













## From the Director:



I am pleased to present the Public Policy Center's Annual Report for academic year 2014-15. The report highlights the center's achievements in: a) conducting externally funded research, b) engaging the university and the broader community in a variety of policy-relevant events, c) providing research-related experiences for students, and d) supporting interdisciplinary and collaborative activities to further high quality research and scholarship.

This has been another exceptional year for the people associated with the Center. In 2014-15, we maintained nearly \$32 million dollars in active grants and contracts. This funding supported innovative research on a wide breadth of topics, including health care reform, automated vehicles, vehicle safety, water and air quality, housing, income inequality, education policy and taxation, changes in school meal policy, and racial policies. The center provided nearly 89 undergraduate and graduate students, from a wide variety of disciplines, with applied research training experience and opportunities to collaborate with their peers and colleagues. The Iowa Social Science Research Center (ISRC) continued its uniquely positioned services, assisting scholars in submitting over 50 grant applications and collecting data for over 20 projects.

We again hosted and co-sponsored events for students, policymakers and the public on some of the most challenging policy topics such as the balance between agriculture and water quality and quantity, and the politics of immigration. The Forkenbrock Series also featured events including The Lunch and Learn sessions with state legislators, lectures by distinguished national figures, film-screenings, and day-long symposia. All of our events, from our symposium about *Renewable Energy*, to the film screening of *Woke Up Black*, to the panel session about the *Future of Health Care for Veterans*, provided a forum for spirited, interdisciplinary dialogue about these difficult issues, presented from all perspectives.

I am grateful to the members of the center's National Advisory Committee, our esteemed colleagues from across the nation, who participated in our first annual meeting in December 2014. We received valuable feedback about growing our research programs, disseminating the results of our research, and measuring our impact on policymakers and the public.

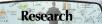
For the coming year, the PPC is again pleased to be able to support the Policy Matters class in collaboration with the Departments of History and Sociology, bringing senior faculty, policy experts and critical topical discussion to undergraduates in the more personal "Big Idea" format. We will be expanding the methodological support available through the ISRC to improve the quality of research and scholarship among social scientists. We are also hosting the *Run Up to the 2016 Iowa Caucus* series which will involve collaborations with community partners such as the Iowa City Book Festival and the Hoover Presidential Library, and will include a variety of events on pertinent topics such as the history of the caucuses, media coverage of the caucuses, and political discourse.

The PPC is home to nearly 150 faculty, staff and students with appointments ranging from the humanities to the social, natural, and medical sciences. I am humbled and privileged to work with these dedicated staff and faculty and am grateful for all their hard work that drives the center's success as we meet the University's mission of creating new knowledge and sharing this information with the public as we expand student's horizons with unique learning opportunities. On behalf of all of us, thank you for your support and we look forward to working with you in 2015-16.

















## **Highlights**



## **External Funding**

The Public Policy Center had 39 grants in AY 2014-15 with a total funding of \$31.72 million.



# Student Employees

During AY 2014-15, the PPC employed 89 students in many capacities including Research Assistants, administrative support and as data collectors.



## **Student Research**

PhD student Astha Singhal was lead author of an article published in Health Affairs, one of the top three journals in the area of health policy.



## Staff Researcher of the Year Award

Dan McGehee,
Transportation
& Vehicle Safety
Policy Program
Director, received
the University
of Iowa Staff
Researcher of the
Year award and had
the highest level of
external support of
any single scholar
on campus.



# International Workshop on Automated Vehicle Policy

Transportation & Vehicle Safety Policy Program Director conducted a workshop on automated vehicle policy at the University of Iowa. Fifteen of the most influential world leaders on automated vehicles participated.









