

GCI *Monthly*

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



Great Cities Institute / 412 S. Peoria Street, Suite 400 / Chicago, IL 60607 / 312.996.8700

August 2010 Issue

In This Issue

Letter from Dennis Judd
IRN Statewide Conference
Community Engagement
Partnership
Media Attention
New Research Assistants
New Social Media Site

Registration Open for
Certificate in
Nonprofit
Management
Fall Online Courses

Online Certificate in Nonprofit Management

The anywhere, anytime
professional education program
designed especially for
NONPROFIT PRACTITIONERS

Registration is now open for
two of GCI's Online
Certificate in Nonprofit
Management Program
(CNM): Marketing

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Great Cities Institute,

It is my pleasure to welcome you back to the first week of the Fall Semester and alert you to the important changes that are taking place at the Great Cities Institute. I also want to warmly welcome the incoming Faculty Scholars and student research assistants to GCI. As a former Faculty Scholar and GCI Fellow, I have long appreciated the critical role the Institute plays in enriching the intellectual environment of the UIC campus, as well as the tradition of engaged research that helps define the place of the university in metropolitan Chicago and beyond.



On August 16 I began my new job as the GCI Acting Director. I am mindful that the Institute has had only two directors since its founding in 1995, Wim Wiewel and David Perry. This summer Mike Pagano asked if I would serve as the Acting Director while David takes time off this Fall, and as Interim Director beginning in January. I am excited about undertaking this opportunity at a critical juncture in GCI's history.

David's commitment to multidisciplinary research and engaged scholarship is apparent in everything the Institute does. Seminars and colloquia series, visiting research appointments, the GCI Faculty Scholars program, the Neighborhoods Initiative, research appointments, and much more have been informed by these two touchstone principles. Over the years David put his words into action through his own scholarly work, too, having published widely and given numerous presentations on the role of universities in

Management and Nonprofit Governance.

Marketing Management
Begins Thursday,
October 14, 2010

Increase awareness of your organization through mastery of best practices in nonprofit marketing. This intensive five-week, online course will provide you with the knowledge you need to successfully brand and position your image within the market, interact effectively with the media, and create marketing strategies tailored to your organization.

Nonprofit Governance
Begins Thursday,
October 14, 2010

Learn how to strengthen your organization's board of directors through GCI's five week online course in nonprofit governance. This course examines various models of nonprofit governance, with an emphasis on new and emerging concepts about the central role of board leadership in an organization. Learn to customize your board, and effectively define and assign board roles and responsibilities to meet the needs of your organization.

To register or learn more, visit the CNM [website](#).

community and economic development. He has gained international recognition for this work. Upon leaving the Institute he will continue to serve as UIC's Associate Vice Chancellor for the Great Cities Commitment. In these ways he will continue as an ambassador for GCI and the university's urban mission.

In the May issue of the GCI Newsletter, Mike Pagano announced that this year the Institute will initiate an exercise in strategic rethinking. It is important and timely that the Institute undertakes this process of reexamination. Over the last decade GCI has lost almost half its state funding. The budgetary realities forced some difficult decisions. In 2005, the Institute hosted its last Winter Forum, an especially painful loss because the forum had become a major event for community organizations, nonprofits, and governmental leaders throughout the Chicago region. The number of Faculty Scholars has fallen by more than half. Research appointments have become fewer in number. Year by year, David was required to perform acrobatics and high-wire acts just to ensure that GCI would continue to fulfill its mission. The last GCI strategic plan was prepared in 2006, when there were more resources than there are available today. We should take this opportunity to carefully rethink the fit between GCI's goals and programs, and the resource constraints within which it operates.

In the months to come all of you at GCI may expect to participate fully in the strategic rethinking process. We plan to seek input and advice from a large number of other people as well. We plan to schedule a half-day retreat with the GCI staff, and to consult with the GCI Administrative Council. We are also planning a retreat with former and current Faculty Scholars. We also anticipate widening the net to include deans and other administrators who have worked with GCI. Rachel and I are in the process of identifying a group of urban scholars on campus who can work as an advisory committee. At some point we also think it would be helpful to gather information about the work of research centers on other campuses, and to initiate conversations with a select number of directors of those units. All through this process we will try to keep you fully informed - and engaged. Our goal is to produce a working paper sometime in the spring, which will provide an opportunity for more discussion. In the meantime, Rachel and I are eager to hear the ideas, suggestions, and concerns you may like to share.

Please be assured that while the strategic rethinking process unfolds, GCI will continue to sponsor a full range of programs and activities. Rachel Weber has already established the Comparative Urbanisms Seminar Series, and the first of the Faculty Scholar lectures is just around the corner. Rachel and I are collaborating on other events as well, and sometime this Fall we expect to announce a seminar series involving other campus units. The research clusters will add their own activities to the continuing work of the Institute.

