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SPEA faculty in the media

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Advancing Knowledge for the Greater Good
New York Times (9/13/16): With U.S. Election in Sight, Ban Ki-moon Seeks Quick Action on Climate Accord

Rajendra Abhyankar comments in a story about the United Nations General Assembly meeting to discuss rushing the 2015 Paris climate change accord into legal force. Abhyankar is a former diplomat and served as India’s ambassador to several nations.

Daily Progress (9/21/16): Pianist Monika Herzig leads an all-female troupe of jazz players through the music’s history

Monika Herzig is profiled in a story connected to a performance by her jazz band in Charlottesville, Virginia. Herzig is a world-renowned jazz pianist and has recently released several albums including a major project focused on women in jazz. She is also the author of a recent book on jazz legend David Baker.

The World Post (9/21/16): Getting Our Anti-Terrorism Strategy Right

Lee Hamilton writes about terrorism in the U.S. He describes the emergence of “lone wolf” attackers and cites recent examples from Boston, San Bernardino, and Orlando. Hamilton is the founder of IU’s Center on Representative Government, served in Congress for 34 years, was Vice Chairman of the 9/11 Commission and Co-Chairman of the bipartisan Iraq Study Group. He advises President Obama on homeland security.

Real Clear Politics (9/20/16): Republicans See Turnaround in Indiana Senate Race

Paul Helmke offers analysis of the Indiana political scene which he knows well. Helmke is director of SPEA’s Civic Leaders Center and a professor of practice. He is the former president and CEO of the Brady Center/Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence and a three-term mayor of Fort Wayne, Indiana. As a Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, Helmke ran against Evan Bayh in 1998.

Nature World News (9/6/16): Water Storage Can’t Save Crops During Drought; Dry Air a Major Threat to Plant Health

Kimberly Novick is an environmental scientist. This article describes some of her most recent research concerning the effect of dry air on crops. Novick’s work combines principles from biometeorology, plant physiology, and hydrology. Turn to the inside back page for a photo of another recent (wonderful) accomplishment.

You can find our full monthly media report at spea.indiana.edu
The road more travelled: SPEA researchers study the road mileage user-fee

Drivers don’t want to pay per mile for traveling the nation’s roads even though the current method for funding highway construction is in jeopardy, according to new SPEA research.

Drivers now pay a tax on fuel at gas stations, and that money goes to build and repair roads. But the funds are coming up short because efficient vehicles use less fuel, and the tax hasn’t kept up with inflation.

To find out whether a mileage fee is an acceptable replacement for the tax, the researchers conducted a scientific survey of more than 2,000 Americans. Findings include:

• Opponents of mileage user fees exceed supporters by a 4-1 ratio.
• Opposition is even greater if GPS-style devices are used to track mileage rather than self-reporting or odometer inspections.
• Many opponents feel so strongly that they say they’re willing to take political action against lawmakers who try to adopt mileage user fees.

At least 23 states have or are considering mileage user fees.

“The concept is gaining traction among policymakers in the U.S.,” said SPEA researcher Denvil Duncan, the lead author of the study. “But the relative intensity with which opponents hold their views suggests it will be quite difficult to generate public consensus in favor of adopting mileage user fees in the near future.”

The survey found that about 20 percent of drivers would be willing to pay fees based on odometer readings. In part because they fear an invasion of their privacy, only 13 percent favor the government using vehicle-mounted GPS devices to measure miles traveled.

“If drivers could select the method used to track vehicle miles traveled, their privacy concerns might be minimized and the fee marginally more popular,” Duncan said, noting that Oregon has used that strategy since adopting a fee last year.

Technology isn’t the only hurdle. The survey indicated that roughly two-thirds of Americans do not believe roads should be financed under the user-pays principle, whether that’s through a fuel tax or mileage fee.

“It will also take political courage to support a mileage user fee,” Duncan said. “The political gamesmanship that often surrounds tax policy reforms is likely to favor opponents.”

Some solution must be found soon. The annual tax revenue generated by the federal fuel tax is
$20 billion lower than what is needed to maintain highway performance at its current level. Similar funding gaps also exist among states.

In addition to Duncan, the SPEA research team includes Venkata Nadella, Stacey Giroux, Ashley Clark, and John D. Graham. Their article, “The road mileage user fee: Level, intensity and predictors of public support,” was published in the journal Transport Policy.

