THE HELLER SOCIAL POLICY IMPACT REPORT
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Spring 2017

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### THE HELLER SOCIAL POLICY IMPACT REPORT

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Welcome to the
Heller Social Policy Impact Report

The Heller School is an institution comprising dozens of scholars and academics across a variety of social policy fields and disciplines. While our guiding principles as an educational and research enterprise are easily witnessed in any classroom, they can also be seen in the content and impact of our many ongoing research projects.

The Heller School has five key values that encourage us to use our research to empower others to make evidence-based change. We prize scientific rigor, incorporating thorough quantitative and qualitative testing and analysis in an applied context. We probe new ideas, building on foundational knowledge with bold thinking. We strive for sustainability, finding solutions that ensure lasting structural change without compromising the well-being of future generations. We build community, recognizing that the inclusion of multiple perspectives generates better science. And, we are respectful, refusing to impose our ideas on the communities we work with and for.

As you explore this latest issue of the Heller Social Policy Impact Report, we believe that these values will be immediately apparent. We take great pride in the mission-driven, high-impact scientific work done at Heller and invite you to join us in finding new and exciting ways to bring our knowledge to bear on social justice efforts wherever they exist — and wherever they do not.

Sincerely,

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The Impact of Combat Exposure Among Female Soldiers

Heller researchers reveal the findings of the largest study of deployed women ever conducted
In late 2015, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) announced that it was opening all military positions to women, including active combat roles. “There will be no exceptions,” Defense Secretary Ashton Carter said at the time. “They’ll be allowed to drive tanks, fire mortars and lead infantry soldiers into combat. They’ll be able to serve as Army Rangers and Green Berets, Navy SEALs, Marine Corps infantry, Air Force parajumpers and everything else that was previously open only to men.”

The policy shift was widely praised by both sides of the political aisle, yet in actuality, female soldiers have been serving in combat zones, including Iraq and Afghanistan, for years, even though they were prevented from officially holding the combat roles that Carter described in his press briefing.

Thanks to work by Heller researchers Rachel Sayko Adams, PhD’13, and Mary Jo Larson, PhD’92, of the Institute for Behavioral Health at the Schneider Institutes for Health Policy, we have an idea of what the psychological impact may be as women take on an even greater presence on the battlefield. In a paper published in the Journal of Traumatic Stress, Adams and Larson describe the results of their Substance Use and Psychological Injury Combat study (SUPIC), the largest representative study of deployed men and women ever conducted.

For their research, which was funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and sponsored by the DOD’s Defense Health Agency, Adams and Larson examined data from a cohort of female Army soldiers who returned from deployments to Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and Operation Iraqi Freedom in fiscal years 2008-11. They merged deployment records, administrative health care utilization data and postdeployment health surveillance information, which allowed them to look at how experiencing combat exposures (for example, witnessing killing or being in danger of being killed) during deployments was associated with behavioral health outcomes upon return from deployment.

“We expected that, like male military members, combat exposure would increase the likelihood of women screening positive for PTSD, or post-traumatic stress disorder, after deployment,” Adams says. Still, the magnitude of the increase came as a surprise. They found that female soldiers who reported three or more types of combat exposure had over 20 times the odds of screening positive for PTSD compared to those with no combat exposure.

According to Adams, the findings suggest that the DOD should prepare all women in the military, and not just those who are formally assigned to direct combat roles, for exposure to combat-related stressors while deployed. “Further, our findings support ongoing force-wide screening for behavioral health problems for both women and men when they return home,” she says. She also recommends continued examination of public health interventions, such as screening for alcohol misuse or suicide prevention programs.

Adams stresses that future studies will be needed to fully understand the impact of any DOD efforts to prepare an increasing number of military women for potentially traumatic events experienced during deployment.

Women who reported three or more types of combat exposure had over 20 times the odds of screening positive for PTSD compared to women with no combat exposure.
AGING


ASSETS AND INEQUALITIES


This brief explores the change in implementation and the outcomes for families from the first two phases of the Secure Jobs Initiative, coming from different housing programs, in terms of their engagement in the program and employment attainment. We find that completing vocational training significantly improves employment attainment, and that there are no significant differences in participation or employment outcomes between those families living in shelters or motels and those living in their own apartments with a rental subsidy.


This report uses data on Secure Jobs participants who entered skills training to explain how Secure Jobs sites use short-term skills training programs for their participants. Key findings include: Secure Jobs participants who enroll in skills training programs are comparable to those who do not, and they show moderate employment gains, most notably in job retention.


NEW PUBLICATIONS
This case study sheds light on strategies appropriate for community health centers in communities becoming ever more diverse that are ready to embark on an organizational change process to deliver high-quality care to all.


This report focuses on the role that policy design can have on closing the country’s unrelenting and unacceptable racial wealth gap. By using the Racial Wealth Audit™ framework, the authors examine education policies that affect financial outcomes in relation to college savings for children, student debt and college affordability, and education and employment outcomes.

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**


**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**


Food Quality in Massachusetts Middle and High Schools.” *American Journal of Public Health.* 106(6), pp. 1101-1108.


CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND COEXISTENCE


DISABILITIES


Life expectancy at birth increased from 61.8 years in 1980 to 71.5 years in 2015 globally. Countries in sub-Saharan Africa saw substantial gains in life expectancy from 2001 to 2015, rebounding from excessive deaths from HIV/AIDS. Dengue deaths rose from 12,300 in 2005 to 18,400 in 2015, representing an overall increase of 48.7 percent and an age-standardized increase of 34 percent.


MOAVEN RAZAVI, MS’06, PHD’11


Health Care Reform.” *American Journal of Managed Care.* 22(6), pp. 441-446.


The non-pyrethroid wall liner, a type of insecticide-treated wallpaper, is an innovative approach to control malaria in endemic areas, such as rural Tanzania. Through this study protocol, the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of this product is being evaluated.


Over the age range of 2 to 16 years, the incidence of virologically confirmed dengue declines with age, so a 16-year-old has a one-third lower incidence rate than a 2-year-old in the same location. About one in five symptomatic dengue cases is hospitalized in Southeast Asia compared to one in nine in Latin America.


The genetically modified mosquito is one of the promising new technologies for control of dengue, a disease that results in about 100 million symptomatic cases globally each year. Releasing the genetically modified male mosquito, which is sterile, can substantially reduce mosquito abundance and thus lower transmission of dengue and related viruses, including chikungunya, yellow fever and Zika. Although the technique is currently in the research stage, economies of scale may make the approach economically viable.

**INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**


**NEW PUBLICATIONS**

**MANAGEMENT**


**PHILOSOPHY**


Enhancing Opportunities for International Students

Joan Dassin ’69 is pioneering research on the impacts of international scholarships on social change
The last decade has seen a significant spike in university students studying abroad. International scholarships play a huge role in fostering global mobility, bringing scholars from the global south to study at universities in mostly Western countries. Although international students still represent a very small minority of students overall, there are about 4.5 million of them worldwide today — almost triple the number from 15 years ago.

Joan Dassin '69, director of Heller's Sustainable International Development program, is co-editing a book on the subject titled “International Scholarships in Higher Education: Pathways for Social Change” to be published by Palgrave Macmillan in mid-2017. With it, she and her co-editors are pioneering a new research field on international scholarships in higher education.

She says, “We’ve seen a renewed emphasis on higher education in developing countries, with a special niche remaining for physical study abroad, despite the proliferation of online programs. Studying abroad creates important social networks and it can expose students to empowering ideologies — especially for women or members of minority groups — which can’t be replicated electronically or necessarily obtained in one’s home country.”

While many countries — most notably China — have provided significant government funding for study abroad in recent years, private international scholarship programs such as Rhodes and Fulbright have long histories. Dassin says, “These programs were founded to increase international understanding, change hearts and minds — but nobody actually looked into them too deeply to see if that was true.” They were a feel-good exercise, she notes; nobody argues against the value of a scholarship program. For this reason perhaps, the first extensive evaluation of the Fulbright program wasn’t conducted until 50 years after its founding.

One of the book’s key recommendations is that more research is needed on international scholarships and the students they fund. “The data about these programs is very uneven, when it’s available at all,” she says. “We hope this book will help constitute this as a field of research, policy and practice. We need basic information: how many people have held international scholarships, and where have they gone? What is their socio-economic profile? Most important, have they used their education to benefit their home countries, and in what ways? What are the pathways leading from higher education to social change? We need to think more deeply about how to gauge the impact of these investments.”

Dassin argues that for a scholarship to have significant impact, it must target the right recipients. “Talent is randomly distributed, but selectively developed. It’s important to fund individuals who are committed to social change and who otherwise wouldn’t have access to international education, perhaps because they are from a remote, rural area, they’re a member of an indigenous group, or they’re female in a society where women have limited opportunities. By being deliberate about targeting, you can have a huge impact.”

After many years in international development, including founding and leading the Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program, Dassin believes that solving development challenges requires the empowerment of local people through higher education. “We can’t send everyone to Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship, but maybe we can send a few hundred each year who will have a tremendous multiplier effect. That’s the best investment you can make — investing in people who have the capacity to learn, who can then go home and reinvent solutions for their own context.”

By Bethany Romano, MBA’17
ASSETS AND INEQUALITIES

Janet Boguslaw (PI), Jessica Santos, Sara Chaganti “Study of Career Advancement and Quality Jobs in Health Care”; Funder: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

This project will design, implement and assess a career advancement intervention that enhances existing supports, leverages innovative technology and engages with employers to guide participants along successful career paths following entry-level employment.

Jessica Santos (PI), Janet Boguslaw, Thomas Shapiro “Foundations for the Future: Best Practices in Intergenerational Asset Building in Asian Pacific American Communities”; Funder: National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development

The Institute on Assets and Social Policy (IASP) will conduct research to support the work of the National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development to understand and explicate for its membership, other practitioners, funders and policymakers the characteristics of multigenerational asset-building approaches that could potentially be generalized to improve the efficacy of financial capacity-building programming in low- and moderate-income Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities.

Jessica Santos (PI), Sara Chaganti “Evaluation of New Hampshire Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Assessment Practices”; Funder: Southern New Hampshire Services

The project will conduct an evaluation of the current assessment tools and practices used by New Hampshire’s Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program(s) at New Hampshire’s 12 New Hampshire Works Centers. IASP will investigate the strengths and weaknesses of the program’s current assessment practices and provide concrete recommendations to improve WIOA assessment processes and outcomes.

Thomas Shapiro (PI), Angela Vo “Support CFED’s Tax Alliance for Economic Mobility”; Funder: Corporation for Enterprise Development

IASP will support TAEM by drafting the monthly internal newsletter.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Dominic Hodgkin (PI) “Evaluation of Drug Screening Program — Intergovernmental Personnel Agreement”; Funder: Bedford (Mass.) Veterans Affairs Medical Center
This project is examining the effects of requiring clinicians to screen patients for drug misuse in primary care and mental health clinics at a Veterans Administration facility. Researchers are studying the resulting rates of screening and follow-up treatment.

**Dominic Hodgkin (PI)** “Redesign of Veterans Outcomes Assessment Survey Questionnaires”; Funder: Veterans Health Administration; subcontract to Brandeis from Booz Allen Hamilton

Brandeis researchers reviewed experience with selected health scales that are present on the Veterans Outcomes Assessment survey, in work with Booz Allen Hamilton. This research was part of an evaluation of mental health programs operated by the Veterans Administration as mandated by the Clay Hunt Act of 2015.

**Peter Kreiner (PI)** “Identification of Education Best Practices for PDMP System Users”; Funder: Pennsylvania Department of Health; subcontract to Brandeis from University of Pittsburgh

This project assisted the Pennsylvania Department of Health’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) in developing and planning educational outreach tailored to meet the needs of PDMP system users. The project report and subsequent consultations identified education best practices for prescribers and dispensers and strategies to incorporate PDMP data into clinical practice.

**Peter Kreiner (PI), Thomas Clark, Erin Doyle, Meelee Kim, Lee Panas, Gail Strickler** “Supplemental Funding Award for Prescription Behavior Surveillance System (PBSS)”; Funder: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The team will expand PBSS to include PDMP data from 15 states; maintain a longitudinal database and continue to generate cumulative quarterly reports on PBSS indicators for each state; complete studies on the effects of mandatory PDMP use laws, trends in controlled substance use and misuse/abuse, and assessment of different state PDMP record-linking procedures; generate individual state data briefs and multistate issue briefs on topics of interest; assist in development of data dashboard (user-friendly data interface); and assist selected federal researchers in accessing PBSS data.

**Peter Kreiner (PI), Thomas Clark, Meelee Kim, Lee Panas, Carol Prost** “Supplemental Funding Award for Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Training and Technical Assistance Program”; Funder: Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Department of Justice

The project will continue to serve as a clearinghouse for PDMP materials, articles and studies; provide a range of technical assistance to PDMP administrators, BJA grantees and other stakeholders; host national, regional and special topic-focused meetings of PDMP administrators and stakeholders; generate case studies and reports on innovative programs and practices; and compile and analyze BJA grantee performance measure data.

