



Friends of IPCE,



I can hardly believe that another academic year is behind us already. Classes have wrapped up, students are looking ahead to summer jobs and vacations, and IPCE is gearing up for another busy summer. Before looking at what's planned for the upcoming months, though, let me provide highlights from an exciting spring filled with plenty of research, meaningful dialogue, and learning opportunities for all.

I should mention that due to damage to CUPPA Hall earlier this year, IPCE and other units from the college have had to relocate to west campus. IPCE is now located on the sixth floor of the Student Residence Hall (SRH) at 818 S. Wolcott, which is above Student Center West. A decision on when we can return will be made following a thorough assessment of the building being done by engineers.

We're thrilled to be working with Bob Jordan, television news journalist and weekend anchor of the WGN News at Nine. Bob comes to us as part of a joint collaboration with Great Cities Institute and brings his decades of experience as a journalist and storyteller. We're so happy to have him on the team.

In other areas of research, we continued our Civic Engagement Lunch Talk series, which gives UIC faculty and staff who have been awarded our competitive Research Fund grant an opportunity to share their research findings with the community. Joy Hammel (Occupational Therapy) presented on the use of participatory action research in the disability community to address social disparities in community living and participation. Sandy Slater (Institute for Health Research and Policy) shared findings on how involving community organizations in playground revitalization efforts impact neighborhood social environments and physical activity levels.

IPCE also released a study sponsored by The Chicago Community Trust exploring the leadership development arena in Chicago. This report highlights trends and reveals types of programs, informing future leadership development program participants and providers of the many opportunities that already exist and offering new ideas on how to enhance current programs, respectively.

As always, we offer numerous ways to engage students in our programming and events. Undergraduate fellows in the Urban Public Policy Fellowship (UPPF) Program wrapped up their time in the program by presenting their research posters at the 2015 IALHEA Diversity Dialogue and Research Forum. In addition, students across campus convened twice this semester for facilitated dialogues on the Chicago mayoral campaign, in which they explored candidates' positions on the elected school board, public safety and violence, and minimum wage.

IPCE is especially excited for the summer months when we'll be continuing our partnership with The Chicago Community Trust. The Trust has approached us to once again assess the impact of its May 12 On the Table initiative. We'll be sending out a survey to all participants and compiling an impact report that will be delivered to the public early next fall.

Stay tuned later this summer for announcements regarding upcoming fall programs and events.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

Joseph K. Hoereth, PhD

IPCE Partners with The Trust to Assess Impact of *On the Table*

For the second year in a row, IPCE will be working with The Chicago Community Trust to analyze the impact of this year's On the Table conversations. *On the Table* 2015 launched The Trust's 100th anniversary and marks a year-long celebration.

Following up on the success of last year's campaign, *On the Table* brings together thousands of residents across the Chicago region in small groups to share a meal and hold conversation on how to make our communities stronger, safer, and more dynamic. Last year, participants called for more collaboration, commitment, and civic engagement. This year, The Trust hopes to "spark a movement to inspire even more residents to get involved for the benefit of our community and its future." Terry Mazany, CEO of The Trust, sees *On the Table* as an important step in fulfilling the foundation's centennial vision of making the Chicagoland region the most philanthropic in the nation.

Following the May 12 event, a survey designed by IPCE was sent to every participant to learn more about their conversation participation and their civic engagement habits. From there, a report will be put together highlighting the outcomes of the event, such as new ideas, stories of improving communities, and opportunities for collaboration. The report will be made publicly available next fall.



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 or call 312-355-0088.

Bob Jordan Joins IPCE and the Great Cities Institute as Research Fellow

IPCE welcomes Bob Jordan, television news journalist and weekend anchor of the WGN News at Nine as a Research Fellow. Jordan will conduct participatory action research to create and implement a community engagement project and document its success. Jordan will present the work in the fall and winter of 2015.

IPCE Conducts Scan of Chicago Leadership Development Programs

Many programs in the Chicago region work to develop future leaders, yet little is known about the overall system of leadership development programs. As part of a commitment to support a new generation of civic leaders and to encourage a more “inclusive paradigm of public service leadership,” IPCE has released the Chicago Area Leadership Development Scan, which explores the landscape of leadership development programming in the Chicago region.

The scan includes an inventory of 166 adult leadership development programs serving the public and social sectors in the Chicago area, and based on data collected from 74 of these programs, highlights trends related to program purpose, target population, program design, strengths, and weaknesses.

Furthermore, three categories of leadership development programs emerged in this study—student, professional, and community—revealing important differences obscured by the general leadership landscape trends. By providing a better understanding of this landscape, this study informs future leadership development program participants of the many opportunities that already exist in the Chicago area and offers providers of leadership development programming new ideas and questions on how to enhance their programs.

The report is available on IPCE’s website, and the inventory is also available via google maps at: bit.ly/1B4lyxK.

Thank you to The Chicago Community Trust for sponsoring this study.

UPPF Program Says ‘Thank You’ to Partners



American Academic Network (AAAN), we would like to thank you for your support and for providing our students with rewarding experiences this 2014-2015 academic year.

Every year, IPCE’s Urban Public Policy Fellowship (UPPF) Program places its fellows at internship sites throughout the Chicago area. The goal of the internship is to pair fellows with partner organizations who can provide students with insight into the inner workings of government, community-based initiatives, nonprofits, and public policy.

