Bridging the Gap Between Policy and Social Good

The 2015-2016 Annual Report
A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is my pleasure to present the Public Policy Center’s Annual Report for academic year 2015-16. All of our research, research support and community engagement activities are aimed to advance the public good and this report highlights many of our accomplishments in these areas from the past year. The center’s mission synced up well this year with the University of Iowa’s themed semester, Just Living, that focused exploration on issues related to social justice.

To achieve our goals, the center relies on funding from state and federal grants and contracts, private foundations, and the university. In 2015-16, we maintained $29.38 million in active grants and contracts. The breadth of research topics this year included health care reform, teen driving distraction, bullying, wage theft in Iowa, driverless vehicle technology, vehicle safety, water and air quality, housing, income inequality, education policy and taxation, changes in school meal policy, and local school climate. The center provided 84 undergraduate and graduate students, from a wide variety of disciplines, with applied research training experience and opportunities to collaborate with their peers and colleagues.

To fulfill our community engagement mission, the PPC hosted 12 Forkenbrock Series events, including lectures, day-long symposiums, on topics from drinking water quality and STEM Education Policy to the History of the Iowa Caucuses and the Political Discourse. We also helped to recreate the Policy Matters class for undergraduates as a Big Ideas course. We co-sponsored numerous events with other departments as well, including Robert Bullard’s lecture, The Wrong Complexion for Protection: Flint Water Crisis, and conducted fundraising events for the UI Veterans Association and Iowa Women’s Archives. We also collaborated with the Iowa City Book Festival and One Community One Book to bring Robert Reich and Bryan Stevenson to the community for public lectures.

Looking ahead to the coming year, I am excited to continue growing our research programs, especially our newer programs in Social and Education Policy and Politics and Policy, and provide new opportunities for faculty and others to engage with the center. We will continue our community partnerships, such as the ongoing collaboration between the PPC and Iowa City Community School District, measuring and addressing issues of school climate. The fall semester’s Run up to the Election Series includes a variety of speakers, as well as a weekly blog focused on different policy issues in relation to the 2016 election.

Other significant change includes Dan McGehee beginning his role as the Director of the National Advanced Driving Simulator after 20 years at the PPC. This well-earned appointment recognizes Dan’s success in leading the Transportation and Vehicle Safety Program here at the PPC. We want to sincerely thank Dan and everyone who has contributed to the success of that research program over the years and look forward to our future collaborations.

I am privileged to lead the Center’s dedicated staff and faculty and am grateful for all their hard work and creativity that leads to our success in generating new knowledge and sharing it with the campus and beyond. On behalf of all of us, thank you for your support, and we look forward to working with you in 2016-17.

~ Helen Keller
Public Policy Center by the Numbers

- **Dollar Amount Pending**: $742,430
- **Dollar Amount Funded**: $29,384,672
- **Grants Funded**: 36
- **Grants Pending**: 2
- **56 Faculty**
- **89 Students**
- **39 Staff**
- **Employed July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016**
- **Hosted 9 Forkenbrock Series Events**
- **Co-sponsored 13 Events with other UI Departments**

*Total funding awarded for current and pending projects. Pending projects include those with project start/end dates that fall within the FY16 or beyond.*
The Public Policy Center employs 95 full-time research faculty/staff, and engages many researchers across campus in various disciplines. The dissemination of their research is accomplished through journal articles, policy reports and briefs, presentations, and public events. The breadth of research topics includes health care reform, teen driving distraction, bullying, wage theft in Iowa, driverless vehicle technology, vehicle safety, water and air quality, housing, income inequality, education policy and taxation, changes in school meal policy, and local school climate.

Our researchers collaborate with many state agencies, including the Iowa Departments of Public Health, Human Services, Education and Transportation. Nationally, collaborations have included the Department of Health and Human Services, the Environmental Protection Agency, NASA, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health the National Safety Council.

Our health policy researchers have had articles accepted at two top-tier journals this year, Medical Care and Health Services Research. Our research monographs also receive significant national and international attention through our website and through Iowa Research Online. Iowa Research Online is managed by the University of Iowa Libraries and features over 180 PPC papers that were downloaded more than 6,000 times in the past year.

Program Directors:

Environmental Policy Research Program
David Cwiertny
Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Health Policy Research Program
Pete Damiano
Professor, Preventive and Community Dentistry

Iowa Social Science Research Center
Fred Boehmke
Professor, Department of Political Science

Politics and Policy Research Program
Tracy Osborn
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Social and Education Policy Research Program
Sarah Bruch
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology

Transportation and Vehicle Safety Policy Research Program
Dan McGehee
Assistant Professor, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, Occupational Health and Emergency Medicine
Environmental Policy Research Program

The Environmental Policy Research Program considers issues such as water use, pollution and climate change. These challenges are considered from an economic, legal, or policy perspective. David Cwiertny, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering, directs the program.