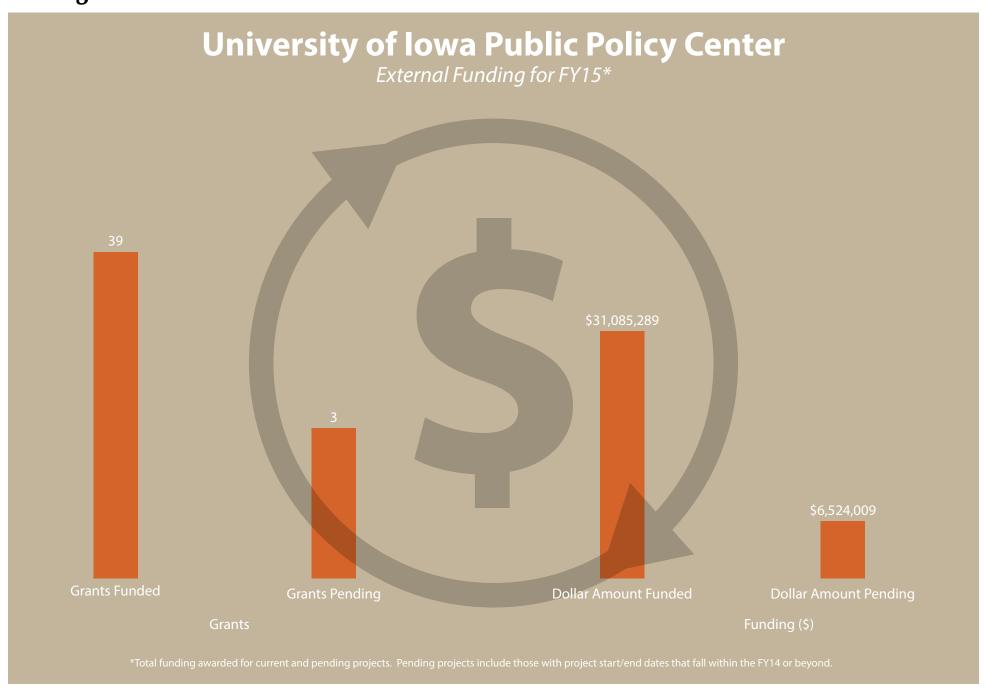








## **Funding**



















## Research

## **New Programs and Directors**

To match trends in topical interest, the research programs were restructured in the following way, effective July 1, 2015:

Social Science Research was separated into:

- a) Politics and Policy Research and
- b) Social and Education Policy Research

The Housing and Land Use program was incorporated into the Social and Education Policy Research program

New directors were appointed to three of our programs, effective July 1, 2015:

Environmental Policy
Dave Cwiertny
Professor in Civil
and Environmental
Engineering





Politics and Policy Tracy Osborn Associate Professor in Political Science

Social and Education Policy Sarah Bruch Assistant Professor in Sociology



## **Research Highlights**

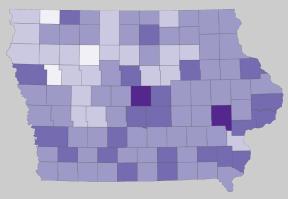
- The PPC had 36 active grants in AY 2014-15 with total funding of \$31.72 million. There were another five grants pending expected to begin in FY16 with a total value of \$3.97 million. The breadth of topics included health care reform, automated vehicles, vehicle safety, water and air quality, housing, income inequality, education policy and taxation, changes in school meal policy, and racial policies.
- Researchers at the PPC have published many reports, briefs and articles.
   The Health Policy Research Program conducted 14 externally funded



studies that included: an evaluation of Iowa's Medicaid Expansion program (The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan) in coordination with the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS); the impact of school nutrition changes in Iowa in coordination with the Iowa Department of Education; intellectual disabilities in children conducted in coordination with the CDC; and the adequacy of the dental workforce in Iowa, in coordination with the federal Health

Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Health Policy research monographs are also getting significant national and international attention through the website and through Iowa Research Online. Iowa Research Online is managed by the UI Libraries and features 130 PPC papers that were downloaded 9,000 times in the past year.

- Research support provided by the ISRC spread campus wide, assisting researchers from six different colleges, including fourteen different units in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Staff supported fifty grant/scholarship submissions across departments including university-wide interdisciplinary initiatives. Of those fifty, nine have been funded for a total \$570,048 and thirty proposals are still pending for a total of \$4,230,751. In addition to continuation of projects initiated in 2013-14, the center initiated 17 new data collection projects currently in various stages of implementation. The ISRC has provided cost estimates for an additional seven projects that are pending funding.
- Projects conducted by scholars at the PPC also supported and actively
  engaged researchers from across campus in important studies ranging
  from the trauma care after a car crash, to the dispersion of state-level
  policies to health care reform.
- The Housing and Land Use Policy Program created an <u>interactive web-based map</u> to go along with a report that reveals information on housing affordability in the state of Iowa.



