Sanford School of Public Policy Celebrates Inaugural Year
Message from the Dean

This fall has been a time of celebration and new beginnings as we embarked on our first academic year as the Sanford School of Public Policy. Among the changes is this first issue of Sanford Insights, which replaces Public Policy Focus. In addition to redesigning the newsletter, we revamped our website, designed a new logo, and created ways for alumni and friends to network with us via Facebook, LinkedIn, and other online tools.

Our continuing structural reorganization includes faculty hires, staffing changes, new leadership in our graduate programs, and growth in academic programs, such as a planned PhD in environmental policy in partnership with Nicholas School of the Environment, and undergraduate public policy study-abroad programs in China and India.

We launched a yearlong Inaugural Series in Washington in July with a tribute to alumni in public service, featuring remarks by U.S. Senators Richard Lugar and Ted Kaufman and Rep. David Price. On Oct. 1, festivities on campus began when Sanford’s founding director, Joel Fleishman, accepted the University Medal for Distinguished Service. Our board members, Duke Trustees, faculty, alumni and students attended Sanford Distinguished Lectures, briefings, and other events. Nearly 500 attended a donor recognition dinner with political comedy by The Capitol Steps. The highlight of the weekend was President Richard Brodhead’s announcement of a major gift from David Rubenstein.

We look forward to an equally dynamic spring term. Former director of the National Science Foundation and senior fellow at the Baker Institute for Public Policy Neal Lane will be a featured speaker on April 8. In mid April, the Inaugural Series will conclude with an event coinciding with the publication of a book about the North Carolina Fund, Terry Sanford’s influential anti-poverty program. To Right These Wrongs is co-authored by Professor of Public Policy and History Robert Korstad and Jim LeLoudis of UNC, Chapel Hill. Panel discussions on North Carolina education, poverty, and health disparities will give policymakers, academics and advocates an opportunity to come together to discuss past and present challenges in these areas.

For event details, and news of school initiatives, visit us at www.sanford.duke.edu.

Best regards,

Bruce Kuniholm

COVER PHOTO From left, U.S. Rep. David Price (D-NC) and Charles Sanders, Sanford Board of Visitors chairman emeritus, toast the new school.

$5.75 M Gift Lifts School to Initial Fundraising Target

A $5.75 million gift from Duke University trustee David Rubenstein allowed the Sanford School of Public Policy to meet a $40 million fundraising target in time for its inauguration as Duke’s tenth school, President Richard H. Brodhead announced on Oct. 20.

Rubenstein’s gift will strengthen three programs at the Sanford School. It will provide $3.5 million in endowment to support the Program in Environmental and Energy Policy, $1.125 million to fund a distinguished speakers series, and $1.125 million to provide internship support for public policy master’s degree students. It also marks the completion of the first phase of an endowment initiative for the Sanford School, with a final goal of $65 million in new endowment.

“David Rubenstein has been the greatest single supporter of the Sanford School, and it’s right that he should be the one to put us across the goal line,” said Brodhead.

Inaugural Sanford Dean Bruce Kuniholm added, “David Rubenstein has long recognized Sanford’s distinct role at Duke, and his extraordinary gift in support of our faculty and students adds real strength to the university.”

Rubenstein’s gift helps match one from the Geneva-based Oak Foundation given in 2008 in support of Sanford’s Program in Environmental and Energy Policy. This program will be part of Duke-wide efforts among multiple schools to work collaboratively on the same issues and to make the university a leader in translating environmental science into effective policy solutions. The gifts will support both joint hiring of faculty with other schools, as well as recruitment of graduate students for the joint Sanford-Nicholas School of the Environment PhD program in environmental policy. Undergraduates will benefit from the program’s support of research service learning projects and policy incubator grants.

“I have always had the greatest admiration for its faculty and students and look forward to seeing the Sanford School broaden its impact, on campus and in the world,” said Rubenstein. “I am proud to join the many other donors who have made it possible for the Sanford School to establish a global reputation for excellence in a very short time.”

A Baltimore native, Rubenstein is co-founder and managing director of The Carlyle Group, one of the world’s largest private equity firms. He graduated from Duke in 1970, serves as a Duke trustee, and is an emeritus member of the Sanford Institute Board of Visitors. The school’s Rubenstein Hall, which opened in 2005, was named in recognition of his $5 million gift to the project.
Scholars, Practitioners Join Sanford Faculty

By Lauren Cooper and Alyssa Dack

Six faculty appointments were made at the Sanford School this fall, continuing the faculty expansion made possible by the school’s continuing effort to increase its endowment. Four are new to Duke—Philip Bennett, Sarah Blodgett Bermeo, Sarah Cohen, and Amar Hamoudi—while two are previous members of the Duke faculty who received new appointments: David Schanzer and Edward Skloot.

Bennett and Cohen, who teach with the DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy, came to Duke from the editorial staff of The Washington Post. Bennett served as the managing editor for the nationally acclaimed paper, while Cohen was the database editor and winner of a Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting. (See story, Public Policy Focus, Summer 2009, p 4.)

Hamoudi and Bermeo, assistant professors, received their first faculty appointments.

Amar Hamoudi is particularly interested in applying economic theory to health behaviors. During the fall semester, he is pursuing research to determine if patterns of economic expectations for the future also hold for individuals’ “investments” in health. A second project concerns the prefrontal cortex of the brain, which houses executive function and fluid intelligence. Hamoudi wants to understand how the development of these skills reflects conscious investments from individuals and their parents.

Hamoudi became interested in the relationship between science and policy as a biochemistry major at Harvard. His curiosity was fueled by his parents’ experiences as doctors who practiced in Iraq before coming to the United States. Hamoudi wanted to explore the impact of U.S. policy in developing countries and began taking social science courses at the Kennedy School of Government.

Upon graduation, Hamoudi was torn between a career in natural science and public health. Unsure what the next step should be, Hamoudi took the opportunity to indulge another passion—theater. Working as a sound designer and stage manager, Hamoudi also found a “day job” as an assistant to Jeff Sachs at the Harvard Institute for International Development.

Immersed in Sachs’ economically grounded research on health disparities, Hamoudi realized that economics was an “elegant and beautiful” approach that allowed him to combine his interest in the scientific method with relevant social problems. Having “fallen in love with economics,” Hamoudi closed the curtain on his theater career to complete an international development master’s degree at the Kennedy School. He completed his PhD in economics at UCLA and post-doctoral work at the University of Michigan’s School of Public Health.

Working with epidemiologists at Michigan, Hamoudi collaborated on a project with the Duke Global Health Institute.

Hamoudi was impressed by the Institute’s ties to many different departments and centers on Duke’s campus. When he learned about the Sanford position, it was Duke’s engaged, “interdisciplinary atmosphere” that attracted him to the Sanford and Duke communities, he said.

Trained in both economics and political science, Sarah Blodgett Bermeo joins the Sanford School of Public Policy faculty ready to continue her studies at the intersection of policy and economics. Bermeo’s primary area of research is international political economy, with a focus on relations between industrialized and developing countries. At the Sanford School, Bermeo will be surrounded by colleagues from both areas of training, a fact that influenced her decision to come here.

“Since my field is economics and political science, it’s nice to be in a department that recognizes both,” Bermeo said.

In the spring, Bermeo will teach Policy Analysis and Public Policy Making along with a seminar in International Political Economy. For now, Bermeo is learning more about Duke’s campus and curriculum structure, including the various interdisciplinary centers. She’s also writing a book examining changes in way donors use foreign aid in the post-Cold War era. Her previously published work includes papers on foreign aid and immigration and access of developing countries to the Dispute Settlement Understanding of the World Trade Organization.

A long-time tennis player, Bermeo is also the mother of two: Katie, 5, and Nathan, 2.

Bermeo received her BA from Rochester University and both an MPA and a PhD from Princeton University (Political Science). She comes to Duke after completing a post-doctoral program in the political science department at Yale University.
Four New Members Join Sanford School Board of Visitors

Four new members joined the Sanford School Board of Visitors this fall, while six members—Richard A. Berzon, Andrea Clark, Deborah Harlan, William Harlan, Jason Pate and Bruce E. Thompson, Jr.—concluded their service. The new members are:

**René A. Alarcón** (ex officio), a native of Ecuador and a second-year MPP student. His policy interests include international trade, business development, public/private collaboration and renewable energy finance.

**Hye-Ryoung Jung** is a candidate to receive an MA in political science from Seoul National University where she also received a bachelor’s degree in sociology. She has published four scholarly articles including one entitled “Human Rights Global Governance Mechanism and Methodological Approach from a Constructive Perspective” which won top honors in a national contest. Most recently Jung worked as a research intern at the United Nations Asian Pacific Training Centre for Information Communication Technology (UN-APCICT).

**Luis Flores** earned a master’s degree in city planning with a specialization in international development and regional planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. A native of Mexico, his main interests lie in poverty relief by ways of social risk management. For his master’s thesis, he drew on his knowledge of Mexico and traveled through India to observe poverty conditions. Before obtaining his MA, Flores worked in Mexico’s financial sector. He received his BA in Business Economics from Mexico Autonomous Institute of Technology.

