Diversity Appraisal

Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology
January, 2004

The Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, founded in 1947, supports education, research and scholarly exchange in population studies at the University of Washington. We focus on interdisciplinary research, with an emphasis on understanding the structural mechanisms that link individual behavior to population level outcomes. An independent unit on campus since 2000, our affiliates and students come from the departments of Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Sociology and Statistics, and the schools of International Studies, Public Affairs, Public Health and Social Work. Population scientists from the Battelle Institute's Center for Public Health Research and Evaluation (Seattle), Western Washington University (Bellingham, WA), and University of Victoria, (British Columbia, Canada) also participate in Center activities.

In 2004 CSDE has 66 faculty affiliates. They are known for their research on biodemography, health, international demography, migration, inequality, family demography, and quantitative methodology. Descriptions of the active research projects at the Center can be found under "Current Research Projects" on CSDE’s web site (http://csde.washington.edu/).

The Center provides research support services and educational opportunities to its members through its graduate student, postdoctoral and mid-career professional training; computer lab and services; library collection and services; working paper series; and weekly research seminar.

1. Students

CSDE funds between 9 and 12 graduate students each year on three types of fellowship:

NICHD Trainees receive 2-3 years of funding. These four fellowships are restricted to US Citizens and Permanent Residents.
Hewlett Fellowships offer 2 years of funding. We offer three or four of these each year and they are restricted to students from high fertility countries. Almost all of our students on Hewlett Fellowships come from Asia.

Shanahan Endowment Fellowships offer 2 years of funding. We offer between two and four of these each year and they are unrestricted in terms of national origin.

Pooling these fellowships together, in 2004 we are funding 11 students. There profile is as follows:

- four men, seven women
- five non-Hispanic white, two African American, four Asian
- four are foreign-born (not US Citizens) – from Bangladesh, China, Nepal, and Russia.

CSDE does not directly recruit or admit students as it does not offer a degree program. New students apply to one of the affiliated departments listed above which then forwards the application to us if the student's interests are in demography. Existing students are nominated by their departments.

2. Curriculum

In addition to regular requirements in their home departments, CSDE graduate students are expected to fulfill several additional requirements:

- The first is to take a minimum of two courses in demography during their years of CSDE support. These must include Sociology 513: Demography and Ecology; and Sociology 433: Research Methods in Demography. Fellows must also take the one credit CSDE Population Studies Proseminar, CSDE 502, at least once in the Fall term and at least once in the Spring term. It is expected that these requirements be completed by the end of the first year of funding.

- Second, all CSDE graduate students are assigned as research assistants to work on faculty research projects for approximately 15 hours per week. CSDE's director of training will arrange the formal assignment of the faculty mentor in September. We try to match Fellows with CSDE faculty affiliates with mutual research interests.

- Finally, CSDE students are expected to enroll in the Population Studies Seminar Series, CSDE 502 during fall, winter and spring terms. The seminar meets from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. each Friday when classes are in session. The first hour will be the usual CSDE seminar presentation by a UW or visiting scholar. If the seminar speaker provides a paper ahead of time, seminar enrollees will be expected to read it before the presentation.
The most important of these requirements is the research assistantship. The
CSDE philosophy is that graduate students become professionals and skilled
researchers through intensive collaboration with faculty members. The informal
discussions with faculty members that are part of the research apprenticeship
can provide the context for students to develop their own ideas and
methodological approaches for research.

Many of our students have interests in race, ethnicity, gender and inequality as
they apply to demography and take additional courses on these subjects across
campus.

3. External Community Links

CSDE is primarily a research-based center focused on demography. The
opportunities for external community links are minimal. However, many of the
faculty are regularly interviewed by the media on a range of population related
topics stemming from their research expertise. In addition, some faculty
research is directly related to topical policy issues in the state, such as the impact
of I200 on college admissions for minorities (see Hirschman's research below).

4. Staff and Administrative Diversity

CSDE has nine staff members. Four are women and one is Asian American.

5. Faculty Diversity

CSDE has no faculty appointments. It is a center run for faculty affiliates in other
departments. It has a Director, Professor Martina Morris and a 5 person advisory
board each of whom are charged with managing various aspects of the running
of the Center: computing, information, training, the biodemography laboratory,
and statistical consulting. At present, the board has three men and two women.
All are white.

6. Research

CSDE affiliates conduct a variety of research that touches directly or indirectly on
diversity issues. Here we describe a few of these projects:

African Americans and Immigrants in Northern Cities: A Long View

Principal Investigator: Stewart Tolnay

Funded by the National Science Foundation

This project is an in-depth investigation of the relationship between immigrants
and African Americans in U.S. cities during six historical regimes? from 1880
through 1990. It has two major components. The first component uses data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample (IPUMS) for 1880, 1910, 1920, 1940, 1970, 1980, and 1990 to compare the social and economic characteristics of African Americans and immigrants across a broad sweep of U.S. history. The second component combines data from the IPUMS with contextual data for counties and metropolitan areas to determine how the social and economic well-being of African Americans was affected by the size and growth of immigrant populations within their urban areas.