David Cwiertny, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering, directs the Environmental Policy Research Program.

The Environmental Policy Research Program received 1 grant totaling $362,789.

The more clearly we can FOCUS our attention on the WONDERS and REALITIES of the UNIVERSE, the less taste we shall have for destruction.
~ Rachel Carson

Fulbright Award
Jonathan C. Carlson, professor of law and international studies and Victor and Carol Alvarez Fellow in Law, received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award to Italy from the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. He will teach a course called Conflict of Laws (Private International Law) while researching international environmental law at the University of Trento in Trento, Italy, in Spring 2017.

The City of Sioux City, Iowa, adopted an active transportation plan designed by a group of University of Iowa students from the Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities. The students, who were advised by Scott Spak, assistant professor of urban and regional planning, recommended bike and pedestrian improvements like bike lanes, safer sidewalks and crosswalks, as well as implementation costs and timelines in the plan.

The Environmental Policy Research Program helped coordinate a statewide symposium, Iowa’s Drinking Water: Could Flint Happen Here? The event included panels of water experts from academia, industry and public sector.

More than 35 journal articles, reports, presentations, proceedings, briefs and blog posts were published or delivered.

David Cwiertny, director of the Public Policy Center's Environmental Research Program, has been named a 2016-17 Congressional Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Cwiertny, an associate professor of civil and environmental engineering and associate faculty research engineer at IIHR—Hydroscience and Engineering, is one of only two fellows chosen among more than 100 applicants. He will spend the next year in Washington, D.C., focusing on the science and technology of water policy.
The Health Policy Research Program investigates the effects of policy initiatives and government activities on cost of, access to, and quality of health care systems and their effects on consumers, health care providers, policymakers and businesses across Iowa and the nation.

**Health Policy Research Program**

The Health Policy Research Program received 18 grants totaling $10,749,168. Elizabeth Momany, associate research scientist at the PPC, is the assistant director of the Health Policy Research Program.

Iowa’s Aging Dentist Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage of Iowa dentists aged 55 and older</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>23%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>42%</td>
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Iowa’s Dental Workforce

Researchers from the Health Policy Research Program analyzed state workforce information collected by the Iowa Dentist Tracking System over a 17-year period, which may help prevent future dental-care shortages in Iowa. The study indicated that a large number of Iowa dentists are nearing retirement age, fewer dentists are practicing in rural areas, and the proportion of dentists who work in solo practice is declining. The research is the first longitudinal look at Iowa’s dental workforce and aims to inform dental educators, workforce-development agencies, and health departments across the state about trends, with the goal of collaborating to prevent gaps in access.

Smarter Lunchrooms

Led by Natoshia Askelson, assistant professor in the College of Public Health, a partnership among the PPC, the College of Public Health, the Iowa Department of Education, and five high schools across the state aims to make healthy choices easier by empowering students to assess and change their lunchroom. The Smarter Lunchrooms Movement applies simple and low cost changes to lunchrooms based on principles developed by the Cornell Center for Behavioral Economics in Child Nutrition Programs. The concept is that simple environmental changes – like displaying whole fruit, making the entrée with the greatest nutrition density most prominent in line, or giving vegetables creative names – have the power to “nudge” students to subconsciously make healthier eating choices while also improving school meal participation and decreasing waste.

It is not enough to be COMPASSIONATE. You must ACT.

~ the Dalai Lama

Dr. Raymond Kuthy, professor in the Department of Preventive and Community Dentistry, was presented with the American Association for Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) Distinguished Service Award at the 2016 National Oral Health Conference. The Distinguished Service Award is one of the AAPHD’s highest awards, recognizing individuals for distinguished service to public health dentistry.
The Politics and Policy Research Program conducted research on local, state, national and international government and politics, and how these politics affect the creation of public policy. We also consider whether and to what extent governments “work” and the implications of government design.

Fred Boehmke, director of the Iowa Social Science Research Center and professor of political science, received a $420,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to fund two years of research at the University of Iowa and three other universities – Penn State, Notre Dame and the University of Massachusetts. Public policy scholars and practitioners of politics often look to the states for innovative policies that can be emulated by other governments across the country, a process referred to as policy diffusion. Boehmke will produce a database on the adoption of hundreds of policies of American states, at least tripling the size of the largest database currently available and yielding a more representative sample of policies. Boehmke and his collaborators also hope to improve existing methods for inferring network ties in ways that are most suitable for policy diffusion research and implement it in a user-friendly package. They will build an interactive online portal to the data, complete with visualizations and automated analytics so that policymakers and other interested stakeholders can access a comprehensive look at the spread of innovation among state governments regarding financial, environmental, health, security and other social problem domains.

Fred Boehmke and Tracy Osborn, along with Emily Schilling, won the Best Journal Article award in the State Politics and Policy section from the American Political Science Association for their article, “Pivotal Politics and Initiative Use in the American States,” published in Political Research Quarterly. The award recognizes the best journal article on U.S. state politics or policy published during the previous calendar year in any peer-reviewed journal.

