



Spring 2016

THE
HELLER
SOCIAL
POLICY
IMPACT
REPORT

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THE HELLER SOCIAL POLICY IMPACT REPORT

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Welcome to the Heller Social Policy Impact Report

We are absolutely delighted to share this second issue of the Heller Social Policy Impact Report. As you will see in the pages that follow, Heller researchers are engaged in a flurry of initiatives to change policies, practices and systems of care in the U.S. and beyond. Every page is alive with the passionate commitment of Heller faculty, scientists and students to advance social justice.

The following data points will give you a sense of the depth and breadth of our research activities.

- » Despite our relatively small size within Brandeis University, Heller funding constitutes 30 percent of the university's sponsored research.
- » Our work has a local-to-global reach. We have active projects in our Waltham backyard, across the United States and in 19 other nations.
- » Last fiscal year, we ran 175 active projects, which generated more than \$85 million in multiyear external funding.
- » We operate in a highly challenging and competitive environment. In addition to competing with other research universities, Heller School researchers also compete (and collaborate) with think tanks and private research firms in the U.S. and elsewhere. Heller researchers are highly entrepreneurial.
- » Maintaining this portfolio is challenging, but Heller School researchers are up for it. Projects are often of short duration, and new proposals are constantly developed and submitted. In the last fiscal year, about one-third of projects were for less than a year.
- » Research is tightly intertwined with our educational mission. Nearly all Heller researchers teach and mentor students, particularly in the doctoral program. We have two federal training grants for PhD students — one in alcohol and substance abuse and another in health services research. We also have a new federally funded postdoctoral training program in disability-based health disparities.

We hope you enjoy this closer look at the fine work being done at the Heller School. We welcome your ideas and engagement.

Sincerely,

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An Apple a Day

PhD student Rajan Sonik shows that increases in food stamps decreased health care spending



What if doctors, faced with chronically hungry or malnourished patients, could prescribe nutritious food? Poor diets result in poor health: People who are food insecure are more likely to develop health problems. They also incur greater health care costs due to frequent trips to the doctor, pharmacy and hospital.

Second-year PhD student Rajan Sonik took this connection between food insecurity and health care costs a step further. Theoretically, he proposed, you could decrease health care costs (such as hospital admissions) by suddenly increasing the amount of food available to poor families.

Fortunately for Sonik, he got a chance to test his theory. In April 2009, the federal government dramatically increased funding for SNAP — the supplemental nutrition assistance program formerly known as food stamps — as part of the stimulus package following the 2008 financial crisis. The maximum benefit level for SNAP recipients rose 13.6 percent.

In a study published in the *American Journal of Public Health* in March 2016, Sonik compared cost trends for inpatient hospital visits among Medicaid recipients in Massachusetts before and after the SNAP expansion, from 2006 through 2012. To differentiate fluctuations that are due to health care cost inflation, Sonik broke down monthly hospital cost data by number of admissions, average length of stay and average cost per day.

Sonik noted that, until April 2009, health care costs were rising by about .55 percentage points per month, “which,” he says, “makes sense given the recession, which for many families meant food insecurity increased and health decreased. After the SNAP increases went into effect, health care costs were rising by only .15 percentage points per month, which is a 73 percent decline — highly statistically significant.”

These findings suggest that an investment in SNAP reduces food insecurity, resulting in improved health for beneficiaries while also providing health care cost savings.

Sonik, who advocated for children with sickle cell disease as a legal aid attorney prior to enrolling at Heller, took the study a step further. He isolated the data for patients with certain chronic illnesses: sickle cell disease, cystic fibrosis, asthma, diabetes, malnutrition and inflammatory bowel disease.

“I compared health care costs for these patients to the regular Medicaid population and found their health care costs were increasing rapidly prior to the SNAP increase, which makes sense since they are more vulnerable to food insecurity-based health concerns,” said Sonik. “But after their SNAP benefits increased, their health care costs actually *declined*.”

Of his findings, Sonik says, “There are a couple of different ways to look at it. At least some people who received extra SNAP benefits experienced a positive change in their health. That implies that at least some of that money reduced their food insecurity. If they had already been receiving too many SNAP dollars — which is commonly debated — or if they already had enough, we wouldn’t have seen an effect on health care costs.” In other words, Medicaid cost savings at least partially offset the increased federal SNAP spending.

Whether or not those cost savings completely neutralized the costs of those extra benefits remains unknown. “We don’t know yet whether it’s cost-effective,” says Sonik. “But at least we can say that it partially offset SNAP expansion costs, and that it’s likely even more economical for people with specific chronic illnesses or disabilities.”

A growing body of evidence suggests that social inequalities affect health disparities. “Health disparities cost a lot of money,” says Sonik. “If we’re looking at practical ways to push policymakers to make changes for families living in poverty, this type of evidence can be very powerful.”

By *Bethany Romano*

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Taking the Lead on the Family
and Medical Leave Act



Since 1993, the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) has guaranteed unpaid job-protected leave for eligible workers who need to take time off to recover from an illness, or to care for a sick family member or a new baby.

But the law has its shortcomings. Many employees are exempt, and taking time off without getting paid simply isn't an option for some of those who do qualify. Questions about expanding the policy are now at the forefront, both in state legislatures and on the presidential campaign trail.

Alison Earle, Kimberly Geronimo, Pamela Joshi, PhD'or, and Dolores Acevedo-Garcia of Heller's Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy (ICYFP) were recently recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor for their work to better understand the

FMLA as it pertains to working parents. They received the Lawrence R. Klein Award for a paper published in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' *Monthly Labor Review* that looks at how job characteristics for working parents differ based on race, ethnicity and nativity. While in Washington, D.C., to receive the award, the team had the opportunity to discuss its findings with several federal agencies and organizations, and Earle also later testified at a Massachusetts State House hearing on pending paid family and medical leave legislation.

The Heller researchers believe FMLA's effectiveness is hampered by two main constraints. The first problem, they say, is that only 60 percent of workers and just half of working parents are eligible for job-protected leave. The second is that FMLA leave is unpaid. Many workers, especially low-wage earners, often can't afford to take unpaid time off.

Among all working parents, just 40 percent are both eligible for FMLA leave and can potentially afford to take it.

Variations in FMLA eligibility for working parents differ widely by race, ethnicity and country of origin. For example, only 40 percent of Hispanic parents are eligible; however, that figure rises to 52 percent when only U.S.-born Hispanic working parents are included; just 37 percent of foreign-born Hispanic working parents are eligible.

Joshi, Earle and Geronimo say that modifications to FMLA eligibility criteria have the potential to reduce such access disparities

“Among all working parents, just 40% are both eligible for FMLA leave and can potentially afford to take it.”

to unpaid leave. Currently, FMLA eligibility criteria require that workers be employed at a firm with at least 50 employees, have worked at least 12 months for that firm and have worked at least 1,250 hours during the past 12 months.

Including smaller firms or reducing tenure requirements would allow the FMLA to cover more employees like Hispanics, who are most likely to work in small businesses and, if they are born outside of the U.S., may work seasonally or have not been in the country long enough to fulfill the 12-month tenure requirement.

Additionally, given that low-wage earners who can't afford unpaid leave are disproportionately black or Hispanic, the ICYFP team says that providing wage replacement during the leave would go a long way toward closing the gap between those who can and can't take advantage of this important legislation.

AGING

Susan Lanspery (PI) “Martha’s Vineyard Healthy Aging Survey”; Funder: Martha’s Vineyard Donors Collaborative

The goal of this project is to assist the Martha’s Vineyard Healthy Aging Task Force (HATF) to document the situations and needs of Martha’s Vineyard residents age 65 and over so that HATF can plan more effectively for an “age-friendly” island — an important issue since the Vineyard’s population is disproportionately elderly.

ASSETS AND INEQUALITIES

Tatjana Meschede (PI) “Evaluation of the Massachusetts Secure Jobs Initiative, Phase 3”; Funder: The Paul and Phyllis Fireman Charitable Foundation

This project builds on Phases 1 and 2 of the Secure Jobs Initiative, evaluating employment and housing outcomes for homeless families who are participating in this Workforce Development Initiative.

Jessica Santos (PI) “Implementing the Culturally Effective Organization Framework at Manchester (NH) Community Health Center”; Funder: Endowment for Health

This is the second round of funding to support research examining workforce innovation for vulnerable populations.

Thomas Shapiro (PI) “Assets Evaluation and Data Collection Project”; Funder: Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

This grant provides funding to help assess the foundation’s strategic investment in children’s savings accounts to improve chances of economic mobility for millions of low- and moderate-income children.

Thomas Shapiro (PI) “The Racial Wealth Audit: Positioning a Strategic Policy Tool for Racial Equality”; Funder: Levi Strauss Foundation

This grant supports research on the effects of various policy decisions on the racial wealth gap.

Thomas Shapiro (PI) “Support Use of the Racial Wealth Audit on Policies for the Foundation’s Asset Policy Publication”; Funder: Annie E. Casey Foundation

This grant supports research on the effects of various policy decisions on the racial wealth gap.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Diana Bowser (PI) “KIIDS: Knowing About Intervention Implementation in Detention Sites”; Funder: National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA); subcontract to Brandeis from the University of Miami

The Schneider Institutes for Health Policy at the Heller School and Emory University are collaborating on this project in order to develop a protocol for an economic analysis of the centers included in the NIDA-funded Juvenile Justice Translational Research on Interventions for Adolescents in the Legal System (JJ-TRIALS). The goal of this project is to leverage existing data collection efforts under the main trial (JJ-TRIALS) to collect complementary cost data that will ultimately allow the researchers to calculate total intervention costs, the cost per implementation phase, and the average cost (per child) to meet implementation goals along the behavioral health cascade (e.g., completing an evidence-based screener or successfully linking to recommended treatment). The research and analysis will be undertaken within collaborating sites in Mississippi and Georgia.

