

# HUMPHREY SCHOOL NEWS

HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

February 2012

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>

## Charting a new course for success for low-income children

► **Two Humphrey School researchers** have the opportunity to help children who grow up in low-income families or high-poverty neighborhoods work toward long-term achievement, thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (DoE). DoE awarded the Child-Parent Center (CPC) education program a \$15 million Investing in Innovation (i3) grant, which Senior Fellow **Art Rolnick** and Associate Professor **Judy Temple** will help to implement over the next five years.

“The i3 grant gives us an opportunity to replicate one of the most cost-effective early childhood programs in the country,” says Rolnick. *“Successful replication will add to the growing body of research that demonstrates the extraordinary returns to investing in high-quality early childhood education for all our at-risk children.”*

Begun in Chicago in 1967, CPC provides children in low-income families and high-poverty neighborhoods with services that promote school readiness, parent involvement, and early school achievement, setting them up for a lifetime of accomplishment, from graduation to career success. It is one of the nation’s most comprehensive early childhood interventions, with approximately 9,000 children ages



**Art Rolnick**

three to nine participating at 33 sites in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois.

Beginning in the fall of 2012, St. Paul Public Schools will offer intensive education enrichment and family-support intervention in six schools that will serve more than 1,000 students over the duration of the project. St. Paul has committed district Title I funds to support implementation. Other Minnesota pilots include Arrowhead Head Start and the Virginia Public Schools. In addition to DoE, the Greater Twin Cities United Way, Target Corporation, McKnight Foundation, The Saint Paul Foundation, Northwestern University, the Evanston Community Foundation, Foundation for Child Development, Foundation65, J. B. and M. K. Pritzker Family Foundation, Robert R. McCormick Foundation, and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation are contributing to the i3 initiative. ■

## SCHOOL EVENTS

**February 16, 1 p.m. | Cowles Auditorium**  
**Health Reform: Preserving a Strong Role for the States**

The Humphrey School’s **Center for the Study of Politics and Governance (CSPG)** will host a talk with Michael Leavitt, former Secretary of Health and Human Services and governor of Utah. This event will be held from 1 to 3:15 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, in Cowles Auditorium. Secretary Leavitt’s talk will focus on the importance of states moving forward with health reform—whether supportive of the law or not—to preserve the right to implement the law in a manner that reflects each state’s values and marketplace. His talk will be followed by a panel discussion with state legislative leaders moderated by Professor **Larry Jacobs** and Dave Hage, health team leader at the *Star Tribune*. This event is free and open to the public. Please register at <http://michaelleavitt.eventbrite.com>.

This is the first event in the Health Care Reform Series. Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota and CSPG, this series of public forums will consider how best to implement national health care reform at the state level. By fostering discussions among local policymakers, stakeholders, and citizens, these meetings will explore today’s fiscal and demographic challenges and examine opportunities for ensuring Minnesota’s legacy as a leader in individual and community health.

**February 16, 4 p.m. | Cowles Auditorium**  
**The Fourth Annual Celebration of John Brandl and His Uncommon Quest for Common Ground**

The Caux Round Table, Center of the

“Events,” continued on page 4



## EMPOWERING WOMEN AROUND THE GLOBE

► **Few individuals get the opportunity** to sit in the same room with Hillary Clinton, Madeleine Albright, Gloria Steinem, and the women political leaders who helped usher in the Arab Spring. **Laura Bloomberg**, director of the **Center for Integrative Leadership (CIL)**, found herself in their company in December 2011, at a colloquium that launched the Women in Public Service Project (WPSP).

WPSP is a partnership among Secretary Clinton and five of the Seven Sister Colleges (Barnard, Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Smith, and Wellesley), who have joined forces to encourage robust participation of women in public service and political leadership around the world, so they may contribute to improving governance, expanding civil rights, and combating corruption.

“Women have to be part of the future,” says Clinton. “It’s imperative that women be involved as constitutions are created, as political parties are organized, as elections are waged and won. Nobody can claim a democratic future if half the population is

marginalized or even prevented from participating.”

Bloomberg was asked to take part in the initiative because of her expertise in women’s executive education and leadership development. She is helping plan the first WPSP institute this summer, which will primarily include women from developing countries who lack supportive leadership communities and role models. According to Bloomberg, the participants will “learn to apply their new-found leadership skills and create a community of practice with other women around the world.”

*“It was meaningful to hear Albright and Clinton,” Bloomberg says of the colloquium, “but it was truly inspiring to meet and talk to women from all over the developing world who are courageously stepping out beyond their traditional roles to assume leadership positions.”*

The December kick-off colloquium included several women, such as Atifete Jahjaga, the 35-year-old president of Kosovo, who will serve as role models for summer institute

participants. Some would call women political leaders like President Jahjaga fearless, but Bloomberg disagrees.