If we desire RESPECT for the LAW, we must first make the law RESPECTABLE.

~ Louis D. Brandeis
More than 50 journal articles, reports, presentations, proceedings, briefs and blog posts were published or delivered.

Sarah Bruch, assistant professor of sociology, directs the Social and Education Policy Research Program

Sarah Bruch, along with graduate students Tessa Heeren and Harper Haynes, presented findings from the School Climate Survey commissioned by the Iowa City Community School District (ICCSD) on Tuesday, April 26 at the ICCSD board meeting. Bruch’s research team conducted the survey in February 2016 in partnership with the Iowa City Community School District. The survey is linked to the district’s equity statement and equity plan, both approved by the Iowa City Community School Board last year. Bruch and team also presented their findings at a community event, “The Impact of Racial Injustice on Youth,” on Thursday, April 28. The event included Legal Information and Neighborhood Relations with Police and a youth panel that featured ICCSD students and alumni.

Bruch delivered a full report, three policy briefs, and individual reports to each school in the district upon completion of the study.

Jerry Anthony (Urban and Regional Planning) created an online interactive map for the Public Policy Center to help policymakers, planners and housing advocates assess housing affordability trends in counties across the nation.

The recently released 2014 State of the Nation’s Housing report notes that the lack of affordable housing in the U.S. is at record levels. According to this report about 41 million households spend over 30% of their income on housing. About half of all renter households are cost-burdened with about 28% of renter households spending over 50% of their income on housing.

To see how much the need for affordable housing changed between 1990 and 2010 in counties of your choice, click here.
TRANSPORTATION AND VEHICLE SAFETY POLICY RESEARCH PROGRAM

Transportation & Vehicle Safety Research program works to improve technology design through a better understanding of human behavior. The challenge is to match user needs with the optimal solutions—technological or otherwise.

Dan McGehee, assistant professor of mechanical and industrial engineering, occupational health and emergency medicine, directs the Transportation and Vehicle Safety Policy Research Program.

Daniel McGehee was the recipient of the 2015 Board of Regents Staff Excellence Award. McGehee has been researching every aspect of car crashes for over 20 years - from how, when and why they occur, to technologies for avoiding them altogether. His driver performance, distraction, and technology development research has led to innovative, interdisciplinary collaborations involving engineering, medicine, and public health. Results from his research help policy makers to improve government safety standards, as well as state and federal laws. While first generation safety systems were designed to help protect occupants in cars, his research deals with preventing or reducing the severity of crashes.

The Board of Regents Staff Excellence Award was formed to recognize staff members from Board of Regents institutions. Their accomplishments have significantly benefited the university, brought honor or recognition to the university, and had a significant positive impact on the State of Iowa.

A bridge made of Korean, ultra-high performance concrete, a project of UI Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor and PPC researcher Hosin Lee, was christened in Nov. 2015 in Buchanan County, Iowa. Engineers representing the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and local and Korean dignitaries were present. Though initially more expensive than traditional concrete, the ultra-high performance concrete reduces maintenance and repair costs, provides a durable surface, reduces permeability, arrests cracks, increases tensile strength and resists impact.

More than 30 journal articles, reports, presentations, proceedings, briefs and blog posts were published or delivered.

The My Car Does What campaign officially launched in October 2015, and received an award from the North American Excellence Association for "association campaign of the year." The national campaign and website aims to help drivers better understand the latest safety and crash avoidance technologies, making it more likely they’ll use them effectively as a result.


Members of the team presented at a session and accepted the trophy in April 2016. The North American Excellence Awards were created to honor the most outstanding achievements of communications professionals in their field. With automotive technology rapidly changing and highway deaths and injuries on the rise, the need to educate drivers has never been greater. The research-driven, integrated campaign reached 3.8 billion impressions and increased visits to the website 414 percent in just nine months.

HINDSIGHT is a wonderful thing but FORESIGHT is better, especially when it comes to saving LIFE.

~ William Blake
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Forkenbrock Series on Public Policy provides a forum for dialogue about policy areas from applied, academic, and interdisciplinary perspectives. The series was established in honor of David Forkenbrock, who established the PPC at the University of Iowa in 1987.

This year’s Forkenbrock series placed a special focus on the January 2016 Iowa Caucus, examining several different issues surrounding the politics and policies of the Iowa Caucus, and the political process.

The series was launched during fiscal year 2015 with a lecture by Thomas Frank entitled, “What’s the Matter with Liberals?”, followed by an April 2015 symposium, “The Politics of Immigration.” Those events were covered in the 2015 annual report.

Coming together is a BEGINNING; keeping together is PROGRESS; working together is SUCCESS.

