

Georgia State and University of Pretoria Sign MOU

AYSPS Collaborates on a Graduate Degree Program in Taxation

Upholding the long-standing relationship with the University of Pretoria, Georgia State signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to honor the collaboration between the universities. As a part of the agreement, the Department of Economics in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (AYSPS) has facilitated instruction on a graduate degree program in taxation within the University of Pretoria's African Tax Institute in their Department of Economics. Delegates also discussed establishing initiatives in language, economics, social work, geology, and to pave the way for further engagement on policy issues related to megacities.

"All of us benefitted from the discussions of the work that the top South African universities are doing around city issues," said AYSPS Dean Mary Beth Walker. "We will realize significant gains in expanding our research collaborations with South African universities."

Georgia State's delegation to South Africa included Dr. Risa Palm, provost; Dr. Jun Liu, associate provost for international initiatives; Dr. MaryAnn Ronski, associate dean of research and graduate studies in the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Mary Beth Walker, dean of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies; Dr. Sally Wallace, chair of the Department of Economics in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and chair of the university's South Africa task force; Jacobus Boers, lecturer in the Robinson College of Business and native South African who is also a key member in the university's South Africa task force; and Dr. Elizabeth Beck, professor in the School of Social Work in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies.



Dean Mary Beth Walker (right) and Sally Wallace (left) catch up with alumna Veronica Mafoko, an AYSPS Mandela scholar and a senior manager for Municipal Finance and Visibility in South Africa's (?) Office of Cooperative Governance.

Awards and Honors



Mary Finn, professor (Criminal Justice and Criminology), was named faculty recipient of the 2014 George M. Sparks Award at Georgia State University's annual Service Recognition Ceremony in April. The annual award, named after George McIntosh Sparks, the beloved Georgia State president who served from 1928 to 1957, recognizes the university's unsung heroes by honoring a faculty member, staff member and student who each exemplify a willingness to go the extra mile with good humor and perseverance.

Publications



Vjollca Sadiraj, associate professor (Economics); **James C. Cox**, professor (Economics), director (Experimental Economics Center), and the Noah Langdale Jr. Chair in Economics/ Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar, and Ulrich Schmidt (University of Kiel):

- (2014). Asymmetrically Dominated Choice Problems, the Isolation Hypothesis and Random Incentive Mechanisms. *PlosOne* 9(3): e90742. Doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0090742.
- Paradoxes and Mechanisms for Choice under Risk. *Experimental Economics*. (forthcoming).

Presentations



David Sjoquist, professor (Economics) and the Dan E. Sweat Chair in Educational and Community Policy, presented "How Tax Allocation Districts (TADs) Work" at the DeKalb County School District's TAD Education session on April 16, 2014.



Paula Stephan, professor (Economics), presented “The Economics of the Postdoctoral Position” at the National Science Foundations’ Division of Education and Human Resources Distinguished Lecture in Arlington, Virginia, April 17, 2014. Stephan made two presentations at the companion meetings of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in San Diego on April 26, 2014. She spoke on “Bridging Career Pathways for an Evolving Biomedical Workforce” at the Experimental Biology Meetings and participated in a panel discussion on “Maintaining a Sustainable Biomedical Enterprise.”



James C. Cox, professor (Economics), director (Experimental Economics Center), and the Noah Langdale Jr. Chair in Economics/ Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar, presented a paper titled, “Higher Quality and Lower Cost from Improving Hospital Discharge Decision Making,” at the Experimental Methods in Policy conference held in Curacao, and sponsored by The World Bank's 2015 World Development Report on Human Behavior, February 15, 2014. The paper is coauthored with

Vjollca Sadiraj, associate professor (Economics), Kurt Schnier (UC Merced) and John Sweeney (Emory University School of Medicine). Cox also participated in the April 25, 2014, meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Southern Economic Association in Atlanta.



Andrew Feltenstein, professor (Economics), was the keynote speaker at the Emory China Summit conference at Emory University on March 29, 2014. Feltenstein’s spoke on “Changing Distortions in China.”



Bill Waugh, Professor Emeritus (Public Management and Policy) spoke on "Social Vulnerability and Community Resilience" at the DeKalb County Board of Health Office of Emergency Preparedness' "Vulnerable Populations Stakeholder Summit" on April 10, 2014.



