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Spring 2000

The Briefing, Spring 2000

Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

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Georgia State University Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Spring 2000

The Briefing

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RESEARCHERS:

Education reform plan makes sense *for* Georgia

Georgia Gov. Roy Barnes' proposed plan to reform the state's lagging educational system is "an exemplar of political courage," according to one Andrew Young School policy expert.

"There's almost nobody who got what they wanted (in the bill) and almost everybody is asked to make some kind of sacrifice," says Gary Henry, director of the school's Applied Research Center and principal researcher for the Georgia State-based Council for School Performance.

Henry

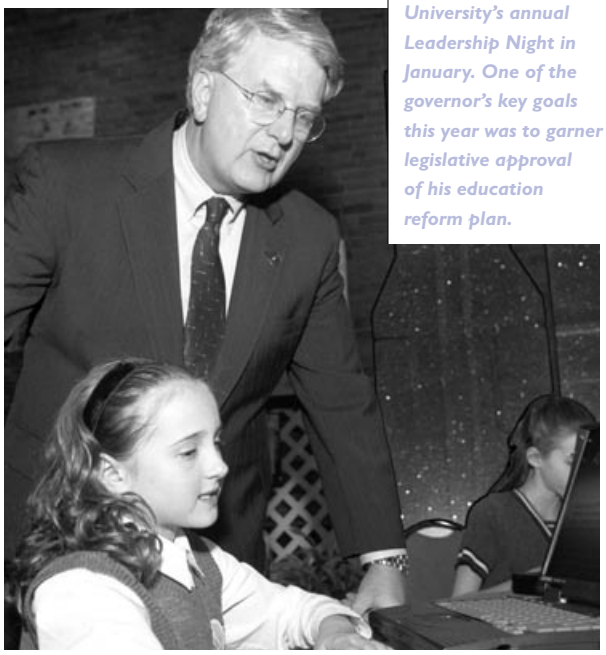
"There's nobody who's left out of responsibility. It's not a bill to please teachers or administrators, or county boards, or suburban counties, or rural counties…I really think it's a very courageous bill."

Scafidi

Henry, along with Andrew Young School faculty Ross Rubenstein and Ben Scafidi, and school supporter Carolyn Young, recently assisted Barnes' Education Reform Commission in crafting a sweeping set of proposed changes designed to better educate children from kindergarten through high school. At press-time, versions of the proposal had been approved by both the state House of Representatives and Senate, and differences were being ironed out by a joint committee.

Rubenstein

Barnes' "A+ Education Reform Act of 2000" hinges on holding schools accountable for student performance. The proposal includes provisions for smaller class sizes, and students would be given more standardized tests to gauge how much they are learning. Teachers and administrators would be given bonuses if their students do well. Schools that don't improve would get state supervision.



SURFING BUDDIES: *Georgia Gov. Roy Barnes got a lesson in Internet surfing from schoolchildren during Georgia State University's annual Leadership Night in January. One of the governor's key goals this year was to garner legislative approval of his education reform plan.*

One of the most controversial aspects of the reform effort is a provision to end tenure for teachers. The measure has ignited the ire of teacher organizations as well as the state superintendent of schools.

Henry, Rubenstein and Scafidi say the tenure issue was barely discussed in their research, and that it isn't likely to generate mass personnel turnover in schools.

"I kind of view it as a prime example of the state decreasing its regulation of local school systems and local schools . . . (Administrators)

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Dean's Corner

Working with the state and city is one of the most rewarding forms of professional service and a natural fit for an urban research university.

Faculty and research associates in the Andrew Young School provide an exceptional amount of professional service. Collectively we edit or co-edit eight journals, serve on the editorial boards of another 26, referee for more than 100 journals and provide numerous reviews of research proposals for organizations such as the National Science Foundation. We serve on various boards, participate in external reviews of policy schools and serve on the executive committees of several national research associations.

These assignments don't just happen. They were earned. They are a form of recognition by the scholarly and policy communities of the expertise that resides in the school. Academics love recognition. But that isn't the only reason we take on these assignments. They make us better. Editorial assignments and service as referees hones our academic skills. That makes us better in the classroom. It also makes us better researchers and, we like to think, better colleagues to young faculty. Membership on national and international committees builds networks, and keeps us focused on policy issues of national and international concern. This leads to funding for our programs and jobs for our students.

Working with the state and city is one of the most rewarding forms of professional service and a natural fit for an urban research university. Three faculty from the Andrew Young School served on Georgia Gov. Roy Barnes' Education Reform Commission last year *(see story, page 1)*. Faculty and research associates worked closely with the state Department of Industry and Trade to design a tax incentive program that encourages economic development. Researchers in the Georgia Health Policy Center work with the state Department of Community Health on a variety of projects, including an evaluation of the PeachCare for Kids insurance program. And our environmental policy group is working closely with the state on issues related to water and air quality. Research Atlanta, an affiliate, addresses issues of concern to the Atlanta metropolitan area. In short, our professional service is not only focused at the national and international level. We're connected locally, and we're better because of it.

Paula Stephan
Associate Dean

Spring 2000

The Briefing is published three times a year by the Office of the Dean for alumni, friends, faculty and staff of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, University Plaza, Atlanta, Ga. 30303-3083.

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For more information on the Andrew Young School, contact us at 404-651-3990.

Public policy professor carves niche in disaster research

From fires to floods, heat waves to ice storms, researcher Bill Waugh examines disasters waiting to happen. He's also a virtual catalog of those that have happened already.

Like the bombing of Oklahoma City's Murrah Federal Building in 1995, which killed 168 people and injured 674 more. And southern California's Northridge Earthquake, which caused property losses of over $20 billion – more than any other earthquake in U.S. history – in 1994.