~ Henry Ford
Iowa's Drinking Water Symposium
On Friday, June 17, keynote speaker Peter Gleick of the Pacific Institute kicked off Iowa's Drinking Water: Could Flint Happen Here?, which explored the current state of Iowa's drinking water and the future challenges confronting water providers in the state to deliver safe drinking water to Iowans. Co-organized by the Public Policy Center and the Center for Health Effects of Environmental Contamination (CHEEC), this all day event included panels of water experts from academia, industry and the public sector, including the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). See video here.

In light of recent, high profile public health crises arising from drinking water contamination around the US, a special focus was placed on whether drinking water supplies in Iowa are susceptible to similar vulnerabilities experienced elsewhere. This included a presentation by Joyce Zhu, a member of the Flint Water Study, who shared first-hand experiences and lessons learned from the public health crisis in Flint, Michigan. Beyond Flint, panel topics addressed other potential threats to the sustainability of Iowa's drinking water supplies.

Iowa's Drinking Water Symposium

STEM Education Equity Symposium
National and state experts gathered to discuss STEM education in Iowa on October 19. The day-long symposium, STEM Education Equity: Polices to Create Opportunities in Rural Iowa, presented an overview of STEM in Iowa and innovations in rural areas across the US, and examined needs of disadvantaged students in rural areas. Included in the discussions were next generation science standards, school-business partnerships, diversity in the STEM pipeline, and legislative perspectives.

The event featured keynote speakers Jeffrey Weld, Executive Director of the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council; Linda Rosen, CEO of Change the Equation; and Okhee Lee, professor in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at New York University.

The symposium was co-hosted by the University of Iowa College of Education and Iowa NSF EPScoR. Video of the event can be viewed here.

Guest Speakers
The PPC also hosted or co-hosted several speakers this year.

Tim McCollow
On Thursday, February 4, Tim McCollow, project manager for Milwaukee’s HOME GR/OWN initiative, discussed Milwaukee's urban food movement, and demonstrated how city vacancies and neighborhoods have been transformed with healthy food access and greenspace developments.

Ben Plesser
On Tuesday, February 9, the PPC, in partnership with the UI College of Law and UI Lecture Committee, presented, Covering ISIS: A Journalist’s Challenge by Ben Plesser, a senior producer from NBC News. The lecture was held at Shambaugh Auditorium at the UI Main Library, and was co-sponsored by the Public Policy Center, the UI College of Law, and the UI Lecture Committee.

Plesser talked about and showed film from some of his riskier assignments, including a trip into Syria to interview a militant jihadist about his treatment of prisoners, and footage of himself and crew very narrowly dodging gunfire after sneaking across the Syrian border.

Robert Bullard
As part of the “Just Living” Theme Semester the PPC and the UI Lecture Committee co-sponsored The Wrong Complexion for Protection: Flint Water Crisis presented by Robert D. Bullard on Tuesday, April 19 at the Englert Theatre.

Bullard is often described as the father of environmental justice. He received his Ph.D. degree from Iowa State University, and is the author of eighteen books that address sustainable development, environmental racism, urban land use, industrial facility siting, community reinvestment, housing, transportation, climate justice, emergency response, smart growth, and regional equity.

Mary Beth Tinker
Mary Beth Tinker visited Iowa City to speak about the Tinker case and the state of free speech among America's young people. The Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum co-sponsored this event.

Tinker was among a small group of students from Des Moines who, in December 1965, wore black armbands to school to mourn those lost on both sides if the Vietnam War. School officials suspended her, and her First Amendment case ended up with the U.S. Supreme Court, which upheld the students' right to wear armbands, and made clear that all students have First Amendment rights. See video here.
During AY 2015-16, the PPC employed 103 students in many capacities including Research Assistants, administrative support and as data collectors. Many of our events aim to engage the student community in policy-relevant research happening across campus. The center also supported the Policy Matters class and assisted with it transitioning to the “Big Ideas” format. This undergraduate course focused on the policy challenges posed by the search for economic security and equality of opportunity. Each topical unit concluded with a public forum, bringing together the campus and local community to discuss major social issues facing us today.

Student Spotlight: Tessa Heeren

Tessa Heeren served as a research assistant in the Health Policy Research Group during the 2015-2016 academic year. As a student, Heeren utilized network analysis software to carry out an organizational evaluation of the Public Policy Center. A team of Public Policy Center stakeholders in administration and leadership roles assisted with the development of the project, which had the goal of measuring the impact of research carried out by PPC staff and faculty. In order to quantitatively characterize the PPC's impact, a survey was constructed and sent to staff and faculty at the PPC. The survey asked about types of professional relationships, such as co-authorship for grants and research articles, collaboration for events and dissemination efforts, and professional ties across disciplines and sectors. The final product of this exploratory project assisted in the identification of strengths and areas for improvement, provided a baseline for future evaluations, and can be used to inform decisions related to the strategic direction of the PPC. Heeren graduated from the School of Social Work in the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, earning a Master of Social Work degree (M.S.W.) in May 2016. At the School of Social Work graduation ceremony, she received the Director's Award, an honorary award that recognizes graduating students who have demonstrated outstanding scholastic achievement, creativity, leadership and service accomplishments. The Director of the School of Social Work selects the recipients from those nominated by the School's faculty.

