Index of Immigrant Assimilation Garners National Attention

Since 1995, immigrants to the United States have been assimilating at a faster rate than a century ago, especially immigrants from Vietnam, Cuba and the Philippines. Mexican immigrants were the exception to the rule. These were some of the key findings in the first annual Index of Immigrant Assimilation written by Jacob Vidgor, associate professor of PPS and economics. The report, titled "Measuring Immigrant Assimilation in the United States," issued in May by a New York think tank, The Manhattan Institute, received wide coverage in the media, including The Washington Post, The Miami Herald and U.S. News and World Report. Below are excerpts from Focus staff writer Jackie Ogburn's interview with Vidgor. (Please see page 7)

Saving Forests From Destruction—New Ways to Gauge Effectiveness

Sometimes significant innovations can result simply from questioning current norms. A associate Professor of PPS Alex Pfaff is doing exactly that through his research on the effects of forest conservation policies in Latin America.

Pfaff is partnering with other environmental economists and natural resources analysts to pose a seemingly simple question: how much forest is really being saved? The answer is critical to understanding whether current forest policies to combat global climate change, protect species and preserve ecological functions are succeeding as now believed.

Until recently most of the conservation community has been content to use basic metrics to measure the effectiveness of land conservation programs: Forested acres in protected areas or enrolled in an ecosystems payment program were counted as acres saved from deforestation. Thus, it was assumed that ecological benefits were preserved and less carbon was entering the atmosphere, reducing global warming.

However, many people are eager for more accurate measures of policy impact. The thrust of the recent focus on evaluation—and the center of Pfaff's work—is to estimate how much forest would have been lost if the land had not been set aside in a park or enrolled in a conservation payments program. Sometimes the answer is "none."

"If the forest would still be standing without protection or payments, (Please see page 6)

PPS Faculty Grows

Of six new faculty appointments at the Sanford Institute this academic year, three are joining Duke from other institutions—M. Giovanna Merli, Subhrendu K. Pattanayak and Seth Sanders—while three are current members of the public policy faculty being promoted to new positions: Cory Krupp, Clara Muschkin and Anthony So.

"These new appointments expand our core faculty, an important step in transforming the Sanford Institute into a school," said Director Bruce Kuniholm. "They work across disciplines in innovative ways and further our goals of strengthening our positions in health, social, environmental and international policy."

The three new external hires all hold dual appointments in PPS and another department at Duke, building on the Institute's tradition of fostering cross-disciplinary research collaboration. (Please see page 15)
Institute Updates

From the Director

In previous columns, I’ve discussed two components of our vision for the new school of public policy at Duke: 1) energy and the environment and 2) health policy. Our collaboration with other schools on these major challenges of our time is ongoing, and in this issue of Public Policy Focus you can find news about some of our faculty’s efforts: Alex Pfaff’s research into forest protection policies (p. 1), Anthony So’s efforts to help widen access to critical innovations in health (p. 13), and Don Taylor’s suggestions to improve long-term health care (p. 14).

These challenges are inextricably interconnected with an additional set of challenges addressed by another component of our vision: 3) global governance and international development.

All of the great issues of our day — whether they involve energy and the environment, health, the economy or security — now cross boundaries in an interdependent world where nations no longer have individual mastery over their own fate. Our fates are interrelated and interdependent, and they require international cooperation by all members of the global community if we are to survive and thrive.

What is the challenge? The redrawing of traditional boundaries between domestic and international policy in the era of globalization means we must revisit old assumptions about the roles of governments, nongovernmental actors and international organizations in creating public value. We need new thinking about the roles of organizations such as the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the International Monetary Fund. We need to systematically re-examine their places in a changed global community.

We also face a crisis in development. Three-quarters of the world’s expanding population lives in developing countries, and our fate is linked with theirs. Unless we can work collectively to find a sustainable path to development, tackling poverty, disease, environmental degradation and political oppression, we risk destroying ourselves and the planet.

We also face a crisis in global health. Throughout the world, poor health is not just a consequence of poverty, but also a profound cause of it. Until we come to grips with the ravages of diseases that plague the developing world and address the widespread need for access to adequate health care, there is little hope for solving the development crisis.

Finally, we face a crisis in security. In the aftermath of 9/11 and the war in Iraq, there is little question that our thinking about security is outdated. Our intelligence, military and foreign policy institutions need a better understanding of the nature and sources of the new security threats and much better insights into how to counter them.

How will we meet this multifaceted challenge? First, we will continue collaborating with partners who share our priorities on the kinds of research and engagement that can guide policymakers to effective decisions.

Second, we will strengthen these efforts by hiring faculty whose talents and new ideas will expand our perspectives and our reach.

Finally, we will continue to improve our educational programs so that the transformative experience we deliver to the next generation of public policy students will prepare them to take the lead not only in addressing the shortcomings of global governance, but also in eliminating health inequities and in building a global economy that is just and sustainable, and, hence, provides greater security for the global community.

Best regards,

Bruce Kuniholm

Sanford Welcomes New Board Members

Six new members joined the Sanford Institute Board of Visitors in July, while John F. Burness, Brandon H. Busteed, Sam Heyman, Philip Lader, Rachel A. McLaughlin and Emily J. Loney completed their terms of service. The new members are:

ANDREA CLARK (MPP ’09, ex-officio), a second-year MPP student. She is interested in domestic social policy issues, specifically poverty, housing and racial disparities in health and education.

JUSTIN E. FAIRFAX (PPS ’00), litigation associate at Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, Hale and Dorr in Washington, D.C. He was a personal assistant to vice presidential candidate John Edwards during the 2004 campaign. He earned his JD from Columbia Law School in 2005 and served as a member of the Duke University Board of Trustees from 2000 to 2003.

JOHN B. FORD (AB [History] ’74), president and general manager of Discovery Channel. He has worked in media for more than 30 years and is a member of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He holds an MPA from the University of Texas, Austin.

JASON PATE (PPS ‘09, ex-officio), is a senior Angier B. Duke Scholar, president of the Public Policy Majors Union and has served on the Global Health Student Action Committee. He is interested in health policy, public-private partnerships and corporate social responsibility.

MIKE SCHOENFELD (PPS ’84, ex-officio), senior vice president for public affairs and government relations at Duke. Previously, he was vice chancellor for public affairs at Vanderbilt University and senior vice president for policy and public affairs at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

SEKOU KAALUND (MPP ’99), a managing director and global head of Private Equity Fund Services at JPMorgan Worldwide Securities Services. He also held leadership positions at Citigroup and was a commissioned bank examiner at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
School Endowment Rises to $29.9 M

By David Rice

Two gifts in late June brought the endowment effort to transform the Sanford Institute into a new School of Public Policy to $29.9 million.

The institute seeks $65 million in new endowment—$40 million for new faculty positions and $25 million for scholarships, fellowships, internships and other forms of student aid. President Richard Brodhead and Provost Peter Lange have set a threshold of $40 million by June 30, 2009, for recognition of the Institute as Duke University's tenth school.

The new gifts increased the amount raised during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2008 to just over $14 million. The total includes $4.8 million in matching funds from the Duke Financial Aid Initiative (FAI), which seeks to add $300 million in endowment to support student financial aid across the university.

“We are incredibly grateful to the donors who have put us on the fast track to becoming a school,” said Robert Wright, the Institute’s director of development. “Their generosity has already helped bring about improvements in the financial aid packages we can offer our students. Going forward, it will enable us to hire new faculty members, increase support for summer internships, and otherwise help make possible the School of Public Policy’s ambitions to transform the lives of its students and build a better world.”

Gifts received since mid-April include:

- A $300,000 pledge from David J. Kapnick and The Kapnick Foundation to establish the Kapnick Family Scholarship Fund, targeted for PPS majors. The gift will draw a $300,000 FAI match. Kapnick (T ’76), is managing director and chief financial officer at Newbury Ventures in Redwood Shores, Calif., a member of the Sanford Board of Visitors and a Duke parent (Dan Kapnick, T ’08).

- A $50,000 pledge of unrestricted support for the Institute/School made by an anonymous undergraduate PPS alumnus.

Sanford BOV member Bernard Rhodes

Longtime Sanford Board of Visitors member Bernard Rhodes (BMS ’42, MD ’44) died on March 31, 2008 in Rutherford, Calif., after a long illness. Dr. Rhodes had a long and successful career with Kaiser-Permanente, retiring in 1986 as executive vice president and manager of operations. Earlier in his career, he had practiced medicine in the San Francisco Bay area and served as an assistant professor in dermatology at the University of California, San Francisco.

As owner of the one of the first six vineyards in Napa Valley, Rhodes was a founding influence in the growth of the region’s successful wine industry. He and his wife, Belle, who passed away in 2007, grew grapes at Bella Oaks Vineyard for the Heitz Wine Cellars, Round Hill Winery and Rutherford Hill Winery. His passion for wine was reflected in his membership in many prestigious wine societies and in his cellar, which contained in excess of 10,000 bottles.