Mary F. Brolin (PI), Ruslan Nikitin “Evaluation of the Massachusetts Project Peer Connection”; Funder: Bureau of Justice Assistance; subcontract to Brandeis from Spectrum Health Systems Inc.

Project Peer Connection is a statewide re-entry mentoring program designed specifically to address service gaps as offenders transition from prison back to the community. The researchers’ evaluation will monitor implementation and outcomes to learn about best practices that work for Spectrum and the Department of Correction specifically and for Massachusetts more generally.

Mary F. Brolin (PI), Maggie Giles “Evaluation of the Massachusetts Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration”; Funder: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

The Massachusetts State Youth Treatment Implementation Project aims to enhance statewide infrastructure and interagency collaborations to achieve needed policy and system changes to improve substance use disorder treatment for transition-age youth 16 to 25 years old; and establish evidence-based practices and Medication-Assisted Treatment in four underserved communities. The evaluation will assess both components using a variety of quantitative and qualitative methods.

Mary F. Brolin (PI), Carol Probst “Evaluation of ReImagine North of Main”; Funder: The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts; subcontract to Brandeis from Montachusett Opportunity Council

ReImagine North of Main (Fitchburg, Mass.) is a partnership — of local businesses, government, nonprofits and residents — committed to working together and dedicated to improving the quality of life in their neighborhood. This evaluation will assess how well they achieve their goals of improving the quality of life, economic development, education, housing, resident self-sufficiency and resident engagement in the area.



MARY BROLIN, PHD'05 (SEE RELATED STORY ON PAGE 16)

Deborah Garnick (PI), Constance Horgan, Cindy Thomas, Andrea Acevedo, Margaret Lee, Amity Quinn “Quality Measure Development: Dual Enrollees, Managed Long-Term Services and Supports, and Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Programs”; Funder: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Heller School researchers are collaborating with Mathematica Policy Research (project prime), the American Medical Association, Brandeis University, the National Committee for Quality Assurance and Truven Health Analytics on a contract from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to develop measures for the following populations of Medicaid beneficiaries. The Brandeis team is focused on measures for people with substance use disorders, and the broader project also addresses other populations, including beneficiaries with complex needs, physical and mental health conditions, or who receive long-term services and supports in the community, corresponding to the priority areas of the Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program.

Meelee Kim (PI), Carol Probst “YAYA HIV Substance Abuse Evaluation”; Funder: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

The Youth and Young Adult (YAYA) Action Project is a five-year project funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s

Minority AIDS Initiative. The overall goal of the YAYA project is to reduce new HIV infections, reduce HIV-related disparities and health inequities, and increase access to prevention services among ethnic minority youth and young adults, ages 13-24, in and around Somerville, Mass.

Peter Kreiner (PI), Cindy Thomas, Erin Doyle

“Analysis of Buprenorphine-Waivered Physician Prescribing Patterns, Phase 1”; Funder: Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation; subcontract to Brandeis from RAND Corporation

An important national policy debate involves whether to expand the patient limits for physicians authorized (waivered) to prescribe buprenorphine for medically assisted opioid abuse treatment. Phase 1 of this project is to analyze buprenorphine prescribing patterns within data from our prescription behavior surveillance system (PBSS) project to inform this policy debate.

Peter Kreiner (PI), Tom Clark, Meelee Kim

“Technical Assistance for CDC Prevention for States Grantees”; Funder: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; subcontract to Brandeis from Association for State and Territorial Health Officials

The project team will provide two site visits and three webinars to grantee states involved in optimizing their prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs). Site visits and webinars will focus on PDMP best practices and use of the PBSS measures for tracking progress.

Peter Kreiner (PI), Lee Panas, Gail Strickler

“Validation Studies of PBSS Patient Risk Indicators, Phases 1 and 2”; Funder: Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation; subcontract to Brandeis from RAND Corporation

The PBSS project includes a number of patient risk indicators thought to reflect controlled substance misuse, abuse or diversion. These projects will first identify states willing to partner on linking PDMP data with outcome data such as deaths, hospitalizations, ER visits, Medicaid claims, treatment admissions and/or criminal justice, for the purpose of assessing the association of the risk indicators with these outcomes. Phase 2 is to carry out the validation studies with states willing to partner.

Mary Jo Larson (PI), Margot Davis “Homeless Individuals — Services in Supportive Housing”; Funder: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; subcontract to Brandeis from South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC)

SMOC is offering a behavioral health and homeless integration program to 150 chronically homeless

adults, based on enhanced service capacity to provide addiction and mental health treatment and recovery services. The evaluators are conducting secondary analyses of data on case management and treatment services provided, as well as assessments of changes in client functioning.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Dolores Acevedo-Garcia, Erin Hardy (Co-PIs), Pamela Joshi “Child-Focused Community Profiles of W.K. Kellogg Foundation Priority Areas”; Funder: W.K. Kellogg Foundation

The team will develop indicators related to child well-being and racial/ethnic equity in three topic areas (education, health and family economic security) for children in the W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s priority geographic areas. The foundation’s Planning, Evaluation and Research division will use the indicators and accompanying data dashboards to inform research and evaluation efforts and to help assess and guide foundation investments.

Susan P. Curnan (PI) “District Level Systems Change in Public Education in New England”; Funder: Nellie Mae Education Foundation

This grant is for the second of two phases of work with seven school districts engaged in a multiyear, district-wide school reform effort (focused on student-centered learning) funded by the Nellie Mae Education Foundation. In Phase 1, Center for Youth and Communities (CYC) staff helped the foundation develop student-level and systems-level logic models and facilitated the districts’ logic models and engagement strategies. Phase 2 includes coordinating technical assistance and evaluation efforts; facilitating district-level task forces; and synthesizing and analyzing data to assess the initiative.

Alan Melchior (PI) “Evaluation of ‘Empowering Libraries as STEM Resource Centers in their Communities’”; Funder: Cornerstones of Science; subcontract to Brandeis from U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Science

CYC is evaluating a multistate initiative to increase the capacity of public libraries to serve as STEM resource centers for their communities. The project includes state library agencies from several New England states and local pilot libraries in Maine and Massachusetts.

Lindsay Rosenfeld (PI) “PREPARED Study: Parents Responding, Engaging and Participating for New Environments for Children with Disabilities”; Funder: American Occupational Therapy Foundation

The PREPARED study explores critical thinking strategies that parents of young children use to be effective, lifelong advocates for physical, social and service environments that meet their children's needs. The focus is on the physical, social and policy environments that foster inclusion and engagement, rather than the child's disability. This exploratory study examines how parents tackle the barriers their children may encounter during participation in everyday activities at home, school and in the community. These conversations will inform the design of a new program to teach parents to identify and resolve environmental barriers to their child's involvement in valued activities at home, school, or in the community.

DISABILITIES

Susan Parish (PI) "Advanced Rehabilitation Research Training (Postdoctoral) Program on Health and Functioning of People With Disabilities"; Funder: Administration for Community Living/U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The Lurie Institute received a five-year grant to support its disability policy postdoctoral research fellowship program. Fellows will work on the intersections of disability and health.

Marji Erickson Warfield (PI) "Strategies to Enhance Initial Adult Care Visits for Transitioning Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders"; Funder: Maternal and Child Health Bureau

The goal of this study is to work with pediatric practices in Massachusetts Community Health Centers to increase the ability of pediatric providers to assess the state of transition in their practices, identify a transition improvement goal, and access materials and supports to implement strategies that improve transition processes and outcomes. The project is part of the Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P), a network funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

HEALTH

Robert Mechanic, Darren Zinner (Co-PIs) "Analysis of Changes in Risk Contracting and Physician Compensation in Organized Medical Groups"; Funder: Council of Accountable Physician Practices

This study, the third round in a series of large medical groups and integrated health systems, examines changes in the financial arrangements in Medicare, Medicaid and commercial health insurance contracts. The survey also measures the programs

and infrastructure these groups have developed to manage spending and improve quality. Finally, it examines how efficiency, quality and patient satisfaction are rewarded in compensation arrangements for employed physicians.

Cindy Thomas (PI) "Testing Medication-Assisted Treatment Performance Measures in Commercial Health Plans"; Funder: American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)

Medication-assisted addiction treatment is an evidence-based practice that is used less often than recommended or expected. This study tests a measure that is in development for estimating the extent to which providers are prescribing medications with addiction treatment. Such standardized reporting of treatments will identify where access to addiction medications is limited, in order to promote more appropriate use.

Christopher Tompkins (PI) "Payment System Modeling and Analysis for Merit-Based Incentive Payment Program System (MIPS)"; Funder: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Donald Shepard (PI), Wu Zeng "Cost-Effectiveness of Results-Based Financing in Zimbabwe"; Funder: The World Bank

This study is obtaining economic data to merge with the previously developed impact evaluation to assess the cost-effectiveness of Zimbabwe's program of results-based financing. The results will inform the country's decision about how to extend the approach to the country's districts not included in the initial phase.



Moving Along the Full Treatment Continuum

Increasing access to substance use disorder treatment and reducing incarceration and recidivism

“Massachusetts is a leader in good policy, but we’re also a leader in substance use,” says Mary Brolin, PhD’05, a scientist and lecturer at Heller’s Institute for Behavioral Health of the Schneider Institutes for Health Policy. Massachusetts’ recent spike in opioid addiction and overdose has garnered significant media attention over the last year, and the state also battles high rates of alcohol and drug dependency and abuse.