Heeren was also the recipient of the Mildred J. Snider scholarship, which was created in memory of a former School of Social Work faculty member who was active in advocacy and policy change. The award is given annually to a social work graduate student who demonstrates a strong potential for advancement of social policies related to community development and social service integration. The recipient will engage in policy studies that involve the systematic analysis of the mix of government and non-government policy and program development in social welfare at federal, state and local levels.

Heeren traveled to Cluj-Napoca, Romania, as a participant in the Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research and Training (MHIRT) program from June 6 to Aug. 4, 2016. The MHIRT internship is funded by the National Institutes of Health and administered by The Center for International Rural and Environmental Health (CIREH) in the UI College of Public Health. While working at the Cluj School of Public Health at Babes-Bolyai University, Heeren contributed to a health policy project, Research into Policy to Enhance Physical Activity (REPOPA). REPOPA is a five-year project that incorporates partnerships across seven countries – The Netherlands, Finland, Italy, Denmark, Canada, United Kingdom and Romania.

The REPOPA project brings together researchers from different disciplines and expertise, policy makers and citizen stakeholders to increase cultural competency in health care and research. The goal of REPOPA is to integrate scientific expertise and policy practice to promote physical activity in structural policy making. Since 2016 is the final year of the REPOPA project, Heeren’s role included analyzing observational and survey data, writing sections of a scientific manuscript, and crafting final report publications for the general public.

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**EDUCATION**

**EDUCATION**

**is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.**

~ Nelson Mandela
Iowa Social Science Research Center (ISRC)

The year saw continued growth at the ISRC, as we have expanded our services to include statistical and data consulting for faculty and students, which includes one-on-one consulting and recurring workshops to introduce researchers to statistical software, programming languages, and advanced methodological techniques. We also welcomed a new full-time Project Manager and serve as the contact point and support center for secure access to restricted-use microdata at the new Central Plains Federal Statistical Research Data Center housed at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

Accomplishments from 2015-16:

- Assisted with the submission of 50 grant proposals for a total of $5,084,390 of funding; of these, nine grants were funded for a total of $574,549 and 12 proposals are still pending.

- Trained 12 University of Iowa students in social science research activities including data collection methodology and human subjects training.

- In addition to continuing projects initiated in 2014-2015, the center fielded 17 surveys or research-based initiatives (Health Information Technology, Active Ottumwa Study, Integrated Health Home 2015, Non ER Medical Transportation, Home-based Childcare Worker Health 2015, Hawkeye Poll 2015, Summer Session Survey, Polk County Supported Employment, Polk County Service Coordination, Polk County ISA/KEY/FACT, Families Affected by Flooding, Family Study Data Entry, Global Communities Baseline Public Perception Survey, Child and Family Survey Data Imputation, Sarcoma Focus Group Transcription, Medical Health Home, Indigenous Activism and Epidemiological Knowledge: An International Comparison Transcription).

- Conducted 2,595 telephone interviews with average duration of 13 minutes; conducted mail surveys with 9,086 completed surveys returned; conducted web surveys with 3,055 completed online surveys.

- Provided 25 methodological workshops throughout the last year including topics on text analysis, R, and Python. The workshops were well attended with 321 attendees.

- Scheduled five surveys or research-based initiatives for 2016-17 (Polk County Health Services 2016, Dental Wellness – Consumer, Dental Wellness – Provider, Home-based Childcare Worker Health 2016, Tanager Project Transcription).

Worked with 16 Departments/Units and across five colleges on data collection and grant development activities Colleges on grant development, survey research development, and data collection including: Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Geography and Sustainability Sciences, Linguistics, Health Management and Policy, Journalism and Mass Communication, Occupational and Environmental Health, History, Mathematics, Statistics, Orthopedics, Community and Behavioral Health, School of Social Work, School of Urban and Regional Planning, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, College of Public Health, College of Law, College of Medicine, and the Division of Continuing Education.
IOWA SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER (ISRC)

Funded Grants

• **Collaborative Research: An Expanded Framework for Inferring Public Policy Diffusion Networks.**
  Frederick Boehmke, Department of Political Science, National Science Foundation; **$95,938**

• **Documentation of the Language of the Baduy (bac), Indonesia.**
  William Davies, Department of Linguistics, National Science Foundation; **$300,400**

• **Attitudinal Policy Feedback and the Affordable Care Act.**
  Juliana Pacheco, Department of Political Science, Russell Sage Foundation; **$34,564**