The map shows information about housing affordability in each Iowa county for three different years at two levels: households that are cost-burdened (spending over 30% of income on housing) and those that are extremely cost-burdened (spending over 50% of income on housing).

- A University of Iowa study on the intensity of tornadoes and how it correlates to burning biomass garnered national attention. Scott Spak, assistant professor in Urban & Regional Planning and Civil & Environmental Engineering, and researcher for the Environmental Policy Program at the Public Policy Center, co-authored the study.
  - The study, published in the journal of Geophysical Research Letters, examined the effects of smoke resulting from agricultural land-clearing fires in Central America when encountering tornado conditions in the United States after drifting across the Gulf of Mexico. Researchers found that while environmental conditions were the main factor in tornado formation, the smoke particles intensify those conditions and increase the likelihood of those storms becoming supercells.
- Human Factors and Vehicle Safety Research
  Director Dan McGehee received the 2015
  Distinguished Research Professional Award.
  Dan was recognized for his work in the field
  of human factors and vehicle safety research,
  and autonomous vehicle policy, which has
  earned him a national reputation. McGehee
  is frequently invited to present at national
  meetings and speak to the media, and has
  been featured on NPR, the Huffington Post,



and other national media outlets. He is frequently consulted on driving safety matters by policy-makers, state and federal agencies, and private organizations such as the AAA Foundation.

Highlights







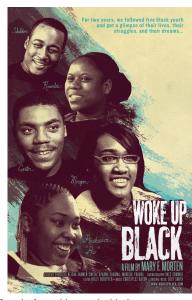




## **Community Engagement**

In 2008, the **Forkenbrock Series on Public Policy** was established to expand the public engagement activities of the PPC by providing interdisciplinary forums to share information on important policy-related topics with policymakers and the public. The series sponsors lectures, film screenings, panel discussions and symposia designed to bring together academic researchers, policymakers, and other key stakeholders such as business leaders, students and the public on the most pressing issues of our time.

# Popularity of *Woke Up Black* Warrants a Second Screening and Panel Discussion



"If you had a problem in the black community, and you brought in a group of white people to discuss how to solve it, almost nobody would take that panel seriously. In fact, there'd probably be a public outcry. It would be the same thing for women's issues or gay issues.

But every day, in local arenas all the way to the White House, adults sit around and decide what problems youth have and what youth need, without ever consulting us." ~ Jason, 17 years old, Youth Force Member, Bronx, NY

"I don't have any felonies, never been to jail, never been to juvey... nothin'. I have no record, don't do drugs... nothin', but I've always had a problem with the police. And it's sad, like 'cause I have more friends that do do

all that and have the same problems that I have, ya' know? I just woke up black."

~ San Francisco Bayview area youth

On Wednesday, September 24, the Public Policy Center hosted a screening of the documentary, *Woke Up Black*. The film documents a two-year period in the lives of five black youth ages 16-21, capturing both day-to-day life events such as family gatherings and interactions with the justice system, as well as major milestones such as high school graduations and first days at college. The film focuses on the youths' ideas and opinions in their own words, and underscores the humanity that we all share regardless of race or age.

Morgan Price, one of the film's subjects, is a Graduate Research Assistant with the PPC's Transportation and Vehicle Safety Policy program. She has a BSE in Biomedical Engineering from Iowa and is a current MS candidate in Epidemiology at the UI College of Public Health.

Price, along with *Woke Up Black* Director Mary Morten and documentary subjects Carter Tindell-Hall and Ansheera "Ace" Hilliard, participated in a panel discussion following the film screening. Hilliard's participation contributed another facet to the discussion, as a self-identified gender queer. Marcella David, former Professor of Law & International Studies and Associate Dean for the UI College of Law, moderated the panel.

The free screening and discussion was held at Shambaugh Auditorium in the UI Main Library for a standing room only crowd. A second screening and discussion was held in October so more guests could participate.



A combination of events in October made up the "Meeting the Renewable Energy Challenge" symposium. The symposium took a broad look at the scientific challenges and policy issues surrounding renewable energy, with special reference to Iowa and the Midwest. Should the government support a shift from nonrenewable to renewable sources of energy? Will shifting toward renewables decrease the pace of climate change or make us more energy secure? What are the technical barriers to rapidly increasing our reliance on renewable energy? What policy changes are necessary or desirable in order to promote renewable energy growth? Topics covered will include infrastructure development (e.g. wind farms; transmission lines), biofuels, emerging environmental problems, and distributed energy policy.

