FEEDBACK FROM THE FIELD

There is a Dean job search at Maxwell! Dean John Palmer, of the Maxwell School and CPR Senior Research Associate, will resign his post at the end of academic 2002-03 year. He will remain at the school as a professor of Public Administration and Economics. Also, Senior Associate Dean Robert McClure has announced his plans to vacate his post and return to teaching at the end of next academic year, concurrent with Dean Palmer’s resignation. CPR alum Anna Lukemeyer (University of Nevada Las Vegas) has won the American Education Finance Association award for best dissertation of the year 2001. Congratulations!

The CPR Website has a new look at www-cpr.maxwell.syr.edu. We’ve created some new hot links and it’s easier to move throughout the entire website. Feel free to e-mail us any comments about the new look.

E-mail us what’s new at:
www-cpr.maxwell.syr.edu/alumni

FOOTNOTES

*An Alumni Thought*
The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet -Aristotle

Ann Wicks has left CPR and accepted a position in the Maxwell Dean's office as administrative assistant to Associate Dean Robert McClure. Join us in welcoming new CPR staff members Kelly Bogart, Mindy Tanner, and also to Kim Desmond, who is Tim Smeeding's new administrative secretary. Frank Ruiz has joined the Navy adding Candi Patterson to the CPR team as our new computer consultant.

Good Luck to all.

Footnotes

Fourteenth Annual Herbert Laurie Memorial Lecture on Health Policy

Ralph Muller, recently retired President and CEO of the University of Chicago Hospitals and Health System

“The Future of the American Hospital”

Tuesday, October 8/Regency Ballroom of Sheraton University Hotel

A reception will follow. This event is free and open to the public.

The Pulse Editors: Karen Cimilluca and Mary Santy
DICTOR’S CORNER

With CPR Director Timothy Smeeding away for a semester of work and play in Australia, readers are welcomed to this edition of The Pulse Newsletter by John Vinger, Director of CPR’s Education Finance and Accountability Program. On April 5 and 6, 2002, scholars from around the country gathered at the Maxwell School to attend CPR’s third annual research conference. This year’s conference, which was organized by EFAP, examined state aid to education. Participants heard presentations on general issues in state aid reform and on the reform experiences of five states: Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Texas, and Vermont.

As evidence that CPR has entered the twenty-first century, one paper was presented via live video link from the University of Michigan. Participants in the conference included several scholars with CPR connections. Former CPR research associates Jocelyn Johnston and Anna Lukemeyer made presentations and William Dumcombe, Associate Director of EFAP, was Johnston’s co-author. In addition, CPR faculty associates Stacy Dickert-Conlin and Stuart Rosenthal chaired sessions, as did Maxwell faculty members Mary Lovely, Larry Schroeder, and Michael Wasylenko. This conference would not have been possible without the help of CPR’s wonderful staff, especially Kitty Nasto. This conference compliments CPR’s ongoing research on education finance, such as a study of whole-school reform in New York City funded by the Smith Richardson Foundation. This project produced the dissertation by Robert Bifulco, which was completed last summer. Readers can keep up with CPR’s education research by visiting the website (www-cpr.maxwell.syr.edu/efap).

FACULTY FOCUS

We would like to welcome Arthur Brooks, Associate Professor of Public Administration. Arthur joined us last Fall from RAND where he was a consultant. Dan Black (ECN) will be stepping down as Interim Chair of the Economics Department to return to teaching and research, and Thomas Kniesner (ECN) has been appointed as the new Chair.

Good Luck to you both. Grant Recher (PSC) has written two books—Click on Democracy: The Internet’s Power to Change Political Apathy into Civic Action and The Insider’s Guide to Political Intermediaries: What to Do Once You’re in the Door. Both are due out in August. Grant also had the honor of being the faculty mentor to undergraduate Grace Yu, who won a Rhodes Scholarship in December. Madonna Harrington Meyer (SOC) won the 2002 Chancellor’s Award for Public Service, “Sociology of Aging, Academic Service Learning Project,” Syracuse University. Kudos to you both.

Timothy Smeeding (ECN/PA) returns from a six month sabbatical in Australia on July 1. We are looking forward to hearing about all his doings under. Scott W. Allard (PA) visited Russia in May 2002 as part of a U.S. State Department grant to build collaborations and partnerships with the Public Administration program at Moscow State University. He spoke about his ongoing research in intergovernmental relationships and its relevance to recent changes within the Russian Federation. Assata Zerai (SOC), along with co-author Rae Banks (Syracuse University), have written a book entitled Debunking Disparities, Anti-Draft Law, and Policy in America: A “Crack Mother’s” Nightmare which is in publication with Ashgate Publishers.

STAFF STOP

JoAnna Moskal came to CPR in January of 2001 as JoAnna Berger. Peggy jokes that JoAnna got the job because she previously worked closely with children as a site director of a before/after school program. Initially, JoAnna thought of her job as a way to pay the bills and enjoyed the benefits of working close to home and having lunch every day with Bill (then her boyfriend). But, through the help and training from the CPR staff members, she has grown professionally in many areas and now feels like a veteran herself. Barely able to type when she arrived, JoAnna’s desk is now one of the first places people come to when they have a problem in Word. In addition to running the front desk, she helps update web pages, maintains the display case, works on the Max Q Committee, and provides staff support for four faculty. Soon, she will begin a new journey. After supporting Bill (now her husband) for three years while he earned his Master’s Degree, it is JoAnna’s turn to go back to school. She will be pursuing a M.S. in Environmental Education starting in the fall. If you are at a nature center or zoo in a few years, you may see her as the director of educational programming. And if you do, make sure to say hi!

DIPLOMATIC POUCH

CPR’s Chris Himes (SOC) spent six months of 2001 as a guest researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany. The Center supports about 80 institutes dedicated to all types of basic research. The Demography Institute is one of the newest (1996) and one of the first located in the former East Germany. Chris took her family; husband Craig and sons Doug and Evan, ages 10 and 6 to Germany. They lived in a small apartment in the seaside resort village of Warnemunde. Everything in Europe seemed smaller: the houses, the yards, and the cars.

The things they missed the most from home were American pizza, chocolate chip cookies, and tortillas. The chocolate, however, was WONDERFULLY CHEAP! (The beer wasn’t bad either, every town has its own brewery). Having a small apartment with a small refrigerator and no oven stretched their food preparation skills. They did manage to cook a full Thanksgiving dinner with the help of their French neighbors’ oven. There isn’t a German thanksgiving, but they do celebrate the re-unification of Germany and the fall of the Berlin Wall.

The nice thing about Europe is you can pop over to another country in no time at all. The trip wasn’t all work and no play for Chris and her family. Side excursions to Legoland in Denmark; Paris and Normandy, France; and the Bavarian Alps were squeezed in, too. Being near the Baltic Sea meant lots of fresh and smoked fish. They also found that even with the Gulf Stream, the Baltic Sea is chilly in August. Still, they spent many days swimming, flying kites, and teaching kids to play “American football” and baseball. In return, they learned to play “European football.”

GRAD BAG

Christine Caffrey (SOC) was awarded a Dissertation Fellowship through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and also won an Outstanding TA award through the Graduate School. Congratulations Christine! Pamela Herd (SOC) defended on April 12th and is off to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor as a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar. James Laditka (PA) defended on Thursday, May 16th and is currently on the job market. Xiaoli Liang (ECN) was awarded a dissertation fellowship from the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College.

CHECK OUT THE CPR
NEW LOOK at:
www-cpr.maxwell.syr.edu

The Gerontology Education Summer Workshop, Introducing Public Policy Issues in Aging into the Curriculum, will be held on June 23-27.