**Galina Zolotusky (PI)** “Evaluation of Drug Screening Program — Intergovernmental Personnel Agreement”; Funder: Bedford (Mass.) Veterans Affairs Medical Center

This project is examining the effects of requiring clinicians to screen patients for drug misuse in primary care and mental health clinics at a Veterans Administration facility. Researchers are studying the resulting rates of screening and follow-up treatment.

**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

**Della M. Hughes (PI), Susan P. Curnan** “Technical Assistance for Nashville’s Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)”; Funder: Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

The Center for Youth and Communities will work with the Nashville Career Advancement Center to provide technical assistance on design and capacity building for Nashville’s SYEP, Opportunity Now, so as to best ensure positive youth outcomes for participants. Technical assistance will include stakeholder engagement, scalable system design, data collection, reporting system and evaluation design, as well as some support for implementation.

**DISABILITIES**

**Monika Mitra (PI)** “Improving the Health of People With Mobility Limitations and Intellectual Disabilities Through State-Based Public Health Programs”; Funder: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; subcontract to Brandeis from Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), Office of Health Equity, Health and Disability Program

Project researchers will serve as the evaluation team for the Massachusetts DPH Health and Disability Program’s activities under the five-year grant.

**Susan Parish, Monika Mitra, Joanne Nicholson (Co-PIs), Robyn Powell** “Parents Empowering Parents: National Research Center on Parents With Disabilities and Their Families”; Funder: National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDLIRR)
Joel Cutcher-Gershenfeld calls for negotiated change in the world's largest, most complex institutions
Heller MBA professor Joel Cutcher-Gershenfeld is committed to moving the needle on some of the world’s largest, most intimidating problems. In almost every sector of society there are “grand challenges,” huge problems ranging from the United Nations’ goals for sustainable development, to genomic sequencing, to climate change. To solve them, he says, “grand challenges need grand bargains.”

Together with a multi-institutional group of academics, researchers and administrators called the Stakeholder Alignment Collaborative, Cutcher-Gershenfeld researches the emergence of what he calls “agile institutions for the 21st century.” In many cases, he also serves as a facilitator for smaller agreements that can add up to a grand bargain.

“In almost every grand challenge,” he says, “there are dozens of stakeholders. Each stakeholder group is pursuing their own mission, their own goals and objectives, many with highly laudable intent. But it’s usually the case that their separate efforts do not add up to the full sum of the parts. A lot of my research centers on helping stakeholders in these complex systems see the landscape, understand each other’s interests and how they all fit together.” He adds, “The smaller agreements are what could be considered ‘the connective tissue’ that is needed in these systems.” These include agreements around a shared vision, new forums, decision-making mechanisms, shared resources, joint projects and more.

His process starts with mapping stakeholders and their interests, then progressing to facilitated dialogues and forging agreements, which result in action. “And then you repeat the process, with different combinations of stakeholders and additional agreements. Eventually, you can imagine, this sequence of agreements can add up to a grand bargain.”

Many of the “agile institutions” that Cutcher-Gershenfeld works with don’t seem so agile at first. One major project with the National Science Foundation involves the sharing and reuse of scientific data — including models, scientific software and physical samples — on a global level. He says, “If you look at just one field where we have focused, the geosciences, there are maybe 200,000 geoscientists. How they share and reuse data will affect their ability to address big problems, like global climate change, or severe weather predictions or natural resource use. We’re basically trying to understand the barriers and enablers of people all playing in the same sandbox when it comes to sharing data — in many different fields and disciplines.”

Take the issue of implementing common medical records in the U.S. healthcare system. “When this first started,” he says, “there was a lot of consternation over who would be liable and how to set up the infrastructure. Those concerns were addressed through a series of agreements and actions to the point now where there’s a clear understanding of the importance of the issue and some of the elements of how to move forward. I would say that issue is now on the way toward a grand societal bargain.”

Cutcher-Gershenfeld notes that the pace of change in markets, technology and society is accelerating. Solutions that might have taken decades or generations in the past aren’t fast enough for today’s grand challenges. He explains, “The goal is for our institutions to provide the anchoring and stability people need, but to become more nimble and adaptive. If institutional leaders can see the landscape that they’re operating in and communicate with their stakeholders, it’s possible to change.” He concludes, “We’re striving to create a cultural norm that we’re never done improving and we’re never done aligning institutions in support of improvements. Keeping stakeholders aligned is a dynamic and essential process.”

By Bethany Romano, MBA’17
AGING


ASSETS AND INEQUALITIES


Santos, J. Led an interactive workshop, “Inside Inequality: Power and Privilege Across the Life Course,” at Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., October 2016. Her talk highlighted findings from her research on opportunity hoarding and other mechanisms that perpetuate racial inequality.


**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**


Kolodny, A. “Responding to the Prescription Opioid and Heroin Crisis.”

» Presented at Opioid Safety Coalitions: Oakland Fall Convening, sponsored by the California Department of Public Health, California Health Care Foundation, Oakland, Calif., September 2016.

» Presented at Opioid Safety Coalitions: Newport Beach Fall Convening, sponsored by the California Department of Public Health, California Health Care Foundation, Newport Beach, Calif., November 2016.

» Presented at “A Call to Action: Prevention and Treatment of Addiction in the Primary Care Setting,” conference sponsored by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration, Warwick, R.I., December 2016.


Reif, S., Horgan, C.M., Quinn, A.E., Garnick, D.W., Stewart, M.T., Evans, B., and Henry, B. “Health Plan Strategies for Screening and Brief Intervention for Alcohol Misuse and Other Preventive Services Under the Affordable Care Act.” Presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Conference, Denver, October 2016.


CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES


Hughes, D.M. “Deepening Student-Centered Learning in Meriden Public Schools.” Presented at the Meriden Public Schools Leadership Retreat, Meriden, Conn., August 2016 and November 2016.


CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND COEXISTENCE

Jean, I. “Conflict Sensitivity of Evaluation.”
» Presented at “Evaluation Futures in Europe and Beyond: Connectivity, Innovation and Use,” conference sponsored by the European Evaluation Society, Maastricht, the Netherlands, September 2016.


Lempereur, A. “Responsible Frontline Negotiation.”