Unfortunately, 92.8 percent of Massachusetts residents with alcohol dependence and 87.1 percent of those with drug dependence aren’t treated. As a result, many people with substance use disorders become involved with the criminal justice system by engaging in crime while under the influence or to support their habit.

In an effort to highlight these issues, Brolin and a team of Heller researchers and doctoral students co-authored a policy brief on the connections between access to substance use treatment and incarceration. The team’s main findings and recommendations concern three key issues: a shortage of treatment beds, a lack of medication-assisted treatment and a very dispersed, bureaucratic system.

They presented the brief and a series of recommendations at the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum in November 2015, which was attended by top officials throughout state government.

“First, we need more beds,” asserts Brolin. “People have trouble getting into detox, and when they are ready to step down to continuing support services, there are even fewer beds there.” If a patient does get a bed in continuing support services, the next step should be transitional support services, followed by residential treatment. “But there are fewer beds at every step,” says Brolin. “It’s a funnel that gets narrower and narrower. We need to move people along a full treatment continuum.”

Getting access to treatment can be especially problematic for women, says Brolin.

In Massachusetts, individuals can be committed to treatment if they are at risk to themselves or others. “When someone is committed and there aren’t enough treatment beds, the men are sent to a department of corrections treatment facility, but women are sent to a medium-security prison in Framingham that has no treatment program,” says Brolin. “They’re incarcerated even though they haven’t committed a crime.” Although the state intends to provide 45 new treatment beds in 2016 to address this, she doubts it will be enough.

Brolin and her colleagues emphasize that medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorder is underutilized. “There’s a long-standing philosophy of drug-free rehabilitation in our criminal justice system,” says Brolin. “A lot of people don’t endorse medication-assisted treatment because they think it enables a drug habit or rewards drug abusers. There’s a whole culture change that needs to happen there.”

In addition to improving access to care through increased beds and the use of medication-assisted treatment, the policy brief focuses on systems-level issues. “The systems these patients move through are very dispersed and cover all three branches of government. How do you bring them together?” asks Brolin. She recommends changes to consolidate key players into one group with a common mission, vision, language — and budget. Cost constraints that plague the public sector often make it difficult for departments and agencies to collaborate on common goals.

Despite the long road ahead to improving access to treatment for substance use disorder, Brolin is optimistic. “I am so excited about this work; I feel like it could make a difference and change people’s lives. This illness affects many people in our state, and I believe that we can change these problems with the right programs and the right policies.”

By Bethany Romano

AGING

Agrigoroaei, S., Rickenbach, E.H., and **Lachman, M.E.** “Regional Differences in Cognitive Performance: Evidence From U.S. Health and Retirement Study.” Presented at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Bishop, C.E. “Improving Home Health Care Workers’ Jobs: Implications for Policy and Practice.” Presented at a symposium titled “Home Health Workers: Predictors of Job Satisfaction and Turn-over Intention,” at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Bishop, C.E. Organizer and chair, “The Link Between Retirement Security and Long-Term Care.” Session presented at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Bishop, C.E., Hefele, J.G., Kaur, R., and Miller, S. “Nursing Home Adoption of Resident-Centered Care Practices: Impact of Market and Financial Factors.” Presented at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Hostinar, C.E., Davidson, R.J., Seeman, T.E., Mroczek, D.K., **Lachman, M.E.**, and Miller, G.E. “Frontal EEG Asymmetry and Childhood Maltreatment History Predict Systemic Inflammation in Middle-Aged Adults.” Presented at the Society for Neuroscience, Chicago, October 2015.

Hughes, M.L., Montepare, J.M., and **Lachman, M.E.** “Feeling Younger Every Day: Higher Cognitive Performance Reduces Subjective Age Over Successive Laboratory Sessions.” Presented at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Montepare, J.M., Hughes, M.L., and **Lachman, M.E.** “Unraveling Relationships Among Age Identity, Age Attribution and Age Awareness.” Presented at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Robinson, S.A., and **Lachman, M.E.** “Physical Activity Enhances Cognitive Benefits of Control Beliefs: Evidence From the Daily Experiences and Memory Study.” Presented at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Tassone, D., and **Lachman, M.E.** “The Role of Domain-Specific Control Beliefs in Affect Regulation Across the Lifespan.” Presented at

the Gerontological Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Teshale, S., and **Lachman, M.E.** "Changes in Selection, Optimization and Compensation Strategies in Relation to Well-Being Over 10 Years." Presented at the Gerontological Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

ASSETS AND INEQUALITIES

Meschede, T. "Family Financial Resources Among Boston Residents: Flow by Race and Ethnicity." Presented at the 45th Annual Meeting of the Association of Black Sociologists, "Race and Inequality in the Obama Era and Beyond," Chicago, August 2015.

Meschede, T. "Improving Employment Outcomes: Exploring Research, Funding and Approaches That Work." Presented at the National Alliance to End Homelessness Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., July 2015.

Meschede, T. "The Wealth Patterns Among the Top 5 Percent of African Americans." Presented at the 2015 Inaugural National Conference of the Association of African American Financial Advisors, Boston, September 2015.

Meschede, T., and **Sullivan, L.** "Key Assets for Building Retirement Security: Institutional, Community and Extended Family Resources." Presented at the Gerontological Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, Fla., November 2015.

Nsiah-Jefferson, L. "Improving Quality and Performance: Strategies of Culturally Effective Organizations." Presented at "Quality Workforce=Quality Health Care: From Research to Practice," an Interactive Research and Policy Forum, Manchester, N.H., September 2015.

Santos, J. "Immigrant Integration: Fostering Healthy People in Healthy Places." Presented at "Celebrating a Quarter Century of Public Health in New Hampshire," conference sponsored by New Hampshire Public Health Association and John Snow Inc., Concord, N.H., October 2015.

Shapiro, T. "Structural Racism and Policy." Presented to the National Employment Law Project's staff via video conferencing, November 2015.

Shapiro, T. "Toxic Inequality." Presented at the Equity Summit, Los Angeles, October 2015.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Acevedo, A. "Understanding Disparities in the Treatment for Substance Use Disorders." Presented at i-BSHS: Innovations in Behavioral and Social Health Sciences Lecture Series, Providence, R.I., October 2015.



ANDREA ACEVEDO, PHD'12

Acevedo, A., Garnick, D.W., Acevedo-Garcia, D., Panas, L., Granor, E., Miles, J., and **Ritter, G.** "Disparities in Substance Use Disorder Treatment: Does Where You Live Matter?" Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Brolin, M., Hopwood, J., **Hodgkin, D., Ritter, G.,** and **Torres, M.** "Use of Recovery Support Navigators and Client Incentives to Improve Care and Outcomes for Repeat Detoxification Clients." Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Davis, M.T. "The Use of Religious Practices Among U.S. Military Members and Veterans With Trauma: An Analysis of Population Surveys." Presented at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Newport Beach, Calif., October 2015.

Garnick, D.W., Horgan, C.M., Acevedo, A., Lee, M.T., Ritter, G., Merrick, E.L., Panas, L., and Huber, A. "Influencing Quality of Care: Results of Implementation of Alerts and Incentives in Washington State." Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Hodgkin, D. "Economics of Mental Health." Presented at the Brookdale Institute, Jerusalem, Israel, July 2015.

Hodgkin, D., Horgan, C.M., Reif, S., Creedon, T.B., Garnick, D.W., Stewart, M.T., Quinn, A.E., and Evans, B. “Federal Parity Legislation and Private Health Plan Policies: Preliminary Findings From a National Survey.” Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Horgan, C.M., and **Quinn, A.E.** “Health Plan Dissemination of Screening and Brief Intervention for Alcohol Misuse and Other Preventive Services under the Affordable Care Act.”

» Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

» Presented at the International Network on Brief Interventions for Alcohol and Other Drugs Congress, Atlanta, September 2015.

Horgan, C.M., Reif, S., Garnick, D.W., Creedon, T.B., Stewart, M.T., Hodgkin, D., Quinn, A.E., and Evans, B. “Health Plans’ Provision of Addiction Services in an Age of Parity and Health Reform.” Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Kreiner, P. “How Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Data Can Be Used to Help Address Inappropriate Prescribing.” Presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 2015.



CATHY BURACK AND ALAN MELCHIOR '74, MA'07
(SEE RELATED STORY ON PAGE 34)

Kreiner, P. “Using Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Data for Epidemiology and Public Health Surveillance.” Webinar presented at the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Government Performance and Accountability Committee Meeting, Denver, October 2015.

Quinn, A.E., Horgan, C.M., Brolin, M., Stewart, M.T., Hodgkin, D., and Lane, N. “Building Bundled Payment for Substance Use Disorder Treatment.” Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Quinn, A.E., Horgan, C.M., Brolin, M., Stewart, M.T., and **Hodgkin, D.** “Modeling Bundled Payments for Substance Use Disorder Treatment.” Presented at the Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation, Washington, D.C., December 2015.

Reif, S., Acevedo, A., Garnick, D.W., and Fullerton, C. “Postdischarge Follow-Up Services for Individuals With Substance Use Disorders: Influence on Inpatient Readmissions.” Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Sirkin, J.T., **Quinn, A.E., Garnick, D.W.,** Halamka, J.D., Mauch, D., and **Thomas, C.P.** “HIT and the Evolution of Primary Care and Behavioral Health Coordination: An Organizational Study of Federal Qualified Community Health Centers in Massachusetts.” Presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 2015.

Stewart, M. “Incentives in Public Addiction Treatment Systems: Effects on Access, Retention, Selection and Outcomes.” Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Stewart, M.T., Horgan, C.M., Evans, B., **Reif, S., Quinn, A.E., Garnick, D.W., Hodgkin, D.,** and **Creedon, T.B.** “Innovations in Private Health Plans: Alternative Behavioral Health Payment Strategies.” Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

Strickler, G.K., and **Kim, M.** “Prescription Behavior Surveillance System (PBSS): Controlled Substance Prescription Database for Public Health Epidemiology.” Presented at the 2015 International Symposium on Substance and Prescription Drug Abuse, Taipei, Taiwan, September 2015.