“They face fear every day, but believe so deeply that this is what they have to do, they have to push past that fear.

“Many women feel like they are not in the right position to take a leadership role, or feel they are not qualified enough,” she says. “But they have to ask themselves how their country or process will benefit from their participation. They have to look at what would be lost if they didn’t step up.”

The upcoming summer institute is only one piece of WPSP’s broader mission to provide advocacy for women around the world, offer ongoing training, and develop learning communities and communities of practice. Bloomberg hopes to keep CIL and the Humphrey School involved to help further the goal of educating and training a new generation of women to enter the public sector with the leadership skills, energy, and commitment required to tackle today’s global challenges. ■

The Humphrey School of Public Affairs inspires, educates, and supports innovative leaders to advance the common good in a diverse world. The School pursues its mission by using its resources and those of the University to integrate:

- Preparation of students for leadership in public affairs;
- The bridging of disciplines across the University and larger community to advance public affairs scholarship; and
- Public engagement and scholarship to address important issues and to solve problems facing Minnesota, the nation, and the world in a non-partisan setting.

*The School offers five graduate degree programs and is home to several research/outreach centers and programs. While hospitable to a wide range of viewpoints, the Humphrey School does not take positions on issues. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.*

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## Gerdes named director of the Public and Nonprofit Leadership Center



Kevin Gerdes also goes by “Colonel.” It’s not a title that one comes by easily. When he took the helm as director of the Humphrey School’s **Public and Nonprofit Leadership Center** in January, Gerdes brought with him 32 years of leadership in the Minnesota National Guard.

“His experience in the Guard is a perfect fit here, given the contributions he and other service members offer our state and nation,” says Associate Professor **Jodi Sandfort**, who led the search to find a new leader for the center. “He’s a public leader who understands the complementary roles of public and nonprofit organizations working together for the common good.”

Gerdes served in the 34th “Red Bull” Infantry Division as a commander at the company, battalion, and brigade levels. He finished a tour of duty in Iraq as a commander and returned in 2006. He completed his full-time career with the Minnesota National Guard in October as the chief of staff for the Adjutant General; he continues to serve in the Guard as Brigadier General.

After his return to the United States in 2006, Gerdes helped establish Minnesota’s “Beyond the Yellow Ribbon” campaign, a reintegration program that works with community-based organizations to assure that service men and women feel supported by their communities when they return from active duty. The Minnesota program has become the model upon which national policy is now based.

Gerdes attended St. John’s University, where he participated in ROTC. He holds a bachelor’s degree in management from Upper Iowa University and a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the U.S. Army War College. He currently is finishing a Ph.D. in leadership studies at the University of St. Thomas.

“Kevin brings a distinguished record of public service, and his passion and intelligence will be a wonderful addition to our School community,” concludes Sandfort. ■

## A JOURNEY OF HOPE

### Cross-sector collaboration helps the urban poor in India

▶ **Alumna Rashmi Singh** turned the knowledge she gained at the Humphrey School into an effective and innovative delivery system for human services for millions of residents in the poorest neighborhoods of Delhi, India. Last fall, the University rewarded her efforts by awarding her its Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals, and she came back to campus to share her experiences with students, faculty members, and fellow alumni.

Singh earned a Master of Public Affairs (MPA) degree as one of Delhi’s first administrative officers selected to participate in a partnership between the Humphrey School and the Government of India’s Ministry of Personnel and Training that was created to offer leadership development opportunities to top officers in public service positions.

Singh finished her graduate studies in 2007. When she returned to Delhi, she wanted to help combat poverty. She evaluated the country’s current system to alleviate economic deprivation, which was not demand-driven and fostered little collaboration between government and the nongovernmental (NGO) community. She saw that inaccurate poverty estimates and unrealistic budgetary allocations led to the exclusion of the most marginalized citizens, preventing them from receiving the care and services they desperately needed.

And thus, Mission Convergence was formed. Singh and two employees started their journey to offer integrated, needs-based support by creating a database of six million urban poor. They then identified those individuals’ needs and worked to create partners in government, academic, NGO, and other sectors whose specific assistance could be amplified by cross-sector partnerships.

“We needed to create an environment conducive to social change,” Singh told an audience of nearly 300 at the Humphrey School in November. “We needed to tackle gender sensitization; awareness of crimes against women; and lack of access to health care, drinking water, and sanitation and hygiene facilities for women.”