Lempereur, A. “Negotiation and Protection.” Presented at “Protecting the Unprotected,” conference sponsored by Bochum University, Bochum, Germany, September 2016.


Lempereur, A. “First Mover’s Advantages for a Responsible Negotiator.” Presented at the U.S. Business Group, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, October 2016.


DISABILITIES


Sampath, R. “Bioethics and Disability Rights.” Guest lecturer to the Leadership in Health and Medicine (Brandeis Leader Scholar Community for First-Year Students), Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass., November 2016.


**HEALTH**


Shepard, D.S. “Vaccination Cost Effectiveness.” Presented at Boston Infectious Disease/Vaccines Symposia, sponsored by the Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, October 2016.


INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT


MANAGEMENT


Gittell, J.H. “High-Performance Health Care (Building Teams and Organizations) and Final Recommendations, Next Steps and a Path Forward.”


PHILANTHROPY


Sampath, R. Co-presenter, “How Do We Make Sense of the Election and Where Do We Go From Here?” Presented at Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass., November 2016.

SOCIAL POLICY

Hill, A. Keynote speaker, Massachusetts Conference for Women, Boston, December 2016.

JOEL CUTCHER-GERSHENFELD (SEE RELATED STORY ON PAGE 14)
Convening for the Commonwealth

The Massachusetts Health Policy Forum connects stakeholders with the research and information they need to improve the state’s health care system.
In his role as executive director of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum (MHPF), Michael Doonan, PhD', oversees a network of events and initiatives that share a common goal for the Commonwealth: improving the health of state residents as well as the Massachusetts health care system.

As its name implies, the MHPF, which is housed at Brandeis University and the Heller School, presents forums on critical and timely health issues — but its work doesn’t stop there. Doonan, who also directs Heller's Master of Public Policy program, works with forum partners to publish op-eds, offer special briefings for the legislature and organize ongoing conversations on topics ranging from healthy aging to assessing the continuum of care for severe brain injury.

“We used to have a policy of one and done. We’d have one forum on a particular issue and then move on to the next one, but we were moving on so quickly, we didn’t know what our impact was,” Doonan says. “We’ve changed our model to have multiple forums and multiple events around one area, because we found that the more time stakeholders spent together, the greater the opportunity for making a difference.”

One example is childhood obesity. Doonan and his colleagues held a series of related events around the topic, starting with a theoretical debate between Paul Campos, author of “The Obesity Myth,” and Dr. Kelly Brownell, the foremost public health expert on the topic. That initial forum was followed by another session, this time on information sharing, featuring best anti-obesity practices and programs from Massachusetts and around the country. For the third event, the commissioner of public health collaborated with MHPF to roll out Mass in Motion, a major state initiative to support local communities to promote an active lifestyle and healthy eating. Finally, the forum organized a meeting on childhood brain development just as the state legislature was considering policy that would roll back recess in schools.

“As we discussed at that last event, it turns out that if you add another math class, it doesn’t help,” Doonan says. “Being active is really important to brain development and success in the classroom. That forum came at a critical time when the legislature was making an important decision that would affect this issue. It helped influence lawmakers to protect recess because it connected physical activity with students’ academic performance.”

One of the MHPF initiatives that Doonan is most proud of is its annual forum for Boston-area medical school students and students in public health, health policy and health management programs. “They hear from 28 speakers over two days,” Doonan says. “We start in the legislature, where staffers give them a behind-the-scenes look at how the legislature enacts health policy and how they work with consumer advocacy organizations, health plans and hospitals. Then we meet with top officials from government agencies ranging from Medicaid to the Health Connector, which is Massachusetts’ marketplace for insurance reform. We meet with the commissioner of public health. We meet with the secretary of human services. For these students who will be helping to shape critical health issues in the future, this is a chance for them to see, up close and personal, how health policy operates and runs.”

By Max Pearlstein ’01
AGING

Christine Bishop serves on the Long Term Services and Supports Community Partner Technical Advisory Group, supporting MassHealth Payment and Care Delivery Innovation. This advisory group met four times during fall 2016.


Christine Bishop served on a technical workgroup for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on Home Health Prospective Payment, Dec. 9, 2016.

Margie Lachman’s research was referenced in Gizmodo’s July 31, 2016, article “Worrying About Money Is Tough on Wallets and Wrinkles.”

Walter Leutz, Ph.D.’81, was interviewed by The Recorder for the July 18, 2016, article “Greenfield a Healthy Place to Retire: Plenty for Seniors to Do, New Study Says.”

Walter Leutz’s research was referenced in Wicked Local Waltham’s Oct. 21, 2016, article “Building a Village in a City for Waltham Seniors.”

ASSETS AND INEQUALITIES


Janet Boguslaw and Margot Trotter Davis, Ph.D.’08, published an article in The Boston Globe on Sept. 2, 2016, titled “What Happened to the Hyatt 100, and Why We Should Care.”

The Institute on Assets and Social Policy was referenced in the following pieces:

» In the L.A. Times’ July 11, 2016, article “Economic Inequality Is the Cause and the Consequence of Our Racial Problems.”

» In Bizjournals.com’s July 18, 2016, article “BET’s Founder on Why There Aren’t More Black-Owned Startups.”

» In Politico’s “Report Roll Call” on Dec. 20, 2016.

Tatjana Meschede’s blog post “Reiche Weiße, Arme Schwarze” appeared in the German newspaper Die Zeit on July 23, 2016.
Jessica Santos, PhD’15, presented “Workforce Diversity in New Hampshire: Findings From the Employer Research Initiative” at the New Hampshire Governor’s Commission on the Healthcare Workforce, with ERI research partners Trinidad Tellez, MD, and Shawn Barry from the New Hampshire Office of Health Equity, in October 2016.

Findings highlighted the current reality of nontraditional health career pathways, the role of networks as inclusion/exclusion mechanisms for career advancement, and an identification of opportunities to fill systemic gaps in the workforce system to facilitate entry and advancement for health professionals of color in New Hampshire.

Thomas Shapiro was quoted in The New Yorker’s Oct. 10, 2016, article “The Widening Racial Wealth Divide.”

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Rachel Sayko Adams, PhD’13, contributed to the following:

» On Aug. 5, 2016, her article “Combat Exposure Among Army Women — What Are the Consequences?” was published on the Trauma Blog of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies.

» She was interviewed in Reuters’ Aug. 10, 2016, article “Women in Combat, Like Men, at Risk for PTSD.”

» On Aug. 15, 2016, her article “Combat Exposure Increases Risk for PTSD, Depression, Drinking in Army Women” was published by Healio.