The series of events started off on October 8 with a screening of the film, *Dirty Business:* "Clean Coal" and the Battle for Our Energy Future. In the digital age, half of our electricity still comes from coal. Dirty

Business reveals the true social and environmental costs of coal power and tells the stories of innovators who are pointing the way to a renewable energy future.

Guided by Rolling Stone reporter Jeff Goodell, the film examines what it means to remain dependent on a 19th century technology that is the largest single source of greenhouse gases.

Can coal really be made clean? Can renewables be produced on a scale large enough to replace coal? The film seeks answers in a series of stories shot in China, Saskatchewan, Kansas, West Virginia, Nevada and New York. It featured (among others) Dr. James Hansen, who presented a lecture as part of the series.

The event continued the following week with a Student Energy Expo (October 15), which offered opportunities for students to learn and share information about their own research, related to renewable energy and similar topics. That evening, Mark Jacobson (Director of the Atmosphere/ Energy Program and Professor

of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Stanford University) Robert Bryce (a senior fellow at the Manhattan), and members of the UI Student Debate Team participated in an Oxford-style debate, arguing their stances on the possibility of 100% renewable energy by the year 2030.

The "Meeting the Renewable Energy Challenge" symposium followed the next day. Jacobson and Bryce continued their dialogue on the topic as keynote speakers. Dr. James Hansen presented his keynote remarks later that afternoon. Hansen is the former Director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, and now directs a program in Climate Science, Awareness and Solutions at Columbia University's Earth Institute. He was trained in physics and astronomy in the space science program of Dr. James Van Allen at the University of Iowa.

That evening, Hansen presented a public lecture on global climate policies, entitled Speaking Truth to Power: Lessons from Iowa and Relevance to Global Climate Policies.















## Engagement, cont.

## BROWN BAG Lunch and Learn

## PPC Hosts Legislative Lunch & Learn Series

The Legislative Brown Bag Lunch and Learn Series is designed to allow University of Iowa faculty to share their expertise with Iowa legislators on critical issues relevant to the current session. They are also intended to familiarize legislators with experts to whom they can turn for guidance from research-based evidence. Four sessions were held this year at the Iowa State Capitol.

On February 23, Drs. Pete Damiano (Public Policy Center and UI College of Dentistry) and Michael Flaum (UI Department of Psychiatry) presented an update on the Affordable Care Act and the mental health redesign for adults.

On March 9, Chuck Fluharty and Keith Mueller, both of the Rural Policy and Research Institute (RUPRI) and the UI College of Public Health, traveled to Des Moines to present an overview of RUPRI and critical policy issues for rural communities.

Dan McGehee (Public Policy Center), Chris Schwarz (UI National Advanced Driving Simulator), David Conrad (UI Office of Research and Economic Development) and Mark Nolte (Iowa City Area Development) presented an overview on March 23 of the policy issues Iowa will face in introducing autonomous vehicles into the state, and the potential impact this could have on economic development.

The last session of the series was held on March 30. Linda Snetselaar (UI Associate Provost of Outreach and Engagement and Professor, UI College of Public Health), Helena Laroche (UI Carver College of Medicine), and Denise Aikoriegie, (Des Moines Area Community College), talked about community engagement and intervention around obesity.



# Panel Comes Together on Veterans Day to Discuss the Future of Health Care for Veterans

On Veterans Day, November 11, the Forkenbrock Series on Public Policy presented "The Future of Health Care for Veterans." The panel discussion examined the challenges of meeting the needs of aging veterans, rural services, veteran mental health and other issues.

U.S. Representative Dave Loebsack, who is on the Armed Services Committee, welcomed the audience and praised the care given to veterans of Iowa, despite recent issues the Veterans Administration (VA) and its hospitals have faced.

Dr. Peter Kaboli, MD, Chief of Medicine at the Iowa City VA Health Care System, delivered the keynote remarks. He outlined the six qualities of an ideal health care system: safe, effective, patient-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable.