It’s all in the wrist: Using bracelets to study health risks in coal communities

To investigate the link between environmental chemical exposure and adverse health effects, four Indiana University researchers are planning to use a tool similar to what millions of Americans wear on their wrists.

Michael Hendryx of the IU School of Public Health-Bloomington, Jessica Gall Myrick of The Media School, and SPEA’s Marta Venier and Amina Salamova have been awarded a $470,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to examine the relationship between coal mining in the Appalachian region and health problems in the people living there.

The researchers plan to use silicone bracelets, often worn to show support for a cause or sold as a fundraiser, to gather information for their study. Scientists Venier and Salamova have done extensive research into the persistence of flame-retardant chemicals in the environment. They’ve used passive sampling in their research before, but the wristbands will be a new way for them to learn about their subjects’ environments.

After learning of a pioneering study by Oregon State University’s Kim Anderson that showed the wristbands are capable of absorbing more than 1,000 different chemicals, the researchers decided to incorporate them into the study. The researchers will seek to learn whether people who live in coal-mining communities are exposed to pollutants associated with increased risk of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and cancer.

Salamova said using the bracelets to measure exposure to pollutants is innovative. “It’s never been done with silicone bracelets,” she said.

The convenience factor is one of the bracelets’ greatest benefits. “They’re noninvasive; you just wear a bracelet,” Venier said. She also said the “equipment” is quite inexpensive.

Hendryx began to investigate health problems in coal-mining communities after moving to West Virginia in 2006. He joined the IU faculty as a professor of applied health science in 2013.

“People who lived in these communities believed there were public health risks related to mining, especially related to mountaintop removal mining,” Hendryx said. “When I examined the research literature I could find practically nothing on the topic of public health risks.”

That led Hendryx to investigate the issue and publish a series of epidemiological studies. Later he began to examine environmental conditions, finding polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and possibly flame retardants, present in higher concentrations in mining communities than other areas.

Myrick is developing a plan to communicate the results to health and safety professionals and to residents in the coal mining region. “We want to tell them what the bracelets tell us so that they can take appropriate action,” Myrick said.

Although the IU team won’t be the first to conduct experiments with silicone bracelets, Venier believes the study was funded in part because of its potential to expand knowledge of how silicone bracelets can be used. “It comes with a lot of unknowns,” she said, adding that the researchers need to conduct pilot studies to find out the rate of absorption of the bracelets and the relationship with internal exposure. “It’s not a well-studied sampling method compared to some others.”

Hendryx said the use of the bracelets struck him as potentially influential. “Not many people anywhere in the country have tried using this approach,” he said. “I think the approach may have much larger potential than our current application; it could be applied to a variety of possible exposure environments for other populations.”
The researchers will also use passive air samplers to gauge ambient levels of potentially harmful chemicals in both indoor and outdoor environments.

**Pharmacy flu shots popular but don’t lead to higher vaccination rate**

Americans increasingly are getting their flu shots at a pharmacy instead of a doctor’s office, but that’s not boosting the number of people vaccinated, according to new SPEA research.

In what is believed to be the first nationwide study to evaluate the effect of pharmacy-based immunization regulations, the researchers analyzed data from several sources and reached three major conclusions:

- Pharmacists at locations ranging from the CVS chain to locally owned outlets are providing millions of vaccines as a consequence of a change in state laws. Beginning in the 1990s, states began permitting pharmacists to administer flu vaccines, which previously had been solely the responsibility of physicians and nurses. Between 2007 and 2013, the number of vaccines dispensed in pharmacies increased from 3.2 million to 20.9 million.

- The dramatic increase in pharmacy vaccinations has had minimal impact on the overall adult vaccination rate. “Possibly what is happening is people who were already planning to be vaccinated are shifting their business from a doctor’s office or medical clinic to a pharmacy at Target or Walgreens,” said SPEA’s Coady Wing, a co-author of the study. “One possible explanation is that pharmacies are a more convenient place for people to get what they want, which is to be vaccinated. In that sense, people who want to be vaccinated benefit from allowing pharmacy-based vaccinations.”