On Dec. 15, 2016, Tom Clark’s article “How States Can Help Curb Opioid Misuse” was republished by Route Fifty.

Tom Clark and Peter Kreiner were quoted in Government Technology’s July/August 2016 article “Is Data the Answer to Getting a Handle on Prescription Drug Abuse?”

Andrew Kolodny was quoted in the following:

» In ColorLines’ July 14, 2016, article “Congress Passes Law to Treat Opioid Addiction as Health Crisis.”

» In The Guardian’s July 14, 2016, article “Congress Passes Opioids Bill to Address Addiction and Support Recovery.”

» In The Washington Post’s July 26, 2016, article “The Nation’s Opioid Crisis Garners Attention at Party Conventions.”

» In Kaiser Health News’ Aug. 1, 2016, article “Opioid Dependence Leads to ‘Tsunami’ of Medical Services, Study Finds.”


» In USA Today Network’s Courier-Journal’s Aug. 27, 2016, article “Mother Battles Pill Scourge That Claimed Son.”

» In The Wall Street Journal’s Aug. 31, 2016, article “FDA Heightens Warning About Drug Combinations.”


» On National Public Radio’s Sept. 12, 2016, segment “Insurance Data Show a Surge in Spending on Opioid Treatment and Testing.”


» In CBS SF Bay Area’s Nov. 11, 2016, article “Bay Area Family Puts Face on Suburban Opioid Addiction.”


» In USA Today PressConnects’ Dec. 16, 2016, article “WATCHDOG REPORT: Upstate Sinks in Flood of Legal Opioids.”

» On NPR’s Science Friday’s Dec. 17, 2016, segment “What’s Fueling the Current Opioid Epidemic?”

Peter Kreiner was quoted in Philly.com’s Aug. 22, 2016, article “Hopes and Fears Accompany Launch of Pa.’s New Overdose-Prevention Tool.”

Clemens Noelke was interviewed for The Globe and Mail’s Aug. 19, 2016, article “Studies Show That Hot Weather Brings Out the Worst in Us.”

Sharon Reif, PhD’02, was quoted in Behavioral Healthcare’s Aug. 3, 2016, article “Behavioral Health Organizations Say Providers Are Lukewarm on Medication-Assisted Treatment.”
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Dolores Acevedo-Garcia was featured on the NICHQ website’s press release “NICHQ Board of Directors Welcomes Two New Members.”

Larry Bailis was interviewed in The Justice’s Oct. 24, 2016, article “Views on the News: Question 2.”

Lisa Dodson, PhD’93, co-authored the article “Moms Say, ‘Don’t Make Policy About Us, Without Us!’” published in The Huffington Post on Aug. 11, 2016.

Lisa Dodson was interviewed in WalletHub’s Dec. 14, 2016, article “2016’s Neediest Cities.”

The Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy’s diversitydatakids.org project was referenced in NextCity’s July 20, 2016, article “Measuring Childhood Inequity and Opportunity in U.S. Cities.”

The Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy’s diversitydatakids.org project was referenced in The Boston Globe’s Sept. 2, 2016, article “In Greater Boston, a Lopsided Geography of Affordable Housing.”

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND COEXISTENCE

Mari Fitzduff’s article “What Does Neuroscience Have to Offer Peacebuilders?” was published in Sustainable Security on Sept. 12, 2016.


Alain Lempereur’s article “Stopping the Russian Roulette Against Democracy” was published by The Huffington Post on Aug. 23, 2016.

DISABILITIES

Laura Lorenz, PhD’08, was profiled in “Laura Lorenz: Turning Point,” for Bowdoin Magazine’s Spring/Summer 2016 issue.

The Lurie Institute for Disability Policy was featured in BrandeisNOW’s Aug. 30, 2016, article “Lurie Institute for Disability Policy Spotlights Health Care Inequities for Women With Intellectual Disabilities.”

The Lurie Institute for Disability Policy’s article “New Center to Support Parents With Disabilities, Address Systemic Discrimination” was published by The Mighty on Oct. 5, 2016.

Monika Mitra was cited in the following publications:

» In The Indian Express’ Sept. 26, 2016, article “Deaf Women May Have Pre-Term or Low-Birth-Weight Babies.”

» In Medical News Today's Sept. 26, 2016, article “Pre-Term, Low-Birth-Weight Babies More Likely for Women With Hearing Loss.”

» In Health and More's Sept. 27, 2016, article “Pre-Term, Low-Birth-Weight Babies More Likely for Women With Hearing Loss.”

» In Science World Report’s Sept. 28, 2016, article “Women With Hearing Loss May Likely Give Birth to Pre-Term or Low-Birth-Weight Babies.”

» In Lasvegashears.com’s Oct. 9, 2016, article “Babies Born to Moms With Hearing Loss More Likely to Be Premature.”

Susan Parish was quoted in the following:


» In The Daily Item’s Nov. 27, 2016, article “‘Devastating,’ ‘Sad’ to See Challenges Faced by Some Families.”

EDUCATION

Krystal Hope was published in a NAGAP Perspectives Summer 2016 article “Data Segmentation for Graduate Enrollment: No Two Students and No Two Degrees Are the Same.”

ENVIRONMENT

Eric Olson was interviewed on NPR’s Science Friday’s Nov. 4, 2016, segment “Leap Into the World of Jumping Spiders.”

HEALTH

Stuart Altman was quoted in the following:

» In The Boston Globe’s Aug. 28, 2016, article “Mass. Budget Gap Has No Easy Fixes.”

» In HealthLeaders Media’s Sept. 15, 2016, article “Cost Control Efforts Working ‘So Far’ in Mass.”

» In HealthLeaders Media’s Sept. 22, 2016, article “To Slow Costs, Slow Revenue, Says Health Care Economist.”
FROM TOP LEFT
» DISCUSSION DURING THE SIDNEY TOPOL LECTURE IN NONVIOLENCE
» CRISTINA ESPINOSA
» HELLER EMBA STUDENTS
» LEAH SAKALA, MBA/MPP’16
» TED JOHNSON
» A.K. NANDAKUMAR
» CommonWealth Magazine’s Sept. 27, 2016, article “Health Panel Raises Concern on Children’s Expansion.”

» The Boston Herald’s Sept. 28, 2016, article “Watchdog: Children’s Hospital Expansion to Hike Patients’ Costs.”

» The Sentinel & Enterprise News’ article “Providers Challenged to Deliver Quality Care for Less.”

» The Boston Globe’s Nov. 2, 2016, article “At End of Life in Mass., Hospital Care Is Big Cost.”