Dr. and Mrs. Rhodes, together with Sanford Institute Director Bruce Kuniholm and BOV member Robin Lail, founder of Lail Vineyards, in 1991 launched the annual Duke in Napa Valley Seminar, a community of friends with ties to Duke and Napa Valley who share enthusiasm for wine, good food, knowledge and current events. The seminar, a 2-3-day event that marked its 18th consecutive session this spring, now is organized by Professor of the Practice Susan Tifft and Lail.

“The Napa Valley seminar continues to provide an intellectually challenging and gastronomically gratifying experience that constitutes an annual epiphany for all of its true-blue members,” Kuniholm said.

“Barney was a wonderful human being with impeccable taste buds, a subtle wit, a droll sense of humor and a generous heart who blessed everyone he came in contact with, including the soon-to-be Sanford School. We have a wonderful portrait of him and his wife, Belle, in the Rhodes Conference Room that will remind us all of how much we miss them both.”
Mickiewicz Reflects on Leadership of DeWitt Wallace

The DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy is in transition this year as Director Ellen Mickiewicz steps down from the post she has held since 1994 and passes the baton to a new director, Jay Hamilton.

Under her leadership, DWC hired prominent journalists to teach—including William Raspberry, Susan Tiff and Judy Woodruff—brought more international journalists to the Media Fellows Program, and grew the journalism and media studies certificate program to the second largest undergraduate program on campus.

With the publication this spring of her book Television, Power, and the Public in Russia, Mickiewicz, also has closed another circle. Her previous work on media and politics in Russia, including the books Changing Channels (1999) and Split Signals (1988), focused largely on television ownership and content. This year’s book completes the picture by zeroing in on ordinary TV viewers.

U sing focus groups and individual interviews conducted in Russian, which she speaks fluently, Mickiewicz was able to plumb the thoughts of TV news viewers experiencing increasing government control of media.

“Everyone has talked about who owns what and the messages that go out, but no one had done comprehensive research on how viewers are using the messages,” said Mickiewicz, the James R. Shepley Professor of PPS and a professor of political science. “I care very much about ordinary people. I wanted to get beyond preferences, which are transitory, and learn what cognitive instruments are being used to process what they are seeing.”

Mickiewicz discovered Russian viewers are less malleable than their leaders suppose. They often bring sophisticated perspectives and skepticism to their interpretations of news. The book has generated speaking invitations and reviews in Russian and European news. The book has been translated into 12 languages. It positively influenced Russian media laws, and was used by journalists covering the first post-invasion election in Iraq.

Mickiewicz’s extensive network of media and international contacts help bring leading figures to speak or teach at the Sanford Institute. The lengthy list includes former national security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, broadcasting pioneer Ted Turner, and national journalists including Bob Woodward, David Halberstam, David Brooks and Esther Dyson.

“Thanks to Ellen’s reputation, one of greatest things about DeWitt Wallace is that students have had access to working journalists in the classroom, who are tuned in to what is going on in the world,” Rogerson said.

Mickiewicz considers fostering dialogues on controversial media-related topics one DWC’s most important roles. In 2001, for example, the center hosted a heated panel discussion after an advertisement opposing reparations for slavery appeared in the Chronicle, prompting outrage and protests. Academics, students and media experts spoke frankly about racial divisions and the limits of journalistic freedom. The discussion continued for more than two hours. It was among the events that most pleased M. Mickiewicz.

“This is a university, and we ought to be able to reason together,” she said.
Sanford Welcomes MPP Class of 2010

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) Program welcomed 63 new students—the largest class ever admitted—to the Sanford Institute during New Student Orientation Week, Aug 18–22, 2008. Ten students will pursue joint degrees with Duke Law, Duke Medical School, Nicholas School of the Environment or the Fuqua School of Business.

The group includes international students from Ecuador, Ireland, France, Canada, Korea and China. Five are Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (RPCV) Fellows who will complete two-year community service projects serving needy populations in the Durham community. The class also includes five AmeriCorps VISTA Fellows, five Teach for America Fellows and a Pickering Fellow.

Two new fellowships were awarded to incoming students this year: the Morris B. and Jane M. Abram Fellowship for students with interests in public policies that support democratic values in the United States and human rights throughout the world, and the Magdalena Yelist Fellowship for students with an interest in sustainable development, nation building or conflict resolution in Armenia or the surrounding region.

“This large, diverse class will be able to bring vitality and critical mass to current Sanford student organizations, such as Living Policy Forum and the Microfinance Club, and is expected to sponsor new initiatives as well,” said Associate Professor of PPS and Director of Graduate Studies Frederick “Fritz” Mayer.

Four Join Public Policy PhD Program

SARAH CRITTENDEN comes to the Sanford Institute after two years as an analyst for Public Impact, a Chapel Hill-based education policy consulting firm. Crittenden plans to specialize in sociology with a focus on social and education policy. Specifically, she wants to examine how community variables such as income, job opportunities, and social norms affect the educational system in the community. Crittenden is a 2008 James B. Duke Fellow. She holds a BA in sociology and BS in psychology from UNC-Chapel Hill, where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She received the Thiel and State Revenue: Indian Casinos and State Lotteries.

MAEVE GEARING has worked for three years as an analyst for the Analysis Group. She intends to specialize in economics with a focus on social policy. Eventually she would like to work as a policy analyst at the university or government level investigating how cultural and social norms impact public responses to gambling and other “vice” regulations.

Gearing is a 2008 James B. Duke Fellow. She earned a BA in economics (2005), summa cum laude, from Wellesley College, where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She received the Natalie Bolton Economic Faculty Prize for her senior thesis titled, “Gambling, Social Policy and State Revenue: Indian Casinos and State Lotteries.”

DANIA FRANK comes to Duke with a background in economics research and study. Frank has conducted research on reparations to African Americans, and has co-authored a paper with Arts & Sciences Professor of PPS William “Sandy” Darity. She intends to specialize in economics with a focus on social policy. Frank is a 2008 recipient of the Duke Endowment Fellowship. She holds an MA in economics (2003) from Harvard and a BA in economics (2001), cum laude, from Smith College.

INGRID MUJICA, a native of Colombia, comes to Duke by way of Ontario, Canada. Her research in the field of economics has encompassed fair trade, the effects of unemployment on crime rates in Canada and the impact of the steamship in Japan during the Meiji era.

Mujica will specialize in economics with a policy focus on globalization and development. She earned an MA in economics (2008) from the University of Toronto and a BS in economics (2007), with honors, from the University of Montreal.

Summer Arts Policy Program Premieres

Two PPS majors spent their summers immersed in the arts, thanks to a new Hart Leadership Program (HLP) initiative that provides up to $4,000 to support innovative public policy internships involving leadership and arts policy.

Two rising seniors, Laura Mixter and Julia Kraus, received the first Leadership and Arts Policy grants. Mixter, of Chevy Chase, Md., interned in the development department of the Corcoran Museum of Art in Washington, D.C. There, she learned about financing a prestigious art gallery and tested her goals of becoming a leader in the arts community.

Kraus, of Hillsborough, N.C., is contemplating a career in theater administration and arts policy. She interned as the company manager of the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center in Waterford, Conn., where she gained hands-on experience in the day-to-day operations of a nonprofit theater.

Leadership and the Arts is the successor to Leadership and the Arts in New York (LANY), an academic program that offered undergraduates a semester in New York City. LANY was founded by Bruce Payne, also the founder of HLP, who left Duke in 2006 to become executive director of the Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation in New York City.
Center Launches Louisiana Leadership Initiative

After the substantial and long-term effects of Hurricane Katrina, it was clear to Ambassador James A. Joseph, a Louisiana native, that there was a major leadership deficit in his home state. To help address the problem, he developed a program for rising mid-career leaders in Louisiana modeled on his long-running U.S.-Southern Africa leadership program.

In June, Joseph’s U.S.-Southern Africa Center for Leadership and Public Values, in partnership with the College of Business at Southern University, launched the Louisiana project with 24 fellows selected from sectors including business, government and civil society.

The program targets five leadership themes: the role of culture and context; ethics and accountability; the necessity for personal renewal; effective and ethical communications and public policy advocacy; and the critical role of networking.

“Selection was very successful and we could not have imagined that launching the new program in Louisiana would have attracted the caliber of young leaders,” said Joseph, professor of the practice of PPS. “The emphasis of the program is on ethics and values. We want to enhance the capacity of leaders to deal with moral dilemmas and to think ethically in their roles as leaders. Before coming in, leaders must already have demonstrated a commitment to ethics in some way,” Joseph added.

Fellows of the leadership program will take on public policy projects in addition to the normal requirements of the program. Fellows met in Lafayette, La., for a seven-day retreat, where they divided into groups and planned service projects.

Fellows plan to reunite in October for a three-day retreat, followed by a session in Cape Town, South Africa, in December. There, the Leadership Fellows will have the opportunity to experience a diverse mixture of cultures and consider what roles culture plays in Louisiana in shaping leadership styles and strategies.

“The eventual goal of the partnership with Southern University,” Joseph said, “is to transfer operation of the program there and expand it to other historically black colleges in the Gulf Region.”

The Louisiana initiative was launched with grants totaling $750,000 from the Ford, W.K. Kellogg, Annie E. Casey and Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundations. Joseph is chairman of the board of the Louisiana foundation, established by former Gov. Kathleen Blanco.

