The Briefing, Spring-Summer 2012

Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/aysps_briefing

Part of the Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration Commons

Recommended Citation
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, "The Briefing, Spring-Summer 2012" (2012). The Briefing at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. 32.
https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/aysps_briefing/32

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks @ Georgia State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Briefing at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ Georgia State University. For more information, please contact scholarworks@gsu.edu.
Parli italiano?
We are coming to the end of year one in implementing the GSU 2011-2016/21 Strategic Plan, and our school is celebrating its successes in following the university’s new playbook. Most in the Andrew Young School have been deeply involved in implementing this plan. Although our work encompasses all goals in the plan, I will address two here.

GOAL #1: Become a national model for undergraduate education by demonstrating that students from all backgrounds can achieve academic and career success at high rates.

We have begun work on several initiatives to support this goal. First is to increase institutional support for merit and need-based scholarship funding. It is heartening to see the interest the community has shown for supporting our students.

Another is the new university-wide Honors College. Assistant Dean Cynthia Searcy has organized an exceptional honors program tailored to Andrew Young School students that will begin this fall. We have begun work on improving and expanding the ground floor space at our 14 Marietta Street building, as well, to provide upgraded facilities for our honors program along with a much-needed conference room.

GOAL #3: Become a leading public research university addressing the most challenging issues of the 21st century.

The Andrew Young School is actively moving Georgia State University forward in the ranks of research universities. Reflecting this successful effort is our recent move up four places in the U.S. News & World Report rankings to 23rd among America’s Best Public Affairs Graduate Schools.

This year alone we have had two Fulbright scholars, Paul Ferraro and Elizabeth Beck, working in Costa Rica and the West Bank; next year a third, Lisa Muftic, will set off for Bosnia. Ferraro, alumnus Merlin Hanauer (Ph.D. in Economics ’11) and another co-author were awarded the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences’ Cozzarelli Prize for their article. Two faculty members have recently assumed editorial positions at Science and Criminology, and another had his book named among the best in labor economics and industrial relations.

Our faculty members, research staff and students do the hard work that attracts awards, honors and grants to the school. Continuing to provide an entrepreneurial environment that is rich in resources for research will certainly pay off for the many excellent scholars in the Andrew Young School as well as the university as a whole.

Mary Beth Walker
Dean
A popular new undergraduate course offered Spring 2011, Econ 4100: Economics, Philosophy, & Public Policy, enrolled 40 students representing a variety of degree fields. Created by economics Professor Yongsheng Xu, Econ 4100 shows students how to evaluate various public policies within an economic and philosophic framework. They learn how to look at events and issues as they occur – globally and locally – and consider their policy, economic and ethical challenges and impacts.

Xu’s first class studied both the ethics of dirty industries exporting to other countries and the global financial system. “We teach our students to think: What is the role of government in the market system? Does the financial system provide efficiency, equity, individual rights and freedom? From other aspects, is it good? In what sense is it good? Is there distributive justice? What is really going on?” says Xu, who runs the class like a seminar. Students, in groups of three, choose real-world topics and, using economic and ethical principles, analyze relevant policies. Each group then presents its analysis to the others.

The new course was created with the support of AYS Dean Mary Beth Walker, Sally Wallace, economics department chair, and George Rainbolt, chair of the philosophy department in the College of Arts and Sciences.

GHPC, Lacson Memorial Fund improve health care strategies in Northwest Georgia

The Georgia Health Policy Center has presented the Northwest Georgia Healthcare Partnership (NGHP) in Dalton, Ga., a $5,000 gift from the Claudia Lacson Memorial Fund.

Grants from the fund honor Lacson’s legacy of work with the Promotoras de Salud (Community Health Workers) program, which works to bring the underserved and uninsured (both Latinos and non-Latinos) into care and increase education on health issues.

With the Lacson grant, the GHPC provided a strategic health reform consultation for NGHP that included background research, a report and an on-site strategic meeting in July.

The Atlanta Census Research Data Center opens to researchers

After celebrating its grand opening on September 26 with the U.S. Census Bureau’s Director Robert Groves and Duke University economist Patrick Bayer at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, the Atlanta Census Research Data Center (ACRDC) “officially” opened on November 15.

Two days later its first user, Andrew Young School Ph.D. candidate and economist Mark Curtis, inaugurated the center by logging in and running a few regressions.

By December two civil engineering Ph.D. candidates from the Georgia Institute of Technology, Josie Kressner and Greg Macfarlane, had been awarded grants to conduct research at the ACRDC. More than 20 research proposals from researchers at Emory University, University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and UT-Knoxville, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Louisiana State University, the University of Georgia, and the Federal Reserve were either approved, under review, or in development by the year’s end.

The ACRDC joins an exclusive number of Research Data Centers at which researchers with approved projects can access non-public business, social and health statistical data. It is a partnership between the Census Bureau and a consortium that includes Georgia State University, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Emory University, Georgia Tech, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, UT-Knoxville and the University of Georgia. Managed by the Census Bureau’s Center for Economic Studies, the center is staffed by Executive Director Julie Hotchkiss, AYS adjunct professor, and Census Administrator Melissa Ruby Banzhaf.

Additional information about the ACRDC can be found at its website, http://aysps.gsu.edu/acrdc, or by emailing Julie.L.Hotchkiss@atl.frb.org.

New undergraduate course brings philosophy to policy studies

A popular new undergraduate course offered Spring 2011, Econ 4100: Economics, Philosophy, & Public Policy, enrolled 40 students representing a variety of degree fields. Created by economics Professor Yongsheng Xu, Econ 4100 shows students how to evaluate various public policies within an economic and philosophic framework. They learn how to look at events and issues as they occur – globally and locally – and consider their policy, economic and ethical challenges and impacts.

Xu’s first class studied both the ethics of dirty industries exporting to other countries and the global financial system. “We teach our students to think: What is the role of government in the market system? Does the financial system provide efficiency, equity, individual rights and freedom? From other aspects, is it good? In what sense is it good? Is there distributive justice? What is really going on?” says Xu, who runs the class like a seminar. Students, in groups of three, choose real-world topics and, using economic and ethical principles, analyze relevant policies. Each group then presents its analysis to the others.

The new course was created with the support of AYS Dean Mary Beth Walker, Sally Wallace, economics department chair, and George Rainbolt, chair of the philosophy department in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Karen Minyard, center, leads strategic planning session for Northwest Georgia Healthcare Partnership board members.
Public Finance and Budgeting ranks #4
Nonprofit Management ranks #12
City Management and Urban Policy ranks #12
Public-Policy Analysis ranks #24
Public Management and Administration ranks #26
School of Social Work ranks #52, the second highest-ranked social work school without a doctoral degree program!
Economics ranks #65
An ATLANTIS grant administered jointly by the U.S. Department of Education and the European Union funded the program for four years, awarding $1 million to GSU and the University of Venice in 2010. ATLANTIS encourages international curriculum development and student exchanges with a U.S.-European focus. The Andrew Young School and the College of Arts and Sciences administer the program for GSU.

“The ATLANTIS grant brought Italian in as a fourth language in our IEML degree program and made it easier for GSU students to study abroad,” says Shelby Frost, associate professor of economics and program co-director.

GSU undergraduates selected for the program spend 18 months in Venice learning its language and culture and working toward their degree while the Italian students spend 18 months at GSU to pursue a joint degree in economics along with a minor of their choice. Each receives a $12,000 annual stipend to pay his or her education and travel expenses.

Munoz and Oyaga were among the first group of six GSU students to travel to Venice the fall semester 2010. Prior language and degree credits enabled them to graduate from the program early. The first 11 students from the University of Venice also arrived on GSU’s campus that semester.

ASYS students in Venice
Munoz was pursuing an IEML degree when she decided to apply for the Venice program. “I had lived in Siena, Italy, for five weeks to play piano at an academy of music and immerse myself in the language. When I returned, Dr. Richard Keatley, director of GSU’s Italian program, told me that the joint degree program with Venice was being established.

“I had also gone to Perugia, Italy, with another GSU study abroad program, so we could count those credits for Italian. He told me to keep up my GPA in the IEML, and I would be perfect candidate,” says Munoz, who is fluent in French, Spanish and Italian. “I kept working towards this goal, and everything fell into place.”

“I was taking the economics capstone class with Dr. (Glenwood) Ross when I heard about the program,” says Oyaga. He attended a meeting about the program conducted by Frost and Keatley and was hooked.
This program is a rare opportunity because it gives us totally different perspectives and ways of studying,” he continues. “In Italy we usually have larger classes with more people and teachers have more authority; you rarely challenge or question them.

“But here you have the chance to say more, and students do. And teachers here try to value what you say. In Italy, when you say something wrong, they just tell you it’s wrong. Here they explain why it’s wrong. You are provided a lot of examples and cases, which in Italy is rare.”

Silvia Bortolini is pursuing a minor in German. She came to Atlanta from Prosecco, a picturesque village in the foothills of the Alps, 50 minutes north of Venice by train.

“I expected to study subjects different from economics, which is one reason I was glad to enter the program,” she says. “Georgia State University has met my expectations. The university system in America is more like our high school, where you study every day, do homework and take tests. In Italy you just have one final test. I prefer the system here and study better here.”

Bortolini recommends more American students consider a study abroad. “I have a feeling that Americans don’t travel much outside of the U.S. It’s costly, but they should take all of the opportunities they have to go outside of the U.S. Studying is the best way to go because you get in touch with a lot of people. It’s a good time – you have your free time – you meet a lot of students and young people.

“I think Americans need to open their minds to more of the world. U.S. may be best place in the world to live, but they should see the world.”

“I would advise all students here to study abroad in Europe,” agrees Genovese.

Italian Students on the GSU Campus

The Italian students are working towards an IEML degree at GSU while pursuing minors of their choice.

“The fashion in our movies and sitcoms is to go to an American university,” says Jacopo Genovese from Palermo, Sicily, who is minorng in political science. “My sister studied in Canada, so I wanted to do something similar.

“This program is a rare opportunity because it gives us totally different perspectives and ways of studying,” he continues. “In Italy we usually have larger classes with more people and teachers have more authority; you rarely challenge or question them.

“But here you have the chance to say more, and students do. And teachers here try to value what you say. In Italy, when you say something wrong, they just tell you it’s wrong. Here they explain why it’s wrong. You are provided a lot of examples and cases, which in Italy is rare.”

Silvia Bortolini is pursuing a minor in German. She came to Atlanta from Prosecco, a picturesque village in the foothills of the Alps, 50 minutes north of Venice by train.

“I expected to study subjects different from economics, which is one reason I was glad to enter the program,” she says. “Georgia State University has met my expectations. The university system in America is more like our high school, where you study every day, do homework and take tests. In Italy you just have one final test. I prefer the system here and study better here.”

Bortolini recommends more American students consider a study abroad. “I have a feeling that Americans don’t travel much outside of the U.S. It’s costly, but they should take all of the opportunities they have to go outside of the U.S. Studying is the best way to go because you get in touch with a lot of people. It’s a good time – you have your free time – you meet a lot of students and young people.

“I think Americans need to open their minds to more of the world. U.S. may be best place in the world to live, but they should see the world.”

