$1 Million Gift to Fund Multimedia Center; Honors King

The Sanford Institute will receive $1 million from the Coca-Cola Foundation to fund the Multimedia and Instructional Technology Center at the Sanford Institute’s new building. The gift honors former Duke trustee and Coca-Cola board member Susan Bennett King, who also serves on the Sanford Institute’s Board of Visitors. Douglas N. Daft, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Coca-Cola Company, announced the gift March 18 at the Sanford Institute, where friends gathered to celebrate the announcement.

Duke President Nannerl O. Keohane said the gift is a fitting tribute to King. “Susan Bennett King is an exemplary leader who has served as an outstanding mentor and role model to countless students and professionals,” Keohane said. “This gift is a fitting recognition of those roles, as well as her extraordinary service to the Sanford Institute and to the university. We are grateful to the Coca-Cola Foundation for recognizing her service in such a meaningful way.”

Design work is under way on the Sanford Institute’s new building, to be located across the lawn from the existing facility, which was built in 1994. The new building will double the institute’s usable square footage. In addition to the multimedia center, which

April 4 Auction Features Vacations

Looking for an unusual vacation? How about a week at a Scottish country home on a castle estate? Or a relaxing weekend at a country house off the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia? These and other fabulous trips, great gifts and tickets to exciting theatrical and sporting events will be put up for bid on Friday, April 4, during the Sanford Institute’s 4th Annual Internship Fund Dinner and Auction. Auction Co-chairs Gina King and Jen Perkins and their MPP ’04 classmates are putting together a terrific list of items for both the live and silent auctions.

The fundraiser supports summer internships required for both graduate and undergraduate public policy students. The internships provide invaluable career guidance and important insights into future public service opportunities, students say.

Admission to the auction is free; dinner tickets are available by contacting Dale Baker at baker@pps.duke.edu, or 919/613-7312. If you are unable to attend but would like to support the Internship Fund, please send your check made out to Duke University to the Internship Fund, Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy, Box 90239, Durham, NC 27708-0239.

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Panelists Link Journalism, Civil Rights

Roy Peter Clark, Senior Scholar at the Poynter Institute, Raymond Arsenault, John Hope Franklin Professor of History at the University of South Florida, and Gene Patterson, former editor, president and CEO of the St. Petersburg Times discussed journalism and civil rights on Feb 11 at the Sanford Institute. Susan Tifft, Eugene C. Patterson Professor of

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Upcoming Events

April 3–4 Board of Visitors meets
April 4 Fourth Annual Internship Fund Auction
6 p.m. Silent Auction
6:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner
8 p.m. Live Auction

info: www.pubpol.duke.edu
$1 Million Gift (from page 1)

will be named for King, the building will include classrooms, lecture halls and office space for faculty and staff in several of the institute’s centers and programs.

The $1 million gift is part of the Campaign for Duke, the university’s current fund-raising effort, which will conclude at the end of the year. Since it began in 1996, the effort has raised more than $2 billion for facilities, faculty support and financial aid for students, as well as other elements of Duke’s strategic plan, which includes extending Duke’s global reach and influence.

“The Susan Bennett King Multimedia and Instructional Technology Center will have direct teaching value for Duke students and will significantly enhance the capacity of both the Sanford Institute and Duke University to engage the world of public policy in innovative, interactive and technologically sophisticated ways, providing greater visibility and more extensive impact on leaders and policymakers both domestically and internationally,” said Sanford Institute Director Bruce W. Jentleson.

Specific benefits of the center include:

- Increased national and international media visibility. On-site broadcast facilities with access to Duke’s satellite uplink will allow faculty experts to connect quickly with national and international news organizations.
- Enhanced classroom instruction. New classroom technology will include videoconferencing and audioconferencing; specialized projection equipment; and teaching consoles housing a networking computer, VCR, DVD player, laptop interface, document imaging camera, wireless keyboard/mouse and wireless networking.
- Videoconferencing and streaming video capabilities that can then be broadcast via the institute’s Web site, allowing the institute to share knowledge and research with other faculty, students and policymakers around the world.
- Two-way distance learning. Through videoconferencing, “virtual” guest lecturers can be brought to the institute from almost anywhere in the world, or connect with off-site institutions or groups for two-way, interactive learning.

“This is an incredible honor for me, but it is an even more important contribution that Coke has made to public policy and to Duke University,” said King, who lives in Hillsborough, N.C. She grew up in Atlanta and graduated from Duke with Phi Beta Kappa honors in 1962. Since then, King has “lived the life of a leader and reveled in serving as a role model for future leaders,” said Mitch Hart, the philanthropic force behind the Sanford Institute’s Hart Leadership Program.

Most of her first 20 years out of Duke were spent in the public and not-for-profit sectors, with positions including executive director of the Center for Public Financing of Elections and Washington director of the National Committee for an Effective Congress. She later became a commissioner, then chair of the Consumer Product Safety Commission during the Carter Administration. In 1982, she joined Corning Glass Works as vice president and director of corporate communications and consumer affairs. Her corporate career culminated in being named president of Steuben Glass in 1987, a position she held for five years.

