

# UIC College of Education Office of Research

## Research for Better Learning, Better Leadership, Better Lives

Welcome to the second issue of the Office of Research newsletter for 2015! It has been a great semester for our College. In addition to some of the individual highlights listed below the COE as a whole has also been extremely productive. Thank you to all the faculty and students for sharing their work at AERA. Combined, UIC participated in over 120 presentations at the venue – an incredibly large dissemination effort, spreading our mission of making good on the promise of public education. In addition, the most recent issue of *Educational Researcher* also highlights the College among the top in national colleges of education in terms of media mentions of our research and representation of experts in the field. To read this article, please follow this link: <http://edr.sagepub.com/content/44/3/173.full.pdf+html>. Lastly, please check out the new information from the OoR for faculty and students on the web (<http://education.uic.edu/research#office-of-research>).

Thank you all for helping to make the College of Education at UIC a college on the move!

## Kudos/ Congratulations

### Grant Awards:

- Ms. Lydia A. Saravia** received a **\$500** grant in March 2015 from the Office of Research to complete her dissertation research in *An intercultural and bilingual teacher preparation curriculum: Stories from pre-service and teacher educators*. Ms. Saravia is doctoral student in the College of Education at UIC.
- Ms. Brittney Williams** received a **\$500** grant in March 2015 from the Office of research to conduct her dissertation research in *Parental meta-emotional philosophies and emotion al socialization in African American children*. Ms. Williams is a doctoral student in the College of Education at UIC.
- Dr. Steve Tozer** received a grant in March 2015 from the City of Chicago to train principals. The grant award will increase annually based on milestones the Ed.D. Urban Education Leadership program completes. Dr. Tozer is professor of Educational Policy Studies and Director of the Ed.D. Urban Education Leadership program at UIC.
- Dr. Shelby Cosner** received a **\$3,000** grant in March 2015 from Education Development Center to provide a Signature Pedagogy training to principals. Dr. Cosner is Associate Professor of Education and Leadership at UIC.
- Dr. Federico Waitoller** received **\$10,000** in March 2015 from the Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy to research *Examining the Experiences of Black and Latino of Families of students with disabilities in Charter Schools*. Dr. Waitoller is Assistant Professor of Special Education at UIC.
- Dr. Nathan Phillips** received **\$1,700** from Chicago History Museum to research *Embodied conversations with teens*. Dr. Phillips is Assistant Professor of Literacy and Learning in the College of Education at UIC.
- Ms. Maisie Gholson** received a **\$500** grant in March 2015 from the Office of Research to conduct a dissertation research in *The mediating influence of young black girls' social network in their Mathematics learning*. Gholson is a doctoral student in the College of Education at UIC.
- Ms. Catherine Main** and partners received **\$29,000** in March 2015 from the Illinois Board of Higher Education to implement an early childhood educator preparation program. Dr. Main is Clinical Lecturer and Early Childhood Education Program Coordinator in the College of Education at UIC.

### Honors:

- Kevin Condon and Mary F. Jones** have received the 2015 David L. Clark Scholar Award from the University Council for Educational Administration. Clark scholars are outstanding doctoral students in educational leadership, administration and policy and will be seeking a career in research. Condon and Jones are doctoral students studying Educational Policy Studies at UIC.
- Dr. Ebony O. McGee** received the *AERA Scholars of Color Early Career Contribution Award* 18 April 2015 at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago, IL from the Committee on Scholars of Color in Education Awards. Every year, the Committee presents this Awards to recognize scholars in various stages in their careers, scholars who have contributed significantly to understanding issues that disproportionately affect minority populations and minority scholars. Dr. McGee graduated in 2009 from the Dept. of CI at UIC after Dr. Danny Martin advised her. Now, Dr. McGee is Assistant Professor of Urban Education at Vanderbilt University.

The College of Education has profiled **Daniel Rocha** for demonstrating exceptional research skills as an undergraduate

research scholar. In October 2014, the Office of Research awarded Rocha the *100 Hours Undergraduate Research* grants to research under Dr. Rebecca Woodard's supervision. Also, the AERA accepted Rocha's application and he attended the Undergraduate Student Education Research Training Workshop from April 16-18 in Chicago, IL. Please download the full profile article at <http://education.uic.edu/academics-admissions/student-life/undergrad-researcher-pays-it-forward>.

**Ryan McCarty** has received the 2015 Emerging Education Policy Scholars award to attend two meetings in March and August 2015 at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) in Washington, D.C. Dr. Timothy Shanahan nominated McCarty because he is a promising scholar with a keen analytic eye, fresh ideas, and budding enthusiasm for education policy. McCarty is doctoral student in the College of Education at UIC.