Addressing each of these, Kaboli talked about the VA leading the way in electronic medical records, bar coding

medications, and root cause analyses, establishing a culture of safety that preceded many other health care systems. The VA is effective in that it is not a fee for service system - everyone in the system has the same benefits, and highcost, high-risk procedures are regionalized. The VA is patientcentered in its understanding of the unique health care needs of veterans, efficient and equitable in that all patients receive the same benefit and are assured of being seen. He did admit some deficiencies in timeliness, but also explained that some of the metrics for rating timeliness are unrealistic.

Kaboli rounded out his remarks with an overview of Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert McDonald's Blueprint for Excellence. The four overriding themes in this plan for the future of the VA were: improve performance, promote a positive culture of service, advance health care innovation,

and increase operational effectiveness and accountability.

Following Kaboli's comments, a panel consisting of Allen Roberts, UI Military and Veteran Educational Specialist; Lieutenant Colonel Joe Albrecht, Professor of Military Science, UI Army ROTC; Gary Marquardt, past commander of the VFW in Iowa; Erin Siniff, Social Worker, Iowa City VA Health Care System; and Larry Lockwood, University of Iowa Registrar and Vietnam Veteran, each gave their perspective as providers or users of the VA System.

To view video of the event, click <u>here</u>.



# Thomas Frank Explains "What's the Matter with Liberals?"

Thomas Frank, a Salon politics and culture columnist, presented his lecture, "What's the Matter with Liberals?" to an enthusiastic crowd, as one of the PPC's "Run Up to the 2016 Caucus" events.

Frank's many books include "What's The Matter With Kansas?" "Pity the Billionaire" and "One Market Under God." He is the founding editor of The Baffler magazine.

Frank contends that liberals lose when objective circumstances seem to be going their way. He talked about Obama disillusionment - people swept up in the Obama pre-election mania, are now disappointed in him. At the historical turning point of financial crisis, he succeeded in getting Wall Street bailed out, but average people are just starting to recover now.

He says people who defend the President do it on the grounds that he is essentially powerless, and we need to stop having such high expectations.

To hear Frank's corresponding interview on Iowa Public Radio's "River to River", click here.

#### Engagement, cont.



## "Feeding the World" Symposium Examines how Food Production Intersects with Water Quality and Quantity

According to the Iowa Farm Bureau, each American farmer produces enough food to feed over 150 people worldwide. But, as the global population continues to swell, what will it take to continue "feeding the world"?

As new challenges continue to threaten the farming industry, the responsibility of feeding the world has never been greater. Amid surging population growth and looming impacts of climate change, we must recognize the interconnectedness of our energy, water, and food resources and their impacts on one another.

As part of the University of Iowa's "Food for Thought" semester-long schedule of activities, the Public Policy Center, in partnership with the UI Water Sustainability Initiative, hosted a special session on the interface of food production, agriculture, and water quality on April 9 at the Old Brick Church and Community Center in Iowa City. The "Feeding the World: Challenges for Water Quality and Quantity" symposium included several speakers and panelists with diverse perspectives on the past, present and sustainable future of food production in Iowa.

The symposium started with a round table by the University of Iowa Water Sustainability Cluster, and included presentations on waterborne disease, perceptions of Iowa water resources, and Nitrogen cycles.

Bill Stowe, CEO of Des Moines Water Works, presented keynote remarks on regulating drinking water in Iowa's Agricultural Watersheds. Des Moines Water Works is a plaintiff in a lawsuit with three Iowa counties, claiming that drainage tiles in those counties are contributing to high nitrate levels in the Raccoon River, Des Moines' main water supply.

The first panel of the day covered historical

perspectives on agriculture and food production in Iowa, followed by another keynote by Sean McMahon from the Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance, a clean water initiative. McMahon outlined some of the farmer-led efforts to improve water quality in Iowa, as a counterpoint to Stowe's earlier presentation.



The symposium was rounded out with two more panels in the afternoon. The first covered present farming practices and their implications for water resources. The last panel topic was a vision for the future of food production in Iowa.

The event was attended by nearly 120 community members, students, and University staff and faculty.

The prior evening, the Public Policy Center cosponsored a lecture by award-winning journalist and cookbook author Mark Bittman. He spoke about "The Future of Food" to a packed Englert Theatre. Bittman's lecture was also part of the "Food for Thought" schedule of activities, and was organized by the University Lecture Committee.

To view presentations or video from the symposium, click <u>here</u>.



