Students present health research to state, federal policymakers

Health policy students at both the graduate and undergraduate level presented their research directly to federal, state and local policymakers this spring, on current issues such as reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act, insurance premium assistance under the N.C. Medicaid program and improved health care for uninsured Durham residents.

The projects gave students opportunities to affect significant policies, as well as to prepare for a real working environment, said Kathryn Whetten, associate professor of PPS and director of Duke's Center for Health Policy.

Sixteen undergrads in Whetten's health policy class traveled to Washington, D.C., on March 6 to make a 15-minute presentation to the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) about the Ryan White Act, which was created to assist low-income people with HIV.

The students gave the committee, led by Chairman Sen. Michael Enzi (R-Wyo.) and ranking member Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), an overview of the act, made recommendations on how to allocate future funding, and responded to (Please see page 10)

Economists, management profs to join PPS faculty in fall '06

Four new faculty members will come on board this fall, including economists Elizabeth Oltmans Ananat and Marc Bellemare, and professors of the practice Thomas Taylor and James Johnson.

“I am extremely enthusiastic about these appointments,” said Institute Director Bruce Kuniholm. “In every case they were the top candidates in the search. Liz and Marc, while newly minted PhDs, are extremely bright and well qualified and will make excellent colleagues who, right off the bat, will make significant contributions to our program. Tom and Jim provide the right balance of federal and state experience to build on the pioneering contributions that Art Spengler made to our program.” Spengler ended his Duke teaching stint this spring after seven years with the Institute. (See story, page 4).

Ananat will join the Institute faculty as an assistant professor of PPS, with a secondary appointment in Duke's economics department. She is completing a PhD in economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

She has conducted research on the effect of racial segregation on city out- (Please see page 10)
Long-time PPS faculty member Payne takes position in New York

Public Policy Lecturer Bruce Payne, a founding member of the Sanford Institute faculty, concluded his 35-year Duke University teaching career this spring to accept the position of executive director of the Shelley and Donald Rubin Foundation in New York City.

“Bruce has been a valuable colleague to us for many years and we deeply appreciate his inspired and far-reaching contributions as a teacher, mentor and program director,” said Alma Blount, director of the Institute’s Hart Leadership Program (HLP). “He has been a formative influence on untold numbers of undergraduates, many of whom have formed lifelong friendships with him. At Duke, Bruce Payne is a legend.” Current and former students and colleagues attended a farewell roast/toast event in Payne’s honor on May 11. Many spoke of his influence on their lives and his ability to connect with and inspire students.

In his new position, Payne will work closely with the Rubin Museum of Art, which is principally focused on the art of the Himalayas. He plans to develop collaborative initiatives with colleges and universities and will be involved in the foundation’s work on civil liberties, at-risk children, AIDS and education. The foundation also will sponsor his ongoing seminar exploring the ethical and political dimensions of theater in New York.

“We heartily congratulate Bruce on his new job,” said Institute Director Bruce Kuniholm. “This position seems to be an excellent fit for Bruce’s talents and skills.” Payne was recruited to Duke in 1971 by Joel Fleishman, then director of the Institute, to introduce ethics into the public policy curriculum. Payne was interested in broad themes of leadership development, and wanted to attract students from across disciplines. Since 1972, Payne has taught “Policy Choice as Value Conflict (PPS 116),” which remains the core ethics course for the PPS major.

Payne was the founding director of HLP and served three years in that role, remaining a core member of the HLP faculty thereafter.

In 1996, Payne launched an HLP experiential learning program, Leadership and the Arts in New York (LANY). The semester-long program combined a full academic course load and intense discussions with attendance at dozens of plays, operas, dance performances and gallery exhibits, as well as conversations with artists, philanthropists and others. Since its inception, 173 Duke undergraduates have participated in LANY.

“For all the eager anticipation I feel about these new tasks,” Payne said, “I know that no work is likely to match the satisfaction I’ve had in so many close teaching relationships over these past 35 years. Phone calls and e-mails from former students are a constant part of my life, and so are meetings with them over meals, or during intermissions, or, these days, for tea at the museum.”

“But my appointment at the Rubin Foundation will give me the opportunity to extend the work of Leadership and the Arts far beyond the confines of Duke. I look forward to putting into practice some of what I have been teaching about ethics, leadership and the importance of the arts in American life.”

Professor of PPS and Law Joel Fleishman presents a parting gift to Professor of the Practice Bruce Payne, whom he recruited to the Institute in 1971 to teach ethics courses.

Sanford News Briefs

Carville stops at Sanford • Political consultant James Carville answered questions from an audience of about 200 people in Rubenstein Hall March 4, in an informal session organized by the Institute’s DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy. DeWitt Director Ellen Mickiewicz moderated.

Carville was Bill Clinton’s campaign manager during the 1992 presidential election. Today, he is a political commentator providing insight “from the left” on CNN programs, including “The Situation Room.” He was formerly co-host of Crossfire, CNN’s political debate program. Carville has also used his expertise at the international level, consulting for a number of foreign leaders.

Student research published • Papers written by graduating MPP students Laura Duke, Adam Karson and Justin Wheeler and JD-MA candidate Matthew Wolfe were among the 10 selected for publication in the 2006 edition of the Journal of Public and International Affairs (JPIA). JPIA is a scholarly journal sponsored by the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA) and Princeton’s Woodrow Wilson School. It exclusively publishes the work of graduate students.