Whitcher, H., and **Brolin, M.** “SBIRT Success in a Community-Based Setting.” Presented at the 2015 Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Los Angeles, October 2015.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Burack, C., and **Melchior, A.** “Your Program Evaluation: Making It Work While You Do.” Presented at the 2015 AmeriCorps Program Conference, Boston, July 2015.

Curnan, S.P. “The Science and Practice of Continuous Improvement for School Systems Change.” Presented at the Nellie Mae Education Foundation Conference, Springfield, Mass., October 2015.

Curnan, S.P., and Gambone, S. “Enriched Summer Jobs: Benefits Beyond the Paycheck.” Presented at the National Youth Employment Coalition Policy Convening and Board Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 2015.

Ha, Y., **Crisan, U.**, **Giapponi, K.**, **Geronimo, K.**, **Hardy, E.**, and **Joshi, P.** “Delivering Child Care Subsidies Through Contracts: The Family Perspective.” Presented at the Child Care Policy Research Consortium 2015 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 2015.

Hardy, E., Ha, Y., **Crisan, U.**, **Giapponi, K.**, **Geronimo, K.**, and **Joshi, P.** “Variation in Child Care Development Fund Administrative Practices: What Varies and Why and How It Matters for Families and Children.” Presented at the Child Care Policy Research Consortium 2015 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 2015.

Joshi, P., and **Geronimo, K.** “Exploring the Intersection Between the Labor Market Realities Facing Low-Income Families and Child Care Affordability.” Presented at the Child Care Policy Research Consortium 2015 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 2015.

Lanspery, S., and **Burack, C.** “Creating and Using ‘Logic Models’ for Planning and Evaluation.” Presented at the Leading for Change Higher Education Diversity Consortium, Bridgewater, Mass., December 2015.

Melchior, A. “Collecting Data to Demonstrate the Value of Science Activities to Your Library’s Leadership, Patrons and Community.” Presented at the Maine Library Partners Summit, Augusta, Maine, December 2015.

Melchior, A., and **Lanspery, S.** “Accomplishments and Challenges: What We’re Learning About What It Takes to ‘Do’ PSE in YouthBuild.” Presented at the YouthBuild Postsecondary Education Initiative Convening, St. Paul, Minn., October 2015.

Rosenfeld, L. “Examining Literacy and Potential Related Factors in Public Urban Mental Health.” Presented at the Annual Health Literacy Research Conference, Bethesda, Md., November 2015.

Rosenfeld, L. Presented guest lectures at Simmons College and at the Boston University School of Public Health, fall 2015.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND COEXISTENCE

Lempereur, A. “Humanitarian Negotiation Framework.” Panelist, presented at “Challenges and Dilemmas of Humanitarian Negotiation,” conference co-sponsored by the International Peace Institute and the International Committee of the Red Cross, New York City, October 2015.

Lempereur, A. “Humanitarian Negotiation Framework.” Presented to Muslim Charities Forum at “Negotiating Humanitarian Access Training,” conference sponsored by Conflict Dynamics International, Birmingham, U.K., December 2015.



PAMELA JOSHI, PHD'01 (SEE RELATED STORY ON PAGE 10)

Lempereur, A. “Meeting Productivity.” Presented at Colleges of Humanities and Social Sciences, American University of Armenia, Yerevan, Armenia, December 2015.

Lempereur, A. “Ordinary People Doing the Extraordinary: The First Moves in Humanitarian Negotiations.” Presented at Brandeis Alumni Club of London’s 28th Annual Thanksgiving Day Tea, London, November 2015.

DISABILITIES

Charrette, A.L., **Lorenz, L.S.**, Fong, J., O’Neil-Pirozzi, T., Demore-Taber, M., and Lamson, K.S. (2015). “Impact of Intensive Exercise on Physical Function of Adults With Chronic Moderate-to-Severe Brain Injury.” Poster presented at American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine 92nd Annual Conference, “Progress in Rehabilitation Research,” Dallas, October 2015.

Igdalsky, L. “Women Be Healthy: Improving Cervical and Breast Cancer Screening Access for Women With Developmental Disabilities.” Presented at the Brandeis Innovation Showcase, Waltham, Mass., November 2015.

Lorenz, L.S. “Reviewing the Research: Severe Brain Injury in Massachusetts: Assessing the Continuum of Care.” Presented at the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum, Boston, December 2015.

Parish, S.L., Ghosh, S., Sonik, R., and Igdalsky, L. “Food Insecurity in U.S. Households Raising Children With Disabilities.”

» Presented at the Athens Institute for Education and Research Conference, Athens, Greece, July 2015.

» Presented at the 55th workshop of the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics, Atlanta, August 2015.

Parish, S.L., Son, E., and Igdalsky, L. “Reproductive Cancer Hospitalizations Among U.S. Women With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.” Presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 2015.

Vasudevan, V., **Li, H.**, Eisenberg, Y., and Mehta, T. “Factors Associated With Physicians Recommending Physical Activity for People With Disabilities.” Presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 2015.

HEALTH

Mechanic, R. “How Will Value-Based Payment Change the Delivery of Care?” Presented at the American Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Annual Meeting, Boston, October 2015.

Mechanic, R. “Medicare Bundled Payment: Collaboration Opportunity or a Shared Savings Siphon?” Presented at the National Association of Accountable Care Organizations Fall Conference, Washington, D.C., October 2015.

Mechanic, R. “Risk Contracting and Physician Compensation in Organized Delivery Systems.” Presented at the National Accountable Care Organization Congress, Los Angeles, November 2015.

Shepard, D.S. “Carga Económica del Dengue. [The Economic Burden of Dengue].” Presented at “Estimación de Carga Epidemiológica del Dengue en Brasil y México [Estimation of Disease Burden of Dengue in Brazil and Mexico].” Mexico City, Mexico, July 2015.

Shepard, D.S. “Cost Effectiveness of Pyrethroid Plus PBO Nets and Pyrethroid Nets in Villages in Nigeria.” Presented at the Evidence Review Group for the Global Malaria Program of the World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, September 2015.

Shepard, D.S. “Costs of Vaccine Delivery: The Case of Dengue.” Presented at “Convening on Immunization Delivery Costs,” conference sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, October 2015.

Shepard, D.S. “Design of Cost-Effectiveness Study of Results-Based Financing in Zimbabwe.” Presented at the World Bank Brown Bag Lunch on Results-Based Financing, Harare, Zimbabwe, July 2015.

Shepard, D.S. “The Global Economic Cost of Dengue.”

» Presented at “Public Health in the 21st Century: A Case Study of Dengue,” conference sponsored by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, July 2015.

» Presented at the World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (WSPID), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, November 2015.

Shepard, D.S. “Improving Access to Maternal Health Services in Uganda: Subsidized Insurance Versus Vouchers.” Presented at the International Health Economics Association World Congress, Milan, Italy, July 2015.

Shepard, D.S. “Tanzanian Household and Government Expenditures for Malaria Treatment from a Population-Based Survey.” Presented at the International Health Economics Association World Congress, Milan, Italy, July 2015.

Shepard, D.S. Chair, panel on the dengue vaccine, The World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (WSPID), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, November 2015.

Shepard, D.S., Halasa, Y.A., Undurraga, E.A., and Stanaway, J. “Global Economic Cost of Dengue Illness.” Presented at the 64th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Philadelphia, October 2015.

Simon, L., Ariyaratne, V., Shepard, D.S., Nandakumar, A.K., Bowser, D., Assan, J., and Saleem, N. “Reduction of Dengue Through Non-Pesticide Screening of Private and Public Spaces.” Presented at SPARK Poster Session, Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass., November 2015.

Undurraga, E.A., **Halasa, Y.A.**, and Shepard, **D.S.** “Economic Analysis of Genetically Modified Mosquito Strategies to Control Dengue.” Presented

at the 64th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Philadelphia, October 2015.

Zeng, W., and Shepard, D.S. “Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Results-Based Financing.” Presented at the World Bank Brown Bag Lunch on Results-Based Financing, Harare, Zimbabwe, October 2015.

Zeng, W., Shepard, D.S., Rusatira, J., Blaakman, A., and Queffelec, R. “Evaluation of Results-Based Financing in the Republic of the Congo: A Controlled Pre-Post Study.” Presented at the International Health Economics Association World Congress, Milan, Italy, July 2015.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Assan, J. “The Impact of Mining on Farming as Livelihood Strategy and Its Implications for Poverty Reduction and Household Well-Being.” Presented at the Bentley University Valente Center Humanities and Social Science Research Council Funded Environmental Justice Seminar Series, Waltham, Mass., December 2015.

Assan, J. “Post-Colonial Economic Policies and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa.” Presented at the Primary Source Summer Academy, Watertown, Mass., July 2015.

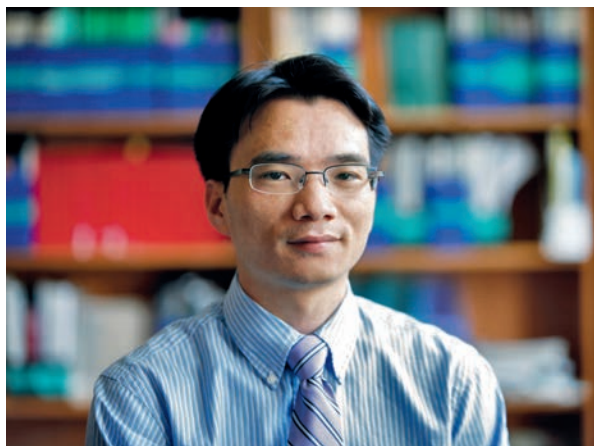
Howard, M., and Taylor, E. “Challenges to Implementing Regional Marine Spatial Planning: The Case of the Seaflower MPA.” Presented at the 68th Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Panama City, Panama, November 2015.