Preservation (continued from page 1)

Then the policies may not be saving any forest,” Pfaff said. “If half would be standing without the policy intervention, then only half was saved. Understanding where policies are saving all of the forest, none or half is critical for allocating scarce resources.”

Pfaff says Costa Rica provides a unique laboratory for demonstrating evaluation methods. The small Central American nation was a leader in creating protected areas and in a new wave of policies that offer payments for environmental services (PSA) as an incentive for private landowners to keep their land forested.

Costa Rica began its PSA program in 1997. It pays private owners of forestland for the ecosystem services their property provides for the common good. These services include not only carbon storage but also flood and erosion prevention, biodiversity preservation and crop pollination. Traditionally these contributions were unrewarded, which provided landowners little incentive to maintain forests when income-generating opportunities such as agriculture or logging were available.

Now with increased attention on policies to reduce global warming — including many efforts focused on forest conservation and carbon that are often grouped under the label REDD, or “reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation” — methods for better measuring the success of Costa Rica’s efforts are in the spotlight.

In determining whether forests would have been destroyed in the absence of these conservation policies, Pfaff says, location is a critical but largely ignored factor.

“The literature has overlooked the fact that the forest in protected areas faces lower than-average risk. Clearing there is relatively unprofitable because protected areas often contain land with steep slopes far from markets,” Pfaff says.

This was clearly demonstrated in two articles Pfaff coauthored with Paul Ferraro and Kwaw Aondam at Georgia State, Juan Robalino at CATIE and G. Arturo Sánchez-Azofeifa at the University of A Iberia. While past impact assessments typically assumed that protection prevented average levels of deforestation, their research corrected for the lower-than-average expected deforestation rates within protected areas and concluded the programs prevented up to 75 percent less deforestation than previously believed.

In the second article, currently in review, they evaluated subsets of Costa Rica’s protected areas based on location characteristics associated with deforestation in order to
How did you come to write this report? The Manhattan Institute for Policy Research wanted to publish an annual index of immigrant assimilation in the United States. They liked the approach that I wanted to take, which was to establish a historical perspective using the Census Bureau data, which is available from 1900. Another method was a survey, but the disadvantage to that is the lack of historical data—you can’t interview dead people. Instead of looking for particular trends, I proposed letting the findings arise from the data, based on examining a series of economic, cultural and civic factors.

What findings did arise? The immigrant population in the United States has doubled since 1990, and has grown at more than twice the rate of the population as a whole. Immigrants of the past 25 years have assimilated faster than their counterparts of a century ago, even though they are more distinct from the native population upon arrival. There were some important differences among groups with different countries of origin. Immigrants from developed countries, such as Korea, are not necessarily more assimilated. The U.S. attracts immigrants from the economic elite of their country of origin, but they don’t necessarily become naturalized citizens more rapidly than those from the developing world. For instance, Canadian immigrants don’t have high naturalization rates. Immigrants from Vietnam, Cuba and the Philippines have some of the highest rates of assimilation, while Mexican immigrants have very low rates of economic and civic assimilation. The slow rates of assimilation for Mexican immigrants may reflect the illegal status of a large portion of this population and the fact that many of them plan to return to Mexico. Their illegal status is a barrier to citizenship.

What was the most surprising thing you found in the data? The results related to language—how little difference language makes to assimilation. Cognitively, it’s hard to learn a new language as an adult, and English is especially difficult to learn how to write, but it’s not as much of a barrier as one might think. Many groups still had rapid economic and civic assimilation, while lagging in cultural assimilation. Several Asian groups, especially the Vietnamese, are being naturalized at a high rate.

The index received a lot of media attention, with articles in major newspapers and coverage on National Public Radio. Was this what you expected? It was what we hoped for. The Manhattan Institute hoped the index would help inform the debate on immigration policy, which had been at a lull. I had an op-ed published in The Boston Globe on May 19, and I’ve been interviewed on several radio shows.

What are some of the policy implications of the index? It has different implications depending on how immigrants are viewed: as workers needed to meet labor demands or as potential citizens. A guest worker program can meet the labor demands, but would create a separate class of American residents without political rights and responsibilities. Demanding a deep commitment to the United States could exclude people who could make important economic contributions, both the unskilled farm worker and the highly skilled entrepreneur.

The most troubling thing about the current situation is the issue of illegal status. A 2001 Census Bureau report indicates that nearly nine million immigrants from all countries were not in an “officially estimated” legal category and nearly half of these were from Mexico. That’s what’s different about this episode in the history of American immigration. It creates a group vulnerable to being exploited and sets up a shadow economy, which isn’t good.

This is an annual index. When will the next report be out and how will it be different? The next batch of census data will be available this October and I hope to publish the next report in January 2009. This gives me the chance not just to publish the new data, but to examine other issues, such as immigrant policy and results in other countries. For example, in France, immigrants are not well assimilated, economically, civically or culturally. They are segregated into suburbs, where there have been many riots in recent years. In Spain, they are offering cash to immigrants who go home. I’ve had a lot of requests to examine language more closely for the next report, so I also plan to do that.

Suggest how to increase the impact of protection programs. For example, because flatter land near national roads or near the capital city has been shown to be at greater risk for clearing, using these easily observable characteristics to target parcels for preservation could offer a larger return. These points apply equally well to payments for environmental services, as seen in two articles Pfaff is coauthoring with Robalino, Sanchez and others. The first wave of payments, during 1997-2000, went to locations facing lower-than-average deforestation threat. In this case, the policy design, in which landowners volunteer to participate, tended to result in lower quality parcels being enrolled in the program.

The second article examined the period from 2000 to 2005 and found that further targeting payments, rather than relying so heavily on volunteers, removed the bias to wards unprofitable locations. The details of implementation can raise impact. Suggesting improved answers to these complex policy implementation questions is the goal of several REDD initiatives, being led by Duke's Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, in which Pfaff and newly hired faculty member Subhrendu Pattanayak (see page 15) are participating.

“I’m looking forward to working with him,” Pfaff said. “His 2006 article with Ferraro in PLoS Biology was precisely a call to a very broad and applied community to work harder on impact evaluation and thereby better allocate resources.”

Some conservation practitioners have been slow to acknowledge the need for more rigorous evaluation methods. But many, including those who fund forest policies focused on carbon, are increasingly interested. This spring, Pfaff was invited to present his research at several World Bank meetings. A n April panel discussion, “Measuring Development Effectiveness in Environment: Progress and Challenges” was attended by about 250 government officials and staff from the World Bank, IMF and partner donor organizations. A May World Bank workshop brought together academic and nonprofit analysts to discuss the economics of REDD. In an effort to combat global warming, the World Bank is investing $300 million worldwide in REDD efforts.

“It’s important to ask these questions, because if developing countries can pay fewer land owners to save a parcel of forest, then their conservation budgets will go further and, in addition, they’ll be more likely to participate in global carbon agreements,” Pfaff says.

Professor of PPS and Political Science Bruce Jentleson, a co-author and panelist, said the work goes beyond campaign discourse to develop an overarching policy framework at a time of dramatic global transition.

“Strategic leadership requires making wise and deliberate choices about how, when, and with whom to lead,” the report states. “While America remains the single most powerful country in the world, it cannot take global leadership for granted, nor can it revert to what worked in previous eras.”

The authors delineate five key strategic leadership requisites: ensuring military strength along with the wisdom to know when and how to employ it; exercising strong statecraft as both an alternative and complement to military force; reducing global poverty “not just as a matter of personal morality but also of national and global security;” encouraging democracy and human rights through sustainable state-building strategies; and revitalizing our own domestic foundations of a strong economy and progressive society.

Within this framework, the report recommends policy initiatives within five initial priority areas: a comprehensive regional strategy in the Middle East including Iraq, Iran, and the Arab-Israeli conflict; an East Asia strategy focusing on China, India and longstanding regional allies; revamping counterterrorism strategies for homeland security as well as global threats; preventing nuclear proliferation; and going from laggard to leader on climate change and oil dependence.

The report was published by the Center for a New American Security, a Washington, D.C., think tank. Among the 10 co-authors are Antony Blinken, staff director for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Ivo Daalder, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution who served on the Clinton administration National Security Council staff; Anne-Marie Slaughter, dean of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University; and James Steinberg, dean of the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at UT-Austin.

The recommendations have been getting wide and favorable attention, and additional events being planned for Chicago, Los Angeles, New York City, Washington D.C., and elsewhere, Jentleson said. The full report is available online at: www.cnas.org/phoenixinitiative/

Letter from Afghanistan

Mia Bonarski (MPP ’08) sent news from Kabul, where she works as a communications and advocacy editor with the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit. The independent AREU conducts research that informs and influences policy and practice, with a goal of bettering the lives of Afghans.

About the picture on Page 1: … With an estimated population of nearly 5 million, people have carved their houses right into the sides of the mountains. On this particular mountain sits the old Kabul wall, which still has bullet holes, mine and mortar craters, and slits in the wall through which to fire on (what I imagine to be) oncoming hordes. The view is stunning, and the man standing on his roof gave me the impression that even those who live here are not desensitized to the barren beauty of the place.