Waugh details these and 17 other catastrophes in his latest book, *Living with Hazards, Dealing with Disasters: An Introduction to Emergency Management* (M.E. Sharpe, 2000).

"Emergency management is…one of those fields that provides a fascinating array of issues," Waugh writes. "How people deal with risk says a lot about human nature. How communities deal with risk says a lot about social values and structures. How government deals with risk says a lot about our institutions and political culture…Crisis disrupts the complacency that normally pervades the public agenda."

Waugh, who often advises government officials on how to deal with catastrophes, contends that hazards and disasters are the reasons government exists.

"That's why we have governments to begin with – to deal with problems that are bigger than individuals," he says.

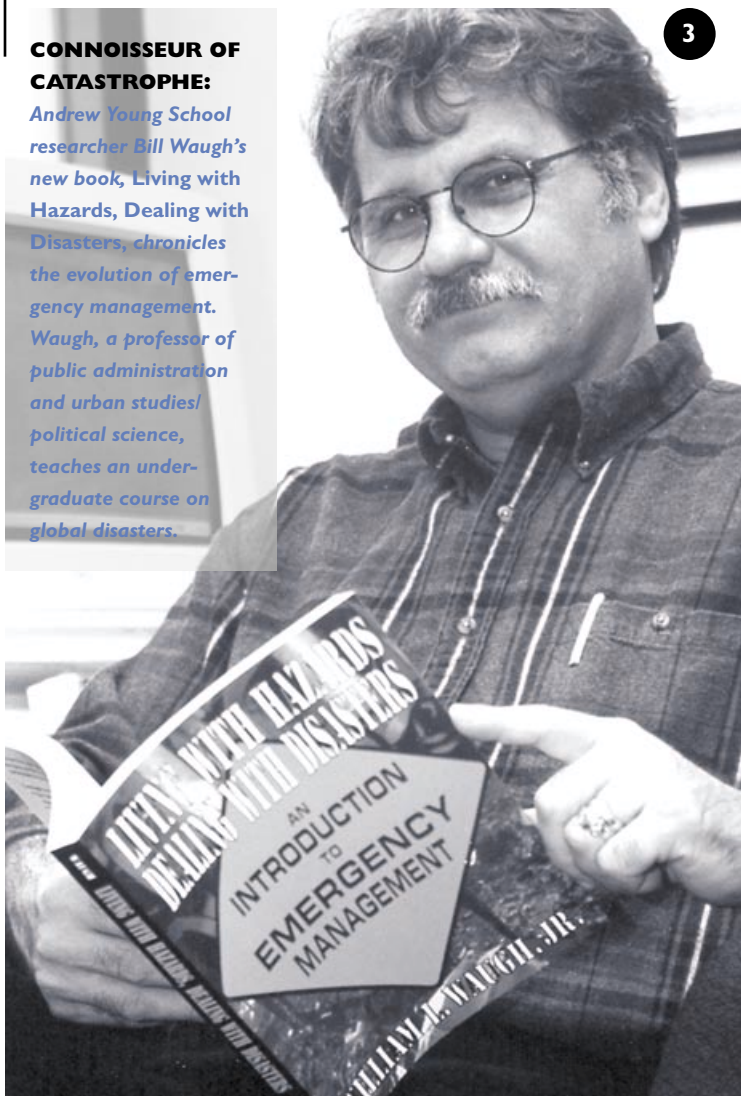
Before World War I, government officials had few formal plans in place to handle large-scale disasters. Fires and floods were the most common catastrophes, and citizens depended on ad hoc fire brigades and nonprofit organizations such as the American Red Cross to help save lives and property.

Over the decades, more people moved to potentially hazardous sites, such as coastal California, and the advent of nuclear weapons increased the possibility of large-scale disasters. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter created the Federal Emergency Management Agency to corral state and local efforts to deal with hazards and disasters.

Emergency planning may seem futile considering that catastrophes can strike at any time with little or no warning. But having a crisis policy can be helpful for government officials, says Waugh, who sometimes visits disaster sites when traveling.

"Maybe what intrigues me most about disaster management is that you can plan, but in almost no case can you actually apply the plan the way that you put it together," he says. "You always have to adapt, and you always have to be very flexible in how you respond."

RELATED RESEARCH: *Workplace Violence in Public Organizations* (with L.G. Nigro), forthcoming by M.E. Sharpe; "The Fiscal Risk of All-Hazards Emergency Management OR the Political Hazards in Rational Policy," *International Journal of Public Administration,* 1999; "Regionalizing Emergency Management: Counties as State and Local Government," *Public Administration Review,* May/June 1994, 54(3): 253-258; "Coordination or Control: Organizational Design and the Emergency Management Function," *Disaster Prevention and Management: An International Journal,* 1993, 2(4): 17-31; *Terrorism and Emergency Management: Policy and Administration* (Marcel Dekker, 1990).



CONNOISSEUR OF CATASTROPHE: ***Andrew Young School researcher Bill Waugh's new book,* Living with Hazards, Dealing with Disasters, *chronicles the evolution of emergency management. Waugh, a professor of public administration and urban studies/political science, teaches an undergraduate course on global disasters.***

Marriage tax may quell wedding bells

The so-called "marriage tax" penalty could affect whether some couples legally wed, live together or divorce, research by an Andrew Young School economics professor suggests.

The marriage tax refers to a feature of the U.S. tax code that causes millions of married couples to pay more income tax than if they were single.

"If you buy into the notion that people respond at least a little bit to economic incentives – and the evidence for this is overwhelming — then the tax consequences of marriage and divorce are economic incentives that can affect these decisions in quite noticeable ways," says researcher Jim Alm. He and colleague Leslie Whittington of Georgetown University have spent years examining how the marriage penalty affects couples' behavior.