“I would advise all students here to study abroad in Europe,” agrees Genovese.
Cynthia Searcy was recently named the Andrew Young School’s assistant dean for academic programs, a new position created by the AYS to help prepare its students for success in their careers and as citizens in their communities. Searcy, an assistant professor in the Department of Public Management and Policy, has taught at Georgia State since 2008.

Recognizing that close cooperation between the AYS’s four academic departments will strengthen the school’s already impressive academic track record and offer more opportunities for its students, Searcy promotes such collaboration.

Increasing international scholarship is also important, she believes. “We are working hard to offer opportunities and make it affordable for students to study abroad, which will give them the kind of experiences they need to compete for jobs with their peers around the world.”

Searcy says that her undergraduate experience at a small liberal arts school has shaped the way she approaches her new position at AYS. “Although a large research university such as Georgia State is incapable of providing the same intimate setting for its students as I enjoyed, we can make use of our technological resources to engage them in similar ways.”

Searcy’s research interests are education policy, financial management and budgeting, and health policy. Prior to receiving her Ph.D. in Public Administration at Syracuse University’s Maxwell School, Searcy worked as a research associate for the Citizens’ Budget Commission, a watchdog organization in New York City. She earned an M.P.A. at New York University and a B.A. in American Studies at Georgetown College.

“Working at the commission allowed me to gain first-hand understanding of budgetary practices and helped me tailor my future research in public budgeting and finance, especially in the field of education,” she says.


Dean’s visit deepens AYS ties with alumni and friends in Indonesia and China

DEAN MARY BETH WALKER traveled to Indonesia and China in late May. In Indonesia, she joined GSU President Mark Becker, Provost Risa Palm and alumna Arti Adji (Ph.D. in Economics ’06), director of the graduate program in economics at the University of Gadjah Mada, in welcoming the first class of students from the USAID-funded Indonesian Master’s program to GSU.

Later on the same trip Walker met with former AYS visiting scholars in China to discuss developing joint programs and projects with their universities. She was joined by Assistant Professor Cathy Liu, Research Associate Huiping Du and Professor Yongshen Xu, who was visiting CUFE as an honorary professor.

At a dinner given by alumnus Baoyun Qiao (Ph.D. Economics ’01), dean of the Economics and Finance Department at Central University (CUFE) in Beijing, 10 of the 18 people sitting at Walker’s table were her former students.

“I had to pretend the food was too spicy for me to hide the fact that I kept tearing up at the nice things they said,” she says. “Expect to hear further from the Dean’s Office and International Center for Public Policy as we work to establish training projects and exchanges with some key universities in this part of the world.”

GSU Provost Risa Palm, left, Dean Walker and President Mark Becker, second and third from left, and Arti Adji, right, are joined by Indonesian officials at the University of Gadjah Mada
The State of Georgia has enjoyed a superior bond rating by the nation’s three major credit rating agencies – Moody’s Investors Service, Standard & Poor’s and Fitch Ratings, Ltd. – since the final of all three agencies upgraded it to AAA in 1997. Once one of 13 states rated “triple/triple AAA,” Georgia’s fiscal practices have kept it among the eight states that have managed to maintain this “highest” rating through the Great Recession.

AYS research professor Ken Heaghney, the state’s economist for the last six years, is a member of the team of fiscal experts from the Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission, Georgia Department of State Audits and Accounts, Office of Planning and Budget, Attorney General’s office, and outside bond and disclosure counsel that researches and prepares the documents the rating agencies review to make their credit decisions.

“By Georgia’s Constitution, we have to run a balanced budget, which is true of almost every state,” he says. “The rating agencies show a lot of interest in how Georgia deals with Medicare, how it copes with economic recessions and lower revenues, and its post-employment benefits. The big question is whether the state has a structurally balanced budget. Our job is to show that Georgia does.”

Why is Georgia’s AAA rating important?

“When Georgia issues general obligation debt, this rating gives it a favorable interest rate,” says Heaghney. “As Georgia repays its bonds, it pays a lot less in interest than a lower credit-rated state. This helps us in economic development and other important areas.”

A keen observer of public debt news and trends, Professor of Practice Michael Bell teaches public finance at AYS following a career as an investment banker and chief financial officer for the City of Atlanta and DeKalb, one of the state’s largest counties. He offers real-life debt issuance examples and bond/note-related documentation prepared by states and municipalities in his classroom.

Bell teaches public finance at AYS following a career as an investment banker and chief financial officer for the City of Atlanta and DeKalb, one of the state’s largest counties. He offers real-life debt issuance examples and bond/note-related documentation prepared by states and municipalities in his classroom.

Both he and Heaghney are watching the news out of Europe closely. “If Georgia happens to go to market with an AAA offering, to the extent that the Greek crisis impacts U.S. Treasury interest rates, the effect could be positive or negative for Georgia,” he says.

Heaghney offers reasons for Georgia’s rating: “We have transparency in our financials, which Greece did not. We are constitutionally required to balance our budget. We can only use debt for capital needs, not for operations. And there are constitutional limits to what we can borrow, based on prior revenue levels.

Bell recognizes the effort Georgia’s public finance team put into their work. “It is much harder to get these ratings than to lose them,” he says.
GILEE sends top law enforcement officials for counterterrorism training in Israel

A 17-member delegation of law enforcement officials, predominantly Georgians, traveled to Israel in July for a two-week training program on counterterrorism, emergency management and other types of policing strategies. Israeli police conducted the training.

The program, in its 19th year, was offered by the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange (GILEE). Founded in 1992 by Robert Friedmann in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, GILEE provides senior law enforcement officers professional training opportunities in policing techniques from their peers abroad. It also offers public safety workshops, seminars and brings experts in the field together for consulting.

The 2011 delegation included state and local law enforcement officials from several Georgia communities, the deputy commissioner of the Georgia Department of Public Safety and the director of the Mankato (Minnesota) Department of Public Safety.

“Meeting with Israeli law enforcement personnel was very informative and enlightening,” a delegate commented in his program evaluation. “Spending two weeks with other law enforcement executives from Georgia (and) Minnesota was a great benefit. Discussing issues, processes and challenges was also very beneficial.”

“GILEE emphasizes the importance of making best practices and sources of excellence available to its participants so they can improve law enforcement service provision to their communities. The increasing threat of terrorism – international and domestic – fluctuations in crime and budget shortfalls behove law enforcement leaders to learn from the best how to improve and balance service delivery. The program in Israel offers exactly that opportunity,” says Friedmann.

For more information on GILEE, go to www.gilee.org.

The Andrew Young School welcomes more Indonesian Master’s students

Indonesia’s first class of 15 expert economic advisors, who arrived at Georgia State University in July to earn advanced degrees in economics through the $3 million USAID Dual Master’s Program in Applied Economics, will be joined this July by the final cohort of up to 20 more students. Here for 18 months, most will graduate with an M.A. from GSU and an M.S. from Gadjah Mada University, a top-ranked institution in Yogyakarta, Java.

A story about the program ran in the fall GSU Magazine and on the front page of the gsu.edu website. To see it, go to http://www.gsu.edu/magazine/657.html. To learn more about the program, go to http://aysps.gsu.edu/isp/3575.html.
Today more than 1.2 million older adults — aged 60 and over — call the 20-county Atlanta region home, according to the Atlanta Regional Commission, and their presence is projected to double soon. Does this region — or any — stand ready to meet its senior population’s special health care needs?

A consortium of local universities and the region’s leading planning body are working to improve the knowledge and capacity of geriatric health professionals so that the answer in Georgia will be a resounding “Yes!”

Georgia State University (GSU) has partnered on a $2.08 million project funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration to improve regional health outcomes by enhancing geriatric education among interdisciplinary health professionals. Titled COALESCE (Collaboration Allows for Enhanced Senior Care), the five-year project is coordinated through the Atlanta Regional Geriatrics Education Center (ARGEC), a regional consortium led by Emory University that includes the Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta Regional Commission and GSU.

Through COALESCE, health professionals across disciplines — from students to practicing clinicians — will be trained in the clinical and social aspects of aging. Among other initiatives, it will provide geriatrics training modules designed to effectively reduce health disparities and improve the quality of life for elderly persons in the region.

Professor Nancy Kropf, director of the School of Social Work at the Andrew Young School and Pat Clark, associate dean in GSU’s Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions, are co-principal investigators on GSU’s portion of the project in the area of geriatric mental health.

“Anxiety and depression are leading mental health concerns of later life,” says Kropf. “Yet for older people, depression is not always accurately diagnosed. People might say they’re depressed when, in fact, there are other conditions that might need to be changed, like their medications.”

Kropf and Clark will design training modules that will improve the ability of health care providers — physicians, physicians’ assistants, nurses and social workers — to assess those in their care for later-life depression and respond to it. Family caregivers will be an important element of this training.

The GSU scope of work will include three initiatives. First is a toolkit for practitioners that will enable them to pull together the relevant information, effective tools and resources they need for their practices when they work with older adults. Second, faculty from social work and nursing will partner to offer an online class on mental health and aging this summer.

Third are the training modules she and Clark are developing: self-contained “infusion modules” easily adaptable to a variety of courses. “Instructors will be able to expose wide cross-sections of students to information on geriatric depression and late-life issues, increasing the number and abilities of those who work with our seniors,” she says.

Expanding the understanding of mental health issues is critical, says Kropf. “Some statistics suggest that over half of seniors living in long-term care facilities and from 10 to 20 percent in the community have been diagnosed as depressed. COALESCE will have a significant impact on improving the overall health of this population.”
The International Center on Public Policy (ICP2) began the year 2012 by deepening its involvement in a couple of projects designed to facilitate effective public financial sector and tax reform in India and Pakistan.

**Improving Fiscal Capacity in India**

In the first project, ICP2 has partnered with India’s National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (www.nipfp.org.in/) on collaborative training sessions to improve fiscal capacity in the country’s Assam region. “Partnering with the NIPFP would be similar to partnering with the OMB or GAO in the U.S.,” says Regents Professor Jorge Martinez-Vazquez, director of the ICP2. “It is ‘the’ center for public economics in India.”

Thirty public economists and policy experts from Assam took part in a two-week collaborative training program, with one week held at the AYS. The rigorous academic program, designed by Martinez and Govinda Rao, director of the NIPFP, refreshed and strengthened their critical understanding of public budgeting and financial management.

Topics covered by the course included budget law and policy, performance based budgeting practices, public expenditure and financial management, and information systems. Central to the training was an overview of the theoretical and applied dimensions of public financial management and their implications for policy reform in developing economies.

“Public budgeting and fiscal management are potent financial tools in the public sector,” says Martinez-Vazquez. “Initiatives to improve competence in these areas are highly relevant.”

**Fiscal Reform in Pakistan**

The ICP2 is also working on a joint project with Pakistan’s Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) aimed at reforming the country’s tax system. The goal is to alleviate pressures put on the Pakistani economy by the systemic tax evasion in the country’s booming “shadow” economy.

The Pakistani FBR turned to the ICP2 to help it tackle the widespread corruption in its private and public sectors by reforming its inefficient tax system, bringing more businesses into the legal economy and boosting investor confidence.

The project will provide a functional model for calculating the true size of the underground economy and gauging its effects on Pakistan’s corporate sector. The ICP2 will then address the question of tax reform by analyzing the possible policy approaches.

Musharraf Cyan, a research associate and Ph.D. candidate, travelled home to Pakistan in September to lead the project kickoff. He later joined professors Sally Wallace and Andrew Feltenstein in Istanbul for additional planning. Implementation of Pakistan’s tax reform initiative began in earnest in February.