**Nicholas Ingwersen** received his BA in economics from UCLA in 2003, graduating summa cum laude. For the past two years, he has worked as a research associate with Duke professors Elizabeth Frankenberg and Duncan Thomas. Examples of his research include an analysis of the effects of avian influenza in Indonesia and an analysis of remittances to victims of the Boxing Day tsunami in Aceh, the latter of which he will present at the Population Association of America annual meeting in April 2010. Nicholas has also worked as a data consultant at the World Bank.

**David Zezza** PPS’83, CEO and business head for Asia at Horizon Asset Holdings, an Asia-focused investment management company in London. He has 25 years of experience in finance and has lived and worked outside the United States for 18 years at Deutsche Bank, Salomon Brothers and Citadel Investment Group.

**Reed Gilbert** (ex-officio), who lived in London until arriving at Duke, a senior and president of the Public Policy Majors Union. His public policy interests include education, segregation and philanthropy.

**Selim Selimi** (ex-officio), from Kosovo, a second-year MIDP (Masters in International Development Policy) student with a specialization in Peace and Conflict Resolution. He is an American Councils-Kosovo American Education Fund Fellow.

Meet the 2009 PhD Program Entering Class

First-year PhD students, from left: **Hye-Ryoung Jung, Luis Flores, Nicholas Ingwersen, James Riddlesperger** and **Divya Guru Rajan**. Not pictured: **Katherine Duch**.

**Hye-Ryoung Jung**
**Concentration:** Political Science  
**Policy Interests:** Global Governance

Jung is a candidate to receive an MA in political science from Seoul National University where she also received a bachelor’s degree in sociology. She has published four scholarly articles including one entitled “Human Rights Global Governance Mechanism and Methodological Approach from a Constructive Perspective” which won top honors in a national contest. Most recently Jung worked as a research intern at the United Nations Asian Pacific Training Centre for Information Communication Technology (UN-APCICT).

**Luis Flores**
**Concentration:** Economics  
**Policy Interests:** Social Policy, Economic Development

Flores earned a master’s degree in city planning with a specialization in international development and regional planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. A native of Mexico, his main interests lie in poverty relief by ways of social risk management. For his master’s thesis, he drew on his knowledge of Mexico and traveled through India to observe poverty conditions. Before obtaining his MA, Flores worked in Mexico’s financial sector. He received his BA in Business Economics from Mexico Autonomous Institute of Technology.

**Nicholas Ingwersen**
**Concentration:** Economics  
**Policy Interests:** Global Health, Environment

Ingwersen received his BA in economics from UCLA in 2003, graduating summa cum laude. For the past two years, he has worked as a research associate with Duke professors Elizabeth Frankenberg and Duncan Thomas. Examples of his research include an analysis of the effects of avian influenza in Indonesia and an analysis of remittances to victims of the Boxing Day tsunami in Aceh, the latter of which he will present at the Population Association of America annual meeting in April 2010. Nicholas has also worked as a data consultant at the World Bank.

**James Riddlesperger**
**Concentration:** Economics  
**Policy Interests:** Education, Poverty

Riddlesperger received a bachelor’s degree in economics from the University of Texas where he was also the recipient of the prestigious Presidential Endowment Scholarship and chosen to be the graduation convocation speaker. Soon after, he joined the Teach for America program and has spent the past few years teaching government and debate in the Baltimore city school system.

**Divya Guru Rajan**
**Concentration:** Economics  
**Policy Interests:** Global Health

Rajan earned an MPP from William & Mary and a master’s in economics from the Indian Institute of Management to complement her undergraduate coursework in journalism from Bangalore University. For the past two years, Rajan has been employed by Global Insight Inc., where she has gained research experience and analytical skills. Rajan is interested in investigating the determinants of health outcomes and public health spending related to women, minorities and those living below the poverty line.

**Katherine Duch**
**Concentration:** Economics  
**Policy Interests:** Education, Gender Equality

Duch earned an MA in labor relations from Cornell University where she also received a BA, ranking in the top of her class in both programs. She also served as student representative to the Cornell Board of Trustees. While working in the university’s office of budget and planning, she conducted research on tuition, financial aid and endowment practices of higher education institutions. She also writes a regular column in The Cornell Daily Sun.
Environmental Policy PhD • The Sanford School and Duke’s Nicholas School of the Environment are collaborating to offer a new PhD program in environmental policy, the first such joint degree program in the country. The program was approved Nov. 6 by the executive committee of the Duke Board of Trustees. Professor Randall Kramer of the Nicholas School said the new degree takes advantage of existing strengths in both Nicholas and Sanford. Both schools recently made senior hires in environmental policy. Also participating in the PhD program will be the political science and economics departments, Duke Law School and the Fuqua School of Business.

Hertog Grant • The Hertog Foundation announced in July it would give a $1 million grant to four leading U.S. universities to initiate or expand “Grand Strategy” courses on the craft of national policymaking. The Sanford School is one of the recipients. The grant will support a tenure-track professorship in the field of American military history and public policy and/or American diplomatic history. The professor will be a key participant in the existing Duke Program in American Grand Strategy, directed by Peter Feaver, professor of political science and public policy, and developed in conjunction with the Triangle Institute of Security Studies.

AIDS Orphans • Associate Professor of Public Policy Kathryn Whetten has been awarded $301,960 by the National Institute of Mental Health to test the feasibility of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) interventions for orphaned children in Tanzania. The two-year study will examine children in areas with high prevalence of HIV/AIDS who are known to have significant unmet psychosocial needs, particularly those related to grief and trauma from a parent’s death.

UNICEF Report • The Program on Global Health and Technology Access, directed by Professor of the Practice Anthony So, MD, completed its project with UNICEF on the supply of ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF) to severely malnourished children in the Horn of Africa. A key recommendation was to create a regional buffer stock to minimize local “stockouts” of the product. The report is available on the publications section of the program’s website. The program also launched the website “Humanitarian Supply Chain Analysis” (globalhealthtech

Online Office Hours • Combining new media with an old concept led the Duke news office to launch “online office hours” this fall. For years, students have traipsed into professor’s offices to talk and ask questions. Now, through the live “online office hours” members of the broader Duke and Durham communities can have this experience virtually. Community members can submit questions and comments in a virtual chat room, while a professor remarks on his or her area of expertise. The offering has already featured two Sanford School professors, William Darity and Donald Taylor, who spoke about the racial wealth gap and intergenerational poverty, and health care reform, respectively. Programs can be found on the Duke University Ustream website.

IMF Alum Joins DCID • Visiting Professor of the Practice Richard Hemming joins DCID after a 24-year career with the International Monetary Fund. He retired from the IMF in August 2008 as the Deputy Director of the Fiscal Affairs Department. Hemming taught a mini-seminar for the MIDP students during the spring 2009 semester entitled “Macroeconomic Aspects of Fiscal Management” and is teaching a full seminar on “Fiscal Policy, Globalization, and Development” this fall.

MPP Staff Changes • As a result of Sanford becoming a school, the MPP staff was reorganized to address key functions no longer handled by the Duke Graduate School, including aspects of admissions, financial aid, student records, program handbook and school bulletin, judicial procedures, and oversight of student organizations. Tatia Ash handles admissions, marketing, recruiting, and special programs; Sarah Danielson is responsible for financial aid and data management; and Helene McAdams is director of student services and program development. Chuck Pringle, longtime director of admissions and financial aid for the MPP program, resigned to pursue other opportunities.

New Role • Clara Muschkin, assistant research professor of public policy, has been appointed director of undergraduate education for the Center for Child and Family Policy. Muschkin now oversees the center’s activities that involve undergraduate students, including the Jacqueline Ann Morris Fellowship Program, the Children in Contemporary Society certificate program, the DukeEngage program in South Africa, freshman seminars, internships, independent studies, research assistantships and honors theses. Christina Gibson-Davis, assistant professor of public policy, remains faculty director of the certificate program.

Sanford School professors, William Darity and Donald Taylor, who spoke about the racial wealth gap and intergenerational poverty, and health care reform, respectively. Programs can be found on the Duke University Ustream website.

Michael Sandel, Harvard professor of political philosophy, calls on a member of the audience during his Nov. 3 talk in Fleishman Commons. Sandel brought his interactive discussion style to the Triangle and signed copies of his new book, Justice: What’s the Right Thing to Do?
Sanford Prof Prefers On-Campus Living

By Jackie Ogburn

For many people, their days in college dorms—a time of big adjustments and small quarters—might be described by the book title *A Supposedly Fun Thing I’ll Never Do Again*. However, for Robert Cook-Deegan, research professor in public policy and director of the Center for Genome Ethics, Law & Policy, the opportunity to live in the dorms was on his list of requests when he was being recruited for Duke’s faculty in 2002.

At that time, Cook-Deegan was director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellowship program at the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences and a seminar leader at the Stanford-in-Washington program. When the Stanford evening classes ran long, he would stay overnight with the students, which became his favorite part of the program. It was then he really got to know the students and learned how things really worked, he said.

When he arrived in January of 2003, Cook-Deegan moved into a faculty apartment in Alspaugh dorm on East Campus. He also inherited about 25 freshman and sophomore advisees, so he had to become familiar with the curriculum requirements right away.

“It was a great way to learn about the university quickly, including its intricate curriculum,” said Cook-Deegan.