Stuart Altman was interviewed for the following:

» NECN’s Oct. 3, 2016, show “Boston Children’s Hospital Expansion Concerns.”


Michael Doonan, PhD’02, was interviewed for WalletHub’s Oct. 4, 2016, article “2016’s State Uninsured Rates: Ask the Expert.”

A.K. Nandakumar was a participant on C-SPAN’s Nov. 28, 2016, panel “Global AIDS and HIV Funding and Research.”

Donald Shepard was quoted in the following:

» In Money Morning’s July 19, 2016, article “Zika Virus Spreads to NYC, About to Cost U.S. This Shocking Amount.”

» In The Hindustan Times’ Sept. 12, 2016, article “To Fight Dengue, We Must Come Out of Denial.”

Cynthia Tschampi, PhD’15, was quoted in Stat News’ Oct. 18, 2016, article “Night Sweats, Bloody Cough — and a Diagnosis That Turned a Doctor Into an Activist.”

Darren Zinner and Robert Mechanic were cited in a Council of Accountable Physician Practices 2016 article “New Brandeis Study: Medical Groups That Take on Risk Show Success in Quality, Care Management.”

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Joseph Assan was interviewed in Boston Network for International Development’s Nov. 6, 2016, article “Interview With Professor Joseph Assan From the Heller School at Brandeis University.”

Joan Dassin ’69 was cited in Inside Higher Ed’s Dec. 9, 2016, article “An $825 Million Private Scholarship Program.”

Ricardo Godoy’s research was cited in The Atlantic’s July 13, 2016, article “The Surprising Musical Preferences of an Amazon Tribe” and BrandeisNOW’s July 14, 2016, article “Why Do You Like Certain Music?” He was also quoted in The Boston Globe’s July 13, 2016, article “How Is Your Taste in Music Formed?”

Rajesh Sampath was published in The Justice’s Sept. 1, 2016, article “Views on the News: Gandhi.”

Rajesh Sampath wrote a response to the article “Should Prostitution Be Legal?” in Wallethub, Sept. 1, 2016.

MANAGEMENT


Jody Hoffer Gittell was interviewed for The Huffington Post’s Sept. 15, 2016, article “Three Ways to Work Better Together.”

Jody Hoffer Gittell’s article “Relational Coordination Offers Seven Principles to Connect Across Roles at Work,” was published in The Huffington Post on Sept. 26, 2016.


PHILANTHROPY

Sheryl Seller ’11, MA’13, authored The Huffington Post’s Sept. 9, 2016, article “Refugee Resettlement and Integration: Can Philanthropy Step into the Breach?”
SOCIAL POLICY


Susan Eaton was cited in Yes! Magazine's Sept. 15, 2016, article “Sorry, Trump: So Many Reasons to Welcome Immigrants.”

Anita Hill was cited in Philly.com's July 4, 2016, article “Quarter-Century After Thomas Hearing, Anita Hill Fights on Against Harassment.”

Anita Hill was interviewed for the following:
» NPR Morning Edition's Aug. 10, 2016, show “Anita Hill: We’ve Come a Long Way Since Then.”

Anita Hill’s op-ed “What We Can Still Learn From Sexual Harassment” was published in The Boston Globe on Oct. 11, 2016.

Anita Hill’s keynote address at the Massachusetts Conference for Women was covered in a Dec. 8, 2016, Boston Magazine article.

Robert Kuttner published the following pieces in Alternet:
» Nov. 3, 2016, “Could Anthony Weiner’s Mis-haps and Personal Disasters End up Electing Donald Trump?"

Robert Kuttner published the following pieces in The American Prospect:
» July 1, 2016 (co-author), “Q&A: Trump’s Deceptive Trade Stance.”
» Aug. 2, 2016, “Glass Ceiling and Class Ceiling: Can Hillary Smash Both?”
» Oct. 18, 2016, “Why the Election Isn’t Quite Locked.”

Robert Kuttner's op-ed “Are We Stuck With Inequality?” was published in The Boston Globe on Dec. 15, 2016.


Laurie Nsiah-Jefferson ’80, PhD’06, was quoted in The Harvard Gazette’s Oct. 31, 2016, article “Intersectionality: The Many Layers of an Individual.”

Laurence Simon authored the American Jewish World Service Blog's July 12, 2016, article “AJWS Founder Laurence Simon Remembers Elie Wiesel.”
Rachel Sayko Adams, PhD’13, was appointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation.*

Rachel Sayko Adams is serving on the International Planning Committee for the 12th World Congress on Brain Injury, to be held in New Orleans March 29-April 1, 2017.

Joan Dassin ’69 was appointed to the External Advisory Committee of the MSc in International Health and Tropical Medicine, Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford, U.K.

Joan Dassin has been selected as a reviewer for the Open Society Foundation’s Civil Society Leadership Awards and as a reviewer for the Schwarzman Scholars Program.

Joan Dassin was a reviewer for an article titled “How International Scholarship Recipients Contribute to the Development of Their Home Countries: Findings From a Comparative Study of Georgia and Moldova,” to be published in the *International Journal of Educational Development.*

Joan Dassin was named as a guest member on the dissertation proposal committee for Budi Waluyo, a PhD student in the Department of Comparative and International Education, College of Education, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa.

Joan Dassin was appointed to the Faculty Advisory Committee of the Ethics Center at Brandeis University.

Jody Hoffer Gittell was appointed chair of the Strategic Planning Committee for the Board of Trustees, New Hampshire Endowment for Health.

Constance Horgan was appointed to the Board of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum. She was also re-appointed to the National Quality Forum’s Behavioral Health Standing Committee.

Della Hughes was named a peer reviewer for *Foundation Review.*

Tatjana Meschede was selected as a mentor for the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders change leadership program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2016-19.

Thomas Shapiro was awarded the 2016 Assets and Opportunity Award by the Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED). This award was given in recognition of his work with Melvin Oliver on their book “Black Wealth/White Wealth: A New Perspective on Racial Inequality” (New York: Routledge, 2006). The award was presented at the 2016 Assets Learning Conference, Sept. 28, 2016, in Washington, D.C.

Donald Shepard was named a fellow of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in November 2016.

The prime minister of Sri Lanka, the Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, appointed Laurence Simon to a six-person working group to develop a plan for a new university of engineering. The charter for the working group calls for the proposed university to take advantage of modern innovations of pedagogy and educational technology to revolutionize how to deliver cost-effective elite engineering education in a mid-income country without compromising quality. The working group is designing a problem-centered, interdisciplinary curriculum organized around teams of students led by renowned research faculty. The Prime Minister’s Office will host an international symposium later in 2017 to discuss the working group’s recommendations.