King returned to Duke in 1994 as leader-in-residence for the Hart Leadership Program, which helps Duke undergraduates become active leaders and engaged citizens in a democratic society. She also served as president of the Leadership Initiative, designed to encourage and support universities interested in undergraduate leadership education.

King’s work at Duke was recognized in October 2001 when she received the University Medal for Distinguished, Meritorious Service. She continues to be involved in many activities at Duke, and also in numerous corporate and philanthropic endeavors, including serving as a director for Guidant Corporation and as a trustee for the National Public Radio Foundation.

Joseph Receives Leadership Award

Former U.S. Ambassador to South Africa and Professor of the Practice James A. Joseph recently received the Exemplary Leaders Award from the American Leadership Forum during a ceremony in San Jose, CA. The award was presented for “a lifetime of exemplary leadership in the public, private and nonprofit sectors.” Other recipients of the award have included John Gardner, founder of Common Cause; David Packard, co-founder of Hewlett-Packard; and U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein. Joseph also directs the United States-Southern Africa Center for Leadership and Public Values.
New U.S. Census Data on Hispanics May Be Misleading

New U.S. Census data showing that Hispanics have edged past blacks may be somewhat misleading, says William Darity Jr., Research Professor of PPS, African and African-American Studies and Economics at the Sanford Institute of Public Policy.

“Many Hispanics in the U.S. are of African ancestry, particularly those from Mexico, Cuba and Puerto Rico, but our studies show that as a group, they rarely self-identify as black,” said Darity “The difference between self-classification and social classification of race is especially important to consider among Latinos.

“Census data provide only information on self-classification,” he added. As a result, the numbers do not accurately reflect the many Latinos who would be considered black by social classification. Darity is co-author of two recent papers, “Passing on Blackness: Latinos, Race and Earnings in the USA,” and “Bleach in the Rainbow: Latin Ethnicity and Preference for Whiteness.” He also is Boshamer Professor of Economics and Director of the Institute of African American Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Global Security Conference in Munich Focuses on Iraq, Terrorism

The conflict with Iraq, the war on terrorism and NATO’s future role were key issues at the 39th Munich Conference on Security Policy Feb. 7-9. Institute Director Bruce W. Jentleson was invited to participate in the bipartisan U.S. delegation to the international conference, known as Wehrkunde. The delegation was led by U.S. senators John McCain and Joseph I. Lieberman. Jentleson was one of only a handful of representatives from academic institutions invited to attend; the delegation also includes other members of Congress and representatives from the Bush administration, the military, Washington think-tanks and the media.

“During last year’s conference, just five months after 9/11, there was a lot of solidarity among NATO members around the war on terrorism,” Jentleson said. “This year, with the conference coming in the middle of the debate over Iraq, plus other pressing issues such as the Middle East peace process and the North Korea crisis, there were greater tensions.”

Wehrkunde speakers included McCain and Lieberman; U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld; Lord George Robertson, NATO secretary general; Sergey B. Ivanov, minister of defense, Russian Federation; Brajest Mishra, national security adviser to the Republic of India; and Javier Solana, secretary general, Council of the European Union.

Jentleson was interviewed by international, national and regional media outlets about his Germany trip and about the Iraq situation, including BBC News and BBC’s The World, Voice of America, the Florida Sun-Sentinel, the N.C. News Network and WRAL-TV.

Gun Ownership Doesn’t Deter Burglars

Contrary to the belief that owning a gun deters would-be burglars, a new study finds that residences in neighborhoods with higher rates of gun ownership may stand a greater risk of being burglarized. The study, “Do Guns Deter Burglars,” was conducted by Philip J. Cook, ITT/Sanford Professor of PPS and Professor of Economics and Sociology, and Jens Ludwig of Georgetown University. It is included as a chapter in Evaluating Gun Policy, a collection of studies examining the consequences and public policy implications of gun possession and gun commerce in the United States. Edited by Cook and Ludwig, the book was published by the Brookings Institution Press in February 2003.

“Keeping a gun at home is unlikely to provide a net benefit to the rest of the community in the form of burglary deterrence,” Cook concluded, based on the findings of the study. “If anything, residences in a neighborhood with high gun prevalence may be at greater risk of being burglarized. Ironically, guns are often kept to protect the home, but the aggregate effect of keeping guns at home may be to increase the victimization rate.” According to the study, a 10 percent increase in a county’s gun ownership rate is associated with a 3 percent to 7 percent increase in the likelihood that a home will be burglarized.

The book received a favorable review in the Feb. 2 edition of the Washington Post: “The rallying cry of Philip J. Cook and Jens Ludwig’s Evaluating Gun Policy is ‘more data, better policies.’ Given the polarized nature of the debate, this collection of essays deserves special praise for including authors on both sides. Although the book may be a little intimidating to those whose eyes glaze over at the mere mention of regression analysis, it ought to be the starting point for any future debate over gun policy.”
The first Rotary World Peace Scholars arrived at Duke in October. The five Fellows are concentrating on Peace and Conflict Resolution and are taking classes at Duke and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where four other scholars are based. In addition to their studies, several of the Fellows have been involved in other educational and professional activities:

- **Pravin Dixit** of India, Rotary Peace Scholar and PIDP Fellow, has recently published a workbook and distance learning course titled “Protection and Promotion of Human Rights,” which will be distributed to police officers in India.