## **Experts Discuss "The Politics of Immigration"**

Immigration policy is a hot topic with the next presidential election fast approaching, and the various candidates' stance on it could well make or break a nomination for them.

The symposium, "The Politics of Immigration" was held Friday, April 24, 2015 at the Old Brick Church and Community Center in Iowa City. It included panels of academics, politicians, political consultants and community members discussing different aspects of how the politics around the topic of immigration are playing out around the country. This event was part of the Run Up to the 2016 Caucus series of events, which examined different political topics, such as election reform, campaign finance, political discourse, and others.

Morning keynote speakers for the event included Maria Cardona, a Principal at the Dewey Square Group (DSG) and Founder of Latinovations, the Latino Strategies Practice of DSG; and Stephen Viramontes of Contigo Strategy. Cardona is a seasoned Democratic Strategist, and CNN/CNN en Español Political Contributor. Viramontes is dedicated to helping Republican candidates in Hispanic communities.



The first panel of the day looked at the academic perspectives of immigration, with speakers from the University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, and the University of Iowa.

Over the lunch hour, Dr. Carlos Campo, chair of the Hispanic

Education Alliance of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, gave additional keynote remarks. Dr. Campo narrowed the focus to the humanity of an immigrant and their experiences in the United States, before citing examples of how Hispanics are beginning to keep pace with their white counterparts, such as in earning college degrees.

**Publications** 

The first afternoon panel covered national advocacy, with representatives from the National Workers' Center, National Immigration Justice Center, and the American Civil Liberties Union of Iowa. The last panel of the day examined community perspectives, with participants from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, League of United Latin American Citizens, Greater Des Moines Partnership, Center for Worker Justice, and AFSC's Iowa Immigrant Voice Program.

To view video of this event, click here.

















## **Education**

The PPC contributes to the educational mission of the University by offering applied research training opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students. Here is a small sampling of some of the outstanding work from our students:

## **Astha Singhal**



Astha Singhal, a Research Assistant in the Health Policy Division of the PPC, had an outstanding year of accomplishments with her study, "Eliminating Medicaid Adult Dental Coverage Led to Increased Dental Emergency Visits and Associated Costs" which examined the impacts of California's cut on dental coverage for Medicaid enrollees.

All states are required to provide dental coverage for children in Medicaid, but dental coverage for adult enrollees is optional. When faced with a fiscal crisis, several states limit or eliminate adult dental coverage, as California did in July 2009. Singhal and co-authors examined the impact of California's elimination of adult dental coverage on Emergency Department (ED) use for dental problems, over 2006-2011. They also compared costs associated with dental ED visits and Medicaid savings from dental coverage cuts.

The researchers found that the policy change led

to a significant and immediate increase in dental ED use, amounting to more than 1,800 additional dental ED visits per year. Young adults, members of racial/ethnic minority groups, and urban residents were disproportionately affected. Average yearly costs associated with dental ED visits increased by 68 percent. Singhal and co-authors note that this evidence is particularly important as the Medicaid population expands nationally under the Affordable Care Act and several states contemplate changing their Medicaid adult dental coverage policy.

Her work on this topic was published in *Health Affairs*, one of the leading journals in health policy, and was cited on Reuters Health online.

Singhal was also awarded the American Association of Public Health Dentistry's First Place Leverett Graduate Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dental Public Health for the same work. The award was presented to her at the National Oral Health Conference in April.

The Leverett Award is given based on the following criteria: originality and design of the project, description of results and conclusions, quality of the results from the project, scientific value of the project, Dental Public Health value of the project, quality of the project presentation, and demonstrated mastery of the subject.

Singhal's research focuses on emergency department visits for dental problems. Astha was also a Presidential Fellow at the University of Iowa and Public Relations Coordinator for the student organization, Association for India's Development. After receiving her PhD, Singhal took a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Health Services Research at Boston University.

#### **Elizabeth Golembiewski**



Graduate Research Assistant Elizabeth Golembiewski presented at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing, and Media in Atlanta, Georgia. The conference brought together multidisciplinary research and collaboration to shape the future of health communication, marketing, and media practices. Golembiewski presented the research she did with Dr. Natoshia Askelson and the Iowa Department of Education, on how to increase participation in school breakfast among high schoolers in Iowa.