The Sanford Institute’s Contributing JPIA Editor Art Seavey, a first-year MPP student, solicited 15 papers from Sanford authors and submitted four for consideration during the annual JPIA Reading Weekend at Princeton Feb. 10-12. Nineteen peer institutions participated in Reading Weekend. The topics of the winning Sanford articles included domestic policy issues in education and maternal and infant health care.

Global health • Graduating MPP students Sarah Scheening, Loren Becker and Maggie Korgoren, along with David Edwards from Duke Medical School, presented a poster on their experiences in Geneva in the Institute’s Global Health Fellows Program during the Global Health Symposium and 75th anniversary celebration of the Medical School April 17-18.
Majors Union building community
by Kirran Syed

PS Majors Union Co-presidents David Gastwirth and Sarah Thorpe spent their year in office working to create an identity and sense of community for public policy undergraduates. The Majors Union, the official representative voice of undergraduates at the Institute, has organized an array of events and interactions intended to connect students with the Institute’s resources.

“The nature of public policy is such that students can do more together than they ever could on their own,” Gastwirth said. “By creating a sense of community, you allow students to link up with each other and leverage the resources of the Sanford Institute.”

Gastwirth said the PPS major is structured for maximum flexibility and there are only a few core classes and requirements. While that allows students to pursue their academic and professional interests, it makes it more challenging for majors to feel they belong to a community, he said.

“Unless you go out of your way, you won’t know who’s in your year and you don’t even know who is a public policy major because we have people from different majors taking classes here,” Gastwirth said.

To improve that situation, the union organized more frequent small-group dinners with faculty to encourage discussions outside the classroom and hosted Friday afternoon “CareerTalk” discussions where students heard alumni and professors speak about how to break into certain fields.

“David’s enthusiasm and planning helped bring students together with policymakers and professors,” said Jay Hamilton, professor of PPS and director of undergraduate studies. “I was particularly impressed by the events in Washington that David organized in the summer of 2005. He arranged student dinners with Rep. David Price and FCC Commissioner Kevin Martin.” Price is a PPS adjunct faculty member, and Martin is an alumnus of the Sanford master’s degree program.

The union also used Institute events to reinforce the independent identity of the undergraduate major. During the Rubenstein Hall dedication last fall, the union gave out free ice cream in cups printed with “PPS Majors Union.” Co-president Thorpe said that once students arrived for the ice cream, many stayed to mingle and talk to each other, and to attend the Rubenstein dedication.

“Academic discourse in and out of the classroom is more likely to occur when students are able to bond with each other,” Thorpe said. “If you know people more personally, there is greater comfort in speaking (in class).” Thorpe said the union’s efforts helped PPS majors recognize each other and bond with faculty, and also set the groundwork for more activities in future years.

Two join Sanford development office

The Sanford Institute now has its own development office, headed by Robert Wright. Wright had been working on the Institute’s behalf since October 2004 in his position as a senior major gifts officer with the Arts & Sciences development office. He began working full-time on Institute fundraising this spring. Previously, Wright was vice president for institutional planning and development at the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park and associate director of Duke’s Capital Campaign for the Arts & Sciences and Engineering from 1986-1991. Wright majored in English at Duke (BA, ’77; PhD, ’86), and earned a master’s degree at Indiana University (’78).

David Rice also joined the Institute in April as director of development communications and donor relations. Rice previously was director of communications at the National Humanities Center, where he also served as acting director of development from 2004-2005. While at the center, he worked on a successful endowment campaign. Prior to his arrival there in 1998, he worked for four years at the Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center.


John Harwood, chief Washington correspondent for CNBC and a senior contributing writer at The Wall Street Journal, discusses “Reporting Red and Blue: Journalism in a Polarized America” on March 27 at the Institute. Harwood is this year’s recipient of the Futrell Award, presented to a Duke alumnus by the DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy in recognition of outstanding achievement in the field of communications and journalism.

Spring 2006 | 3
A conversation with Art Spengler

Professor of the Practice of PPS Art Spengler wrapped up his final semester at Duke this spring, after guiding MPP students through spring consulting projects and courses in Policy Analysis and Public Management since 1999. Master’s students counted on Spengler to focus on the practical, professional applications of policy research.

Before coming to Duke, Spengler provided policy analysis and administrative support for 19 years for the Montgomery County (Maryland) Council, as a budget and fiscal analyst, deputy staff director and then staff director. He also was a visiting professor of government and politics at George Mason University (1992-97), and an economic and policy analyst for the U.S. Department of Transportation. He is the author of Collective Bargaining and Increased Competition for Resources in Local Government.

Here are some of his parting thoughts.

How many students have you taught in your years at the Institute? There have been 303 students in my MPP policy analysis class. What struck me is that the number of the course is PPS 303. The first class had 32 students and last year we had 57. It’s been steadily on the incline.

Have you seen any changes in students over the years? Not really. They are still as motivated and dedicated as ever. They still don’t come to public policy school to get rich. The difference is that the focus of earlier students was far more general. Today students are much more interested in specializing, or narrowcasting themselves. My role was not to fall into that—to help them see there’s a lot more to public policy than their narrow interest, and to give them a generalized set of skills to use in a variety of professions because in many instances, 10 years from now, they are not going to be doing what they think they’re going to be doing.

