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CPR Connection Editors:
Emily Minnoe, Katrina Fiacchi,
& Laura Walsh
I hope you are all well and safe during this very difficult and unusual period. As has been the case for everyone around the world, the COVID crisis has had an enormous impact on CPR and the Maxwell School more broadly. The faculty and staff in CPR have been working remotely since mid-March, and while we do not have a finalized plan in place for the 2020-21 year, we know for certain that next year will not be the same as before. We have already elected to move the Lourie Lecture, scheduled for September 10, 2020, with Dr. Sandro Galea, Dean of the Boston University School of Public Health, to a webinar. This new format will allow us to maintain safe physical distancing, but also allow some of you who have not been able to make the seminar recently the opportunity to watch Dr. Galea and to ask questions. Stay tuned for more details.

Despite the changes that came in early spring, we had several outstanding CPR guests. Keith Humphreys (Stanford University) started the year off with the Lourie Lecture titled "Marijuana Legalization: Beyond Yes or No." We also had a terrific set of seminar speakers. In the fall, Christina Gibson-Davis (Duke University) presented her work on nonmarital childbearing, while Taryn Morrissey (American University) discussed the EITC and how it may affect the time that parents and children have to interact. In the spring, Angela Fertig (University of Minnesota) started us off in February by presenting her research on the long-term consequences of food insecurity. In early March, Ronald Zimmer (University of Kentucky) presented his work on teacher recruitment in Tennessee. Matt Kraft (Brown University), Todd Ely (University of Colorado-Denver), Andrew Hill (Montana State University), and Kasey Buckles (University of Notre Dame) were all scheduled for the spring, and have kindly agreed to postpone their seminars until 2020-21.

We have several CPR graduate associates who have completed their doctoral programs: Jun Cai (ECN), Emily Gutierrez (PAIA), Jonathan Presler (ECN), David Schwegman (PAIA), Saied Toossi (PAIA), and Huong Tran (ECN). Emily Gutierrez has accepted a position as a research associate at the Urban Institute's Center on Education Data and Research. Jonathan will be a postdoctoral fellow at Saint Louis University's Sinquefield Center for Applied Economics. David Schwegman will join the Department of Public Administration and Policy at American University as an assistant professor. David will be on research leave for the 2020-21 academic year as an associate fellow with the Office of Evaluation Science in the General Services Administration. Saied Toossi will be a research agricultural economist at the Economic Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. We are really happy for, and proud of all of them!

Please check the CPR website regularly for more details on past and future seminars and lectures. We will continuously update the site as we make concrete plans for next year. Many of our events will be available as webinars. You will also learn more about the research the faculty, graduate students, and our CPR Visiting Scholars are producing. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter and "like us" on Facebook to receive the most current updates. Please stay safe and well.

-Len Lopoo
Faculty Focus

**Badi Baltagi**'s (ECN) co-authored paper, titled "Robust Dynamic Panel Data Models Using ε-contamination," was accepted for a presentation at the Econometric Society's World Congress, which will be held virtually August 17-20, 2020.

**Madonna Harrington Meyer**'s (SOC) recent research about how COVID-19 is reshaping the lives of working grandmothers in the U.S., was published as a Lerner Center Brief, titled "Grandmothers at Work during Coronavirus." This research was also highlighted in The New York Times article "For Grandparents, Filling In for Child Care Can Be Wonderful and Exhausting." Harrington Meyer also received a grant from the Russell Sage Foundation for her project "Hunger SNAPs: Food Insecurity among Older Adults: Qualitative Component."

**Alfonso Flores-Lagunes**' (ECN) co-authored paper, "Conscription and Military Service: Do They Result in Future Violent and Non-Violent Incarcerations and Recidivism?," was accepted for publication in the Journal of Human Resources. This paper analyzes the incarceration effects of military service and of the lottery draft during the Vietnam War-era. A second paper, co-authored by Flores-Lagunes, "The Impact of BMI on Mental Health: Further Evidence from Genetic Markers," has been accepted by Economics and Human Behavior. This paper analyzes the effect of high body mass index (BMI) on mental health (e.g., depression) for young adults and elderly individuals.

**Amy Lutz** (SOC) received an NSF RAPID award for her research, titled "Working and Teaching from Home in New York State Amidst the Coronavirus Pandemic." The current working and schooling from home situation in New York State, due to the COVID-19 virus, poses many critical research questions. This research will address several including: Who is overseeing children's at-home work? Are there gendered patterns to overseeing children's schoolwork and how do they present themselves? Do parents and children have adequate technology at home to both work and do schoolwork at home in the context of online educational plans? How do parents balance their work and school arrangements? Do parents have adequate support from schools and teachers to provide for their children's at-home curriculum?