JULY 7, 2008: About an hour ago, there was a suicide car bombing just outside the Indian Embassy, which is in central Kabul. In my office, our windows shook, a fine plaster dust fell down from the ceiling, and my colleagues and I ducked our heads instinctively. Outside, we could see a column of brown smoke rising over the concrete walls. …

[Editor’s note: More than 60 people were killed in the suicide bomb attack on the Indian Embassy, which some nations have attributed to Pakistani forces siding with the Taliban.]

JULY 26, 2008, A SNOW DAY: Last week, the security people activated our security phone tree (which is how we check on each other whenever anything happens). There was a demonstration happening in the city that day. … On occasions such as
T I S S Celebrates 50th Anniversary

By Jackie Ogbum

As the Cold War was heating up, a group of historians and political scientists at Duke and UNC, Chapel Hill began a series of lunchtime meetings in 1958 to discuss national security issues. Those early meetings evolved into the Triangle Institute of Security Studies (TISS), an interdisciplinary consortium for research and education in the field, sponsored by three North Carolina research universities: Duke, UNC and North Carolina State University.

To mark its 50th anniversary, TISS will publish a history of the organization and hold a conference Feb. 27-28, 2009 on the theme “Debating American Grand Strategy after Major War.”

“After every war, there’s a reexamination of strategy aimed at avoiding a similar conflict, which nicely parallels the history of TISS,” said Director Peter Feaver, professor of political science and PPS. “The group was founded in the aftermath of WW II and the Korean War. After Vietnam, TISS moved up in size and ambition, with another push at the end of the Cold War.”

The conference will include a forum examining historical American grand strategy, as well as the coming post-Iraq war debate. Confirmed speakers include historians William Stueck, University of Georgia, and Mark Moyer, Marine Corps University.

In 2008-09, TISS also will continue its series of annual conferences and guest lectures. The Ninth Annual New Faces conference, which showcases the research of doctoral candidates working on security studies, is scheduled for Sept. 5-6 at the Friday Center at UNC. A workshop for undergraduates interested in careers in security studies is scheduled for Oct. 2-3 on the Duke campus and an election debate on foreign policy with Duke students will take place on Oct. 7.

This year’s lectures draw from several disciplines, and include leading feminist scholar Cynthia Enloe and anthropologist James Peacock. Enloe will discuss “Women Think about Security: Some Feminist Lessons from the Iraq War” on Dec. 2 in Chapel Hill. Other speakers include historians John Lynn of the University of Illinois and Piero Gligi, of Johns Hopkins, and Kurt Campbell, CEO of the Center for a New American Security.

NC State graduate student Frank Blazich is writing the history of TISS, which will be distributed during the anniversary year. It traces the evolution of the original lunchtime meetings into the Duke-UNC National Security Policy Seminar. The organization grew into a more formal series of seminars, drawing in graduate students and guest lecturers, and was one of the first cross-disciplinary scholarship groups in the Southeast.

During the 1980s, NCSU joined the group and the name changed to the T Riangle Universities Security Studies Seminar (T USS). Major funding from the Ford Foundation allowed more ambitious programs, including a series of conferences held at Quail Roost in Rougemont, N.C., the Women’s Forum on National Security in 1987 and a 1988 conference on “Blacks and the Military,” held in conjunction with North Carolina’s historically black colleges and universities.

In 1995 the name changed again to TISS, to reflect the broader scope of the organization. Grants from Carnegie Corp. of New York and Smith Richardson Foundation made possible major research projects, including the Study of War and Civil-Military Relations, while collaboration with the Strategic Studies Institute resulted in a series of timely conferences, most recently on “Global Climate Change and National Security” in 2007. At the same time the organization continued to emphasize engagement with local citizens, community colleges and schools, and military bases in North Carolina.

Feaver hopes to continue building on the success of TISS, with more outreach to other organizations in the state, research projects and programs for undergraduates.

“The strength of TISS is that we are a network of networks,” he said. “We’ve been cross-disciplinary for 50 years.”
It’s Nice to Meet You, GINA

By MISHA ANGRIST and ROBERT COOK-DEEGAN

A fter a 13-year, off-again-on-again courtship, Congress has finally made an honest woman out of GINA. Thanks to all-but-unanimous congressional passage of the Genetic Information Non-discrimination Act, aka GINA, Americans now can expect protection from “genetic discrimination” by their employers and health insurers.

It’s about time. GINA was first introduced in 1995 and has made an appearance in every Congress since. A broad range of policymakers, physicians, patient activists, legal scholars and the public agree that the legislation is a good idea.

So why was she only a bridesmaid until now? GINA opponents—mainly business lobbyists with some help from Sen. Tom “Dr. No” Coburn, R-Okl. —argued that the bill would result in an avalanche of costly litigation. After all, they contended, should an airline company be forced to hire a pilot with an inherited seizure disorder? A fair question; the courts may yet have to wrangle with it and others like it.

The other persistent argument against GINA was that the law was unnecessary. Documented cases of genetic discrimination are rare, largely because few Americans participate in health plans in which employers provide selective coverage based on their employees’ medical status, genetic or otherwise. Moreover, most states have some legal protections against genetic discrimination in the workplace and for insurance coverage.

A II of that may be true, but all of it is trumped by perception: people fear genetic discrimination, which is what makes this new law so historic. In a recent survey, the Genetics and Public Policy Center found that 92 percent of respondents worried that genetic tests could be used in ways that are harmful to those getting tested. Only one in four said they would trust insurers with access to their genetic test results. Just one in six would trust employers.

The consequences of such fear, whether well-founded or not, could be grave. If people at risk for inherited diseases are unwilling to undergo genetic testing, they forego information of potentially immense importance to their lives. And if that same mistrust prevents citizens from participating in genetic and genomic research, the process by which our society develops new medicines and cures will suffer. Therefore, if GINA serves as nothing more than a reassuring symbol to a skittish public, it’s still well worth the price of the occasional lawsuit.

That’s not to say that the law will be a cure-all. It won’t be. General Motors now spends more on employee health care than it does on steel. Starbucks spends more on health coverage than it does on coffee beans. With employers in our country spending so massively on health care, some will inevitably be tempted to identify and avoid hiring people whose genetic makeup put them at greater risk for costly chronic diseases.

Witness the 2005 revelation that Wal-Mart was secretly contemplating a plan to save on health care by dissuading unhealthy or obese people from applying to work at its stores. Or take the two most infamous cases of genetic discrimination: clandestine genetic testing of employees by Burlington Northern Railroad and Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. And last year, a disturbing report revealed multiple cases of the U.S. military denying benefits to service men and women born with congenital disorders, a policy the military has recently modified. Our hope is that GINA will end such behavior across the board.

GINA’s other big limitation is its scope. Of the most likely places for genetic discrimination is in long-term care insurance. One study suggests that people at high risk for Alzheimer’s disease are more likely to seek such insurance, and it is easy to imagine why. Someone can take a genetic test and discover they are three, or in rare cases, 16 times more likely than most to develop Alzheimer’s.

Long-term care insurance is a private, voluntary market and neither GINA nor the patchwork of state genetic discrimination laws says anything about it. As things now stand, long-term care insurers—most of whom, it should be said, are not making money hand over fist—are free to decline coverage to such high-risk persons.

But that’s a legal struggle for another day. For now, we should applaud Congress and hope that the president has his pen ready. GINA has arrived and she still looks pretty good, even after all these years.

Angrist, visiting lecturer of PPS, and Cook-Deegan, research professor of PPS, work with Duke’s Institute for Genome Sciences and Policy. This commentary was first published in The Oakland Tribune. President Bush signed the GINA bill into law on May 21, 2008.

Building Better People: the Ethics of Human Enhancement

Steroids, genetic selection, antibiotics—these are all ways people can be made stronger, smarter or healthier. This fall, the Duke community will have the opportunity to consider the ethical implications of using biotechnology and genomics to enhance human performance or quality of life during an address by Oxford University Professor of Practical Ethics Julian Savulescu.

Savulescu will present the 2008 Crown Lecture in Ethics, titled “The Moral Imperative to Enhance Human Beings” on Sept. 25, at 5:30 p.m. in the Fleishman Commons. The event is free and open to the public.

“Should we use science and medical technology not just to prevent or treat disease, but to intervene at the most basic biological level to enhance people’s lives?” queries Savulescu, director of the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics. H is answer to that is an unequivocal “yes.”

Savulescu makes the controversial argument that we have the same kind of moral obligation to enhance ourselves and our children as we have to treat and prevent disease.
Putting My DNA on Display

By MISHA ANGRIST

I was the guinea pig, the objet d’art. At the end of May, I was at the World Science Festival in New York, the lone civilian on a panel with a handful of famous scientists to talk about, among other things, my genome. Partly by design, partly by accident, I have become something of a poster child for personal genomics (albeit sometimes a reluctant one). It began when I decided to write a book on personal genomics after reading about Harvard geneticist GEORGE CHURCH, DNA sequencing pioneer and founder of the Personal Genome Project.