- The rise in pharmacy-based vaccinations doesn’t appear to significantly decrease utilization of other preventive health services. In theory, that could have been a problem since doctors might bundle a flu shot with other preventive services such as blood tests and breast exams. But the data show virtually no change in routine physician office visits, Wing said. Whether the changes in pharmacy regulations led to a decrease in medical clinic flu vaccinations is a question not answered in the data analyzed the study.

Even though the adult vaccination rate has remained essentially unchanged, co-author Kevin McConeghy of the Providence, R.I., Veterans Affairs Medical Center said the evidence suggests that allowing pharmacists to give flu shots has been a success.

“Pharmacies are located in rural and urban areas. You don’t need an appointment, they accept insurance plans or cash, and they operate on expanded hours relative to primary-care clinics or other vaccinators,” McConeghy said. “In the end, patients are the winners, and that isn’t always the case in health care.”

An article about the research by Wing and McConeghy, “A national examination of pharmacy-based immunization statutes and their association with influenza vaccinations and preventive health,” was published in the journal Vaccine.

**Student research contributes to invasive species management in the Caribbean**

For most, a trip to the Caribbean means a week of sand and sun. But for recent IU graduate Ben Grubbs and his advisor, SPEA adjunct professor Stephen “Chip” Glaholt, it meant tackling the region’s most invasive marine pest: lionfish.

In June, Grubbs traveled to Council on International Educational Exchange Research Station in Bonaire through SPEA, a study abroad program led by Glaholt. Their summer research was an extension of the work they began, along with IU junior Haley Erickson,
on their spring 2016 trip to the same research facility. During the spring trip, they tested a novel technique to dramatically improve the way lionfish are managed in order to reduce the species' destructive effects on coral reefs.

“Lionfish are voracious predators and will eat any fish that can fit into their mouths,” Glaholt said. “Their insatiable appetites have decimated fish populations that are essential for keeping coral reefs healthy. This in turn harms both the reefs themselves and the livelihood of the fishermen and local communities who depend on them.”

Currently, the most effective management strategy to prevent the spread of lionfish is to catch each fish one by one using spear-like tools, or spear guns. This type of culling practice is only effective in recently invaded areas where lionfish numbers are still low. However, detecting lionfish is more difficult in low-density areas. Thus, a technique that would allow managers to detect lionfish without having to see them would greatly improve their ability to stop the spread of this destructive invader, Glaholt said.

Grubbs and Erickson, under Glaholt’s direction, applied classroom teachings and their own research experience surrounding environmental DNA, or eDNA, to create a more effective process to detect lionfish. By analyzing water samples for traces of lionfish DNA, they were able to confirm not only the presence of the fish species but also hoped to determine the population count in a specific area.

Previous research scientists have used the amount of eDNA present in a specific water sample to estimate the number of organisms. But by creating a way to find a unique genetic sequence that would indicate the presence of more than one individual fish, Glaholt’s team hopes to identify early signs of an invasion and help managers identify key areas to focus their attention.

“Last summer I worked as a field and laboratory technician for Dr. David Lodge at the University of Notre Dame on his eDNA research,” said Erickson, a native of South Bend, Ind. “I became really interested in eDNA because it possesses a lot of potential for invasive and endangered species management. Seeing as how my major is environmental management, I was really interested in the application of eDNA research to management practices, and because I would be responsible for a lot of the researching and writing that happened for our experiment, allowing me to gain more experience.”

The group’s spring break trip was a whirlwind of learning by doing, both in the lab and in the field. For lab experiments, they set up aquariums containing varying numbers of lionfish and used it to test the presence of lionfish DNA and the ability of the novel method to correctly determine the number of lionfish in each tank. They completed field experience to verify that the lionfish could be detected with this method in the ocean. For the entire week they were in Bonaire over spring break, they were spending every day either setting up equipment, testing water samples or snorkeling to find lionfish in their natural habitats.

“I obtained experience in basic lab techniques that I was not exposed to prior to this experience, developed a deeper understanding about all the components that go into a research project and improved my ability to write scientific papers,” Erickson said. “This project was a good way for me to really figure out if this area of environmental management is something I’d be interested in pursuing into the professional level.”

When Grubbs and Glaholt traveled back to Bonaire this summer, they expanded their eDNA research to include shark tracking.

“I learned a lot about the ecology of Bonaire and what the locals are doing in regards to conservation on the island,” Grubbs said. “It was a great experience, and I met a lot of great people.”