Over the past year, Saba Siddiki (PAIA) has received funding for two initiatives. Her project, "INFEWS: Sustainable Urban Food Actions at the Food-Energy-Water Nexus – Linking Distributed Agriculture, New Technologies, and Behavioral Nudges" was funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Another project, "Research Coordination Network (RCN): Coordinating and Advancing Analytical Approaches for Policy Design" was funded by the National Science Foundation. In addition to current research, Dr. Siddiki has had articles published in multiple journals, including Regulation and Governance, Policy and Society, and Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews.
This section of the newsletter is dedicated to new CPR faculty members who are helping the Center grow and expand its research. In this publication, we feature Ying Shi (PAIA) and Maria Zhu (ECN).

Ying Shi, Assistant Professor, Public Administration and International Affairs

Tell us a little bit about your personal and educational background. My hometown is Chicago, although I was actually born in Beijing and immigrated to the States when I was nearly 9. I've moved around quite a bit in the past decade and a half, from Houston, TX (Bachelor's from Rice University) to both coasts and even to London for a little while (MSc in Philosophy and Economics). In between, I spent some time working for a consulting firm, a public university in the UK, and a domestic policy think tank. I received my Ph.D. in Public Policy from Duke University and spent two years as a postdoc at Stanford University before coming to Syracuse.

What attracted you to Syracuse/Maxwell? Amazing colleagues and gainful employment!

Please tell us about your research interests. I work broadly in education policy, using both descriptive analysis and causal inference tools to better understand the origins of disparities and what might be done to close existing gaps. I am interested in multiple dimensions of educational inequality, whether it is by gender, race/ethnicity, income, language, or geography. Some of my ongoing work focuses on the formation of teacher racial biases and whether having more minorities in local government (such as school boards) matters for students' educational outcomes.

What would you like to share about any project(s) you are currently working on? A lot of my current research revolves around racial disparities in education. A couple of projects look at teacher racial bias as a possible source of classroom racial disparities, while some new work examines the long-run educational and labor market consequences of voting rights legislation for minorities.

What is your favorite book, podcast, or movie? (choose one) Next to impossible to say! I am deep into a Star Trek binge at the moment (Deep Space Nine). Books-wise, I've had the fortune of reading a few good ones lately. I heartily recommend Behave by Robert Sapolsky, Give Us the Ballot by Ari Berman, and Sharing the Prize by Gavin Wright.

Maria Zhu, Assistant Professor, Economics

Tell us a little bit about your personal and educational background. This is my second stint in Upstate New York! I was born in Alabama and lived in Schenectady, NY for one year, before moving to Texas at age nine. I graduated from Pomona College in 2013 with a double major in mathematics and economics. Prior to coming to Syracuse, I was a Ph.D. student at Duke University, where I received my degree in Economics in 2019.

What attracted you to Syracuse/Maxwell? I love the energy that the Maxwell School brings, and how passionate people are about their work and promoting each other. In particular, I have really enjoyed my experience sitting in CPR and getting to interact with people from a variety of academic disciplines.

Please tell us about your research interests. My research focuses on topics in labor economics and the economics of education. I am interested in studying student outcomes both in higher education and at the primary/secondary level.

What would you like to share about any project(s) you are currently working on? Some of my ongoing work focuses on how individuals use social networks to find jobs, the differences between adjuncts and full-time instructors on college student outcomes, and investigating ways in which teachers display bias towards students along racial lines.

What is your favorite book, podcast, or movie? (choose one): I don't know if I have just one favorite book, but I am currently reading Weird, by Olga Khazan and can't stop laughing!
Several graduate associates from CPR had the opportunity to present their research to an audience made up of their peers and CPR faculty at the CPR Graduate Student Seminar on October 24, 2019. Participants included, **David Schwegman** (PAIA), **Huong Tran** (ECN), **Saied Toossi** (PAIA), **Emily Gutierrez** (PAIA), **Jun Cai** (ECN), and **Jonathan Presler** (ECN).

**Yoon-Jung Choi** (PAIA) won one of the graduate school's Summer Dissertation Fellowships. The fellowship supports a select group of outstanding doctoral students to facilitate progress towards completion of the dissertation.

**Myriam Gregoire-Zawilski** (PAIA) is the recipient of a Spencer D. Parratt Summer Research Award from the Department of Public Administration and International Affairs. The Parratt Fund was established specifically to support Public Administration doctoral students' research toward their dissertation.

**Christopher Rick** (PAIA) recently published "**Chinese Hukou Policy and Rural-to-Urban Migrants' Health: Evidence from Matching Methods**" with his co-author, Marta Bengoa, in the *Eastern Economic Journal*.