Michael Shapiro, clinical instructor and Alpharetta Center coordinator (Criminal Justice and Criminology), moderated a career panel, “Be the Superhero of Your Career,” at the Criminal Justice Transfer Fair at Georgia Perimeter College, April 16, 2014. The panel included criminal defense attorney Douglas N. Peters, who represents Hemy Neuman, the Dunwoody daycare killer; Sherry Boston, the Solicitor-General (misdemeanor prosecutor) for DeKalb County; Carla Hardnett, Chief Probation Officer in the DeKalb County Juvenile Court; and Major Larry N. Tolbert, who is in charge of the Court Services Division in the DeKalb County Sheriff's Department. Shapiro was also a guest lecturer at Kennesaw State University's Continuing Education Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) class on April 23, 2014. Shapiro discussed “Legal, Regulations, Investigations, and Compliance.”

Three faculty members from the **School of Social Work** made presentations at the Social Development Confronting Global Challenges: Action, Policy, Planning & Social Work Intervention Conference in Hong Kong on April 10-12, 2014. They were:



Mary Ohmer, associate professor: “Integrating sustainable and social development strategies into the social work curriculum: Creating community partnerships.”



Jan Ivery, associate professor: “Social capital and social work practice: Developing collaborative partnerships for service delivery.”



Nancy Kropf, professor and associate dean: “Older immigrants in the United States: Transitions and experiences.”

Media Hits

Bill Waugh, **Professor Emeritus** (Public Management and Policy) is the author of "Risk and the Wiggert-Waters Act," which posted on P.A. Times Online (www.patimes.org). He is a columnist for P.A. Times Online. <http://goo.gl/96oUDH>.

David Sjoquist, professor (Economics) and the Dan E. Sweat Distinguished Chair in Educational and Community Policy, was featured in the April 11-17, 2014, Atlanta Business Chronicle cover story, "Here Comes the Streetcar." <http://goo.gl/TEKkZ6>. He was also provided comments for a Wallet Hub column, "States with the Best & Worst Taxpayer ROI." <http://goo.gl/YADLFd>.

Robert Friedmann, Professor Emeritus (Criminal Justice), was quoted in the Miami Herald's Politifact Truth-O-Meter column, "Hollywood is #1 in Broward homicides in 2013. Thanks Chief Fernandez!" on April 22, 2014. <http://goo.gl/64yaTh>.



Karen Minyard, executive director (Georgia Health Policy Center), was interviewed on The Doctor's Roundtable radio show on March 27, 2014. Karen shared her expertise on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) — highlighting the health insurance marketplace and the ACA's impact on the business community. To hear the show in its entirety, visit: <http://goo.gl/H6kxmj>. **Minyard** was also featured in the *Digital Journal* article,

"BusinessRadioX®'s The Doctors Roundtable on April 21, 2014. Read the full article here: <http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/1862075>.



The **Georgia Health Policy Center's** health reform planning tool, *Leading through Health System Change: A Public Health Opportunity*, was featured in multiple media outlets during National Public Health Week:

- American Public Health Association, National Public Health Week News (April 7, 2014)
- American Public Health Association, Don't miss today's National Public Health Week events e-news (April 9, 2014)
- Trust for America's Health, Wellness and Prevention Health Reform Digest (April 11, 2014)
- Georgia State University's Development & Alumni Affairs, Giving at Georgia State Newsletter (April 15, 2014)

Congratulations



Tamanna Patel was promoted from research associate II to senior research associate at the Georgia Health Policy Center.



John Butts was promoted from research associate II to senior research associate at the Georgia Health Policy Center.



Glenn M. Landers, associate project director (Georgia Health Policy Center), has been appointed to a 60% Intergovernmental Personnel Action (IPA) with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Office of the Associate Director for Policy, Office of Health System Collaboration. Glenn will provide leadership and expertise in the development and execution of policy research projects related to the implementation of the ACA, leverage opportunities to incorporate prevention and public health within the transforming health system, and provide expert advice and consultation to the Associate Director of Policy on ACA-related activities, among other duties. His term will be for one year, beginning May 5, 2014.



*BSW BFFs Headed to Graduate School: **The School of Social Work** is happy to announce that these three Latino BSW students, who are also best friends, have all been accepted and are headed to graduate school after graduation on May 10th. Pictured (l-r) with their professor, **Jan Ligon**, associate professor (Social Work), are **Betty Chow**, **Stacy Rodriguez** and **Dulce Jacobo**, who will be attending UGA, Georgia State and Columbia University, respectively. Says Ligon: "All three were excellent students."*

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 by Thursday at 5:15 p.m. to Marcia Jones Cross at mcross7@gsu.edu