



GCI Monthly

A publication of the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago

I S S U E: February 2008



Dear Friends of GCI:

I often write in this opening letter how busy we all are at the Great Cities Institute. This month is no exception. As you will see in the following calendar of events, we have a new visitor or scholar serving up a wonderful seminar every week for the rest of the semester. We have students and researchers working with communities throughout the state of Illinois and in cities as varied as Kolkata, India, Guangzhou, China and Belfast, Northern Ireland.

This month means we say goodbye to our wonderful research scholar and visitor, Professor **Xiaoyu Zhang** (“Joy”) from Tianjin University in Beijing, China. We also offer a welcome to Professor **Richard Kordesh** who was recently appointed a Great Cities Fellow. Speaking of fellows, political scientist and resident Senior Fellow **Dennis Judd** is presently working with scholars in Santiago, Chili.

We also welcome our new Vernon Jarrett Great Cities Senior Fellow, **James W. Compton**. The Vernon D. Jarrett Senior Fellow is our highest appointment and is awarded to an established scholar, public leader, activist or writer. We invite the Jarrett Fellow to produce research and scholarship on issues of race, education, community development, and urban policy while in residence at the Institute. James Compton is truly deserving of this appointment. He was President and CEO of the Chicago Urban League from 1978 – 2006. During his tenure, the Chicago Urban League refocused its interest in education and economic development and developed a new emphasis on community empowerment. He is credited with changing the organization from primarily a social service organization to a research organization advocating for public policy. We are pleased to have him join us this year at GCI.

We will have more on all of these great cities activities in coming “Monthlies.” In the meantime, check out the GCI website for up-to-date news articles, podcasts of seminars, and new working papers which have been posted.

Better yet, please stop by for one of our events.

All the best,

David C. Perry
Director

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Events take place in the Great Cities conference room, located at Great Cities Institute 412 S. Peoria Street, Suite 400, unless otherwise noted.

February

Tuesday, February 5 at 3:00 pm

A GCI Seminar

Higher Education Partnerships and Place Based Community Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Alice K. Johnson Butterfield

Jane Addams College of Social Work
University of Illinois Chicago

Richard Kordesh

Great Cities Institute
College of Urban Planning and Policy
University of Illinois at Chicago

Tuesday, February 26 at 3:00 pm

GCI Seminar

Sharing Expertise Between County Government, Academia & Community

Martin Adams

Independent Consultant
NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center

Michael Bennett

Associate Professor of Sociology
DePaul University

March

Tuesday, March 4 at 3:00pm

GCI Seminar

***Topics in Nonprofit Management:
How Operations/Business Managers and Executive Directors
Collaborate to Move Organizations Forward***

Deborah Strauss

Board Member, Alliance for Nonprofit Management
Former Director, Lumity (formerly IT Resource Management)

Tuesday, March 11 at 3:00 pm

A Faculty Scholar Seminar on Education and Urban Development

Renaissance 2010, Contested Urban Development, and the Politics of Race

Pauline Lipman

Professor, Department of Policy Studies
UIC College of Education
University of Illinois at Chicago

Tuesday, March 18 at 3:00pm

GCI Seminar

***Topics in Nonprofit Management:
If Your Tree Falls In A Forest, Be Sure It Makes A Sound:
Marketing Challenges for Nonprofit Organizations***

Martin Berg

Director of Marketing and Communications
Community Investment Corporation

April

Tuesday, April 1 at 3:00pm

A Faculty Scholar Seminar

Community Based Cultural Socialization among Adolescents:

***Repertoires of Practice of Interpreting Everyday Life
(and Literary) Problems***

Yolanda Majors

Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum Instruction
College of Education
University of Illinois at Chicago

Tuesday, April 8 at 3:00pm

GCI Seminar

Topics in Nonprofit Management:

Instituting the "Platinum" Standard Via Sarbanes-Oxley

Dottie Johnson CPA

Director of Consulting Services
Lumity

Tuesday, April 15 at 3:00 pm

A GCI Seminar

Title Forthcoming

Pamela Anne Quiroz

Department of Policy Studies
Department of Sociology
University of Illinois at Chicago

Tuesday, April 22 at 3:00 pm

A GCI Seminar

A World of Gangs

John Hagedorn

Department of Criminal Justice
University of Illinois at Chicago

Recent Past Events

January

Tuesday, January 15 at 3:00 pm

A Faculty Scholar Seminar

Stigma and Risk Among African-American Adolescents Whose Mothers Have HIV

Sally Mason

Associate Professor of Clinical Social Work
Department of Psychiatry
UIC College of Medicine

*A podcast of this event is available on the GCI website:

<http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/media/podcasts.htm>

Tuesday, January 29 at 3:00 pm

A GCI Seminar

***Sidewalks to Skyscrapers: Challenges for Engineering and Disability
in the Built Environment***

Glenn Hedman

Director, Assistive Technology Unit
Department of Disability and Human Development
University of Illinois at Chicago

*A video of this lecture will be available on the CAN TV website:

<http://www.cantv.org/>

December

Tuesday, December 4 at 3:00 pm

A Faculty Scholar Seminar

The Problem of Urbanicity and Survey Nonresponse Bias: Identifying Possible Mechanisms and Solutions

Allyson Holbrook

Assistant Professor, Public Administration
UIC College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs
College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs
University of Illinois at Chicago

*A podcast of this event is available on the GCI website:

<http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/media/podcasts.htm>

News

► A Partnership in Community-Based Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

On Tuesday, February 5, 2008 Alice K. Johnson Butterfield, Professor in the Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago and Richard Kordesh, Professor in the College of Urban Planning and Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago presented a seminar titled "Higher Education Partnerships and Place Based Community Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia." The focus of the lecture was to discuss both the community development project they are working on in Addis Ababa, and its possible future directions.