• **American Fellowships.**
  Keisha Blain, Department of History, American Association of University Women Educational Foundation; **$30,000**

• **Graduate Research Fellowship Program.**
  Addison Kimmel, Department of Anthropology, National Science Foundation; **$46,000**

• **Exploring Social Networks and Resources of Families at Risk for Adverse Childhood Experiences.**
  Aislinn Conrad-Hiebner (School of Social Work), Elizabeth Menninga (Department of Political Science), Armeda Wojciak (Department of Rehabilitation and Counselor Education), Tanager Place; **$29,966**

• **POLST Toolkit Project: Using POLST to Honor Patient Wishes across the Care Continuum.**
  Mercedes Bern-Klug, School of Social Work, Oregon Health and Science University; **$5,200**

• **United Way Asset Mapping: College Attainment.**
  Megan Gilster, School of Social Work, United Way of Muscatine; **$7,634**

• **Global Communities Baseline Public Perception Survey.**
  Frederick Boehmke, Department of Political Science, Global Communities; **$24,847**

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*No RESEARCH without ACTION, no ACTION without RESEARCH.*

~Kurt Lewin
PUBLICATIONS

Environmental Policy Research Program– Journal Articles


Laurian, L. and J. Crawford, Sustainability in the US and New Zealand: Explaining and addressing the implementation gap in local government. Journal of Environmental Planning and Management. Published online: 20 Apr 2016.


Environmental – Reports

S.N. Spak, Sioux City Downtown Greenspace Plan, 2016
Environmental – Presentations


Spak, S.N., GEEMaP Research Workshop, University of Iowa, 17 October 2015.


L. Laurian, “Urban Forestry and biodiversity,” talk given to the University of Iowa Student Environmental Coalition, UI Office of Sustainability, March 24 2016.

L. Laurian, “Ecopolis Iowa City: Mosquito Flats to Pawpaw Patch,” Introduced and moderated the forum, Iowa City Public Library. April 4 2016.

L. Laurian, “Urban Planning is up for discussion,” talk given at the Iowa City Northwest Junior High School, Dec. 18 2015.


Environmental – Awards & Recognition

Scott Spak, NASA Group Achievement Award, 2015 for the 2013 Studies of Emissions and Atmospheric Composition, Clouds, and Climate Coupling by Regional Surveys (SEAC4RS) field campaign, awarded for outstanding contributions to the NASA Mission


Dave Cwiértney, Selected as AAAS Congressional Fellow (for appointment September 1, 2016)


Askelson, N. M., Lubker-Cornish, D., & Golembiewski, E. H., It’s a long way from the farm to the school: Rural school food service director perceptions on voluntary school meal reforms. In press. Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development.

Askelson, N. M., Edmonds, S. W., Momany, E. T., & Tegegne, M., Understanding clinic practices for HPV vaccination series completion: Survey of clinic managers in Iowa. In press Sexually Transmitted Disease


Dan Shane, Padmaja Ayyagari, and George Wehby, “Continued Gains in Health Insurance but Few Signs of Increased Utilization: An Update on the ACA Dependent Coverage Mandate”. 2016; Medical Care Research and Review; 73:478-492.


Dorthe Almind Petersen, George L. Wehby, Jeffrey C. Murray, Kaare Christensen, Psychiatric Diagnoses in Individuals with Non-syndromic Oral Cleft: A Danish Population-Based Cohort Study. PLOS One. 2016; 11: e0156261.


Health – Reports
Bentler SE, Damiano PC, Momany ET, McInroy B, Heeren T., Non-Emergency Medical Transportation and the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan. March 2016. Iowa City, IA. University of Iowa Public Policy Center.


Golembiewski EH, Askelson NM, Bentler SE, Damiano PC, Momany ET., Evaluation of the Integrated Health Home Program in Iowa: Qualitative Interviews with Site Administrators. 2015. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa Public Policy Center.

Damiano, Peter C, Julie C Reynolds, Jill Boylston Herndon, Susan C McKernan, and Raymond A Kuthy., “Patient-Centered Dental Home Development Project: Phase 1 Study Methodology”. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa Public Policy Center.

McKernan, Susan C, Mark Pooley, Aparna Ingleshwar, Peter C Damiano, and Elizabeth T Momany, “Evaluation Of Provider Adequacy In The Iowa Health And Wellness Plan During The First Year”. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa Public Policy Center.

Reynolds, Julie C, Peter C Damiano, Susan C McKernan, Brooke McInroy, Suzanne E Bentler, Elizabeth T Momany, and Raymond A Kuthy. , “Evaluation Of The Dental Wellness Plan: Member Experiences In The First Year”. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa Public Policy Center.

Damiano PC, Reynolds JC, McKernan SC, Mani S, Kuthy RA., The Need for Defining a Patient-Centered Dental Home Model in the Era of the Affordable Care Act. Iowa City, IA.