Wu Zeng, MS’05, PhD’09, was recognized for his Excellent Contribution to the peer review process of the journal Health Policy and Planning, published by the Oxford University Press, Oxford, U.K.
The Brandeis Education Action Research Collaborative was established in September 2016 by Heller faculty members Jody Hoffer Gittell, Susan Eaton and Dolores Acevedo-Garcia, as well as Marya Levenson, director of the Brandeis Education Program, with support from Heller PhD candidates Cady Landa and Joanna Taylor and Associate Provost Ed Hackett. The collaborative supports education research by Brandeis faculty and students and supports the translation of that research into policy and practice.

The Conflict Resolution and Coexistence Program held its second Topol Lecture in November 2016. Sheila H. Katz ’73, professor at Berklee College of Music, spoke on “A Century of Israeli and Palestinian Joint Nonviolence.”

The Council on Health Care Economics and Policy held its annual Princeton Conference at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Princeton, N.J., in May 2016. The topic was “Where Is the U.S. Health Care System Going: Can We Improve Value?” More than 100 health care industry leaders, academic experts and policymakers attended to discuss issues and challenges facing the U.S. health care system. Participants explored current contexts and debated subject areas in order to draw conclusions and develop recommendations for health policy and decision-making efforts. A post-meeting conference report documents the discussions and resolutions and aims to inform additional stakeholders and the general public through dissemination and internet postings. The council is chaired by Stuart Altman, Sol C. Chaikin Professor of National Health Policy, and directed by Michael Doonan, PhD’02, associate professor and director of the Heller Master of Public Policy Program.

Susan P. Curnan convened the first Faculty Senate Leaders Think Tank for New England college and university senate presidents and held two of four sessions at Brandeis in fall 2016. Two more sessions are to come in spring 2017. These meetings are part of an annual series supported by membership fees. Confidential sessions have focused on free expression on campus and the role of faculty governance.

Joan Dassin ’69, under a grant from the Ford Foundation, convened an authors’ workshop for an upcoming book titled “International Scholarships in Higher Education: Pathways for Social Change.” The two-and-a-half-day meeting was held at the International House at Columbia University in New York, N.Y., from Sept. 30 to Oct. 2, 2016. Twenty-two participants from the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the U.K., the Netherlands, Australia, India and Kenya attended, including nearly all contributors to the volume as well as several guest experts with substantial experience in international scholarships.
Over the course of the meeting, participants presented their individual chapters, discussed the contributions of other authors in their respective book sections and reflected on the broad themes unifying the volume as a whole. They also discussed dissemination strategies and the practical details for finalizing and submitting the manuscript, which will be submitted to Palgrave Macmillan later in 2017.

The Health Industry Forum presented “Outcome-Based Contracts for Pharmaceutical Products: Opportunities and Challenges” in Washington, D.C., in September 2016. Public and private purchasers are expanding the use of payment models that emphasize value rather than volume of services, and they are now starting to experiment with value-based arrangements for pharmaceutical products. In the past year, payers and pharmaceutical firms have announced arrangements where payments will be linked to outcomes of treatments for high cholesterol, heart failure and diabetes. This roundtable brought together 25-30 leaders from health plans, pharmaceutical firms and the policy community to discuss the objectives, approach and structure of recent value-based contracts. The group reviewed outcomes of longer-standing arrangements. The session concluded with a discussion of challenges facing these types of arrangements, potential solutions, and the future outlook for wider use of value-based contracting in the pharmaceutical arena. The Forum is chaired by Stuart Altman, Sol C. Chaikin Professor of National Health Policy, and directed by Robert Mechanic, senior fellow, both from the Schneider Institutes for Health Policy at the Heller School.

The Health Industry Forum presented “Future Scenarios for U.S. Physician Practice Under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA)” in Washington, D.C., in October 2016. This event reviewed the major trends affecting physician practices over the past decade. It then discussed future directions in three specific clinical domains: primary care, oncology and surgery. Finally, it discussed directions for policy to help ensure that medical practice remains attractive and that physicians are invested in creating a high performing U.S. health care system.

The Lurie Institute for Disability Policy held its annual Distinguished Lecture on Nov. 29, 2016, featuring guest speaker Rosalind W. Picard, ScD, FIEEE. Picard’s speech was titled “Adventures in Developing Technology for Autism.”

On Oct. 6, 2016, the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum held a forum titled “Integrating Oral Health Into Accountable Care Organizations.” It focused on the inclusion of oral health care into integrated health care delivery and financing systems. Oral health integration has the potential to improve health outcomes and generate cost savings. Particular attention was paid to the integration of oral health services into Medicaid ACOs, alternative payment arrangements, and innovations in the private and nonprofit health insurance markets. This work was supported in part by Health Care for All. The Massachusetts Health Policy Forum is directed by Michael Doonan, PhD’02, associate professor and director of the Heller Master of Public Policy Program.

On Nov. 29, 2016, the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum held a forum titled “Impact of the 2016 Presidential Election on Health Policy.” Over 220 legislators, stakeholders and members of the public convened at the Omni Parker House in Boston. The event featured a presentation on exit polling results by Robert Blendon, professor of health policy and political analysis at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. In addition, Philip W. Johnston, chair of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum and former chair of the Massachusetts State Democratic Party, and State Representative Geoffrey G. Diehl (R-7th Plymouth District, Mass.) discussed what we might expect from the new administration.

The Relational Coordination Research Collaborative held its seventh Annual Roundtable, titled “Transforming Relationships for High Performance,” in October 2016 at Kaiser Permanente in Portland, Ore.

The Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy held a screening and discussion of the film “Holding Ground: The Rebirth of Dudley Street” at the Heller School on Oct. 6, 2016.


The Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy and Youth Philanthropy Connect co-sponsored the Northeast Youth Philanthropy Gathering, which was held on Nov. 20, 2016, on the Brandeis University campus in Waltham, Mass.
Shameful Care at Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities

PhD student Morgan Shields’ research seeks to uncover abusive practices and advocate for more robust surveillance systems
Over the last 50 years, inpatient psychiatric facilities have seen dramatic shifts away from institutionalization, dropping from 340 psychiatric hospital beds per 100,000 U.S. citizens to just 17. In Massachusetts alone, at least 30 state hospitals, sanitariums and state schools closed. Yet many psychiatric facilities still exist, begging the question: What is the experience like for the thousands who receive treatment in these facilities today?