He’s been living on campus with his family for the past seven years and still enjoys it. He commutes to his office on West Campus by bike or bus, often accompanied by his dog, Oshie. Cook-Deegan teaches the occasional seminar class in his living room for 15 or 20 students.

There are about 120 students in Alspaugh, and while he barely recognizes them all, he gets to know about 30 of them fairly well during the course of the year. A few of them have become good friends, and he’s followed them throughout their Duke careers. He would like to see the faculty-in-residence program expanded to upper-level dorms, perhaps with smaller groups on the planned new campus, to allow the faculty member to be involved with the students over several years, rather than mainly freshman year.

Sanders Takes Reins of Duke Population Research Institute

Seth Sanders, professor of economics and public policy, has been named the new director of the Duke University Population Research Institute (DuPRI), an affiliate of the Social Science Research Institute (SSRI). Sanders takes over for James Vaupel, the founding DuPRI director, who took key steps toward integrating population sciences at Duke.

“I am excited to build on the leadership of our founding director, who has set a unique direction for DuPRI,” Sanders said. “Our challenge is to leverage the individual contributions of our scholars into a collective enterprise that will yield science that is new, innovative and extends our knowledge in ways that scholars working independently cannot.”

Susan Roth, vice provost for interdisciplinary studies, noted that Sanders has “a creative vision and a brilliant strategy” to bring together Duke social sciences faculty to work on research topics related to important societal challenges.

Sanders came to Duke in 2008. In his previous position at the University of Maryland, he played a vital role in the success of the Maryland Population Research Center (MPRC), which has similar goals as DuPRI.

Over the past few years, Sanders has been involved in four broad research programs: (1) the economic and health consequences of migration and immigration, (2) economic shocks and the effects on workers and families, (3) gay and lesbian families and their performance in the U.S. economy, and (4) gender and racial wage differences among the highly educated.
“Accountability through Algorithm: Developing the Field of Computational Journalism” identified four target areas for innovations: more efficient data analysis tools to allow reporters to discover patterns; a digital “dashboard” for journalists with open-source software reporting tools to spot anomalies in everyday information; new watchdog roles for readers; and collaborative research with disciplines such as the social sciences and medical research.

Related activities include:
• At a Dec. 1-2 Federal Trade Commission conference, “How Will Journalism Survive the Internet Age?”, Hamilton will make a presentation about the value of targeted online advertising. Privacy laws currently limit the collection of personal information that allows advertisers to tailor their messages to consumer interests.
• On Oct. 20, Hamilton met with Federal Communications Commission staff to discuss policies that could sustain the accountability function of the media.

“Accountability through Algorithm” can be downloaded as a PDF from the center’s website: www.sanford.duke.edu/centers/dewitt. Written by James T. Hamilton and Fred Turner, an assistant professor in Stanford University’s department of communications, the report is the result of a workshop at Stanford in July funded by Stanford’s Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences.

Helping News Media Adapt to Digital Era

Next summer, Sanford’s DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy will offer students an internship opportunity aimed at preserving the “watchdog” role of America’s struggling news media.

DeWitt’s Initiative on Computational Journalism will collaborate with Durham-based software developer Relevance Inc. to identify, modify and craft open-source software to enhance the practice of investigative journalism. The goal is to provide reporters with a toolkit of open-source software that recognizes patterns and identifies anomalies in data, and thereby reduce the cost of investigative reporting.

Two or three Duke undergraduates will work with Relevance developers to gather requirements for software tools, interact with potential users, write code, test solutions, and develop community tools for distributing the software to journalists. At the end of the internship, the students will be given the opportunity to maintain their involvement with the tools created.

The project, led by the DeWitt Wallace Center Director James T. Hamilton and newly appointed Knight Professor of the Practice of Journalism and Public Policy Sarah Cohen, follows a series of recommendations outlined in a report the center released in November.

Fall 2009 New Policy Courses

PUBPOL 195.38 Crime and Public Policy Instructor: Joel Rosch, senior research scholar
This course is about the politics of crime and justice. Students examine controversies about how institutions such as the police, the courts, and corrections are organized. As evidenced by the number of television programs focusing on issues related to crime, crime is a useful way to engage issues such as equality, racism, the nature of public goods, symbolic politics, and how we organize public services.

PUBPOL 195S.01/AAAS 199S.01 Conflict Analysis in Africa Instructor: Stephen Smith, visiting professor
Through four case studies, this course outlines components of conflict analysis in Africa. It examines the regional crisis nexus between Darfur, Chad and the Central African Republic. Reviewing the conflict since 2002 in Ivory Coast, it looks at issues of postcoloniality, autochthony, migration and citizenship. The enduring crisis in Somalia serves as a third case marked by outside interference in the post-9/11 geopolitical context. Finally, in Zimbabwe, land tenure, inequality and, again, postcoloniality are central.

PUBPOL 195S.64 Higher Education and News Media; Instructor: John Burness, visiting professor
The seminar analyzes media coverage of major issues in higher education. What issues do the news media cover (business vs. intellectual) regarding colleges and universities and how do they do it? Is there a difference in the media’s focus on public and independent institutions? Have advances in “new media” changed coverage of higher education and, if so, in what ways? How do colleges and universities try to shape and respond to coverage of higher education?

PUBPOL 237.01/ENV 238.01 Global Environmental Health Instructor: Subrendu Pattanayak, assoc. professor
Students will learn to identify primary environmental causes of high-burden diseases such as malaria, diarrhea and respiratory infections; describe how to measure socio-economic impacts of global environmental health diseases; discuss key policies to control global environmental health problems based on private prevention and therapeutic behaviors; and propose frameworks to empirically monitor and evaluate global environmental health policies. A sub-module will focus on climate change and water-borne diseases.

PUBPOL 264S.11/AAAS 299S.11 Race, Ethnicity and Social Policy; Instructor: William “Sandy” Darby, professor
This course explores in depth policies of redress for intergroup disparities or inequality across countries. Policies will be examined systematically that attempt to correct differences across racial/ethnic groups in income, wealth, health, rates of incarceration, political participation and educational attainment. The course also will address why intergroup differences in outcomes should be viewed as a social problem in the first place. Policies to be studied will include affirmative action, land redistribution, parental school choice, and income redistribution measures in a number of countries including India, the United States, Brazil, Malaysia, Chile, and South Africa.

* In May, three Sanford School research centers collaborated to hold the Duke Nonprofit Media Conference: the DeWitt Wallace Center, the Center for Strategic Philanthropy and the Center for the Study of Philanthropy and Voluntarism. As a result of the conference, 13 participants representing elite universities and media outlets wrote the Internal Revenue Service recommending changes to the tax code to allow the publication of newspapers to be viewed as charitable activity.

Following the dialogue begun at the conference, several peer institutions have done research to further explore and publicize strategies for nonprofit ownership. The Harvard Kennedy School’s Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics, and Public Policy produced a report in October titled “Can Nonprofits Save Journalism? Legal Constraints and Opportunities.” The Columbia Journalism School also produced a similar report in October.

*For more information on this and related initiatives, visit the center’s website: www.sanford.duke.edu/centers/dewitt.
Professor of Law and Public Policy Joel Fleishman receives the University Medal for Distinguished Service at the Founders’ Day Convocation on Oct. 1 in Duke Chapel. Fleishman delivered the keynote address, reflecting on his nearly 40-year history at Duke and the development of public policy as an academic field. President Richard Brodhead, at right, draped the medal, the university’s highest honor, around Fleishman’s neck after his remarks. Fleishman was the founding director of the Institute of Policy Sciences and Public Affairs (now the Sanford School), a position he held until 1983. Applauding are Judy Woodruff T’68, winner of the Distinguished Alumni Award, and Steve Nowicki, undergraduate dean.

Sanford faculty members and alumni discuss their research and work during briefing sessions Oct. 3. Above, Professors Anirudh Krishna and Phyllis Pomerantz discuss poverty creation and economic development. Below, Professors Alex Pfaff, Brian Murray (Nicholas School) and Jonathan Wiener tackle climate change.

Above, Professors Bruce Jentleson and Peter Feaver, with moderator Bruce Kuniholm, Sanford School Dean, debate “America’s Changing Global Leadership Role.” Below, Professors Joel Fleishman and Edward Skloot, and Katie Higgins Hood T’96, CEO of the Michael J. Fox Foundation, address ways to make the most of philanthropic investments.
Clockwise from left, Terry Sanford Distinguished Lecturer Richard Fisher, CEO of the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank, speaks with NPR senior correspondent Cokie Roberts about the U.S. recession. Afterward Fisher shakes hands with audience members. Sanford School Board of Visitors Member Richard Lieb, center, listens to a response from Fisher. Also listening, left to right, are Duke administrators Kyle Cavanaugh and Ben Reese, BOV member Sekou Kaalund and Dean Bruce Kuniholm.

PPS Honors Students Poster Session

Twelve PPS students in the honors seminar led by Director of Undergraduate Education Ken Rogerson took part in a poster session on Oct. 2. In the lobby the Sanford building, the students talked with inaugural weekend visitors about initial results of their honors project research. The students and their topics were:


Not pictured, Courtney Han, “Refugee Presence in Tanzania: Impacts on Local Conditions and Socioeconomic Development.”

