

# SOUTHERN DEMOGRAPHIC NEWS

SPRING 2008



The Southern Demographic Association is a scientific and educational corporation operating under the laws of the commonwealth of Virginia. It is comprised of persons with professional interests in demography and population studies.

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## Notes from the President

Here we are half way between last October's Birmingham, Alabama meetings and next October's meetings in Greenville, South Carolina. These are two very different southern cities bridged by our association and our members. As we move towards our Greenville gathering, I'd like to take this opportunity to reflect on a very successful conference in Birmingham.

First, let me express my sincere gratitude to all participants for the excellent quality of your papers in Birmingham and for your continued professional participation in the SDA. We had over thirty sessions, all well attended, and a vigorous mix of continuing and new members. As always, students were warmly welcomed as colleagues. Lively discussions abounded in the sessions, at our lunches and dinners, and in the halls. In short, Birmingham maintained the stimulating atmosphere that has attracted so many of us to the SDA. This successful annual conference is due to the enthusiastic participation of all. Your submissions, organized sessions, and chairing of these sessions made organizing the Birmingham meetings a thoroughly enjoyable experience.

I'd be remiss if I didn't extend special thanks to Barbara Johnson for steering the Association as President this past year, to John McHenry for his exceptional work in local arrangements in Birmingham, to Carl Schmertmann for his creation of an online registration from scratch, and to Troy Blanchard for innovating payment and book-keeping in his position as Secretary-Treasurer. I am grateful to each of these colleagues for their support and indebted to them for their labors. Of course, all the Board members have given generously of their time as have so many members. Individually they deserve our acknowledgement, but allow me simply to extend my gratitude to the group as a whole.

In Birmingham we were able to see the last traces of an earlier southern industrial city transforming itself into a 21st century economy. In Greenville, we'll be experiencing the reinvention of southern small town life for a post-industrial era. The many shops, restaurants and bars within a few minutes walking distance from our center may well be the ideal civic context to discuss the emerging South on the eve of the presidential election. Lynne Cossman, our President-elect, is actively engaged on our 2008 program, and our local arrangements activities are being coordinated by David Redburn and Bob Freymeyer. As with Birmingham, your submissions and participation will guarantee the success of our Greenville meetings and the continued vitality of the Southern Demographic Association. As we move closer to our annual conference, please encourage your colleagues and students to submit papers and organize sessions. With your efforts, the SDA will continue to excel in creating a welcoming and stimulating atmosphere this year and in years to come. I'll see you in Greenville!

Mike Irwin, SDA President

## 2008 Southern Demographic Association Call for Papers

You are invited to submit abstracts for papers and/or completed papers for the 2008 annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association (SDA). You are also invited to suggest topics for panels and poster sessions (see below). This year's meeting will be October 30 through November 1 at the Hyatt Regency in Greenville, South Carolina. For emerging details, please check <http://sda-demography.org/>. This SDA web page will include a "forms" page for submitting your proposed session topics and paper abstracts.

Presentations of research in both applied and academic sociology are welcome as are related topics in economics, sociology, geography, political science, public health, epidemiology, and psychology. Though SDA is known for regional emphases and membership, we encourage the membership and participation of individuals from any region of the country or world. The structure of presentations is flexible; potential contributors are encouraged to not only send abstracts for individual research papers, but also for complete sessions, thematic sessions, panel discussions, software demonstrations and more! **ALL PAPER AND SESSION SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE SENT THROUGH THE SDA WEB SITE TO RECEIVE PROPER CONSIDERATION!**

Please email Lynne Cossman ([Lynne.Cossman@msstate.edu](mailto:Lynne.Cossman@msstate.edu)), this year's program chairperson, if you have any questions regarding a potential submission. Presentations by (or co-authored with) students are especially welcome; they can offer a student a significant first professional meeting experience. SDA also awards cash prizes to the best undergraduate and to the best graduate student paper (see details below). Please send all proposals and abstracts by June 30, 2008, to the SDA web site <http://sda-demography.org/SDA2008.php>.