**Child Gender and Family Behavior**

Principal Investigator: Shelly Lundberg

Funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

The objective of this project is to improve our understanding of parenthood and family processes by examining responses to child gender. To this end, we: (1) conduct a comprehensive empirical study of the impact of child gender on a broad range of outcomes for U.S. families, (2) develop theoretical models of family behavior that incorporate child gender, and (3) generate testable hypotheses that distinguish among alternative models of the family and implement these tests.

**Contingency and Change in the Practice of FGC: Dynamics of Decision Making in the Senegambia**

Principal Investigator: Bettina Shell-Duncan

Funded by the National Science Foundation

Across many regions of Africa, female genital cutting (FGC) is a traditional cultural practice. Anthropologists and others have described a wide range of situations in which the practice is being abandoned, modified, or adopted anew. This project will study decision-making by individuals, families, and communities to engage in FGC in four sites in the Gambia and Senegal, which are experiencing change in the practice of FGC. Decision-making processes vary in terms of decision-makers as well as influences shaping opinions surrounding the practice, and often relate to broader local debates about national, ethnic and cultural identity. This study will analyze decision-making and behavior change regarding FGC, examining three dimensions of the FGC decision-making process.
Explaining Race and Ethnic Inequality in the Transition from High School to College in Washington State: The Impact of I-200 and Beyond

Principal Investigator: Charles Hirschman

Funded by the Mellon Foundation

The aim of this project is to measure and explain the transition from high school by race and ethnicity in Washington State in the wake of a referendum that eliminated affirmative action. Based upon surveys of high school seniors in 2000 and 2002, this project will test a variety of hypotheses about the impact of family background, immigration status, public policies and perceptions of discrimination on post high school outcomes.

Family Patterns of Southern Migrants to Northern Cities, 1920-1990

Principal Investigator: Stewart Tolnay

Funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

This project examines the family patterns of southern migrants to northern cities during and after the Great Migration. A primary objective is to determine whether family structure and stability for southern migrants were significantly different from those of native northerners. The project places special emphasis on the experience of African American southern migrants, though parallel analyses are generally conducted for white migrants as well. Household and individual records from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Samples for 1920 through 1990 comprise the primary data source for the project. The IPUMS data are supplemented by other census data that describe the characteristics of geographic units such as cities, counties, or metropolitan areas.

Impact of Migration on Women in Dual-Earner Families: A Longitudinal and Geographic Assessment of Family Migration Theory

Principal Investigator: Suzanne Withers

Funded by the National Science Foundation

Using the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, this study considers the full range of potential labor force impacts on married women within the larger context of parallel careers in the life course of women and families. It uses longitudinal models to differentiate between the short-term and long-term labor force (employment, unemployment, underemployment, interrupted careers) and financial impacts of migration on married women. Given contemporary social changes it is an appropriate time to reassess family migration theory. New
findings will enrich our knowledge of the temporal and spatial variations in the impact of family migration on women in dual-earner households.

"Marrying Out" and Fitting In: Interracial Households, Residential Segregation and the Identity of Multiracial Children

Principal Investigator: John Mark Ellis

Co-investigators: Steven R. Holloway (Univ. of Georgia), Richard Wright (Dartmouth College)

Funded by the Russell Sage Foundation

Although interracial marriage and cohabitation have been studied for many years, the residential choices of interracial couples have gone largely unexamined. This study seeks to understand the effect of racially segregated spaces on interracial household residential choice, the effects of those spaces on the identity of children of interracial couples, and the role that interraciiality plays in remaking urban racial geography.

Racial Heterogeneity, Neighborhood Controls, and Violence

Principal Investigator: Ross Matsueda

Co-investigators: Robert D. Crutchfield, Avery M. Guest, Charis E. Kubrin

Funded by the National Science Foundation

This project examines the intersection of race, neighborhood social control, and violence in Seattle neighborhoods. It builds on recent models of neighborhoods and crime that specify a causal mechanism in which structural sources community organization influence crime and violence through neighborhood informal social controls, neighborhood routine activities, and cultural beliefs. It will collect new survey data on individuals, neighborhoods, and victimization and estimate multi-level models and examine contextual effects.

Reproduction and Ecology of Households in NE India

Principal Investigator: Donna Leonetti

Funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

The goal of this project is to comprehend the flow of energy via physical work activities of the household members and the resource base of the household as it supports fertility, child survival and growth. Intergenerational households in which grandmothers are present are compared with nuclear and female-headed
households in two ethnic groups in NE India: patrilineal Hindu Bengalis and matrilineal Christian Khasis.

**UW Beyond High School**

Principal Investigator: Charles Hirschman


The “UW Beyond High School” study is a continuing project on the careers of young persons after high school. The first round of surveys was done with the class of 2000. We seek to understand how choices about higher education, employment, and careers are influenced by high school education, family, peers, and the community. We are particularly interested in how opportunities for higher education vary by gender and ethnicity in Washington State, and how these variations may be affected by socioeconomic status and public policies, such as university and college admission polices and financial aid. The knowledge gained from this research project may be useful in efforts to broaden opportunity in American society and may help high schools to strengthen the quality of guidance and advising.

7. Climate

In representational terms CSDE’s staff and student population is highly diverse on gender and race/ethnic dimensions. That the center is able to attract these diverse populations is a sign that the climate is supportive of difference in the workplace and classroom.
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