

GCI Monthly

A Publication of the **Great Cities Institute** at the University of Illinois at Chicago

Summer 2012

Dear Friends of the Great Cities Institute,

We are very pleased to announce that Dr. Teresa Córdova will begin her tenure on September 1st as the third permanent Director of the Great Cities Institute in its almost twenty year history. She will concurrently be joining UIC's Urban Planning and Policy department faculty. Coming from the University of New Mexico, where she held the position of professor and chair of the Community and Regional Planning Program, Dr. Córdova has an impressive history of experience in teaching, elected office, administrative leadership, publishing, and community involvement that will complement GCI's past and direct its exciting future. Please join me in offering her the warmest of welcomes and congratulations when you meet her in the fall.



In the meantime, I hope you are enjoying the beginning of Chicago's wonderful summer season. By my count there are at least 38 festivals and street fairs in Chicago in the next three months, so if you can't have some summer fun in this city it's your own fault. Though the Institute is quieter temporarily GCI programs continue and planning for the fall is underway. We will keep in touch with you as we solidify the fall calendar of events and programming.

GCI is committed to sponsoring research, service, and educational programs aimed at improving the quality of life of people living in Chicago, its metropolitan region, and other great cities of the world. The NATO summit and protests in Chicago this last month highlighted in real time some of the pressing challenges facing today's cities. Social change and its consequences are played out in the streets and neighborhoods of cities more than anywhere else. In the past month three international scholars visited the Institute – Professors Sabine Reh from Germany, Francisco Velasco Caballero from Spain, and Dirk Helbing from Zurich. Their presence served as a reminder that the Institute is at the center of scholarship on cities and urban change. We encourage you to go to the GCI webpage to find information and recordings of their presentations.

We eagerly await the arrival in late June of Dr. Howard Wial, the new director of the Center for Urban Economic Development.

Best wishes for a productive summer,

Dennis R. Judd
Interim Director, UIC Great Cities Institute
Professor, UIC Department of Political Science

IN THIS ISSUE

GCI Wins IPCE Grant for Participatory Budgeting Project Evaluation

New CNM Partnership

Feature: The West Side Domestic Abuse Program, a GCI Seed Fund Project

Publications

New Podcasts

Certificate in Nonprofit Management (CNM): Summer Courses

Operations Management; Fundraising Management; and Introduction to Nonprofit Management and Civic Engagement.

Please note the redesign of Operations Management now includes discussion of Human Resource Management, Information Technology, Performance Management and IRS Compliance and Transparency.

[Click here](#) for more info and to register today!



Upcoming GCI Healthy Cities Collaborative Workshop

Bimonthly Community Engaged Research Faculty Dialogue. Topic: “Engaging Community Health Workers in Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR).”

WHEN: Tuesday, June 12, 2012
11:30am-1:00pm

WHERE: Institute for Health Research and Policy (IHRP)
1747 W. Roosevelt Road
Room 461. Chicago, IL, 60608

Researcher dialogues provide an opportunity to share experiences, challenges and strategies to begin a community engaged or community participatory research project. Bring questions and helpful tips to share with your colleagues.

This is a BROWN BAG event. Please RSVP by email to sabrina1@uic.edu.

This event is sponsored by the Great Cities Institute Healthy City Collaborative and the UIC CCTS Community Engagement and Research Core.



Social Networking

“Like” GCI on Facebook to keep updated on our public events, research, service, and educational programs by [clicking here](#).



GCI Awarded IPCE Grant

The Great Cities Institute recently received a grant from the Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement (IPCE) to support research and evaluation of a portion of the Chicago Participatory Budgeting Project of which GCI is currently a lead partner.

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a process that offers people a fundamentally different way to engage with government; specifically, PB enables community members to directly vote on how to allocate certain aldermanic budgets of taxpayer money. As highlighted in a previous newsletter, GCI and the Participatory Budgeting Project won a seed grant from the Chicago Community Trust to expand the PB process in Chicago in relation to Chicago’s aldermanic “menu money” – the \$1.3 million in annual discretionary funds each Alderman receives for infrastructure improvements. The long-term goal is to build a more democratic approach to public spending in Chicago, and to promote similar approaches elsewhere.