Health - Abstracts


Kuthy RA, McKernan SC, Hanley PF, Dentist practice location demand threshold at the community level. 45th Annual Meeting & Exhibition of the AADR, 2016.


Health – Presentations


Damiano, P., Update on the ACA and Dentistry. Invited presentation to the ADEA Annual Session. March 2016. Denver CO.

Atchison K, Mouden L, Foley M, Damiano P, Kusiak J, Dye B, Clark D, The Importance of Big Data for improving oral health for vulnerable populations through increased involvement of the patient care, research, and payer community. Accepted for a panel discussion at the National Oral Health Conference, Cincinnati, OH. April 2016


Bentler, S, Academy Health Annual Research Meeting, State Health Research and Policy Interest Group Meetings, Minneapolis, MN: “Iowa Health and Wellness Plan: Early Results from Iowa’s Private Medicaid Expansion.”

Shane, D, “Is the ACA Bringing the Family Back Together (for Tax Purposes)? Investigating the Dependent Coverage Mandate Effect on Dependent Tax Exemptions”, 6th Biennial Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, podium presentation

Mueller, K, Health Services Research Meet Policy and Practice to Benefit Rural People; UI College of Public Health; Distinguished Faculty Lecture; Aug. 27, 2015


Mueller, K, Pathways to Success in a New World of Health Care Finance; The 31st Annual Rural Health Care Symposium, California Hospital Association, San Diego, California; Keynote/Plenary Address; April 7, 2016

Mueller, K, Pathways to Success in a New World of Healthcare Finance; 31st Annual Rural Health Care Symposium, California Hospital Association, California Hospital Association, San Diego, California; Keynote/Plenary Address; April 7, 2016

Mueller, K, Continuing the Journey to Oz: Finance and Organization Change as a Means to an End; 14th Annual Western Region Flex Conference, University of Nevada School of Medicine; Tucson, Arizona; Invited Lecture; June 9, 2016

Mueller, K, How the Changing Marketplace Creates Challenges and Opportunities in Rural Health; SORH Regional Partnership Meeting - Region A, National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health, Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Invited Lecture; June 16, 2016

Mueller, K, Laying the Bricks on the Road to a High Performance System, Region E Grantee Meeting, SORH, Big Sky, Montana, July 8, 2015


Atchison C, Improving Health, Lowering Costs: Translating Population Health into Effective State Policy; NASHP Annual State Health Policy Conference, NASHP, Dallas, Texas, Oct. 2015

Atchison C, State Hygienic Laboratory Legislative Focus; Iowa Public Health Association Legislative Forum, IPHA, Des Moines, Iowa; Dec. 2015
Atchison C, Overview of the State Hygienic Laboratory; Cedar Rapids Downtown Rotary, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Downtown Rotary, Iowa City; June 2016

Atchison C, The L-SIP Update: Stories from Recent L-SIP Participants; Association of Public Health Laboratory Annual Meeting, Association of Public Health Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico; June 2016


Fluharty, Charles W, Commencement Address, Iowa Wesleyan University, Mount Pleasant, IA. May 7, 2016.


Wright, B, Exploring Variation in the Use and Duration of Observation Care. Social Science Applied to Healthcare Improvement Research (SAPPHIRE), University of Leicester, United Kingdom. July 13.


Damiano PC, Momany B, Bentler S, McKernan SC. (December 2015). Iowa Wellness Plan evaluation interim report. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa Public Policy Center.


Health – Blogs and Editorials

Atchison, C. (2016). Nitrates and more: Water surveillance shows concerns Guest Opinion, Des Moines Register

Health – Awards

Mueller, K, 2016 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence, Board of Regents, State of Iowa

Atchison, C, Henry Albert Memorial Award, Iowa Public Health Association, 2016

Fluharty C, Inaugural recipient, Iowa Wesleyan University Medal of Merit, 2016


Wright, B, John D. Thompson Prize for Young Investigators, AUPHA, 2016

Wright, B, James N. Murray Award (for excellence in research, teaching and service), University of Iowa, 2016

Politics & Policy – Journal Articles


Politics & Policy – Reports


Politics & Policy – Books


Politics & Policy – Presentations

C. Tolbert, Keynote Speaker, Ideas and Intersection Dinner: Iowa Caucuses, Hosted by Vice President for Research, Dan Reed, University of Iowa, November 2015

C. Tolbert, Discussant, Visions in Methodology Conference (VIM), Society for Political Methodology, American Political Science Association, University of California, Davis, May 2016.