Despite some resistance to this culture shift toward collaboration, Mission Convergence set up health camps and community kitchens in the places where they were most needed. Now, as the result of Singh’s tireless efforts, India’s Ministries of Labor, Social Security, and Health collaborate with Mission Convergence.

“The journey is not smooth sailing,” says Singh. “There are challenges, including the resistance to change in other parts of India. By adopting the new collaborative approach, with shared power and authority, we are standing with stronger coalitions. We always felt it was a surmountable challenge.”

Dean **Eric Schwartz** presented Singh with the University’s award. “We take a lot of pride knowing Ms. Singh attended the University, but no doubt she was destined for great things as she has elevated public-private partnerships in India. Her effective cross-sector collaboration is a game-changing world model for effective human services delivery.”

*“After all, leadership is not about power and authority. It is the ability to empower others, give them a voice,” says Singh. “My voice here represents hundreds of other voices who have walked with me. We’ve collectively walked for the causes we believe in, like a more equitable and inclusive society. This is how the journey continues.”* ■

## SCHOOL EVENTS

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American Experiment, Citizens League, Growth & Justice, Minnesota Council of Churches, Minnesota Free Market Institute, and Transform Minnesota will join the Humphrey School in hosting a discussion titled "How Can Our Religious Institutions and Leaders Reduce Partisan Animosity and Arrogance?" This event will take place on Thursday, February 16, from 4 to 6 p.m. in Cowles Auditorium at the Humphrey School. Leading the discussion will be two distinguished national religious leaders: The Rev. Canon Peg Chamberlin, executive director of the Minnesota Council of Churches, and Pastor Leith Anderson, president of the National Association of Evangelicals. This is the fourth in a series of programs honoring the legacy of the late Humphrey School dean **John Brandl**. The event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the discussion. To register, please visit <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?llr=hr7ljjab&oeidk=a07e5idw52de2b191f2>.

### February 21, 5 p.m. | Cowles Auditorium

#### **The Non Nonprofit: For-Profit Thinking for Nonprofit Success**

The Humphrey School's **Public and Nonprofit Leadership Center** (PNLC) will host a panel discussion of Humphrey School Advisory Council member **Steve Rothschild's** book *The Non Nonprofit: For-Profit Thinking for Nonprofit Success*. Panel participants include Rothschild, president and founder of Invest in Outcomes; Sandra Vargas, president and CEO of the Minneapolis Foundation; **Jay Kiedrowski**, senior fellow at the Humphrey School; and Sona Mehring, founder and CEO of CaringBridge. This event will take place on Tuesday, February 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. in Cowles Auditorium. The discussion will be followed by a book signing. The event is free, but registration is required at <http://thenonnonprofit.eventbrite.com/>. This event is part of PNLC's pubReads series.

### February 22, 12 p.m. | Cowles Auditorium

#### **Connecting with Government: A Conversation with Congressman Tim Walz**

The Center for the Study of Politics and Governance (CSPG) is hosting Connecting with Government, a series of public talks by prominent government leaders. This series is part of CSPG's ongoing commitment to fostering informed and substantive discussion on important matters of public policy. The next event will feature a conversation with Congressman Tim Walz on Wednesday, February 22, from 12 to 1:15 p.m. in Cowles Auditorium. Connecting with Government allows Minnesota's elected officials the opportunity to rise above the talking points and fractious back-and-forth of the legislative process to make substantive statements about issues of importance for Minnesotans. These events are free and open to the public.

### February 28, 7–8:30 p.m. | Maroon & Gold Room, McNamara Alumni Center

#### **The International Human Rights Movement: A History**

The University of Minnesota's Human Rights Program, the Arsham and Charlotte Ohanesian Chair in the College of Liberal Arts, and the Humphrey School of Public Affairs will host a lecture with Aryeh Neier on Tuesday, February 28, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Maroon & Gold Room at the McNamara Alumni Center (200 Oak Street SE, Minneapolis). Aryeh Neier is the president of the Open Society Foundations, former director of the ACLU, and founder and former director of Human Rights Watch. He will speak about his new book *The International Human Rights Movement: A History*. Neier's talk is the second event in the series Human Rights for the 21st Century: History, Practice, Politics. This event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the presentation.

### March 1–3 | University of Minnesota and Augsburg College

#### **2012 Nobel Peace Prize Forum**

The Nobel Peace Prize Forum is a premier international event designed to inspire peacemaking. As the Norwegian Nobel Institute's only affiliation outside Norway,




**F.W. de Klerk**

the forum has probed the deep questions of peace and conflict for more than 23 years. The 2012 Nobel Peace Prize Forum, "The Price of Peace," will feature a variety of sessions on business, the arts, and global issues, as well as a keynote address by former South African president and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate F.W. de Klerk. The Humphrey School is a partner in the forum, which will take place from March 1 to 3 at various University of Minnesota and Augsburg College locations. Visit <http://nobelpeaceprizeforum.org/> for more information.

