



CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

E-Bulletin

February 2006

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Noralv Veggeland, Visiting Lecturer at CPPA

CPPA News

UMass Hosts American-Scandinavian Foundation's Visiting Lecturer from Norway

Professor Noralv Veggeland, the [American-Scandinavian Foundation's](#) (ASF) Visiting Lecturer from Norway is teaching a CPPA graduate course this spring on Politics and Policy in the European Union. His appointment, secured by Eric Einhorn, Professor of Political Science and a CPPA faculty member, will be shared jointly by the two departments during the 2006 spring semester. The ASF provides annual funding to colleges and universities in the United States to host a visiting lecturer from Norway or Sweden.

CPPA Welcomes Senior Research Fellows to the National Center for Digital Government

Three international senior research fellows will be coming to the [National Center for Digital Government](#) (NCDG) at the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Center for Public Policy and Administration this spring.

- [Albert Meijer](#) is an associate professor at the Utrecht School of Governance at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, and will be at the Center from March until June 2006. His research focuses on public accountability, informatization in public administration, and the use of e-mail by government organizations.
- [Mi-Ree Byun](#) is professor and Associate Research Fellow at the Center for Urban Information Systems, Seoul Development Institute, in Korea. Professor Byun will be coming to the Center for one year, beginning this January. Her current research includes an international comparative study of e-government policies in the world's major cities.
- [Dr. Ramon Gil-Garcia](#) continues his affiliation with the National Center for Digital Government as a non-residential post-doctoral fellow. Gil-Garcia currently is also a Postdoctoral Researcher at Center for Technology in Government, University at Albany, SUNY.

NCDG's mission is to conduct research, build global research capacity, advance practice, and strengthen the network of researchers and practitioners engaged in building and using technology in government.

Faculty News

National Science Foundation Awards Grant to CPPA Professor Joya Misra

Joya Misra, associate professor of Sociology and Public Policy, was awarded \$98,000 from the National Science Foundation for a one-year study of "The Cross-National Effects of Work-Family Policies on the Wage Penalty for Motherhood." Michelle Budig, assistant professor of Sociology and associate director of Social and Demographic Research Institute, is the co-principal investigator on the study.



Misra and Budig are researching work-family policies to identify which are most effective in supporting working mothers. Their study looks across a variety of wealthy nations and will focus on policies such as paid and unpaid parental and family leaves, subsidized or state provided childcare, and flexible work time policies. "Previous researchers have suggested that work-family policies may make a critical difference in boosting employment rates and wages for working mothers," Misra said, "However, previous research has not directly examined these effects or attempted to ascertain which policies are most effective in meeting these goals. This research should result in clear-cut policy recommendations regarding these important questions." For more information about the NSF grant award, click [here](#).

Professor Katie McDermott Publishes Article on Education Reform in Massachusetts

The January 2006 issue of the *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* features an article by CPPA Professor **Katie McDermott** entitled, "Incentives, Capacity, and Implementation: Evidence from Massachusetts Education Reform." An abstract of this article is available [here](#).

Student News

MPPA Students Engage in Policy Research through Graduate Assistantships

The MPPA program offers a number of paid assistantships to highly qualified first and second year students. In addition to a stipend, assistantships carry a waiver of tuition and curriculum fees, as well as paid health insurance. Here are two recent examples of research projects undertaken by CPPA students as part of their graduate assistantship.

- **Barbara Steel Lowney , '06** – During the fall, Barbara conducted an outcomes evaluation for the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities' Clemente Course, a program that offers college-level courses in the traditional humanities disciplines to economically and educationally disadvantaged individuals aged 17 and older. Using a survey instrument designed by students in the CPPA Nonprofit Management course, Barbara surveyed alumni of the Clemente Course, compiled the data, and performed statistical analysis on the results.
- **Beth McBratney, '07** – This spring, Beth will work with CPPA Director and Professor John Hird and Peter Haas, Professor of Political Science and CPPA Faculty Associate. She will assist with research for their proposed book entitled, *Controversies in Globalization and Public Policy*.