For more information on the work of the ICP2, go to http://aysps.gsu.edu/isp/index.html.

---

**Georgia Budget Staffers Come to AYS for Policy Training**

This summer brought 20 legislative and executive fiscal policy analysts from the Gold Dome to Georgia State University for training in Performance Based Budgeting and Management. The training was sponsored by the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office as a part of its effort to integrate performance information into the legislative budget process. Developed by Associate Professor Carolyn Bourdeaux, it provided a basic overview of performance reforms, outcomes-sequence modeling, program evaluation and cost analysis. Professor Katherine Willoughby, Assistant Professor Jesse Lecy and Assistant Dean Cynthia Searcy taught key units.

The evaluations were glowing. “The training was ‘spot-on’ in terms of the realistic budget evaluation strategies described and the exercises that the analysts worked through in various sessions,” according to one analyst. Another thanked faculty for recognizing the distinction of use in performance information across the branches.”We need clear ways to communicate this information to legislators, and the training helped us with that,” claimed another.
Chris Parker, the project’s principal investigator.

The initiative is important for unearthing the factors critical in community-based obesity prevention. “Factors that contribute to the obesity epidemic and chronic disease are complex and embedded in the culture of how we eat, how we socialize and access to resources,” Parker says. “The public health field is moving towards finding solutions that match this context in the places where we live our lives – where we work, play, learn, eat and worship. That naturally leads to a focus on environment and policy change in our communities. “It’s tough work, but there are lots of lessons to learn from initiatives like Healthy Belvedere,” he says.

For more information on the program, go to www.healthybelvedere.org.
Study finds public-assisted housing returnees better off than voucher users

The federal HOPE VI housing program, begun in the 1990s, has been heralded for reversing a half-century of public housing policy that had been criticized for “warehousing the poor.” A project of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, HOPE VI has converted decaying and dangerous public housing projects around the country into revitalized mixed-income developments.

The policy was designed to dramatically improve the quality of life for lower-income residents. And on two important measures — financial well-being and general satisfaction — the residents who returned to Atlanta Housing Authority-assisted housing felt they were better off than those who chose vouchers that allowed them to live in private housing, according to Associate Professor Fred Brooks.

Brooks reveals this finding and more in the article, “Voucher Users and Revitalized Public-Housing Residents Six Years After Displacement,” an empirical study of an Atlanta HOPE VI project he conducted with Assistant Professor Terri Lewinson, Professor James Wolk and AYS alumna Jennifer Aszman (M.S.W. ’11). The article was published in Research on Social Work Practice in June 2011.

The study looks at the Harris Homes HOPE VI revitalization of early 2000, which relocated 491 public housing residents and redeveloped the property.
Georgia is to design a health insurance exchange for small businesses that will increase the number of Georgians with quality health care coverage, build real competition in the insurance market, and make Georgia’s business environment friendlier to small businesses.


Researchers from the Georgia Health Policy Center and the J. Mack Robinson College of Business conducted a survey of employers in Georgia (firms with 2-500 employees) to support the state’s Health Insurance Exchange feasibility study.

Their findings, published in the 2011 Georgia Employer Survey, reveal that firms that offer employee health insurance coverage are systemically different from those that do not. For example, small employers are significantly less likely to offer health insurance to their workers than are large employers. There are also substantial differences by region of the state.

Understanding the patterns in current coverage is important if the State of Georgia is to design a health insurance exchange for small businesses that will increase the number of Georgians with quality health care coverage, build real competition in the insurance market, and make Georgia’s business environment friendlier to small businesses.

McGinnis uses a sample of 178,000 young, educated employees taken from 2001-2006 by the American Community Survey for her research.

“Both nonprofit and for-profit employees with advanced degrees earn more than employees with bachelors’ degrees,” she finds.

“Although there are a higher percentage of nonprofit employees with advanced degrees (as compared to for-profit employees), for-profit employees with advanced degrees are being better compensated for their education.”

Yet recent national surveys find that salary, benefits, and opportunities for career growth and advancement are the three top job considerations for Generation Y employees.

“These findings suggest that the emphasis nonprofit literature has placed on structuring compensation practices for an intrinsically motivated workforce will likely not serve a young, educated workforce that considers compensation an important factor in their attraction and retention,” she says. “The sector’s lower pay indicates to them a mismatch between education required and compensation practices.”

McGinnis hopes nonprofits will use this research to develop new ways to attract Generation Y workers. “This sector does a lot of good work, yet it currently does not understand how the way it compensates young people impacts their employment decisions.”

Because her findings suggest the need for further examination of the monetary returns to education for both nonprofit and for-profit employees, McGinnis plans to revisit the research and include data on public employees.
Whose health care is it, anyway?

Study shows lower-income earners pay more of their wages for health care

PROFESSOR SALLY WALLACE, chair of the economics department, recently published a paper that sheds light on public health care spending with co-authors Patricia Ketsche (GSU Robinson College of Business), Kathleen Adams (Emory University), Viji Diane Kannan (University of Rochester) and Harini Kannan (Jameel Poverty Action Lab, New Delhi, India). Their research finds that the lowest-earning segment of Americans pays the largest percentage of their income towards health care.

Motivated in part by ongoing debates about public health care spending on Capitol Hill, Wallace and her collaborators received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to carry out their study, the results of which were published in Health Affairs (2011) under the title, “Lower-Income Families Pay A Higher Share Of Income Toward National Health Care Spending Than Higher-Income Families Do.”

“When we looked at the health care debate, we realized that the topic of spending on public health had not been explored in depth,” says Wallace, “especially not in terms of the share of income used to support health care by the American taxpayer.”

Public health care is financed by state, local, and federal governments via several sources, with a large percentage of money coming from revenues gathered through income, sales and payroll taxes. The researchers looked at the health care financed at all levels of government as they studied the breakdown of health care financing. “We wanted to focus on where the dollars come from to support health care, and not focus on utilization or the private sector, which often gets attention in health care spending studies,” Wallace notes.

The study findings are likely to further stimulate the health care financing debate – researchers discovered that the share of income paid by wage earners in the lowest quintile exceeds that paid by the next-closest quintile by almost five percent, while the burden paid by the second-lowest quintile exceeds that paid by the highest quintile by one percent. “These results were not entirely unexpected,” Wallace says, “but we were quite surprised by the margin separating lowest-quintile earners from others.”

For policymakers and analysts, these findings could indicate that increasing payroll taxes to finance public sector health care could overburden the already-pressured lower quintiles, deepening the health care spending gap between lower and higher earners. Progressive taxation, on the other hand, may help smooth some of these inequalities.

For Wallace, the next step is to study whether the public financing of health care at the state and federal levels has affected the decision to increase certain taxes and reduce or hold steady on others. In addition, the researchers would like to incorporate the consumption of health care into the analysis. “We have found one piece of the puzzle, but we need to look at other areas – such as uses of health care – to get the full picture,” she concludes.

Interests include institutional giving behavior and board and workforce diversity.

Next year, McGinnis will join the faculty of George Washington University as an assistant professor of Public Policy and Administration. She says she is looking forward to educating the next generation of nonprofit sector workers.
What changes occur when a long-practiced system of fishing – open access – is replaced by rights-based management? It has been commonly believed that the most inefficient vessels would leave the fishery and those that are most efficient remain. However, until recently this assumption had been untested.

Using an econometrics model, Andrew Young School associate professor Kurt Schnier and Ronald Felthoven of the Alaska Fisheries Science Center at the National Marine Fisheries Service set out to prove the assumption correct in their paper, “Production Efficiency and Exit in Rights-based Fisheries,” currently under review for publication.

Schnier and Felthoven looked at crab fisheries in Alaska to determine what happens when they transition from one management regime to another. By modeling a fishing vessel’s efficiency jointly with its decision to remain in a fishery following the implementation of a rights-based management regime, they find a vessel’s measure of technical inefficiency (pre-regime change) is a statistically significant factor in predicting whether it exited the Alaskan fisheries, proving the assumption true.

GEORGIA’S DRUG COURTS are positioned to become a model of effective, evidence-based intervention for the Southeast and the nation. Drug courts keep people clean and in treatment longer than other treatment programs. Staying in treatment leads to better outcomes. Drug courts also reduce recidivism and save money.

A state audit report released in 2010 found that Georgia’s drug court participants have significantly lower recidivism rates than drug offenders who serve prison time and cost millions of dollars less than prison. The report recommended the expanded use of drug courts.

Gov. Nathan Deal has called for an increased use of effective alternatives to costly prisons, like drug courts. While support for drug courts is quickly gaining momentum, they face an incredible threat: their own success. Drug courts require tireless work by trained, competent, collaborative criminal attorneys, probation officers, substance abuse counselors, and other criminal justice officials.

PRO & CON

Are drug courts an effective alternative for drug offenders?

Yes. Done right, drug courts lower recidivism and cut costs.

By Wendy P. Guastaferro

GEORGIA’S DRUG COURTS are positioned to become a model of effective, evidence-based intervention for the Southeast and the nation. Drug courts keep people clean and in treatment longer than other treatment programs. Staying in treatment leads to better outcomes. Drug courts also reduce recidivism and save money.

A state audit report released in 2010 found that Georgia’s drug court participants have significantly lower recidivism rates than drug offenders who serve prison time and cost millions of dollars less than prison. The report recommended the expanded use of drug courts.

Gov. Nathan Deal has called for an increased use of effective alternatives to costly prisons, like drug courts. While support for drug courts is quickly gaining momentum, they face an incredible threat: their own success. Drug courts require tireless work by trained, competent, collaborative criminal attorneys, probation officers, substance abuse counselors, and other criminal justice officials.

Fishing permits

Study shows rights-based fisheries improve efficiency and sustainability

What changes occur when a long-practiced system of fishing – open access – is replaced by rights-based management? It has been commonly believed that the most inefficient vessels would leave the fishery and those that are most efficient remain. However, until recently this assumption had been untested.

Using an econometrics model, Andrew Young School associate professor Kurt Schnier and Ronald Felthoven of the Alaska Fisheries Science Center at the National Marine Fisheries Service set out to prove the assumption correct in their paper, “Production Efficiency and Exit in Rights-based Fisheries,” currently under review for publication.

Schnier and Felthoven looked at crab fisheries in Alaska to determine what happens when they transition from one management regime to another. By modeling a fishing vessel’s efficiency jointly with its decision to remain in a fishery following the implementation of a rights-based management regime, they find a vessel’s measure of technical inefficiency (pre-regime change) is a statistically significant factor in predicting whether it exited the Alaskan fisheries, proving the assumption true.

By Wendy P. Guastaferro

GEORGIA’S DRUG COURTS are positioned to become a model of effective, evidence-based intervention for the Southeast and the nation. Drug courts keep people clean and in treatment longer than other treatment programs. Staying in treatment leads to better outcomes. Drug courts also reduce recidivism and save money.

A state audit report released in 2010 found that Georgia’s drug court participants have significantly lower recidivism rates than drug offenders who serve prison time and cost millions of dollars less than prison. The report recommended the expanded use of drug courts.