The PGP seeks to recruit a group of people willing to share their genomic data as well as information about their health. The idea is that by studying a cohort that is not concerned about privacy, PGP researchers are not put in the awkward position of having to guarantee the confidentiality of those they’re studying. Not only that, by having access to subjects’ medical records, scientists don’t have to study genomes in a vacuum. Strings of As, Gs, Ts and Cs (the DNA alphabet) are not much use to human health or understanding human biology if you can’t link them to human traits.

The PGP began by recruiting 10 subjects willing to make their genomic and health data public. I am one of those 10.

As a first step, Church’s team genotyped the 10 of us for 500,000 markers that tend to vary among people. T hese markers are called “single-nucleotide polymorphisms,” or SNPs (“snips”). T hey are the same types of markers that new personal genomics companies — deCODEme, 23andMe and Navigenics among them — are charging people $1,000 or more to type in order to learn their genetic risks for various conditions such as heart disease and diabetes. I was also typed (for free) for the Navigenics panel of 900,000 markers.

Of the 17 conditions Navigenics considers “vetted” for reporting back to customers, my own genomic risk estimates were not terribly surprising. Most notably I am at increased risk for type 2 diabetes, obesity and heart attack. My father had a quadruple bypass at age 60 and his father died of a heart attack at age 50. There is heart disease on my mother’s side as well. In other words, Navigenics confirmed what I already knew: that I ought to go back to the gym and lay off the Ben & Jerry’s.

And herein lies one of the chief complaints about these services. Because they measure risk for complex, common conditions like heart disease, the advice one gets tends to be generic, no matter one’s genotype. W hy does someone need to drop a thousand bucks just to learn this sort of commonsensical stuff?

Of course no one does, and understandably, many will choose not to. B ut it’s possible that incorporating these risk estimates into a portrait of one’s overall health can serve as a motivator and perhaps offer a clearer view of the path toward prevention.

A nd isn’t this what physicians have been agitating for over the last several decades? T he other mitigating factor is time. I look at my genomic data as a savings bond. It may not be worth much today, but barring the scientific equivalent of a subprime meltdown, I have little doubt it will play a substantive part in my health and perhaps my children’s health in the next few years. I don’t think it’s outlandish to predict that a genome scan will soon be a routine part of our checkups. A s the price for genotyping and sequencing falls and as we learn what these variants mean, I don’t see how it cannot.

People often assume that because of what I’m doing and because I write a blog called GenomeBoy, [genomeboy.com] that I must be a starry-eyed genome worshipper. But if anything, getting genotyped has reminded me how much more we are than our DNA. A ll of those common-sense behavior changes actually matter. W e are the products, finally, of our genes and our environments.

And there is nothing mystical about either.

Recently I took my kids to see “Kung Fu Panda” (spoiler alert) and had an epiphany. W hen the pudgy panda finally opens the sacred scroll that will tell him how to defeat the bad guy, he sees only his own reflection. “T here is no secret ingredient,” he realizes. A nd for most of us, so it is with our genomes.

Angrist is a visiting lecturer of PPS and assistant professor of the practice of Duke’s Institute for Genome Sciences & Policy. T his essay first appeared in Inquiry, the science and research supplement to Inside Duke Medicine.
Ladd Leads Task Force Calling for Broader View of School Reforms

With advertisements in The New York Times and The Washington Post, a 60-member task force of national policy experts announced a “Broader, Bolder Approach to Education” campaign in June, hoping to break a cycle of reform efforts that they believe has promised much and achieved too little.

Co-chaired by Helen Ladd, Edgar T Thompson Professor of Public Policy Studies and economics at the Sanford Institute, Pedro Noguera, a sociologist at New York University, and Tom Payzant, a Harvard Graduate School of Education professor and former U.S. assistant secretary of education, the task force pointed to the many flaws in the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law and the nation’s policy errors in relying on school improvement alone to raise achievement levels of disadvantaged children.

“Schools can’t do it alone,” said Ladd. “Accountability is a pillar of our education system, but schools need the support of the community—both before children arrive at school and during their school years—for all children to achieve high standards.”

A “Broader, Bolder Approach” was signed by more than 60 leaders in education, public policy, social welfare and civil rights who aimed to provide a fresh way of thinking about education policy for governors, state and federal legislators now running for election. The Economic Policy Institute, a Washington, D.C. think tank, convened the group.

The initiative has received notice in the media, in commentaries such as one by New York Times columnist David Brooks, who praised a competing proposal from a group led by New York City Schools Chancellor Joel Klein and the Rev. Al Sharpton. Ladd disagreed with Brooks’ assessment, saying the Klein/Sharpton proposal keeps the emphasis primarily on individual school accountability, just as it has been since passage of the NCLB legislation.

“I interpret their statement as very anti-union,” Ladd added. “It suggests that a big problem in the schools is that union power gets in the way of reforms.” Ladd discussed the issues in a conference call with members of the U SA Today editorial board and with a reporter from The New York Sun, and was interviewed on WUNC-FM radio. Her 18-minute conversation with the Learning First Alliance is available online at www.publicschoolinsights.org?storyid=21078.

The “Bold Approach” statement points out that the rhetoric of NCLB ignores the reality of the achievement gap: Many children grow up in circumstances that hinder their educational achievement. Although some schools have demonstrated unusual effectiveness, there is no evidence that their success can be replicated on a large scale and even high-achieving schools cannot, by themselves, close the entire gap between students from different backgrounds on the full range of academic and non-academic measures.

“A Broader, Bolder Approach” applies equally to federal, state and local policy. Specifically, the statement calls for:

• Continued school improvement efforts. Reduce class sizes in early grades for disadvantaged children; attract high-quality teachers in hard-to-staff schools; improve teacher and school leadership training; make college preparatory curriculum accessible to all; and pay special attention to recent immigrants.

• Developmentally appropriate, high-quality early childhood, preschool and kindergarten care and education. These programs must not only help low-income children academically, but provide support in developing appropriate social, economic and behavioral skills.

• Routine pediatric, dental, hearing and vision care for all infants, toddlers and schoolchildren. Full-service school clinics are recommended.

• Improving the quality of students’ out-of-school time. Policymakers should increase investments in areas such as longer school days, after-school and summer programs, and school-to-work programs with demonstrated track records.

The full statement and list of signers is available online at www.boldapproach.org.
CFP Mentors Minority Students

By Jackie Ogburn

For the fourth year, the Center for Child and Family Policy (CFP) and the Duke Transdisciplinary Prevention Research Center (TPRC), in partnership with The Duke Endowment, offered a summer internship program for Duke minority undergraduates. The 10-week program, directed by Susan G. Alexander, executive director of TPRC, paired students with research mentors. Philip Costanzo, associate director of CFP, oversees the mentoring effort.

“The goal is to draw more minorities and talented students in the field of prevention research, and this is my favorite part of the job,” said Alexander. “Mentoring provides the chance to really connect with students and work with them in a holistic manner that’s different from teaching.”

The interns spent at least 10 hours a week in a field placement that provided hands-on research experience. They also attended workshops to develop their writing, research and presentation skills. At the end of the summer, each intern wrote a research paper and presented his or her findings.

This summer, four students participated:

1. Shannyn Piper (PPS ’09) worked with CFP Research Scientist Katie Rosenbalm on “Adolescent Substance Use Indicators for the State of North Carolina.” She used a Web-based database of Adolescent Substance Use Indicators to create a county-level report on changes in various indicators, such as arrests for substance use. Piper also drafted policy briefs and presented information to lay audiences as part of her project.

2. Muping Gan (AB ’10) was paired with Postdoctoral Research Associate Thomas Ahn and worked in the Pediatric Psychology and Family Health Promotion Lab. Using the National Longitudinal Survey of Adolescent Health database, Gan created a smaller database of specific variables of interest. She used the data to evaluate the impact of parenting practices on the association of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and substance use. For more, see here at home.”

Interns discuss career paths over lunch. Clockwise from left: Intern Shannyn Piper, workshop leader Angie Carr, interns Patrick Messac, Muping Gan, and Ashlie Tyler and mentor Dorene Mackinnon.

Program on Global Health & Technology Access Expands

On one of his early missions for the Rockefeller Foundation in the late 1990s, Dr. Anthony So visited Khayelitsha, a township outside Cape Town, South Africa, in the grips of a raging AIDS epidemic. It was widely known at the time that a three-drug cocktail could significantly extend the lives of people with AIDS, yet at more than $10,000 per patient per year, the drugs were priced far too high for many in Khayelitsha. On the plane back home, So pondered how to narrow the gulf in access.

Tackling the same problem, South Africans with HIV launched the grassroots Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) in 1998. Doctors Without Borders established a medical team to provide services for those with AIDS in Khayelitsha using generic drugs for AIDS.

Through his work at Rockefeller, So helped give shape to a global access-to-medicines movement, which brought the Indian generic firm, Cipla, into the market with a triple-drug combination priced at $360 a year. Ten years later, So still works on issues of innovation and access to life-saving drugs in developing countries, lowering what he calls “the price of hope.”

First drawn to Duke as a 2003 Fleishman Fellow in Civil Society, So joined the Sanford Institute in 2004 as director of the new Program on Global Health and Technology Access (GHTA). After assembling a team involving faculty from the Law School and the Center for Genome Ethics, Law and Policy, So received an NIH grant to study how collective management of knowledge can be leveraged to foster innovation and improve access.