This research and evaluation funding provided by IPCE will allow this partnership to effectively understand and extract the most knowledge to be gained from expansion into six additional wards over the next year, engaging 12,000 people in deciding how to spend over \$7 million of aldermanic discretionary menu money. In particular, the researchers will examine who does and does not participate in the Chicago Participatory Budgeting (PB) process, why people participate, how the design of different outreach processes influences participation, how PB impacts relationships between government officials and staff and residents, and what skills, beliefs and attitudes participants and elected officials learn and adopt as a result of the process.

Congrats to GCI Project Leads Dr. Rachel Weber and Thea Crum!

CNM Partners with Tikondane Community Center

The Certificate in Nonprofit Management (CNM) program has launched a new partnership with the Tikondane Community Centre in Katete, Zambia. While CNM students have enrolled from more than 50 countries, this partnership represents a new form of global collaboration. Unable to participate in online classes due to low bandwidth, Elke Kroeger-Radcliffe, a community leader at Tikondane, approached us to explore other options. CNM will now send selected documents from the online curriculum via e-mail, where local leaders will then gather at the center to study collectively. After receiving the first round of learning materials for a financial management class, Elke responded, “This is exactly what we need.” To learn more about Tikondane Community Center, visit their website [here](#).



NEW PODCASTS

We convert many of our public lectures into MP3 Podcasts, made available on the [GCI website](#).

Harris Beider

“Race, Housing and Community: Perspectives in Policy and Practice” 5/2/2012

Sabine Reh

“Shifting Boundaries - New Developments in Schooling in Germany” 5/14/2012

Dirk Helbing

“Self-Organization and Self-Optimization of Traffic Flows on Freeways and in Urban Networks” 4/25/2012



New Publications of GCI Faculty Scholars, Fellows & Staff

Nik Theodore (2012) **“Policing Borders: Unauthorized Immigration and the Pernicious Politics of Attrition,”** *Social Justice* 38 (1/2): 87-105.

J. Peck and N. Theodore (2012) **“Reanimating Neoliberalism: Process Geographies of Neoliberalisation,”** *Social Anthropology* 20(2): 177-185.

J. Peck, N. Theodore and N. Brenner (2012) **“Neoliberalism, Interrupted,”** in D. Cahill, L. Edwards and F. Stilwell, eds., *Neoliberalism: Beyond the Free Market*, pp. 15-30. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

Feature: West Side Domestic Abuse Program, Previous GCI Seed Grant Project

In 1997, Dr. Larry Bennett of the UIC Jane Addams College of Social Work received a seed grant from the Great Cities Institute in support of a collaboration to develop an intervention program for men who batter their intimate partners on the near West side. The program would be called the West Side Domestic Abuse Program (WSDAP). The goals of the Great Cities funds specifically included: to employ a university-government-community partnership to develop the WSDAP; to establish WSDAP in the West Side market; to seek funding for the core program and the research program; and to build a network structure for future social service collaboration. Bennett and his team thus began development of a community-based partnering structure that ultimately has become one of the largest, most active, and best respected domestic violence agencies in the county, the Center for Advancing Domestic Peace.

The project experienced an impressive evolution in the last fifteen years. It was originally organized as a town-gown collaboration. The team located physically in the UIC Institute for Juvenile Research to complement and work within the department’s community-based clinical function where prominent partner Dr. Charlie Stoops currently worked. The WSDAP began running groups for men arrested for domestic violence and making concentrated efforts to fundraise for this town-gown research and services project on domestic violence. Funding from Cook County to develop a new assessment tool for the Social Service Department led to extensive data collection, which in turn led to additional funding from the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority for the partnership to analyze the data. Events and advancements led to the merging of WSDAP with a private practice focused on domestic violence, Christine Call & Associates, into a non-profit headquartered in Logan Square. The program expanded to other south and west side settings, and over time became the aforementioned Center for Advancing Domestic Peace.

GCI congratulates Larry Bennett, also a GCI Faculty Scholar, and each of his partners on their admirable and inspiring work and dedication that has allowed them to accomplish the goals of the original GCI seed grant. Key WSDAP partners included the Chicago Abused Women Coalition, Circuit Court of Cook County, Metropolitan Family Services, Haymarket Center, CASA Central, Chicago Department of Public Health, and the UIC Employee Assistance Service. Great Cities is proud to have contributed to the formation of this small originating group of committed, interested parties.

Visit their webpage at <http://advancingdomesticpeace.org/> to learn more.



Have Questions or Suggestions? Email us at gcities@uic.edu.