Jean, I. “Accountability to Affected Persons: Feedback in Humanitarian Contexts.” Presented at Feedback Labs Summit, Washington, D.C., October 2015.

Jean, I. Presentations at the American Evaluation Association Annual Conference, “Exemplary Evaluations in a Multicultural World,” Chicago, November 2015:

- » “Accountability to Communities in Humanitarian Work.”
- » “Citizens in the Driver’s Seat: Shifting Power in Evaluation.”
- » “Evaluation in Conflict and Fragile Contexts: Key Considerations and Guidance.”
- » “Listening Skills for Design, Monitoring and Evaluation.”

Jean, I. “Organizational Accountability.” Presented at the CARE International Workshop on Governance, London, U.K., November 2015.



WU ZENG, MS'05, PHD'09

Papa, M. “New Concept of Development and BRICS Cooperation.” Presented at the 2nd International Conference of BRICS Studies, Fudan University, Shanghai, China, September 2015.

Sampath, R. “The Future of Global Justice: Rawls’s The Law of Peoples and the U.N.’s Post-2015 SDGs.” Presented at the Human Development and Capabilities Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., September 2015.

MANAGEMENT

Cutcher-Gershenfeld, J., Mayfield, M., **Liu, C.W.,** and Risling, A. “Aligning Stakeholders for System Transformation.” Presented at the 5th Annual Relational Coordination Research Collaborative Roundtable, “Health and Thriving Workplaces and Communities — The Role of Relational Coordination,” New York City, October 2015.

Gittell, J.H. Keynote. Presented at quarterly leadership training of the Northeast Regional Health Command, U.S. Army, Ft. Belvoir, Va., July 2015.

Gittell, J.H. Presentation at Danish Conference on Mental Health, Denmark, September 2015.


Gittell, J.H. Keynote. Presentation at Societal Systems Conference, Belgium, September 2015.

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED ON PAGE 40



Immigrant Integration

Susan Eaton's new book gives life to success stories across the nation



Conversations about immigration in the United States are nearly always loaded with frustration and anxiety. The topic is deeply associated with political gridlock, xenophobic confrontations, and parallel discussions of poverty and violence. More than 41 million immigrants live in the U.S. (13 percent of the population), and one of every four children has at least one immigrant parent.

“A lot of the research on immigration right now is scholarly in nature, or else they’re very dramatic personal accounts of people escaping drug wars,” says Susan Eaton, director of the Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy. “We think of immigration as a very divisive topic in the United States, and it can be. We hear

about people who are opposed to immigrants and we hear about discrimination — all of which is true, and we need to fight against that. But without a vision of what we’re fighting *for*, we’re not going to make very much progress.”

Eaton became interested in a solutions-oriented approach to immigrant integration in 2006, when millions of people around the United States marched to protest proposed legislation that would have classified undocumented immigrants as felons. She recalls the outcry to reject bill H.R. 4437, but notes that there wasn’t a national conversation about where to go from there. “It felt like we knew what we were against, but we didn’t know what we were for,” says Eaton.

Around the same time, Eaton learned about several people who were creating sustainable institutions that aspire to true integration and equity for immigrants in their communities. “I wanted to tell the story of those places, of people who are trying to create a solution, so that the collective civil rights community would have a vision of what we’re trying to accomplish.”

Eaton responded to this exciting new idea with a project called One Nation Indivisible, a coalition of experienced journalists who traveled around the country, researching and writing about immigrant integration initiatives. The project yielded stories ranging from bilingual public education in Utah’s conservative Heber City to immigrant-owned small businesses in liberal Philadelphia.

After two years of researching and collecting stories (many of which can be viewed at www.onenationindivisible.org), Eaton took them to print. “The stories just lent themselves

“It felt like we knew what we were against, but we didn’t know what we were for.”

very naturally to a book,” she says. The result is “Integration Nation: Immigrants, Refugees and America at Its Best,” published in 2016 by New Press. All of the stories have one theme in common: Each integration initiative grew from the understanding that we all live in this world together, and that equity and inclusion is the best route to prosperity and well-being for an entire community. “This is a book that’s related to civil rights, but really, it’s about life,” says Eaton. “It’s about providing support and avenues so that people can live a happy life.”

This is important because, Eaton says, media coverage of immigration provides a largely one-sided picture of what’s possible in the U.S. “Marches and protests against discrimination have to go on, litigation against discrimination has to continue,” says Eaton, “but at the same time, we have to think in affirmative terms as well. That’s what inspires people to do something better and fairer, and can lead to policies and programs that benefit everybody.”

By *Bethany Romano*



AGING

Christine Bishop served on the Long Term Services and Supports Stakeholders Workgroup for the MassHealth Payment and Care Delivery Reform initiative during fall 2015.

Susan Lanspery presented “Preliminary Results of the Martha’s Vineyard Healthy Aging Survey” at the Healthy Aging Task Force Community Meeting in Vineyard Haven, Mass., on Dec. 7, 2015. The presentation was featured in a Dec. 10, 2015, article in the Vineyard Gazette, “Seniors Respond to Healthy Aging Survey With Vigor.”

ASSETS AND INEQUALITIES

Janet Boguslaw, Sandra Venner, Laurie Nsiah-Jefferson ’80, PhD’06, and Jessica Santos, PhD’15, presented research findings from the Health Care Employer Research Initiative on Sept. 25, 2015, at a public research and policy forum co-hosted by the Institute on Assets and Social Policy (IASP), the New Hampshire Office of Minority Health and Refugee Affairs, and the Endowment for Health. IASP facilitated a follow-up roundtable on workforce diversity with key stakeholders on Nov. 18, 2015, to identify implications of research on policy and practice.

Jessica Santos collaborated with Families in Transition to present results of the New Hampshire Employment Learning Collaborative project on Nov. 3, 2015, to a group of policymakers, including NH Governor Maggie Hassan’s chief of staff and key commissioners, with the goal to identify and develop innovative policy solutions to better serve the employment needs of New Hampshire’s most vulnerable populations.

Thomas Shapiro was interviewed by The Atlantic for a Nov. 29, 2015, article, “Why So Many Minority Millennials Can’t Get Ahead.”

Laura Sullivan, PhD’13, was interviewed on WNHN-FM in Concord, NH, on Dec. 3, 2015, and on KAZI-FM in Austin, Texas, on Dec. 17, 2015, regarding IASP’s “Less Debt, More Equity” paper.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Andrew Kolodny discussed the prescription drug and heroin epidemics on C-SPAN’s Washington Journal for an Oct. 25, 2015, segment on combating drug abuse.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

During the fall 2015 semester, faculty and researchers from the Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy (ICYFP) conducted the following outreach and technical assistance seminars about ICYFP's flagship project, diversitydatakids.org, a comprehensive information system to monitor racial/ethnic equity in child health and wellbeing:

- » In October 2015, **Pamela Joshi, PhD'01, Alison Earle** and **Kim Geronimo** met with staff from the Institute for Women's Policy Research, the National Partnership for Women and Families, and the Department of Labor, Women's Bureau.
- » In December 2015, **Pamela Joshi** and **Kim Geronimo** led seminars for staff from the Center for Law and Social Policy, Senator Elizabeth Warren's office; and the Department of Labor, Division of Employment and Training, Department of Youth Services.
- » In December 2015, **Pamela Joshi, Erin Hardy** and **Dolores Acevedo-Garcia** presented to the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Pamela Joshi and PhD student **Kate Giapponi** attended the Department of Health and Human Services/Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation child care scholars meeting for mentors and mentees, held in Washington, D.C., in December 2015.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Laurence Simon briefed Congresswoman Katherine Clark (Massachusetts's 5th congressional district) on climate change issues in December 2015, as she prepared to go to Paris for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Conference of the Parties (COP 21). Simon was asked by Interim President Lisa M. Lynch to be the Brandeis representative in this briefing organized at the request of Congresswoman Clark and the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Massachusetts. He was one of eight Boston area university representatives who met with Congresswoman Clark.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND COEXISTENCE

Isabella Jean, MA'06, facilitated the following inter-agency learning events on effective feedback loops:

- » Session for international and Ethiopian humanitarian and development NGOs, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, August 2015.
- » Session for British NGOs, London, U.K., October 2015.

DISABILITIES

Susan Parish was interviewed as one of 10 experts addressing questions on how cities can provide care that residents need but lack for a 2015 WalletHub post, "2015's Most Caring Cities in America."

Susan Parish was quoted about the history and limitations of disability legislation in this country in a July 25, 2015, *Mother Jones* piece, "The Americans With Disabilities Act Is Turning 25. Watch the Dramatic Protest That Made It Happen."

HEALTH

Robert Mechanic was interviewed for a story about the prospects for independent physicians in the current health care economy on WKSU Ohio Public Radio's Morning Edition on Dec. 22, 2015.

Laurie Nsiah-Jefferson '80, PhD'06, presented "National Efforts and Practices to Address Health Care Inequities" to an all-staff meeting of the Manchester (NH) Community Health Center on June 17, 2015.

Cindy Thomas, PhD'00, presented the following testimony to the Green Mountain Care Board:

- » "Analytic Services in Support of Health Reform: Findings from Special Studies," August 2015
- » "Evaluation of the Vermont State Innovation Grant: Design and Plan," July 2015

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Joseph Assan was invited to submit an expert witness report by the British Government All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health, based in the House of Commons, London, U.K. The report, titled "Population Dynamics and the Sustainable Development Goals," was launched on July 8, 2015.