**Drs. Daniel Maggin, Lisa Cushing, Marie Hughes, and Elizabeth Talbott** are members representing UIC on a new national consortium that involves six other universities. The National Center for Leadership in Intensive Intervention was funded in 2015 by the Office of Special Education Programs. The goal is to prepare special education leaders to become experts in research on intensive intervention for students with disabilities. Drs. Maggin, Cushing, Hughes, and Talbott are faculty in the College of Education at UIC. Please read details about the center at <http://nclii.org/>.

**Dr. James Pellegrino** received the Educational Research Award from the Council of Scientific Society Presidents 3 May 2015 at the CSSP meetings in Washington, DC. The CSSP gives the Educational Research Award for outstanding achievement in educational research that improves children's learning and understanding. Also in March 2015, Dr. Pellegrino received the 2016 Samuel J. Messick Memorial Lecture Award from the Educational Testing Service (ETS). ETS gives this award in honor of the late Samuel J. Messick to a distinguished research scientist at the ETS. Dr. Pellegrino is distinguished professor of psychology and education at UIC.

**Dr. Elizabeth Talbott** will become President of the Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Research (CEC-DR) from July 2015 to July 2016. During her presidency, Dr. Talbott will lobby state and federal agencies to increase funding for special education research. Dr. Talbott is an Associate Professor and Department Chair in Special Education in the College of Education at UIC.

**Dr. Jennifer Olson** will receive the UIC Silver Circle Teaching Excellence Award at commencement ceremony 5 May 2015. Each year UIC gives the award to honor faculty members chosen by the senior class for their outstanding teaching ability. Dr. Olson is Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor in the College of Education at UIC.

**UIC Urban Education Leadership Program** has received praise as an example of one of the 200 stronger principal preparation programs in the nation. Will Miller, President of the Wallace Foundation, wrote an Op-Ed in *The New York Times* 17 April 2015. He said UIC has made its curriculum for principals much more challenging—it carefully screens applicants, who get hands-on experience during a full-year internship and on-the-job coaching by former principals for three years. Miller continues that schools led by these principals outperform comparable public schools in Chicago in standardized test scores, actual graduation rate, and in keeping freshmen on track for graduation.

The Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy at UIC in April featured **Dr. Federico Waitoller** in a Spotlight article. The IRRPP said Dr. Waitoller's work contributes to IRRPP's mission, which is to support research at the intersection of race, ethnicity, and public policy. Dr. Waitoller is Assistant Professor of Special Education in the College of Education at UIC. You may download the Spotlight article about Dr. Waitoller at <http://irrpp.uic.edu/>.

### **Publications:**

**Dr. Maria Varelas** and co-Editors published a special issue in the *Journal of Research in Science and Teaching* 52(4) in April 2015. The two articles are *A structure-agency perspective on young children's engagement in school science* and *Explorations of the structure-agency dialectic as a tool for framing equity in science education*. Dr. Valeras is Professor of science education in the College of Education at UIC.

**Dr. Federico Waitoller** and E. B. Kozleski co-published an article this year in the *Education Policy Analysis Archives* 23(37). The title was *No stone left unturned: Exploring the convergence of New Capitalism in inclusive education in the U.S.* Please download the abstract at <http://dx.doi.org/10.14507/epaa.v23.1779>.

**Drs. Brittan and Humphries** this year published a paper "Prosocial behavior during adolescence" in the *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*. Drs. Brittan and Humphries are Assistant Professor and Associate Professor respectively in Educational Psychology in the College of Education at UIC.

**Dr. Brittan** and 11 colleagues this year published a paper on the dimensions of ethnic identity in the journal of *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, vol. 21.

