

GCI Monthly

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

December 2011

Dear Friends of the Great Cities Institute,

Happy Holidays to each of you! As we are all busy preparing for the end of the fall semester and the winter break, the Institute is completing several projects and making plans for an exciting program of activities in the Spring Semester. Watch, in particular, for the series of presentations by the 2011-2012 Faculty Scholars.



Everyone here is eagerly looking forward to the impending move of the Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement, which will officially move onto the Institute's 4th floor suite before the holiday break. Because of our shared commitment to community and civic engagement there is a natural affinity between IPCE and the Institute, and all of us here will benefit from their presence.

In preparation for the IPCE move the Institute has also undertaken a redecoration of the front reception area. Furniture has arrived for our repainted foyer, and over the holidays we hope to bring things together with artwork and the other touches required to make the space warm and welcoming to visitors.

Recently we interviewed three candidates for the position of Executive Director of the Center for Urban Economic Development (CUED). A final decision should be made shortly and will be communicated within the next few weeks. Last week the search for a permanent GCI Director also began, and we hope to have a new director on board by this coming August. To access the job announcement for the GCI Director position, [click here](#).

Forming and maintaining meaningful partnerships, networks, and collaboration is a thread that runs through all of the Institute's work. Currently, Illinois ResourceNet is sponsoring a series of 10 training seminars on Sustainable Fund Development. In addition, the Professional Education and Leadership Development program is offering new courses in the Certificate in Nonprofit Management; two of the new tracks in the curriculum are Building Partnerships and Collaboration Across the Sectors and Public Advocacy for Social Change.

Applicants for the 2012-2013 Faculty Scholars program should take note that for the coming year the Institute has announced a theme, *Envisioning Equality*. Please note that we will host an informational session on this fellowship on December 13, 2011, at 2pm in our large conference room to discuss guidelines and answer all questions. An application can be found online [here](#).

Best wishes for a happy holiday season.

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

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Events at a Glance:

December 13, 2011 @ 2pm
Informational Session on 2012-2013 GCI Faculty Scholar Competition



Certificate in Nonprofit Management Courses -- January 2012

Dates: 1/19/2012 - 2/23/2012

Registration Deadline: 1/9/2012

Fundraising Management

Nonprofit Governance



Public Policy Advocacy for Social Change - New Course!

NEW PODCASTS

We convert all of our public lectures into Podcasts, made available on the GCI website.

Panel in celebration of the Certificate in Nonprofit Management's 10th Anniversary

The Future of Nonprofits in Chicago: Practitioner Perspectives on Networking, Public Policy Advocacy & Collaboration across the Sectors.

[Presentations, Q & A](#)

Julie Burros

A New Chicago Cultural Plan

[Presentations, Q & A](#)

Judith K. De Jong

New (Sub)Urbanisms

[Presentations, Q & A](#)

Social Media

“Like” GCI on Facebook for another avenue to stay in touch with us and to keep updated on our public events, workshops, research, and community engagement. [Click here.](#)



Upcoming Events

Informational Session on Faculty Scholar Competition

Please join the Great Cities Institute on **December 13, 2011 at 2:00pm** for an informational session on this year's GCI Faculty Scholar Competition. At this meeting, GCI Interim Director Dennis Judd and Associate Director Rachel Weber will discuss the 2012-2013 competition with all interested parties. In particular, the Institute has received much interest regarding our desire for collaborative team projects and the theme of *Envisioning Equality*; all of these questions will be answered.

The Great Cities Institute is located at 412 S. Peoria St on the 4th floor. You may wish to review the application before the informational session, which you can find at the following link: [GCI Faculty Scholar Competition Guidelines.](#)



Partnerships & Engagement

GCI to Participate in International Planning Course

In partnership with Radboud University Nijmegen, Blekinge Institute of Technology and Cardiff University, the Great Cities Institute will take part in a joint Erasmus Mundus Master Course in European spatial planning, environmental policies and regional development named PLANET Europe. GCI's engagement will primarily take the form of guest lectures on urban political economy, regionalism and economic development, and enabling study visits by students and lecturers in the program.