- **Mitchell O’Brien** of Australia, Rotary Peace Scholar and PIDP Fellow, gave a presentation entitled “Democracy-Building in Fiji” at a Rotary Peace Conference in Atlanta, GA, in January. He was joined by panelists from the Carter Center.

- **Sue Wang**, Rotary Peace Scholar from Taiwan, has successfully intervened in three death row cases in Taiwan. She had worked on the case for six years since they were sentenced to death row in the high court.

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**Senior African Officials Attend DCID Foreign Aid Program in South Africa**

Twenty-one senior officials from eight Sub-Saharan African countries responsible for aid management attended the Sanford Institute’s Duke Center for International Development Workshop on Management of Foreign Aid (MOFA) Nov. 3-22 in South Africa. The workshop built on the successful regional workshop on the same topic formerly run by the Harvard Institute for International Development in Nairobi, Kenya, over the past six years. MOFA was co-directed by DCID Professor of the Practice **Graham Glenday** and Malcolm McPherson of Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. DCID Associate Professor of the Practice **Fernando Fernholz** and **Frederick Mayer**, Associate Professor of PPS and Political Science and Director of Graduate Studies, were among the workshop presenters.

“Foreign aid continues to form a significant share of the budgets of many countries in Africa, particularly for development projects,” said Glenday. “The need for rapid growth and poverty reduction also remains urgent. Using this aid more effectively is an important opportunity for countries to achieve improved economic performance. This has been well recognized in the New Partnership for African Development program, which South Africa and other leading African nations established to encourage African-led development efforts.” The overall goal, Glenday added, is to enhance the skills and capacities of those who manage foreign aid so that African countries can accelerate their rates of economic growth and development, Glenday noted. An explicit objective of the workshop is to increasingly engage African officials, teachers and researchers in the administration and operations of the program. Glenday also recently had published an article about trade liberalization and customs revenues in Kenya. Please see Issues for the article’s abstract.
Spencer Foundation Renews Funding for N.C. Education Research Data Center

The Spencer Foundation has awarded a grant of $450,000 for continuation of the N.C. Education Research Data Center, a consortium among Duke University, the University of North Carolina and the N.C. Department of Public Instruction designed to facilitate problem-focused research on education. The Data Center is housed in the Sanford Institute’s Center for Child and Family Policy. Center Director Kenneth A. Dodge, William McDougall Professor of PPS and Professor of Psychology-Social and Health Sciences, is Principal Investigator of the project; Elizabeth Glennie, Research Scholar with the Center for Child and Family Policy, directs the Data Center.

The Data Center has supplied data to faculty and graduate students in different departments and universities. Projects by Sanford Institute faculty and students include:

- Darity, W., K. Tyson, and D. Castellino, and Karolyn Tyson. “Effective Schools and Effective Students.” Project funded by the Spencer Foundation.
- Ladd, Helen F., Charles T. Clotfelter, and Jacob Vigdor. “Teacher Quality and Student Achievement.” Project funded by the Spencer Foundation.
- Yankovich, Michael (MPP ’03). “Helping Local Districts Improve Educational Outcomes for At-Risk Students.” Master’s Project.

For more information about the Data Center, or for those interested in applying for data, please contact Research Scholar Elizabeth Glennie at glennie@pps.duke.edu or 919/613-7318.

Patterson (from page 1)

the Practice of Journalism and Public Policy, moderated the discussion. Following are excerpts from the story that ran Feb. 12 in The Chronicle, Duke’s student newspaper:

… “I feel inspired by the music in Gene Patterson’s writing,” said Clark, who co-edited The Changing South of Gene Patterson: Journalism of Civil Rights, 1960-1968, with Arsenault. Patterson, editor-in-chief of The Atlanta Constitution from 1960 to 1968, is a Pulitzer Prize-winning civil rights columnist and one of the most famous and prolific Southern journalists. During his tenure, he was responsible for some of the most passionately written and controversial editorials on racial equality in the nation. “We didn’t settle this by the sword in the 20th century. We settled it by the pen,” Patterson told a packed audience. “[The United States] was a vicious society we were trying to change.”

…Clark read Patterson’s much-lauded essay, “A Flower for the Graves,” written Sept. 16, 1963, in response to the murders of four black girls in Birmingham, Ala., at the hands of white residents. The article, in which Patterson blamed the crime on all Southerners—black and white—was considered so powerful that former anchorman Walter Cronkite asked him to read it on the CBS Evening News. …

Patterson himself spoke about the challenges he faced as a liberal-minded figure in a segregated Southern society. Growing up in a segregated community and attending segregated schools, he spoke Tuesday of several instances where he was confronted with the harsh nature of racial inequality. “[Race] is the great domestic issue for this country,” he said. “It’s not just about race or laws – it’s about the human heart.”
College Try

Why universities should stop encouraging applicants to take the SATs over and over again
By Jacob L. Vigdor

[Editor’s note: The article originally appeared in American Prospect.]