Gov. Nathan Deal has called for an increased use of effective alternatives to costly prisons, like drug courts. While support for drug courts is quickly gaining momentum, they face an incredible threat: their own success. Drug courts require tireless work by trained, competent, collaborative criminal attorneys, probation officers, substance abuse counselors, and other criminal justice officials.

Fishing permits

Study shows rights-based fisheries improve efficiency and sustainability

What changes occur when a long-practiced system of fishing – open access – is replaced by rights-based management? It has been commonly believed that the most inefficient vessels would leave the fishery and those that are most efficient remain. However, until recently this assumption had been untested.

Using an econometrics model, Andrew Young School associate professor Kurt Schnier and Ronald Felthoven of the Alaska Fisheries Science Center at the National Marine Fisheries Service set out to prove the assumption correct in their paper, “Production Efficiency and Exit in Rights-based Fisheries,” currently under review for publication.

Schnier and Felthoven looked at crab fisheries in Alaska to determine what happens when they transition from one management regime to another. By modeling a fishing vessel’s efficiency jointly with its decision to remain in a fishery following the implementation of a rights-based management regime, they find a vessel’s measure of technical inefficiency (pre-regime change) is a statistically significant factor in predicting whether it exited the Alaskan fisheries, proving the assumption true.

By Wendy P. Guastaferro

GEORGIA’S DRUG COURTS are positioned to become a model of effective, evidence-based intervention for the Southeast and the nation. Drug courts keep people clean and in treatment longer than other treatment programs. Staying in treatment leads to better outcomes. Drug courts also reduce recidivism and save money.

A state audit report released in 2010 found that Georgia’s drug court participants have significantly lower recidivism rates than drug offenders who serve prison time and cost millions of dollars less than prison. The report recommended the expanded use of drug courts.

Gov. Nathan Deal has called for an increased use of effective alternatives to costly prisons, like drug courts. While support for drug courts is quickly gaining momentum, they face an incredible threat: their own success. Drug courts require tireless work by trained, competent, collaborative criminal attorneys, probation officers, substance abuse counselors, and other criminal justice officials.
needed guidance to localities that want to start a program, improve practices and accountability in existing programs, ensure responsible use of taxpayer dollars, and allow for sound drug court program evaluation for Georgia.

If asked to continue these monumental tasks while also absorbing offenders diverted from prison without the infrastructure and financial support needed, drug courts face becoming another failed criminal justice experiment. How can we prevent this?

First, drug courts should target high-risk, nonviolent adult offenders to maximize positive outcomes for the individual and public safety. When we say high-risk, we are talking about the probability of committing additional crimes, not the probability that someone will be violent. Targeting those who are most likely to re-offend who also have serious substance abuse problems means providing both intensive legal supervision and treatment.

Programs that target individuals with a high risk of reoffending are up to five times more effective in reducing recidivism compared to those that target low-risk individuals.

Second, drug courts should implement practices that work such as relapse prevention treatment and changing the way offenders think and see the world, known as cognitive behavioral therapy. They should avoid relying on practices shown to have neutral or negative effects for drug-involved offenders, such as self-esteem programs.

Addiction is one of the most powerful forces in existence. Relapse is part of recovery. If people could stop using drugs because a judge told them to, we would not need drug courts. In order to overcome such a consuming force, drug courts must keep close tabs on their participants and provide effective treatment services.

Drug courts should demand accountability from offenders in their programs. Drug testing should occur randomly two to three times a week. Sanctions for noncompliance and incentives for doing well are essential to changing behavior. Drug courts should use an established treatment curriculum.

Third, developing standards for Georgia’s drug court programs will provide much-needed guidance to localities that want to start a program, improve practices and accountability in existing programs, ensure responsible use of taxpayer dollars, and allow for sound drug court program evaluation for Georgia.

Georgia should embrace this unique moment to set the bar for cutting costs, reducing crime and saving lives. But drug courts need continued assistance, an infusion of funding and the political commitment to support a sustainable model.

Open access is a “direct race; you catch as much as you can until everyone catches all that the government has allowed,” explains Schnier: “Once you capture it, you own it.”

In contrast, fishermen in the most commonly used rights-based management practice, called individual transferable quota systems, are allocated a specific share of the total allowable catch. Currently 25 percent of the volume of global fisheries is managed this way.

“Vessels are guaranteed an amount. If they want more, they have to buy more,” says Schnier: “They have a right to the resource, and if they don’t harvest it, it’s left alone unless they want to sell it.” This system offers no incentive to overfish or over-invest in redundant or oversized resources or equipment.

Rights-based management has caused a fleet reduction in several fisheries. It also “dramatically increased” the length of the fishing season, yet the net total of fish caught has remained about the same.

“Vessels stop racing and become environmental stewards. Because they’re given a right to the resource, they have a direct incentive to maintain the quality of that resource. They want the population to be sustainable,” says Schnier: “Open access fishing pushes stock levels down; rights-based crews want to get stock levels back up.”
By Brian Payne

The consequences of white-collar crime are equally damaging to, if not more damaging than, the consequences of conventional crime. Like street crime, the consequences of white-collar crime include an assortment of physical, financial and community-level costs.

Although many news outlets focus on the financial costs of white-collar crime, the physical costs are especially horrific. Estimates suggest that nearly ten times as many Americans die from preventable hospital errors than are murdered on our streets each year. The Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that more than 29 million individuals are injured each year from using unsafe or defective products. Deaths and injuries from environmental crime far exceed the number of deaths and injuries from street crime. The list could go on and on.

In terms of financial costs, study after study shows that the consequences of white-collar crime far exceed those of street crime. One study found that the average embezzlement costs the victim $1,000,000. In comparison, the average amount lost to a robbery, according to data from the FBI, ranges between $700 and $1,000. Bernie Madoff’s transgressions alone cost his investors $65 billion. In comparison, the total costs from property and violent crimes in the U.S. hovers around $18 billion on any given year. To put it in perspective, one white-collar offender cost his victims more than 3.5 times as much as all conventional offenders combined.

White-collar crime affects entire communities. On one level, for example, white-collar crime breeds street crime. For every white-collar offender who gets away with wrongdoing, a young person sees a supposedly respected member of society being rewarded for breaking the rules. Legal scholars use the phrase “demoralization costs” to refer to the way that white-collar crime breaks down societal values. By sending a message that it is okay to break the rules, in some ways white-collar offenders can be seen as co-conspirators in many street crimes.

For some recent types of white-collar crime, these offenders actually play a central role in contributing to street crime. Consider mortgage fraud, for example. One of the consequences of various types of mortgage fraud is that homes in impoverished communities become vacant, fall into disrepair, and become a haven for drug dealing and prostitution. The community then suffers the consequences from behavior which was precipitated by the misdeeds of white-collar professionals.

On another level, white-collar crime harms the community by reducing the faith that individuals have in public and private leaders. This consequence is particularly problematic given that most white-collar leaders are, in fact, honest professionals. Make no mistake about it – the vast majority of white-collar professionals never engage in wrongdoing. The few professionals who do commit crime dramatically lower the trust that individuals have in our political and economic institutions. The consequences of this broken trust are enormous.

While the consequences of white-collar crime can be devastating, the general public is less concerned with white-collar crime than street crime, for many reasons. White-collar crime is much more complex than street crime. People are less afraid of white-collar offenders than they are of street offenders. Citizens are constantly told how to protect themselves from street crime, but are rarely told how to guard against white-collar crime.

It is time that city leaders recognize the damage that white-collar crime has on Georgia’s cities and communities. Doing so will help to minimize future damage and protect against the kinds of harm that can hurt its citizens the most.

A few weeks ago I somewhat jokingly asked my son if he would like me to talk with his third grade class about white-collar crime. He ignored my request, just like many individuals tend to ignore the problem of white-collar crime. He ignored my request, just like many individuals tend to ignore the problem of white-collar crime.

Professor Brian Payne, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology, wrote this Viewpoint column for the Georgia Municipal Association’s Georgia Cities Newspaper, 11-7-2011.
What do a temp secretary, a seasonal agricultural worker and a high-concept IT consultant have in common? Each belongs to the “contingent workforce,” a labor model that is becoming increasingly more common according to Assistant Professor Cathy Liu and Ric Kolenda, a Ph.D. student in Public Policy in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University.

Contingent work arrangements are characterized by a lack of job security, unpredictable work hours and the absence of benefits usually associated with the traditional labor market. Beyond these basics, however, this workforce has remained largely undefined and uncharted; a problem that Liu and Kolenda attempt to rectify in their article titled, "Counting and Understanding the Contingent Workforce," published online in Urban Studies in June.

Their research shows that over the last decade, contingent workers have grown to represent between 10 percent and 50 percent of the total labor force in Georgia, depending on how this workforce is defined.

The authors point to the rise of the service economy and, more recently, plummeting employment levels to explain this trend. "Businesses turn to contingent labor arrangements because of the increased workforce flexibility offered by this approach," says Liu. "We expect continued growth in this sector as private enterprises strive to cut costs and boost workforce flexibility.”

They also caution that for governments, this sector’s growth heralds the need for a new approach to labor policy. “Today’s government policies are based on the assumption that traditional work arrangements are the norm. As our research has shown, however, this is rapidly changing,” Liu says.

“The contingent workforce is a highly diverse, heterogeneous population that presents entirely new and complex sets of problems for states attempting to formulate tax policy, attract jobs or improve levels of worker satisfaction,” Liu notes. “As such, there is a pressing need to address the policy factors most affected by the expansion of this labor force, such as unemployment insurance, employer-paid benefits and workforce training.”

A disproportionately high number of women, older workers, and minorities – especially Hispanics – comprise the contingent workforce, which will require governments to reframe labor policy with the contingent workforce in mind. “Ultimately, we need labor policies that offer protection to the vulnerable segments of the workforce. For example, when we set out to attract jobs, we need to consider the quality of the jobs as well as the quantity,” Liu says.

With the size of the contingent workforce projected to increase in the wake of the recession, government institutions at the state and federal levels are likely to turn their attention to contingent work arrangements. Policy analysts who are keenly aware of current labor trends, such as Cathy Liu, are in a strong position to assist these institutions in their policymaking efforts.
The Fulton County Commission (Georgia) appointed Michael J. Bell to the board of the Development Authority of Fulton County.


Jesse Lecy and David Van Slyke received a $21,000 grant from the Kresge Foundation, administered by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, for a second wave of survey research on nonprofit startup organizations.

Cathy Yang Liu participated in the Atlanta Regional Commission’s 22nd annual Regional Leadership Institute at St. Simons Island, Ga., in September.

Nancy Kropf chaired the Council on Social Work Education Annual Program, which attracted more than 2,700 participants, in Atlanta in October.

Bill Waugh (center) is congratulated by the American Society for Public Administration’s Section on Emergency and Crisis Management members Rick Sylves and Frannie Edwards after winning the 2011 University of North Dakota Outstanding Scholar Award at the FEMA Higher Education Conference at Emmitsburg, Md., in June.

The Georgia Health Policy Center received a contract for $73,014 from the Georgia Department of Public Health to develop a statewide strategic and sustainable plan for asthma control in Georgia. Chris Parker is the PI. Beverly Tyler, Naima Wong, Stacey Willocks, John Butts and Tamanna Patel will participate in the project that will run through May.

The National Association of Social Workers-Georgia Chapter Executive Director Sue Fort presented the first David Levine Excellence in Education & Ethics Award to Jan Ligon during the organization’s 2011 Annual Conference. Ligon also was appointed by Gov. Nathan Deal to Georgia’s Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.