“This research could not have been done without the financial support of IU’s Hutton Honors College, SPEA and CIEE, as well as the logistical support and expertise of Dr. Peachey’s group at CIEE-Bonaire,” Glaholt said.

Once summer concludes and their research is complete, they plan to publish their work in hopes of contributing to the management of the lionfish species and prevent further destruction to marine life.
SPEA faculty member Kosali Simon named Herman B Wells Endowed Professor

SPEA’s Kosali Simon has been appointed a Class of 1948 Herman B Wells Endowed Professor, an award bestowed previously on only two other IU faculty members.

Simon is a nationally known health economist whose research applies economic analysis to questions about health insurance and health care policy. She has published widely on the Affordable Care Act and its impact on health care and labor market outcomes. She is also a national leader in her profession, serving on several boards and in editorial positions.

The Herman B Wells Endowed Professor position was endowed by the IU Bloomington Class of 1948 to honor Herman B Wells, who served as Indiana University’s 11th president from 1937 until he retired in 1962 and university chancellor from 1962 until his death in 2000.

IU faculty who were previously appointed to the professorship are the late Myrtle Scott, who was a professor in the School of Education and associate dean of the Graduate School, and Abhijit Basu, professor emeritus of geological sciences and Class of 1948 Herman B Wells Endowed Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences.

“The Class of 1948 endowed this position to enrich the educational experience and to emphasize the values that Chancellor Wells exemplified, including devotion to diversity, inclusion and academic excellence,” said Eliza Pavalko, vice provost for faculty and academic affairs, who announced the appointment. “Professor Simon is an exceptional candidate to carry forth these values for the campus.

Simon is highly regarded for her teaching as well as her scholarship. She received the Indiana University Trustees Award for Teaching in 2015 and has received several national research awards.

“Kosali Simon’s dedication to higher education and her unbounded energy are reminiscent of the passion that characterized Herman B Wells during his leadership of Indiana University,” said Michael McGuire, executive associate dean of SPEA. “The School of Public and Environmental Affairs and IU are fortunate to have Kosali representing that legacy through the endowed professorship.”
An IU Bloomington faculty member since 2010, Simon is a research associate of the National Bureau for Economic Research and has just concluded a seven-year term as a board member of the American Society of Health Economists. She serves on the board of the American Economic Association’s Committee on the Status of Women in Economics, where she directs a national mentoring program for female assistant professors in economics. Simon was also recently elected to the leadership team of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management and is an associate editor of Health Economics and an editorial board member of the American Journal of Health Economics and the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management.

With the appointment, Simon will carry the title of 1948 Herman B Wells Endowed Professor for the remainder of her career at IU Bloomington. She will receive a grant of $10,000 per year for five years, designated for activities that enrich the educational experience at IU Bloomington. Simon plans to use these funds to create research fellowships for undergraduate students.

**Honoring a lifetime of public service and scholarship**

In a room full of prominent scholars and rising stars, Bob Agranoff stood out. He was the one with two books just completed, a raft of articles just published, a major study of a school district just completed. And, oh by the way, Agranoff was the one in the room who had just turned 80.

To mark Agranoff’s 50 years of scholarship and public service, SPEA brought together his current and former colleagues, his former students, and just a few of the many practitioners he’s influenced. For two days in Bloomington, they reviewed Agranoff’s legendary contributions to the field of collaborative public management. They also told a few stories and shared a few memories. Among the presenters:

- **Beryl Radin** from the Georgetown Public Policy Institute at Georgetown University whose work, influenced by Agranoff, focuses on policy analysis, intergovernmental relationships and federal management change.
- **Arthur Dykstra**, a former state administrator and author of three books on management, who has been a frequent collaborator on projects with Agranoff.
- **Aleksey Kolpakov** from the University of Nevada–Reno. He’s a 2014 SPEA Ph.D. and Agranoff directed his doctoral work in mixed methods.
- **Julie Mahler** from George Mason University and one of the pioneers in the field of organizational learning. She and Agranoff were involved in a major state health and human services department study.
- **Greg Raisman**, who leads engineering and community engagement for the City of Portland, Oregon, Bureau of Transportation. Agranoff was Raisman’s advisor through two SPEA degrees.
- **Manuel Villoria**, director of the Instituto Universitario Ortega y Gasset in Madrid, Spain. Agranoff is a professor emeritus at the Institute and he’s worked with Manuel on many projects in Spain.
- **Charles Wise**, a longtime member of the SPEA faculty and, more recently, dean of the John Glenn College of Public Affairs at the Ohio State University. Wise and Agranoff worked together to establish the doctoral program in public affairs at SPEA, among many projects.
- **Michael McGuire**, SPEA’s executive associate dean and holder of two SPEA degrees, helped put the conference together. During his remarks, he spoke humorously about working with Agranoff on projects during his student days. But the highlight came at the end of the conference and concerns future students at SPEA. Michael announced that Agranoff’s family and friends have established a Ph.D. Fellowship in Agranoff’s honor. That first Fellow better be ready to go to work, producing meaningful scholarship and public service. Because that’s what Agranoff did. And does.
SPEA grad student Danni McPherron has made reducing food waste her mission

Danni McPherron has spent plenty of time the last few years thinking about other people’s trash. “I’m pretty sure that my friends and family think of my passion for trash as inspiring, amusing, and at times, a bit annoying,” she said.

The Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs graduate student will be spending even more time thinking of how to reduce waste after recently accepting a scholarship from the Environmental Research and Education Foundation, a nonprofit that supports research into sustainable waste management practices.

McPherron will focus specifically on food waste, which she says is a natural progression of her interest in recycling.

“It’s the next step in the frontier of waste management,” McPherron said.

Her obsession with waste management started at a young age, after having been raised in a recycling household. “Slowly, I began noticing that not everyone recycled or composted at home like my family did,” she said. “I started to wonder how much stuff was being thrown away in our society and even began to take my recyclables home when I couldn’t find a place to properly handle them (and still do to this day).”

As a teenager, McPherron started the paper recycling program at her high school in Holland, Ind. Her waste management interest flourished as she earned an undergraduate degree at SPEA in environmental management. Her first course was “Intro to the Environment and People.”

“Instantly I was hooked,” she said. “I knew I had found my career path and passion in life.”

While working for the Indiana Recycling Coalition, McPherron managed public space recycling and composting efforts for several major events, including the 500 Festival Mini-Marathon. In 2016, McPherron’s efforts kept 1,400 pounds of bananas and banana peels from going to the landfill.

“The year before we only collected 50 pounds,” she said. “We were able to divert so many pounds of wasted food from that one event.”

McPherron hopes her research will expand on the work started by
“Twenty-five percent of what we throw away is food and yard trimmings. Can it be diverted to something useful?”

the Indiana Food Scrap Initiative and the Illinois Food Scrap Coalition to close the gap between those with excess organic materials and those with a use for them.

Through literature and data review, McPherron hopes to create a report that others can use to get everyone on the supply chain to think about what can be done with their waste besides throwing it in the landfill.

“I’m just trying to be the connector for all these pieces,” she said.

With the Environmental Protection Agency’s goal of reducing food waste by 50 percent by the year 2030, McPherron believes the time to lay the foundation for food waste recycling and reduction programs in the U.S. is now.

SPEA Assistant Professor Shahzeen Attari, who taught McPherron as an undergraduate student, said she is passionate, hardworking and very creative.

“She cares deeply for the environment and is an agent of change,” Attari said. “Her research area focuses on how to help stakeholders engage more deeply in food waste composting in our state.

“The U.S. EPA estimates that ‘more food reaches landfills and incinerators than any other single material in our everyday trash, about 21 percent of the waste stream.’ Reducing food waste is an important challenge, and who better than a talented ‘speon’ to see this through?”

McPherron’s research will quantify food waste sources, identify best management practices and model projects, map existing infrastructure and identify gaps, identify model regulatory policies, make recommendations for addressing infrastructure gaps and identify economic development opportunities.

McPherron hopes to give talks and make presentations about her findings once her report is complete.

SPEA sophomore Corben Andrews: Working to make a more sustainable world

Growing up, SPEA student Corben Andrews experienced early on the effects of poverty and the impact one can have on the world.

When he was 5 years old, he accompanied his parents and church on a mission trip to Mexico, where the group built houses for people in need. Then in high school, Andrews volunteered, again through his church, at an orphanage in Guatemala, where he helped build and paint buildings for the young children living there.