What’s different about the world they enter after graduation? With the increase in privatization of public services, there are more avenues for people interested in public service, beyond public sector employment. You’re trying to help people solve problems, and you can do that in a law firm, or a non-profit, or elsewhere.

You’ve taught in the MPP program for seven years. Does that make you “an institution” at the Sanford Institute? It seems like yesterday in some ways, and in other ways it seems like I have always been here. I believe it’s not length of time that makes one “an institution,” but your degree of engagement — your ability to demonstrate commitment.

So, (smiling) your classes are the glue that holds the program together? Actually, I think my role has been minimal. It’s the totality of the experience at the Institute that helps the students grow — 21 months, 17 courses, internships, friends…

What have you enjoyed about teaching in the MPP program? I really enjoy teaching and working with students. I enjoy keeping in touch with many of them. I go to the alumni reception every summer in Washington and it’s a good time to catch up. It’s always very gratifying to see how well they’re doing.

What’s been the hardest part? Reading the 114th version of a policy memo (57 students x 2 drafts each). It’s grueling for me, but they learn from the rewrite. If you can’t say it short, you’re going to be dead in this business; you’re writing for people who are very busy. Writing short also fosters stronger analysis.

How has the Institute changed? It’s noticeably larger, and as a result, less individual. For example, the Center for Child and Family Policy was in its infancy in 1999 and was, for so long, mostly off-campus. Now it takes up half of Rubenstein Hall. I’ve always worked in relatively small organizations. The Institute is now the largest I’ve worked for.

What’s the story behind that large, pink, Energizer bunny in your office? I give each class a nickname (although I don’t always tell them what it is), and last year’s class was “the Energizer bunnies.” They kept coming at me, kept asking questions. When I was named the first recipient of the Richard Stubbing Graduate Teaching and Mentoring Award last year, the students gave me the stuffed bunny.

What will you do next? I plan to continue teaching. There are a number of policy programs in the D.C. area.
Two Hart Fellows selected

The Hart Fellows Program selected two graduating Duke seniors as 2006-07 Hart Fellows. The program offers 10-month fellowships with nongovernmental organizations in developing countries. The fellows are:

Nicholas Shungu, a Reginaldo Howard Memorial Scholar who majored in cultural anthropology with a minor in chemistry, and Yazan Kopty, an international comparative studies major with minors in English and religion.

Kopty will work in Battambang, Cambodia, with Homeland, which works to improve the standard of living and wellbeing of vulnerable children and families.

Shungu will work in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with Save Lives Ethiopia Development Organization, which provides medical care, health education and social and emotional support to women and children living with HIV/AIDS.

Shungu previously conducted research in Dakar, Senegal, to examine the levels of collaboration between traditional healers and other medical practitioners. He also volunteered in four health care facilities in Cape Town, South Africa.

As a Howard Hughes Research Fellow, Shungu conducted research at the Duke University Primate Center and presented his findings at the Levine Science Research Center. As a student in Professor Sherryl Broverman’s “AIDS and Emerging Diseases” course, he explored AIDS and gender concerns in Kenya along with 14 other classmates and is a co-author of a manual on gender issues to be used by college students at Kenya’s Egerton University.

Kopty was selected as the student speaker for Duke’s 2006 commencement exercises. Last summer he conducted research in 10 Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan, Lebanon, Israel and the West Bank, work that was the basis for his senior thesis, “The Diasporic Implications of Palestinian Nationalism.” Kopty interned at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency’s Center for Physically and Mentally Handicapped in the Baq’a Refugee Camp in Amman, Jordan. His documentary photographs from his time in the Middle East have been showcased around Duke.

Kopty is fluent in English, French and Arabic and has taken up Italian and modern Hebrew in the past two years.

Sanford welcomes seven new BOV members

Seven new members joined the Sanford Institute Board of Visitors this spring, while Peter Knight concluded his service. The new members are:

• William R. Araskog, managing member and investment manager for WRA Investments LLC since 2003. Previously, Araskog was a managing director with Lazard Frères & Co., LLC specializing in investment banking and sales and trading over his 20-year career at the firm. He earned a BA in public policy at Duke (’82) and an MBA from Duke’s Fuqua School of Business (’83).

• Matthew S. Cullinan and Anna Reilly, who both earned MPP degrees at Duke in 1990. In his new position as vice president for administration at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C., Cullinan will oversee areas including human resources, information systems and facilities management. Previously, Cullinan was executive assistant to the president at the University of Notre Dame. He also served at various times as director of government relations, assistant secretary of the board of trustees, acting associate vice president for human resources and acting vice president for public affairs and communication. Cullinan earned a doctorate in history and a bachelor’s degree at the University of Notre Dame.

Reilly has been involved with a number of nonprofits in South Bend and launched a restaurant, Lula’s Café. Previously, Reilly worked for the William T. Grant Foundation Commission on Children and the Ashoka Foundation, and was a founding member of the Commission on National and Community Service, the precursor to AmeriCorps. Anna earned a BA in political science at Emory University. Cullinan and Reilly have three children, Grace, 13, Walker, 11, and Julia, 7.