Morgan Shields, a Heller School PhD student, has begun to piece together data about inpatient psychiatric care from a variety of sources, but there’s very little to analyze.

“There is no national surveillance system of inpatient psychiatric facilities,” says Shields. “It’s disturbing how little we know because it inhibits our ability to improve care, appropriately regulate facilities and ensure the safety and well-being of consumers.

“Outside of interviewing a large number of individuals, news articles are our best source of data on incidents of consumer harm. A media analysis can give us a broad idea of the worst cases — the ones that made it into the news.”

In her media analysis, Shields found harrowing accounts of oppression, abuse and neglect. In Jackson, Miss., individuals were admitted without screenings and kept there for years. In Pembroke Pines, Fla., youth were restrained physically and chemically for being annoying to staff, were sexually assaulted by staff and were overmedicated. In Houston, a man diagnosed with bipolar disorder was shocked with a Taser, shot and handcuffed by security guards in response to non-violent, manic behavior. The list goes on.

The closest thing to national standardized data collection for inpatient psychiatric facilities is a set of measures collected by The Joint Commission (TJC), the federal accrediting body for hospitals. When Shields analyzed this data, the performance of Veterans’ Affairs (VA) hospitals quickly stood out. TJC’s 2014 data showed that VA hospitals perform poorly when compared to for-profit, nonprofit and other government facilities. For example, at VA hospitals, just 61 percent of patients receive an admission screening, well below the national average of 90 percent. The national average for appropriately justifying discharge on multiple antipsychotic medications is 53 percent, but for the VA it’s just 39 percent. Only 56 percent of VA consumers received a continuing care plan upon discharge, compared to 88 percent nationally.

“These are very basic quality measures,” says Shields. “Every facility should be doing great on these measures, and even if they are, that still would not mean that they are providing high-quality care. That’s how basic these measures are. And for hospitals that perform poorly on these measures? Yikes.”

Top leaders from the VA headquarters in Washington, D.C., read TJC’s data study and contacted Shields and her coauthor Meredith Rosenthal to discuss their findings. “They told us they’ve taken swift action, and that they’re looking into ways to improve quality and measurement,” she says.

Part of Shields’ motivation to do this research is to provoke a national conversation about quality of inpatient psychiatric care. “People are dying, people are being abused and sexually assaulted, especially youth, and I don’t hear anyone really talking about it,” says Shields. “This is actually a huge problem. I hear lots of people complaining about access to care, arguing for more beds, saying we have to get people off the streets. Fixing this is not as simple as adding some beds.”

By Bethany Romano, MBA’17
**PUBLICATIONS**


**PRESENTATIONS**


Prathap Balakrishnan, MA SID’17, co-authored an Aug. 11, 2016, piece in Medium, titled “Spearheading a Survey of Caste in South Asian Diasporas.”


Timothy Creedon, PhD candidate, was featured in The Atlantic’s Aug. 4, 2016, article, “Obamacare Is Making Mental-Health Care Better for Some.”


Michael Kahnowitz, MPP’16, published a Nov. 4, 2016, piece in The Huffington Post, titled “The Simplest in Health Insurance, Coming to a Store Near You.”
Morgan C. Shields, PhD student, was interviewed about her research in a Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health News piece titled “VA Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals Fall Short on Quality Measures,” Nov. 1, 2016.


Caroline Swaller, MPP/MA WGS’17, published a piece titled “The Mommy Economy: The United States Hasn’t Broken Down the Gendered Division of Labor; We’ve Globalized It and Hidden It” in The Huffington Post on Dec. 5, 2016.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Timothy Creedon, PhD candidate, received a two-year award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to further his work on his dissertation, “Effects of Parity Legislation on Access to Drug, Alcohol and Mental Health Treatment.”

Cecilia Flores, PhD student, was awarded the 2016 Trailblazer Award by Fenway Health at the 18th Annual Audre Lorde Cancer Awareness Brunch in Boston on Oct. 22, 2016.

Robyn Powell received the 2016 Women’s Caucus Award from the National Council on Independent Living.

A paper by Lakshmi Rajagopalan, MA SID’17, titled “Integrating Climate Adaptation in Urban Development and Infrastructure Planning in Indian Cities: Urban Flood Vulnerability and Responsibility in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India,” has been selected for publication by a panel of reviewers representing Cities Alliance, International Housing Coalition Global, USAID, the Woodrow Wilson Center and the World Bank. The paper stood out to reviewers in a very competitive process among many strong submissions to the 2016 Reducing Urban Poverty – Graduate Student Paper Competition, and will be published by the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C., as part of its Urban Sustainability Laboratory Program in early 2017.
The center will support parents with disabilities and those who engage with them through research, training and tools, including two web portals with resources in English and Spanish.

HEALTH

Diana Bowser (PI) “Develop a Business Plan for a Cardiac Care Center in Rwanda”; Funder: Team Heart

This project will use the results of Brandeis’ Health Systems Feasibility Study and collect additional data and information for the business plan for a cardiac care center in Rwanda.

Diana Bowser (PI) “Health System Strengthening and Oncology Care in Egypt, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Oman”; Funder: Roche Pharmaceuticals; subcontract to Brandeis from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

The work plan focuses on a health system assessment of oncology care in six East Mediterranean countries: Egypt, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Oman. The aim is to establish how breast cancer is managed within these six health systems.

Palmira Santos (PI), Kristen Faughnan “Oncology Care Model Learning System”; Funder: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

The Oncology Care Model aims to provide higher quality, more highly coordinated oncology care at the same or lower cost to Medicare. The project team will evaluate oncology care practices and cancer centers to determine best practices in improving patient outcomes, including receiving evidenced-based treatment and addressing patient barriers to care.

Palmira Santos (PI), Natalie Moresco, Joanne Beswick, Kristen Faughnan “Comprehensive Primary Care Plus Initiative — National Learning Network”; Funder: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) is a national advanced primary care medical home model that aims to strengthen primary care. The researchers will conduct reviews and evaluation to develop a national spotlight series on best practices and pitfalls in transforming the nation’s primary care delivery system. The team will also lead affinity groups made up of CPC+ practices developing population health analysis using their electronic medical record and registries.
WHAT’S NEXT?

Social Policy in the Age of Trump

Heller’s *Huffington Post* account features an op-ed series in which each academic program responds to the new presidential administration’s policy agenda.

Learn more at huffingtonpost.com/the-heller-school-/