The Great State to Serve Initiative – an employee program launched by the Georgia State Personnel Administration with the Public Performance and Management Group as research partner – was given the Eugene H. Rooney, Jr., Award by the National Association of State Personnel Executives at its 2011 Annual Meeting in New Orleans in July.

**ECONOMICS**

Paul Ferraro was elected a senior editorial board member for *Environmental Evidence* published by BioMed Central, a new open-access scientific journal of the Collaboration for Environmental Evidence.

Glenwood Ross has joined the board of directors for Pathways Community Network in Atlanta.

Sally Wallace and alumna Robynn Cox (Ph.D. in Economics ’09) were awarded a grant by the Kentucky Poverty Institute/USDA to research the implications of incarceration on food security of children in the U.S.
Publications

CRIMINAL JUSTICE


ECONOMICS


PUBLIC MANAGEMENT & POLICY


SOCIAL WORK


Presentations

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Wendy Guastaferro, Leah Daigle and Andy Cummings presented “Using Proactive Supervision and Graduated Sanctions in an Adult Drug Court” at the National Association of Drug Court Professionals 17th Annual Drug Court Training Conference in Washington, D.C., in July.


ECONOMICS

Robert Buschman and David L. Sjoquist presented “An Exploration of Recent Changes to State Tax Structures” at the National Tax Association’s 104th Annual Conference on Taxation in New Orleans in November.

Mark Reed and Dean Dabney presented “Death Notifications in Murder Cases: The Management and Reactions to the Delivery of Bad News” at the American Society of Criminology’s annual conference in Washington, D.C., in November.

Shelby Frost presented “When Classtime Runs Out: Creating Online Lectures” at the Institute for Humane Studies’ Liberty and the Art of Teaching Workshop in Fairfax, Va., in July.

James Marton presented a poster co-authored by Pat Ketsche titled “The Financial Drain of Participating in...”
Trauma Care: How are States Responding?” at the AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting in Seattle in June.

Vjollca Sadiraj presented “A Theory of Dictators’ Revealed Preferences” at the International Meeting of the Economics Science Association in Chicago in July.


Sally Wallace presented “Fiscal Policy Goals and Analysis” at the IMF Institute in Washington, D.C., in June.

PUBLIC MANAGEMENT & POLICY

Michael J. Bell moderated the Debt Policies panel at the annual meeting of the Government Finance Officers of North America in San Antonio in May.

Jesse Lecy presented “Entrepreneurial Theories of Nonprofit Start-ups: A Survey of New NGOs” co-authored with David Van Slyke and “Credible Commitment and ‘Downward Accountability’ in Nonprofits: A Model of Beneficiary Empowerment” co-authored with Mary Kay Gugerty at the ARNOVA annual conference in Toronto in November.

Cathy Yang Liu presented “Hit by the Recession? Immigrant Employment Across Metropolitan Areas” with Jason Edwards (Ph.D. in Public Policy) at the Association of Public Policy and Management annual conference in Washington, D.C., in November.

Dennis Young was a panelist on “The Evolution of Nonprofit Studies as a Field” and chaired sessions titled “The Importance of Choosing Wisely: Analyzing Why and How NGOs Act” and “Nonprofit Revenues and Competition” at the ARNOVA annual conference, during which Amanda Wilsker (Ph.D. in Economics ’11) presented “New vs. Existing Organizations: Explaining the Growth in Program Service Revenues and Expenses” (with Teresa Harrison) and Lewis Faulk (Ph.D. in Public Policy ’11) presented “Entrance Barriers and Competition in Foundation Grant Markets” co-authored by Jesse Lecy and Jasmine McGinnis (Ph.D. in Public Policy).

SOCIAL WORK

Fred Brooks presented “Lessons Learned from the Decline and Fall of the Community Organization ACORN” at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association in Las Vegas in August.

Nancy Kropf presented “Diversity and Caregiving: Who We Are and What We Do” at the Statewide Faith & Aging Conference in Augusta, Ga., in August.

Mindy Wertheimer presented “Field Education as Signature Pedagogy in Social Work Education: New CSWE Accreditation Standards and the Social Work Practice Community” and “The Board Chair and the CEO: Leadership in the Nonprofit Sector” at the annual conference of National Association of Social Workers-Georgia in Atlanta in October.

Karen Minyard (GHPC) was keynote speaker at Emory University’s Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing diploma ceremony on May 9, 2011. Minyard, left, is with Emory’s Dean Linda McCauley.


W.J. “Bill” Usery, Jr., AYS Distinguished Executive Fellow in Labor Policy and former U.S. Secretary of Labor, recently authored “A Heart for People – Even in Negotiation” for Perspectives on Work (Summer 2011/Winter 2012), the magazine of the Labor and Employment Relations Association. The article is posted on the Usery Workplace Research Group site at: http://aysps.gsu.edu/uwrg-usery.html.
Fiscal Decentralization in Ukraine: Accomplishments and Challenges in the Transition
Jorge Martinez-Vazquez and Wayne R. Thirsk

"Ukraine in the 1990s needed to reform its intergovernmental finance system both to increase the overall efficiency of the public sector and to strengthen its nascent democracy. A more transparent system of intergovernmental fiscal relations also held the promise of better addressing the different views about the country’s future in eastern and western parts of the country. Reluctantly, at the beginning of the transition but at full force in the late 1990s, Ukraine joined many other countries around the world in an effort to redefine its system of intergovernmental fiscal relations. This book discusses the fiscal decentralization reform in Ukraine by covering both the deep problems and failures that were encountered for almost a decade and the quite spectacular success of the reforms introduced in 2001.” – NOVA Publishers

NOVA Publishers · 173 pp. · ISBN: 978-1-61668-936-0

Crime and Elder Abuse: An Integrated Perspective (3rd Ed.)
Brian K. Payne

"The third edition of this unique book offers a criminological foundation from which increased understanding about elder abuse will evolve. The book builds on the previous editions in several ways. New research has been added into each chapter, with more than one hundred new sources added. The tables and figures have been updated, with applied critical thinking questions included to make them more interactive with readers….A new additional chapter provides much insight into developing response systems. All chapters start with a brief scenario describing an elderly person’s victimization experiences and consequences….Additionally, a new appendix, including an exercise to understand how older individuals are often trapped in abusive relationships, concludes the text. The text will be of significant interest to the fields of criminology, gerontology, psychology, medicine, sociology, and social work. This most up-to-date edition continues to provide the most definitive resource of elder abuse available.” – Charles C. Thomas Publisher Ltd.

Charles C. Thomas Publisher Ltd. · 374 pp. · ISBN: 978-0-398-08639-8

White-Collar Crime, A Text/Reader
Brian K. Payne

"White-Collar Crime: A Text/Reader incorporates contemporary and classic readings (some including policy implications) accompanied by original text that provides a theoretical framework and context for students. This comprehensive book covers topics including crimes by workers in sales-oriented systems; crimes in the health care system; crimes by criminal justice professionals and politicians; crimes in the educational system; crimes in the economic and technological systems; crimes by employees in the housing industry; corporate crime; environmental crime; explanations of white-collar crime; and the police and court responses to white-collar crime.” – Sage

Sage Publications · 720 pp. · ISBN: 9781412987493

Competence: Theoretical Frameworks
Roberta R. Greene and Nancy P. Kropf

"The actions social workers take are aimed at helping people, communities, and societies attain a sense of mastery, become or remain competent, and achieve or retain a sense of well-being. Such a broad scope of practice necessitates a theoretical foundation that is anchored in the concept of human competence. This text explores the concept of competence, and shows how it is expressed in a variety of theoretical frameworks, including traditional models and emerging theoretical approaches. This approach toward human behavior focuses on mutually beneficial interactions between people and society, and emphasizes the connections between individuals and various systems that influence their lives. It enables the social worker to conduct multilevel client assessments, gaining an understanding of how clients function within their total environment, and plan a range of helpful interventions. The volume is organized around the competency-based approach to social work education, adopted by the Council on Social Work Education. Written by leading analysts in the field, Competence is essential reading for the field of social work.” – Aldine Transaction

Aldine Transaction · 232 pp. · ISBN: 1412842123
Regents Professor and Founding Dean Roy Bahl (Econ) presented “The Decentralization of Governance and Expenditure Assignment in Metropolitan Areas” at the Lincoln Institute-Brookings Conference: Metropolitan Government Finance in Developing Countries held in July in Washington D.C. He also conducted a series of lectures in public economics at the University of Pretoria in South Africa in July.

Fred Brooks (SW) participated in the Organizer’s Forum International Dialogue on Egypt held in Cairo, Egypt, in September.

Terrie Buckner and Deidre Carmichael (SW) presented “Tools for Engagement” at the National Staff Development and Training Association’s Annual Conference in Madison, Wis., in October.

Robert Friedmann (GILEE) was the keynote speaker at the International Association of Women Judges regional conference in Budapest, Hungary, in April 2011.

Shelby Frost (Econ) participated in a panel titled, “You have your institutional writing requirement – now what? Creating experiential writing assignment templates to encourage a move beyond the traditional research paper” at the 2011 meeting of the European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing in Limerick, Ireland, in June.

The Research Administrator’s Certification Council has named Elsa Gebremedhin (PMAP) a Certified Research Administrator.

Adriel Jones (PEP in SW) received the Shining Star Award from the Georgia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International at its monthly meeting in Atlanta in January.

AYS alumnus Seong Soo Oh (Ph.D. in Public Policy ’09) and Gregory B. Lewis (PMAP) presented “Evaluation Bias or Reward Bias? Performance Appraisals and Gender/Racial Disparities in Federal Career Success” at the 11th Public Management Research Conference at Syracuse University in New York in June.

Paula Stephan (Econ) presented the keynote speech at the conference, Intellectual Property and Fundamental Research:

www.andrewyoungschool.org
Economic and Management Challenges, at the Universita L. Bocconi in Milan, Italy, in June. In May 2010 she was a plenary speaker at the Economics of Innovation and Patenting Conference, Centre for European Economic Research in Mannheim, Germany, and presented “The Economics of Science: Some Unanswered Questions.”

Erdal Tekin (Econ) co-organized the 3rd Annual Meeting on the Economics of Risky Behaviors in Bonn, Germany, in April 2011. He presented “Is the Foreclosure Crisis Making Us Sick?” coauthored with Janet Currie at the Department of Econometrics at Tilburg University and at Rockwool Foundation in Copenhagen in September.

Andrey Timofeev (ICP2) assisted the Macedonia Ministry of Finance in Macedonia in October under a project commissioned by United Nations Development Programme to reform the country’s system of intergovernmental grants.

William “Bill” Waugh (PMAP) is the lead course developer for a FEMA Emergency Management Institute course titled “The Principles of Emergency Management” now used by institutions around the U.S. and Canada. Co-authors are David McEntire (University of North Texas) and Lucien Canton (former FEMA official).

Dennis Young (PMAP) lectured on “Educating Social Entrepreneurs and Encouraging Social Innovation” at the Symposium on Capacity Building for the NGO Sector: Challenges and Opportunities sponsored by the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Centre for Civil Society Governance of Hong Kong University in November. He also served on a team of American scholars advising the university on developing its programs in nonprofit studies.