The SDA web site will ask you for:

- Your name
- Name(s) of any co-authors or other presenters if you are proposing a session
- Descriptions of paper(s) or poster(s)/topics of proposed session(s)
- Institutional affiliation(s)
- Complete contact information (email address, telephone number, fax number, and mailing address)

### SDA STUDENT PAPER AWARDS

The SDA makes awards for the following types of student papers presented at the annual meeting:

#### *Everett S. Lee Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award*

SDA presents an award for the best graduate student paper delivered at the annual meeting. The winning student receives a cash prize and a certificate, both of which are presented at the annual business meeting. Please send your complete paper, in electronic format, to [studentawards@sda-demography.org](mailto:studentawards@sda-demography.org) by September 1, 2008.

#### *Outstanding Undergraduate Student Paper Award*

SDA presents a cash prize and a certificate for the best undergraduate paper presented at the meeting, both of which are presented at the annual business meeting. Please send your complete paper, in electronic format, to [studentawards@sda-demography.org](mailto:studentawards@sda-demography.org) by September 1, 2008.

**IMPORTANT:** Submission of a paper for one of these awards should only be done after the paper has been included on the program for the conference. It must first be submitted for program consideration through the SDA web site <http://sda-demography.org/SDA2008.php>.

### E. Walter Terrie Award for State and Local Demography

Walt Terrie was a faculty member and applied demographer at Florida State University and an active member of the Southern Demographic Association. After he died suddenly in 1997, SDA and FSU began awarding the Walt Terrie Award to recognize the "best paper presented at the SDA Annual Meeting on an applied topic, especially one relating to state and local demography." The award is chosen by a committee appointed by the SDA President and including at least one FSU faculty member. For consideration for the 2008 E. Walter Terrie Award, email your submission to Isaac W. Eberstein at [ieberstn@fsu.edu](mailto:ieberstn@fsu.edu) no later than October 15, 2008. Submissions for the award should also be presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association. The Terrie Award consists of a \$400 cash prize and an appropriate certificate. Winners are added to the list on the SDA website.

## **SDA ANNUAL MEETING**

The 2008 Southern Demographic Association's annual meeting will be held on Oct. 30 through Nov. 1 at the downtown Hyatt hotel in beautiful Greenville, South Carolina. Situated in the heart of this thriving city, this luxury hotel offers amazing amenities and is within walking distance of a variety of restaurants, shops and businesses.

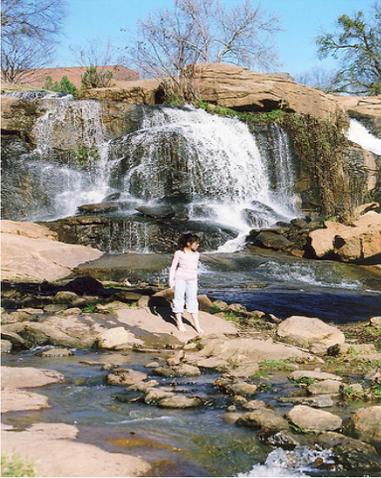


## **VIBRANT DOWNTOWN**

Surrounded by the natural beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Greenville is South Carolina's faster growing city. The downtown area is a center for business, culture and entertainment.

Over 79 restaurants offer choices ranging from New South cuisine to Asian fusion. The Peace Center for the Performing Arts, the Greenville Art Museum and a number of private galleries offer numerous cultural events.





Not surprisingly Greenville has become one of the most desirable residential districts in the area. The recent addition of Falls Park and the Liberty Bridge is truly Greenville's crown jewel.

Falls Park features a gorgeous waterfall and suspension bridge overlooking the Reedy River.





## **FROM DISREGARDED TO DESIRABLE**

In the 1960's and 1970's, Greenville faced a dying downtown. Lured by malls and shopping centers, people left for the suburbs. Combined with a plan to narrow streets, plant trees, and install decorative lighting fixtures, Downtown Greenville's renaissance began.