"Taxes are not the dominant reason for people getting married, or divorced, or, for that matter, having children. But they are one consideration," Alm says.

To wed or not to wed?

What began as "just a paper or two" has grown into a body of work published in the *National Tax Journal,* the *Journal of Economic Perspectives,* the *Journal of Public Economics* and *Economica,* among others. Alm and Whittington also are writing a book on their findings.

The research so far indicates that very few people decide to marry, cohabitate or divorce based *solely* on the tax consequences. But even though its effects on behavior are small, the marriage tax has policy implications that should be examined, Alm notes.

"All kinds of evidence indicates that outcomes for children and outcomes for individuals are much better… for married couples than singles," he says. "I don't think you want policies that actively discourage marriage and encourage divorce. And the marriage tax does that, but not very much. Then it becomes not so much a behavior issue as an equity issue. Is it fair to treat these individuals differently?"

Working husbands and wives with similar incomes who file jointly typically incur a larger tax liability than if they filed individually as singles. The penalty affects 21 million couples who paid an average of $1,400 extra in taxes in 1996 because they filed jointly, according to the Congressional Budget Office. The marriage penalty generated $29 billion for the federal government that year.

The tax code also provides a marriage "bonus" to couples with one income, or with one spouse earning significantly more than the other. The marriage bonus affected 25 million couples in 1996, reducing their tax bills by an average of $1,300, or $33 billion total, the CBO reported.

Related research by Andrew Young School economics faculty David Sjoquist and Mary Beth Walker explored whether the marriage tax caused people to delay marriage. They found that an increase in the marriage tax results in fewer marriages at the end of the year and more marriages at the beginning of the year.

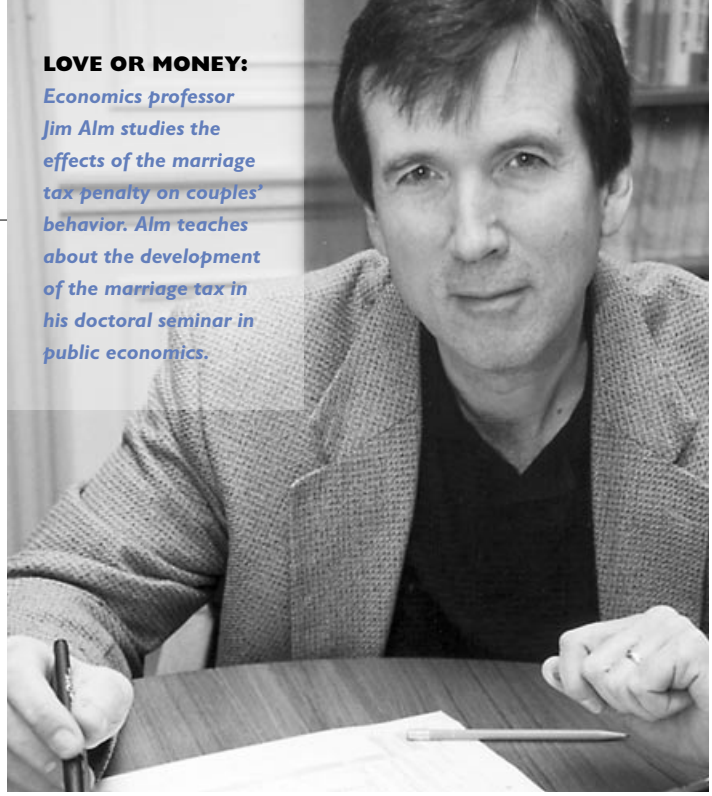
Political football

The marriage tax has become a point of political debate in recent years because of the growing number of married couples who are penalized because both spouses make similar wages.

Mending the policy means taking a closer look at whether the tax code should continue to favor the nuclear family of the 1950s, when husbands typically were the sole earners and wives stayed home with the kids, says Alm.

His most recent work examines the income tax consequences of legalizing same-sex marriage, a policy move that could have a revenue impact of as much as $1.3 billion.

"I've come to believe that what we ought to do is to go back to the individual as the unit of taxation," says Alm, who teaches a module on the marriage tax penalty in his doctoral seminar in public economics. "There's such an incredible range of family units these days, much more so than 20 years ago. It may not be fair to treat all of these households differently than married couples."



LOVE OR MONEY: *Economics professor Jim Alm studies the effects of the marriage tax penalty on couples' behavior. Alm teaches about the development of the marriage tax in his doctoral seminar in public economics.*

RELATED RESEARCH: "The Marriage Penalty," *Journal of Economic Perspectives,* 13(3): 193-204; "The Marriage Tax and the Rate and Timing of Marriages," *National Tax Journal* 48(4): 547-558; "The Rise and Fall and Rise…of the Marriage Tax," *National Tax Journal,* December 1996; "For Love or Money: Economic Incentives and the Marriage Decision," *Economica,* August 1999; "'Til Death or Taxes Do Us Part: The Effect of Income Taxation on Divorce," *The Journal of Human Resources* 32(2): 389-412; "Income Taxes and the Timing of Marital Decisions," *Journal of Public Economics* 64(3): 219-240.

Sal Alaimo (master's in urban policy studies, '99) was promoted to manager of outcomes measurement for the Girl Scout Council of Northwest Georgia in February. He formerly served as member services manager for the organization for three years.

Sandra Brisendine Bruce (master of public administration, '96) is state personnel director for the Georgia Department of Defense, where she manages payroll, benefits and human resources.

David C. Chou (Ph.D. in economics, '87) is a professor of business computer information systems at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota.

Walter Coffey (master of public administration, '97) is president of the Georgia Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.

