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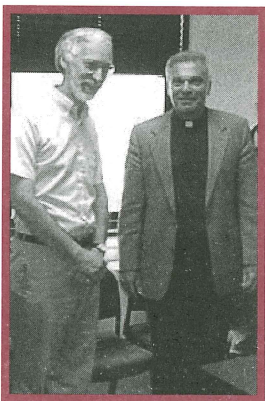
CURL

Information on CURL University/Community Partnerships

Vol. 6 No. 2, Fall 2001

Fr. Garanzini Pays Visit to CURL

By Lin Von Dreele, Associate Director



On August 15, the Rev. Michael J. Garanzini, S.J., the new president of Loyola University Chicago, came to CURL for a get-acquainted visit. Fr. Garanzini was warmly welcomed by staff, faculty, and students who gathered to meet him. In his brief, informal marks, Fr. Garanzini spoke of his prior knowledge of CURL, remarking that CURL's work is respected nationally. He learned of CURL when he was at Georgetown and at St. Louis

University. "I am pleased to now see your efforts at such close range," he said, adding, "and I will do what I can to help you further your work and influence."

Fr. Garanzini was appointed president by the university's Board of Trustees in January and arrived on campus in June. Prior to his coming to Loyola, he was professor of psychology and special assistant to the president at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. His background includes a rare blend of teaching, research, service, and administrative leadership in positions at some of the nation's leading Jesuit institutions, including Georgetown, Fordham, St. Louis, Rockhurst, and Gregorian University in Rome.

A native of St. Louis, Fr. Garanzini received his B.A. in psychology from St. Louis University in 1971, the same year he entered the Society of Jesus. His doctorate in psychology and religion was from the Graduate Theological Union/University of California, Berkeley. Fr. Garanzini's research and teaching interests have centered around counseling and family therapy. Through his work at other universities, he is familiar with university/community collaborations. He co-authored an article entitled "University-Community Collaborations: Shaping the Vision of Catholic Higher Education" which appeared in the Spring, 1997 volume of *Current Issues in Catholic Higher Education*. ■

Phil Nyden Presents Keynote Address at Australian Conference

CURL Director Phil Nyden was one of the invited keynote speakers at an international conference held in July 2001 at the University of Queensland-Ipswich, just outside of Brisbane, Australia. Hosted by the UQ Ipswich Community Service and Research Centre, the Inside/Out Conference on Higher Education and Community Engagement attracted 150 participants from Australia and countries including the United Kingdom, South Africa, England, and Norway.

Nyden talked about general university:community partnerships as well as CURL's collaborative research and action model. Bruce Muirhead, director of the UQ Research Centre, visited CURL last fall and was highly impressed with its work. CURL's emphasis on direct community involvement in all phases of research projects is particularly distinctive even among university centers doing community engagement work.

Participation in the conference builds on an existing relationship between CURL and the Shopfront at the University of Technology Sydney. This had been initiated by current Shopfront Coordinator Pauline O'Loughlin and Director Paul Ashton on a visit to the U.S. in 1998. Shopfront is part of an international network of "science shops" that works to link "under-resourced community groups to university skills, resources and professional expertise." Projects range from work by design and architecture faculty and students in facilitating a youth theater project to involvement of the university's construction management program in developing a new community center.

Increased communication across the growing network of collaborative university:community research centers is helping to strengthen the quality of our respective programs by sharing knowledge and strategies. Equally as important is the potential for linking related policy projects across national boundaries. This has the promise of increasing the influence of grassroots-anchored research to national and international levels.

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

In its fifth anniversary year, CURL is clearly coming of age. We are established enough to talk regularly about the accomplishments of our graduate and undergraduate alums. A full range of collaborative research projects is evident in the newsletter articles. Our growing international connections are strong indicators that our work is being recognized beyond the Chicago metropolitan area. At the same time, these far reaching ties--whether it is our Youth Voices in Policy Project with Philadelphia partners or contacts with Australian and European colleagues -- have potential to link our grassroots projects with other projects in their cities and countries. This can only underscore the importance of community "anchors" in developing regional, national, and international policy. ■

-Phil Nyden



From Left to Right: Philip Nyden (Director, CURL), Noreen Kelly (Project Officer, University Queensland-IPswich Community Service & Research Centre), Sean Jones (Deputy Director, Grants and Strategic Planning, University of Natal, Durban, South Africa), Bruce Muirhead (Director, University of Queensland-Ipswich Community Service & Research Centre).