The revitalization of Downtown is a 25 year success story. In 2003, Greenville was awarded the prestigious :

**“Great American Main Street Award”.**

## Demography

Greenville county has a population of approximately 417,166 persons and over 56,000 people reside within the city limits. Population among males & females is almost equally distributed. Average household annual income is \$52,039. Greenville is home to more than 250 international firms. Michelin Tire Company was the first to establish its American headquarters here and shortly thereafter,



the Bavarian automaker, BMW followed suite. Interestingly, Greenville has more engineers per capita than any other county in the United States! Flour Daniel is one of the worlds strongest engineering and construction firms and employs over 2000 people in Greenville.

## THE EVENT

The Hyatt Regency hotel will host most of the events during our annual meeting. We will also offer you the opportunity to dine at Brick Street Café in Greenville's West End. A historical landmark, Brick Street Café was originally a belt factory. Offering an eclectic menu, the café offers everything from steaks to sweet potato cake. We know you will enjoy this event and Greenville is sure to leave a good impression.



## Terrie Award Fund Endowed!

I am very pleased to announce that through the generosity of a number of members of SDA, the E. Walter Terrie Award Fund for State and Local Demography has reached the target of \$10,000, the amount necessary to permanently endow it and maintain the current annual cash prize of \$400. This substantial prize is an outstanding tribute to Walt and an important contribution to the field in its recognition and stimulation of innovative research in the broad area of applied demography that will be presented at the annual meeting of SDA.

I am going to run the risk of offending contributors by thanking them by name, so that others in the Association can similarly acknowledge their generosity. I first want to give a special thanks to Dr. Jerry McKibben of McKibben Demographic Research. His very generous initial contribution and later “challenge” grant during the final phase of fundraising made the possibility of endowing this fund a realistic one. Contributions since the fall 2007 SDA meetings have been received from Ron & Lynne Cossman, Ike & Nancy Eberstein, Bob & Dawn Hummer, Stan & Rita Smith, Carl Schmertmann & Kristen Hagen, David & Rita Swanson, and Jeff & Melinda Tayman. Thank you all very, very much!!

Information on the Terrie Award competition for the 2008 meetings is presented elsewhere in this newsletter and also appears on the SDA website. A list of past winners is also included on the website. Of course, we invite previous winners to submit again. The goal is simply to stimulate and recognize the best work in this substantive area. Please consider submitting your meeting paper for this award.

We continue to welcome contributions so the prize can be increased. Contributions can be made either by check or electronically using a credit card. Specifics follow:

**BY CHECK:** Mail the check made out to the FSU Foundation to The Florida State University Foundation, 2010 Levy Avenue, PO Box 3062739, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2739. Be sure to specify the E. Walter Terrie Award Fund #4885 as the destination for your gift.

**VIA THE WEB:** Go to the FSU Foundation website at <https://www.fsufoundation.org/main/giveonline.asp> and use your credit card to make a contribution. If you prefer, you may also print out the form and mail your check to the Foundation. Again, be sure to specify the E. Walter Terrie Award Fund #4885 as the destination for your gift.

Questions can be addressed to Ike Eberstein at the Center for Demography & Population Health, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2240, 850-644-7108, [Eberstein@fsu.edu](mailto:Eberstein@fsu.edu).

## Member News

**Vijayan K. Pillai**, UT Arlington professor in the School of Social Work, was quoted recently on the topic of South Asian students seeking higher education in the United States in India's The Economic Times ([http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/Study\\_in\\_US\\_is\\_no\\_more\\_easy\\_for\\_Indian\\_students/articleshow/2667351.cms](http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/Study_in_US_is_no_more_easy_for_Indian_students/articleshow/2667351.cms)). Pillai also was quoted on the topic of opportunities and challenges for India and China in an era of globalization, which appeared in India's Daily News and Analysis (<http://www.3dsyndication.com/ShowArticle.asp?id=DNAHM1264&i=1>).

**Vijayan Pillai**, professor in the UT Arlington School of Social Work, was appointed as an associate editor for the International Journal of Sustainable Society (<http://www.inderscience.com/browse/index.php?journalCODE=ijssoc>). The journal's aim is to provide a professional forum for discussing and disseminating solutions, which relate to the design, development, deployment, management, measurement and adjustment of social networks. They should form a common ground on which a sustainable society can be built.