NIH Project Manager Corrina Moucheraud Vickery has helped organize several key policy meetings at Duke that “help shift the norms and explore new ways to do R&D,” So said. Over the past year, two of these meetings, “Enabling Innovation for Global Health” and “Making Technology Transfer Work for Global Health” gathered diverse experts from the academy to civil society, from global health to intellectual property.

The Open Society Institute supported the broadening of the program’s work, and ReAct, a new global coalition to combat antibiotic resistance, tapped the program to serve as its Strategic Policy Unit. In a project that builds on So’s work to launch Rockefeller’s “Trading Tobacco for Health” initiative, GHTA has partnered with the American Cancer Society and the Southeast Asian Tobacco Control Alliance to build the capacity of local researchers on the political economy of tobacco control. Winning a competitive, five-year NIH Fogarty grant, the program is working with researchers in seven countries in Southeast Asia.

Bringing these lessons into the classroom, So teaches a graduate seminar on “Globalization and Health Equity,” in which students tackle issues ranging from models of global health philanthropy to critically examining programs like Product(RED), through which businesses donate a percentage of sales on selected products to fighting AIDS in Africa.

The program’s work continues to branch in new directions. Through the new Center for Strategic Philanthropy and Civil Society, the Program’s work will help inform the strategic direction of foundations. With the help of newly hired Research Scholar Shaoyu Chang, M.D., M.P.H., the program hopes to grow its work with partners such as the United Nations Development Programme.

“The opportunity to make a real difference half a world away does not require a plane ticket,” So said. “It can begin right here at home.” For more, see www.pubol.duke.edu/globalhealth.
Federal Payroll Deduction Could Help Solve Long-Term Care Crisis

By DONALD H. TAYLOR, JR.

When the 75 million baby boomers begin retiring in 2011, the United States will begin facing en masse a problem that many individuals already struggle with every day: how to provide long-term care for aging relatives with Alzheimer’s disease or other disabling conditions. Unfortunately, on the whole, baby boomers have not planned well for extended post-retirement needs. As a result, the bill will trickle down to their children.

To respond to this looming need, I propose that we, the children of the baby boomers, embrace a forced savings plan to help provide long-term care for our parents. We’ll also protect ourselves from the often devastating effects of trying to provide care with insufficient resources.

There are many reasons why people fail to make arrangements for their own long-term care. Some wrongly believe that Medicare pays for all such care; it does not. Due partly to this false assumption, less than 10 percent of the population purchases private long-term care insurance.

Others avoid insurance for financial reasons. Premiums are low at young ages, but the time for needing benefits is far in the future, and it is hard to know what a policy purchased with today’s dollars will actually buy when it is finally needed. At older ages, when disability sets in and persons begin thinking about long-term care needs, premiums are unaffordable.

Others don’t plan because they assume they won’t need such care. Some will be correct; around three in 10 persons surviving to age 65 will not need long-term care, but seven in 10 will. One in 10 will need such care for five or more years.

The end result is those with relatively low financial assets (most people) depend upon families to provide care, with Medicaid providing a near-universal nursing home safety net with the deductible essentially being an individual’s non-housing wealth.

This lack of planning often leaves families scrambling when a loved one develops Alzheimer’s or another disabling condition. The first and sometimes only providers of care are family members, and many adult children are devastated by this commitment. The costs are tremendous and multifaceted: financial strain, depression, isolation, sibling conflict, marital stress and negative career consequences.

To address this situation, I propose that persons my age (40) and younger honor our parents by embracing a forced savings scheme implemented via a federally mandated payroll tax of one percent of our wages up to the Social Security wage limit of $102,000. The money would be paid into private investment accounts that would be owned immediately; it would not be a part of Social Security.

Individuals would control how the funds were invested. There would be no employer match. Persons could contribute more, if desired, as could persons who are older than 40. If our parents don’t need long-term care, we could use the funds for our own care. If we don’t need it, we could pass it on to our children.

The funds accumulated by the payroll tax would be modest but would provide families with options to tailor a care plan in line with family preferences. It would encourage families to discuss long-term care and ensure that someone in the family would benefit. Such a plan would encourage the ethic of saving relatively early in our working years and provide investment experience for all persons regardless of income. Finally, it would boost the savings rate, which is disasterously low in our country.

Every generation across the centuries has had to practically interpret how best to “honor thy father and mother.” The demographic reality is that it will be tougher for us than previous generations because our parents are living longer and their generation outnumbers ours. The steps we take to provide their long-term care will be the ultimate measure of how well we honor them. We can do so in a way that protects ourselves.

Recent research by Taylor, an assistant professor of public policy, includes studies of hospice use. This commentary was first published June 20, 2008 in the Raleigh News & Observer.)

Diabetes Project Seeks to Help 300 in Durham

Research into community-based interventions to help diabetics manage their health is continuing with a new five-year, $2.84 million grant from the National Institutes of Health. Sherman James, the Susan B King Professor of PPS and principal investigator, said the project will build on the success of a pilot project launched in Durham several years ago.

“The goal is to help study participants control their diabetes more effectively and thereby prevent serious complications such as heart disease, kidney failure, blindness and amputations, all conditions that African American diabetics suffer disproportionately,” James said.

Because churches frequently are the hub of African American communities, they were a key component of the support structure created in the first phase of the study. The NIH “liked the structure we built,” which includes a variety of community partners, James noted.

The program seeks to enroll 300 adults with type 2 diabetes. They will be offered a variety of support services, including guidance about dietary changes, physical activity, weight control and stress reduction.

“We’re working with people to try to make sure they get the care they need and are entitled to, and to make them more effective partners in their own care,” James said.

The project is being administered by Duke’s Department of Community and Family Medicine, where James holds a secondary faculty appointment.
M. GIOVANNA MERLI, a native of Italy, was appointed as an associate professor of PPS and sociology. Merli’s research interests include health and population studies, in particular, the consequences of HIV/AIDS, sexual behavior and sexual networks, and HIV/AIDS modeling. Recently, she has been examining the impact of HIV/AIDS in two very different societies: China and South Africa. She is a faculty affiliate of the Duke Global Health Institute.

At the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Merli was associate chair of the sociology department and served as associate director of the university’s Center for Demography and Ecology. Merli was the principal investigator on NIH and National Institute of Child Health and Development grants to research sexual behavior and STDs in China and co-principal investigator for a Ford Foundation grant researching behavior and STDs in female sex workers in Shanghai. She is a recipient of the Vilas Young Investigator Award from the University of Wisconsin and was a fellow of The Rockefeller Foundation in New York in 1998 and 1999.

“My goal for helping students to become familiar with the basics of population studies of demography,” said Merli. Her husband, GIOVANNI ZANALDA, also joins the Institute as a visiting assistant professor of PPS and history.

For SUBHRENDU K. PATTANAYAK, his appointment as associate professor of PPS and environmental economics is a return to old stomping grounds, as he earned his PhD at Duke in 1997. His research focuses on evaluation of ecosystem services, primarily from forests, and the economics of environmental health. He builds models to analyze the causes and consequences of human behaviors and uses estimated parameters in integrated simulation tools to help design behavioral interventions and policies.

“Few universities try to promote scholarship across environmental, health and economic development issues, particularly through interdisciplinary schools. Duke is an exception, and my hope is to deepen and broaden what they have started in global environmental health,” Pattanayak said.

Previously, Pattanayak was an institute fellow and senior economist at RTI International and associate research professor at N C State University. At RTI, he built a research program on water, sanitation and health in South Asia, serving as the principal investigator for several World Bank grants. He is also a Fellow of the South Asian Network of Development and Environment Economics and of the Center for Applied Biodiversity Sciences at Conservation International. He serves as an editor of the Journal of Conservation Letters.

SETH SANDERS, professor of economics and PPS, was a professor of economics and director of the Maryland Population Research Center at the University of Maryland.

Sanders’ research interests concern labor economics and econometrics with a specialization in population research. He has studied the economics of gay and lesbian families, wage differentials among the highly educated, respect for race, class and gender, and costs of teenage childbearing for mothers. One of his current projects involves the development of new tests to inform pregnant women of fetal abnormalities. He is co-principal investigator on a National Institute of Child Health and Development grant on immigrant assimilation and labor market adjustment.

“Duke is a special place that truly gives you the opportunity to talk to people in different departments—it’s a strong tradition here,” Sanders said. “If you are an economist and you want to talk to a doctor or a sociologist, it’s the norm of the university. Although relatively unusual, it’s very important today.”

CORY KRUPP came to Duke in 1998 and has served as director of graduate studies for the Program in International Development Policy (PIDP) in the Duke Center for International Development since 2005. She travels abroad frequently, recruiting students and exploring new opportunities for the program. Her new title is associate professor of the practice of PPS.

An active mentor to students, Krupp’s primary research is in industrial organization and international trade. Her current focus is on the use and effectiveness of industrial policy as a development strategy, and the role of infrastructure in development including regulation of the electricity sector and rural access in developing countries. She also teaches in the Executive MBA program at Kenan-Flagler Business School at UNC-Chapel Hill.