From time to time you will find it helpful to check the GCI website for a full listing of upcoming events and activities. This will be a full

**Comparative Urbanisms
Lecture Series**



GCI will continue the Comparative Urbanisms speaker series this fall. These events are intended to expand our understanding of urban issues domestically and internationally, paying particular attention to those that connect and differentiate contemporary cities. The increasing degree of interdependence, competition, mobility, and knowledge transfer between cities requires that any notion of the urban be conceptualized in explicitly comparative terms. Such an approach builds knowledge about urban phenomena applicable beyond single cases and challenges our assumptions of normative behavior. Invited speakers are renowned scholars who will cover a richly diverse range of topics.

Receive up to date announcements on upcoming lectures through the GCI Facebook page, Listserv, and Website Calendar.

and busy year, and I look forward to sharing it with you!

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Judd
Acting Director, GCI, and Professor of Political Science
University of Illinois at Chicago
djudd@uic.edu

**Illinois ResourceNet's
2nd Annual Statewide Conference**

**Place-Based Funding in
Illinois: Federal, State, and
Regional Insights**



*Thursday, September 16, 2010
UIC Forum, Chicago, IL
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

After a successful conference in 2009, with more than 400 attendees, this year's theme reflects IRN's signature, place-based approach to capacity building in the federal grants arena. That approach holds that Illinois can best improve the flow of federal resources to organizations through continuous, cross-sector planning and proposal building at the regional and community levels.

The IRN staff has worked diligently with nonprofit organizations and local governments throughout the State of Illinois to submit 106 proposals for funding since its inception in 2008, and has helped to get \$6.8 million into the State in the form of awards to these groups. Over \$185.8 million is pending award decisions.

In the course of two years, IRN has worked closely with experts from federal, state, and regional organizations who will be present at the conference for attendees to connect with on topics, such as successes and challenges that they have encountered in bridging planning and federal grants in place-based strategies.

You can register by visiting Illinois ResourceNet's [Conference Page](#), which includes details about the conference including the conference agenda, description of this year's break-out sessions, confirmed

Illinois ResourceNet Launches New Website



This past month Illinois ResourceNet (IRN) launched a new interactive website that will better assist Illinois community organizations in obtaining access to available federal funding opportunities. Through a selection of training and educational resources, technical grant assistance, and place-based model building IRN can help Illinois communities meet their project goals. Visit their new [website](#) for a complete list of upcoming workshops, webinars, and events, and stay connected through a variety of social media outlets.



Find us on Facebook 

trade-fair booth exhibitors, panel discussion topic, and registration information.

To view the press release click [here](#).

Community Engagement

Rachel Weber to Present TIF Research



On September 2, 2010 GCI Associate Director Rachel Weber will be presenting her research on Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Chicago Development at the Friends of Downtown lunchtime lecture series. Friends of Downtown directly influences planning and development decisions for downtown Chicago through debate, public advocacy, and cooperation with other civic organizations.

For information on this lecture series visit their [website](#).

Rachel Weber will also be presenting her research at a panel on TIF sponsored by the Better Government Association (BGA) on September 28, 2010. BGA is a Chicago-based, nonpartisan organization that combats waste, fraud and corruption in city, county, suburban and state government.

For more information on BGA and their activities visit their [website](#).

Faculty Engaged Learning Survey Ready for Fall Launch

Great Cities Stukel Professor Michele Kelley and Dr. David Perry want to express sincere gratitude to all of the GCI Scholars and Faculty affiliates who so generously provided valuable feedback on the draft Engaged Learning Survey. Every attempt was made to improve the brief survey during this summer pretest phase. In Fall 2010, the main study survey will be launched. Results will be used to gauge the scope and contributions of engaged teaching strategies that benefit UIC students and our external communities. Moreover, potential ways for UIC to foster and support such strategies can be identified.

More information, [click here](#).

"Exploring Scale in Immigration Policy: The Case of Madrid and the EU Policy Framework"



Presented this summer by:
Professor Francisco Velasco Caballero
*Director, Institute of Local Government Law
The Autonomous University of Madrid*

Should immigration policies be driven by local, national, or transnational entities, or all of the above? Is it proper for cities to create and enforce immigration policies? Madrid does. Chicago does not, at least not as a specific policy, yet the U.S. is now witnessing states taking legislative action outside the federal framework.

Immigration policy in Madrid has many facets. With a population of over 3 million inhabitants, the City of Madrid has developed and adapted a specific immigration policy established through the "2nd Living-Together Plan

Illinois ResourceNet (IRN) Offers Range of Non-Profit Workshops

Illinois ResourceNet (IRN) offers a wide variety of workshops and trainings designed to connect Illinois nonprofits and local units of government with the information and resources necessary to gain access to available federal funding opportunities. Recently they have offered a series of workshops related to grant writing, the federal budget process, and the principles of collaboration.

--Two grant writing workshops were provided on **July 21, 2010** and **July 22, 2010** in which participants were provided an overview on topics ranging from pre-grant writing preparation and assessing readiness to submit a completed grant proposal. Workshops were led by IRN technical assistance provider Lynne Ketchens.

