



## Friends of IPCE,



Happy New Year! Our 2013 closed on a high note after a wonderful fall semester featuring empowering lectures, impactful dialogues . . . and a fellow from abroad! In October, IPCE and the Great Cities Institute (GCI) were pleased to host Elif Kalan from Istanbul, Turkey, through the U.S. Department of State's Professional Fellows Program. Elif's interests in youth issues and developing their civil capacity to participate in decision-making processes aligned with many of our Institute goals and programs, making her a valuable addition to our team. In addition to

Elif, IPCE welcomed three guest speakers to campus for lectures on civic engagement. Traveling to Chicago from Nova Scotia, Tim Merry, co-founder of the Art of Hosting, presented a model of participatory urban planning. Through a partnership with GCI, Troy Duster, Chancellor's Professor at the Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy at the University of California, Berkeley, delivered remarks on engaged learning as the bridge to civic engagement. And finally, Emil Jones, Jr. headlined IPCE's fall Civic Engagement and Democracy Lecture Series, reflecting on his 40 years of public service.

This fall we awarded our 2013-2014 discourse grants to six UIC faculty and staff. We also kicked off our annual Lunch Talk series, with presentations by 1) Elif Kalan on why youth matter in local governance; 2) Pia Hunter (Senior Library Specialist at University Library) on navigating copyright in a digital world; and 3) Lynette Jackson (Professor of Gender and Women Studies & African American Studies, LAS) on 'New African Diasporas' in Chicago. And not slowing down at all, we wrapped up the semester by holding our first student dialogue on jobs and the economy in November and organizing the second annual dialogue and deliberation convening in December.

We're keeping the momentum going with our planning for spring. We'll continue hosting a series of lunch talks featuring recent civic engagement research, and we'll hold another campus lecture in continuation of our Civic Engagement and Democracy Lecture Series. We'll also have research poster presentations from our Urban Public Policy Fellows, and we'll hold two more student dialogues—one on community violence and another on healthcare. Please watch our website for further information.

One last announcement: IPCE is excited to be collaborating with the Chicago Community Trust on their upcoming "On the Table" project in celebration of the Trust's 99th anniversary. The goal of the project is to convene more than 10,000 Chicagoland residents at 1,000 dinners across the metropolitan area for conversations on how to shape the public agenda to build better communities. IPCE has been asked to assist with assessing the conversations and determining their impact. We're thrilled to play a role in a dialogue project of such breadth and scale.

I hope to see you soon at one of our spring events.

Joseph K. Hoereth, PhD

## IPCE Awards Civic Engagement Discourse Grants to UIC Faculty and Staff

IPCE is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2013-2014 Civic Engagement Discourse Fund Award. Six UIC faculty and staff have been selected by the Institute for their projects that facilitate public discourse on policy issues or topics important to Chicago communities.

**Katie Arnold**, Disability and Human Development/College of Applied Health Sciences

**Event: "Engaging People with Disabilities and their Siblings in Policy Discourse"** – This event will provide an opportunity for individuals with disabilities and their siblings to voice their concerns regarding disability policy in two community dialogue forums. Events will be held Saturday, March 1, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the University of Illinois at Chicago (1640 W. Roosevelt Rd., Chicago, IL) and Saturday, March 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at The Autism Program of Illinois (5520 South Sixth Street Road, Springfield, IL).

**David Merriman**, Institute for Government and Public Affairs

**Event: "IGPA State Summit: Illinois' Fiscal Cliff"** – This event brought together leaders in policymaking, fiscal analysis, and advocacy to focus on the state fiscal situation and discuss ways to address Illinois' persistent budget shortfall. The summit was held October 28, 2013.

**Nadine Naber**, Gender and Women's Studies/College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

**Event: "Ending Gender Violence among Arab and Muslim Immigrants: A Discourse on Social Context and Solutions"** – This community-based dialogue focused on the problem of domestic violence in Arab immigrant communities in Chicago in order to increase community awareness about the factors causing gender violence and to create culturally and historically specific strategies for ending gender violence and supporting survivors. This dialogue was held January 27, 2014.

**Barbara Risman**, Sociology/College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

**Event: "Conference on Neighborhood Development"** – This event is a community-based conference that will bring together stakeholders from the communities surrounding UIC, UIC leaders, and researchers from around the country who can translate research on revitalizing urban neighborhoods for community members and local authorities. Date TBD.

**Linda Sandman**, Disability and Human Development/College of Applied Health Sciences

**Event: "People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Advancing Sexual Self-Advocacy: A Community Forum"** – This forum will gather people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD)

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## IPCE

The Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement (IPCE) focuses on transforming democracy by creating a more fully engaged citizenry with more effective leaders. As a catalyst for learning and action, the Institute creates opportunities for scholars, concerned citizens, students, and government officials to actively participate in social discourse, research, and educational programs on policy issues and social trends.