In the spirit of cooperation, Nyden has been invited by UTS to be a visiting faculty member. This coming February and March he will travel to Australia to participate in Shopfront's Community Research seminar. Plans are also in the works for extended visits by Australian faculty and staff to CURL. This complements a number of connections that CURL has made with other centers in Western Europe. More information on UTS Shopfront, the UQ Ipswich Community Service and Research Centre, and the developing network in Western Europe can be found at the following web sites: www.shopfront.uts.edu.au; www.uqcommunity.com; and www.bio.uu.nl/living_knowledge ■

CURL Expands Undergraduate Fellowships

By David Van Zytveld, Assistant Director

Targeted to undergraduate students, CURL has announced an expanded fellowship program that will afford students further opportunities to participate in community-based collaborative research. For the 2001 – 2002 academic year, the five students awarded fellowships are: **Arienne Harper** (Political Science), **Diandra Jones** (English), **Gary Lakie** (Biology), **Sarah Veele** (Sociology), and **Abby Cerra** (Spanish and Women's Studies). The fellows will receive a \$2000 stipend for research activities over the academic year.

The application process provides two distinct ways in which students may participate in research at CURL. They may apply to either join in an established CURL project or propose research with a faculty mentor of their own choosing. In this cohort, four of the students will be assigned to a research project which is on-going or in initial stages of development. In these cases, they will become part of a team composed of community leaders, faculty, and graduate students in change-oriented policy research projects. Possible project issues include affordable housing, increased access to childcare, economic development, or participatory evaluation.

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The BP and Loyola Partnership: Building the Capacity of Community-Based Organizations for Evaluation

By Yolanda Suarez-Balcazar, Ph.D.,
Department of Psychology, CURL Faculty Fellow

Community-based organizations face a number of challenges when it comes to evaluating their community initiatives. These challenges might include high staff turnover, finding the appropriate evaluation tools, work overload, and the common perception of evaluation as an overwhelming process.

About 18 months ago, CURL and the Department of Psychology were awarded a grant from BP Global Social Investment (formerly BP Amoco Foundation) to increase the capacity of community-based organizations to conduct evaluations and implement an outcomes model. The research team was composed of a project director, project coordinator, three graduate students, and 4 BP fellows.

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Arienne Harper
(Political Science)



Diandra Jones
(English)



Abby Cerra
(Spanish & Women's Studies)



Sarah Veehle
(Sociology)

NOT PICTURED: Gary Lakie, (Biology)

One student, however, proposed to work with a professor from his department. Gary Lakie will join Jan Savitz, Ph.D. (Biology) on an important environmental project in conjunction with the Illinois Dunesland Preservation Society. Their project will study the effects of recent dredging from Waukegan Harbor and subsequent dumping of those materials along the shoreline of the Illinois Beach State Park. Besides the stipend for Lakie, Dr. Savitz will receive \$1000 for project support during the year. ■

Grad Students Present at Institute for Women's Policy Research Conference

By Jennifer Nargang, CURL Graduate Fellow

Lisa Speicher and Jennifer Nargang, graduate students in sociology, presented research from a CURL project at the conference of the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) in Washington, D.C. in June. The paper was a preliminary report of the partnership between The Enterprising Kitchen (TEK), an on-the-job training program for low-income women, and Apna Ghar, a shelter and resource center for South-Asian women fleeing abusive relationships.

"A Partnership for Women's Self-Sufficiency: The Enterprising Kitchen and Apna Ghar" was authored by Kathleen McCourt, Ph.D. (Sociology); Rafah Abuinnab, CURL Graduate Fellow (CORD); Christine George, Ph.D. (CURL Faculty Fellow and Sociology); Nargang; and Speicher. Bharati Dev and Ann Jenich, staff from each organization, were CURL Community Fellows and participated actively in the research.

The report discussed the multiple ways that TEK and Apna Ghar work together to provide physical accommodations, emotional support, and resources and networks otherwise unavailable to women participants.

Specifically, the paper focused on how some of the least obvious services and programs were the most important to the women who used them. For example, the women talked enthusiastically about how essential TEK and Apna Ghar had been to raising their self-confidence. They said that without a positive self-esteem they would have been unable to transition into jobs. Additionally, women indicated that services many people take for granted, such as available fax machines and telephones, were essential to their transition into stable employment.