• Bob Fleischer, managing director of Banc of America Securities since March 2005. Prior to joining the firm, Fleischer served as a managing director at Credit Suisse First Boston in its Financial Institutions Group with a focus on the insurance sector. He began his career at PriceWaterhouse. He earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting at Duke in 1964.

• Deborah and William Harlan, native Californians who attended UCLA and UC-Berkeley, respectively. Bill and Deborah are the proprietors of Harlan Estate, a wine-growing property overlooking Oakville, Napa Valley. Most recently, Bill founded The Napa Valley Reserve, a private winemaking estate. Bill also is co-founder and chairman of Pacific Union Co., a diversified real estate firm in San Francisco. The Harlans live in Napa Valley with their daughter, Amanda. Their son, Will, attends school on the East Coast.

• Lee Harriss Roberts, a partner of Cherokee Investment Partners, a real estate private equity fund based in Raleigh, N.C. Before joining Cherokee in 2006, Roberts spent nine years with Morgan Stanley & Co. in London and New York, focused on real estate investment banking. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley in 1997, he practiced law in Washington, D.C. He earned a law degree at Georgetown University and a BA in political science from Duke University (’90).
Graduate Erica Lee, above, the MPP student speaker, enjoys the graduation reception with her parents, U.S. Rep. Shelia Jackson Lee and Elwyn C. Lee, vice chancellor of the University of Houston System. At left, Santhoshkumar Thiruthimana makes remarks on behalf of PIDP graduates during the morning ceremony, while at right, faculty lead undergraduates into Wilson Gym for the afternoon exercises.

At left, Professor of PPS Joel Fleishman congratulates David Gastwirth, winner of the 2006 Joel Fleishman Distinguished Scholar Award. Nazaneen Homaifar, Hirsh Sandesara, and Marcia Eisenstein, from left above, were selected for the Terry Sanford Leadership Award.
The Institute’s 2006 graduation ceremonies honored 156 undergraduates, 54 MPP and 36 PIDP students. Institute Director Bruce Kuniholm called upon graduates to find meaning in their lives by thinking “outside of our individual self interest, to make the world a better place, to do what we can to better the lot of mankind … ”

Yaolin Zhou, selected as the undergraduate student speaker, told the moving story of her effort to complete her studies while undergoing treatment for a brain tumor. Master’s students chose Erica Lee, daughter of U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas, as their student speaker, while Santhoshkumar Thiruthimana of India represented PIDP students.

Three undergrads were selected this year for the Terry Sanford Leadership Award: Marcia Eisenstein, Nazaneen Homaifar and Hirsh Sandesara. Eisenstein created College Connection, through which mentors help ease the college application process for low-income Durham students. Sandesara conducted health policy research in New Mexico and India. Homaifar has researched AIDS transmission in Senegal and helped lead a team that presented findings on HIV aid funding to a U.S. Senate committee. Homaifar also earned a Fulbright grant for a year’s study in Morocco. David Gastwirth earned the Joel Fleishman Distinguished Scholar award in recognition of highest academic achievement.

Co-winners of the 2006 MPP Outstanding Student award were Lanier McRee and Liz Clasen. Professor Helen “Sunny” Ladd received the Richard Stubbing Graduate Teaching/Mentoring Award. Other honors include:

• Five MPP graduates were selected for prestigious Presidential Management Fellowships: Katie Behr, Laura Duke, Lanier McRee, Drew Pounds and Jeremy Williams.

• Jessica Campese, MPP ’06, earned a Fulbright grant to work in Geneva developing human-rights-based guidelines for international conservation NGOs

• Dan Love, PPS ’06, earned a Fulbright grant to study in Chile.

• Anu Gurung, MPP ’06, was selected as a Global Leadership Fellow of the World Economic Forum in Geneva, Switzerland. The three-year program is designed to create future international leaders and will result in the award of a Master’s in Global Leadership at completion.

• Erica Lee, MPP ’06, was selected as a Carey Fellow and will work with the N.Y. State Division of the Budget to develop state fiscal policy.

• Seema Kakad, PPS ’06, won an Edward H. Benenson Award to go to Mexico to work with the Mayan population on a documentary film, as well as the Julia Harper Day Award from the Duke Center for Documentary Studies.
Listen to the poor to find out best ways to reduce poverty

By ANIRUDH KRISHNA and LESLIE BONEY

The news that North Carolina’s poverty rate is up again this year—despite the improved economy—and that North Carolina remains in the bottom 10 states in the country for poverty, has led to an explosion of yawns across the state. “We’ve thrown a lot of money at the problem,” the attitude seems to be, “and it hasn’t gone away.” But what if there was another way of looking at poverty, based not on how much we have spent, but on which factors poor people thought were most effective in preventing them from falling into poverty, or which factors were most successful in helping them escape?

This past summer, with funding from The Duke Endowment’s Program for the Rural Carolinas and the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy, Duke students and community researchers from four rural counties—Beaufort, Burke, Gates and Vance—talked to 312 disadvantaged families.

Here’s what we found:

Poverty isn’t static, even if poverty rates are. While the overall poverty rates haven’t changed much in the past decade, more than one-third of families either have fallen into or escaped poverty over the same period. Some families have escaped poverty; others have fallen in. Clearly two sorts of policies are called for: ones that prevent families from falling into poverty, and others that help people escape from poverty.