**Stephanie Bohon** received the Chancellor's Award for Research at the University of Tennessee.

## Missing Newsletters for Archives

We are trying to get a complete archive of newsletters for SDA. If you have any of the following newsletters, please either scan and email to [Lynne.Cossman@msstate.edu](mailto:Lynne.Cossman@msstate.edu) or mail to Lynne Cossman, Archivist for SDA, PO Box C, Mississippi State, MS 39762. The issue numbers for the missing newsletters are 1-22, 31, 36, 37, 74, 78-82, 99-105, 107, 118. Please send them along if you have them.

## Demographic "Dirt"

Introducing *demodirt.com* and a free monthly **demo dirt** email newsletter, both of which offer information on demographic trends in age, race, religion, gender, geographical location, educational attainment, health, household income, and more. The newsletter writes to high-level executives, marketers, consumer strategists, demographers, statisticians, futurists, professors, and anyone interested in consumer buying behavior. Check out <http://www.demodirt.com/index.html> for more information.

## MURDOCK CONFIRMED AS CENSUS BUREAU DIRECTOR

On December 19, the Senate confirmed Steven H. Murdock's nomination as Director of the U.S. Census Bureau. He will replace Louis Kincannon, who resigned in November 2006, but who agreed to stay on until his successor was confirmed. After 13 months, Kincannon can finally step down. A day earlier, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs held a hearing on Murdock's nomination. He was introduced by Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) who expressed her confidence in the Texas demographer. Hutchison outlined Murdock's extensive resume and qualifications. Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE), who chaired the hearing, expressed concern regarding the accuracy of the decennial census, referencing both under- and over-count problems in the past.

Murdock promised to do the best he can and cited the increasing use of technology to assist in overcoming these problems. Technology use, particularly employing the Internet as an option for conducting the Census, was a major topic of discussion. Carper wondered (and said he was also speaking for his colleague Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK)) why the Bureau has dismissed the Internet as an alternative method of having people respond to the Census. Carper pointed out that while a large percentage of Americans use the Internet to file taxes, the Bureau has not warmed up to it as a tool for the count. He also asked about the experiences of Canada and Australia which have successfully collected census data via the Internet. Murdock suggested he was willing to ascertain possible Internet response, but claimed it was too late for 2010. Carper and the Committee's Ranking Member Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) also asked a number of questions indicating their dismay at the rising cost of the decennial. Collins, in particular, focused her inquiries on the extensive use of contractors as a source of the increased costs, referencing a recent GAO report. Murdock said that one of the first things he would do as Director was an evaluation of the contracts and see if the costs of the Census could be reduced. There was specific reference to the problems already encountered with the hand-held computers. Protecting census data was another issue of interest to the Committee. Murdock agreed that it is the responsibility of the Bureau to ensure that personal data of those who respond to its collection efforts are protected against all forms of intrusion and disclosure. He pledged to review and evaluate the practices and procedures used to ensure the completeness of the 2010 Census, the American Community Survey (ACS), and other products from the Bureau, and to protect the confidentiality of a respondent's personal information. The nominee complimented the Bureau's staff for its successful collection, analyses, and dissemination of its data. When asked about his qualifications to run such a large operation, Murdock responded that he is confident that his many years of experience with Census data and managing a State data center provide the necessary background to assume the major task of leading the Bureau. He also pledged to keep the lines of communication open with Congress and Census stakeholders.

Source: Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) Washington Update, Vol. 27, No. 1, January 14, 2008, p. 6. Available at: <http://www.cossa.org/index.shtml>

## FSU Demography Celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Center for Demography and Population Health at Florida State University celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding on the weekend of March 1, 2008 with a public lecture and dinner/ reception for faculty, students, alumni, and other guests. The lecture was given to an overflow crowd of students and faculty in honor of Dr. Charles B. Nam, founding Director of the Center, by Dr. Jason Boardman, University of Colorado. His topic was “Social Demographic Perspectives on Behavioral Genetics: What do you get when you cross a sociologist, a demographer, and a behavioral geneticist?” Dr. Louis Pol (PhD, Sociology, 1978), Dean of the College of Business, University of Nebraska – Omaha, spoke at the dinner/ reception. His title was “Objects in the Rear-View Mirror May be Closer than you Think.” The dinner was held in the historic Suwannee Dining Hall on the FSU campus.