As college-admissions committees across the country begin sorting through this year’s applicant pool, imagine for a moment what might take place at a specialized postsecondary institution such as a dart-throwing academy. This type of institution would clearly wish to accept only those applicants showing the highest potential as professional dart players. It would therefore be reasonable to expect such schools to use a dart-throwing "exam" as an admissions criterion.

Now suppose that the dart-throwing academy employed the following method of assessing ability: Each applicant arrives at a dart-throwing center early on a Saturday morning, pays a $25 fee and, after a three-hour wait, throws exactly one dart at the dartboard. Those who place their darts closest to the center of the board are considered superior applicants. Of course, because there is a certain amount of chance involved in where the dart lands, this method will imperfectly assess ability. Some very good dart players will have a bad throw; some poor dart players will have luck on their side.

Moreover, suppose that applicants who believe their first throws underestimate their true abilities have the opportunity to try again – by spending another $25 and enduring another three-hour wait on a Saturday morning. There are several reasons to think that these dart throwers would perform better the second time around: They are more familiar with the test procedure, they may have practiced their throwing technique in the interim or they may have truly just had a bad throw during their first exam.

Finally, suppose that the dart-throwing academy considers only each applicant’s “best” dart thrown during the admissions process. This would mean that applicants risk nothing by arranging to throw a second dart: If their second try turns out better than their first, they have improved their chances of admission. If their second try is worse than the first, they have done themselves no harm.

This is clearly an admissions system biased in favor of those who can afford to throw the greatest number of darts. Given a sufficient number of Saturday mornings and sufficient funds to continue paying the testing fee, even the least-skilled dart player could be assured of a favorable admissions ranking – so long as other applicants lacked similar resources.

Indeed, the dart-throwing academy would be rightly open to criticism that it was providing advantages to the wealthiest dart players rather than the most accurate ones. Surely such a practice would be inconsistent with the meritocratic values of a society such as ours.

Right?

Not exactly: Most institutions of higher education in the United States employ a system alarmingly similar to the fictional dart-throwing academy described above. When evaluating applicants who have submitted multiple standardized-test scores, most selective colleges consider only the highest score submitted. Thus, the typical college applicant faces the same set of incentives as the dart players considered above: There is no chance of harming one’s application by retaking the SAT or the ACT, and, given unlimited resources of time and money, an applicant would do well to take the test as many times as possible. Because any individual’s scores tend to fluctuate between test administrations, sooner or later an applicant will – entirely by chance – achieve a test score that overstates his or her true ability. Many applicants who would prefer not to retake the test undoubtedly do so simply to maintain their relative position in the face of widespread retaking by their peers. High-school seniors are most certainly aware of this incentive system, as many college guides instruct their readers to take the SAT early and often.

In a study to be published in the January issue of The Journal of Human Resources, Charles Clotfelter and I examine SAT-retaking behavior among applicants to three selective colleges. We find considerable evidence of an SAT-taking “arms race” among the applicants in our sample. The typical applicant took the SAT two or three times, only 15 percent stopped after taking the test once and a small number took the test five or more times. We also found that applicants tended to improve their scores upon retaking, for each of the reasons cited in the case of dart throwers: greater familiarity with the test, improved knowledge or ability and the fact that people who decide to retake the test really were more likely to have had a bad outcome the first time around.
Our analysis shows that one particular type of applicant is highly unlikely to retake the test: one who receives a very high score the first time around. This is an intuitive result, as applicants who do well have little to gain by retaking the test. Controlling for scores on the first test, applicants who decide to take a second test tend to have higher family incomes and more educated parents than those who don’t retake, and they are significantly more likely to be white or Asian American. In other words, students from disadvantaged backgrounds — with the greatest difficulties in meeting the financial and time commitments involved in retaking the test — are the least likely to do so, holding their first test scores constant. Among other things, these results show that SAT fee waivers, which can reduce the financial obstacles to retaking the test, fall short of creating a truly level playing field. Fee waivers do not compensate for the free time or wages that applicants forgo when they retake the test.

The effect of this behavior is to reduce the standing of disadvantaged applicants in the eyes of admissions committees. Consider a scenario where a committee must decide between two applicants who received identical scores on their first SAT administration. Our study shows that the more socioeconomically advantaged applicant is more likely to have retaken the test, and is therefore more likely to gain the upper hand in the admissions process.

For many disadvantaged applicants, affirmative-action policies probably offset a good portion of this handicap. However, after the U.S. Supreme Court rules in the University of Michigan admissions case this spring, the situation could change dramatically — and not for the better.

Could the current system be changed in order to eliminate the benefit admissions committees confer on advantaged applicants? Our study shows that the answer is an unequivocal “yes.” If admissions policies considered the average of all test scores — or only the most recent of all test scores — there would be less incentive to retake the test. Under either of these new systems, applicants would actually be risking something by deciding to retake the test — and therefore might think twice before doing so. Applicants who genuinely felt that they had tested poorly, meanwhile, would still be free to try again. Empirical evidence suggests that incentive structures do influence test-taking behavior: Most law schools, for example, consider the average of all submitted LSAT scores in ranking applicants; the rate of LSAT-retaking is correspondingly much lower than the rate of SAT-retaking nationwide.