Jennifer and Lisa found it both exciting and challenging to present a group-authored paper at a national conference. A common obstacle of group work in research is synthesizing the ideas of a research team into a cohesive paper or presentation. Jennifer and Lisa overcame this obstacle by outlining and drafting their speeches several times before their presentation. According to Lisa, "It was exciting to present alongside esteemed women from academia, politics and the non-profit sector. I feel we gathered a lot of information as well as contributed to the discussion surrounding policy issues." ■

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The project was divided into two stages. First, ten community-based organizations were selected by BP staff to work with the research team to develop an evaluation plan and conduct the evaluation of a specific initiative. Among the organizations who participated in this phase included: Abraham Lincoln Center, American Red Cross, BUILD, Midtown Educational Foundation, Roseland Christian Community Health Center, Youth Guidance, Youth Service Project, Spanish Coalition for Jobs, South Austin Job Referral, and the YMCA. These organizations run a variety of programs from mentoring, to violence prevention, to parent training, all serving mostly low-income families and people of color from the Chicago area.

Staff from these organizations participated in a series of brainstorming sessions to facilitate the development of a Logic Model, an adaptation of the United Way Outcomes Model. These sessions were learning experiences for all those involved, as we assisted agency staff in linking the services they provide to specific desirable and expected outputs (process measures) and outcomes (impact indicators). Eight of the above agencies conducted an evaluation of a specific program, which resulted in an evaluation report. Agencies have reported that the evaluation results have been used in overall improvements to their programs, in support of grant writing, in allocation of funds, in orienting new program staff, and in presentations to the board of directors.

Some of our partners were very specific in their assessment of the first phase of the process. Freddy Calixto of BUILD said,

“This partnership has helped our organization go through the next level of evaluation by allowing the agency to look at outcomes, the results and impact of our programs on young kids. It has helped us to do better planning and to see what the needs of our kids are.”

Another participant, Matthew Baetke of the American Red Cross said, “We have had a very positive experience with this partnership. Our partner has provided great technical resources keeping us abreast in the field of program evaluation. This project has helped us secure additional funding for our youth program. Our funders are very happy with the development of measurement tools”.

During the second phase of the project, Loyola staff collaborated with some 22 local organizations to assist them in developing a logic model for their programs and an evaluation plan. Among the organizations involved during this phase were: Access Living, The Art Institute, Metropolitan Family Services, Voices for Illinois Children, and Working in the Schools, among

others. During this phase agency staff also engaged in a series of brainstorming sessions and, in collaboration with the Loyola team, developed and identified evaluation tools.

One of the partners in phase two, Kimberly Fitzgerald from Voices for Illinois Children, felt that “This partnership has helped us in many ways. We started thinking about the work we do and how to integrate an outcomes model to our work. Our partner shared information about best practices and that has helped us. This project has helped us enhance our programming.”

Overall, the BP project has demonstrated the multiple levels of teaching and learning that we seek to do at CURL. Students and BP fellows have had the opportunity to work with a variety of organizations with different levels of sophistication and types of issues and concerns. For us as researchers, it has been very rewarding to “give psychology away” and put evaluation theory and principles into practice. It has been very stimulating to work with the variety of organizations and follow the principles of truly collaborative partnerships which are at the heart of CURL’s work. We found ourselves shifting and moving into many roles including learner, partner, teachers, expert, and technical assistance provider. Likewise, we found our partners also shifting into all those roles.

Another good outcome resulted from the project. Three of our students were offered internships in organizations to further assist with the implementation of evaluation plans.

Finally, as products of this project we invite you to visit our web site at www.luc.edu/depts/curl/project/bp/ where you can find some evaluation resources and links and browse through over ten reports and evaluation guides.

The success of our project was due in part to the hard work of many people, including our Loyola team composed of CURL graduate fellows who are also graduate students in the Department of Psychology. They were:

Mindy Lanum
Aparna Sharma
Nelson Portillo

Lucia Orellana-Damacela, project coordinator

The BP fellows who worked with us were:

Freddy Calixto
Robert Houston
Michelle Williams
Grace Hou.