Please visit www.sanford.duke.edu for more photos and video. Choose ‘Sanford Inaugural Year’ from Quicklinks.
Guests at the celebratory dinner on Oct. 2 included the Duke Board of Trustees, the Sanford Board of Visitors, public policy students and university leaders. Above, BOV members Sekou Kaalund MPP’99 and John Rice Jr., from left, talk with Trustee David Rubenstein. Top right, President Richard Brodhead delivers remarks. Bottom right, Dean Bruce Kuniholm, center, converses with Ann Sanders and Richard Fisher.
Inaugural events continued on Oct. 3 with guest lectures, faculty briefings and the annual Duke Donor Recognition Dinner at Washington Duke Inn. Clockwise from top left, Terry Sanford Distinguished Lecturer Dr. Gail Rosseau discusses health care reform with journalist John Harwood T’78. At the dinner, Sanford students Caleb Varner MPP’11 and Alison Dawe MPP’10 converse with Jeff Giguere T’76, MD ’80. The political comedy troupe Capitol Steps entertained after dinner. From left, Jacquelyn Hall, Kirsten Mullen, Robert Korstad, professor of public policy, William Darity, professor of public policy, and Duke Provost Peter Lange enjoy the reception.
Taylor Columns, Blog Scrutinize Health Care Reform

Assistant Professor of Public Policy Don Taylor, who specializes in health policies affecting aging citizens, approached the Raleigh News and Observer in early June, with a proposal to write a series of columns framing the ongoing health care debate. The paper’s op-ed editor agreed to have Taylor write four or five columns on a trial basis. Five months and 18 columns later, Taylor is still writing—on topics from taxing high-cost insurance policies to the nuances of the Baucus bill. His columns combine academic, practical and historical examples with analysis in order to explain key concepts and issues in the health care debate.

Gun Control After “Heller”

The landmark Supreme Court decision in District of Columbia v. Heller last June led Sanford professor Philip Cook into a new round of research on handgun control, a perennially controversial topic he’s examined throughout his career.

In Heller, the court struck down the 1975 Washington, D.C., Firearms Control Regulations Act, which restricted possession of handguns and regulated household possession of other firearms. The court found the act in violation of the second amendment, with five of the nine justices opposing a comprehensive prohibition on home handgun possession.

Because the decision specifically protected the right to gun ownership for self-defense, it has different implications than if it had been worded to protect the right to gun ownership for the purpose of a preventing tyrannical government, said Cook, the ITT/Terry Sanford Professor of Public Policy and professor of economics. By linking the right to bear arms to self-defense, Cook believes the court has intrinsically limited that freedom and allowed room for gun regulations related to licensing, taxation and trade. The decision is likely to be a litigation magnet, he said.

He and his University of Chicago research partners—Jens Ludwig and Adam Samaha, an economist and constitutional law expert, respectively—concluded that because the case provides a legal precedent to strike down bans and regulations, Heller is likely to result in an increased prevalence of handgun ownership and higher crime rates in currently restricted areas.

Cook’s research on Heller explores the implications for future handgun regulation, and evaluates the decision in the context of the public interest. While the court used a historical approach to interpret the meaning of the second amendment, Cook and his research partners apply a cost-benefit framework to the issue of gun control. As litigation continues around Heller, Cook said, the courts will be required to move away from historical interpretations to establish a set of principles aimed at providing an optimal social balance of personal freedom and public health and safety.

For most columns, Taylor finds his own angle and topic, but occasionally, his editors suggest a subject. This was the case for his July 24 column discussing the Patients’ Choice Act, co-sponsored by Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC). As in all his columns, Taylor aimed to “take a step back and frame the health care debate” rather than to present only his point of view.

To foster more debate and information sharing, Taylor also launched a blog, “Free for All.” The blog includes links to interesting articles, books and commentaries, along with reader comments and questions. Taylor updates the blog daily, and says feedback is growing.

“I’m starting to get messages asking about different aspects of the debate, and for my opinion on them,” he said.

Taylor’s outreach efforts have led to invitations from other media, including the New York Times “Room for Debate” blog, Wisconsin Public Radio, and WRAL-TV, as well as an invitation to participate in a Nov. 12 on-campus panel discussion with other Duke health experts. Taylor found writing weekly columns more challenging than he had expected.

“It’s harder than it sounds to write a column and write it on a deadline,” he said. “It’s been a great experience, but not the easiest thing to do week after week after week.”

Nevertheless, with the health care debate far from over, “I’ll write as long as there are things to be writing about,” Taylor said. “Professors have a responsibility to not only educate their students; but, if they can, to also educate the public,” he said.

In their research, the trio compares the private benefits of gun possession (sporting use, personal security, etc.) with positive and negative public externalities (use of handguns to commit crimes, violence, accidents, etc.). They explain how throughout U.S. history, cities—where guns are most often used for crime—have tended to establish more strict regulations and bans, while rural areas—where guns are most likely to be used for hunting and sporting purposes—have more relaxed gun policies.

Their papers include the lead article in UCLA Law Review, “Gun Control after Heller: Threats and Sideshows from a Social Welfare Perspective” 56.5 (June, 2009): 1041-1093; and an October 2009 NBER working paper, “Gun Control after Heller: Litigating against Regulation” which recommends what principles the courts should use to move forward in the aftermath of the Heller decision.

For more on their research collaborations, please visit the University of Chicago Crime Lab: http://crimelab.uchicago.edu
It is good policy to reduce the premiums paid to private insurance companies under Medicare Advantage even if it leads to enrollment declines, because the increase in benefits is small but the financial burden to Medicare is large. If you want to argue against this proposed policy change, you call it a cut in benefits. If you want to argue for it, you call it a reduction in Medicare expenditures that improves program solvency. It is both.

This commentary, one in a series by Don Taylor on health care reform in the Raleigh News & Observer, was published on Oct. 2, 2009, before the Baucus bill was voted out of committee. To read the whole series, go to the Sanford School website, www.sanford.duke.edu.

Taylor is an assistant professor of public policy at the Sanford School. He also holds appointments in the departments of nursing and community and family medicine.

The latest argument against the Baucus bill, and health-care reform generally, is that it is illegitimate to finance insurance subsidies for the uninsured via reductions in the amount of money that will go to Medicare if no change is enacted. The flashpoint of this discussion is the proposed reduction in payments by Medicare to private insurance companies under Medicare Advantage.

Medicare Advantage is the latest reincarnation of an experiment started in the 1970s in which elderly individuals were allowed to enroll in private insurance (mostly HMOs), with Medicare paying their premiums. The original goal of this policy was to save the Medicare program money, but such savings never materialized.

Until 2006, the premiums paid by Medicare were based on how much Medicare spent caring for the average beneficiary in a given county. In the 1980s and 1990s, Medicare paid insurance companies 95 percent of this county-based average as a premium.

However, this did not save money because persons choosing to sign up were healthier and would have cost Medicare less than 95 percent of this average had they remained in traditional Medicare. It is not clear whether this is because sicker persons are less willing to change insurance or whether insurance companies were simply successful in marketing to healthier persons.

In 1997 the name of the program was changed from Medicare HMOs to Medicare+Choice, but the idea remained the same: elderly persons choosing private insurance plans with Medicare paying the premiums. While there were still no cost savings, efforts to expand enrollment in such plans have increased since then. During the past five years, premium payments to private insurance companies have risen dramatically, as the Bush administration was eager to encourage Medicare beneficiaries to join private plans, even if it cost more. Currently just over 1 in 5 Medicare beneficiaries are covered by Medicare Advantage plans, up from 1 in 7 covered by Medicare+Choice in the late 1990s.

The main argument against reducing the amount paid for Medicare Advantage plans is that it would result in enrollment reductions and loss of extra benefits that private plans provide, such as enhanced drug or dental coverage. However, a recent study shows that for each extra dollar Medicare pays to private insurance companies for these plans, beneficiaries get 14 cents of extra benefits, with the rest flowing to insurance companies.

On balance, these extra benefits are not worth the extra cost. Medicare is now paying to private insurance companies 114 percent of the average cost of caring for a beneficiary in traditional Medicare. The Baucus bill would force rebidding of Medicare Advantage premiums, which would reduce the premiums paid, causing a decline in plan enrollment as some insurance companies exit this market.

It is good policy to reduce the premiums paid to private insurance companies under Medicare Advantage even if it leads to enrollment declines, because the increase in benefits is small but the financial burden to Medicare is large. If you want to argue against this proposed policy change, you call it a cut in benefits. If you want to argue for it, you call it a reduction in Medicare expenditures that improves program solvency. It is both.

Medicare is a traditional source of savings anytime there is an attempt to slow federal spending growth. About half of the savings enacted by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 came from reductions in planned Medicare spending. And those savings went for deficit reduction. In this case, reductions in Medicare spending compared to planned levels are slated for investment in the health system, with the largest investment being subsidies to help the uninsured buy insurance. This could be spun as an intergenerational battle royale, perhaps the first of many to come. But this is a superficial analysis at best.

At the risk of belaboring the obvious, the uninsured being helped to purchase insurance under reform are the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Medicare beneficiaries. And those to be helped to buy insurance are some of the same people who do and will pay taxes to finance Medicare—not for some faceless group of people, but for their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents.
Lessons from the Dutch System of Weighted Student Funding  
By Jackie Ogburn

The concept of weighted student funding, in which money follows students to the schools they choose, has generated high interest in the United States in recent years, and appeals to both conservative and progressive policymakers. Conservatives support it because it promotes school choice and autonomy. Progressives believe it can improve educational equity by providing more funding to schools with students who are more challenging to educate.

