



# Brandeis University

## The Heller School for Social Policy and Management



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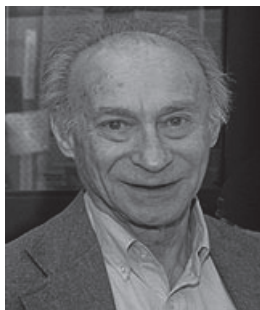
Winter 2011

Dear Friends,

As 2011 begins I want to share my warmest wishes to you and your families for a peaceful and happy New Year. At Heller we begin this year with a special thanks and much gratitude to the **Slifka Family Foundation**. Alan and Riva Slifka have made a true commitment to peace through their vision and financial support to the **Master's Program in Coexistence and Conflict**. This support has allowed the program to move from Brandeis' **International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life** to its new permanent home at the Heller School. Under the direction of Professor **Mari Fitzduff**, the Coexistence and Conflict program educates students for careers in high-conflict areas around the world. Assistant Professor **Ted Johnson** and Program Administrator **Anne Gudaitis**, who worked in the Coexistence program prior to its move to Heller, have now joined the Heller community to continue their work with Professor Fitzduff and the 46 students in the program this year.



The Slifka family gift also establishes the **Alan B. Slifka Chair in Coexistence and Conflict**. The Heller School is currently undertaking an international search to choose the inaugural appointment.



Wonderful beginnings are balanced by some endings. In December 2010 **David Gil** retired after a lengthy career at Heller. Many have described him as the social conscience of the Heller School. We are fortunate to have benefited from his knowledge, expertise, and passionate commitment for so many years and are delighted that he will continue to give a series of lectures to our students over the course of the academic year. David's students and colleagues recently hosted a wonderful tribute to him—allowing him to hear how much he has meant to the Heller community. Sadly, we have also lost two cherished Heller professors and colleagues, **James Callahan** and **Lorraine Klerman**, both of whom passed away in 2010. To honor Jim and Lorraine and to celebrate their collective work, which spans young to old, the Heller School will sponsor a symposium in their honor in the spring on April 14 and 15. We invite all of you to join with us as we remember their contributions.

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## HELLER FACULTY AND RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

The research conducted by Heller faculty and researchers moves the social policy debate forward. Whether in domestic or international issues, labor economics, health care or the fight against inequities, the work of our faculty and researchers continues to shape social policy and management.



Some examples include: **Dominic Hodgkin** of the **Institute for Behavioral Health**, who offered timely commentary on the effects of the economic crisis on mental health services as Guest Editor of the **International Journal of Mental Health**, Special Edition Summer 2010; **Thomas Shapiro**, who will be at the **University of Cape Town's Centre for Social Science Research** in South Africa during the spring semester under a Fulbright award, working on a project entitled "The Wealth Gap: Reconciliation and Transformation in South Africa and the United States"; Adjunct Lecturer **Sajed Kamal**, who gave the keynote address at a seminar on renewable energy in Dhaka, Bangladesh in July; **Michael Doonan, Ph.D. '02**, whose **Massachusetts Health Policy Forum** offered two fall issue-related forums, the first on Models for Healthy Aging and helping to make Massachusetts a model state for healthy aging, and the second on Accountable Health Care Delivery, highlighting five model organizations that show the way to control costs and improve efficiency; the work of **Cathy Burack** and her colleagues at the **Center for Youth and Communities** on the **Community College Transfer Initiative**; and my own work with Massachusetts Governor **Deval Patrick's Council of Economic Advisors**.

This January I had the privilege at the annual meetings of the **Labor and Employment Relations Association (LERA)** to help launch, with LERA president Dr. Eileen Appelbaum, Professor Tom Kochan of MIT, and U.S. Deputy Secretary of Labor Seth Harris, the **Employment Policy Research Network**. This network, supported by LERA and funded by the Rockefeller and Russell Sage Foundations, includes over 100 researchers (including Heller colleagues **Christine Bishop** and **Jody Hoffer Gittel**) from more than 30 universities. We share a concern that there has been limited use of analytically well-grounded policy analysis to formulate appropriate policy responses for the greatest jobs crisis since the Great Depression. We have created a website, **www.employmentpolicy.org**, to communicate research on employment policy issues to government policy officials, the press and public, and leaders in business, labor, and other labor market institutions who share an interest in and responsibility for shaping the future of employment policy and practice.

For these and other contributions, our faculty members are often recognized by their peers. **Lorraine Klerman** was honored posthumously with the **Title V Lifetime Achievement Award**, bestowed by the **Health Resources and Service Administration/Maternal and Child Health Bureau** at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Title V in October 2010.

**Constance Horgan**, Professor, Director of the **Institute for Behavioral Health** and Associate Dean for Research, received the 2010 **Robert E. Anderson Service Award for Distinguished Contribution in the Field of Addiction Research, Training and Evaluation** from the **National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors**. **Marion Howard** coordinated the planning, implementation, and now serves as advisor to the project that was awarded the top prize at the **10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** in Nagoya, Japan, and **Dr. Sarita Bhalotra, Ph.D. '99**, was selected to deliver the **Women's and Gender Studies Program 2010 Fall Distinguished Faculty Lecture**, "Mending Broken Hearts: Elder Women, Caring and Cardiac Illness."