Changing test-score-ranking policies would not eliminate the advantage that wealth provides in the college-admissions process. Applicants of high socioeconomic status will still enjoy greater access to test-preparation courses, professional counseling and other costly means of improving their chances of admission. But altering the procedure for evaluating test scores would eliminate one very visible source of unfairness on the admissions playing field, and one of the few such sources that colleges themselves can actually control.

In addition, an alteration of test-score-ranking policies would provide American high-school students with millions of hours of additional free time each year. Absent strong incentives to retake the test — and therefore freed from their justified fear of being downgraded relative to their peers — teenagers would find themselves with one or two extra Saturday mornings to work part-time jobs, polish their application essays, volunteer in their communities or just sleep in. The admissions process in which they were competing would not only be more fair, it might also be more sane. You don’t need to be an aspiring dart player to understand that such reforms would be right on target.

Vigdor is an Assistant Professor of PPS and Economics.

Editor’s Note: Issues contains abstracts and excerpts from articles, editorials and speeches by faculty at the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy. All items are reprinted with permission. For more information, please contact the editor at neal@pps.duke.edu or 919/613-7394.
Trade Liberalization and Customs Revenues: Does trade liberalization lead to lower customs revenues?

The case of Kenya

by Graham Glenday

Abstract
Kenya implemented a phased trade liberalization program starting in 1987. After an initial replacement of quotas with tariffs, tariff rates were systematically rationalized and reduced during the 1990s. Interestingly, between the early 1990s and the mid-1990s, the average import duty rate was approximately halved, but the revenue yield about doubled. The major shift in trade and customs collections occurred over 1993 and 1994 when import licensing and foreign exchange controls were removed, and a comprehensive pre-shipment inspection program was implemented along with other customs management reforms. This study uses detailed customs data from 1989 to 1999 to analyze the factors that contributed to the change in customs revenue yield. It investigates the impacts on revenue yields from year to year of: (i) trade volumes; (ii) import duty exemption policy and administration; (iii) the number of items classified as duty free; (iv) average import duty rates; (v) special duty rate regimes for oil and major agricultural products; and (vi) shifts in the composition of imports and exemptions between different import duty rate groups as the relative gross-of-duty prices of imports changed. To investigate the effects of changes in customs administration and importer compliance, the changes in revenue yield are predicted from base periods in terms of changes in trade, exemptions, and import duty rates. The residual unexplained increases in revenue yield are correlated with changes in trade and administrative policy, including the introduction of pre-shipment and secondary destination inspection programs and other customs control programs. This analysis shows that improved administration and compliance raised import duties from at least one-third to over two-thirds higher than could be explained by changes in trade, exemptions and import duty rates.

Glenday is Professor of the Practice of PPS in the Sanford Institute’s Duke Center for International Development. He has consulted extensively in Kenya.

Resources Critical to Schools Accountability, Ladd Tells Civil Rights Commission

Helen F. “Sunny” Ladd, Professor of PPS and Economics and Associate Director of the Sanford Institute, participated in a briefing for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission held Feb. 6 in Charlotte, N.C. Ladd, editor of Holding Schools Accountable: Performance Based Reform in Education (Brookings, 1996), addressed North Carolina’s accountability program, known as the ABCs program for accountability, basic skills and local control.

In her remarks, Ladd praised the ABCs program as “quite a sophisticated and well-designed accountability system, especially as compared to those of other states,” and one that has served “as a powerful tool for changing the behavior of one key set of actors in the system: school principals.” However, she noted, the program has had “the unintended effect of making it more difficult for low-performing schools to retain teachers,” resulting in higher teacher turnover that, ultimately, “is likely to be detrimental to student learning in those schools.” She also emphasized the important of adequate resources. In the absence of such resources, “it is neither fair nor appropriate to hold teachers or students accountable for ambitious educational outcomes.” Instead, she noted, “any effort to use accountability to promote better educational outcomes must be linked to school finance reform efforts designed to assure that all schools have the resources and capacity to carry out the tasks for which they are being held accountable.”

Hart Fellows’ Work Recognized

Hart Fellows Neil Gupta, Rebecca Haffajee and Anne Lai (PPS ’02), described their research projects in a feature story that appeared in the January 24 edition of Dialogue, Duke’s weekly newspaper. The three fellows are researching pressing public health challenges in Brazil, Tanzania, and China respectively.