“I grew up with an appreciation of what we have in America and our impact on the rest of the world,” said Andrews, a sophomore majoring in environmental science.

It was during that trip to Guatemala that Andrews’ interest in sustainability was also piqued, after he witnessed a community living among a trash dump and drinking water from a stream polluted with that nearby garbage.

“It was terrible to see,” said Andrews, a Bloomington native. “I saw all this trash and these people having to suffer from all these nasty chemicals. I came back home and got connected with some sustainability groups here.”

Throughout high school, Andrews was involved with his school’s environmental club, helped build a school garden, volunteered at the Hoosier Hills Food Bank garden and was a member of Bring Your Bag Bloomington, a local group focused on the issue of single-use plastic bags.

When it was time to attend college, Andrews knew he wanted to continue to focus on sustainability issues and study at SPEA.

In addition to his studies, Andrews has served as a 2020 Sustainability Scholar through IU’s Office of Sustainability. As part of his work, which he is continuing this academic year, Andrews worked...
with Heather Reynolds, an associate professor of biology, to study the effectiveness of turf grass as a prairie planting pre-treatment.

He also serves as the campus garden intern through the Office of Sustainability, focusing on creating interactive, edible gardening spaces on the IU Bloomington campus. One such space is at Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, an 8,500-square-foot garden that provides the campus and community the opportunity to engage in food production.

“I really enjoy working at the garden. I get to be outside and I really enjoy just getting my hands dirty and the sense of community that happens there.”

As part of his work through the Office of Sustainability, Andrews will be volunteering at this year’s Big Red Eats Green festival, tabling a booth for the Hilltop Garden and Nature Center. The food festival and farmers market involves local growers and restaurants committed to sustainable practices in addition to opportunities for students and community members to become involved in sustainability efforts.

During his time at IU, Andrews has served as a 2020 Sustainability Scholar. Carissa Marks, a food working group intern with the Office of Sustainability and organizer of this year’s Big Red Eats Green event, said Andrews not only has a passion for sustainability and food issues, but also has a way with encouraging others to educate themselves and become involved.

“Corben recognizes and works hard to address the needs in our community, and I feel very fortunate to work so closely with him on food issues here in Bloomington,” she said. “His down-to-earth personality encourages and inspires community involvement.”

Andrews has seen first-hand how powerful the Big Red Eats Green event can be. Attending it last year is what first interested him in volunteering with the Campus Garden Initiative.

“I’m really excited about this year’s festival and the new events happening this year,” he said. “It is a great way for students to learn how to get involved and to educate themselves about eating healthy and local, sustainable food.”

It’s events like Big Red Eats Green and programs such as his internship through the Office of Sustainability that Andrews said he enjoys most about his IU experience. Having the opportunity to do hands-on work and to work closely with the IU and Bloomington community as a whole, is not only enjoyable, he said, but has given him invaluable real-world experiences.

“I like being busy and I enjoy the hands-on stuff,” he said. “I feel like the opportunities I’ve had have given me a taste for what it is like to really work in the field of sustainability.”

1,808
SPEA UNDERGRADUATE TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN FALL 2016

526+
SPEA GRADUATE TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN FALL 2016
When Ideas Mattered:
A Nathan Glazer Reader – edited by SPEA’s Leslie Lenkowsky

Nathan Glazer is hardly a household name, but the retired Harvard University sociologist’s work – over a 70-year career – has helped shape public discussion on a wide range of social issues. In the 1950s, he wrote, together with David Riesman and Reuel Denney, *The Lonely Crowd*, which is considered a classic in sociology and traced the evolution of values in the post-World War II America. In the 1960s, with future-Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, he wrote *Beyond the Melting Pot*, which punctured the widely held idea that immigrant groups abandoned their distinctive characteristics once they came to the United States. In the 1970s and 1980s, he was a central figure in debates over education, affirmative action, welfare reform, and urban policy. Not least importantly, he helped found and co-edit *The Public Interest*, the leading “neoconservative” journal on public policy, whose articles influenced both Republican and Democratic policymakers.

As a teacher, chiefly at the University of California at Berkeley and Harvard University, Glazer also left his mark on numerous students, including SPEA’s Leslie Lenkowsky, professor of practice emeritus in public affairs and philanthropic studies. Glazer was one of his doctoral advisors.