Four main factors form the pathways into or out of poverty:

Job status—losing a job is the most common factor cited among families falling into poverty, getting a good new job is the most-often cited reason for an escape from poverty. “I just want a decent job,” one Burke County man told us. “We like to work.” (Unfortunately, decent jobs are harder and harder to find, particularly for those with less education.)

Health-related issues—disabilities, extend-

Despite problems, FEMA belongs in Homeland Security

By DAVID H. SCHANZER

As hurricane season approaches, proposals to reform, reinvent or eliminate the Federal Emergency Management Agency are blowing through Congress with gale force strength. Congress must take care, however, that in satisfying the need to respond to the Hurricane Katrina debacle, it refrains from taking action that actually damages our ability to deal with future disasters, whether caused by nature or man.

The debate over FEMA reform takes us back four years to discussions over how to best organize the government following the attacks of 9/11. In July 2002, President Bush reversed his earlier position and endorsed a large-scale reorganization of the government to bring together disparate agencies with core responsibilities for preventing and responding to terrorist attacks. As the lead federal agency for preparing communities for disasters and responding once disaster struck, FEMA was included in the reorganization plan and ultimately transferred to the new Department of Homeland Security in 2003.

A myriad of post-Katrina investigations have found, however, that the FEMA we have today is not the FEMA that was considered a model agency during much of the 1990s.

Many, including the respected former FEMA Director James Lee Witt, have concluded that FEMA’s inclusion in Homeland Security, together with a series of policy changes, have diminished FEMA’s authority and stature and are to blame for its poor performance during Katrina.

Endorsing this reasoning, proposals have been introduced in the Senate and House to restore FEMA’s independent status and enable its director to report directly to the president. Members of congressional homeland security committees, however, have proposed to strengthen and reform FEMA (as well as rename and reorganize the agency), but to leave it within Homeland Security.

“While this might seem an esoteric debate that has little meaning for those who will become hurricane victims over the coming months, much more is at stake.”

Mistakes were clearly made when FEMA was moved. First, political appointees without emergency management experience were put in charge of the agency. Second, responsibility for preparing communities for disasters was separated from responsibility for response and recovery. This organizational divide ignored the reality that relationships
ed illnesses and loss of health insurance and the resulting medical debt were cited by about a third of those falling into poverty as one of the principal causes. In many cases, the swirl of medical debt drains equity from homes and often forces families to borrow money at dangerously poor terms.

**Family factors**— divorce or lack of family support often helped propel families into poverty; marriage or the presence of a supportive family helped people escape. As one Beaufort County resident noted, “you need a wife and husband team to make it around here.”

**Budgeting**— Several of the families escaping poverty reported that forming and sticking with a budget was a significant factor in helping them move out of poverty.

No single factor can transport a family into or out of poverty. It is significant that most families moving out of poverty or falling into poverty cited two or more of these factors in explaining their change of status. In most cases, it was the combination of loss of job and loss of insurance, or getting sick with no insurance or other family support, that pushed families into poverty.

We still need the supports already in place, but since resources for fighting poverty are limited, our study suggests that some investments are more helpful than others. We should invest in initiatives designed to keep poverty-related factors from piling up on families. We must not only continue to look for new work opportunities that pay meaningful wages, but also we must find ways to sustain insurance coverage for those who have lost jobs. Here’s how one Gates County resident put it: “Health insurance is something you can’t afford, but you can’t afford not to have it.” Similarly, we can’t prevent divorce, but we can provide more public and private support to struggling families. We can do more to control predatory lending practices and we can teach struggling families budgeting skills.

Not all investments in poverty reduction are created equal—some are more equal than others. The results of this study suggest that we can get smarter about what those “more equal” investments are—if we make it our official policy to talk to the people we are trying to help.

**Krishna** is an assistant professor of public policy and political science at the Institute. **Boney** is a senior associate at MDC Inc., a Chapel Hill-based nonprofit that conducts research and works on issues of expanding opportunity and advancing equity throughout the South. He was a Fleishman Fellow at the Institute in 2004. This column was first published March 6 in the Raleigh News and Observer.
Economists, management pros to join PPS faculty in fall ’06 (continued from page 1)

he spent eight months collecting data in Madagascar with support from the National Science Foundation, the Social Science Research Council and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

“I am very excited about coming to Duke University and joining the Sanford faculty,” he said. “For an applied economist, a policy school is a natural and obvious fit …

“I want to develop a research agenda that focuses on exploring, both in theory and in practice, the consequences of market failures on the welfare of the poor in developing countries. I would like to show students that there is more to development than overarching macro projects and structural adjustment programs, and that the key to successful macroeconomic policy often lies in implementing sound microeconomic policies.”

Professor of the Practice Thomas Taylor will focus primarily on management and leadership, while Visiting Professor of the Practice James Johnson will focus on policy analysis. Both bring to the program many years of professional experience, Taylor at the federal level and Johnson at the state level. Both will be involved with the fall policy analysis course, in order to provide all first-year MPP students an opportunity to interact with both of them during the fall term, and to provide smaller sections and more opportunities for student presentations, said Professor of PPS Sunny Ladd, director of graduate studies.

Taylor has been the senior deputy general counsel for the U.S. Department of the Army since 1979. In that capacity, he has been the key legal and policy advisor to every recent Secretary of the Army and has played a major role in management decisions. Taylor graduated from Guilford College in 1966 and from the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law in 1969. From 1975-79 he was an associate professor at the U.S. Military Academy.