In January, Gupta attended the World Social Forum in Porto Allegre, Brazil. His experience was the focus of a feature story in The Chronicle on Feb. 3. The annual World Social Forum is held concurrently with the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, and seeks to address social justice concerns not addressed at the economic forum. In addition to attending a variety of discussions, speeches, and performances, Gupta participated in a full-day workshop focused on HIV/AIDS patients’ access to anti-retroviral medications.
Study: No Link Between Positive Test for Alzheimer’s Gene, Hospital Care Costs

A new study by researchers at the Sanford Institute and Duke University Medical Center raises questions about whether people who may have a genetic predisposition to Alzheimer’s disease should be considered insurance risks, as it found hospital costs for those who test positive for a gene linked to the disease are no higher than expenses incurred by people who test negative. The study, published in January in the American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, examines hospital care costs generated by patients who have a genetic variation known as apolipoprotein-e4 or APOE e4. Previous studies have found that individuals with this variation face a higher risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease. The gene is also associated with an elevated risk of stroke and heart disease.

The Duke study tracked federal Medicare payments to hospitals over a five-year period for 1,999 research subjects aged 65 and over who were randomly selected from a general elderly population in central North Carolina and who agreed to be tested for the presence of APOE e4. About one third of those tested (639 people) were found to have the gene. But despite the medical problems associated with the variation, the Duke investigators assert that they “did not find that persons” who test positive have higher hospital costs than those who do not. “Given its association with all these bad things, it’s not ridiculous to think that the gene might predict higher hospital costs,” said Donald H. Taylor Jr., the study’s lead author and Assistant Research Professor of PPS in the Institute’s Center for Health Policy, Law and Management. “That’s what we expected to find, but, in fact, we did not.”

Taylor said the lack of an association between a positive test for APOE e4 and a patient’s future hospital care costs “argues against” its use as a tool for establishing a patient’s financial risk, a process called risk adjustment or risk rating. “Now that testing for a person’s e4 status has become relatively simple there could be a temptation to use the test for all sorts of risk ratings, including those affecting long-term care insurance or Medicare HMOs,” Taylor said. “What our results suggest is that the APOE e4 genotype is a poor risk adjustor because it does not predict hospital costs.” Taylor was interviewed about the study results by Reuters and several other media outlets.

Tifft Receives 2003 Futrell Award

Susan E. Tifft, Eugene C. Patterson Professor of the Practice of Journalism and Public Policy Studies, has received the Futrell Award for Outstanding Achievement in Communications and Journalism. After receiving the award, she delivered a lecture on “The Media: Watchdogs, Lapdogs or Guidedogs?”

Tifft is co-author of award-winning book The Trust: The Private and Powerful Family Behind The New York Times and teaches in the Sanford Institute’s DeWitt Wallace Center for Communications and Journalism. The Futrell award is given to Duke alumni who have distinguished themselves in the field of communications. Tifft graduated from Duke in 1973 with an A.B. in English.

Before becoming a journalist, Tifft was a press secretary for the Federal Election Commission and the 1980 Democratic National Convention, and a speechwriter for the Carter-Mondale campaign. She also served as director of public affairs for the Urban Institute. From 1982 to 1991 she was a national writer and associate editor for TIME Magazine, where she wrote major articles on politics, economics, foreign affairs and education. She has a master’s degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

The Futrell Award is made possible by a gift to the from Ashley B. “Brownie” Futrell Jr. in tribute to his father, Ashley B. Futrell Sr., for his career contributions to Duke and to the profession of journalism. The Futrells are Duke alumni who own and operate the Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington (N.C.) Daily News. Past Futrell award recipients include television journalist and talk show host Charlie Rose, CNN senior anchor Judy Woodruff, New York Times staff writer Jason DeParle and Fred Andrews, retired senior editor with The New York Times.

Fleishman Fellow Begins Pakistan Project

Syed Tauqir Hussain Shah of Pakistan was one of the inaugural Joel L. Fleishman Fellows in Civil Society who studied at the Sanford Institute in October. His research focused on international best practices in civil society development, seeking to create an “enabling environment” in his home country. He presented his project to Pakistan’s Minister of Social Welfare, who is responsible for NGO policy of the government. As a result, said Dr. Tauqir Shah, “They have offered me to join as coordinator of a donor-funded project, “Enabling Environment Initiative,” and another Asian Development Bank-funded project, “Strengthening Government-NGO relations,” he said in a recent email. It is a six-month assignment, during which he hopes “to put to use the Fleishman Fellows project.”
“Helping develop civil society, both internationally and in the U.S., is exactly the kind of result we hoped for from this program,” said Institute Director Bruce W. Jentleson. Applications for the 2004 Fleishman Fellows group are being accepted until May 1. For more information or to download an application, please see www.pubpol.duke.edu/centers/civil/index.html.

German, U.S. Media Fellows at Sanford Institute Spring Semester

The Institute’s DeWitt Wallace Center for Communications and Journalism is home to the largest and most international journalism fellowship program in the U.S. The program provides a unique opportunity for journalists, producers, editors, policymakers and media executives to take time out from daily deadlines to explore issues of media and democracy. Spring Semester Media Fellows are:

- **Peter Busch** - Journalist, Current Affairs, ZDF, Mainz, Germany
- **Martina Grosz** - Freelance Journalist, Public Radio ARD/ZDF, Berlin, Germany
- **Martin Koch** - Editor and News Anchor for Radio ZuSa, Lueneburg, Germany

We also have three academic-year Media Fellows:

- **Andrei Nesterov** - Freelance Reporter, Yekaterinburg, Russia
- **Jangbeom Park** - Broadcast journalist, KBS (Korean Broadcasting System), South Korea
- **Hideya Terashima** - Features editor and writer, The Kahoku Shimpo, Sendai, Japan

**RWJ Exec Discusses Foundations, Society**

Dr. Lewis Sandy, Executive Vice President of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, met with the Foundation Impact Research Group to discuss ways in which to assess the effect foundations have on society. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is the world’s largest health foundation and has been a leader in the effort to measure foundation impact more precisely and systematically. Dr. Sandy presented the various assessment tools used by his foundation and took questions from the audience.