Joan Dassin '69 published "Diversity Initiatives in Foreign Policy" in July 2015, an evaluation of a multi-million-dollar project funded by the Robina Foundation to improve representation of U.S. minorities in international relations fields.

A.K. Nandakumar is the first chief economist for the Global Health Bureau at USAID. In that capacity, he is the technical lead on a \$63 million initiative funded by Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator that is aimed at leveraging economic growth to increase what countries spend on their HIV/AIDS response. The work has been initiated

in five countries, and early results show that the new strategic approach is starting to yield results: In Kenya, the government has increased its allocation to HIV/AIDS drugs by \$26 million; in Vietnam, the government tripled its allocation for HIV/AIDS commodities; and in Tanzania, an AIDS Trust Fund has been established to leverage resources from both the public and private sectors.



SUSAN EATON (SEE RELATED STORY ON PAGE 24)

A.K. Nandakumar presented at USAID's State of the Art Meeting for its staff in Malawi in November 2015. His presentation laid out the rationale for USAID to adopt a new approach to health financing.

Mihaela Papa presented "The BRICS Group in Global Governance: Leadership, Influence and Implications" at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 4, 2015.

PHILANTHROPY

Sheryl Seller '11, MA'13, published "Can Money Create Social Change?" on The Huffington Post blog on Sept. 15, 2015.

SOCIAL POLICY

Susan P. Curnan delivered the keynote address, "Eleanor's Encore: Timeless Lessons From the First Lady of the World," at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, N.Y., on Nov. 3, 2015.

Susan Eaton's research was cited in an Oct. 23, 2015, Washington Post article, "Forced Busing Didn't Fail. Desegregation Is the Best Way to Desegregate Our Schools."

Susan Eaton was quoted in "Will John King's Last Effort to Desegregate New York Schools Work?" on Oct. 7, 2015, piece posted on Chalkbeat New York.

Susan Eaton's 2007 book, "The Children in Room E4: American Education on Trial," was discussed on an Aug. 8, 2015, edition of *This American Life* titled "The Problem We All Live With, Part Two." The "This American Life" segment and Eaton's book were also the topic of Alexander Russo's "This Week in Education" blog on Scholastic.com on Aug. 11, 2015.

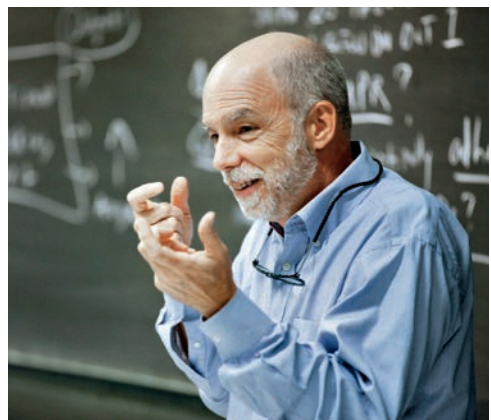
Rajesh Sampath published an op-ed, "Deconstructing Chief Justice Roberts's Dissent in the Epoch-Making Same-Sex Marriage Decision — *Obergefell v. Hodges* — But Not From Traditional Perspectives of the Left," on The Huffington Post on July 7, 2015. This op-ed critically deconstructed the assumptions in Chief Justice Roberts's dissent in the path-breaking 2015 Supreme Court decision of *Obergefell v. Hodges* to show how and why the contemporary era necessitated the legalization of same-sex marriage and why the court could no longer delay its decision on the matter.


Rajesh Sampath's op-ed, "Racial and Caste Oppression Have Many Similarities," was published in *The Conversation* on June 19, 2015. The op-ed explored empirical similarities and dissimilarities between race and racism in America, particularly social exclusion and inequality that African-Americans face, with that of caste and the caste system in India. It drew certain conclusions on why greater comparative research is needed to understand different dynamics of social exclusion.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

- » RAJAN SONIK
- » TED JOHNSON
- » STUDENTS IN ZINNER FORUM
- » MICHAEL DOONAN, PHD'02
- » HELLER BUILDING, JANUARY 2016
- » STUDENTS CHATTING BETWEEN CLASSES





Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker reappointed **Stuart Altman** as chair of the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission, the independent state agency that seeks to reduce health care cost growth and improve the quality of patient care.

Joseph Assan was awarded a Humanities Research Fellowship by the Jeanne and Dan Valente Center for Arts and Sciences at Bentley University. This is a one-year fellowship program (August 2015–May 2016) and will focus on his research on global climate justice and development.

In August 2015, **Susan P. Curnan** began her role as president of the Brandeis University Faculty Senate.

Cristina Espinosa was invited to serve as a manuscript reviewer for peer-reviewed journals, including *World Development* (Elsevier), *SAGE Open Journal* and the *International Journal of Rural Development* (Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia), on topics of her expertise.

Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy (ICYFP) researchers **Alison Earle, Pamela Joshi, PhD'01, Kimberly Geronimo** and **Dolores Acevedo-Garcia** received the Lawrence R. Klein Award from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for a paper about the Family and Medical Leave Act (“Job Characteristics Among Working Parents: Differences by Race, Ethnicity and Nativity”), which was published in the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ *Monthly Labor Review*.

ICYFP’s **diversitydatakids.org** has been invited to a joint initiative of the White House, Census Bureau, Presidential Innovation Fellows and Department of Housing and Urban Development called “Open Opportunity Data.” As part of the Obama Administration’s broad effort to promote access to opportunity, the administration will facilitate development of, and amplify, a suite of digital tools that expose trends of unequal access to opportunity at the neighborhood level, and put this information at the fingertips of local leaders, community organizers, nonprofits, media and families.

Margie Lachman received the Distinguished Career Contribution to Gerontology Award, Behavioral and Social Sciences, from the Gerontological Society of America in November 2015.

Alain Lempereur chairs the scientific committee of Humanitarian Negotiation Exchanges, a project of the International Committee of the Red Cross, in cooperation with the Future of Diplomacy and the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

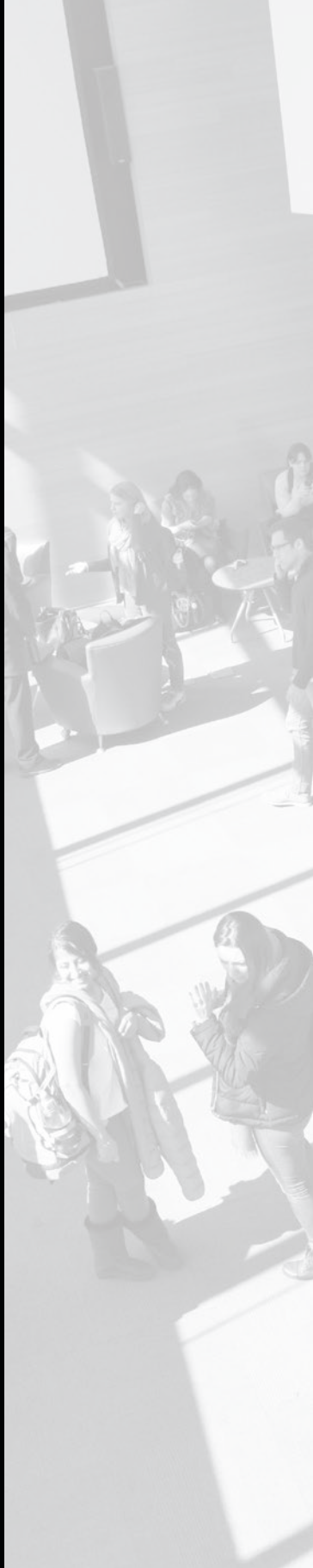
Lindsay Rosenfeld was appointed a parent representative to the Interagency Coordinating Council, a federally mandated statewide interagency group that advises and assists the Massachusetts Department of Public Health on Early Intervention.

Before 730 guests, **Laurence Simon** was honored by the American Jewish World Service (AJWS) as its

founder and first president at the 30th Anniversary Gala Celebration held in New York City on Nov. 17, 2015. AJWS was described by the newspaper Forward as “one of the fastest growing Jewish not-for-profits in the country.” President Barack Obama participated in the gala via video greeting.



LAURENCE SIMON



The **Center for Youth and Communities** hosted eight meetings of Brandeis Think Tanks at Brandeis University in fall 2015. The Think Tanks are communities of practice for leaders from 45 higher education institutions in New England focused on issues, policies and practices that impact student success. Meeting topics included “Team Building,” “Risk Management and Study Abroad,” “Effecting Organizational Development and Change,” “Taking Care of Ourselves,” “Assessing Diversity and Multiculturalism on Campus,” “Student Mental Health Issues and Compliance,” and “Supporting Our Staff and Ourselves.”

In December 2015, **diversitydatakids.org** held a webinar with PolicyLink and Family Values @ Work, titled “Data Tools for Policy Change: Paid Family Leave Policies to Advance Health Equity and Build an Inclusive Economy.” The webinar showcased new data indicators that measure access gaps across race/ethnicity to Family and Medical Leave Act unpaid leave. **Pamela Joshi, PhD’01**, presented for the Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy/diversitydatakids.org team.

The **Health Industry Forum** presented “Health Care System Consolidation: Winners, Losers and Policy Implications,” in Washington, D.C., in November 2015. This forum examined trends in health care industry consolidation and evidence about its effect on prices, medical spending and quality, specifically the impact of horizontal and vertical provider integration and insurer consolidation. It concluded with a discussion of the policy issues raised by the growing market power of providers and health plans along with federal and state policy options to bolster competition or regulate markets that lack competition.