Helen Ladd spent six months in the Netherlands this year taking a deeper look at the Dutch approach to weighted student funding for primary schools, which has been in place for almost 25 years. As a visiting scholar at the University of Amsterdam, Ladd worked among a group of applied economists.

“My starting point is that countries have a lot to learn from other countries in the global market of ideas in education and reform,” said Ladd, the Edgar T. Thompson Professor of Public Policy and a professor of economics.

In the Dutch system, the national government provides different levels of funds to schools according to students’ educational needs, and gives schools flexibility in how the funds are used. Students whose parents have limited educational background are allotted almost twice as much funding as other students.

In Amsterdam, Ladd gained access to extensive data at the school level, including financial data, and data on teacher and school quality. “It was more than I had hoped for,” she said. Surprisingly, there have been almost no evaluations of the system published in either Dutch or English.

Ladd and her husband, former New York Times education editor Edward Fiske, worked as a team in the field. They focused on the four large cities in the Netherlands—Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague and Utrecht—talking with principals, administrators, school board members and policymakers. In part due to immigration, an average 43 percent of students in the most populous cities are “high-weight” students.

Several conditions make the sustained program of weighted student funding possible in the Netherlands, conditions considerably different from those found in the U.S. educational landscape, Ladd said. In the Dutch system, funding is highly centralized, with 90 percent of elementary school funding coming from the national government. Dutch parents have a right to enroll their children in the school that matches their family values, including the right to establish a new school with other parents. The Dutch also place high value on tolerance and having an equitable society, and their political process leads to great policy stability over time. In addition, the system has national curriculum guidelines and an accountability system based on school inspectors, rather than on individual student test scores.

Schools serving large proportions of “high-weight” students are able to hire almost 60 percent more teachers per pupil than other schools.

Only 30 percent of Dutch students attend traditional public schools. The other 70 percent attend publicly funded schools operated by boards with religious affiliations, or by boards offering a specific type of educational program such as Montessori. In many ways these schools are comparable to U.S. charter schools.

Assessing the effectiveness of weighted student funding in the Netherlands is complicated in part by the fact that the money goes to school boards, which may run more than one school, rather than directly to the school. The boards are independent, not accountable to the local governments, and have some discretion in how they allocate the national funds.

In many ways, the Dutch combination of school choice and weighted student funding is highly successful. Schools serving large proportions of “high-weight” students are able to hire almost 60 percent more teachers per pupil than other schools, permitting smaller class sizes and greater individual teacher-student interactions. They also have about twice as many support staff. Among 21 rich countries assessed on the UNICEF scale of children’s wellness, the Netherlands ranks at the top, and, on average, Dutch students outperform those in other developed countries, including the United States, on international tests.

However, even with the additional resources, Ladd’s research shows that high-weight students attend lower quality schools. Quality is assessed every four years through a national inspection program that examines more than 20 measures such as curriculum, student well-being and school safety, student performance monitoring, the teachers’ use of school time, and responsiveness to student educational needs.

One possible explanation, Ladd said, is that although greater funding allows high-weight schools to hire more teachers, schools still have difficulty attracting highly qualified teachers.

U.S. advocates of weighted student funding argue that it would improve educational equity and reduce segregation by making disadvantaged students more attractive to middle-class schools because they bring more money with them. The Dutch experience does not support this argument, Ladd said.

Ladd was surprised at the high level of segregation in Dutch schools. Traditionally, Dutch students were grouped by religious affiliation, mostly Roman Catholic, Protestant
Ladd and Fiske draw several lessons for the United States. First, Ladd says, the Dutch experience shows that it is possible for a developed country to have progressive school funding, sustained over a period of time. Second, the funding method is only one part of a larger package of policies that strive to combat educational disadvantage, including preschool education and enrichment programs at the community level. Third, weighted student funding aids, but does not assure, equal educational quality in all schools.

It’s not the “100 percent solution” to school funding that some U.S. advocates hope for, especially for those schools serving concentrations of disadvantaged students, says Ladd.

Two working papers on this topic are available on the Sanford School website:

“Weighted Student Funding for Primary Schools: The Dutch Experience”

“The Dutch Experience with Weighted Student Funding, Some Lessons for the U.S.”

Conference Explores Dynamics of Sports, Race and Power

The 1968 Olympics black power salute, when Tommie Smith and John Carlos held their fists high in protest, marked a defining, and polarizing, moment in sports on a global stage. Harry Edwards, one of the organizers of the salute, and a sociologist at the University of California, Berkeley, was among a slate of experts who came to Duke for an Oct. 28-30 conference to discuss race and other issues surrounding professional sports.

The Research Network on Racial Inequality, directed by William Darity, professor of public policy, co-sponsored the “Sports, Race, and Power Conference.” Professor of History and French Laurent DuBois, a conference organizer, is teaching a course called “World Cup and World Politics” this fall and has a blog, Soccer Politics, where all aspects of the global game are discussed.

In his talk, Edwards pointed to declining percentages of black athletes in U.S. professional sports, which mirror high rates of incarceration and violent death and low rates of athletic eligibility among young black men. Displaying a newspaper spread of more than 200 valedictorians from the San Francisco Bay area, he noted not one was African American. Collegiate and professional sports are increasingly recruiting foreign-born players. These trends illustrate the crisis in black America, he said.


The conference also featured a preview of a documentary film in progress, “Pelada.” The filmmakers, former Duke soccer players Rebekah Fergusson and Gwendolyn Oxenham and Duke graduate Ryan White, along with former Notre Dame player Luke Boughen, attended to discuss their project. The film follows two young soccer players as they tour the world playing pick-up games, learning about the power and meaning of the sport along the way.

Other panels explored the history of desegregation in intercollegiate and professional sports, the interplay between racial inequality in society at large and in the arena of competitive athletics and questions of authority and hierarchy in the management, administration and coaching of sports programs.

Reports Address Immigration Policy, Recession’s Effects on Immigrants

The economic downturn has contributed to a slowdown in immigration and has had a disproportionate impact on immigrants relative to natives, according to a report by Professor of Public Policy Jacob Vigdor. On October 6 the Manhattan Institute’s Center for Civic Innovation released the report, the second annual “Index of Immigrant Assimilation.”

Key findings include:

- Mexican immigrants continue to be the least assimilated ethnic group.
- Changes in policy have placed new hurdles on the path to citizenship but immigrants remain just as likely to pursue this path.
- Assimilation declined in the four largest destination areas – Los Angeles, New York City, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.
- The rate of English learning among immigrants without any English skills appears lower than a century ago.

Also in early October, the Brookings-Duke Immigration Policy Roundtable, a joint project of The Brookings Institution and the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke, released a report titled “Breaking the Immigration Stalemate: From Deep Disagreements to Constructive Proposals.” It includes recommendations designed to “address the most vexing and controversial issues stymieing immigration reform.”

The report was the culmination of months of discourse among roundtable members, who included think tank analysts, political and policy entrepreneurs, community leaders, former government officials and academics from various disciplines. Noah Pickus, the Nannerl O. Keohane Director of the Kenan Institute of Ethics at Duke University and associate professor at Sanford, was a co-convenor of the roundtable.

For details and the full reports please see www.sanford.duke.edu.
By Monte Basgall

Government subsidies may persuade some people to reverse harmful hygiene habits, but social shame works even better, suggests a recent study in rural India. The research aimed to improve the success of efforts to reduce elevated childhood death and disease rates blamed on pathogens that cause diarrhea.

“All this started with public health workers there just beating their heads against the reality of how sticky human behavior is and how hard it is to change it,” said Subhrendu Pattanayak, an associate professor and environmental economist in the Sanford School.

According to an August “Bulletin of the World Health Organization” report, of which Pattanayak was first author, experts have disagreed “whether improved access to sanitation and other health technologies is better achieved through monetary subsidies or shaming techniques.” Pattanayak’s report focused on efforts to combine both tactics in the state of Orissa, which has a child mortality rate higher than average for India.

Shaming, a strategy first tried in Bangladesh, involves mobilizing groups of local residents to assemble and single out, sometimes by taunting, neighbors caught in unhygienic practices such as open defecation, Pattanayak said.

Health workers participating in a Total Sanitation Campaign had previously knocked on doors throughout India, handing out pamphlets designed to persuade individual households to install pit latrines. The poorer households were offered construction subsidies that would reduce their costs to the U.S. equivalent of $7.50.

But after those initial efforts, followup studies found less than a quarter of the nation’s population and less than 10 percent of residents of Orissa had access to safe water and good sanitation. So Pattanayak worked with frustrated campaign workers to design a study, funded by the World Health Organization, to measure the effectiveness of what his report called “a social mobilization strategy.”

Twenty Orissa villages were selected at random in 2006 for locally-led efforts that included village “walks of shame” and “defecation mapping” that identified sources of contamination and their distances from drinking water supplies. As that study began, about 30 percent of the interviewed households reported a child younger than 5 years had experienced diarrhea within the previous two weeks.