Golembiewski and Askelson worked directly with students at three high schools in Iowa to help them brainstorm and implement ways to get their peers excited about school breakfast—a "by teens, for teens" approach. Her presentation focused on the strategies used to engage the students to create a more effective campaign. It included the materials they developed for school food service administrators based on the input from the students—a 'best practices' guide for making school breakfast more attractive and accessible to students, and a handbook on using Twitter to promote school breakfast.

Askelson had attended the conference in years past and thought the school breakfast research was a good fit for Golembiewski.

Golembiewski finished her MPH in Health Communication in May, and hopes to pursue her Ph.D. in public health. Her research interest is improving access to mental health care services, especially among vulnerable populations in the US.

Under Dr. Askelson, she worked on a variety of other research projects related to health communication and health promotion. Some highlights include: helping to develop statewide campaigns promoting school meals in Iowa, evaluations of government programs related to fruit and vegetable consumption and adolescent pregnancy prevention, and conducting formative research with automotive professionals for the national driver safety campaign.

#### **ISRC Call Center**

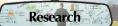


The University of Iowa Hawkeye Poll is part of the teaching/learning mission of the University as well as a rigorously designed public opinion polling operation. The Poll provides a platform for academic research on political and public policy topics, including elections, policy issues, and attitudes and beliefs about Iowa and the national political/public policy environment. UI students get experience in survey research that connects to their academic work as they serve as trained callers and work with results in their classes.

















## The Iowa Social Science Research Center

The Iowa Social Science Research Center is a resource for inter-disciplinary social science research. It provides grant development support and data collection, management, and access services to the university community. The past year saw continued growth at the ISRC. A new full time Data Manager and a new Field Manager were welcomed to the team, and they have expanded services to include statistical and data consulting for faculty and students. This includes recurring workshops to introduce researchers to statistical software, programming languages, and advanced methodological techniques.

## **ISRC** Accomplishments from 2014-15

- Assisted with the submission of 50 grant proposals for a total of \$7,019,642 of funding; of these, 11 grants were funded for a total of \$1,606,220 and eight proposals are still pending.
- In addition to continuing projects initiated in 2013-2014, the center fielded 17 surveys or research-based initiatives (Medicaid 2014, Families Dealing with Disaster Wildfire and Stress Survey, University of Iowa Football Game Day Experience 2015, Iowa Health and Wellness 2014, Integrated Health Home 2014, Polk County Health Services, Soda Tax Pilot, PAADRN Fracture, Dental Wellness Consumer, Dental Wellness Provider, Workplace Violence Programs Pilot 2015, Hawkeye Poll Spring 2015, Chronic Conditions Survey 2015, Community Care Coordination Evaluation, Poultry Producer Study 2015, Janssen Transcription, and Isla Vista Tragedy Study 2014).
- Scheduled five surveys or research-based initiatives for 2015-16 (Health Information Technology and Meaningful Use in Iowa Practices, Hawkeye Poll Fall 2015, Integrated Health Home 2015, Polk County Health Services, and Families Affected by Flooding).
- Conducted 4,850 telephone interviews with average duration of 16 minutes.
- Conducted mail surveys with 5,629 completed surveys returned.
- Conducted web surveys with 4,675 completed online surveys.
- Trained 19 University of Iowa students in social science research activities including data collection methodology and human subjects training.
- Worked with 15 Departments/Units and across six Colleges on grant development, survey research
  development, and data collection including: Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, Communication
  Studies, Economics, Geography and Sustainability Sciences, Linguistics, Health Management and Policy,
  Journalism and Mass Communication, Occupational and Environmental Health, Computer Science,
  History, Iowa Lakeside Labs, School of Social Work, School of Urban and Regional Planning, College of
  Dentistry, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, College of Public Health, College of Law, College of Nursing,
  and College of Business.
- The University of Iowa along with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), Iowa State University (ISU), and other consortium partners won National Science Foundation (NSF) funding to establish the Central Plains Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC), the first Federal Data Center in the Great Plains. The center will be based at UNL and ISU is scheduled to build a satellite location by 2018. The ISRC will be the University of Iowa coordinator for this endeavor.



