Awards and Grants

Sheila Blanton, director (Professional Excellence Program-Social Work), was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in Training” by the National Staff Development & Training Association, an affiliate of the American Public Human Services Association. This award recognizes her outstanding efforts in the training and development field that benefits human services programs or employees.

Don Hunt, (Criminal Justice & Criminology), was named one of six doctoral students nationally who will share a total of $569,623 from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistic’s new 2015 Graduate Research Fellowship Program. The grants fund doctoral research that focuses on crime, violence and other criminal justice related topics.

Publications


Laura Wheeler (pictured), senior research associate (Fiscal Research Center), and Sherman A. Cooper, doctoral student (Public Policy). (2015). Georgia Tax Credits: Details of the Business and Personal Credits Allowed Against Georgia’s Corporate and Individual Income Tax. http://goo.gl/GSNEyx

Presentations

Paula Stephan, professor (Economics), presented the following:

- “How Economics Shapes Science” at Epidemiology Grand Rounds, Emory University, Atlanta, Oct. 9, 2015.

Charles Courtemanche, associate professor (Economics), presented “Revisiting the Effect of Smoking on Obesity: Evidence from a Randomized Trial” at the University of Alabama at Birmingham on Sept. 22, 2015.

Carolyn Bourdeaux, director (Center for State and Local Finance) and associate professor (Public Management and Policy), presented “Georgia's Budget: A Look at the State's Revenue and Expenditure Portfolio” at the Georgia Fiscal Management Council conference on Jekyll Island, Ga., Sept. 15, 2015.
Several **Georgia Health Policy Center** staff made presentations at the Communities Joined in Action’s 10th annual conference, “Unleashing the Power of Communities: Aligning Organizations & Aspirations to Improve Health” in Washington, D.C.; Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2015:

- **Karen Minyard** (left), director, and **Chris Parker** (right), associate project director, presented the “Hospital Community Benefit” pre-conference intensive, where they featured innovative work being done at Trinity Health, Sept. 30, 2015.


Several **Center for State and Local Finance** staff made presentations at the Federation of Tax Administrators conference in Tampa, Fla., September 26-30, 2015.


Media

Sally Wallace, associate dean of research and strategic initiatives was quoted, and the Fiscal Research Center was cited by the media about their commissioned study on the impact of early learning for the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL). Following are several selected media hits:


Robbie Friedmann, Professor Emeritus (Criminal Justice & Criminology) and director of the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange (GILEE), was quoted in the Fivethirtyeight.com article, “Scare Headlines Exaggerated the U.S. Crime Wave,” Sept. 11, 2015.

Grace O, clinical associate professor (Economics), was quoted in the Voice of America article and radio broadcast, “Bounty Politics’ Special gyeokryeogeum’s Kim Jong-Un…”It Will Cause Inflation 10-50%,” Oct. 8, 2015.

Bruce Seaman, associate professor (Economics), was quoted in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution article, “Atlanta Ranks No. 2 As Best City for Millennials,” Oct. 1, 2015.
James Dills (left), research associate II (Georgia Health Policy Center), Michelle Rushing (pictured center), research associate II, and Beth Fuller (pictured right), associate project director (Georgia Health Policy Center) had their best practices for developing a comprehensive, community-wide green infrastructure plan, *The Mid-South Regional Greenprint* health impact assessment, cited in the [American Planning Association’s Health & Green Infrastructure newsletter](https://www.planning.org), September 2015.

Alice Niyonkuru, a Washington Mandela Fellow and YALI (Young African Leaders Initiative) Scholar, was interviewed on Voice of America’s Straight Talk Africa program about her six-week tenure as a YALI Scholar at Georgia State University. [https://goo.gl/jl2Uab](https://goo.gl/jl2Uab)

**Promotions and Appointments**

Astrid Prudent was recently promoted to a senior research associate at the Georgia Health Policy Center. Prudent has been leading the center’s workforce development and training work and has successfully grown the center’s capacity and reputation in this area. She recently completed the National Council for Behavioral Health’s 2014-2015 Addressing Health Disparities Leadership Program and will continue to be a strong leader for the Center of Excellence team.

Steven D. Heaton, chief of the Griffin (Ga.) Police Department, has been appointed the new executive associate director of the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange (GILEE). His appointment is effective Dec. 1, 2015.

Chief Heaton has 32 years of law enforcement experience which has encompassed all aspects in the field including patrol, investigations, internal affairs, public information, accreditation, state certification and administration.
Alumni News

Lauren Kline Jeong (B.S., Public Policy-Nonprofit Leadership, ‘13), has accepted a new position as a program associate at the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. Jeong most recently worked as an engagement specialist for the Foundation Center. A leader in the nonprofit sector, Jeong is board chair for the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network of Atlanta (YNPN). In 2013, she was honored by the Georgia Center for Nonprofits and YNPN with the Nonprofit Leader 30 Under 30 award. In her new position, Jeong will be working primarily on scholarships.

The Dean’s E-News is a feature published by the AYSPS Dean’s Office. For publication in the next issue, please submit your news items to Marcia Jones Cross at mcross7@gsu.edu.