Stephanie Dühr of Radboud University Nijmegen spent several months last year at GCI as an International Visiting Scholar, and we are very much looking forward to working with her again. Listen to the lecture she gave at GCI by clicking [here.](#)

GCI Begins Training Program on Sustainable Fund Development

The Certificate in Sustainable Fund Development (CSFD) training program, GCI's newest nonprofit management and capacity building effort, is part of a collaboration between GCI's Professional Education Program and Illinois ResourceNet. Co-directed by Thea Crum and Kate Pravera, CSFD provides free training and one-on-one coaching to seven community based nonprofit organizations in Homan Square, Humboldt Park, and the Near West Side. The program will work with these organizations over the next year to develop sustainable fund development plans and organizational systems that will support their successful implementation. CSFD is generously funded by the City of Chicago TIF Works program.

GCI Healthy Cities Collaborative (HCC) Featured Researcher

Chisina Kapungu, PhD
Assistant Professor,
UIC Department
of Obstetrics and
Gynecology



Faith-based HIV prevention with African American mothers and daughters

Research Summary

Dr. Chisina Kapungu's research is focused on the development and evaluation of culturally-sensitive HIV prevention programs for high-risk populations. She has received a number of research awards. Dr. Kapungu is currently conducting qualitative research focused on identifying and defining psychosocial determinants for engagement in concurrent partnerships among men and women in Zimbabwe. Her long-term goal is to develop and disseminate culturally sensitive HIV primary and secondary prevention programs in the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Email: ckapungu@psych.uic.edu

Website Links

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GCI Research Assistant Carrie Menendez Awarded \$25,000 Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant

Carrie Menendez, GCI Research Assistant and Doctoral Candidate in the UIC Department of Urban Planning and Policy received a Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant from The Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of University Partnerships this past semester. This grant supports Menendez's dissertation research entitled, "Assessing the Role of Universities as Agents of Urban Change: Measuring and Classifying Inter-Institutional Urban Development Collaborations and Engagement." This ongoing work draws on university-community engagement research that she and GCI Fellow David Perry have been involved in over the previous few years at the Great Cities Institute. Click the following two links for reports from past research: [Link 1](#), [Link 2](#).

Publications & Presentations

GCI Faculty Scholar to Publish in URISA Journal

Dr. Moira Zellner, a 2009-2010 GCI Faculty Scholar, has had her first paper on participatory modeling for planning around complex environmental problems get accepted for publication in a URISA Journal Special Issue on Urban and Regional Modeling versus Planning Practice: Bridging the Gap ([access here](#)). URISA - *The Association for GCI Professionals* - is a leading provider of learning and knowledge for the Geographic Information Systems (GCI) community. GCI is proud to have been one of many sources of support for Professor Zellner's cutting-edge work on visualization and agent-based modeling for social learning and environmental planning. The multidisciplinary, high impact and urban nature of her research exemplifies the mission of the GCI Faculty Scholar program.

GCI Faculty Scholar Gives Talk at Ohio Supreme Court

Dr. Larry Bennett, GCI Faculty Scholar and UIC Professor of Social Work, presented an invited talk on November 17, 2011 in Columbus, Ohio at the annual Specialized Dockets Conference of the Ohio Supreme Court. Bennett discussed the preliminary findings from his collaborative GCI project and general issues of integrating criminal justice and community-based interventions for co-occurring substance abuse and domestic violence. He and his team member, GCI Faculty Scholar Stephanie Riger, are currently engaging in their GCI project at the Cook County Domestic Violence Court.

GCI Monthly Snapshot

GCI Associate Director Rachel Weber gives introductory talk on local governance to the visiting Russian Delegation that GCI hosted (City Hall, Chicago, October 20, 2011).



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