Charles Dale (Ph.D. in economics, '78) is a financial economist with the Office of Economic Analysis, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Margaret Fowke (master of public administration, '99) works for the Division of Diabetes Translation of the Centers for Disease Control. She is involved in a research project that examines whether it costs more to eat a healthier diet.

Cody Jackson (master of public administration, '91) is chairman of the City of Decatur's Waste Management Advisory Board.

Lenwood V. Long Sr. (master's in urban administration, '74) recently ran for a seat on the Wake Forest (N.C.) Board of Commissioners. He is the pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church in Rolesville, N.C.

Lisa Love White (master's in human resource development, '94) is a documentation and training specialist in Georgia-Pacific Corp.'s human resources information technology department.

William R. Voorhees (master of public administration, '95) is a political science instructor at Southern Illinois University's Carbondale campus and book review editor of *Public Budgeting & Finance.*

A. Ray Weeks Jr. (master of science in urban affairs, '77) recently received the Zell Miller Public Policy Leadership Award from the Georgia Economic Developers Association. The award recognized Weeks' outstanding contributions and commitment to Georgia's economic development program. Weeks is vice chairman of Indianapolis, Ind.-based Duke-Weeks Realty Corp.

Alumni News

Let us know where you are! If you have a degree from Georgia State in public administration, economics, urban policy studies, human resource development or other programs now offered by the Andrew Young School, we want to hear from you! Contact:

Betsy Robertson
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
Georgia State University
University Plaza
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Or contact us at:
Phone: 404-651-4328
E-mail: b-robertson@gsu.edu

HOME AGAIN: ***Andrew Young School alumni Larry Lucas (left) and Mitch Haralson banter during the school's Homecoming 2000 tailgate party in February. Lucas received a bachelor of science in urban studies, with a specialization in community development, in 1997. He is now enrolled in the master of public administration degree program. Haralson graduated in 1980 with a master of science degree in urban studies. In its sixth straight victory to end the regular season, Georgia State claimed a share of the Trans America Athletic Conference regular-season men's basketball crown with a 78-63 win over Central Florida during the annual Homecoming game.***

Education reform plan

continued from page 1

can't say teacher tenure is holding them back," Scafidi says.

Barnes' reform measure also attempts to spread the wealth by providing more money to poorer schools in urban and rural areas. "Essentially the state is going to step in and do a lot more to try to equalize the revenue that school districts, especially poor school districts, can raise," says Rubenstein.

"Poor districts with high tax rates but very low tax bases are going to get a huge boost from this. The flip side, of course, is that there are quite a few districts, particularly in metro Atlanta – relatively large, wealthy districts – that are going to lose money. But that's always the story when you talk about funding. There are winners and losers."

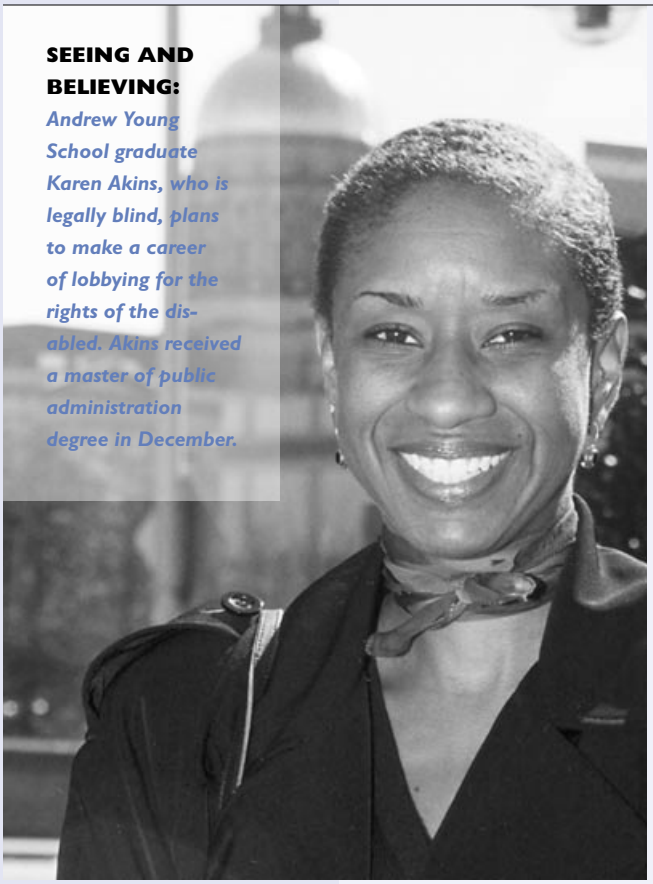
It's still unclear whether changes in the funding structure will actually improve student achievement.

"This is one of the big, difficult questions," Rubenstein says. "We don't really know exactly how much spending it takes to produce whatever level of student achievement we're trying to get. A lot of other states have been struggling with this."

Should the education reform measure be enacted, the researchers predict it will take at least three years to see improvement in the state's worst schools and longer for systemwide improvement to be reflected in national rankings.

"If you're looking for us to become a Top 10 state, we're not going to become that by 2010," Henry says. "But I do think we can move from 'below average' to 'above average' in that time."

Visually impaired student sees opportunity in disability advocacy



SEEING AND BELIEVING: *Andrew Young School graduate Karen Akins, who is legally blind, plans to make a career of lobbying for the rights of the disabled. Akins received a master of public administration degree in December.*

Andrew Young School graduate Karen Akins is setting her sights on Washington – even though a degenerative eye condition has left her legally blind.

"For me, that means I don't drive anymore, I don't read small print, I'm colorblind and really light-sensitive," says Akins, 38, who received a master of public administration degree in December.

Doctors believe Akins, a former licensed insurance agent, contracted toxoplasmosis, a parasitic disease that often affects the eyes and lungs, 13 years ago. For years, she sought treatment, stayed out of work and learned how to live independently with limited vision.