The Foundation Impact Research Group is a small group of faculty from public policy and other departments throughout Duke. They have been meeting since September in an effort better to understand how foundations make their strategic choices about grantmaking programs and how meaningfully to assess the impact of that grantmaking on society. Faculty members who are not now involved in FIRG and who would like to participate should get in touch with Joel Fleishman at jlf@pps.duke.edu.

**The New 5 Ws of Journalism**

**James T. Hamilton.** Oscar L. Tang Associate Professor of PPS and Associate Professor of Economics, was quoted recently in Slate, responding to a column about media bias. Hamilton is author of the forthcoming book, All the News That’s Fit to Sell: How the Market Translates Information into News (Princeton Press). Slate columnist Jack Shafer noted that Hamilton “comments smartly that the five Ws of the traditional news story – Who? What? Where? When? Why? – have been replaced by a different set of five Ws, which govern decisions about news content, especially TV news content:

- Who cares about a particular piece of information?
- What are they willing to pay to find it, or what are others willing to pay to reach them?
- Where can media outlets or advertisers reach these people?
- When is it profitable to provide the information?
- Why is this profitable?

The answers to these questions drive story selections, generate careers for celebrity reporters, and often leave a set of citizens dissatisfied with the way that the media cover politics and society.

Complete text of the column is at http://slate.msn.com/id/2078826.

**HLP, SOL Featured in New Book**


The SOL program has selected fourteen Tier One and two Tier Two students to participate in its year-long program, including five Public Policy majors, a Chronicle columnist, two international students, two certified EMTs, a female rugby player and a Guardian Ad Litem. Combined, the group speaks seven languages. This summer students will intern with community organizations in New York City, Chicago, Albuquerque, Cape Town, South Africa and Oshakati, Namibia. (Tier Two students have previously participated in SOL and conduct field-based research during the summer but do not repeat the SOL house course or follow-up capstone course.)

On Feb. 25, SOL hosted Rhodes scholar M. Somjen Frazer, who spoke to SOL students about her use of participatory, community-based research to identify ways “for historically marginalized groups to move towards greater political power and access to resources.”
Recent Election May Affect Turkish Actions

The recent election of Recep Tayyip Erdogan to the Turkish Parliament could prompt Turkey to reconsider the United States’ request to deploy ground troops, planes and helicopters from Turkey in a U.S.-led war against Iraq, said Bruce R. Kuniholm, Professor of PPS and History. He has spent months in Turkey researching a book about U.S.-Turkish relations.

Kuniholm has worked on the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Intelligence and Research and Policy Planning Staff, and served as a consultant for the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, the United Technologies Corp. and Norwegian Nobel Institute. His research has focused mainly on diplomatic history and U.S. foreign policy in the Near and Middle East. He was interviewed about his views on Turkey by Newsday, NPR and several local television stations.

Kuniholm said there were many good reasons for Turkey initially to reject the U.S. request. “Roughly 90 percent of Turkey’s population opposed what they saw as a war against a Muslim neighbor, a war that risked the wrath of a tyrant who possessed weapons of mass destruction and who had sworn to retaliate against those who assisted the United States. Turks also remembered that in 1990-91, President Turgut Ozal, without parliamentary approval, had taken the unpopular position of closing Iraq’s oil pipeline through Turkey, allowing the U.S. to use the Incirlik air base for bombing Iraq, and forcing Iraq to contemplate the possibility of a second front. Even more problematic, says Kuniholm, is Turkey’s concerns for protecting its borders – including the fear that an autonomous Kurdish entity would seek independence and threaten the integrity of the Turkish state.

But there is also reason for Turkey to support the U.S., Kuniholm noted. Since World War II, the United States has been Turkey’s most important ally. The U.S. also has given strong support to Turkey’s desire for accession to the European Union, and been instrumental in facilitating assistance that helped address Turkey’s recent economic crises.

“Moreover, the U.S. was prepared to provide it with a reported $6 billion in grants ($2 billion in military assistance, and $4 billion in economic assistance), the economic portion of which would leverage additional loans that would help the Turks withstand the affects of a war that would otherwise devastate its economy,” Kuniholm said.


Public Service: Making a Difference

Bob Stone, author of Confessions of a Civil Servant: Lessons in Changing America’s Government and Military, spoke to MPP students, alumni and faculty Feb. 26. The lecture was the third in the Institute’s series of programs on the changing face of public service. Donna Dyer, Director of Career Services and Alumni Relations, organized the program.