C. Tolbert, Department of Political Science, University of California, San Diego, November 2015.
C. Tolbert, Partnership for Progress on the Digital Divide 2015 International Conference, Phoenix, AZ, October 2015

C. Tolbert, Dg.o 2015, International Research Conference on Digital Government, hosted by the School of Public Affairs in Phoenix at ASU, May 26-30, 2015. (The conference is sponsored by the Digital Government Society, and participants came from across the US and 20 countries)

C. Tolbert, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy, Washington University in St. Louis, October 2015

C. Tolbert, Ranked Choice Voting Short Course, American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, September 2015

C. Tolbert, Visions in Political Methodology Conference, Society for Political Methodology, American Political Science Association, University of Kentucky, May 2015

C., Innovative Broadband Evaluation Data Conference, Arizona State University, February 2015


Donovan, T., C. Tolbert and K. Gracey, Understanding Election Rules and Political Behavior in Diverse Communities. Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2015.


F. Boehmke, 2016 Society for Political Methodology Summer Meeting (poster discussant).


T. Osborn, Conference presentation, American Political Science Association

T. Osborn, Conference presentation, Midwest Political Science Association

T. Osborn, Conference presentation, Southern Political Science Association

T. Osborn, Conference presentation, State Politics and Policy

T. Osborn, Invited presentation, Gender Equality and Public Policy seminar, University College, London, UK (May 2016)


Politics & Policy – Blogs & Editorials


Chenoweth, Erica, Page Fortna, Sara Mitchell, Burcu Savun, Jessica Weeks, and Kathleen Cunningham, How To Get Tenure (If You’re a Woman). Foreign Policy, April 19, 2016.

Politics & Policy – Awards & Recognition

Caroline Tolbert, Elected to the Council of the American Political Science Association (one of 16 representatives). 2015-17

Caroline Tolbert, Carnegie Foundation Fellowship Nomination, Provost Butler, University of Iowa. Growing Information Inequality and Universal Broadband for American Communities.

Rene Rocha, Award for the best paper presented in the Race, Ethnicity, and Politics section of American Political Science Association, Sept 2015

Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, 2015 Quincy Wright Distinguished Scholar Award, International Studies Association Midwest

Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, 2015 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Departmental Alumni Award from the Department of Political Science, Iowa State University

Social & Education – Journal Articles


Gordon, C., My Life as a Wonk, in McKerley, Deslippe, and Slocum (eds), Civic Labors: Scholar Activism and Working Class Studies (Illinois, 2016)

Social & Education - Reports


Frisvold, D, “School Breakfast Program Increases Student Achievement in High-Poverty Schools,” (assisted by Alex Russell), UC Davis Center for Poverty Research Policy Brief, 2015.


Social & Education - Briefs

Social & Education – Books

Social & Education - Presentations
Bruch, Sarah K., “Inequality across the U.S. States: Geographic Inequality in Social Provision and Redistribution.” Invited talk given at the Inequality by the Numbers LIS/Graduate Center-CUNY Workshop, June 2016.
Bruch, Sarah K., “Inequality across the U.S. States: Geographic Inequality in Social Provision and Redistribution.” Invited talk given at the Inequality by the Numbers LIS/Graduate Center-CUNY Workshop, June 2015.


Nguyen, Phuong, “Does Closing Public Schools Save Costs?” Next Generation of Public Finance Conference, Georgia State University, May 2016


Frisvold, D, 2016: Georgia State University, University of Illinois, Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Research Conference at the University of Michigan, University of Iowa, University of California Davis, American Society of Health Economists Biennial Conference

Frisvold, D, 2015: Comparative International Research Based on the HRS Family of Data Conference, University of Iowa, Southern Economic Association Annual Conference


Social & Education – Blogs and Editorials

Gordon, C, Right to Work (For Less): By the Numbers, Dissent (May 2016)

Gordon, C, Ferguson Digs in its Heels, Dissent (February 2016)

Gordon, C, The Pension Pinch, Dissent (November 2015)

Gordon, C, Ferguson Revisited, Dissent (August 2015)

Social & Education - Awards & Recognition

Teresa Mangum, Elected Secretary, National Humanities Alliance

Karen Heimer, President-Elect, American Society of Criminology, 2016-2017

Karen Heimer, Fellow, American Society of Criminology, 2015

Karen Heimer, Editorial Board Member, Social Psychology Quarterly, terms 2016-2018

Frisvold, D, Professional Excellence in the Training of Economists Award for Graduate Student Advising, University of Iowa, 2015-2016

Frisvold, D, Recognized for making a positive difference by a member of the UI graduating class of 2016


Transportation – Journal Articles


Transportation – Reports

Oneyear, N., Hallmark, S., Carney, C., & McGehee, D., Prediction of Lane Encroachment on Rural Two Lane Curves Using the Shrp 2 Naturalistic Driving Study Data. Development of rural curve driving models using lateral placement and prediction of lane departures using the SHRP 2 naturalistic driving data, 80.


Transportation – Presentations


Transportation – Awards & Recognition

Charles Connerly, Summer Research Opportunity Program Mentoring Award, presented July 2015 by the Graduate College

Charles Connerly, Michael J. Brody Award for Faculty Service, presented October 2015 by Provost’s Office and Faculty Senate