### April 24 | McNamara Alumni Center

#### **Hubert H. Humphrey Public Leadership Awards**

The theme of the 2012 Hubert H. Humphrey Public Leadership Awards dinner is "Building Bridges and Enhancing the Quality of our Public Dialogue." This annual celebration will be held on Tuesday, April 24, at the McNamara Alumni Center (200 Oak Street SE, Minneapolis). The Humphrey Public Leadership Awards honor individuals, organizations, or projects that have made significant contributions to the common good through public leadership and service. Proceeds from the event benefit the Humphrey Public Leaders Fellowship, a scholarship initiative of the Humphrey School Advisory Council. Registration and recipient information will be posted soon; visit [www.hhh.umn.edu](http://www.hhh.umn.edu) for event updates. 

Would you like more timely notice of Humphrey School events? Sign up for our monthly electronic events newsletter to receive a monthly digest of upcoming public programs. Visit [www.hhh.umn.edu/news\\_events/publications](http://www.hhh.umn.edu/news_events/publications) and look for "Monthly Events e-Newsletter."

## WAYS TO LEARN MORE

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Humphrey School academic programs, please attend an information session. You can meet students and faculty members, explore the curriculum, and learn about career prospects.

For more information, visit [www.hhh.umn.edu/learn/infosessions.html](http://www.hhh.umn.edu/learn/infosessions.html)

### MS-STEP Information Session

February 15, 5:30 p.m. | Freeman Commons (Room 205)

### MPA Information Session

February 22, 5:30 p.m. | Freeman Commons (Room 205)

### MPP and MURP Information Session

February 29, 12 p.m. | Freeman Commons (Room 205)

### MDP Information Session

March 6, 5:30 p.m. | Freeman Commons (Room 205)

## PERSONAL + PROFESSIONAL NOTES

Professor and president emeritus **Robert H. Bruininks** has joined the board of the McKnight Foundation. Bruininks is a professor in the **Center for Integrative Leadership**, where he works on issues of public leadership, human capital, and higher education policy.



EDWARD G. GOETZ

Assistant Professor **Xinyu (Jason) Cao** received a \$34,000 grant through the Transitway Impact Research Program for his work on "Transportation, Environmental, and Health Impacts of Transitways: A Case Study of the Hiawatha Line." Among other things, the project explores the travel behavior of residents living in transportation corridors in South Minneapolis before and after the implementation of the Hiawatha Light Rail line.

Associate Professor **Barbara Crosby** spoke about "Practices of Integrative Leadership" on January 11 as part of the University of Minnesota Law School's new Leadership Foundations Program. The session highlighted such practices as shaping "windows of opportunity," convening inclusive conversations, and assessing outcomes and managing results.

**Frank Douma**, assistant director of the **State and Local Policy Program**, will use a \$30,000 grant from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to study the impacts of primary seat belt laws.

Assistant Professor **Yingling Fan** has been named a McKnight Land-Grant Professor. The two-year award consists of a research grant in each of two years and a research leave in the second year. The winners are junior faculty members chosen for their potential for important contributions to their field; the degree to which their achievements and ideas demonstrate originality, imagination, and innovation; the significance of their research; and the potential for attracting outstanding students.



YINGLING FAN

Humphrey School event coordinator and artist **Camille Gage** will offer a session at the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize Forum called "Illustrating the Cost of War: Artists Respond to a Decade of Conflict." Gage and fellow artist Susanne Slavick of Carnegie Mellon University will introduce the work of artists around the world who bear witness to the costs of war: human, economic, and spiritual. The session is scheduled for 10:45 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, March 3. For a complete calendar, visit <http://nobelpeaceprizeforum.org>.

On February 27, Professor **Edward G. Goetz** will present a talk on "Resident Perspectives on the Dismantling of Public Housing in the United States: An Oral History Project" at Rutgers, The State University of New

Jersey. Goetz will discuss the importance of oral history as a means of understanding an important—and passing—era in social welfare policy and as a means of understanding the true impacts of current efforts to transform public housing.

On February 27 and 28, Professor and Executive Associate Dean **Greg Lindsey** will participate in a Centers for Disease Control Active Transportation Expert Panel. The objective for the meeting is to document the current state of active transportation measurement and, ultimately, to provide recommendations for key action items for near-term and longer-term collaboration between public health, labor, and transportation. Experts in the measurement of active transportation from academia, state and local governments, and from federal government agencies, such as the Department of Transportation, Department of Labor, Census Bureau, and National Institutes of Health, will participate in the two-day conference.