Also, other Loyola graduate students:

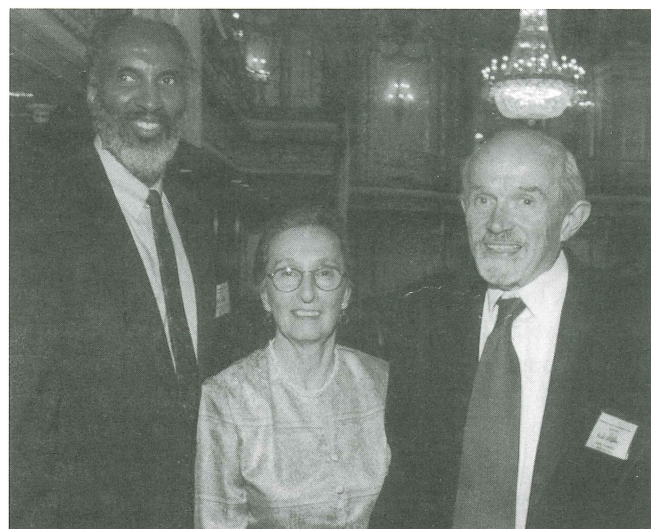
Emily Keeker (Counseling Psychology),
Sean Hill (Education)

Adam Carico (Psychology undergraduate) ■

Leadership Council Founders' Award Goes to Kale Williams



CURL Senior Scholar, Kale Williams, was honored recently at the 35th Annual Luncheon of the Leadership Council of Metropolitan Open Communities, the organization Williams led from 1972 –1992. He received the Founders' Award for "...his tireless work, his undying passion and his lifelong devotion to fair housing and racial justice." Williams was a founding member of the Leadership Council which grew out of the Chicago Freedom Movement led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the 1960s. He served Loyola as the first Considine Chair for Applied Ethics, and subsequently joined the CURL staff as a volunteer with the title of Senior Scholar. ■



Left to Right: John Powell, Helen Williams and Kale Williams

"...his tireless work, his undying passion and his lifelong devotion to fair housing and racial justice."



Discovering Chicago's Historic Bungalows:

CURL's spring Friday Morning Seminar fieldtrip was to the southwest side for a guided tour of Chicago's rediscovered early 20th century bungalows, a housing type that constitutes one-third of the total housing in the city. The tour was led by Charles Shanabruch, Historic Chicago Bungalow Association, and Dick Spurgin, Chicago Architectural Foundation. In the seminar prior to the fieldtrip, Shanabruch and Ald. Virginia Rugai (19th Ward) placed the bungalow in context locally and provided background about the organizational process that led to the resurgence in public appreciation for this unique, and historically important, housing style. ■

THE INAUGURATION OF YOUTH VOICES IN POLICY

By Christine George, Ph.D., Department of Sociology
CURL Faculty Fellow

In May, community and university partners of the Youth Voices in Policy (Youth VIP) project, a joint Chicago and Philadelphia initiative, met in Chicago to hold their first planning meeting. Funded by Pew Charitable Trust, Youth VIP will explore ways to engage youth in public policy. Hosted by CURL, the initial meeting was an opportunity for the Philadelphia and Chicago partners to meet one another and to draft a workplan for the coming year.

The project will create a cross-city network of youth working on issues of concern to them. The youth will utilize technology, including video conferencing, email, chat rooms, and web page. Besides connecting through these various technological means, youth will meet in person on two occasions, one hosted by each city. This fall, youth from Cristo Rey Jesuit High school, one of the Chicago partners, will host youth from two Philadelphia community organizations. These students will share information about common community issues, learning from each other as well as from Chicago's community leaders. The Philadelphia meeting has not been set.

Together, all the partners bring a wealth of experience in working on community policy issues and university-community collaboration, as well as in educating and organizing teen-age youth and young adults.

The university partners are the University Community Collaborative of Philadelphia (UCCP) based at Temple University and the Center for Urban Research and Learning (CURL) at Loyola. The two centers have over ten years of experience in successfully linking university and community organizations in policy research and action that addresses pressing community needs.

The community partners in Chicago are Latinos United and Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. Latinos United is a citywide advocacy organization that primarily focuses on affordable housing for the Latino community. Its impact in Chicago was first felt when it successfully sued the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide better outreach to low-income Latino families who were excluded from government subsidized housing. More recently, its projects have included advocating for Latinos denied equal access to housing in both the neighborhoods and suburbs of Metropolitan Chicago. All of its projects maintain close local community connections.

Cristo Rey is an innovative Jesuit high school established five years ago to serve the residents of Chicago's Pilsen and Little Village

Community, a predominantly low-income Latino community just southwest of downtown Chicago. The high school's curriculum strongly emphasizes connections to the local community.