In 1996, Akins took a job as a secretary for an insurance agency and decided to continue her education. She finished an undergraduate degree in mental health and human services, and eventually left the insurance agency to attend graduate school.

"I felt like, as a person with a disability, I needed as many credentials as I could get," Akins says. "And ironically the opportunity presented itself so that I could go and have it pretty much paid for."

Akins' former employer agreed to fund her graduate education after she complained that the company was not making adequate accommodations for her disability, she says.

Akins took the company's offer, and now plans to parlay her education and experiences into a full-time job advocating for the rights of the disabled.

"You have to become really good at being your own self-advocate," says Akins, who contends that state laws and funding levels in Georgia have not kept track with federal disability legislation such as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act. "You have to be really proactive in getting out there and trying to find out information about your condition and what your rights are."

Akins spent the most recent legislative session tracking bills as an intern with the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities for Georgia, a state agency that promotes policies designed to increase the independence, inclusion and productivity of the disabled.

Among the group's legislative agenda items this year:

- A proposal that would require greater accessibility to public buildings for people in wheelchairs;
- A bill that would increase the number of places where guide dogs or service dogs are permitted;
- And a proposal for stricter punishment of criminals convicted of crimes against the elderly and disabled.

For her part, Akins simply hopes to someday be able to walk into a restaurant and take for granted that she'll be able to get a large-print menu.

"Maybe (in the future) you can just about work and go anywhere and people will understand that this is what you need and you don't have to struggle," she says. "If I can make a difference — even in my own little way — that keeps me going."

"You have to become really good at being your own self-advocate. You have to be really proactive in getting out there and trying to find out information about your condition and what your rights are."

– Karen Akins

Student News

*Economics doctoral student **Femi Alao** is reviewing the economic evaluations of community interventions for the "Tobacco Product Use Prevention" chapter of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's* Guide to Community Preventive Services. *She also co-wrote a paper, "Quality Assessment of Economic Evaluations Included in the* Guide to Community Preventive Services,*" to be presented at the annual meeting of the International Society of Technology Assessment in Health Care in the Hague, Netherlands, in June. **Wasseem Mina,** also a Ph.D. student in economics, is working on the CDC community guide as well. The book recommends ways to promote health; prevent disease, injury, disability and premature death; and to reduce environmental hazards.*

***Suzanne Butterfield, Jim Kirley** and **Bon Lahm** each received the Award for Distinguished Contribution to Human Resource Development Research from the Andrew Young School during Honors Day ceremonies in March.*

*Economics doctoral student **Robbie Collins** wrote a Jan. 29 opinion column in the Atlanta Journal/Constitution entitled "MARTA has poor track record."*

***Cynthia Dreier** received the Best Term Paper Award, which is judged by a faculty committee in the Department of Public Administration and Urban Studies, during Honors Day ceremonies in March. Her paper was entitled "Leadership Strategies: Environmental Nonprofit Organization." Dreier is a student in the master of public administration program.*

*Economics doctoral candidate **Stephen Everhart,** senior financial economist for the World Bank's Mexico City office, recently attended a two-week University of Sao Paulo/World Bank Institute seminar entitled "Quantitative Methods in Macro Management." Economics doctoral student **Adam Korobow** works in the Mexico Country Office at the World Bank in Washington, and has a working paper in progress that analyzes the fiscal decentralization process in Mexico. Korobow received a master of arts in economics from Georgia State in 1998.*

***Ellen Flemister** and **Marian Sachs** each received the Award for Distinguished Performance in the Master of Science in Human Resource Development Program from the Andrew Young School during Honors Day ceremonies in March. The award is presented annually to students who have consistently demonstrated superior academic performance and made significant contributions to the education of fellow students.*

***Adolph Goldenburg** and **Blair Woodell** both received public administration academic achievement awards from the Andrew Young School during Honors Day ceremonies in March. The award is presented annually to students with the highest grade-point averages in the master of public administration program.*

*Decatur sanitation director **Charles Hammonds,** a student in the master of public administration program, helped institute that city's "Pay-as-You-Throw" program, in which residents pay for sanitation services based on the amount of garbage they individually generate. The program is intended to reduce the amount of garbage and increase recycling in an effort to meet Georgia's requirement to reduce landfill deposits. In just under two years, the city has increased its amount of recycled trash from 80 to 150 tons per month.*

***Jeff Johnson** and **Neelam Sharma** each received the Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Thoughtful Practice of Human Resource Development from the Andrew Young School during Honors Day ceremonies in March. The award is presented annually to students who have demonstrated consistently superior academic performance in the master of science in human resource development program and applied that knowledge to make a significant contribution to the development of human resources in the field.*

*Urban policy studies major **Matthew Kirby** received the United Airlines – Eddie Carlson Award in Aviation Administration from the Andrew Young School during Honors Day ceremonies in March. The award honors a student in the aviation and transportation specialization who has the highest grade-point average for the academic year.*

***Jamie McMahon** received a Master of Public Administration/Juris Doctor Academic Achievement award from the Andrew Young School during Honors Day ceremonies in March. The award is given annually to the student who has the highest grade point average for the academic year in the joint MPA/JD program.*

***David B. Rein,** a second-year doctoral student in public policy, wrote "Direct Medical Cost of Pelvic Inflammatory Disease and its Sequelae: Decreasing, but Still Substantial," with William J. Kassler, Kathleen I. Irwin and Lara Rabiee, published by* Obstetrics & Gynecology *in March.*

*Economics graduate student **Marcela Szymanski** has received funding from the University System of Georgia's European Union Center for a case study of the negotiation of the European Union-Mexico trade agreement.*

*Economics doctoral student **Kathleen Thomas,** who works as a researcher in the Andrew Young School's Fiscal Research Program, presented a paper, "State Aid to Public Schools and the Determination of the Level of Spending Per Student," at the 69th annual conference of the Southern Economic Association Nov. 21-23 in New Orleans.*

Andrew Young School enrollment up

The number of students majoring in programs offered by the Andrew Young School grew 11 percent this spring, according to the school's Office of Academic Assistance.