CLARA MUSCHKIN is an assistant research professor of PPS in addition to being the director of the North Carolina Education Research Data Center within the Duke Center for Child and Family Policy. A sociologist and demographer, Muschkin uses an interdisciplinary approach to exploring how policies that shape educational institutions influence student behavior and academic performance.

She also teaches undergraduate Children in Contemporary Society Certificate courses. Previously, she was director of demographic projects at McMillan and Moss Research Inc. and assistant research professor at the Duke Center for Demographic Studies.

Professor of the Practice of PPS and Law ANTHONY SO is the founding director of the Program on Global Health and Technology Access (see page 13). He also directs the Duke Global Health Fellows Program, which combines summer internships and coursework in Geneva, Switzerland.

So’s interests include pharmaceutical innovation, access to essential medicines, intellectual property rights and biotechnology, tobacco control in developing countries and global health philanthropy. His current initiatives include a tobacco control project in Southeast Asia funded by the National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Center; a study of the antibiotic development pipeline for ReAct, an international organization combating antibiotic resistance; and collaboration with the international nonprofit Drugs for Neglected Disease Initiative.

Previously So was assistant director of the Rockefeller Foundation’s Health Equity Program, a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at UCSF/Stanford and a Whiting House Fellow. He earned his MD at University of Michigan and his MPA at Princeton.
**Faculty News**

**Marc Bellemare**, assistant professor of PPS, presented a paper titled “Household Attitudes to Price Risk with Multiple Commodities: Evidence from Ethiopia” at Toulouse School of Economics in Toulouse, France, on May 5, at the University of Namur in Namur, Belgium, on May 6, and at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium on May 13.

**Ann B. Brewster**, research associate of the Center for Child and Family Policy, received a dropout prevention grant of $82,000 from the N.C. General Assembly for an after-school project for middle and high school students. On May 9, she presented her work with co-author **Patrick S. Malone** (University of South Carolina) titled “High School Illicit Drug Use Onset and Early School Dropout: A Survival Analysis using Fast-Track Data.”

**Charles Clotfelter**, Z. Smith Reynolds Professor of PPS, gave a seminar presentation at the UNC-Greensboro economics department on “Teacher Mobility: Enemy of Equity?” on April 2, and at the University of Maryland School of Public Policy on April 12.

**Phil Cook**, ITT/Terry Sanford professor of PPS, delivered the first Harold and M arguerite Demone Lecture at Rutgers University on April 23 on “Paying the Tab: the Case for Raising the Alcohol Excise Tax.” On June 25, he gave a presentation at the M acathur Foundation 2008 Benefit-Cost Analysis Conference in Washington, D.C., on “Cost-benefit analysis of crime prevention programs.”

**Robert M. Cook-Degan**, research professor of PPS, has received an award from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill for a project titled “Core I: Policy, Ethics and Law Core.” Total funding will be $274,014 over 11 months.

**Christina Christopoulos**, research scholar with the Center for Child and Family Policy, has received two awards from the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services for “Evaluation of School-Based Child and Family Support Teams Initiative.”

A assistant Professor of PPS **Kristin A. Goss** participated in a WNCU radio show on April 7 to discuss “Why’s that at Stake in the North Carolina Primaries?” She was appointed to an ad hoc committee of the A association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action to develop proposals for scholarly research on the not-for-profit sector.

**Sherman James**, Susan B. King Professor of PPS, was a distinguished visiting scholar at the University of Minnesota Medical School on May 22-23, and gave two public lectures on community and policy approaches to reducing disparities in health and health care. He was appointed chair of the editorial committee for the 2009 edition of Epidemiology Reviews, which will focus on health disparities.

**Bruce Jenjevson**, professor of PPS, delivered the plenary address, “The Atlantic A lliance in a Post- A merican World,” at the 7th Annual Conference of the Transatlantic Studies Association at Dundee University, Scotland, on July 9. He was named to the Advisory Group, Conflict Analysis and Conflict Prevention Course, of the U.S. Institute of Peace.

**James A. Joseph**, professor of the practice of PPS, received an Annie E. Casey Foundation grant of $100,000 for a project titled “Effective Leadership – A Program for Rising M id-Career Leaders in Louisiana.”

**Don Taylor**, assistant professor of PPS, appeared on the Stuart Varney show on Fox Business News on June 3 to discuss policy implications of New York State’s newly raised excise tax on cigarettes.

Professor of the Practice of PPS **Anthony So** moderated a panel on “Strategies for Navigating Intellectual Property” at the Institute of Shafsbury Society luncheon on the subject in Raleigh in June. Along with **Thomas A. Hn**, postdoctoral research associate at the Center for Child and Family Policy, Vigdor received a Spencer Foundation grant of $40,000 for a research project on whether school accountability helps disadvantaged children. He gave a presentation on “The Katrina E ffect: Was There a Bright Side to the Evacuation of Greater New Orleans?” at the Population Association of America annual meeting in New Orleans on April 18. He gave the presentation “Scaling the Digital Divide: How Computer Technology and Student Achievement” with **Charles Clotfelter** and **Helen Ladd** at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY., on April 2 and the University of Missouri-Columbia on May 2. On May 16 he presented “What Should Government Do About the Subprime Mortgage Market: A Taxpayer’s Guide” at the Weimer School of Advanced Studies in Real Estate and Land Economics at the Hooy Institute in North Palm Beach, Fla. On March 28, he attended a workshop on teacher quality with senior leaders of the New York City Department of Education, sponsored by the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Alumni News

Undergraduate Alumni Notes

Steve Smith (PPS ’05) is in the 82nd Airborne Division, 2-505, and recently was selected to take over the Scout Platoon, which is scheduled for another 12-month deployment.

Anna Ichel Buxbaum (PPS ’04) works in public relations as an account supervisor at Porter Novelli. Recently was selected to take over the Scout Platoon, which is scheduled for another 12-month deployment.

LeVar Johnson (PPS ’01) lives in Raleigh and works for Johnson & Johnson as a medical device sales rep within the diabetes industry.

Stacey Walker (PPS ’99) was re-elected to the board of directors for XCEL Federal Credit Union. In 2007, Stacey received a World Young Credit Union Professional award from the World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU), the leading international association of credit unions, which paid her way to the 2008 WOCCU Conference in Hong Kong in July. Stacey also received the 2008 Cornerstone Award from the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU).

Alumna Profile: Katherine Tiedemann (PPS ’07), Program Associate, New America Foundation

By Marquita McAlpine

Katherine Tiedemann (PPS ’07) researches nuclear weapons and nonproliferation policies at the New America Foundation. Upon graduation from Duke, she interned in the State Department Bureau of Intelligence and Research as a foreign media analyst in the summer of 2006.

“My degree in public policy studies, in conjunction with my internship, opened the door for me to apply for jobs in the think tank world in Washington,” said Tiedemann.

She talked about her transition from college to her career field, as well as insight on her experiences with the New America Foundation. Recently her work has focused on the CIA’s controversial “extraordinary rendition” program, under which suspected terrorists are extrajudicially transferred to countries where they are sometimes tortured.

As a researcher at the New America Foundation, what is your job like?

I contribute to the initiative’s aim of reducing the role of nuclear weapons in international security through research, writing and innovative programmatic efforts. Before joining the American Strategy Program, I was a research fellow for New America’s Fellows Program on issues ranging from global governance and the war on terror to the Cold War and Middle Eastern politics. I study nuclear weapons policy issues for Jeffrey Lewis, and work with Peter Bergen on terrorism research. I have been published in The Washington Post and Mother Jones and am currently working on several op-eds in these fields.

[The Mother Jones article remains available online at: www.motherjones.com/news/feature/2008/03/disappearing-act.html]

How did you get involved with The New America Foundation and work to uncover these cases?

I knew I wanted to work in the think tank community in a foreign policy arena, and the New America Foundation offered the best opportunity for me to be involved with real policy research, as opposed to more mundane administrative positions. Having been Professor James Hamilton’s research assistant my senior year of college added more experience to my resume and indicated to my prospective employers that I was serious about carrying out both qualitative and quantitative research.

How and where do you retrieve information about cases like Abu Omar? [On suspicion of being involved with Al Qaeda, Abu Omar was abducted by CIA agents in Italy in 2003 and transferred to Egypt, where he says he was tortured.]

Peter Bergen traveled to Egypt to interview Abu Omar in person. For “The Rendition by the Numbers” study we did for Mother Jones, we used all open source material. The research is based on reports from Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice at NYU Law School, Andy Worthington’s The Guantanamo Files, Stephen Grey’s Ghost Plane and media accounts.

What are your current projects?

I’m working on a research paper with my boss, Jeffrey Lewis, about the status of U.S. nuclear weapons deployments in Europe. I’m trying to determine, using only open sources, how many nuclear weapons are at each air base, what planes are certified to carry nuclear weapons, the service lives of those planes, the training levels of the squadron commanders, and the politics of potentially withdrawing the weapons back to the U.S. My thesis is that due to a demonstrated lack of host nation support for increased site security at air bases in Europe that house U.S. nuclear weapons and lack of public and political support, the potential danger of a security incident either from a terrorist organization or merely from protesters with cell phone cameras outweighs the benefits of keeping the weapons at the status quo locations. The nuclear weapons in Europe should be consolidated to one or two sites, possibly leading to an eventual withdrawal of all U.S. nuclear weapons based in Europe. Once the paper is completed, we will submit it to various publications and hope it gets picked up and put in print.