The **Institute on Assets and Social Policy (IASP)** and PolicyLink co-hosted a webinar in December 2015 as a follow-up to the publication of IASP’s brief “Tipping the Scale: How Assets Shape Economic Well-Being for Women and Families.”

IASP was a co-host, with the Tax Alliance, of a November 2015 webinar focusing on communications and advocacy around wealth inequality and the tax code. Participants included PolicyLink, CFED, Americans for Tax Fairness, and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

IASP and one of its partners, the National Human Services Assembly, presented a webinar on Oct. 15, 2015, to review and discuss the new guidebook “Empowering Prosperity: Strengthening Human Services Impacts Through Asset Integration.” Participants discussed supporting human service

agencies' efforts to incorporate asset building into their practices. The webinar was moderated by IASP Associate Director **Janet Boguslaw** and Senior Research Associate **Rebecca Loya**. Other speakers included Tonya Wiley-Robinson (National Human Services Assembly); Nancy Yuill (Innovative Changes); Michael Roush (National Disability Institute); Kathryn Crumpton (Aurora Family Service); and Christine Robinson (Kresge Foundation).

Jonathan Stein, LLB, was the featured speaker at the **Lurie Institute for Disability Policy's** Annual Distinguished Lecture on Nov. 10, 2015. The title of his lecture was "Supplemental Security Income for Disabled Children: Policy Successes and Travails along a Circuitous Path." Stein has spent his career as an attorney at Philadelphia's Community Legal Services engaged in advocacy in various fields affecting low-income children and adults, including reforms of the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs; employment discrimination against people with disabilities; access to utility service; access to low-income health insurance; free school meals reforms; housing civil rights litigation; and childhood lead paint poisoning prevention.

The **Massachusetts Health Policy Forum (MHPF)**, in partnership with the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation, held a forum on Nov. 17, 2015, titled "Improving Access to Substance Abuse Treatment and Reducing Incarceration and Recidivism." A presentation of the latest research was followed by a panel discussion with top state officials and stakeholders moderated by WBUR's Martha Bebinger. The forum provided data and analysis on access to substance abuse treatment with a focus on potential alternatives to incarceration. It built on MHPF's 2014 forum on racial and ethnic disparities in mental health and behavioral health services, with a focus on disparities in access to quality substance abuse treatment; evidence-based options; more effective treatment, particularly for high users of the health care system; and treatment as an alternative or supplement to incarceration.

MHPF held a forum titled "Severe Brain Injury in Massachusetts: Assessing the Continuum of Care" on Thursday, Dec. 10, 2015, in partnership with Supportive Living Inc., and the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts. The forum examined treatment and service disparities for survivors of severe brain injury in light of coverage expansions and health care system and financing changes under state and national reform. The research quantified the problems, costs and potential consequences to both the brain injury survivors and the state as a whole. The forum explored potential options and action steps

to reduce disparities and move toward a more equitable distribution of critical resources.

The **Relational Coordination Research Collaborative (RCRC)** held its Fifth Annual RCRC Roundtable in New York City on Oct. 15-16, 2015. The topic was "Healthy and Thriving Workplaces and Communities — The Role of Relational Coordination." Each year, practitioners and scholars gather at the Fall Roundtable to advance the practice of relational coordination. Simply stated, relational coordination is coordinating work through relationships of shared goals, shared knowledge and mutual respect. This year's roundtable moved beyond traditional health care delivery to engage workers, leaders and citizens to build health and wellness in the community. In a time of renewed focus on population health and the social determinants of health, RCRC welcomed colleagues from across the U.S. and around the world who are using relational coordination, relational leadership and relational coproduction to achieve these broader goals.

The **Eli J. Segal Citizen Leadership Program** hosted its Fifth Annual Segal Retreat in Wellesley, Mass., in October 2015. Fifty Segal Fellows from around the world, including Heller MPP students and alumni, attended the weekend retreat for professional and personal development and networking.

The **Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy** hosted the Massachusetts Youth Philanthropy Summit on Nov. 22, 2015. Dozens of youth philanthropists attended this summit on giving and social action. Youth and adults from New England gathered at the Heller School to talk about their philanthropy models, explore the causes they care most about, and learn about strategies for assessing community needs and creating a better society through giving.

The Master's Program in **Sustainable International Development (SID)** sponsored a lecture by Aasha Abdill, "Reaping the Rewards of Diversity: The Power of Strengthening Connections Between Disparate Social Networks," on Oct. 26, 2015. Abdill, an award-winning independent evaluator, discussed her work on improving diversity in U.S. and international institutions.

The **SID** and **MBA Programs**, along with the MBA Program at the Brandeis International Business School, sponsored a lecture by Monique Nelson on Nov. 6, 2015. Nelson, the head of the largest minority-owned advertising firm in the U.S., discussed "Corporate Social Responsibility, Multinationals and Development: Perspectives from the Media and Advertising World."



Evaluation's Evolution

How the Center for Youth and Communities is helping nonprofits assess their impact

In our data-driven world, there is an effort to measure the performance of just about everything. Tracking progress, and ultimately results, has long been central to the business world, where success is traditionally tied to the financial bottom line.

For nonprofit service providers, however, goals typically vary from organization to organization, and achieving them can be hard to prove. This challenge has become more pronounced recently, as an increasing number of funders expect recipients to provide evidence of their success.

“We are helping the social services industry be more cognizant of the importance of rigorous evaluation,” says Cathy Burack from Heller’s Center

for Youth and Communities, or CYC. “Organizations really need a way to show the impact of their work, and this is becoming the gold standard of funders

both public and private. As we see an infusion of folks coming out of the business environment into the nonprofit world, they’re bringing this proof of worth sensibility with them.”

The value of evidence-based evaluation hasn’t been lost on government. One example is the Corporation for National and Community Service’s Social Innovation Fund (SIF), which, according to its website, “positions the federal government to be a catalyst of impact — mobilizing private resources to find and grow community solutions with evidence of results.”

The Social Innovation Fund provides grants to intermediary organizations that, in turn, strategically fund service providers at the community level. The Boston-based GreenLight Fund, for instance, is a venture philanthropy organization that determines where youth services are falling short in selected cities, and then identifies outside organizations that can fill the gaps.

GreenLight was awarded an SIF grant that allowed it to expand its work in Boston and begin new efforts in Philadelphia and San Francisco. As part of the SIF process, GreenLight needs to show concrete results wherever it’s channeling federal money. It partnered with the CYC to learn how to develop a comprehensive structure that would show such return on investment.

“As soon as GreenLight selected its grantees, we began working with those chosen service providers to help them build an evaluation framework,” adds CYC’s Alan Melchior ’74, MA’07. “In several cases, the organizations didn’t need a lot of help. At the other end of the spectrum, there was one case where

“Organizations really need a way to show the impact of their work.”

we spent three days on-site helping an organization develop a logic model, to think about the questions they were interested in and to walk them through the critical process of hiring an evaluator.”

Melchior, Burack and colleague Larry Bailis say their main objective is to help grantees determine the best information that can be gathered as evidence of performance — it’s a process that considers the nature of each grantee’s work, the extent of its resources and the environment it’s operating in. They want the grantees to use evaluation as a management tool rather than just an abstract research method.

“Our role goes beyond saying, ‘OK, here’s what the funding says you have to do and we’ll help you navigate this,’” Burack says. “We’ve constantly put that into a larger context, by saying, ‘If you get into this habit, it’s going to pay off for you.’”

By Max Pearlstein '01

PUBLICATIONS

Alexanian, A. (2015). "Domestic Violence Programs: A Guide to High-Impact Investment." Funders Guide prepared for the Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy. Waltham, Mass.: Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy, the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.

Barnaba, J. "Examining the Contemporary Status of an Education System: The Case of the Republic of South Sudan." *Nyamilepedia*. Published online Dec. 20, 2015.

Barnaba, J. "A Policy Strategy Paper on Adapting to the Negative Impacts of Climate Change: The Case of Climate Change and Human Security in South Sudan." *Nyamilepedia*. Published online Oct. 29, 2015.

Haynes, H., Garcia, A., and **Madsen, R.** (2015). "Wildland-Urban Interface: Fire Department Wildfire Preparedness and Readiness Capabilities." Quincy, Mass.: National Fire Protection Association.

Henry, B. (2015). Book Review: "Can't Catch a Break: Gender, Jail, Drugs and the Limits of Personal Responsibility," by S. Starr Sered and M. Norton-Hawk. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*. 42(3), pp. 173-175.

Moran, R., et al. (2015). "El País que viene: Una generación comprometida" (The upcoming country: a committed generation). This book collects stories from youth working in different areas of Salvadoran society (the arts, politics, civil society, sports) in order to inspire other young boys and girls to engage in the positive changes that El Salvador needs to resurface from tough times. Published in October 2015, it includes the participation of Olympic athletes, young members of the Legislative Assembly, entrepreneurs, activists and artists. elpaisqueviene.org

Reisner, S.L., Hughto, J.M.W., **Dunham, E.E.**, Heflin, K., Begenyi, J.B.G., Coffey-Esquivel, J., and Cahill, S. (2015). "Legal Protections in Public Accommodations Settings: A Critical Public Health Issue for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming People." *Milbank Quarterly*. 93(3), pp. 484-515.

Vinh, D., Vuthisokunna, M., and Norris, R. (2015). "Opinions, Attitudes and Behavior Toward the LGBT Population in Cambodia." *TNS Cambodia & RoCK (Rainbow Community Kampuchea)*.