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**From the Field**

**Yusun Kim** (Ph.D., PAIA '19) is an assistant professor in the Department of Public Policy at the University of Connecticut. Her primary research fields are public financial management and health policy. Her research focuses on cost efficiency and equity in property tax administration, as well as the effects of various state interventions related to Medicaid on residential tax burden and health outcomes. She continues research on property tax assessment with **Yilin Hou** and **John Yinger**, which she started as a graduate student in CPR. She also gave birth to a baby boy, Thomas, this April.

The paper **Joseph Marchand** (Ph.D., ECN '07) presented at the CPR Seminar Series in spring 2017, titled "**How Local Economic Conditions Affect School Finances, Teacher Quality, and Student Achievement: Evidence from the Texas Shale Boom,**" was recently published in the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*’s first issue of 2020. In addition, Joseph remains engaged in policy in his adopted home of Alberta, Canada, where he is an associate professor at the University of Alberta.
During the 2018-2019 academic year I traveled to Lund, Sweden, to work for a year with Dalia Abdelhady at Lund University on a project about the experiences of children of immigrants in Europe and the United States. My whole family came with me for the year.

Lund is in southern Sweden, near Copenhagen. While we were there, the weather was mild with very little snow (especially compared to Syracuse).

My children went to a public international school, ISLK, where they met and became friends with other children from around the world. The highlights of our day included walking with them to and from school each day. In the winter it would be dark when we left in the morning and also dark when we came home. We bought them hats with lights in them to wear going to and from school. In terms of the school, I was especially impressed by the school lunches, which were free for all children. The children had buffet-style meals prepared by chefs and were required to eat at least one veggie.

Swedes take coffee breaks (called fika) very seriously. Most offices have really nice coffee machines so people can enjoy good coffee at break times. One of my favorite Swedish holidays is Cinnamon Bun Day. Schools and office buildings give everyone Swedish-style cinnamon buns.

Our children's favorite thing about Sweden was Lördagsgodis (meaning candy Saturday). Every Saturday, Swedish parents buy candy for their children, often from candy stores with many big bins of bulk candy.

One of the nice things about being in Europe (pre-coronavirus) is the ability to travel to other European countries. While living in Sweden, we traveled to Italy, Germany, The Netherlands, Denmark, France, and Norway. We have a friend who lives on a sailboat in Norway who took us on a three-day sailing trip near Bergen. That was one of the highlights of our year.
We Want to Hear from You!

Alumni - we want to highlight your memories and achievements on social media and in the next CPR Connection Newsletter! We encourage you to update us on what you have been up to, where you are employed, and how your time in CPR has impacted your life.

Fill out our form on the CPR/Metro Alumni Page!

Staff Stop

Peggy Austin has been at SU for 37 years now and still looks forward to the challenges every day brings. She is now a grandmother! Her oldest daughter, Cassandra, and husband, Steve, welcomed their son Michael to the family in October. The fact that they live in Maryland didn't stop Peggy from jumping in the car at the first signs of labor in order to be there when he was born. Thankfully, no speeding tickets were issued! Peggy also loves to travel to NYC to visit her youngest daughter, Michelle, for sightseeing and Broadway shows (on PAUSE for now).

Katrina Fiacchi continues to enjoy working as an Administrative Specialist in CPR. Like the rest of the CPR team, she has been working from home since the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March. It has been an adjustment, but in some ways she has enjoyed the work from home experience, especially the ability to take her dog for long walks in the afternoon. In her free time Katrina has been updating the landscape around her house, going for runs to explore her (fairly) new neighborhood, and partaking in any other activity that allows her to get outside and soak in some sunshine.

Emily Minnoe is still in her position as an Administrative Assistant at the front desk of CPR. She has continued this work from her home office during quarantine. During quarantine, she partook in many new & old hobbies, including, but not limited to: baking, cross-stitch, DIY home improvement, gardening, guitar, puzzles, and ukulele. Emily hopes to continue a handful of these activities once she has gone back to work in the office.

Candi Patterson is surviving quarantine while working remotely from home and taking care of the needs of various family members. The struggle is real, but by God's grace, I'm here.

Since working from home for the last few months, Laura Walsh has adjusted to the work/life balance and feels fortunate to be able to watch her son, Mack, grow and develop. She cannot believe that he will be two in August - time flies! Laura maintains her role as administrative assistant and enjoys various aspects of CPR with which she assists.
The Lerner Center had a very busy and productive year. A major endeavor by the Center has been the Research Brief Series, which produces short publicly accessible briefs on topics relevant to population health. The Center has published over 40 briefs in the past year, several of which have been rapid-response reports on the impacts of COVID-19 on various population health issues. Several of our briefs have received significant media attention (e.g., *New York Times*, *NPR*, *National Geographic*, *Politico*).