On behalf of the UPPF program, administered through IPCE and in partnership with the Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services (LARES) Program and the African-

Alivio Medical Center
 American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)
 Black Star Project
 Center of Excellence in Eliminating Health Disparities
 Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
 Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
 City of Chicago Department of Public Health
 Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office
 Eighteenth Street Development Corporation (ESDC)
 Health Leads
 Healthy Steps, University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System
 Illinois Heart Rescue, UIC Department of Emergency Medicine
 Instituto Del Progreso Latino

Latin American Recruitment Education Services (LARES) Program
 Latino Policy Forum
 Mexican American Legal Defense Education Fund (MALDEF)
 Mujeres Latinas en Acción
 New Covenant CDC
 Nutrition Services, Chicago Public Schools (CPS)
 Office of Career & College Success, Chicago Public Schools (CPS)
 Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC)

For additional information about the UPPF program or on how to become an internship site, please contact Catalina Nava, Program Coordinator, at 312-355-0154 or at cnava2@uic.edu.

Research Highlights

IPCE continued its 2014-2015 Civic Engagement Lunch Talk series this spring with two UIC faculty recipients of IPCE’s competitive Civic Engagement Research Fund Award. IPCE’s Lunch Talk series is designed to bring scholars, students, and community members together to learn about the latest research on civic engagement.

On February 11, Joy Hammel, Occupational Therapy, presented her work, “Participatory Action Research in the Disability Community to Address Societal Disparities in Community Living and Participation.” Hammel’s participatory action research project worked directly with citizens with disabilities to document their needs, barriers, and recommended supports to community living and participation. It also brought together an interdisciplinary group of policymakers, constituents with disabilities, disability rights advocates, legal advocates, researchers, and students to target community living and participation disparities as a social justice issue in Illinois.

On March 11, Sandy Slater, Institute for Health Research and Policy, shared findings from her research, “Playground Renovations and Social Capital on Youth Park Use and Physical Activity.” Slater’s study examines how involving community organizations in playground revitalization efforts may impact neighborhood social environments and physical activity levels. The research will help inform all levels of government about the role urban park revitalization can play in improving the quality of urban life through increased community engagement, social capital, and safety—all of which can lead to improved individual and community health.

UIC Students Deliberate on the Municipal Elections in Campus Dialogue Sessions



In the weeks leading up to this year's historic Chicago mayoral election, IPCE hosted a pair of Campus Dialogue events aimed at providing a space for students, faculty, and staff to move beyond campaign rhetoric and discuss substantive differences in the candidates' policy proposals.

Hosted shortly before the first round of voting in February, the first event incorporated live polling technology that enabled participants to anonymously answer a series of questions on their personal opinions of the candidates. Following their subsequent discussion, they voted again, this time viewing graphical representations of whether the group's opinions had changed as a result of their conversations. In many cases, they had.

IPCE staffers facilitated the small group conversations and provided valuable background information on the platforms and policy histories of all five candidates. Through a series of questions on the city's minimum wage, the issue of whether to hire more police officers, and the question of whether the board of education ought to be elected by the public, participants learned more about some of the most important issues at stake in the election.

Following the initial round of elections, IPCE hosted another event to further explore the run-off candidacies of Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Cook County Commissioner Jesus "Chuy" Garcia.

In keeping with IPCE's mission of ensuring that the UIC community remains an active participant of civic life in Chicago, the events provided a unique opportunity to learn and further engage in the vitally important process of selecting the city's mayor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to pending budget cuts facing the University for FY 2016, IPCE's Civic Engagement Research Fund Award Call for Applications is postponed until further notice. Please stay tuned for more information. As always, we appreciate the interest that has been shown for our competitive research fund grant.

Fellows Showcase Public Policy Research at Diversity Conference



On April 15, 2015, IPCE's Urban Public Policy Fellowship (UPPF) Program Fellows presented their research posters during the IALHEA Annual Diversity Dialogue and Research Forum at UIC. The goals of the research forum are to

increase faculty and student research collaborations; facilitate mentor relationships between faculty and students of color; and to increase the persistence of African American, Latino, and other underrepresented students in academia and enhance their research.

UPPF Fellows' research projects stem from hands-on internship experiences and focus on policy-related topics as part of the UPPF program, a leadership development program designed to expose historically underrepresented minority undergraduate students at UIC to key public policy issues.

Visit the UPPF page on our website to check out program highlights, samples of Fellows' research posters, and photos of their work over the last year at: <http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/ipce/interior/uppf.html>. If you have any questions or would like more information about the UPPF Program, please contact Catalina Nava at 312-355-0154. Also follow UPPF on Facebook: UIC UPPF.



Participatory Budgeting Chicago Releases Second Annual Evaluation Report

The research report for the second cycle of Participatory Budgeting (PB) Chicago was recently released. Nearly 3,000 people came out to vote in May 2014 on how to spend \$3 million in their communities. Residents chose 13 projects to improve their communities, including street resurfacing, new street lighting, sidewalk repairs, bus stop benches, park improvements, and planting over 450 trees. The research report also identified several key findings from the year two cycle, including:

- More people of color, low-income individuals, and youth participated, compared to the previous year's cycle (2012-2013).
- Targeting youth at assemblies held in schools during school hours increased their engagement and turnout.
- Over \$1.6 million in additional funding beyond the commitment of aldermanic menu money was leveraged for community projects identified through the PB process.
- PB is becoming institutionalized into the City of Chicago government.

Additional findings from the second year of PB Chicago are similar to and reinforce findings from the 2012-2013 cycle, including:

- Participation by people of color and other historically underrepresented residents was generally consistent with the participation of these groups in local elections.
- By engaging and participating in PB, participants learned about the needs of their ward, the interests of their neighbors, and the city budgeting process.

The full research report is available on IPCE's website. The PB vote for the third cycle in Aldermanic wards concluded on May 2, 2015 with over 3,000 voters. Residents chose 19 winning community projects to improve their communities. Stay tuned for more information!

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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.