Mary Ohmer and Fred Brooks, associate professors in the School of Social Work, introduced visiting members of the Association for Community Organization and Social Administration (ACOSA) to Atlanta’s Reynoldstown neighborhood during the Council on Social Work’s 2011 Annual Meeting. Held October 27, the trip was titled, “A Community in Transition: Building Community amidst the Housing and Foreclosure Crisis.”

The program highlighted how community members are taking back their areas and how social workers can facilitate such collaborations, according ACOSA’s president, Sondra Fogel.

Sponsored by ACOSA, the AYS School of Social Work and Reynoldstown’s Resources for Residents and Communities, one of Atlanta’s oldest community development corporations, the field trip included a presentation on Atlanta’s foreclosure crisis by Susan Adams of the Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, small group discussions on RRC’s housing and community building efforts and a neighborhood tour highlighting RRC and GSU community projects and major redevelopment plans.

“The Reynoldstown Community offered educators and practitioners from around the country an opportunity to see how community-based organizations in Atlanta are addressing the foreclosure crisis and its effects through advocacy, programs to keep families in their homes, and community engagement,” says Ohmer.

I think the ‘In the Field’ event was one of the best,” says participant Dorothy Gamble, faculty from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. “I learned a lot about foreclosures, which I really knew nothing about.”
Doctoral candidate Robert Buschman is a senior research associate in the Fiscal Research Center. His research interests include corporate and personal taxation, public expenditures, macroeconomic policy, history of economic thought and economic history. Prior to joining the AYS, Buschman worked several years in corporate banking and financial management. He holds a B.A. in Economics from Duke University, an M.B.A. in Finance from the Goizueta Business School at Emory University, and an M.A. in Economics from GSU.

Visiting instructor Cyntoria Johnson, an active member of the Georgia and Florida state bars, has practiced primarily in the areas of criminal law (prosecution and defense), family law and estate planning. She has served as a judicial extern for Chief Judge Paul Hawkes of the Florida First District Court of Appeal, as a brief writer on Florida Coastal School of Law’s Jessup International Moot Court team and as a teaching assistant for Legal Research and Writing and Torts. Johnson earned her Juris Doctor in 2009 from FCSL, where she received the Governor’s Merit Scholarship. She earned her B.S. cum laude in 2000 and her M.S. cum laude in 2001, both in Criminal Justice from Georgia State University.

Christine Robinson is senior administrative coordinator for the Dean’s Office. Originally from Charlotte, N.C., she has compiled an extensive background in customer service and business administration in industries such as manufacturing, multi-family residential and financial services for companies that include First Union National Bank and Sprint PCS. Robinson attended Central Piedmont Community College.

Alumnus Nick Warner (M.A. in Economics ’11) is a research associate in the Fiscal Research Center. His primary research responsibility is the statewide tax expenditure report that the FRC produces for the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts. Warner’s research interests include public policy, tax policy, and experimental and urban economics. While studying for his M.A., Warner was a graduate research assistant for the International Studies Program. He holds a B.S. in Economics at Radford University and an associate degree from Thomas College.
Deana Farmer joins the GHPC’s Community Health Systems Development Team as a research associate II. She has more than 20 years’ experience in hospitals, community collaboratives and public educational settings. She also brings with her skills in market research, communications planning, qualitative research, strategic planning, board development and community conversation facilitation. Originally from Virginia, Farmer was director of community relations for a K-12 public school district before joining the GHPC.

Elizabeth “Beth” Fuller joins the GHPC as a research associate II after serving as director of the Tennessee Institute of Public Health. Beth currently manages several projects, provides research support for Health Insurance Exchange Planning for the Georgia Governor’s Office and participates in center-directed work, which includes Health Impact Assessments and support of Health in All Policies. Fuller completed her doctorate in public health from Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, studied political science at Emory University (B.A.), worked as a legislative aide on Capitol Hill and holds a Masters in Public Health from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Research Associate Kristi Fuller has worked in clinical settings, program and project management, data analysis and policy development. While at the Georgia Board of Regents’ Center for Health Workforce Planning & Analysis, she researched complex health issues, prepared policy and research briefs analyzing health service issues, and offered policy recommendations. She also worked for the Atlanta Regional Commission’s Area Agency on Aging. Fuller holds a B.S.W. from the University of Georgia and an M.S.W. from the University of Michigan.

Amy Glass, who directs the Center of Excellence in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health, joins GHPC from the Social Work department’s Center for Collaborative Social Work. She has led several evaluations including a mental health court diversion program, a Department of Education after-school program, and a prevention program aimed at reducing underage drinking and alcohol-related motor vehicle injuries. Glass holds a Ph.D. in Social Welfare Policy from Brandeis University and an M.S.W. from Simmons College.

Research Associate II Lillian Haley supports projects that address child health policy, substance abuse and long-term care. Prior to joining the GHPC, Haley was involved in mental health and substance abuse research and treatment. She has conducted clinical trials on smoking cessation and community-based participatory research involving alcohol prevention and has clinical experience providing mental health and substance abuse treatment services to adolescents and their families in community settings. Haley holds a B.A. in Sociology from Yale University, an M.S.W. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Ph.D. in Psychology from North Carolina State University.

Senior Research Associate Debra Kibbe previously directed the Physical Activity and Nutrition Program for the International Life Sciences Institute Research Foundation in Washington, D.C. A faculty member for the American Dietetic Association Commission on Dietetic Registration’s certificate program on child and adolescent weight management, Kibbe is also on the education subcommittee of the United States National Physical Activity Plan, the board of the Georgia Coalition for Physical Activity and Nutrition, and the steering committee for Georgia’s Nutrition and Physical Activity initiative funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She holds an M.S. in Personnel and Employee Relations from GSU and a B.A. from Hiram College.

Research Associate II Susan McLaren has worked on health services research and evaluation projects as a consultant for the last several years, including many with the GHPC. Previously, she was a research associate II in the Center for Health Services Research at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business. She has also worked as a consultant to hospital systems at Cross Country with Gill Balsano Consulting. Susan holds a bachelor’s degree and a Master of Public Health from Emory University.

Brittney Romanson joins the GHPC as a Research Associate I. She brings expertise in project coordination, secondary research and proposal writing from working in various aspects of health care ranging from clinics settings to federal agencies and nonprofits. Most recently, she worked for the CDC’s Division of Youth Violence. Romanson holds a Master of Public Health from Emory University and a Bachelor of Arts in Human Services with a health professions concentration from Elon University.
Amb. Andrew Young addresses faculty and staff during an August roundtable moderated by Regents Professor Jorge Martinez-Vazquez.
Professor Gregory B. Lewis has been elected a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA).

Lewis joins a highly experienced body of policy experts from a diverse array of practice areas. NAPA Fellows are tapped by the organization to participate in critical and challenging public-sector policy projects that see them analyzing, evaluating and formulating policy solutions to many of the nation’s biggest problems.

To learn more, go to http://aysps.gsu.edu/7267.html.

Public Finance Review has awarded an article written by AYS assistant professor and economist Andrew Hanson and Shawn Rohlin (University of Akron) its Outstanding Paper Award of 2011.

Titled “The Effect of Location-based Tax Incentives on Establishment Location and Employment across Industry Sectors,” the article appeared in the March 2011 issue of Public Finance Review, a journal devoted to economic research, theory and policy applications. The award recognizes the research for uncovering important new evidence on the effects of the tax incentives on business decisions.

Professor Paula Stephan was elected a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the country’s largest and most prestigious scientific body, for her “distinguished professional service and for contributions to the economics of science, particularly the role of foreign-born researchers and the diffusion of scientific knowledge” as stated by the AAAS.

Stephan was one of only two GSU professors – and one of only a handful from Georgia’s university community – elected to the position this year.
OMER BARIS (Ph.D. in Economics) traveled to Europe in June to present his paper, “The Timing Effect in Bargaining and the Normalized Utilitarian Solution,” at the Central European Program in Economics Theory Workshop in Udine, Italy, and the 10th Journees Louis-Andre Gerard-Varet Conference in Public Economics in Marseille, France. Baris is a part-time instructor at Georgia Tech and a teaching assistant at the AYS.

JIM FLOWERS (Ph.D. in Public Policy), formerly the director of Government & Community Affairs at GSU, has accepted a position as special assistant to Clayton State University President Tim Hynes. A member of the president’s cabinet, Flowers helps direct CSU’s new strategic plan.

EMILY GOFF (B.S. in Public Policy) spent her summer as a fellow at The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta downtown. A senior this year, her concentration is Nonprofit Leadership.

JASMINE MCGINNIS (Ph.D. in Public Policy) received the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action’s (ARNOVA) 2011 Emerging Scholars Award, presented at the 40th Annual ARNOVA Conference in Toronto in November.

Criminal Justice students deliver

Doctoral students from the Andrew Young School’s Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology delivered several thought-provoking policy papers at this year’s Southern Criminal Justice Association meetings held in Nashville in September. Presenters, their research partners and papers included:

• Christina Policastro and Professor Mary Finn, “Crossing the Disciplinary Divide: An Integrated Understanding of Intimate Partner Violence Among the Elderly”

• Sadie Mummert, Christina Policastro and Chair Brian Payne, “Teaching Sensitive Topics in the College Classroom: Dilemmas Associated with Violence Against Women”

• Elizabeth Bonomo, Erin Marsh and assistant professors Wendy Guastaferro and Leah E. Daigle presented “Catch & Release: Barriers to Implementation of an Innovative Substance Abuse Treatment Program in Georgia’s Coastal Prison”

• Shila R. Hawk-Tourtelot and Associate Professor Dean A. Dabney presented “Are All Cases Treated Equal? Using Goffman’s Frame Analysis to Understand How Homicide Investigators Orient to Their Work”

• Charles Hogan and Danielle Gentile presented “Knowledge and Opinions of Marijuana: A Farewell to Harms or a Learned Path Through the Gateway?”

FORGING AHEAD:
McNair scholarship helps undergrad on her way towards Ph.D.

Jamie Redding, a junior majoring in social work, was inducted into the Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program last summer. The program, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, prepares promising undergraduate students for doctoral studies through involvement in research, conferences and other scholarly activities.

McNair scholars attend monthly workshops and seminars in the course of the academic year and also engage in an eight week-long summer research internship under the supervision of a GSU professor. The papers they write are presented at an academic conference.

Redding is working on a research project exploring housing and homelessness with Assistant Professor Terri Lewinson, which she hopes to publish. Earlier, she gave an oral presentation titled “Exploring Educational and Employment Issues among Foster Care Participants” at the University of Baltimore County McNair Scholars Research Conference in Maryland.

“The McNair Program has allowed me to become intimately familiar with post-baccalaureate education,” Redding says.
National and regional case competitions are on the radar of Andrew Young students, several of whom competed and earned attention for their work and the school this year.

**The Georgia Tech Policy Case Competition**
Two dynamic Andrew Young School student-led teams produced winning cases for Georgia Tech’s first Public Policy Case Competition in August. They competed against other teams from Georgia Tech, GSU, the University of Georgia and Kennesaw in developing and presenting a policy proposal for the redevelopment of Fort McPherson, Atlanta, mirroring the real policy analysis process in a deadline-driven format.

Team Execs, led by Brandon Williams (M.A. in Economics) placed second for their community and environmentally oriented plan. Members included Adam Smith (M.A. in Economics) and Caroline Rentz, a political science graduate student at UGA.