Find out more about the Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement at [www.ipce.uic.edu](http://www.ipce.uic.edu) or call 312-355-0088.

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to discuss and set a policy agenda regarding the sexual health and rights of people with I/DD. Tentatively scheduled for March 2014.

**Joseph Strickland**, Policy Center/Jane Addams College of Social Work

**Event: "Community Remix: Bouncing Back from Jail or Prison"** – This event is a one day informational seminar for former prisoners and community-based agencies that service low-to-moderate income communities where former prisoners would likely need to access services. Scheduled for April 18, 2014.

## UIC Students Talk Jobs and the Economy in First Campus Dialogue



On November 6, 2013, an intimate group of students came together to participate

in IPCE's first Campus Dialogue held in partnership with the Office of Diversity and the Great Cities Institute. Students were divided into small groups and, with the guidance of trained facilitators, deliberated on issues related to jobs and the economy.

Most U.S. citizens receive their income from wages, which means their standard of living, insurance benefits, and even social status all depend on their job and the economy. However, the number of jobs lost during the "Great Recession" totaled a staggering 8.4 million. With signs of recovery approaching and an effort to make up for jobs lost, students came together to discuss the pros and cons of different policy approaches to rebuilding the economy, including more government investment in infrastructure and education, unleashing the private sector by reducing taxes and regulations, and strengthening the middle class by cutting taxes on wages and providing affordable government benefits.

According to our survey results, 100% of responding students thought the campus dialogue and the small group discussion opportunities were either "good" or "great." Students also stated that they learned a lot from being able to unpack complex policy approaches and deliberate with their fellow students.

We are excited to continue holding Campus Dialogues this spring. Stay tuned for more information on the next two dialogues in our series focusing on community violence and healthcare.

## IPCE Welcomes Fellow from Turkey



This fall IPCE had the privilege of welcoming a global perspective to its team. Elif Kalan from Istanbul, Turkey, traveled to the United States in October as part of the U.S. Department of State's Professional Fellows Program. Kalan is a consultant for both the Mobilizing Youth For Child Friendly Cities and the International Youth Leadership Academy projects run through UNICEF Turkey and the Habitat Center for Development and Governance.

Working with IPCE and the Great Cities Institute (GCI) at UIC, Kalan had the

opportunity to learn more about each institutes' programming and research activities as they relate to her work back home in the public sector on youth issues and youth governance. In turn, IPCE gained unique insight into how the concept of civic engagement is framed in Turkey and the efforts being taken to more widely and authentically involve underrepresented voices—including those of youth, women, and the disabled—in decision-making processes.

"I participated in almost all the activities planned within IPCE and GCI," Kalan said, "which was very helpful for learning about local politics, approaches to citizenship, [and] the different types of local administration systems. Therefore, I had a chance to compare the limits and works of local authorities here in Turkey and in the US." Back home in Turkey, Kalan is currently at work on 'need mapping' at the district level, the development of which she says has been informed by her experience at UIC.

During her visit, Kalan gave a presentation for IPCE's Lunch Talk series, sharing aspects of her work on helping to establish a culture of youth participation within Turkey and internationally. Her presentation, "Youth Civil Participation Is Not a Request; It's a Must: Why Youth Matter in Local Governance," explored how it is essential that youth become civic actors in their communities; with people under the age of 25 now making up nearly half of the total global population, youth must be proactive in championing their causes and having their interests represented in government. Likewise, public officials should perceive youth as *problem-solvers*, not problems, and as equal partners in civic life.

Norma Ramos, Director of Marketing and Communications at IPCE, and Teresa Córdova, Director of GCI, will be traveling to Turkey in May for the second phase of the professional fellows program.

## COMING UP

**Watch your e-mail and the IPCE website for notice of the following events and activities:**

For All/Public Event: **Civic Engagement and Democracy Lecture Series**. Guest speaker TBA. April TBD at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Student Center East, Cardinal Room, 750 S. Halsted Street.

For All/Public Event: **Civic Engagement Lunch Talk Series**. Learn more about how civic engagement can transform democracy.

CUPPA Great Cities Institute Conference Room 418  
412 S. Peoria Street  
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Light lunch will be served.

Wednesday, February 12, 2014: **Community Transformation in Chicago: Reconceptualizing Neighborhood Food Systems** with Angela Odoms-Young, Kinesiology and Nutrition, College of Applied Health Sciences.

Wednesday, February 26, 2014: **An Analysis of Emerging Urban Digital Infomediaries in an Era of Big Data and Open Data Initiatives** with Lisa Dirks, Senior Associate, Urban Transportation Center; and Yaye Mallon Keita, Ph. D student in Urban Planning at UIC.