The school currently has 491 majors, compared to 435 this time last year. The increase occurred mainly at the doctoral level in economics and the undergraduate level in public administration and urban policy studies, said OAA Director Sue Fagan.

The total number of students enrolled in the school's courses increased 7 percent this spring from the same time last year, and credit hours were up by 20 percent. The university's enrollment as a whole dropped about 2 percent during the same period.

Andrew Young School Dean Roy Bahl attributed the school's enrollment hike to improved course offerings, and increased community awareness of the school's programs and the career opportunities available to graduates.

Study examines economic impact of brownfields

BROWN DOWNTOWN: *Environmental policy researcher Laura Taylor is examining the economic impact of Atlanta's brownfields, properties that are or might be environmentally contaminated. Taylor plans to incorporate her research into the undergraduate and graduate environmental economics courses she'll be teaching this fall.*

Are metro Atlanta's abandoned commercial and industrial sites hurting the city's economic development potential?

That's the question Andrew Young School researchers are asking in a new study on the economic impact of brownfields – properties where development is impaired by the possibility of environmental contamination.

"Brownfields are typically older industrial sites or commercial sites that aren't in their highest and best use," says Laura Taylor, assistant professor of economics and a researcher in the Andrew Young School's Environmental Policy Program. "They really should be redeveloped, because there are better economic opportunities for the properties."

Funded by a $93,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the study looks at the loss in property values and reduced resale rates of hundreds of brownfields in Atlanta.

The project, which is due to be completed this summer, also examines whether some communities suffer disproportionately from the negative effects of such properties.

The results may be used to develop governmental policies that can enhance economic development and help keep the environment clean and safe, Taylor says.

Liability concerns

Developers and lenders often shrink from investing in contaminated land because they can be held legally liable for the cleanup and any damage that might already have occurred, Taylor says.

"Even suspected contamination can keep these properties from being redeveloped," she says. "Anybody who touches the property can get pulled into the legal liability. So there are some strong disincentives to be involved if you think there's contamination on a site."

Environmental problems aren't limited to old garbage dumps or abandoned industrial complexes. Dry cleaning establishments, auto body shops and other small businesses where chemicals are used and disposed of improperly may also create brownfield pockets in their neighborhoods, Taylor says.

When owners move or shut down their businesses, the abandoned property often languishes for years, exacerbating urban blight and creating conditions ripe for urban sprawl. If a site is thought to be contaminated, developers who otherwise might buy the property may flee to the suburbs, where it's cheaper and less risky to build.

No one knows for sure the size of the problem, but more than 2,000 properties in Fulton County alone are recorded on state and federal lists that track environmental contamination. Fulton County encompasses the heart of metro Atlanta.

'Small' problems

One example of a splashy brownfield redevelopment project is Jacoby Development Inc.'s plan to turn the 138-acre Atlantic Steel site in Atlanta's Midtown into a combined office, retail and residential complex.

But Taylor's project is unique mainly because it examines the combined impact of smaller properties. Large industrial complexes such as the Atlantic Steel site probably comprise less than 25 percent of all brownfields, Taylor says.

"Atlantic Steel and other large sites have been studied in the past," Taylor says.

"There's very little evidence on what the economic impacts are of these small undeveloped sites on their surroundings. And these things may really bring down a neighborhood."

The Andrew Young School recently completed a successful series of training programs on fiscal decentralization over a five-week period in Entebbe, Uganda, as part of a $500,000 grant from the Ugandan government through the World Bank. The programs covered the principles of fiscal decentralization, particularly expenditure and revenue assignments and the design of fiscal transfers. Faculty members also created a computer lab to allow participants hands-on experience in modeling fiscal transfers and the fiscal impact on local governments in Uganda. Finally, the participants were given an introduction to the principles of public accounting and budgeting. Andrew Young School faculty provided training to nearly 100 government officials, including about 50 chief administrative officers from district governments throughout the country; 10 commissioners from a variety of central government ministries; 10 permanent secretaries and their assistants; and 25 trainers from a wide variety of institutions throughout the country. In all, the training program consisted of five separate courses, with 14 faculty members and consultants from the Andrew Young School visiting Uganda to conduct the training. Faculty and associates involved in the teaching were program director **Mark Rider, Roy Bahl, Ross Rubenstein, Jim Alm, Bob McNab** and **Shannon Mudd.**

Andrew Young School Dean **Roy Bahl** traveled to Bangalore, India, in January to present a lecture on Indian public finance reforms for the International Institute for Social Change, then trekked to Hyderabad as part of a World Bank initiative to advise the Indian government on fiscal decentralization issues. He also traveled to South Africa in February to advise the Department of Provincial and Local Government Finance on intergovernmental fiscal transfers and taxation. Bahl visited Indonesia in February to advise the government on decentralization matters and present a series of lectures at several Indonesian universities.

Ron Cummings and former visiting faculty member Mike McKee recently traveled to South Africa and Botswana to demonstrate the Andrew Young School's experimental economics lab.

Carol Hansen, associate professor of human-resource development, is serving as a visiting professor through June at ESSEC Business School in Paris. She is teaching and conducting research in the master of business administration program shared with Cornell University.

Ledbetter

Georgia Health Policy Center Director **Jim Ledbetter** traveled to Cape Town, East London, Pretoria, Johannesburg and other areas of South Africa in November with several colleagues to finalize an application for a project that would provide job training for the disabled.