As part of our mission to support population health research at SU, the Center awarded two new Lerner Faculty Fellows grants in May 2020. Amy Schwartz and Samantha Trajkovski (Maxwell) will study the impacts of Universal Free Meals (UFM) in early childhood on weight and academic outcomes in later school years. Kevin Heffernan (Falk) will investigate cardiovascular risk among blacks and COVID-19’s impact on cardiovascular health.

This year, the Lerner Center was awarded two grants through the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation and the U.S. Department of Justice. Mother Cabrini grant funds are being used to develop workshops for local healthcare and substance use providers on developing Plans of Safe Care for expectant mothers who have opioid use disorders. The Department of Justice grant, in partnership with the Maxwell X Lab, will study the effects of additional cognitive behavioral therapies to traditional treatment models among New York State Opioid Court participants and will evaluate the fidelity of Opioid Court implementation across NYS.

In an effort to curb stress and build student resilience at SU, the Healthy Monday program developed and held its first *DeStress for Success* series. These workshops aim to teach attendees about the significant impact positive psychology, mindfulness, and meditation can have on one’s overall wellbeing. The courses give tangible and easy to follow recommendations and practices to allow participants to incorporate these skills into everyday life. The Center is also busy finalizing plans for its national launch of various Healthy Monday programming through DIEMlife – an app that helps participants set goals and virtually participate with others to achieve those goals.

Finally, the Center welcomes Danielle Rhubarb as its new Lerner Postdoctoral Scholar. Dr. Rhubarb received her Ph.D. in Rural Sociology and Demography from Penn State University. She is interested in social and geographic disparities in health and relationships between environment and health.

Maxwell X Lab

The Maxwell X Lab continues to grow and is excited to work with many new partners in diverse policy areas. In the past year alone, the lab had more than 20 projects at various stages of completion from initial discussions to final reports. Projects include improving retention rates with the Onondaga County WIC program and testing differentiated code enforcement and tenant outreach strategies in Syracuse, Buffalo, and Albany, NY. The lab’s work beyond New York has grown as well,
with new projects in Shreveport, LA, St. Paul, MN, and their first international partner in Costa Rica.

Project spotlight: In partnership with the Lerner Center for Health Promotion, the lab will evaluate the effectiveness of treatment and recovery supportive services designed specifically for Opioid Court participants. The project is funded by a three-year grant from the Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, through the National Institute of Justice.

While demand for the lab increases, so has student interest and involvement. During the 2020-2021 academic year, the lab hosted four undergraduate research assistants and one graduate assistant. Two RAs, Lia Chabot (‘21 CCE/Econ) and Kara Foley (‘20 Policy Studies & IR, ‘21 MPA) will stay with the lab through summer 2020.

In March, the lab was invited to the Rockefeller Local Government Lab Conference in Albany, NY. Managing Director Joe Boskovski presented his talk, titled "Building Evidence for What Works."

Last summer, the lab redesigned their website to highlight more than 15 current and completed projects. They are organized by type of research, partner organization, type of intervention, and policy area. To learn more about their work and explore their projects, please visit the X Lab website.

The 32nd Annual Herbert Lourie Memorial Lecture on Health Policy - A Virtual Event!

This year's guest speaker will be Dr. Sandro Galea. Dr. Galea, physician, epidemiologist, and author is dean and Robert A. Knox Professor at Boston University School of Public Health. He will present his work titled "Health Have, Health Have Nots in a Time of Covid-19."

Sandro Galea is an expert in multiple areas related to population health, including health impacts of trauma, gun violence, environmental/climate issues, and the upstream drivers of population health. Dr. Galea has previously held academic and leadership positions at Columbia University, the University of Michigan, and the New York Academy of Medicine. Galea has published extensively in the peer-reviewed literature and is a regular contributor to a range of public media about the social causes of health, mental health, and the consequences of trauma.

In his recent book, Well: What We Need to Talk About When We Talk About Health, he shows that despite the U.S.'s astronomical spending on health care, we have little to show for it when it comes to actual returns on health. Doctors and medicine matter when we are sick, but they do not keep us from getting sick in the first place. Instead, our social, economic, and environmental contexts are the main drivers of population health. His lecture will highlight how our emphasis on health care, instead of health as a shared resource, is taking us down the wrong road and discuss policy strategies that can improve our collective health and well-being.

This year's lecture will be held virtually on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 4pm. For more information about the 2020 lecture or to be added to our electronic invitation list, please contact Laura Walsh at lcwalsh@syr.edu.