Senior Fellow **Lee Munnich, Jr.** and **Adeel Lari**, a research fellow with the **State and Local Policy Program**, helped to staff the Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Transportation Policy Task Force, which recently released its recommendations. PPPs allow public agencies to access private financing and specialized expertise, potentially resulting in lower costs, greater innovation, and shortened time frames. The Minnesota Department of Transportation created the panel as a means of engaging a broad range of stakeholders to identify and consider the potential for expanding transportation partnerships around the state. The recommendations can be found at [http://blog.lib.umn.edu/slpp/regionalities/2012/02/humphrey\\_school\\_supports\\_mndot.php](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/slpp/regionalities/2012/02/humphrey_school_supports_mndot.php).

Professor **Samuel L. Myers, Jr.**, has received an almost \$86,000 grant from the Minnesota Department of Transportation to help the agency set its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goals. Myers has developed a pioneering analytic technique for measuring the relative availability of DBEs in geographic markets and has extensive experience con-

ducting disparity studies, which help assure equity in the public procurement process.

The University's Institute for Advanced Study has selected Assistant Professor **Kathryn Quick** as one of 11 Faculty Fellows for 2012–13. Her project is titled "Intersections of Bioecological and Institutional Paradigms for Practicing Resilience: An Investigation of Collaborative Environmental and Community Stewardship."



KATHRYN QUICK

Dean **Eric Schwartz** delivered the convocation at Carleton College in Northfield, MN, on January 27. In his speech, "Governance is the Solution: 21st Century Challenges and the Public Service Mission," Schwartz argued that, while Americans may have legitimate differences of opinion about the best policy options, "we all do need to be deeply concerned about the unjustified demonization of government based on misconceptions about the capacity, role, and responsibilities of government in a democratic society. And we also need to be concerned and to challenge advocacy efforts—by commentators, by pressure groups, and by politicians—that foster misconceptions through a drumbeat of misinformation. This misinformation can have a pernicious impact on public perceptions, and can risk tainting the debate between proponents of activist and more limited government." A video of his address can be found at [http://apps.carleton.edu/events/convocations/audio\\_video/](http://apps.carleton.edu/events/convocations/audio_video/).



DEBORAH SWACKHAMER

Professor **Deborah Swackhamer** testified before the U.S. House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Energy and Environment on February 3. The subcommittee took two days of testimony on the theme "Fostering Quality Science at EPA: Perspectives on Common Sense Reform" as part of its consideration of reauthorization of the Environmental Research and Development Demonstration Act. Swackhamer spoke on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency's Science Advisory Board, which she chairs. To read Swackhamer's testimony, visit [http://www.hhh.umn.edu/features/swackhamer\\_testifies.html](http://www.hhh.umn.edu/features/swackhamer_testifies.html).

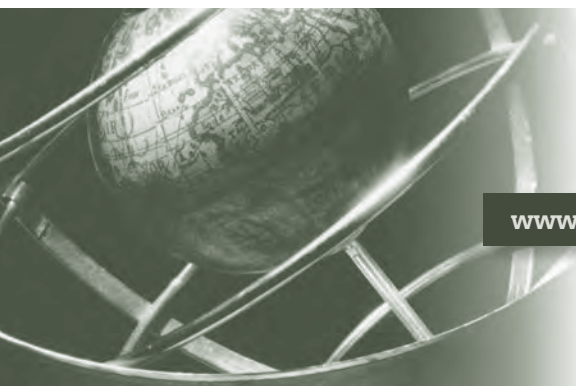
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President Kaler (third from left) hosts periodic lunches with faculty members. On December 2, Professor **Samuel L. Myers, Jr.**, (second from right) was among President Kaler's guests. **H**



Assistant Professor **Carissa Schively Slotterback** (third from right) was President Kaler's guest at a December 23 luncheon held at the University of Minnesota Campus Club. **H**

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Lisa P. Jackson (right), administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), visited the University of Minnesota on January 17 to talk about the role of science in decision making, protecting health, and promoting a healthy economy. During her conversation with Professor **Deborah L. Swackhamer** (left) Jackson cited ways that new EPA restrictions on mercury and other contaminants from burning coal will benefit public health and how new auto mileage standards will save consumers money while improving environmental quality. She also noted that, rather than suppressing business development, new environmental protection rules are leading to innovative solutions that will create new companies and new jobs in America. **H**