Johnson Butterfield began by providing some demographics on Addis Ababa, Ethiopia including its high orphan and HIV/AIDS rates and stating that Ethiopia is one of the poorest and least developed countries in Africa. She also stated that historically, Ethiopia has less than 1% participation in higher education. Johnson Butterfield went on to talk about their success in bringing social work education to Ethiopia. Through a partnership between the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and Addis Ababa University (AAU), they were able to establish the first masters degree in social work in Ethiopia, with an emphasis in community building and development.

This partnership has created community-based development projects through engaged discussions with the community. Some of these groups have included the Godnaw Garbage Collectors Association and Children in Kebele. These sessions have further developed the ability of these communities to create opportunities for themselves and the community at large. Accomplishments include a new community library and an eco-city redevelopment plan in Gedam Sefer.

Johnson Butterfield and Kordesh are focusing their work on this bottom-up approach to community development. By not having a pre-defined program when creating development opportunities, a community is able to create its own development projects, which are specific to their needs. The key to replicating this work is by identifying what is universal in this type of development that can be applied else where, in another community.

Johnson Butterfield and Kordesh are also currently working on expanding the UIC/AAU partnership to include a broader, cross-disciplinary research and technical assistance program. This could include a new, masters level Urban Growth Management program in partnership with the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at UIC. This US-African initiative holds considerable potential for broader research, teaching, and service partnerships between the two universities.

This lecture was part of the GCI Seminar Series, which invites experts, practitioners, and academics to speak on current issues and innovative research.

► 2 new papers have been added to the Great Cities Institute Working Paper Series:

DEA Efficiency Analysis Involving Multiple Production Processes with an Application to Urban Mass Transit by Darold T. Barnum, Professor of Management and Information & Decision Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and John M. Gleason, Professor in the

Department of Information Systems and Technology within in the College of Business Administration at Creighton University in Omaha:

http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/publications/workingpaperseries/pdfs/GCP-08-02_Darold_Barnum.pdf

Estimating Data Envelopment Analysis Frontiers for Nonsubstitutable Inputs and Outputs: The Case of Urban Mass Transit by Darold T. Barnum, Professor of Management and Information & Decision Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and John M. Gleason, Professor in the Department of Information Systems and Technology within in the College of Business Administration at Creighton University in Omaha:

http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/publications/workingpaperseries/pdfs/GCP-08-03_Darold_Barnum.pdf

Announcements

► GCI would like to welcome **James W. Compton** as the new Vernon D. Jarrett Great Cities Fellow for 2008. The Vernon D. Jarrett Senior Fellow is an established scholar or writer invited to produce research and scholarship on issues of race, education, community development, and urban policy while in residence at the Institute. Compton was President and CEO of the Chicago Urban League from 1978 – 2006. During his tenure, the Chicago Urban League refocused its interest in education and economic development and developed a new emphasis on community empowerment. He is credited with changing the organization from primarily a social service organization to a research organization advocating for public policy. We are pleased to have him join us this year at GCI.

► The **Office of Professional Education** at the Great Cities Institute offers a diverse selection of online courses that are aimed at helping both beginning and experienced nonprofit professionals gain the training and tools they need to advance their organizations as well as their careers.

Register now for our Spring courses:

Strategic Management for Nonprofit Organizations

Dates: March 13 – April 16, 2008 **Cost:** \$495

Financial Management for Nonprofit Organizations

Dates: March 13 – April 16, 2008 **Cost:** \$495

To register online: <http://cnm.cuppa.uic.edu/courses.htm>

To register by phone: call (312) 355-0423 during business hours (M-F, 9-5 p.m. Central Time).

For additional information about any Nonprofit Professional Education or Certificate in Nonprofit Management courses please visit our Web site at <http://cnm.cuppa.uic.edu/courses.htm> or call (312) 355-0423.

Faculty Scholar Spotlight

Yolanda J. Majors, Faculty Scholar, Great Cities Institute

Yolanda is an Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She holds a B.A. in English Literature from the University of Illinois, an M.A.T. in English Education and a Ph.D. in Language, Literacy and Culture from the University of Iowa.

Majors' research at GCI this year is titled *Community-Based Cultural Socialization Among Urban Adolescents: Repertoires of Practice for Interpreting Word and World*. Her research centers on studying and documenting the nature of classroom support for students when reasoning in African American English (AAE). "The goal of this research is to better understand the uses of vernacular discourses to promote complex learning in classrooms, particularly Language Arts classrooms, through a close analysis of literacy related practices within the African American speech community."

Yolanda's work involves investigating the nature and structure of classroom discourse within the Language Arts classroom, developing a framework for mapping structural and content related parallels for argumentation across contexts, and re-conceptualizing Shoptalk as an instructional and learning tool in the classroom.

Her line of research focuses on "an in-depth examination of the relationship between individual development and social interaction with concern for the cultural norms and activity in which personal and interpersonal actions take place." Her work involves qualitative methods and a range of data collection techniques.

Majors has published several articles in peer-reviewed journals, including *The Journal of the National Society for the Study of Education, Discourse and Society, Pedagogy, Culture and Society; Anthropology and Education Quarterly; Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy; and Mind, Culture and Activity*. She is the author of chapters in three forthcoming books, *The Handbook of Literacy, The Handbook of Adolescent Literacy* and *The Handbook of African American Education*.

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