Kung Fu Panthers, led by Byungwoo “Shine” Cho (M.P.A.) earned an honorable mention for offering alternative redevelopment policies. Members included Cho, Saerim Kim (M.P.P.), Sangmi Yoo from GSU’s Robinson College of Business, Travis Franklin, (B.S. in Public Policy), and Yusun Cho from Texas A&M.

For the full story, go to http://aysps.gsu.edu/7148.html.

**University System of Georgia Social Business Competition**
Two teams representing the AYS joined 36 others from colleges across Georgia to compete in the social business plan portion of the University System of Georgia’s (USG) Social Business and Microcredit Forum held at Georgia Tech in October.

The work of Muhammad Yunus, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and the “Father of Microcredit,” to spur entrepreneurship among the poor inspired the competition, which challenged the students to develop business solutions to pressing local and state issues.

The AYS Public Management and Policy team – one of eight teams recognized – received an honorable mention for offering alternative redevelopment policies. Members included Cho, Saerim Kim (M.P.P.), Sangmi Yoo from GSU’s Robinson College of Business, Travis Franklin, (B.S. in Public Policy), and Yusun Cho from Texas A&M.

For the full story, go to http://aysps.gsu.edu/7187.html.

“Working on joint research projects with faculty, attending conferences and networking with other McNair scholars all helped me on the path towards attainment of a doctoral degree.”

After receiving her bachelor’s degree, Redding plans to enroll in an M.S.W. program and earn a Ph.D. in psychology or a related field. As a McNair Scholar, she has already been invited to tour Columbia University, New York University and Hunter College.

Redding hopes to find a job with a nonprofit organization that would allow her to work directly with vulnerable youth, children and families. “Ultimately, I would not be where I am today were it not for the support I received through the McNair program,” she says.
The end of every semester is celebrated by the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology with a poster fair and reception for undergraduates and their families. Students create displays of their internship experiences that are shared at this event.

This fall semester, the department recognized 45 students who had completed the coursework for their undergraduate degrees. “Our three-year retention rates of juniors increased to 81 percent, and our three-year graduation rates rose another 10 percent to a high of 67 percent,” says Chair Brian Payne.


Congratulations to all Andrew Young School students who have been selected by the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance to join its Next Generation Nonprofit Leaders Program. The number invited from Georgia State University now totals 31.

Funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the NextGen initiative is designed to increase the number of skilled entry-level professionals in the nonprofit sector.

Since those selected as NextGen Scholars were last named in The Briefing (Fall/Winter 2010), the following students have been invited to join:

**Announced November 2010 for Spring Semester 2011**
- Ronald L. Mangum, undeclared
- Gabrielle Arrington, B.S. in Public Policy
- Philip Wu, B.S. in Public Policy
- Kaniqua Robinson, Cert. in Nonprofit Mgmt.
- Tori Thomas, B.A. in Sociology
- Kimberly Lorch, M.P.A.
- Ebony Johnson, B.S. in Public Policy
- Serwana Spivey, B.B.A. in Managerial Sciences
- Alaina Reaves, B.S. in Public Policy
- Gabriella Barrow, M.P.A.
- Marian Dickson, M.P.A.
- Molly Shepherd, M.S.W.

**Announced May 2011 for Fall Semester 2011**
- Amanda Watkins, M.A. in Anthropology
- Lauren Kline, B.S. in Public Policy
- Bradley Hill, M.P.A.
- Jenna Hyland, M.P.A.
- Deborah Neves, M.P.A.
- Roberto Gutierrez, B.S. in Public Policy

Each student selected as NextGen Leader receives a $4,500 stipend to complete the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance certification and a nonprofit internship. They also participate in a program evaluation and a longitudinal research study that will illustrate the effects of competitive internship stipends on the program’s goals.

More AYS students
NextGen Nonprofit Leaders

www.andrewyoungschool.org
Justin Hargesheimer is taking his educational experience to new heights in Guatemala where he, as a member of the Peace Corps, is leading a development project to construct schools from discarded plastic bottles filled with “clean” trash.

A student in the Andrew Young School’s Peace Corps Master’s International program, he says he jumped at this opportunity because “I have always loved to travel and have been longing for an opportunity to truly perfect a foreign language. I also wanted to learn more about international development firsthand and use that knowledge for helping people.”

Hargesheimer, originally of Fairbanks, Alaska, says that a number of factors brought him to Georgia State University. “The Andrew Young School has a great graduate assistant program that makes it more affordable. It is also characterized by the great diversity of its faculty and student body, a strong educational backbone and a truly international character.”

The first AYS student to fuse an M.P.A. in Nonprofit Management with Peace Corps service, Hargesheimer’s experience is instructive to others looking for a career in international development.

**Building in Guatemala**

The Bottle School Initiative provides remote rural communities brand-new school buildings constructed with non-degradable trash. To construct the school, Hargesheimer and his team stuffed empty plastic bottles with candy wrappers, potato chip bags and other clean trash, turning them into “eco-bricks” that were inserted into wire frames and covered with stucco. Structures built using this method resist rain and wind, but remain light enough to not pose a major threat in an earthquake. They are also helpful in keeping the environment clean in areas that may not have the benefit of centralized garbage collection or recycling.

From the policy standpoint, the bottle school project is noteworthy for laying down the groundwork for a sustainable, environmentally-conscious infrastructure development model and improving the quality of education for the rural poor. Funded by the American nonprofit Hug It Forward, it is a model for partnerships among international NGOs, regional authorities and major national companies.

“This initiative is a great example of both vertical and horizontal integration and cooperation,” says Hargesheimer. “By bringing together foreign and domestic organizations and creating partnerships on local and national levels, the project offers an opportunity to forge strong ties between NGOs and their host nations.”

**A solid foundation**

Hargesheimer says the bottle school project put his education to good use. “The Andrew Young School allowed me to hone many of the skills that are crucial to the success of any development initiative,” he says. “Project management, relationship management, interpersonal relationships, budgeting, and conflict management are just some of the skills that the MPA program helped me perfect. Without these skill sets, I may well have floundered.”

He also encourages others to consider a similar path: “While joining the Peace Corps was certainly a major commitment, my experience so far has been nothing short of exhilarating. Making friends in the local community, building strong ties with dedicated professionals, and, of course, completing my first bottle school were all incredibly rewarding, fulfilling experiences.”

Upon his return from Guatemala, Hargesheimer plans to complete his degree and launch a career in nonprofit work or the U.S. Foreign Service, where he can continue to apply his experience and education to the task of helping others.

For a closer look at Hargesheimer’s experiences in Guatemala, visit his blog at http://chuchosenlacalle.blogspot.com/.
Students and faculty from the Andrew Young School swept the Torch of Peace awards this year, winning four of the six categories in which the award is given. The 2012 AYS honorees are:

- Faculty, Professor Elizabeth Beck, School of Social Work
- Undergraduate Student, Grace Lee, B.S. in Public Policy
- Graduate Student, Jenna Hyland, M.P.P. with a Disaster Policy concentration
- Student Organization, Non-profit Leadership Alliance

The Torch of Peace Awards honor Georgia State University students, staff, faculty, alumni and student organizations who keep Martin Luther King Jr.’s dream alive, according to Janice Redding, an Intercultural Ambassador for GSU’s Office of Intercultural Relations.

“It is clear today’s award winners have taken Dr. King’s message to heart and their actions and achievements clearly answers Dr. King’s call to action through a simple question, What are you doing for others?,” says Assistant Dean of Students Matthew Robison, coordinator of GSU’s intercultural and diversity programming, who introduced the winners during the Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation January 24 at the GSU Student Activities building.

Read more about the winners at http://aysps.gsu.edu/7517.html.

The Andrew Young School held its Fall 2011 Graduation Recognition Ceremony on December 15. Featured speaker was AYS Advisory Board member Dennis P. Lockhart, president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, who advised the newly minted grads to “be financially responsible.” Atlanta Police Department Deputy Chief Renee Propes returned to GSU as the alumni speaker.

Photos of the celebration can be viewed and downloaded at http://aysps.gsu.edu/7465.html. Lockhart’s speech is available at www.frbatlanta.org/news/speeches/111215_lockhart.cfm.

Congratulations Fall Graduates!
IN MEMORIAM

Richard J. Anderson (B.S. in Urban Life ’71 and M.P.A. ’74), a long-time friend of the Andrew Young School and former City of Atlanta budget director and chief financial officer, died February 1, 2012, at his Gainesville, Fla., home of complications from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease. He was 66.

Between his city positions, Anderson had served as director of financial services for the Atlanta Regional Commission. He endowed the Rick Anderson Scholarship to honor an outstanding Andrew Young School student who is also an employee of a local municipality or government within the area covered by the Atlanta Regional Commission. The scholarship is awarded annually.

TRICIA BONNER (M.P.A. ’08) is a governmental affairs specialist for AGL Resources, a natural gas distribution, marketing and energy services Fortune 1000 corporation headquartered in Atlanta. She is also on the steering committees for the Georgia Environmental Conference and the Atlanta Beltline Running Series.

CHARLES DALE (Ph.D. in Economics ’78) joined the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in Washington, D.C., as a financial economist in 1999 after working in the U.S. departments of Energy, Army, Commerce, Treasury and the U.S. Navy. At the SEC he works in the Division of Risk, Strategy and Financial Innovation, where he is a principal point-of-contact for economic analyses for regulatory aspects of Commission rule-making, including economic analyses and considerations of efficiency, competition and capital formation. Dale is a past VP of the National Economists Club, and his research has been published in Financial Analysts Journal, Journal of Portfolio Management and The American Economic Review.

VANESSA FARAJ (M.S.W. ’09) is the Atlanta organizer for 9to5, the National Association of Working Women. She co-wrote a guest column for the Atlanta Journal and Constitution titled “Now is the right time to lift earnings” and published February 15, 2012. www.ajc.com/opinion/now-is-right-time-1349372.html

IN MEMORIAM

Andrew Young School Alumni Challenge – And the winning department is!

Richard J. Anderson (B.S. in Urban Life ’71 and M.P.A. ’74), a long-time friend of the Andrew Young School and former City of Atlanta budget director and chief financial officer, died February 1, 2012, at his Gainesville, Fla., home of complications from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease. He was 66.

Between his city positions, Anderson had served as director of financial services for the Atlanta Regional Commission. He endowed the Rick Anderson Scholarship to honor an outstanding Andrew Young School student who is also an employee of a local municipality or government within the area covered by the Atlanta Regional Commission. The scholarship is awarded annually.

Propes addresses fall graduates

Andrew Young School alumna and Deputy Chief Renee Propes entertained an attentive audience of fall graduates with stories of her experiences in the Atlanta Police Department during the school’s graduate recognition ceremony in December.

IN THE LAST ISSUE, we promised to reveal the department whose alumni returned the highest number of Alumni Surveys since our last issue. And the winners are …<drum roll>… those with degrees from the Department of Public Management and Policy with a dozen replies.

WHERE ARE YOU?

Let other Andrew Young School alumni know what you’ve been doing. Tell us about your new job, promotions, published articles, awards and other news, and we’ll share it with our readers and Georgia State University’s Office of Alumni Affairs, who will tell your story on their website – as we do on ours. (Go to http://aysps.gsu.edu/alumni-news.html.)