International Studies Program Director **Jorge Martinez-Vazquez** served as commentator for "Centralization-Decentralization: The Role of Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations in Shaping Effective States within Fragmented Societies," a conference sponsored by the World Bank Institute and the Institute of Federalism in Switzerland, in February.

Rioja

Felix Rioja, assistant professor of economics, gave the keynote address at a conference on globalization and economic development by the Instituto Tecnico de Estudios Economicos of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in February.

Rushing

Economics professor **Frances W. "Bill" Rushing,** who holds the Bernard B. and Eugenia A. Ramsey Chair of Private Enterprise, participated in a study tour on economic education in Russia and Ukraine in September. He visited Moscow in December to meet with the Ministry of Science and Technology on the topic of Russian funding for research and development. Rushing also traveled to Sydney, Australia, in January to present papers and attend meetings of the International Western Economic Association.

Ben Scafidi Jr., assistant professor of economics/public administration and urban studies, presented a paper on the causes of housing segregation at the International Regional Science Association Conference in Montreal in November. Economics professor **Keith Ihlanfeldt** co-wrote the paper.

Bruce Seaman, associate professor of economics, chaired a conference session during "Incentive Compatibility in the Arts" Jan. 27-29 in Vienna, Austria. The conference was co-sponsored by the Association for Cultural Economics International and FOKUS of Austria. Seaman is president-elect of ACEI. He also traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina, in December, where he visited several economics professors at Argentinian universities regarding expanded participation in the field of cultural economics.

A TAXING PROBLEM:
Gary Cornia, associate dean of the Marriott School of Management at Brigham Young University, discusses the implications of electronic commerce on sales taxation during a November policy forum coordinated by the Georgia Department of Revenue and the Andrew Young School's Fiscal Research Program. Cornia, who formerly served as Utah's tax commissioner, is an expert in public finance and budgeting. He spent last fall as a visiting scholar at the Andrew Young School.

Faculty, staff shift career paths

The Andrew Young School says adieu this semester to four well-known faces.

Skogstad

Sam Skogstad, chair of the economics department for the past three years, retires from his position April 1.

"Sam was incredibly instrumental in building the department in the 1970s, repeatedly chairing search committees that set the department's direction," said Andrew Young School Dean Roy Bahl. "He was an early supporter of Andrew Young, and his reputation and contacts have greatly benefited the school in building an international program. In the past three years, Sam has set the economics department on a new and exciting path."

Skogstad has served 20 years at Georgia State in various stints since 1964. He rejoined the economics faculty in 1994 after serving 14 years with the U.S. Agency for International Development. While with USAID, he served as senior economic advisor in the U.S. assistance programs to Chile, Jamaica, Guatemala and Egypt, and as chief economist in the Bureau for the Near East and the Task Force on the Former Soviet Union. He has worked on the problems of economic policy and growth in Latin America, the Middle East and the former Soviet states.

Ratajczak

Also retiring is the South's best-known economist, **Don Ratajczak,** economics professor and director of Georgia State's Economic Forecasting Center. He leaves his position at the end of the academic year.

"Don joined the economics faculty 27 years ago and has taught economics to countless students over the years," Bahl said. "No one has brought more attention to our economics department — or to Georgia State — than Don Ratajczak. We look forward to continuing our relationship with him as he delves into a fascinating new research area."

Ratajczak plans to use his retirement to explore the economics of the Internet, he said.

Consistently recognized as one of the nation's top economic forecasters, Ratajczak received the Annual Economics Forecasting Award by *Blue Chip Economic Indicators* newsletter in 1994 and was named the most accurate economic forecaster in the United States by *BusinessWeek* in 1996. The Wall Street Journal has described him as one of the 20 most widely quoted economists in the world.

John Hutcheson Jr., professor of public administration and urban studies, retired in January. Hutcheson taught research methods courses in urban studies and formerly served as director of the Center for Urban Research and Service, now known as the Applied Research Center.

"John's research and publications did much to enhance the reputation of the urban studies program and Georgia State University throughout the country, especially through the Urban Affairs Association," said colleague Harvey Newman, associate professor of public administration and urban studies.

Weyandt joins Atlanta Regional Commission

Urban planning and development guru **Tom Weyandt** resigned as executive director of Research Atlanta Inc. on March 3 to become director of comprehensive planning for the Atlanta Regional Commission.

Under Weyandt's leadership, Research Atlanta has helped put issues like air quality and transportation at the forefront of the city's public agenda. The organization's research reports and forums have assisted community leaders and the general public in understanding the causes of and solutions for a plethora of metro-area problems.

"Tom Weyandt has done a fabulous job for Research Atlanta and we support him fully in his new position," said Research Atlanta President Raymond King, first vice president of SunTrust Bank. "The fact that Tom was sought for a position of such importance to the community is a positive testimony to the impact he and Research Atlanta have had on public policy discussions in recent years."

Awards/honors/grants

Amy Helling (public administration & urban studies) and **Keith Ihlanfeldt** (economics) have been appointed to the editorial board of *Economic Development Quarterly.*

Gary Henry (Applied Research Center) has been asked by North Carolina Gov. Jim Hunt to serve as technical advisor for "First In America by 2010," North Carolina's performance report aimed at moving that state to the top tier in education.

Bill Kahnweiler (public administration & urban studies) has been selected to serve on the American Society for Training and Development, a national committee bridging research and practice.

Minyard

Karen Minyard (Georgia Health Policy Center) has been elected to the position of president-elect of the Georgia Rural Health Association.

Newman

Harvey Newman (public administration & urban studies) was nominated as Georgia Author of the Year in the "creative nonfiction" category for his book *Southern Hospitality: Tourism and the Growth of Atlanta,* University of Alabama Press, published in June.