The community partners in Philadelphia are Youth Empowerment Services (YES) and American Street Youth Opportunity Center (YOC). Both organizations have youth participants and members between the ages of 14 and 21. The primary purpose of YOC is to provide educational opportunities and job readiness training. YOC also focuses on community service projects and other activities such as art, computers, filmmaking, and gardening.

Another Philadelphia partner is Ceiba, Inc., a coalition of five community-based organizations serving the Latino communities, including the Norris Square Civic Association, Nueva Esperanza, Centro Pedro Claver, Hunting Park Community Development Corp., and Borinquen Credit Union (the only Latino credit union in Pennsylvania.) Together, these organizations provide a broad range of services to the community, including: housing development, rehabilitation, and counseling; afterschool and other education-related programs; financial access and literacy programs. Youth associated with Norris Square Civic Association's Family Center have engaged in a number of local community struggles.

Youth VIP is seen as a first step in developing better models of youth engagement. Besides fostering the creation of a cross-city network of youth working on policy issues, the partners plan to produce a replication manual. The partners will assess their progress by measuring the increased ability of the local community organizations to effectively recruit, retain, and include young adults as part of their efforts to address community problems. Another measurement will be the increased effectiveness of the young adults' participation in local policy efforts. ■

The Uptown Housing and Land Use Study

By Tom Walsh, Community Research Coordinator

With funding secured by State Representative Larry McKeon (34th District) CURL is conducting an analysis of population demographics, housing, land property use in the Uptown community area. Working with a community advisory committee, a team of Loyola faculty, students, and staff is focusing on changes between 1990 and 2000 when Uptown experienced a significant new housing and commercial investment along with population changes. A primary purpose of the research is to inform public discussion on policies related to such areas as housing characteristics, the pattern of land use, and demographic changes.

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In order to gain an accurate picture of changes in the community, the project team has initially identified a variety of data resources. Those resources range from the Multiple Listing Services of Northern Illinois, the 1990 & 2000 U.S. Census to the tri-annual assessment conducted by the Cook County Assessor's office.

Knowing exactly what changes occurred over the last ten years will help Representative McKeon and all stakeholders in the community respond to their constituents' interest and needs. An initial report on findings will be available in September.

Members of the advisory committee include: Dr. Solomon Chu, Tricia Daniels, Mark Dupont, Richard Hankett, Dr. Phoebe Helm, Joel Kurzman, Laura Lee, Michael McHale, Rae Mindock, Larry Pride, Norman Ruano, Jim Snyder, Martin Tangora, Leona Barth, Dr. Richard Block (Sociology), Sarah Jane Knoy, and Dr. David Merriman (Economics). The research team consists of Amy Crowther (Psychology); Christopher Giangreco, CURL Graduate Fellow (Sociology); Dr. Philip Nyden, Director; and Tom Walsh.

For further information on the report, contact Tom Walsh, (312) 915-8621 or email: twalsh2@luc.edu ■

Newsworthy

Former CURL Graduate Fellow, **Maribeth Pender**, is among 30 Schweitzer Fellows recently selected by the Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellowship and the Health and Medicine Policy Research Group. For her fellowship, Pender will conduct an intervention program for adolescents in a school setting to assist in developing skills that make and preserve healthy relationships, gaining and maintaining self-esteem, and coping with the changing personal and environmental context of adolescence. Maribeth is a doctoral candidate in Loyola's counseling psychology program in the School of Education and was a CURL fellow in the 2000-01 academic year.

Nicole Rousseau, a CURL Graduate Fellow most recently working on the Bethany Brethren Community Center project, has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in sociology at Howard University. At BBCC, she worked closely with the teen girls and staff on a needs assessment to re-introduce a teen girls' program in the mid-West Side communities.

In June, CURL said 'goodbye' to **David Delarosa**, our IT expert, who came to us highly recommended from Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. David was in the first Cristo Rey graduating class in 1999. In the time he was with us, David shared his competence and quiet, good humor. He was so good that Cristo Rey hired him back to manage the IT needs of his alma mater. David will be an excellent role model for those following in his footsteps. He will continue his course work in computer science at Loyola.

The new membership services director at the Chicago Mutual Housing Network is **Ayana Thomas**, who was a student in the Urban Life and Policy Studies last spring. **Anita Denes**, also a spring ULPS student, will begin graduate school this fall in urban planning at the University of Michigan. While at CURL, Anita worked on the Uptown Housing and Land Use Study.