## Keynotes:

- Dr. James Pellegrino** has named three consequences if Chicago Public Schools fails to test all its students. We won't have an adequate representation of how Chicago's students are doing, he said. Second, we won't have an adequate representation of how Illinois students are doing, particularly with respect to the mixed of demographic characteristics of the Chicago school population vs. the rest of the state. And, third, we are not actually giving students the chance to see what these new assessments are like and what the demands are, he said. We are not giving them the chance to show us what they can do and what they struggle with. Dr. Pellegrino is distinguished professor of psychology and education at UIC. He spoke in a WTTW-TV interview 2 February 2015. Please download the full interview at <http://chicagotonight.wttw.com/2015/02/02/parcc-test-controversy>.
- Dr. Marisha Humphries** has criticized Little League International for stripping the Championship title from Chicago's Jackie Robinson West. "The boys were being punished for the misbehavior of adults. This sends a message that even when you are doing the right thing you can be punished. This is just another example of how these boys are interacting in a world that is not fair to them from the schools they attend to the community they live in....It is hard not to discuss the issue of race given that this was an all Black team being accused of 'cheating' by majority White teams," she said. Dr. Humphries is Associate Professor of Educational Psychology at UIC. She spoke in a WTTW-TV interview 12 February 2015. Please download full interview at <http://chicagotonight.wttw.com/2015/02/11/jackie-robinson-west-title-stripped>.
- Dr. William Teale** presented a keynote 18 February 2015 at the Turkey Conference on Reading Culture and Enriched Libraries in Afyonkarahisar, Turkey. He discussed the *Literacy Education: What Is Happening and What Needs to Happen?* Dr. Teale is Professor of Literacy, Language, & Culture; and Director of the Center for Literacy at UIC.
- The **Research on Urban Education Policy Initiative** and the **Center for Literacy** both at UIC jointly hosted a Policy Breakfast meeting 15 April 2015 at UIC Student Center West. Policymakers, foundation officers, researchers, and educators discussed ways to improve literacy policy in Illinois in particular and the US in general.
- Dr. Aisha El-Amin** presented a keynote address 4 March 2014 at the Islamic Awareness Week at UIC. Dr. El-Amin spoke on *Power to the Pen: Why Education Is the Answer*. Dr. El-Amin is Director of the Council on Teacher Education and Acting Associate Dean of Student Affairs at UIC.
- Dr. Eleni Katsarou** blamed Teach for America for its difficulties to recruit teachers. When your larger message is that you need five weeks only to become a teacher, it demeans, reduces, and it oversimplifies what teachers do and ought to be doing, she said. "I don't think it's fair or ethical or professional to practice on kids. It just isn't." Dr. Katsarou is clinical professor at UIC. She spoke on WTTW-TV interview 26 February 2015. Download full interview at <http://chicagotonight.wttw.com/2015/02/26/teach-america-lower-recruits>.
- Dr. Alfred Tatum** served on a panel of experts and discussed strategies to close the black male achievement gap. He spoke 27 March 2015 on *Breaking Barriers: Multifaceted Strategies to Close the Black Male Achievement Gap* at Yale School of Management in New Haven, CT. Dr. Tatum is Dean of the College of Education at UIC.
- Dr. George Karabatsos** presented four workshops in March and April 2015. He presented the first one March 15 at the International Biometric Society meeting in Miami, FL. Next, he presented the second one March 27 at Michigan State University. Then he presented the third workshop April 3 at the University of Minnesota in MN. Finally, he presented his final workshop April 16 at the AERA annual meeting in Chicago, IL. All these workshops discussed various aspects of the Bayesian Regression software that Dr. Karabatsos has developed and is improving. He is Professor of Educational Psychology in the College of Education at UIC.

## Upcoming Research Opportunities

- The Spencer Foundation announces the **Research-Practice Partnership (RPP)** grants opportunity. Award size is \$400,000 for three years to support each successful partnership. Please submit proposal online by 4:00 pm CDT, 4 June 2015 and you will receive decision in late October 2015. Spencer Foundation will publish the application guidelines in May. But now, download and read additional eligibility criteria in the RFP at <http://www.spencer.org/content.cfm/research-practice-partnership-grants>. Email questions to [partnerships@spencer.org](mailto:partnerships@spencer.org) or call Annie Brinkman at 312-274-6511.
- National Endowment for the Humanities announces a *Collaborative Research grants - Digital Projects for the Public* grants. Awards range from \$30,000 (for Discovery grants) to \$100,000 (for Prototyping grants) for one to three years. Please submit proposal 10 June 2015 to begin project in January 2016. Please read the grant guidelines at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/public/digital-projects-the-public> and email questions to [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov) or call 202-606-8269.
- TJX Foundation has *Education Grants*, but no award size available. Submit proposal 29 June 2015. Please read the

grants guidelines at [http://www.tjx.com/corporate\\_community\\_foundation.asp](http://www.tjx.com/corporate_community_foundation.asp) and email questions to Christine A. Strickland at [tjx\\_foundation@tjx.com](mailto:tjx_foundation@tjx.com) or call 774-308-3199.