Faculty are also recognized by the financial awards they receive to study cutting edge and timely topics, such as a new national study by **Mary Jo Larson, Ph.D. '92**, and her Heller colleagues, **Constance**

**Horgan, Elizabeth Merrick, Ph.D. '98, Beth Mohr, Grant Ritter,** and PhD student **Rachel Sayko Adams**, who will investigate combat-related psychological problems and missed treatment opportunities among Army personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, with funding from the **National Institute on Drug Abuse**. Thanks to funding from the **National Science Foundation**, **Ricardo Godoy** continues his work to explore the effects of road construction on the way of life of native Amazonians in Bolivia.

## HELLER IN THE MEDIA

Heller experts are also often called upon to offer their perspective on current events and issues. **Anita Hill** appeared on **CNN's Larry King Live** to discuss President Obama's selection of Elena Kagan for Supreme Court Justice. **Jody Hoffer Gittel** was quoted in a **Time Magazine** article about the Spirit Airlines pilot strike. Seven Heller students hailing from seven different countries caught the attention of a **Boston Globe** columnist who profiled their household in her October 24, 2010 column, entitled "Total Global Living." I was again called upon by the **PBS NewsHour** to offer commentary on the monthly unemployment and job creation reports in June, August, and December 2010.

## HELLER EVENTS

The **Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy** sponsored a fall "living room dialogue" with **Andrew Hahn, PhD '78**, director, interviewing **Charles Bronfman** and **Jeff Solomon**, philanthropists, about their recent book, **The Art of Giving**. Through the generosity of the Bronfman Philanthropies, all 100 participants at the lecture received a copy of the book.



To showcase Heller faculty and researchers, we initiated "**Tuesday Talks**" this semester as a lunchtime lecture series. Sharing Heller faculty expertise within our community is an antidote to being so focused within one's own area that little opportunity exists to learn about the work of colleagues. **Tuesday Talks** kicked off in October with **Stuart Altman**, Sol C. Chaikin Professor of National Health Policy, speaking on "**Understanding U.S. Health Care Reform.**" In November, **Dr. Michael Jellinek**, the CEO of Newton-Wellesley Hospital and also an Adjunct Professor at Heller, discussed "**Five Key Areas in Hospital Management: Reimbursement, Patient Satisfaction, Relationships with Physicians, Quality, and Process Improvement.**" **Eric Olson**, Senior Lecturer, presented "**Conservation Overshoot: The Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act in an Age of Global Change.**" The series continues next semester with talks on conflict, race, and the effects of war.

The day after the mid-term elections in November 2010, **Robert Kuttner**, author and coeditor of **The American Prospect**, gave his up-to-the-minute take on "**After the Election: The New Normal: What's Necessary - and Possible - in the Second Half of the Obama Administration.**" We are extremely fortunate to welcome Bob as an adjunct lecturer during the spring 2011 semester, when he will be teaching "**The Politics of Fiscal Crises and Social Policy**" in Heller's **Master of Public Policy (MPP)** program.

The **Programs in Sustainable International Development** sponsored a wide array of events on issues affecting different regions throughout the globe, including the national referendum in the Sudan, HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe and Southern Africa, and climate change in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam. The diverse student body at Heller, representing over 50 countries, brings global issues down to a very local level in real time to our community.

## HELLER STUDENTS

Our faculty are not the only Heller community members making their mark; our students, more than 500 strong, certainly exercise a strong activist presence as well. For example, **Ross Lohr**, an MBA/MA

student, is the director of the **Newton-Tanzania Collaborative**, whose mission is to establish personal relationships between people in Tanzania and the United States. MBA student **Nathan Rothstein**, interviewed on **NPR** about bloggers in post-Katrina New Orleans, recalled his own pre-Heller work on post-Katrina recovery projects and the huge impact that citizen journalists can have on mainstream media and public policy. **Sarah Gogel**, a student in our dual degree MA in Sustainable International Development and JD at Northeastern University, was nominated as a Local Hero in **Metro**, a national daily newspaper, for her work inspiring Boston high-school teens at **Global Potential**, a nonprofit international exchange program she founded in New York in 2007. Global Potential provides inner-city students with six months of leadership training and preparation, then sends them to developing countries to work on community-service projects during their summer vacation.

## LOOKING AHEAD

With the New Year comes new leadership to Brandeis. **Fred Lawrence**, the eighth President of Brandeis, takes his place as the leader of our exceptional university in January. Already in the past months since he was selected, President Lawrence has made a point of getting to know the campus and its people to its innermost parts. Meeting with students, faculty, staff and trustees throughout the fall, he has communicated his warmth, wisdom and hopes for the future to all of us.

We also eagerly anticipate new beginnings that 2011 brings to Heller. We are looking to expand both the size and expertise of our faculty and have several searches for new faculty members underway. In addition to the **Slifka Chair in Coexistence and Conflict**, we are looking to find a talented director for the **Institute for Child, Youth, and Family Policy**, as well as faculty in the areas of justice, rights and social change; political economy of sustainable development; and international development management.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for your support of and interest in the Heller School. This year promises to be one where Heller grows from strength to strength. It is reassuring to know that as we grapple with complex social issues, the contributions to social policy and management that originate at Heller continue to be multiplied around the world through our graduates who use their knowledge to advance social justice.

With warm regards,



Lisa M. Lynch  
Dean