Community based groups were empowered “to establish systems of fines, taunting or social sanctions to punish those who continued to defecate in the open,” the report said. As Total Sanitation Campaign workers organized these additional efforts, Pattanayak’s study group gathered “before and after” health and sanitation surveys.

The results were striking when surveys from those 20 villages were compared with 20 other randomly selected communities where no social mobilization efforts were organized. Although subsidies for latrine construction were available to poor residents in all 40 villages, latrine ownership only rose in those undergoing shaming, according to the surveys.

Within the “shamed” communities, latrine ownership rose from 5 percent to 36 percent among families below the poverty line, and from 7 percent to 26 percent among households above it. Subsequent surveys by Orissa’s state government showed that all households had installed latrines by 2007 in 10 of the 20 villages subjected to the shaming. Statistical analysis suggests that subsidies were responsible for about one third of the improvements in those communities and shame for about two thirds, the report concluded.

Pattanayak, himself a native Indian, thinks his countrymen generally understand how bad hygiene can relate to childhood disease. But they also feel a combination of fatalism and powerlessness.

“Many perceive diarrhea as losing a child every now and then and having stomach problems all their lives; it’s normal life for them,” he said.

“This is a typical story of why people don’t do things that seem beneficial,” he said. “You feel you are just a small part of the picture: ‘If I do this there’s some chance that things will improve.’ But that is conditional on how many others also do it.

“That’s the problem with environmental issues, whether they are health or non-health. It’s how we end up with so much greenhouse gas in the air and pollution in our water.”

Shaming Helps to Change Hygiene Habits

JYOTI PRAKASH

This article was originally published online at www.duke.edu/today.
‘Nimble’ Center Builds Leading Role in Philanthropy

When Edward Skloot joined Sanford in July 2008 as the founding director of the new Center for Strategic Philanthropy and Civil Society (CSPCS), the outlook for the philanthropy sector was financially strong. In the year since then, the U.S. economic crisis changed the landscape dramatically, but CSPCS has had an impressive beginning nonetheless.

The center created a new pedagogy for teaching philanthropy, sponsored three policy-relevant conferences, continued an established lecture series, launched a website and blog, and forged partnerships with schools and institutions at Duke and elsewhere. Skloot says he laying the foundation to make the center a national source of policy solutions.

“We’re working to fill a big space in philanthropy with a nimble, smart, creative organization,” said Skloot, professor of the practice of public policy. “It’s our strategy to collaborate with centers and institutions not only to share costs, but to increase the draw and impact of our ventures.”

In November 2008, the Center cosponsored “Scaling Social Impact,” the first of three planned meetings for nonprofit organizations, in partnership with the Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship (CASE) at Fuqua School of Business and the Bridgespan Group, a nonprofit consulting group. Sessions focused on recent research and brought together academics and practitioners to share lessons on how to scale up high-performing nonprofits. Papers from the conference were previewed at the next scaling conference Nov. 10-11 at Duke and will be published in 2010, edited by CASE Faculty Director Paul Bloom.

Skloot is excited about a new type of workshop CSPCS offered on Strategic Philanthropy in Early Childhood Development, which took place May 12-14. In partnership with the Association of Small Foundations and the Center for Child and Family Policy (CCFP), the workshop brought together CEOs from 15 small foundations, academic experts and leaders from the business and public sectors to focus on early childhood development. Each participant came with a big problem to vet and solve.

“The workshop was configured to help individuals work through nettlesome issues, through what I call problem-smashing,” said Skloot. “It was solution and action oriented.”

Participants also were able to take advantage of individual coaching sessions and webinars both before and after the workshop. Based on the favorable evaluations, the three sponsors intend to offer a “problem smash” three or four more times in the next year and expand into other subject areas. For example, a workshop co-sponsored with the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions about threats to the North Carolina coast is in the planning stages.

Also in May, CSPCS teamed up with DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy Director James T. Hamilton to explore the possibilities of nonprofit ownership of media. As a result of the conference, participants sent a request to the IRS seeking clarification on nonprofit status for media and offered to assist in rulemaking. The conference report, The Road Ahead for Media Hybrids: Report of the Duke Nonprofit Media Conference, is available on the DeWitt Wallace website.

This fall, CSPCS launched its new website, which features a blog, “The Intrepid Philanthropist,” written by leaders in the field. Skloot sees the blog as a way to get provocative, uncommon thinking about philanthropy to the public.

The center has also taken over hosting the Foundation Impact Research Group (FIRG) seminars series begun in 2002 by Professor Joel Fleishman, with six lectures this fall and another six scheduled for spring 2010. The center is also housing the Teaching Case Writing Program, directed by Barry Varela, who is also managing editor of the center’s website.

In addition, Skloot will teach a new course this spring on “Philanthropy: the Theory of Practice and the Practice of Theory.”

The center was started with seed funding by the William and Lucile Hewlett Foundation, the David and Flora Packard Foundation and the Kresge Foundation. To continue to build on its success, Skloot said, “We need ongoing, core support, which the first year’s programs should attract.”

The Center for Strategic Philanthropy and Civil Society (CSPCS) helped launch the Social Impact Exchange in October. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Global Philanthropy Network, in partnership with CSPCS and CASE, created the exchange as a focal point for funding and implementing large expansions of proven social purpose organizations. The Exchange will sponsor a national competition for nonprofit business plans, a national conference and a venture capital fair in July 2010.
Zakaria Stresses Resilience of Global Economic Systems

By Jackie Ogburn

The fall of the Berlin Wall was the beginning of a period that Newsweek International Editor and CNN host Fareed Zakaria calls “stunningly peaceful by historical standards.” Zakaria spoke on Nov. 9, the twentieth anniversary of that pivotal event, at Duke University’s Page Auditorium.

When the current global financial crisis began a year ago, many declaimed that the world would never be the same. Yet now, Zakaria noted, it looks much the same. In several other economic downturns, such as the 1992 U.S. recession, the Asia recession of 1994 and the collapse of the tech bubble, the system rebounded. Zakaria asserted this is because of “deep roots of stability,” both political and economic, in the current global system.

During the 1960s and 70s, there were two competing political and economic models: the American and the Soviet. Very few were on the American side; most followed the Soviet model, including India and China. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, only the U.S. model remained, and most nations learned to position themselves within that model, opening markets and creating more open societies.

The result has been more widespread economic growth and a period of “extraordinary stability,” Zakaria said. In 1979, 35 countries had economies growing at a rate of 3 percent a year, while in 2007, 125 countries were growing at that rate.

Technological advancements also support stabilization by enhancing the flow of information, Zakaria said. He used the first Iraq war in 1990 as an example. When Iraq invaded Kuwait, the king of Saudi Arabia wanted time to think, so the Saudi people were not told of the invasion for nine days.

“How long could they keep that secret today?” Zakaria asked. “About five minutes with Twitter.” Cell phone technology in particular has democratized social networking in a way that regimes can’t control, he said, except by shutting down the entire phone system.

When the most recent financial crisis hit, most countries were invested in this new stability, “No one said, let’s create a socialist workers utopia now,” Zakaria said. Money flowed to the safe investments, into U.S. Treasury bonds.

The rise of China could be unsettling, particularly to neighboring Pacific nations. Zakaria pointed to “the bad track record of the rise of great powers,” but noted some differences today. China wants to exercise financial power, but doesn’t want a proxy war with the United States. China is using money to gain influence in the developing world, especially through aid grants in Africa.

At the same time, the United States is not making the necessary investments in science, especially energy technology, he said. He attributes this partially to political changes especially at the federal level.

“Many of our problems are fixable,” he said. “They are intellectually trivial, but politically impossible.” The current political climate discourages compromise and favors ideological purity. Zakaria sees the U.S. political inability to compromise as a weakness, caused by structural changes such as redistricting. Congress now has a higher re-election rate than the Soviet system at its height, he said.

“It’s great for fundraising, but a terrible way to run a country.” In closing, Zakaria said, “This is the world we wanted to create, with open markets and open systems. The world has said ‘yes’ and we don’t know what to do. Our job now is to globalize ourselves.”

Fareed Zakaria's talk, “The Rise of the Rest: The Post-American World One Year after the Election of Obama,” was part of the Sanford School Inaugural Series. It was made possible by the Ambassador S. Davis Phillips Endowment and was co-sponsored by the Duke American Grand Strategy Program and the Triangle Institute for Security Studies.

Intercontinental Rotary Seminar Features Fiona Terry

It was 5:30 p.m. in North Carolina, 10:30 p.m. in England, and 7:30 a.m. in Australia, and for the first time, the Duke-UNC Rotary Center was organizing its monthly workshop as an intercontinental video conference. In addition to the Queensland, Australia, and Bradford, UK, Rotary Centers, Rotary Foundation staff in Evanston, Ill., also participated as observers.

Guest speaker Fiona Terry reflected on her field experience in conflict zones in Iraq, Somalia and Rwanda to illustrate the challenges and dilemmas Rotary fellows might face after graduation. Some of these challenges were described in her book Condemned to Repeat? The Paradox of Humanitarian Action. Terry is now practitioner in residence at Duke’s Kenan Institute for Ethics.

Terry started her career in 1991, after the fall of the Berlin Wall, when there was much hope that humanitarian aid would henceforth succeed in meeting the world’s expectations. Reality, however, turned out to be more sobering.