CDPH was organized in the Department of Sociology in 1967 as “Population & Manpower Research Center.” As the group became interdisciplinary, the name changed to the “Center for the Study of Population” and it moved to become an independent unit in the College of Social Sciences. The mission was broadened and the name changed again in 2001 with the addition of faculty working more explicitly on health research. The current agenda of the Center reflects the breadth of sixteen faculty associates along with a number of affiliates from across campus. CDPH offers graduate training leading to the Master of Science degree in Demography. More information on CDPH is available at the website: <http://popcenter.fsu.edu>.



## Summer Opportunities

A summer short course in **Environmental Demography** is being offered by the University of Colorado Population Center (CUPC), July 16-18, in Boulder, Colorado. The course will provide an overview of the sub-discipline and several in-depth examples of central areas of research. Top scholars in the field will review both conceptual and methodological aspects of their research. In addition, students will receive an introduction to spatial data and analyses with a focus on the link between demographic and environmental processes. Topics include: **Population and Environment Scholarship: A Review and Considerations for the Future** (Lori Hunter, *University of Colorado – Boulder*); **Agent Based (Simulation) Approaches to Modeling Population and Environment** (Barbara Entwisle, *University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill*); **Population and Deforestation: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches** (David Carr, *University of California - Santa Barbara*); **Measuring Environmental Racial Inequality: Using GIS to Link Theories, Questions, Definitions, and Indicators** (Liam Downey, *University of Colorado – Boulder*). **Format:** The course is open to all graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty from any institution. CUPC will provide a limited number of stipends to pay for travel to and from the short course. **Course credit:** If desired, students may enroll in the course for 1.5 credits, and the CUPC will cover tuition expenses. Credit-seeking students will be expected to complete a final exam. **For further information**, including application information, please see: [http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/cupc/short\\_courses/env\\_demography/](http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/cupc/short_courses/env_demography/) or contact: [Lori.Hunter@colorado.edu](mailto:Lori.Hunter@colorado.edu). Application deadline: April 6. Supported, in part, by NICHD.

**Population, Health and Aging** funded by the **National Institute on Aging**, an 8-week summer training program, is being offered June 23—August 15, 2008 at Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA. Topics for weekly modules include:

- Interdisciplinary Graduate Education
- Biodemography of Health and Aging
- Social Interventions and Health in an Aging Population
- The Role of Patient-Physician Interaction
- Health Care as a Business
- Geriatric Medicine, Patient-Centered Care, and the Boomers
- Global Health
- Ethics in Health Care

This program seeks undergraduate students who are about to enter their final year of undergraduate study in either demographic or health-related fields. To apply, candidates should send a letter explaining interest in the summer program, a college transcript, and a letter of recommendation from a faculty member. Application materials should be sent via mail to: Lucky M. Tedrow, Department of Sociology, Demographic Research Laboratory, Western Washington University, 516 High Street, MS 9081, Bellingham, WA 98255. Visit the web for more details at [www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/summer/soc/index.shtml](http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/summer/soc/index.shtml). Application materials must be submitted by April 21, 2008.

## WISQARS Update

WISQARS has now been update with 2005 mortality data from NCHS' National Vital Statistics System and is now available on the internet. Enjoy!!

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars>

Special thanks to Kevin Webb (Team Leader), Dionne Williams, MS, and Bob Thomas, BEE, MS) in the Office of Statistics and Programming for updating and managing WISQARS. Thanks also to our colleagues (especially Charlie Rothwell, MS, MBA (Director), Bob Anderson, PhD, Thomas D. Dunn, PhD and others in the Division of Vital Statistics) at the National Center for Health Statistics for providing us with these data.