With award-winning documentary filmmaker Joseph Dorman, Lenkowsky has edited a collection of Glazer’s most important essays, many of which appeared in magazines that are no longer in print. Entitled *When Ideas Mattered: A Nathan Glazer Reader*, the book also includes appraisals of Glazer’s work by *Washington Post* columnist E. J. Dionne, Jr., and scholars Mark Lilla of Columbia University, Reed Ueda of Tufts University, Peter Skerry of Boston College, and Jackson Toby of Rutgers University. Transaction Press is publishing it in November.

“Nathan Glazer,” Lenkowsky said, “embodies what being a ‘public intellectual’ means.” The essays in this volume “demonstrate the importance of understanding policy, history, society and culture to address public concerns – even seemingly minor ones, like subway graffiti.” Throughout his career, Lenkowsky added, Glazer has also displayed considerable intellectual courage, not only repeatedly challenging conventional wisdoms, but also reversing himself when the evidence indicated he should. “Nathan Glazer comes from an era in which ideas really mattered, and his work shows how to make them count in the future.”

What, then, are we to make of the fact that immigrants today maintain so much stronger ties than in the past to their homeland and its people? My conviction is that assimilation still works; but today it works in different ways. More easily than in the past, it accommodates more than one identity and more than one loyalty. Immigrants continue to identify with the old country, its institutions and its politics. But this is not necessarily cause for regret—for they also forge an identity as Americans.

Thus we find Dominicans in New York City waving Dominican flags when a Little League team of young Dominicans wins a world series title for the United States. New Yorkers are at worst bemused when Dominican presidential candidates come to raise money in New York’s Dominican community, and we already see candidates for mayor of New York adding the Dominican Republic to their campaign itineraries. Most important, though it may take several generations, eventually the newcomers’ connection with their home island will diminish. Thus it was in the past, and thus it will be today—for Dominicans and for other new Americans. The world itself is very different, and assimilation too looks different—a marked departure from what it was during and after the great European immigration. But eventually today’s immigrants, like their predecessors a century ago, will most likely become Americans.

From “The Limits of Social Policy” (1971)

To sum up: Whereas the liberal believes that to every problem there is a solution, and the radical believes that to any problem there is only the general answer of wholesale social transformation, I believe that we can have only partial and less than wholly satisfying answers to the social problems in question. Whereas the liberal believes that social policies make steady progress in nibbling away at the agenda of problems set by the forces of industrialization and urbanization, and whereas the radical believes that social policy has made only insignificant inroads into these problems, I believe that social policy has ameliorated the problems we have inherited but that it has also given rise to other problems no less grave in their effect on human happiness than those which have been successfully modified.

The liberal has a solution, and the radical has a solution. Do I have a solution? I began this discussion by saying that the breakdown of traditional modes of behavior is the chief cause of our social problems. That, of course, is another way of saying industrialism and urbanization, but I put it in the terms I did because I am increasingly convinced that some important part of the solution to our social problems lies in traditional practices and traditional restraints. Since the past is not recoverable, what guidance could this possibly give? It gives two forms of guidance: first, it counsels hesitation in the development of social policies that sanction the abandonment of traditional practices, and second, and perhaps more helpful, it suggests that the creation and building of new traditions must be taken more seriously as a requirement of social policy itself.

From “Tocqueville and Riesman” (2000)

Let me be clear: this is not to dismiss the significance of empirical work, based on the model of the natural sciences, work that takes a hypothesis and tries to test it with all the controls for objectivity we have developed over the past century. Clearly sociology needs that kind of work and it should be central to it. But it seems to be the case that a large thesis, with implications for many areas of life, is not easy to encompass in detailed empirical studies, which try to reduce the thesis to elements that can be objectively measured and tested. A large thesis often escapes the narrower bounds of what science can do with it, it seems bigger than the elements into which it is divided for empirical studies, and they do not fully capture it. How do we deal scientifically with the questions that Tocqueville raised, his fear and concern that one implication of democracy and equality, pressed far enough, was the reduction of the sphere of freedom? He could see evidences of this in America. This is not the kind of question that can be settled by objective tests and inquiries and measures, whatever the additional light or insight they might offer. Does it mean such questions should therefore be abandoned, and play no role in sociology?
Kirsten Grønbjerg was elected to be a Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration. The academy is an independent, nonprofit and nonpartisan organization chartered by Congress in 1967 to assist government leaders at all levels to build more effective, efficient, and transparent organizations. Grønbjerg will be inducted as a Fellow at NAPA’s annual conference in Washington, D.C. She joins 13 current and emeriti SPEA faculty who have earned the prestigious designation.