Dawn Hasbrouck Johnson (PPS ’98) and husband Ronald welcomed their first child, Brandon Ellsworth Johnson, on April 1. Dawn works as an anchor at WBZ/CBS News in Boston.

Ethan Timm (PPS ’98) completed a master’s degree in architecture at Columbia University in 2004 and then moved to Taos, N.M., to work on sustainable architecture and engineering with Living Machines.
Jay Uperoi (PPS ’98) is finishing a urology residency at Boston University Medical Center and will begin a fellowship in laparoscopic and robotic surgery at Hackensack University Medical Center in New Jersey.

Michelle Kisloff (PPS ’93) is a partner in the litigation department of Hogan & Hartson in Washington, D.C. She recently was appointed to serve on the board of directors of My Sister’s Place, a nonprofit organization providing shelter and emergency services for women and their families fleeing domestic abuse.

Susan Cates (PPS ’92) has taken a new job as president and associate dean of executive development at UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School. Susan and her husband are in the process of moving to Chapel Hill.

Chad Sarchio (PPS ’92) was promoted to chief of the Drug Enforcement Administration’s International Law Section, where he advises senior civilian and special agent leaders on investigative, administrative and legal considerations affecting DEA’s most significant cases worldwide against drug traffickers, money launderers and narco-terrorism.

Cathy Karr-Couleque (PPS ’90) is a foreign affairs officer in the Bureau of Oceans, Environment and Science at the U.S. Department of State, where she works on international forest policy and negotiations in the Office of Ecology and Natural Resource Conservation. Prior to joining the State Department in 2005, she worked with the U.S. Forest Service on international policy and technical cooperation programs in Latin America.

Bob Blumenfield (PPS ’89) won the Democratic primary for State Assembly in California. He received 53 percent of the vote in a hotly contested four-person race and will face off against a Republican in November.

Larry Gusman (PPS ’88), who does commercial lending at Fribert, Finerty & St. John, S.C., in Milwaukee, Wis., helped form the Partnership for the Arts and Creative Excellence (PA CE) in December 2007. The nonprofit organization recently teamed with Discovery World to showcase a Les Paul exhibit, which opened June 21.

Jeff Siminoff (PPS ’88) is an executive director in the legal and compliance division at Morgan Stanley, where he runs the employment law group. Jeff is also the chair of the division’s diversity committee and chair of the firm’s Pride (LGBT) Employee Networking Group. He lives in Manhattan.

Les Goldsborough (PPS ’86) is a principal in the trust advisory group of Legg Mason Investment Counsel & Trust Co., N.A. (LMIC) in Baltimore. LMIC is a subsidiary of Legg Mason Inc., a global asset management firm. This is his ninth year with the company.

Steve Wray (PPS ’86), executive director of the Economy League of Philadelphia, was selected in May as a Fellow of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (A.C.C.E) Ford Foundation Regional Sustainable Development Program. He is one of 50 fellows who will meet in small groups over the next year to learn about the key concepts, policies and practices that support regional approaches to creating long-term, competitive economies. Each participant crafts a “regional action plan” that outlines strategies to tackle a specific regional challenge to sustainable economic growth and prosperity.

Angel Wingate (PPS ’85) was promoted to assistant vice president for information technology with the Office of Information Technology (OIT) at Duke. She oversees communications infrastructure operations (voice, data, video) and the operations of Duke’s primary data centers, as well as IT facilities planning (data centers and server rooms).

DE Area Alumni: To receive the newsletter of the Duke Club of Washington, be sure your contact information is up to date at www.dukealumni.com. DCW is an active alumni club that sponsors many events and activities. Learn more at www.dcw.org.
selected leaders and young professionals for their “innovative ideas, powerful concepts and enlightening creations.” She is director of resource development and public policy for YWCA Tulsa.

Sarah Mazur (’05) recently changed positions within the EPA. She now works in the Office of Research & Development and focuses on the use and communication of scientific information in the development of air regulations.

Kate Robert (’05) married Josh Macey in A bugu, N.M., on June 7. They live in San Antonio, Texas, where Kate is in her second year of medical school at the University of Texas Health Science Center.

Danielle Sass (’05) and Patrick Byrnett (’08), center, were married on May 24 in Washington, D.C. To help celebrate the special day, in attendance were some of their classmates and friends. Back, from left, Christy Polk, Ben Polk, A mber Kuchar, David Rice, Jeffrey Williams, Drew Pounds, Jeff Clark; and front, Sara Becker, Kate Roetzer, Tatiana Diykova, Alicia Groh (second from right), and Jeremy Williams (right).

Johanna Ferrante, She was born on April 24.

David West (’00) left Wake Tech Community College, where he taught English as a Second Language for five years, and started on Aug. 1st as a Spanish teacher at Raleigh Charter High School.

Supamas (Ning) Trivisavat (’99) accepted a teaching position at National Institute of Development Administration in Bangkok, Thailand. Supamas teaches research methodology and organization and management theory.

Patrick Garvey (’97) was married on June 21 to Andrea Budzinsky in a military wedding in Washington, D.C. The couple honeymooned on the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia and will make their home in Washington, D.C., where Patrick advises Senate Foreign Relations Committee ranking member Richard Lugar on Middle East matters and Andrea directs the D.C. Office of Documents and Administrative Issues.

Maya Ajmera (’93), the president and founder of The Global Fund for Children (GFC), received a 2008 Women of Distinction Award at Georgetown University during the June National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. Presented annually, the Women of Distinction Awards honor women leaders who have made extraordinary accomplishments in their professions or their communities and who represent inspiring role models. Maya also is scheduled to be the inaugural speaker in the Sanford Institute Alumni Speaker Series on Oct. 30.

Adam Jones (’92) first book, Rose Bowl Dreams: A Memoir of Faith, Family and Football, was scheduled for release by St. Martin’s Press on Aug. 19.

Gina Shell (’92) has been promoted to deputy director of the 400-person engineering and property management department of the City of Charlotte.

Craig Havighurst (’91) has published his first book, A ir Castle of Faith: South W SM and the Making of N usic City, a history of how N ashville became a music industry town and the radio, television and cable broadcasters who made it possible. He is a N ashville-based writer, editor and producer whose company, String Theory Media, specializes in music documentaries.
“Love after Loss”
Exhibit Opening
Sept. 16, 5–6 p.m.
Sanford Lobby

In Ethiopia, children orphaned by HIV/AIDS are cared for in family-sized group homes run by Hope for Children. Photographer Elena Rue, the 2006 Lewis Hine Fellow with the Duke Center for Documentary Studies, spent nine months documenting the lives of children in these homes, where they can regain a sense of family and hope for the future.

Terry Sanford Lecture: Thomas Friedman
Sept. 22, 5:30–7 p.m.
Page Auditorium

New York Times columnist and Pulitzer-Prize winning author Thomas Friedman delivers the 2008 Terry Sanford Distinguished Lecture, “Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution and How It Can Renew America.” Friedman will discuss his new book on clean energy technology breakthroughs needed to address the energy and climate crisis and how America can be a leader in the “Green Revolution.”

Crown Lecture in Ethics: Julian Savulescu
Sept. 24, 5:30–7 p.m.
Fleishman Commons

Should we use science and medical technology not just to prevent or treat disease, but to intervene at the most basic biological levels to improve biology and enhance people’s lives? Bioethicist Julian Savulescu makes the case for “The Moral Imperative to Enhance Human Beings” in the 2008 Crown Lecture in Ethics. A former editor of the Journal of Medical Ethics, Savulescu holds the Uehiro Chair in Practical Ethics at the University of Oxford and directs the Program on Ethics and the New Biosciences in the 21st Century School, University of Oxford.

Sanford Alumni Speaker Series: Maya Ajmera
Oct. 30, 5:30 p.m.
Sanford 04

MPP alumnus Maya Ajmera, founder and president of the Global Fund for Children, discusses the organization’s efforts to address the needs of vulnerable children and youth around the world.

Kevin “KAL” Kallaugher
Nov. 8–16, Location TBA

On the heels of the U.S. presidential election, the political cartoonist for The Economist returns to the Sanford Institute as an Artist in Residence. “KAL” will spend the week creating an original sculpture reflecting the historic nature of the 2008 presidential campaign. KAL will also join several classes to discuss the art of political satire.

Michelle Rhee, Chancellor, Washington, D.C., Public Schools
Nov. 17, 5:30-7 p.m.
Fleishman Commons

One of the nation’s leading education innovators will discuss her experience at the helm of one of the nation’s most troubled school systems. After founding The New Teacher Project, Rhee was appointed in 2007 to be a change agent in D.C.’s 50,000-student system. Sponsored by the Office of Duke President Richard Brodhead.

Visit the Sanford Web site for complete events listings and updates: www.pubpol.duke.edu