## Job Opportunities

**Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention (DUIP) — Division Director.** Unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death for persons ages 1 to 44 years. DUIP is dedicated to reducing the number and severity of unintentional injuries through science-based programs and applied research. DUIP focuses activities in the following two overarching areas:

- Home and Recreation: residential fire prevention, falls among older adults, unintentional poisoning, water safety/drowning prevention, and sports & recreation
- Motor Vehicle: alcohol-involved driving, adolescent drivers, child passenger safety, older drivers, and pedestrian safety

DUIP has a budget of approximately 7.5 million dollars and a staff of 35 full time employees and contractors. Division staff includes professionals with expertise in epidemiology, public health, medicine, behavioral and social sciences, health education/communication, toxicology, and administration. The duties/responsibilities of the Division Director include but are not limited to providing the overall leadership and direction for DUIP.

- Planning, organizing, and overseeing the programmatic and research activities of DUIP.
- Developing goals and objectives for Division activities that integrate into broader NCIPC and CDC-wide priorities.
- Establishing, revising, or reviewing policies, procedures, and processes for DUIP staff, as necessary, to enable mission accomplishment.

- Reviewing and structuring financial and personnel resources to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of DUIP.
- Developing and maintaining relationships among a variety of national and international public health and medical organizations associated with unintentional injury, other government agencies, academic institutions, and state and local health departments.
- Serving as a senior member of the NCIPC management team.

For more information about NCIPC and the Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention, visit [www.cdc.gov/ncipc](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc). For questions or additional information contact the chairperson of the search committee Dr. Grant Baldwin at [gfb3@cdc.gov](mailto:gfb3@cdc.gov) or (770) 488-4694. CDC is an equal employment opportunity employer.

**University of Maryland—College Park.** The Department of Sociology invites applications for two tenured or tenure-track positions in demography, pending budgetary approval. **Rank is open** but we are especially interested in **mid-career and senior scholars**. Candidates would be expected to take leading roles in the department's graduate training in demography and in the research program of the Maryland Population Research Center. The University of Maryland is located near Washington, D.C., ("inside the beltway") and close to Washington's many demographic research resources such as the Census Bureau, Macro International, the National Center for Health Statistics, and NIH. Send a letter and curriculum vitae (but no letters of reference) to: Demography Search Chair, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742-1315.

**Population Action International (PAI) — Demographer-Climate Change/Environment.** A demographer of climate change/environment is being sought by Population Action International (PAI), an organization that works to improve individual well-being and preserve global resources by mobilizing political and financial support for population, family planning and reproductive health policies and programs. Through research and advocacy, PAI seeks to strengthen public awareness and political and financial support worldwide for population programs grounded in individual rights. At the heart of PAI's mission is its commitment to universal access to family planning and related health services, and to educational and economic opportunities, especially for girls and women.

This position will provide demographic expertise to a well-established organization that researches and advocates for evidence-based policies on population and reproductive health/family planning and women's centered development. Primary responsibilities include:

- Lead PAI's demographic research efforts to assess the links between population and climate change and the environment. Conduct relevant demographic analysis in collaboration with climate change experts, including staff and consultants.
- Develop methodologies to assess quantitative aspects of population and reproductive health/family planning that build public and policymaker awareness of, and contribute to, advocacy for sound population policies, programs and funding.

This position requires a Master's Degree or PhD in population studies, demography or related social science with 5-10 years experience in demographic/population research, including research related to climate change and/or environmental issues. Other qualifications include: excellent research and analytical skills; ability to communicate complex technical issues to a policy and advocacy-oriented audience; experience conducting demographic research; working demographic/population issues and related-policy trends and challenges; and fluency in

English. Overseas field experience in public health or development and fluency in a second language are pluses. In addition, a team player with a sense of humor, collaborative spirit and creativity is needed for this position.

PAI is a family friendly organization, offering a highly competitive benefit package. PAI is an equal opportunity employer and encourages people of color to apply for this position. Resumes with cover letter and salary requirements can be e-mailed to [RMR@popact.org](mailto:RMR@popact.org) or fax to (202) 728-4177 Attn: Rachael Murray Rakestraw.