Beth Gazley received a “Best Paper Award” at the 2016 annual meeting of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA). Gazley and former SPEA faculty member Chao Guo co-authored “What do We Know about Nonprofit Collaboration: A Comprehensive Systematic Review of the Literature.” Their paper was selected as the best paper presented at the 2015 conference.

Tom Rabovsky and Amanda Rutherford published an article in Public Administration Review: “The Politics of Higher Education: University President Ideology and External Networking.” Rabovsky and Rutherford explored the role that a president’s ideology plays in shaping networking behavior with political principals.

Jennifer Brass published Allies or Adversaries: NGOs and the State in Africa. In the book from top-ranked Cambridge University Press, Brass explains how NGOs have proliferated in the developing world and have changed the nature of service provision, governance, and state development.


Brad Fulton and two colleagues received a research grant from the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE). The $7,500 grant will help fund their collaborative research on immigrant involvement within immigrant rights organizations. They seek to better understand how an organization’s culture influences its ability recruit and retain members of underrepresented groups.

Shahzeen Attari published an article in Climatic Change: Statements about climate researchers’ carbon footprints affect their credibility and the impact of their advice. Attari and two co-authors used two online surveys with over 5,000 Americans to determine if climate researchers’ personal carbon footprints influenced their credibility.

Sean Nicholson-Crotty, Jill Nicholson-Crotty, and Sergio Fernandez published an article in Public Administration Review (PAR). In “Performance and Management in the Public Sector: Testing a Model of Relative Risk Aversion,” the authors analyze responses to the 2011 and 2013 Federal Employee Viewpoint Surveys to explore how the success or failure of a public organization influences the decisions of those who manage it.

Sameksha Desai published an article in the Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy – “Destructive entrepreneurship and the security context: Program design considerations for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) and counterinsurgency.” The paper examines efforts to diminish the damage caused by destructive entrepreneurs, leaders who use violence to reduce uncertainty.

Al Lyons published an article in SHAW: The Journal of Bernard Shaw Studies. In “GBS as Philanthropist and Social Entrepreneur,” Lyons analyzes Shaw’s writings, particularly his belief that isolated acts of charity could not address social ills and encourage progress.

Seth Freedman published an article in the American Economic Journal: Economic Policy “Capacity and Utilization in Health Care: The Effect of Empty Beds on Neonatal Intensive Care Admission.” The article examines whether capacity increases utilization of health care facilities. Using data from neonatal intensive care units in New York and California, Freedman asks, if there are available beds in the NICU the day before a birth, does that increase the probability a baby will be admitted to intensive care? Freedman finds there is little effect for the sickest of infants, but for those on the margin, an increase in available beds has a measurable effect on the likelihood that child will be admitted to the NICU.
SPEA professor Paul Helmke offered the keynote address at the annual SPEA DC Colloquium. It brings together Washington-area alumni, friends of the school, and students from our Civic Leaders Center.

SPEA Dean John D. Graham spoke at a SPEA-sponsored conference in Washington on the next president’s manufacturing policy. Nearly 300 lawmakers, policymakers, industry and union leaders, and researchers participated.

Undergraduate students from around the country gathered in Bloomington for the “Public Policy and International Affairs Program’s Moving the World Forward” conference. The students are from diverse, often underrepresented, backgrounds.

Construction is racing along on the Paul H. O’Neill Graduate Center that will serve SPEA’s graduate students and adjoin our building. It will house classes beginning with the spring, 2017 semester.

SPEA undergraduate Kayla Welch, an IU Dance Marathon volunteer, took flight to help the kids at Riley Children’s Hospital. It was her first jump. She says first step out of the plane was scary.

Meet Jude Ellis Jackson, son of Kimberly Novick and her husband, Mike Jackson. Dr. Novick is a SPEA environmental scientist. Mike works with IU’s Psychology Department. Jude was born August 26th.
Learn more about what’s new at SPEA:

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