--IRN technical assistance provider Jay Readey taught the importance of managing an organization's finances to improve their success in applying for a federal grant on **August 4, 2010**.

--On **August 10, 2010** IRN technical assistance provider Lauri Alpern led a workshop to help introduce nonprofit organizations to the principles of collaboration, the nature and type of collaborative measures, and what it takes to work together in a sustainable manner.

For up to date information on all workshops and events provided by Illinois ResourceNet check out their [events page](#).

Partnerships

GCI Hosts Scholar Mr. Yu Chen from Guangxi, China

This fall the Asia and China Research Program of GCI, led by Dr. Tingwei Zhang, will host scholar Mr. Yu Chen, a principal planner of Hualan Planning and Design Institute in Guangxi, China. Hualan is partner and co-founder of the Asia and China Research Program, a collaboration aimed at providing funding for research and exchange between GCI and Guangxi Institute of Architectural Design and Research (GIADR). Mr. Chen will conduct research on sustainable development by comparing the Chicago experience to Guangxi over



of the City (2009-2012)." The metropolitan area of Madrid is also implementing a regional immigration policy instituted through 2012 by way of the "Integration Plan for The Community of Madrid." These policies must be understood within the broader national and European immigration policy framework, which focuses on two simultaneous targets: strict police control as far as the legality of the immigrants is concerned and effective promotion of the legal immigrants' integration. "Governance" strategies such as public cooperative networks that are profoundly engaged with social organizations and citizen participation procedures are also driven by these targets.

[Click here to download and listen to the Podcast of this presentation.](#)

Francisco Velasco Caballero is Director of the Institute of Local Government Law and Professor of Administrative Law at the Autonomous University of Madrid. He has published widely on his research interests of municipal law and organization, local urban governance, and management of public services. He is an International Scholar at GCI until September 2010.

the next eleven months. Mr. Chen received his Masters in Urban Planning from Tongji University in Shanghai, China.

For more information on the Asia and China Research Program visit the GCI [website](#).



Media Attention

Rachel Weber on Revised TIF Plan

The Chicago Journal quoted Rachel Weber, GCI Associate Director of Research and Program Development, on the revised Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan centered on Racine and Roosevelt. Weber discusses the reduced power of utilizing a TIF when property values do not appreciate quickly.

To view the Chicago Journal article click [here](#).

Rachel Weber on Public-Private Partnerships

Governing magazine quoted Rachel Weber on the public sector's weaker bargaining position when negotiating to lease public assets to private corporations. Weber points out how contractual provisions will limit the long term risks that governments can face in public-private partnerships.

To view the Governing magazine article click [here](#).

Welcome New GCI Research Assistants

GCI warmly welcomes our new 2010-2011 Graduate Research Assistants:



*Sara Amaral - B.A. Geography, Urban Environment and Land Use, San Francisco State
Current Studies: Masters in Urban Planning and Policy
Sara will research the allocation of Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funds in Chicago neighborhoods with Phil Ashton.*

*Joe Ferrari - B.S. and M.S. Engineering, University of Illinois
Current Studies: Masters in Urban Planning and Policy
Joe will work with Phil Ashton in conducting a real-time assessment*

PODCASTS



Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)

[About Us](#)

[What We Do](#)

[Giving To GCI](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

Calendar of Events



[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

of the foreclosure resale market across the 20 NSP-targeted community areas of Chicago.

Robby Habans - *B.A. Economics, University of California-Berkeley, 2004. M.S. Urban Studies, University of New Orleans, 2006.*

Current Studies: Doctorate in Urban Planning and Policy
Robby is working on a project examining the changing role and spatial form of university medical districts in U.S. cities.

Tim Jeffries - *B.A. Classical History and Secondary Education, Creighton University*

Current Studies: Masters in Urban Planning and Policy
Tim came on board mid-year last January; He works with Illinois ResourceNet researching state and federal funding opportunities for Technical Assistance providers who in turn help non-profits and municipal and county governments apply for grants in Illinois.

Ian Ludwig - *B.A., Northwestern University*

Current Studies: Masters in Urban Planning and Policy
Ian will work with Rachel Weber on several projects related to comparative urban development, including one exploring the increasingly residential nature of central business districts.

Sandra Tilmon - *B.A. Psychology and Classics, Penn State University. M.P.H. Epidemiology, UIC*

Current Studies: Doctorate in Epidemiology
Sandra works for Thomas Lyons on "C-TALK: HIV Prevention Intervention for MSM Stimulant Users Focused on Healthy Sexuality."

Social Media

GCI is Now on Facebook



GCI is excited to announce the launching of our Facebook page. The use of this online media tool will assist GCI in its mission to support engaged, multidisciplinary research and partnerships that address key urban issues on a local and global scale.

Each week we will post updates announcing lectures and community workshops provided through GCI programs. In addition, research conducted at the Institute and relevant news articles will be highlighted and discussed.

To view GCI's new Facebook page and to become a fan click [here](#).