## **Funded Grants**

- BIGDATA: F: New Algorithms of Online Machine Learning for Big Data. Tianbao Yang, Department of Computer Science, National Science Foundation; \$712,401
- Journeys in World Politics: A Mentoring Workshop for Junior Women Studying International Relations.
   Kelley Kadera & Sara Mitchell, Department of Political Science, National Science Foundation; \$121,435
- Habit Formation and the Persistent Impact of WIC. David Frisvold, Department of Economics, University of California – Davis; \$25,000
- Filled with Spirit. Ellen Lewin, Departments of Anthropology & Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, Louisville Institute; \$25,000
- The Role of Universities in Regional Entrepreneurship Ecosystems of U.S. College Towns. Haifeng Qian, School of Urban and Regional Planning, Kauffman Foundation; \$60,000
- CRII: III: Scaling Up Distance Metric Learning for Large-Scale Ultrahigh-Dimensional Data. Tianbao Yang, Department of Computer Science, National Science Foundation; \$174,576
- Documenting the Language of the Baduy. William Davies, Department of Linguistics, American Institute for Indonesian Studies; \$5,000
- Automated Water Quality Monitoring of West Lake Okoboji. Michael Lannoo, Iowa Lakeside Lab/Division of Continuing Education, Dickinson County; \$17,000
- Standardized World Income Inequality Database. Frederick Solt, Department of Political Science, National Science Foundation; \$227.436
- Identity Claims: Expanding the Issue Correlates of War (ICOW) Dataset. Sara Mitchell, Department of Political Science, University of North Texas/Office of Naval Research, Department of Defense; \$204,372
- Automated Water Quality Monitoring of West Okoboji Lake: Phase II. Michael Lannoo, Iowa Lakeside Lab/ Division of Continuing Education, Okoboji Foundation; \$34,000



## **Publications**

#### **Environmental Policy Program Publications, Reports, and Presentations**

V Smith, Kerry, Carol Mansfield, and Aaron Strong, 2014. "How Should The Health Benefits Of Food Safety Programs Be Measured?" 24. Adv Health Econ Health Serv Res: 161-202

Y.J. Kim, S.N. Spak, G.R. Carmichael, N. Riemer, C.O. Stanier, 2014. Modeled aerosol nitrate formation pathways during wintertime episodes in the Great Lakes region of North America. Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres 119, 12,420–12,445, doi: 10.1002/2014JD022320.

M.A. Mena-Carrasco, P.E. Saide, R. Delgado, P. Hernandez, S.N. Spak, L.T. Molina, G.R. Carmichael, X. Jiang, 2014. Regional climate feedbacks in Central Chile and their effect on air quality episodes and meteorology. Urban Climate 10, 771-781, doi: 10.1016/j.uclim.2014.06.006.

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- Boehmke, F., 2015 Department of Political Science, Washington University, Pivotal Politics Meets the Progressive Paradox, with Tracy L Osborn and Emily Schilling. Boehmke, F.
- Boehmke, F., 2014 Departments of Political Science, University of Kansas, Methods Workshop: Duration Models for Social Scientists. Boehmke, F.
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- Tracy Osborn, Rebecca Kreitzer, EmilySchilling, and Jennifer Hayes Clark., "Polarization in Roll Call Voting among Women State Legislators." Invited presentation at the Conference on Women, Gender, and Conservative Parties in the 21st Century, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio (October). Tracy Osborn, Rebecca Kreitzer, EmilySchilling, and Jennifer Hayes Clark.
- Tracy Osborn, Emily Schilling., "When Women Are in Charge: Critical Mass and Agenda Control in New Hampshire." Paper to be presented at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting, Las Vegas, NV. (April 2015) Tracy Osborn, Emily Schilling.
- Tracy Osborn, Jeanette Mendez, Candice Ortbals, and Lori Poloni-Staudinger., "Scared of Women and Mothers? Media Framing and Public Reactions to Gendered Terrorism." Paper to be presented at the 4th European Conference on Politics and Gender, Uppsala, Sweden (June 2015). Tracy Osborn, Jeanette Mendez, Candice Ortbals, and Lori Poloni-Staudinger.
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- Wu. Y., Boyle, L.N., McGehee, D.V., Ebe, K., Foley, J., Modeling types of pedal applications using a driving simulator. Human Factors: The Journal of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. (2015).
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- Klauer, S., Ehsani, J., McGehee, D.V., Manser, M., The effect of secondary task engagement on adolescents driving performance and crash risk. Journal of Adolescent Health. 57(1) 36-43. (2015).



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