Research Atlanta Inc. has received an $80,000 grant – the largest in its history — from the Community Foundation to do a major study on charitable giving by metro Atlantans. The principal researchers are **David Van Slyke** (public administration & urban studies) and **Arthur Brooks** (public administration & urban studies/economics).

Ross Rubenstein (public administration & urban studies/educational policy studies), along with colleague Michele Moser, recently received a $15,000 research grant from the American Education Research Association for the study "The Equity of Public Elementary and Secondary School District Resources in the United States, 1992-1995."

New publications

Arthur Brooks (public administration & urban studies/economics), "Public Subsidies and Charitable Giving: Crowding In, Crowding Out or Both?," forthcoming this summer in *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management;* "Is There a Dark Side to Government Support for Nonprofits?," forthcoming this spring in *Public Administration Review;* and "The Use and Misuse of Adjusted Performance Measures," forthcoming this spring in the "Insights" section of the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management.*

Kelly Edmiston (economics), "Urban Malls, Tax Base Migration and State Intergovernmental Aid," with co-authors Stanley Chervin and Matthew Murray, accepted for publication in *Public Finance Review.*

Shif Gurmu (economics), "Generalized Bivariate Count Data Regression Models," with John Elder, forthcoming in *Economic Letters.*

Gregory B. Lewis (public administration & urban studies), "Does the Public Support Equal Employment Rights for Gays and Lesbians?," with co-author Marc A. Rogers, in *Gays and Lesbians in the Democratic Process: Public Policy, Public Opinion and Political Representation,* Ellen D.B. Riggle and Barry L. Tadlock, eds., Columbia University Press, 1999.

Julia Melkers (public administration & urban studies), "Value-Mapping State R&D Programs," with Gordon Kingsley, forthcoming in *Research Evaluation;* "Citizen Contacting of Municipal Officials: Choosing Between Appointed Administrators and Elected Leaders," with **John C. Thomas** (public administration & urban studies), forthcoming in *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory;* and "The View from the Trenches: Budgeters' Views on State PBB Systems," with **Katherine Willoughby** (public administration & urban studies), forthcoming in *Public Administration Review.*

Melkers

David Sjoquist (Fiscal Research Program), edited *The Atlanta Paradox,* part of a Russell Sage Foundation seven-book series entitled "The Multi-City Study of Urban Inequality."

Verna Willis (public administration & urban studies), "Invited Reaction: Comments on Self-Directed Learning Research," accepted for publication in *Human Resource Development Quarterly;* and a book chapter, "Strategy and the Chief Learning Officer: Change at Millbrook Distribution Services," with Gary May, forthcoming in May in *Knowledge Management in Practice: Chief Knowledge Officers and Chief Learning Officers,* published by the American Society for Training and Development.

Yongsheng Xu (economics), "On Ranking Opportunity Sets in Economic Environments," with Prasanta K. Pattanaik, forthcoming in the *Journal of Economic Theory;* "Non-Discrimination and the Pareto Principle," in *The Economic Review;* and "Choice Under Complete Uncertainty: Axiomatic Characterizations of Some Decision Rules," with Walter Bossert and Prasanta K. Pattanaik, forthcoming in *Economic Theory.*

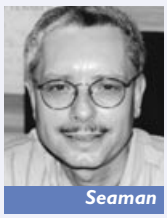
Xu

Recent presentations

Arthur Brooks (public administration & urban studies/economics), "The Religious Economy Under Genetic Dynamics" at the American Economic Association Meetings in January in Boston; "Nonlinear Crowding Out and Subsidy Traps," "The 'Income Gap' and the Health of Arts Nonprofits: Arguments, Evidence and Strategies" and "Thinking About Cultural Districts," with Roland J. Kushner, at the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Annual Conference in November in Crystal City, Va.; and "An Experimental Design for Understanding the Effects on Scientific Research of the Commercial Space Act of 1998" at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research at Stanford University in October.

Jorge Martinez-Vazquez (International Studies Program), "Stability of Intergovernmental Transfers and Local Own-Source Revenue Generation," at the Global Conference on Capital Markets Development at the Subnational Level, Subnational Capital Markets: Challenges at the National and Local Level in the 21st Century, Feb. 15-17 in New York.

Bruce Seaman (economics), "Methodological Issues in Measuring the Impact of Deregulation: Lessons from a Case Study" Oct. 7-9 at the 11th annual conference of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management in Washington.


Seaman

Andrew Young School remembers Jack Dunn

The Andrew Young School of Policy Studies offers its condolences to the family of benefactor E.D. "Jack" Dunn, former commissioner of the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance, who died in December. He was 74.

A 1950 graduate of Georgia State University, Dunn was the longest-serving state banking commissioner in the United States upon his retirement in 1997. Members of the Georgia Bankers Association in 1998 established an endowed graduate fellowship in the Andrew Young School to honor Dunn's 25-year career. The fellowship is awarded annually to an outstanding master's or doctoral student pursuing studies in banking and financial sector policy.

"Jack and I both…wanted to say 'thank you' to Georgia State and to help other young people complete their education," said Dunn's wife, Betty. "The scholarship is a wonderful way to remember Jack and to continue his legacy of public service."

Contributions may be made in his memory to the E.D. "Jack" Dunn Scholarship Fund through the GSU Foundation. For more information, you may contact Anne Bramlette at 404-651-3927 or e-mail abramlette@gsu.edu.

JACK DUNN

INDUSTRY LEGACY: ***Many bankers credit the late Jack Dunn (above) with the success of Georgia's banking industry during a time when financial institutions all over the United States were failing, said Sam Skogstad, chair of the Andrew Young School's economics department.***

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