Alumni Updates

Lori Gordon, '00 – Lori has started a new position at the MITRE corporation in McLean, Virginia . She is now working in the Homeland Security and Intelligence Analysis department, consulting to the Department of Homeland Security's Preparedness Directorate.

John Beardmore, '02 - John was recently promoted from the position of *Performance Auditor* with the Audit Division to *Assistant Budget Officer* in the **Office of Legislative Budget Assistant - Budget Division** for the State of New Hampshire.

Helen Hendrickson, '03 – Helen has left her position at the Boston Center for Independent Living to start her own business focusing on exercise and nutrition. **Fit for Fun** provides personal training, coaching and health counseling. She is now taking clients as a personal trainer and will be managing several women-only teams-in-training; the first team training for a 5K race begins in March. She will also be integrating a writing component into her work, which includes a monthly newsletter and articles on health and nutrition. Her article entitled, "**The Ironman Next Door,**" appeared in the Somerville Journal in October 2005. Helen says that several services, including health counseling and coaching, can be done long-distance so CPPAers across the country are welcome to sign up.

John Urschel, '04 – A new book, *Foundations for Social Change*, includes a chapter written by John entitled, "Coming Out of the Green Closet: Wealth Discourse and the Construction of Social Change Philanthropists." Published in September 2005, the book examines the relationship between philanthropic foundations in the United States and social change movements.

Colleen O'Shaughnessy, '05 – Colleen has been traveling in Australia since June 2005, and she recently started a job working for the Port Pirie Health Service in South Australia doing research on program development for a men's health project.

We want to hear from you! Alumni should send updates and news to Jackie Brousseau-Pereira at jackie@pubpol.umass.edu.

Grant and Research Opportunities

Seymour Melman Fellowship Program

The **Institute for Policy Studies** (IPS) sponsors the Seymour Melman Fellowship Program to underwrite research and writing in the fields of demilitarization and workplace democracy. Applicants are invited to submit a 2-3 page proposal outlining a research and writing project on some aspect of either militarism or workplace democracy. IPS will select one fellow to receive a stipend of \$5,000. Over the course of the year, this Melman Fellow will be invited to spend some time at IPS and, when appropriate, will be mentored by an IPS Fellow/project director in completing her or his project. The deadline for applications is March 15, 2006. For more information, go to:

<http://www.ips-dc.org/melmanfellow.htm>.

Action Without Borders Offers Comprehensive List of Fellowships in Public Service

[Idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org), a project of Action Without Borders, provides a comprehensive list of nonprofit and public policy fellowships located in both domestic and international locations. To view the list, which is contained within the Career Center section of the site, go to:
<http://www.idealists.org/career/fellowship.html>.

CPPA Events

"Resume Writing and Interview Skills"

MPPA Professional Development Event

Speakers: Satu Zoller and Maura Devlin

Place: 620 Thompson Hall

Date: Thursday, February 9th 2006

Time: 11:00 AM

"The Collaborative Principles of Open Source Programming"

Colloquium Event

Speaker: Charles Schweik, Assistant Professor of Natural Resources Conservation and Public Policy

Place: 620 Thompson Hall

Date: Monday, March 6th 2006

Time: 12:00 PM

"Looming Dangers for Higher Education"

Education Policy Forum

Speaker: Evan Dobbelle, Northeast Board of Higher Education

Place: Campus Center 174-176

Date: Tuesday, March 7th 2006

Time: 3:00 PM

"Employment Opportunities in State Government"

MPPA Professional Development Event

Mark D'Angelo

Director of Employee Relations for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Place: Thompson Hall, Room 620

Date: Thursday, March 9th 2006

Time: 12:00 PM

Questions or comments about the CPPA E-Bulletin?

Please contact [Wendy Varner](mailto:Wendy.Varner@umass.edu) at 413-577-0478.

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