Please complete our survey at http://aysps.gsu.edu/alumni-survey.html.
RECENT GRADUATE ZACKARY HAWLEY (Ph.D. in Economics ’12) returned to campus this summer from an experience he describes as life changing. For one week in August, he was in conversation with the world’s greatest economists as one of a select number of young economics scholars invited to participate in the 2011 Nobel Laureate Meetings at Lindau, Germany.

Since the meetings began in 1951, they have been attended by more than 25,000 young scientists from 80 countries. According to the organization’s website, the “open conference” program consists of lectures by the Nobel Laureate followed by “intimate rounds of discussions” among all participants – both students and Laureates – over meals and in other social settings. Given its goal to build an international network of expert economists, the conference is designed to encourage “encounters between the scientific elite of today and tomorrow” that may inspire further research.

Hawley, from Conyers, Georgia, says his research interests are urban and regional economics and public finance. Originally interested in becoming an engineer, when he told his economics professor Shelby Frost about his plans, “she told me that I had some talent in economics, and that I should think about pursuing it.”

“Zack was an easy student to say that to,” says Frost. “I teach hundreds of students a semester, and he was a real stand-out.” He changed majors and earned both his B.S. and M.A. in economics.

About the conference, Hawley says the programs provided by politicians and the Nobel Laureates, like Germany’s president Christian Wulff and Joseph Stiglitz of Columbia University, a former World Bank chief economist, were often lively.

He enjoyed a two-hour lunch with Nobel winner John Nash (Princeton mathematician, A Brilliant Mind) that he describes as interesting. “At my table, we four students were matched with Peter Diamond (MIT, Social Security advisor), Dale Mortensen (Northwestern/Kellogg School of Management) and Ed Prescott (Carnegie Mellon). Our conversations jumped from economics to politics to everyday things.”

Nash, in his 80’s, was soft-spoken, according to Hawley. “We talked about ideal monies and Dr. Robert Aumann’s earlier presentation on challenging the Nash equilibrium. At the time, I was taking Dr. Youngshen Xu’s applied game theory class. I asked Dr. Nash what he would say to motivate young economists regarding game theory, and he said, ‘Most, if not all, of the Nobel Prize winners at the Lindau meetings have a deep connection with or use game theory in their research. That should be clear enough motivation.’”

Hawley also enjoyed a dinner conversation with Laureate George Akerlof, from U.C.-Berkeley, about his new book, Identity Economics. He admits, though, that by the end of the week, “the single best part of the conference was the connections you make with the other students. I made 31 very close friends.”

For Hawley, the Lindau conference “reinforces what I want to do with my future. I walked away with confidence that, as young economists, we’re struggling with some pretty tough questions.
Georgia Dept. of Juvenile Justice names Buckner commissioner

L. Gale Buckner (B.S. in Criminal Justice ’81) was unanimously appointed commissioner of Georgia’s Department of Juvenile Justice by the department’s board after being recommended for the position by Gov. Nathan Deal. She was sworn in and reported to work on November 14, 2011.

Buckner came to the department from the State Board of Pardons and Paroles, to which she was appointed in January 2005. She served as chair of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles from 2008 to 2010 and as vice chair from 2006 to 2008. Prior to joining Pardons and Paroles, Buckner spent five years as the executive director of the Governor’s Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. She joined the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in 1981 and served as assistant special agent-in-charge of the Atlanta field office for death investigations, child abuse, fraud and other criminal activities.

“Gale Buckner combines many years of esteemed service to the state with an impressive resume in law enforcement. She possesses the right attitude and the right leadership skills to head the Department of Juvenile Justice,” said Gov. Deal upon her appointment.

Buckner serves on the board of the Andrew Young School’s Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange (GILEE) and is a member of several public safety associations. In addition to her B.S., she earned a Master of Public Administration from Brenau University. She is a graduate of the FBI National Academy’s 169th Session and was a GILEE delegate to Israel. She has also served as an adjunct professor in criminal justice at Georgia State University.

Georgia Dept. of Human Services taps Scroggy for interim post

Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner Clyde L. Reese III announced the selection of Ron Scroggy (B.S.W. ’81) to serve as acting director for the DHS’s Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS) on December 6, 2011. Scroggy will serve in this capacity until the Commissioner’s Office completes a search for a new DFCS director. Katherine Herren was chosen as acting deputy director for DFCS.

“During this period of transition, it was important to appoint individuals that were experienced with Georgia’s social services field,” said Reese. “These two individuals will ensure that the safety of Georgia’s children remains our number one priority.”

Scroggy has more than 30 years of experience leading and managing teams and operations of residential treatment facilities. He joined DFCS as the chief of staff in October 2010 and was promoted to the position of DFCS deputy director July 2011. He dedicated 20 years of his career to Inner Harbour Hospitals, where he rose to chief executive officer and president.

Jae Brown among Georgia’s “Best and Brightest”

Congratulations to Jae S. Brown (B.S. in Urban Policy Studies ’04) who was recognized in the “40 under 40, Georgia’s Best and Brightest” feature about business, government, education, nonprofit and arts superstars by Georgia Trend Magazine in October 2011.


now. The confidence comes with being surrounded by so many brilliant people — young economists and Nobel winners alike — that I know the answers are there.

“The conference provides good opportunities for our university, too,” he suggests.

“GSU should look into finding ways to nominate more students in the hard sciences for this opportunity. I can say that it is, with certainty, the best academic experience I’ve had in my life.”

For more information about the Nobel Laureate Meetings at Lindau, go to www.lindau-nobel.org/YoungResearchers.
Alumnus LAURY BAGEN earned both his B.S. in Social Welfare and M.S. in Community Counseling degrees at GSU. He attributes the fact that he has enjoyed three different, fulfilling career paths to the skills gained in these two programs. Bagen was a social worker in the 1970s, then ran a division of London Iron and Metal Company for 17 years and is presently the owner of BLT Builders, a boutique home renovation company.

Alumna TERRI FELDMAN BAGEN earned her B.S. in Social Welfare at GSU. She has enjoyed working for several different community organizations including Oakhill Homes, B’nai B’rith Youth Organization, Camp Barney Medintz and Genesis Shelter. Terri helped found and was the executive director of Jewish Healthcare International, a humanitarian healthcare organization, and presently works at the F&B Group, her family’s commercial real estate company.

Harvey Brickley earned a B.A. degree from Williams College, served in the U.S. Navy and then earned an M.B.A. from Harvard University. He has held financial positions with Mead Packaging, Macy’s, Munford, Inc. and John Wieland Homes, and served several years on the board of the Atlanta chapter of Financial Executives International. In 1988 he was caught up in a downsizing and received outplacement services, after which he entered that field and formed his own company. Upon his retirement, Brickley has remained involved in a variety of volunteer activities.

LINDA DEAN is personal assistant to former U.S. Senator Max Cleland, a position she has held since 2007. After starting her career as the national events coordinator for the Southeastern Hospital Conference, Dean has enjoyed a multidimensional career as a field sales agent for Schlumberger Industries in Atlanta, executive director of creative life for Life Center Ministries and as an executive assistant for the Grady Healthcare System Foundation. Among her many volunteer positions, she serves as vice president of humanitarian services for the Atlanta Chapter of People to People International.
BLAINE KELLEY JR. founded and led two major real estate development companies, The Landmarks Group and The Urban Group, which have helped shape the Atlanta skyline. He has led several professional, business and nonprofit organizations including the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Nonviolent Change, the Urban Land Institute, the Southern Center for International Studies, the Carter Center and the Atlanta and Georgia Chambers of Commerce. He holds a B.S. in Economics from Davidson College.

Alumna CAROL FULLERTON (B.S. in Urban Administration ’77) is a Democratic member of the Georgia House of Representatives and has represented the 151st District since 2009. In the 2011-2012 legislative session, she was appointed to the following committees: Economic Development and Tourism; Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications; Health and Human Services; Higher Education; and Natural Resources and Environment. Fullerton is a consultant by profession.

CHRIS VALLEY helped organize the master’s degree program in social work at GSU in 1996, where he currently teaches an undergraduate course in Social Welfare Policy Analysis. In 2005 he was awarded the Outstanding Practitioner Award from the National Association for Community Organization and Social Administration. He was recruited to Atlanta by the predecessor of Families First, from which he retired after 34 years as chief administrative officer. Valley holds a M.S.W. in the field of Community Organization and Social Planning from the University of Chicago.

AMBASSADOR CORPS
The Advisory Board voted in 2011 to form the Andrew Young School Ambassador Corps as a formal body to recognize and retain the support of long-standing board members and enlist the support of new individuals who are committed to the work and future development of the school. Ambassadors of this goodwill association will assist in raising the profile and awareness of the Andrew Young School.

The first new Ambassador to sign on was Mary Jean Eisenhower, president and CEO of People to People International. Now a nonprofit organization, PTPI was founded in 1956 as part of the U.S. Information Agency to promote international understanding and friendship through educational, cultural and humanitarian activities by her grandfather, President Dwight D. Eisenhower. She has received the honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by Schiller International and Park universities and a Knight of Peace Award from the International University in Assisi, Italy.

Joining Eisenhower as the inaugural members of the Andrew Young School’s Ambassador Corps are:

- BILLYE SUBER WILLIAMS AARON, former VP, United Negro College Fund and Director, Morehouse College
- TOM CARROLL, VP Northwest and Pacific Regions, Tiffany & Co.
- EVERN COOPER EPPS, former President, UPS Foundation
- JOHN C. MAGUIRE, President Emeritus, Claremont Graduate University
- ALICIA PHILIPP, President, The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, Inc.
- JOHN RUTHERFORD SEYDEL II, Partner, Davis, Pickren & Seydel, LLP

CONGRATULATIONS to Advisory Board member Arnold Martin, who was honored with an Outstanding Leadership award from People to People International for his work to promote the PTPI’s mission. Mary Jean Eisenhower, president and CEO of PTPI, presented Martin the award at its awards gala in Brussels in September 2011.
Georgia State University’s Center for Ethics and Corporate Responsibility at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business presented former Ambassador Andrew Young the 2011 Ethics Advocate Award during its annual gala. Held November 15 at the Carter Center, the award was presented in recognition of Young’s lifetime of leadership in promoting human rights.

Top photo: Bill Bolling, Atlanta Community Food Bank founder and CEO, and Andrew Young. Bottom photo: Andrew Young and Vanessa Hawkins, UPS
ethics advocacy
Attention Graduate Degree Seekers

The Andrew Young School Ranks Among the Top 10%

If you are looking for your next degree program, please take a closer look at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies.

- At 23, we rank among the Top 10 percent of the nation’s graduate schools in public affairs, according to U.S. News and World Report.

- Our faculty is recognized as among the best by prestigious journals like the Southern Economics Journal and Journal of Criminal Justice Education.

- Our long-standing relationships with alumni, mentors and recruiters – and our new Career Services office – put our graduates in contact with a vast network of potential employers.

We offer graduate certificates and master’s and doctoral degrees in criminal justice and criminology, economics, public administration, public policy and social work.

Have more questions? Mathieu Arp and Grace Gipson can help you connect with our faculty and students. Call or visit the Office of Academic Assistance, 404-413-0021.

Would you like to learn more? Find us online at http://aysps.gsu.edu/apply.html.