In Baidoa, Somalia, where about 200 people were dying per day due to a major famine, the lawlessness was such that aid workers needed armed protection. In 1994, she found herself in Rwanda after the genocide, when humanitarian workers realized that they might be supporting the perpetrators who were controlling the refugee camps.

Other experiences included Liberia where warlords commandeered aid vehicles for use against the local population; North Korea where the aid community was not allowed to assess food needs or identify who were the actual beneficiaries; Myanmar where aid was to ensure the neutrality of her agency’s activities in the eyes of the combatants.

Terry said her practical experience shows that humanitarian assistance requires people with common sense and excellent administrative skills.
Catherine Admay was recognized by George McLendon, dean of the faculty of Arts and Science and Trinity College, and Richard Palmer, faculty director of the Focus program, for her contributions during Fall 2008 semester. She also received a $5,000 grant from the Josiah Charles Trent Memorial Foundation Inc. for a proposal entitled “Re-Presenting Justice” that involves field work in South Africa. Admay also was the faculty anchor for visits to Duke by South African Constitutional Court Justices Yvonne Mokgoro and Albie Sachs, visits made possible by the Provost’s Common Fund.

Marc Bellemare is a visiting professor at the Centre de recherche en économie du développement (CRED) at the University of Namur in Namur, Belgium, from September 2009 to May 2010. He presented a paper “The Welfare Impacts of Price Stabilization: Evidence from Rural Ethiopian Households” in seminars at the University of Ottawa on March 13 and at UT-Knoxville on March 23, as well as at the Midwest International Economic Development conference in Minneapolis, April 30- May 2 and the Economics of Risk in Agriculture and the Natural Resources conference in Galveston, Texas, March 19-21. At the latter conference he also presented a second paper, titled “On the (Mis)Use of Wealth as a Proxy for Risk Aversion.” He was elected program chair for this conference in March 2010. Bellemare presented “When Perception is Reality: Subjective Expectations and Contracting” at the 2009 annual meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association in Milwaukee, Wisc., on July 26.

John Burness was a panelist at a Chronicle of Higher Education Leadership Forum with Karen Areenson, a higher education reporter for The New York Times, on June 8 in Washington, D.C. The panel title was “Training Your President to Meet the Press.” He was a fellow in a German-American Journalist Exchange program, June 13-28, sponsored by the RIAS Berlin Kommission’s Radio and Television News Directors Foundation. The fellows met in Berlin, Leipzig, and Cologne with top-level government, business and media figures, and at the European Union and NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

Kenneth A. Dodge attended the May 26- 29, 2009 annual meeting of the Society for Prevention Research (SPR) in Washington, D.C., and was invited by the National Research Council Institute of Medicine to present at their session entitled “Workshop on Social and Environmental Influences and Adolescent Risk Behavior.” He has received an award from the National Institutes of Health for a project entitled “Development and Prevention of Substance Abuse Problems.” Total funding will be $3.5 million over 58 months.

Fernando R. Fernholz received a $21,111 award from Robert Nathan Associates Inc. for a project entitled “Guya Tax Consulting Nathan’s-Task Order No. 6.”

Joel Fleishman gave the plenary speech on May 26 to the Annual Conference of The Center for Philanthropy Research at Hebrew University in Jerusalem on “American Foundations: Increasing Strategic Focus on Advocacy to Influence Public Policy.” He is directing a project with grant support from the AVI CHAI Foundation and from Atlantic Philanthropies, which will document and assess the progress of those two foundations in spending themselves out of existence over the coming eight years. The research, which Fleishman is conducting jointly with Tony Proscio, is expected to result in a book on the increasingly frequent practice of “sunsetting.” His book, The Foundation: A Great American Secret—How Private Wealth is Changing the World, was released in paperback on Sept. 8, 2009.


Kristin Goss spoke on the political history of gun control at a meeting of the Presbyterian Church USA’s Convention and National Journalism Conference, Aug. 27-30, 2009 in Indianapolis.

Judith Kelley, associate professor of public policy and political science, received a Best Paper Award for her conference paper, “D-MINUS ELECTIONS: How conflicting norms and interests influence whether international election observers endorse elections” at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in Toronto Sept 3-6. The award was presented by the Comparative Democratization Section. Kelley is a visiting fellow at Aarhus University, Denmark, during the 2009-10 academic year.

Helen “Sunny” Ladd is president-elect of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) and will organize the November 2010 APPAM conference in Boston.

David Schanzer, director of the Triangle Center on Terrorism and Homeland Security since 2005, was promoted to associate professor of the practice of public policy. He also directs the Institute for Homeland Security Solutions, a research consortium involving Duke, UNC-Chapel Hill, RTI International and the NC Military Foundation.

Edward Skloot, director of the Center for Strategic Philanthropy and Civil Society since 2008, was promoted to professor of the practice of public policy.

Susan Tifft, who until July 1 was the Eugene C. Patterson Professor of the Practice of Journalism and Public Policy, received an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Va., on June 4 for her work in media ethics.
there has been a failure to institutionalize equality. Where poverty is widespread, exemplified by the United States, equality has been institutionalized. Where poverty is low, they are able to institutionalize. The amount of poverty in society is determined by differences in the generosity of the welfare state. 

Brady concludes that the power of coalitions for egalitarian failings or of a society’s labor markets and demography, and the objective is to determine which development strategies create conditions that reduce the likelihood of poverty, especially in developing and transitional countries. She presented at a workshop organized for this project at Soka University in Aliso Viejo, Calif., June 8–9.


Jennifer W. Owen, director of policy initiatives for the Center for Child & Family Policy, has received an award from Georgetown University for a project entitled “Consortium of University-Based Child & Family Policy Programs.” Total funding will be $4,109 over 10 months.

Alex Pfaff received an award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a project entitled “Coordination of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme special publication, entitled ‘Amazon and Global Change’, on the results of the Large-Scale Biosphere-Atmosphere (LBA) research project in the Amazon, Brazil.” Total funding will be $94,650 over 13 months.

Phyllis Pomerantz participated in a roundtable discussion in April on the prospect of foreign aid reform, as an invited guest of U.S. Rep David Price (D-NC). The goal of the discussion was to assist in the shaping of recommendations for new foreign aid legislation that Rep. Price may offer to U.S. Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Howard Berman. Suggestions from students in her class on “The Politics of International Aid” were circulated to discussion participants as a follow-up to the work that remains to be done to rebuild Louisiana.

Natalia Mirovitskaya served with William Ascher (co-founder and former director of DCID) as co-principal investigator of “Economic Development Strategies and Averting Collective Violence,” a project funded by the Pacific Basin Research Center.

Facility Publications

‘Rich Democracies, Poor People: How Politics Explain Poverty’

By David Brady
Oxford University Press, July 2009, 280 pp

In his new book Rich Democracies, Poor People: How Politics Explain Poverty, David Brady, associate professor of sociology and public policy, takes the stance that poverty is not the result of an individual’s characteristics, behaviors or abilities, as is often assumed. Instead, poverty is the result of politics.

Brady investigates why poverty is so entrenched in some affluent democracies. Drawing on 30 years of data from 18 countries, Brady argues that cross-national and historical variations in poverty are principally driven by differences in the generosity of the welfare state.

The book challenges views of poverty as an outcome of individual failings or of a society’s labor markets and demography, and offers institutionalized power relations theory as an alternative explanation. Brady concludes that the power of coalitions for egalitarianism, leftist political groups and parties, and the social policies they are able to institutionalize shape the amount of poverty in society. Where poverty is low, equality has been institutionalized. Where poverty is widespread, exemplified by the United States, there has been a failure to institutionalize equality.


Laura Roselle gave a presentation on “Visual Imagery and American Identity” at the workshop “Reframing the Nation: Media Politics and Strategic Narratives,” May 18-19 in London, sponsored by the Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change, the New Political Communication Unit, and the Centre for European Politics. She also has been named to the following positions: Pre-Conference Program Chair, APSA Political Communication Section, 2010; chair, Paul Lazarsfeld Best Paper Award Committee, 2009, APSA; and advisory board member for the “Online Discourse: Free Speech, Civility and Accountability Project,” Duke University, 2009-2012.

David H. Schanzer received two grants from the Research Triangle Institute, one of $119,493 for a project entitled “Community Acceptance Panel on Perceptions of Emerging National Security Technologies and Processes” and the other of $25,081 for a project entitled “Survey Methodologies for Studying Radicalization Workshop.”

Edward Skloot has received a grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation of $60,000 for a project on philanthropy and technology. He has also been elected to the board of Citizen Schools, a national social enterprise with four sites in North Carolina, and to the board of TROSA in Durham.

Anthony So delivered a talk titled “Is Bayh-Dole Good for Developing Countries? Lessons from the U.S. Experience” at the conference on “Equitable License: Medical Research in the Public Interest” in Berlin on April 23. The meeting at the Institut für Pathologie Charité involved key decision makers from various ministries, funding organizations, and the scientific community in Germany.

Tom Taylor presented a seminar in the Pentagon in May 2009 to senior lawyers in the Office of the Army General Counsel and others on transition issues involving senior Army political appointees. In his continuing role as a consultant to the Pentagon, he also provided advice during the spring and summer to senior political appointees and nominees, as well as advice on personnel and intelligence issues.