Wednesday, March 19, 2013: **Nonprofit Organizations and Voter Mobilization in the U.S. & Chicago: Findings from the 2012 Election** with Kelly LeRoux, Department of Public Administration, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. Please note: **LOCATION – CUPPA Conference Room 110.**

## Building Chicago's Civic Infrastructure through Dialogue and Deliberation



On December 4, 2013, IPCE hosted the Second Annual Dialogue and Deliberation Convening: Building a Civic Infrastructure. Local practitioners gathered at the UIC campus for the half-day conference to explore how the one-year-old Dialogue and Deliberation (D&D) Community of Practice (CoP) can continue to develop Chicago's civic infrastructure.

The convening opened with a method's showcase in which attendees had the opportunity to learn more about collaboration, conflict transformation, and decision-making—three different streams of dialogue and deliberation practice. After a networking lunch, special guest speaker Matt Leighninger, Director of the Deliberative Democracy Consortium, delivered the keynote address on “Building a Civic Infrastructure.” (Video of the address is available on IPCE's Youtube page.) The event concluded with a large-scale conversation focused on determining the next steps for growing Chicago's civic infrastructure and how the CoP can assist in this plan.

“The conversations were thought-provoking, and it was great to connect with some of Chicago's most thoughtful and caring civic engagement practitioners. Just delightful,” said Matt Sweeney, CoP member and participant.

This convening was part of IPCE's commitment to exploring how the University can help broaden and deepen the engagement of Chicago-area residents in public policy and community issues through the use of dialogue and deliberation practices. Stay tuned for updates on upcoming dialogue and deliberation events.

## White House Shows Support for Participatory Budgeting

In December, the White House announced major plans to promote participatory budgeting as a citizen tool in local communities as part of its second Open Government National Action Plan. IPCE would like to extend its congratulations to the Participatory Budgeting Project (PBP) and its Chicago-based initiative, PB Chicago, for their hard work in helping this process gather steam across the U.S.

According to the newest Action Plan, the Obama Administration will collaborate with organizations, non-profits, philanthropies, and interested cities in order to create tools and best practices for project implementation, and to educate communities and raise awareness on the purpose of participatory budgeting and its benefits.

Chicago is home to the first example of participatory budgeting in the United States, with Alderman Joe Moore of the 49th Ward introducing the process in 2009. Currently, three Chicago wards—the 22nd, 45th, and 49th—are using the process, which has since spread to New York City, San Francisco, and Vallejo, CA. UIC's Great Cities Institute (GCI), PBP, and several city-wide and community-based organizations have partnered to implement PB in Chicago wards so that thousands of local residents can decide how to spend millions of dollars in taxpayer money. IPCE is a proud supporter of the PB Chicago initiative.

## Fall Highlights



UIC Urban Forum - **Technology and the Resilience of Metropolitan Regions.** On December 5, 2013, top federal, state, and municipal officials alongside private sector and community leaders gathered at the UIC Forum for the 2013 Urban Forum to discuss how technologies affect numerous aspects of the metropolitan environment – from quality of life to governance, from health services to workforce development. Visit <http://uicurbanforum.org/videos/2013/> for highlights.



On Wednesday, October 16, 2013, **Emil Jones Jr.**, distinguished public servant, talked about the importance of leadership and civic engagement as part of IPCE's Civic Engagement and Democracy Lecture Series.



Engaged students, staff, faculty, and community members gathered together over lunch to discuss youth development programs, navigating copyright in a digital world, and New African Diasporas in Chicago as part of our **Civic Engagement Lunch Talk series.**

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## Save the Date



The Urban Public Policy Fellowship (UPPF) Program presents:

### **2013-2014 UPPF Research Poster Presentation and Exhibition**

**Friday, April 4, 2014  
2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**University of Illinois at Chicago - SCE Illinois Room  
750 South Halsted Street  
Chicago, IL 60607**



Please join us at the IALHEA Annual Diversity Dialogue & Research Forum hosted by the Illinois American and Latino Higher Education Alliance (IALHEA) on Friday, April 4, 2014, to support our UPPF Fellows and the findings of their public policy research. Their projects stem from hands-on program internship experiences and are on policy-related topics. Examples include: education reform, HIV/AIDS, and food access.

The UPPF program is a leadership development program designed to expose historically underrepresented minority undergraduate students at UIC to key public policy issues. For more information contact Catalina Nava at (312) 355-0154 or follow us on Facebook: UIC UPPF.

## IPCE Updates

This year IPCE celebrates its five year anniversary. Congratulations to our staff for their hard work and tremendous dedication to advancing our civic mission.

IPCE has joined the photo-sharing world of Instagram. Please follow us at @UICIPCE.



## Connect with IPCE



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## Join the Listserve

Are you on IPCE's Listserv? If not, join today and receive updates on IPCE, civic engagement activities, and more. Subscribe now by sending a message to [neramos@uic.edu](mailto:neramos@uic.edu).