- RGK Foundation has a *Grant Program in Education*. While this grant is rolling, the Grants Committee meets three times each year (March 6, June 12, & Sept 16) to consider requests over \$100,000 that staff have recommended for review. Please submit LOI once a year via <http://www.rgkfoundation.org/public/guidelines> and call Jami Hampton 512-474-9298 to ask questions.
- The Institute of Education Sciences announces *Education Research Grants—CFDA# 84.305A*. Award sizes range between \$600,000 and \$1,400,000 for 2-5 years. Submit a Notice of Intent to apply 21 May 2015 and a full proposal by 4:30:00 pm Washington DC time, 6 August 2015. Please Email questions to Dr. Erin Higgins at [Erin.Higgins@ed.gov](mailto:Erin.Higgins@ed.gov) or call 202-208-3749; or to Dr. Caroline Ebanks at [Caroline.Ebanks@ed.gov](mailto:Caroline.Ebanks@ed.gov) or call 202-219-1410. Please read the application guidelines at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/16rfas.asp>.
- The Institute of Education Sciences announces *Special Education Research Grants—CFDA# 84.324A*. Award sizes range between \$700,000 and \$4,000,000 for 2-5 years. Submit a Notice of Intent to apply 21 May 2015 and a full proposal by 4:30:00 pm Washington DC time, 6 August 2015. Please email questions to Kimberley Sprague at [Kimberley.Sprague@ed.gov](mailto:Kimberley.Sprague@ed.gov) or call 202-208-1609; or to Kimberley Sprague at [Kimberley.Sprague@ed.gov](mailto:Kimberley.Sprague@ed.gov) or call 202-208-1609. Please read the guidelines at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/16rfas.asp>.
- The Institute of Education Sciences announces *Education Research and Development Center Program CFDA# 84.305c*. Award size is 2,000,000 a year for 5 years. Submit a Notice of Intent to apply 21 May 2015 and a full proposal by 4:30:00 pm Washington DC time, 20 August 2015. Please email questions to Dr. Erin Higgins at [Erin.Higgins@ed.gov](mailto:Erin.Higgins@ed.gov) or call 202-208-3749. Please read the guidelines at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/16rfas.asp>.
- The Institute of Education Sciences announces *Statistical and Research Methodology in Education—CFDA# 84.305D*. Award size is \$1000,000 a year for 2 years (\$200,000 total). Submit a Notice of Intent to apply 21 May 2015 and a full proposal by 4:30:00 pm Washington DC time, 6 August 2015. Email questions to Dr. Phill Gagné at [Phill.Gagne@ed.gov](mailto:Phill.Gagne@ed.gov) or call 202-219-1412. The guidelines are at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/16rfas.asp>.
- The Institute of Education Sciences announces *Partnerships and Collaborations Focused on Problems of Practice or Policy—CFDA: 84.305H*. Award size is \$2000,000 a year for 2 years (\$200,000 total). Submit a Notice of Intent to apply 21 May 2015 and a full proposal by 4:30:00 pm Washington DC time, 6 August 2015. Email questions to Dr. Allen Ruby at [Allen.Ruby@ed.gov](mailto:Allen.Ruby@ed.gov) or call 202-219-1591. Please read grants guidelines at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/16rfas.asp>.
- The Institute of Education Sciences announces *Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice—CFDA# 84.305N*. Maximum award size ranges from \$1,000,000 to \$4,500,000 for 5 years. Submit a Notice of Intent to apply 4 June 2015 and a full proposal by 4:30:00 pm Washington DC time, 6 August 2015. Email questions to Dr. Caroline Ebanks at [Caroline.Ebanks@ed.gov](mailto:Caroline.Ebanks@ed.gov) or call 202-219-1410; or to Dr James Benson at [James.Benson@ed.gov](mailto:James.Benson@ed.gov) or call 202-219-2129. The guideline is at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/16rfas.asp>.
- The Institute of Education Sciences announces *Research Training Programs in the Education Science—CFDA# 84.305B*. Maximum award size ranges from \$1,200,000 for 5 years. Submit a Notice of Intent to apply 21 May 2015 and a full proposal by 4:30:00 pm Washington DC time, 20 August 2015. Email questions to Dr. Katina Stapleton at [Katina.Stapleton@ed.gov](mailto:Katina.Stapleton@ed.gov) or call 202-219-2154. Please read the guidelines at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/16rfas.asp>.

## Questions or Ideas?

*Please continue to send the Office of Research news and updates on grants, publications and important presentations as you accrue them. In addition, if you have other notes that you think would be helpful to share through this dissemination vehicle, please feel free to forward them as well.*

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Or just stop by!**