Stone, describing the way he feels about a career in public service, quoted Yogi Berra on baseball: “It’s an easy game if you’re willing to work hard at it.” He earned a B.S. and M.S. in engineering from MIT, then went to work in the office of the Secretary of Defense in 1969 and “stayed for 30 years” before retiring.

At the Pentagon, he was a self-described “radical decentralizer and passionate advocate of excellence. I fought a guerilla battle to get authority in the hands of frontline workers, especially base commanders.” He began to “get a reputation as a change agent.” Impressed with his work, Vice President Al Gore hired Stone to lead his government reinvention task force.

Stone is passionate about the importance of government service. “You can make a difference if you work for government,” he said. He described several instances in which his own work made a difference, including simplifying extraordinarily complex regulations regarding military construction. He also is passionate about what he calls “the ethical imperative.” Although he encouraged students to be flexible, “you need to be pretty rigid where your integrity is concerned.”

MPP Alumni Notes

Rebecca Gau (MPP ’98), Senior Research Analyst at Arizona State University’s Morrison Institute for Public Policy, recently wrote a report on the teacher shortage in Arizona. The report, “Is There a Teacher Shortage? Demand and Supply in Arizona,” generated significant attention from the press and policymakers. The study, described as “the first comprehensive analysis of supply and demand of certified teachers in Arizona,” also stressed the need for more data. In addition to providing media interviews, Gau was asked to brief the governor. “That was a kick,” she said. For a synopsis and link to full text of the report, see www.asu.edu/copp/morri-son/teachershortage.htm. Gau is now working on a study of charter school authorizers.

Nick Johnson (MPP ’94) was on Nightline recently. He works at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, in charge of their state and local government programs, and the topic was the President’s budget stimulus package.
Faculty & Staff Notes

Stephanie Alt Lamm, Coordinator, Program in International Development Policy at DCID, has completed mediation training through Duke’s new employee mediation program and will serve as a volunteer mediator to help settle employee disputes. In addition, she was elected to serve as Vice President of the North Carolina chapter of Partners of the Americas, a non-profit, citizen exchange and development organization.

Assistant Professor of PPS and Political Science Evan Charney’s article, “Identity and Liberal Nationalism,” has been accepted for publication by the American Political Science Review.

Darla K. Deardorff, Coordinator for the Duke-UNC Rotary Center for International Studies in Peace & Conflict, presented a session titled “Exploring Middle Eastern Cultures” at a regional Association of International Educators (NAFSA) conference in Nashville, TN in November 2002. The session was chosen as "Best of Region" and later selected for presentation at NAFSA’s International Annual Conference in Salt Lake City in May 2003. She has passed her written comps in her Ph.D. program in International Education at N.C. State University and recently received the “Alumnus of the Year” Award from her alma mater, Bridgewater College in Virginia.

Elizabeth Glennie, Research Scholar in the Institute’s Center for Child and Family Policy, has done an analysis for N.C. Governor Mike Easley’s office and the North Carolina Professional Teaching Standards Commission of the Working Conditions Survey. The survey, administered in Spring 2002, asked teachers, principals, and other licensed personnel questions about the working environment in their schools.

The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN), reviewed the book, Remembering Jim Crow: African Americans Tell about Life in the Segregated South, published in 2002 and now out in paperback. The award-winning book was edited Dean of Arts and Sciences William H. Chafe, Professor of History Raymond Gavins and Robert Korstad, Associate Professor of PPS and History. The review, referring to the stories and interviews in the book, noted, “Such stories and far worse and more insidious are repeated over and over in this disturbing book. Are they safely ensconced now in history, between these covers? One hopes so.” Korstad was interviewed by NPR regarding Sen. Trent Lott’s controversial comments concerning race.

Anirudh Krishna, Assistant Professor of PPS, and Natalia Mirovitskaya, Visiting Research Scholar in PPS, had their work quoted as a reference in the latest World Bank’s World Development Report 2003 on Sustainable Development. Krishna has joined the Hart Fellows Program as a Faculty Associate. He will provide the next class of Hart Fellows with intensive training in community-based research techniques, as well as mentoring and support throughout their fellowships.

Helen “Sunny” Ladd, Professor of PPS and Economics, Charles Clotfelter, Z. Smith Reynolds Professor of PPS and Professor of Economics and Law, and Jacob Vigdor, Assistant Professor of PPS and Economics, made three presentations on research showing that educational accountability systems make it more difficult for low-performing schools to attract and retain teachers. The presentations took place during the American Economic Association meetings in Washington, D.C., at the Spencer Foundation Seminar at Duke, and at the University of North Carolina. Clotfelter and Vigdor published an article, “Retaking the SAT,” in the January Journal of Human Resources. Vigdor wrote a piece for American Prospect based on that article, which was mentioned in the Chronicle of Higher Education. [See Issues for the op-ed from American Prospect.] Vigdor also was quoted extensively in a series of articles on residential segregation that appeared in the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel.

Susan Tifft, Eugene C. Patterson Professor of the Practice of Journalism and Public Policy, was quoted in the Columbus Dispatch in an article about the lack of press coverage of international affairs, and how the political process can contribute to that.