Jerry Van Sant gave a keynote address Aug. 7 on “Challenges to NGO Sustainability” to the Summer Leadership Institute of Nourish International, a UNC-Chapel Hill campus-based nonprofit organization that provides resources generated from student projects to host-country partner organizations engaged in international development.

James W. Vaupel has received two grants from the National Institutes of Health, one for a project entitled “Exceptional Survival in Danish and Italian Families” with funding of $731,139 over 8 months. The second is for a program entitled “Demography of Sex Differences in Health and Survival” with funding of $849,791 over 59 months.

Jacob L. Vigdor chaired a session at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America in Detroit on May 2, on “Residential Segregation and Labor Market Outcomes.” He is serving on a technical advisory board for Mathematica Policy Research, which is developing a teacher evaluation system for the Washington, D.C., public schools. During the summer, he was a visiting scholar at Australian National University in Canberra. He also gave seminar presentations at the University of South Australia in Adelaide and Deakin University in Melbourne and made a presentation to officials at the Department of Immigration and Citizenship in Canberra on July 27. On Sept. 10, he participated in a roundtable discussion on immigration policy chaired by the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Immigration and Customs Enforcement John Morton in Charlotte.


‘You Are What You Choose’ Presents Insights into Decision-Making

By Scott de Marchi and James T. Hamilton


Several recent books, from Blink to Freakonomics to Predictably Irrational, have examined how people make choices. But none explain why different people have such different styles of decision making, and why those styles seem consistent across many contexts. For instance, why is a gambler always a gambler, whether at work, on the highway, or in a voting booth?

In You Are What You Choose, Duke professors Scott de Marchi, political science, and James T. Hamilton, Charles S. Sydnor Professor of public policy and professor of economics and political science, develop a new theory about how we decide, based on an extensive survey of more than 30,000 people.

They show that each of us possesses six core traits that shape every decision, from what to have for lunch to where to invest. We go with “the usual” way of deciding whenever there’s a trade-off between current and future happiness, when facing the risk of a bad outcome, or when a choice might hurt other people. We’re also consistent about how much information we want and how much we care about the opinions of others. The authors test their TRAITS model against other predictive tools such as demographics and political party affiliation.
As OMB Controller, Alum Guides Financial Innovation

By Jackie Ogburn

Financial reports haven’t always been the most hotly requested government documents, but Daniel Werfel MPP’97 is finding that’s no longer true in his new position as Controller of the Office of Federal Financial Management in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Werfel was nominated for the position by President Obama in July and confirmed by the Senate on Oct. 13.

“The Recovery Act has changed how citizens demand financial information,” he said. In the past, information and financial balance sheets were not very user friendly. The act called for greater transparency in reporting requirements and changed public expectations.

“There is now a significant demand for different and quicker financial information, much more in real time, not just quarterly,” he said.

For a sense of how dramatic the change is, Werfel points to a major federal agency that had only 400 website hits for financial information last year, while in less than nine months, the Recovery.gov website has seen more than 400 million hits for financial reports.

The Recovery Act has been a driver of innovation at OMB. As acting controller, Werfel led the effort to create a new nationwide data collection system, which also called for training federal, state and local officials on the system. To meet the deadlines for reporting, Werfel’s team decided to use new communication tools such as webinars. The first one was to be offered in July, with a limit of 1,000 participants. Within a day, more than 17,000 people had registered, so the training was delivered by live web-streaming.

The job of controller is usually held by CPAs or people with primarily financial and accounting training, but Werfel earned a joint MPP/JD degree from Sanford and the UNC-Chapel Hill Law School and gained his fiscal policy experience on the job. Werfel credits his mentor at Sanford, the late Dick Stubbing, who taught a course on budgeting, for pointing out the career possibilities at OMB.

Werfel’s first job with the agency, soon after graduation, was as a policy analyst in regulatory affairs, focusing on education and civil rights. He then took a position as trial attorney in the Department of Justice, doing litigation work in the civil rights division. The stint as a lawyer made him realize that his real passion was for policy work, so he took a position as a budget examiner in OMB Education Branch. There he developed budgets and worked to improve management practices in procurement, reporting and fiscal integrity. In 2003, he became the chief of the Financial Integrity and Analysis Branch at the agency.

It’s an unusual career path, Werfel admits. He attributes it to the agency’s culture as a meritocracy, and also to the high degree of trust in civil servants that the new administration brought to Washington.

“There are a lot of exciting, critical jobs in government now, for public policy majors, business and law students,” he says. Werfel works with the CFOs of all of the major government agencies, some of whom now face the retirement of up to one-third of their workforce in the next four years. Of course, he thinks OMB is the best place for the best talent. It’s a small agency, only around 450 people, but with great scope and responsibility.

“It’s a place for creative and reform-oriented people who want to be at the decision-making table,” he said.
Sanford Alums Pledge ‘5000 Hours of Service’

As part of the school’s inaugural year, Sanford alumni, students and friends are pledging to complete 5,000 hours of community service. The initiative celebrates Terry Sanford’s ideals of public service at the local, national and global level.

Within the first week of launching the initiative in August, alumni from the first classes in the 1970s through current students had signed up online. Alumni from around the world—Rwanda, Thailand and South Africa—have already stepped up to serve. If each Sanford alum completes two hours of service, the initiative will meet the 5000-hour goal.

Sanford alums have already logged in their hours, including Scott Reid MPP’06, who served dinner to needy Chicago citizens at the Dignity Diner, and Erin Henderlight MPP’05, who delivered 70 pounds of dog food to the Haywood Animal Welfare Association. In the Triangle, Sanford staff and current students also got involved. Eight MPP students worked on a Habitat for Humanity house sponsored by former Sanford staff member Teddie Brown.

Ten staff members from Duke Center for International Development also worked on a local Habitat for Humanity house in September.

The initiative runs throughout the inaugural year and ends on June 30, 2010. Participants are encouraged to pledge and complete service throughout the year, and share their experiences and log their hours through the online guestbook. To sign up online please go to the Sanford website [www.sanford.duke.edu].

If you need help finding a local service site, look for opportunities through Duke Alums Engage: [www.dukealumsengage.com]. Current students, faculty and staff will receive information about service opportunities on campus and in Durham throughout the year. Please send us your photos and stories about your service when you log your completed hours!

Sanford alumni have offered to serve as regional coordinators to help participants identify service opportunities in their areas.

Seattle: Steven Schindler MPP’07
steven.schindler@alumni.duke.edu

Chicago: Scott Reid MPP’06
scott.chicago@gmail.com

New York: Timi Lewis PPS’95
timi.lewis@gmail.com

Triangle: Bob Malme MPP’92
rmalme@duke.edu

If you are interested in being a volunteer coordinator for your area, contact Deirdre Gordon T’96 at deirdre.gordon@duke.edu or call (919) 613-7363.

Sanford Annual Fund Sets Ambitious Goal for New Fiscal Year

An outpouring of support from alumni, students, parents and friends of the Sanford School resulted in a highly successful inaugural Sanford Annual Fund campaign, which ended on June 30, 2009. Contributions of more than $75,000 were given by 606 donors, surpassing the $100,000 goal. These unrestricted gifts supported the most pressing funding priorities of the institute’s final year before becoming a school.

The 2010 Annual Fund goal is $225,000. Supporters are coming together to build on the momentum of the 2009 fund and help provide today’s Sanford students with the tools they need to shape public policy solutions for our future. Gifts will support crucial scholarships and fellowships, internships, and the inspiring instruction and mentoring environment for which the Sanford School is well known.

To make your gift to the Sanford Annual Fund, please visit the Sanford website and click the “Make A Gift” button on the left side of home page. [www.sanford.duke.edu].

Strong progress toward the Sanford School’s endowment initiative goal of $65 million continues as well. Endowment gifts become a permanent source of financial support for the new school, its faculty and its students.

For more information, please visit [www.sanford.duke.edu/alumni/giving.php]
Terry Sanford, North Carolina Governor, U.S. Senator, Duke University President and namesake of the Sanford School of Public Policy, had a long and remarkable life of public service. As part of its inaugural year as a school, a permanent exhibit — “Terry Sanford: An American Original” — was installed this fall to provide a window into his life and legacies.

“The Sanford School owes its existence to the vision of Terry Sanford,” said Dean Bruce Kuniholm. “He was a progressive, inspiring leader, not only in education, but in civil rights. We decided to make this exhibit a permanent installation in order to provide current and future students — as well as the many other visitors to the Sanford Building — with some insight into the man who was ranked by one Harvard study as one of the 10 best governors of the 20th century.”

The 20 black and white photographs illustrate some the highlights of Sanford’s career, particularly his time as governor. Curators plan to expand the exhibit during the inaugural year of the school.

“Terry Sanford: An American Original” was made possible by a generous gift from Duke alumna Jennifer Hillman AB’79, G’79. Curators were photographers Bill Bamberger and Alex Harris, professor of the practice of public policy and co-founder of the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University.

Robert R. Korstad, the Kevin D. Gorter Professor of Public Policy and History, served as historical consultant. Korstad’s book about Sanford’s North Carolina Fund, To Right These Wrongs, will be published in April 2010.

The exhibit is free and open to the public in the lobby of the Sanford Building on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.