PRESENTATIONS

Barnaba, J. "Partnership in Africa: Different Approaches and Best Practices of Transnational

Cooperation.” Presented at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung conference on “Strengthening Cooperation Between Africa and Germany: Moving Beyond Institutions, Focusing on People,” Abidjan, Ivory Coast, December 2015.

Dunham, E.E., White, J.M., and Reisner, S.L. “Comparing Transgender Students Attending Public and Private Schools in Massachusetts: Implications of Policy and Health Differences, 2015.” Presented at the American Public Health Association Conference, Chicago, November 2015.

Giapponi, K. “Delivering Child Care Subsidies Through Contracts: The Provider Perspective.” Presented at the Child Care Policy Research Consortium 2015 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 2015.

Giapponi, K. “Insights into the Black Box of Child Care Supply: Predictors of Provider Participation in the Child Care Subsidy System.” Presented at the U.S. Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation Early Care and Education Research Scholars 2015 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 2015.

Giapponi, K. “Who Accepts Child Care Subsidies?: A Preliminary Analysis of Provider Participation in the Massachusetts Child Care Subsidy System.” Presented at the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics 2015 Conference, Atlanta, August 2015.

Gross, A., and Murad, A. “Practicing Deep Ecumenism: A Guide for Engaging in Interfaith Dialogue.” Presented at “Getting It Together,” an interfaith conference hosted by ALEPH: The Alliance for Jewish Renewal, West Chester, Pa., July 2015.

Gross, A., and Murad, A. Panelists, “Tracing Reb Zalman’s Vision, From Dharmasala to the Future.” Presented at “Getting It Together,” an interfaith conference hosted by ALEPH: The Alliance for Jewish Renewal, West Chester, Pa., July 2015.

Kreider, B. Presentations at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, October 2015:

- » “Insider’s Guide to Working in Washington, D.C.”
- » “Should I Get a Graduate Degree in Public Policy?”
- » “What Are Some Solutions to Economic Inequality in the United States?”

Liu, C.W. “Border Crossing and Making Power: Intersectionality and Critical Race Theory in an Urban Social Movement Case.” Presented at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New York City, February 2015.

Liu, C.W. “Investigating RC Dynamics in a Social Movement Building Context.” Presented at Relational Coordination Research Collaborative Research Webinar, November 2015.

Logan, C., and Lindberg, C. “Complexity-Inspired Leadership and Relational Coordination in Health Care.” Presented at the Academy of Management Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia, August 2015.



RODRIGO MORAN

Powell, R.M. “Family Matters: Safeguarding the Rights of Families Headed by Parents With Disabilities.” Presented at the Indiana Governor’s Conference for People with Disabilities, Indianapolis, Ind., December 2015.

Powell, R.M. “The Untapped Power of the ADA.” Presented at the State of Vermont Office of the Defender General Juvenile Law Seminar, Montpelier, Vt., November 2015.

Powell, R.M., Fleischer, R.D., Graves, F.G., and Henry, V.L. “ADA and Other Civil Rights Laws.” Presented at the Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education 16th Annual Juvenile Delinquency and Child Welfare Law Conference, Boston, November 2015.

Powell, R.M., Lucas, C.A., Lynch, W., and Carter, C. “Representing Parents With Disabilities in the Courtroom and Beyond.” Presented at the American Bar Association 4th National Parent Attorney Conference, Washington, D.C., July 2015.

Rosen, M.M. “Understanding Prescription Drug Plan Switching Behavior and Associated Health and Spending Outcomes.” Presented at the International Health Economics Association International Congress, Milan, Italy, July 2015.



FORD HALL PROTESTERS AT BRANDEIS

Saadoun, M., **Naim, H.**, and **Kim, H.** “Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Residential Services and Supports for Chronic Acquired Brain Injury Patients in Massachusetts.” Presented at the Supportive Living Inc., Research Council Bi-Annual Retreat, Lexington, Mass., December 2015.

Sonik, R., Parish, S.L., and Rosenthal, E. “Sibling-Caregivers of Individuals With Intellectual Disabilities.” Presented at the Association of University Centers on Disabilities Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2015.

White, J.M., Reisner, S.L., **Dunham, E.E.**, and Pachankis, J. “Barriers to Transition-Related Health Care Among Transgender Adults in Massachusetts.” Presented at the American Public Health Association Conference, Chicago, November 2015.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Concerned Heller students, along with undergraduate and graduate leaders across Brandeis University, participated in the **Ford Hall 2015** sit-in occupation of the Bernstein-Marcus building. University campuses are reflections of the nation’s sociopolitical climate, and as racial injustices increase in our society, they also increase within our campus community. On Nov. 19, 2015, in response to the growing issues at Brandeis University, concerned students produced a list of demands for senior leadership to address racial injustices on campus.

Twenty-four hours later, having not received a response from the administration, hundreds of students marched into the Bernstein-Marcus Administration Center that houses the offices of senior leadership, vowing not to leave until their demands for justice were met. The students, who became known as Ford Hall 2015, received an outpouring of support from other students, faculty and staff across Brandeis University, as well as support from across the country. Several departments and individuals across Brandeis University, including alumni, pledged their support of Ford Hall 2015 publicly and encouraged the administration to seek a productive resolution. Students of Ford Hall 2015 occupied Bernstein-Marcus for 12 days, until the administration and student leaders agreed to a co-written action and funding plan focused on immediate and long term advances in diversity and inclusion for Brandeis University.

MBA/MPP student **Kaleigh Behe** published an entry on The Huffington Post titled “Merit or Need-Based Scholarships? How Donors Can Turn the Tide Toward More Equitable Financial Aid,” on July 20, 2015.

Brandy Henry, PhD candidate, presented testimony on Oct. 14, 2015, to the Massachusetts State Legislature Joint Committee on the Judiciary in regards to the effects of solitary confinement on mental health. She also gave written testimony regarding the benefits of compassionate release for terminally ill prisoners. This testimony assisted legislatures in understanding the impacts of current practices and proposed legislation on the mental health of incarcerated people.

Brandy Henry appeared on Somerville Community Access Television on Nov. 14, 2015, on a program titled “Behind Bars: A Panel on Mental Health in the Prison System.” This panel aimed to educate the public on current issues impacting the mental health of prisoners.

Robyn Powell was quoted in a Daily Beast article, “How the ADA Changed My Life,” published online on July 24, 2015.

Robyn Powell was quoted in a Yahoo News article, “Shocking Ways Airlines Are Mistreating the Disabled,” published online on Nov. 17, 2015.

HONORS/AWARDS

Ihsan Kaadan, MS student; **Mark Hogains**, MBA/MA-SID student; **Jean Bernard Hishamunda**, PhD candidate; **Jason Lynch**, MBA student; and **Jamie Hennick**, MBA/MA-COEX student, won the 2015 Heller Startup Challenge for “Care Plaz,” a mobile app for Alzheimer’s caregivers.

Callie Watkins Liu, PhD candidate, was awarded Honorable Mention for the 2015 Ford Foundation Fellowship Program.

Rachel Madsen, PhD candidate, was awarded the 2015 Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Department of Sociology, by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Brandeis University.

Rachel Madsen received a Mellon Dissertation Research Grant from the Mellon Foundation for exploratory research on regional sustainability planning and implementation in Massachusetts’ Pioneer Valley.

Robyn Powell, PhD candidate, was appointed to the American Bar Association’s Commission on Disability Rights in August 2015.

Rajan Sonik, PhD candidate, received a grant from the Disability Determination Process Small Grant Program, Policy Research Inc., for the Review of Sickle Cell for the Social Security Administration’s Compassionate Allowance Listing.

Gittell, J.H. “Health Care Performance Matters.” Presented at Health Care Performance Matters Speaker Series Event, sponsored by Salus Global, Toronto, Canada, October 2015.

Gittell, J.H. “Relational Coordination to Create High Performance Health Care.” Presented at American Academy of Medical Colleges Annual Meeting, November 2015.

Gittell, J.H. “Transforming Relationships for High Performance.” Presented at Positive Links Speaker Series, sponsored by the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich., November 2015.

Simon, L. “Case Studies in Social Entrepreneurship.” Presented at a SPARK training session sponsored by the Brandeis University Virtual Incubator Program, Waltham, Mass., November 2015.

Suchman, A., and **Gittell, J.H.** “Relational Coordination Intervention Training — Improving Work Processes Using Relational Coordination.” Presented at University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y., October 2015.

SOCIAL POLICY

Eaton, S. “Integration Nation: Immigrants, Refugees and America at Its Best.” Presented at the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, Dartmouth, Mass., November 2015.

Eaton, S. “Keynote Conversation With Nikole Hannah Jones and Susan Eaton.” Presented at the National Coalition on School Diversity Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., September 2015.

Nsiah-Jefferson, L. “Intersectionality: Applications to Global Fieldwork.” Presented at Oxfam Boston’s Diversity Series, Boston, December 2015.

Nsiah-Jefferson, L. “Intersectionality: Definitions, Origins, Uses and Applications to Race, Gender and Stress in Black Women.” Presented at Simmons College, Boston, July 2015.

Sampath, R. “The Unending Dialectics of White Violence Against Black People in America: A Comparison of the Post-Reconstruction Late 19th Century and the Alleged ‘Post-Racial Society’ in the Early 21st Century.” Presented at the 45th Annual Meeting of the Association of Black Sociologists, “Race and Inequality in the Obama Era and Beyond,” Chicago, August 2015.

THE HELLER SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Interim Dean
Marty Wyngaarden Krauss, PhD’81

Associate Dean for Research
Susan L. Parish

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WHAT'S NEXT?

An epidemic of opioid addiction and overdose is sweeping the nation. Heller is home to leading national experts on this crisis. Learn more at heller.brandeis.edu/news.

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The Heller School

FOR SOCIAL POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

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