Johnson has directed the Fiscal Research Division of the N.C. General Assembly for the last six years. In that capacity he managed a staff of approximately 40 professionals with responsibility for preparing the annual state budget, making state revenue forecasts and dealing with all tax and finance legislation. Prior to becoming the director he was a principal fiscal analyst in the division, with much of his work focused on health care and education policy.

“He brings to the position tremendous knowledge of state and local government, not only in North Carolina but throughout the country,” Ladd said. “His many North Carolina contacts and his intimate knowledge of the North Carolina policy environment should prove very useful for the spring consulting projects, clients for master’s projects and professional opportunities for graduates of the MPP program.”

Johnson earned a BA in political science from UNC-Chapel Hill and a master’s degree in public affairs from NC State. He also participated in the program for senior executives in state and local government at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government.

Rotary Fellows gather


Nine Rotary World Peace Fellows presented their research to an audience of 140, comprised of Rotarians, students, and community members, including a group of local Burmese refugees. Their topics ranged from nation building in Liberia and Sierra, to displacement of indigenous people due to the Chiaapas conflict in Mexico, and female genital cutting.

Center co-directors James Peacock of UNC and Francis Lethem of the Duke Center for International Development, as well as center coordinator Susan Carroll, were honored with Paul Harris Fellow Awards.
Retained students negatively affect classmates’ behavior

Middle school students who share their classrooms with older students or children who have been retained are more likely to have discipline problems such as substance use, fighting and classroom disruptions than students in classrooms without older or retained students, according to a recent study by Duke Center for Child and Family Policy researchers.

Sociologists Clara Muschkin, Elizabeth Glennie and Audrey Beck studied discipline records of nearly 80,000 seventh graders in 334 North Carolina middle schools. In one of the largest studies of its kind, they included rural, urban and socially diverse schools.

They found that the likelihood of discipline problems and the chances of being suspended are significantly higher among students attending schools with many retained and older students. For example, if 20 percent of children in the seventh grade are older than their peers, the chance that other students will commit an infraction or be suspended increased by 200 percent compared to students without older peers.

“Until now, retention research hasn’t looked at the effect of retention on other children,” Glennie said. “We find that retained and older children have a significant effect on the behavior of all children. This disruptive behavior can ultimately influence how much a child learns.”

School accountability policies linked to the federal No Child Left Behind legislation encourage retention of low-performing students so schools can meet performance targets in the following year. Policies also encourage delayed entry to school. However, these researchers say little consideration has been given to the long-term effects of retention or delayed school entries on student behavior or to the influence older or retained children have on their classmates.

In the 2000-2001 school year, 18 percent of North Carolina seventh graders had been previously retained or were “old-for-grade,” which this study defined as older than 75 percent of their peers. Old-for-grade students are on average one year older than their classmates; most old-for-grade seventh graders are 13 to 14.5 years old at the start of the school year.

The study concludes that educators should take additional steps to minimize the academic struggles of older and retained children. The researchers suggest that policymakers consider retention as a last resort, and place more emphasis on interventions such as tutoring, summer school and peer mentoring.

Children’s mental health heads agenda for lawmakers’ seminar

On May 17, state lawmakers and agency leaders examined potential strategies for providing high quality, cost-effective care to the more than 240,000 children in North Carolina who suffer from a mental illness. They heard from national mental health experts as part of the second Family Impact Seminar sponsored by the Duke Center for Child and Family Policy.

The seminars aim to provide policymakers with objective, nonpartisan, solution-oriented research pertaining to problems that affect the nation’s families. Scheduled speakers were:

- **Leslie Brower**, deputy director of the Division of Program and Policy Development, Ohio Department of Mental Health;
- **E. Jane Costello**, Duke professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry;
- **Kenneth A. Dodge**, director, Center for Child and Family Policy;
- **William O. Donnelly**, interim director and clinical director, Children’s Resource Center, Bowling Green, Ohio;

Among the topics for discussion were lessons learned from the Great Smoky Mountains Study detailing children’s mental health status in western North Carolina, and a method to measure mental health outcomes based on Ohio’s Mental Health Consumer Outcomes System.

North Carolina spent more than $504 million in federal and state funds on children’s mental health services and served approximately 69,000 children in 2005. Approximately 12 percent of children in North Carolina suffer from a serious emotional disorder, such as depression, anxiety, eating disorders or Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder. Experts estimate that 66 percent of children with a serious mental disorder do not receive any mental health services.

The N.C. Family Impact Seminars are guided by a bipartisan legislative advisory committee led by N.C. Reps. Jeff Barnhart and Rick Glazier. The N.C. seminars are modeled on seminars pioneered by the University of Wisconsin and now taking place in 21 states. North Carolina’s first Family Impact Seminar in 2005 covered Medicaid cost containment strategies.
John Ahearne, visiting professor of PPS, was appointed co-chair of the Non-Proliferation Panel of the National Academies Committee on International Security and Arms Control and chairman of the National Research Council Committee to Review the Office of Management and Budget Risk Assessment Bulletin.

