance in hiring, retention, and compensation by comparing teacher exits in the deregulated market of New Orleans with neighboring traditional school districts.

Professor Pamela R. Bennett published a book, *Parenting in Privilege or Peril - How Social Inequality Enables or Derails the American Dream*. In the book, Dr. Bennett and coauthors examine how differences in family resources and social contexts impact children of both middle-class and working-class backgrounds as the children transition to high schools and work to become college-ready. Through examining two parenting styles that arise, the authors conclude that cultural differences are no match for economic inequalities when it comes to preparing children for college and the "American Dream."



Professor John Rennie Short had multiple media appearances, including a New Zealand radio show on which he spoke about the concept of the "post-pandemic" city. In an episode of the podcast Deconstruct, he discussed how New York City is trying to save street vendors. He also wrote a piece in *The Conversation* about the rapid pace at which cities are becoming more vulnerable to climate change, and how they just aren't adapting quickly enough.

In a similar vein, **Dr. Short** and **M.P.P. student Abbey Farmer** published an article in the journal *Earth* examining the disjunction between the rapid pace of climate change affecting cities, and the slower pace of cities implementing strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Professor Susan Sterett participated in a book release event in December for the book *Reimagining the Judiciary: Women on High Courts Worldwide*. Dr. Sterett served as a discussant with the book's authors, a panel of renowned Political Scientists. The event was hosted by Arizona State University.

Professor Fernando Tormos-Aponte published an article in the journal *Energy Policy* exploring whether social vulnerabilities and ruling political party support shape government responsiveness in times of disasters. He later discussed his article in a Monkey Cage Blog post with the *Washington Post*. In September, he also participated in the UMBC Dresher Center Humanities Forum event "Puerto Ricans at the Fault Lines" about the social and political aftermath of Hurricane María and how social movements in Puerto Rico imagine and enact an anti-colonial future. A recent article in UMBC News explores his designation as Early Career Faculty Innovator by the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), and his research on energy inequality.

Faculty Highlights continued

Professor Zoë McLaren was a guest on BYURadio's show Top of the Mind where she shared insights regarding how at-home rapid tests could help curb the COVID-19 pandemic. She was also featured in the 2021 UMBC Homecoming Grit-X talk series, where she presented "The Math that Explains the End of the Pandemic."



Dr. Zoë McLaren presenting her Grit-X talk

Professors McLaren and Tormos-Aponte were both guests on the Center for Social Science Scholarship's new podcast "Retrieving the Social Sciences." Check out Dr. McLaren in episode 2 talking about Battling Infectious Diseases, and Dr. Tormos-Aponte is featured in episode 3 discussing Intersectional Solidarity.

Professor Emeritus George R. La Noue wrote commentary about the political and legal context of the American Rescue Plan Act's race related provisions and the significance of their judicial rejection.

Professor Emeritus Tim Brennan published a series of book reviews in the Yale Journal of Regulation.

Alumni Highlights

Michael Hassett, M.P.P. '17 and Ph.D. '19 alumnus and former Shriver Peaceworker, cofounded the organization Friends of Tonga as a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer group dedicated to keeping relationships alive with Peace Corps communities in Tonga, and he was recognized this summer as a Library of Congress Literacy Award Honoree. This fall, Dr. Hassett was recognized by UMBC with the Distinguished Service Award, awarded during the annual Alumni Awards in October.



UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski with Public Policy alumni Michael Hassett, Roy Varghese, and Brian Frazee

Sergio Prada, Ph.D. '10 alumnus, published a paper in the journal The Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine with his mentor, **Professor Emeritus David Salkever**. In the article, the authors examined the impact of care bundles for treatment of postpartum hemorrhage on resource use.

Michael Walsh, Ph.D. '12 alumnus, was promoted to Director of the UMBC Office of Sponsored Programs.

Jim Kruger, Ph.D. '21 alumnus, was appointed Senior Policy Advisor for The Institute for Energy & Resource and Management (IeRM), an international environmental non-profit think tank located in Newcastle, WA.

Keep in touch

We want to hear from you!

Do you have an achievement or event you would like to share with UMBC public policy community?

Send highlights and news to Myriam Ralston (myriam@umbc.edu) to keep in touch and be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

For Spring 2022, please indicate "NEWSLETTER" in your email subject line.



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