CURL Graduate Fellow **Chiara Sabina** (Psychology) was awarded one of the first summer research grants to work at the Gannon Center for Women and Leadership Archives. Her research will be an important component in the CURL project to complete a history of Deborah's Place, an organization that serves women who are homeless or formerly homeless in Chicago. Through a quantitative archival analysis, she is seeking to answer the question: How did the core values of Deborah's Place affect service delivery from 1984 to 1994?

Gina Lopez has joined CURL as the new senior secretary. She has taken the place of Jeremy Morse who left us to pursue a graduate degree at Northwestern University. Gina comes to us from the Dean's Office in the College of Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago. She has transferred her academic records to Loyola where she will resume work on an undergraduate degree in social work and psychology. Welcome, Gina!

The Teachers Academy for Math and Sciences, a non-profit organization housed at the Illinois Institute of Technology, is where **Mindy Lanum**, CURL Graduate Fellow (Psychology), will use her skills to do internal evaluations of teacher attitudes toward technology and new approaches to teaching and learning math and science. While at CURL, Mindy most recently worked on the BP evaluation project.

Political Science major **Nyla Diab** who graduated last January, has accepted a position at the Metro Chicago Information Center (MCIC) where she is membership coordinator. She also works with members to do research projects. While an undergrad she took Urban Life and Policy Studies and did research on a CURL research project to complete a hunger survey in Rogers Park. She returned to CURL as an undergraduate fellow where she worked on a childcare needs assessment. ■

Friday Morning Seminar Schedule, Fall, 2001

Informal CURL Friday Morning Seminars are held regularly on Friday mornings during fall and spring semesters from 10:30 until noon in the CURL classroom, Lewis Towers 10th floor. Loyola faculty and students, community activists, and guests are welcome. Phone 312-915-7760 or 7762 to confirm specific presentations.

DATE	TOPIC/PRESENTERS
Sept. 7	"An Overview of the 2000 Census: Using Data for Community-based Research" Kenneth Johnson, Department of Sociology NOTE: THIS IS AN AFTERNOON SESSION, MEETING IN THE CURL CLASSROOM FROM 1:00 – 3:00 PM. THERE WILL BE NO MORNING SEMINAR ON THIS DAY.
Sept. 14	"How Public Data Can Serve the Public Interest" St. Rep. Larry McKeon, 34th District, and Tom Walsh, CURL Research Coordinator
Sept. 21	FIELDTRIP: A guided tour of the reconstruction of Wacker Drive and the inner workings of the Lake Street bridge led by Stan Kaderbek, Bureau of Bridges, City of Chicago Meet at the southwest corner of State and Wacker in front of the Renaissance Hotel at 9:30 am. (It is essential that everyone going on the fieldtrip confirms with David Van Zytveld or Lin Von Dreele no later than September 18 since the city is supplying hard hats.)
Sept. 28	"Delivering Social Services in Chicago's Gentrifying Neighborhoods" Roberta Buchanan, Executive Director, Howard Area Community Center; Esther Nieves, Executive Director, and Chuck Armstrong, Board member, Erie Neighborhood House
Oct. 5	"Learnings from STRIVE/CURL Research Project: Implications for Welfare Employment Policy and Program Design" Steven Redfield, Executive Director, STRIVE/Chicago and Christine George, CURL Faculty Fellow and Department of Sociology
Oct. 12	"Religion, Social Justice, and Research" Dan Hartnett, Department of Philosophy
Oct. 19	"Residential Treatment for Children: Discharge Planning and Return to Family and Community" Edward Gumz, School of Social Work
Oct. 26	"Visiting Cuba: Experiences and Lessons Learned" Madeline Troche-Rodriguez, CURL Graduate Fellow, and Kim Richardson, Executive Director, Westside Business Improvement Association
Nov. 2	"Finding Community Voice in a Global World: Linkages Among Grassroots Projects" Philip Nyden, Director of CURL and Department of Sociology
Nov. 9	"Building a Survey: What Do You Ask? How Do You Ask It?" Marilyn Krogh, Department of Sociology
Nov. 16	"Helping the Mentally Ill in the Criminal Justice System: Promising Programs and Policies" Arthur Lurigio, Department of Criminal Justice
Nov. 23	No seminar, Thanksgiving break
Nov. 30	TBA
Dec. 7	No seminar, final exams

Chicago's Jesuit University

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