Charles Clotfelter, Z. Smith Reynolds Professor of PPS (on sabbatical at the Russell Sage Foundation in New York) gave talks on a paper titled, “The Academic Achievement Gap in Grades 3 to 8,” at Russell Sage, the New School for Social Research, the City University of New York, Amherst College and Columbia University. The paper was co-authored with PPS professors Jake Vigdor and Sunny Ladd.

Philip J. Cook, ITT/Terry Sanford Professor of PPS, gave the annual Hochbaum Distinguished Lecture at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Public Health on April 10. He also was an expert source for numerous media covering the March launch of the new North Carolina lottery, including the Charlotte Observer.

Robert Cook-Deegan, research professor of PPS, gave the Picard Lecture at the University of Alberta Law School in Edmonton on March 22; gave a plenary talk at the National Breast Cancer Coalition annual advocacy conference in Washington, D.C., on May 1; and gave a plenary talk at the annual Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory meeting on genomics on May 12.

Reid Fontaine, research scientist at the Center for Child and Family Policy, in March presented co-authored research titled “Peer rejection and loneliness as predictors of internalizing problems in early adolescence” at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence in San Francisco, Calif.

Joel Fleishman, professor of PPS, spoke to the annual meeting of Grantmakers for Effective Organizations in Atlanta on March 10. He also participated in a panel on Governance of Foundation and Nonprofit Investment Policy for the Commonfund Institute in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on March 13.

Kristin Goss, assistant professor of PPS, delivered the keynote address to the annual meeting of North Carolinians Against Gun Violence in January; delivered an invited talk at Georgetown University in November about her research on the narrowing of women’s organizations’ policy interests over the past century; and chaired a panel and gave a paper at the Southern Political Science Association meeting in Atlanta.

Sherman A. James, Susan B. King Professor of PPS, was appointed to serve on the National Scientific Advisory Board of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health. He also received a research grant from the NIH/National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities to develop culturally competent and effective approaches to improving control of Type 2 diabetes among African Americans in Durham County. The grant continues through June 2008.


Judith Kelley, assistant professor of PPS, organized with Duke law school professor Curtis Bradley a March 3-4 conference on the implications of nations delegating authority to international institutions. The conference drew experts from universities across the country, and their conference papers are now available on the law school web site.

Bruce Kuniholm, Institute director and professor of PPS, chaired a panel discussion titled “Iraq 2006: Where to From Here” during the annual
Faculty Publications


Duke National Security Conference on April 20, sponsored by the Law School’s Center on Law, Ethics and National Security and Program in Public Law.

Sunny Ladd, Edgar T. Thompson Professor of PPS, spoke April 28 at Princeton University on “Teacher Labor Markets in Developed Countries,” and on March 24 at the American Education Finance Association Meetings in Denver, Colo., she presented a paper co-authored with Charles Clotfelter and Jacob Vigdor, titled “How and Why Do Teacher Credentials Matter for Student Achievement?” On Feb. 10 she gave an invited lecture on race and charter schools at Brown University.

Ellen Mickiewicz, James R. Shapley Professor of PPS and director of the DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy, presented the keynote address, “The Comundrum of Memory” at an international conference titled “The Mass Media in Post-Soviet Russia,” April 6-8, University of Surrey, England. Mickiewicz also organized and will teach a two-week seminar on “The Challenges of International Media Technology and Policy” for the Olympia Summer Seminars in Olympia, Greece, June 26-July 10.

Noah Pickus, associate director of the Kenan Institute for Ethics and adjunct associate professor of PPS, briefed Senate Judiciary Committee staff on immigration reform and gave talks on his book, True Faith and Allegiance: Immigration and American Civic Nationalism, in cities across the country to groups including the Department of Homeland Security, the Heritage Foundation and the National Immigration Forum. As immigration reform rose to the top of the national agenda this spring, Pickus published op-eds in Newsday and the Raleigh News and Observer, and was quoted by media including the San Francisco Chronicle, The Washington Post and Information Week.

William Raspberry, Knight Professor of the Practice of Journalism, visited China in mid May where he was journalist-in-residence at Fudan University of Shanghai and conducted master classes, led seminars and gave public lectures.

Susan Tifft, Eugene C. Patterson Professor of the Practice of Journalism and PPS, will be on leave during the 2006-07 year while she writes a book about women’s unique role in the longevity revolution and what that may portend for policy, institutions and individuals. The book is under contract to Penguin Press. Tifft also was scheduled to participate in the Duke in Napa Valley Seminar on May 25-26. She was a panelist for “Just the Facts: Truth and the Internet,” as part of the PEN World Voices Festival April 28 in New York City.

More than any other advanced industrial democracy, the United States is besieged by firearms violence. The nation has witnessed the murders of beloved public figures; massacres in workplaces and schools; and epidemics of gun violence that terrorize neighborhoods and claim tens of thousands of lives. Yet Americans have never mounted a true national movement for gun control. Why? Disarmed unravels this paradox.

Based on historical archives, interviews and original survey evidence, Goss suggests that the gun control campaign has been stymied by a combination of factors, including the inability to secure patronage resources, difficulties in articulating a message that would resonate with supporters and strategic decisions made in the name of effective policy.

Disarmed illuminates the organizational, historical and policy-related factors that constrain mass mobilization.
Anthony So, senior research fellow in public policy, presented on “Intellectual Property Rights and Technology Transfer: Enabling Access for Developing Countries” at the Michigan State College of Law’s Third Annual Intellectual Property & Communications Law Program Symposium on April 7. He also presented on “Information Technology and Networks in Health” at the Open Society Institute’s “Monitoring for Health: A Dialogue on Current Practices and Perspectives” meeting on Feb. 9 in Istanbul, Turkey, and participated in the Salzburg Seminar on the governance of health in December. He participated in discussions about leadership April 29 at the University of Oklahoma with other members of the Millennium Class of the Henry Crown Fellows Program of the Aspen Institute. So worked with Duke colleagues Susan Yaggy and Nikki Vangnese to create a Global Health Poster Session during the Global Health Symposium and 75th anniversary celebration of the Medical School, April 17-18. In December, So participated in the Salzburg Seminar on Governance of Health.

Jacob Vigdor, professor of PPS, co-presented a paper “Race- Conscious Admissions and Inter-Racial Contact: Does Homophily Matter?” co-authored with Duke economist P. Arcidiacono and S. Khan (University of Rochester) at the Higher Education Working Group Meeting at the National Bureau of Economic Research in Cambridge, Mass. on April 28. He presented his paper “The New Promised Land: Black-White Convergence in the American South 1960-2000” at the University of Chicago Workshop on Black-White Inequality on April 21. Also in April, Vigdor participated in a panel discussion on peer influences in education at the Eric M. Mindich Professor of PPS, was invited to deliver the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Public Health’s Hochbaum Lecture on April 10. Cook’s lecture was titled “The Un-Happy Hour: New Evidence on Alcohol Policy and the Consequences of Cheap, Widely Available Alcohol.” The Hochbaum Distinguished Lecture was established in 1988 to honor Godfrey M. Hochbaum, health behavior and health education professor emeritus.

Joel L. Fleishman, professor of PPS and director of the Samuel & Ronnie Heyman Center for Ethics, Public Policy and the Professions, has been appointed co-chair of a new committee to advise the Panel on the Nonprofit Sector on Self-Regulation. Co-chair is Rebecca W. Rimel, president and CEO of The Pew Charitable Trusts.

The Panel on the Nonprofit Sector is comprised of leaders from charities and foundations across the country. Last June the panel released a major report to Congress consisting of more than 120 recommendations to strengthen the transparency, governance and accountability of the charitable sector.

James T. Hamilton, Charles S. Sydnor Professor of Public Policy and director of undergraduate studies, is one of three 2006-07 recipients of a Fellowship in Environmental Regulatory Implementation from Resources for the Future. The fellowship provides a stipend and program support. Hamilton intends to document the origins and outcomes of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Conservation Reserve Program established by the Farm Security Act of 1985. This is the second time Hamilton has won the fellowship; the first resulted in his most recent book, Regulation through Revelation.

Susan B. King Professor of PPS Sherman A. James has been named principal investigator for a three-year, $1.5 million study funded by the NIH/National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities. The African-American Health Improvement Partnership aims to develop effective approaches to controlling Type 2 diabetes. James’ research partners include a 15-member community advisory board; Susan Yaggy and Mina Silberberg from the Division of Community Health within Duke’s Department of Community and Family Medicine; and Elaine Hart-Brothers, a Durham internist. Hart-Brothers is the founding chair of the nonprofit Community Health Coalition.

Ambassador James Joseph, professor of the practice of PPS, was honored April 27 as a “Louisiana Legend” during a gala sponsored by the Friends of Louisiana Public Broadcasting. The annual event honors outstanding Louisiana citizens who have distinguished themselves in a variety of disciplines including writing, art, entertainment, politics, public service and athletics.

Former President Bill Clinton, in whose administration Joseph served as Ambassador to South Africa, speaks in a video clip of Joseph’s contributions to the nation’s progress out of an apartheid system. The clip can be seen on the Institute’s Web site.

Joseph heads the United States-South Africa Center for Leadership and Public Values at the Institute and at the University of Cape Town. He now serves as chairman of the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation.

Duke’s Trinity College of Arts and Sciences honored Gunther Peck, Fred W. Shaffer Associate Professor of History and associate professor of PPS, for excellence in undergraduate teaching and research at the annual faculty awards dinner on May 4. Peck was inducted into the Bass Society of Fellows.

The National Forum for Black Public Administrators honored Art Spengler, professor of the practice of PPS, with its Educator of the Year Award.

Jacob Vigdor earned promotion to Associate Professor of Public Policy effective July 1. Vigdor is also an associate professor of economics and a faculty research fellow with the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Celebrating after graduation on May 13 are some of the Sanford Institute’s newest MPP alumni, from left, Stefan Lhachimi, Kurt Wise and Jesse Hastings. Kelvin Inn, in shirt and tie, will graduate in 2007 with a joint MPP/MBA degree.
Movie-goers listen to a panel discussion after the April 9 premiere of the documentary “Terry Sanford and the New South” at the Carolina Theatre in downtown Durham. Panelists included former Gov. Jim Hunt, left, and former N.C. Rep. Dan Blue, above, talking with moderator Judy Woodruff. Other panelists were former journalist and presidential spokesman Hodding Carter III, writer/director Tom Lennon and journalist Al Hunt. The screening was sponsored by WNET/Thirteen New York, UNC-TV, Sanford Institute, Duke University and The Center for Documentary Studies. The documentary will have its broadcast premiere this fall.