

The Carsey Forum
Issue #3, December 2005

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The Carsey Forum on-line newsletter

Issue #3, December 2005

Announcing Carsey's New Tag:

We've done some soul searching at Carsey and have found a way to define our identity that's not a mouthful. The Carsey Institute *builds knowledge for families and communities*.

Spotlight On

Carsey reports Rural America Depends on Food Stamps

It's not every day that the U.S. Congress comes knocking on your door. But this October, the Carsey Institute's phone rang with callers from Washington D.C. wanting to know what the Institute was saying about food stamps and rural Americans following the release of Carsey's first publication in the *Building Knowledge for Rural America's Families and Communities in the 21st Century* series, funded by the Annie E. Casey and

Kellogg Foundations. *Rural America Depends on the Food Stamp Program to Make Ends Meet*, co-authored by Carsey's Kristin Smith and Priscilla Salant, finds that the Food Stamp Program is a vital part of the safety net in rural America, helping a large number of children, disabled and elderly persons, and that Congressional decisions to cut the program are likely to have significant adverse effects on the lives of poor rural Americans. Download the brief at

http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/documents/Carsey_Brief%20Food%20Stamps.pdf

Coming Soon!

Carsey Seminar on the Face of Direct Caregiving

Sharyn Potter, Associate Professor in Sociology, and Reagan Baughman, Assistant Professor in Economics, will share the stage at our next Carsey seminar on Wednesday, December 7 from 12 – 1pm in Memorial Union Building 330. They will offer insights from the Carsey interdisciplinary working group on caregiving and, in particular, examine who the caregivers are in America and what their experiences are as compared to women in other low-wage occupations. All are welcome to attend this brown bag event. Stay tuned for our spring seminar schedule at

<http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/seminars.html>.

Other News

Carsey's November Seminar Attracts a Crowd

More than 100 people braved the night rain to attend Carsey's Changing Face of the Seacoast Forum, held on November 9, 2005 at the Elliot Alumni Center and sponsored by the UNH Center for Humanities, to learn about trends in changing land use patterns and the associated changes over the past 40 years in traffic, health, crime and safety, and education. The Carsey Institute and NH GRANIT produced an educational video for the forum, in which local seacoast residents talk about changes that they've witnessed. To get a copy of the video, email changing.face@unh.edu.

Introducing Carsey's Senior Fellows

Four brave individuals have accepted Carsey's invitation to join our crew as Senior Fellows. These distinguished faculty will provide leadership on Carsey research: Ross Gittell, James R. Carter Professor and Professor of Management; David Pillemer, Dr. Samuel E. Paul Professor of Developmental Psychology; John Seavey, Professor and Chair of Health Management & Policy; and Heather Turner, Professor of Sociology. For more information on our Senior Fellows, go to

<http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/staff.html>.

Early Career Faculty Get a Leg Up

On Wednesdays, once a month, the Carsey Institute's conference room becomes a densely packed seminar space as early career faculty munch on their lunch and engage in conversation about research design. They've come to hear presentations on various research design subjects – such as ways to view aggregate data or getting a research program up and running at UNH – and engage in discussions with other faculty about their research. These seminars are organized by Professor David Pillemer and Carsey's Research Development Working Group. Watch

<http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/researchdev.html> for updates on next semester's working group activities.

Carsey Faculty Keynotes Economic Policy Conference

Amy Glasmeier, Visiting Faculty at the Carsey Institute, was the featured keynote speaker at the fall annual meeting of the Maine Center for Economic Policy. In her presentation, titled "Slipping in and Out of Work: A Prospective on the Northeast," Glasmeier discussed the labor market conditions in the Northeast, the rising rates of job displacement, and the necessary policy responses. View her presentation at http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/publications_present.html

Carsey Evaluation Research Presented at the Meredith Institute

Sally Ward, Professor of Sociology, Kelly Giraud, Associate Professor of Resource Economics, and Charlie French, Extension Faculty, collaborated on a Carsey project to study resident owned manufactured home communities in New Hampshire. Often the land in manufactured home communities is owned by a landlord, but a NH Community Loan Fund program brings land ownership to residents. This program was evaluated by the Carsey research team, who found the data to show that there are economic benefits, including greater stability in monthly fees, lower monthly fees, greater sense of security about the future of home ownership, and greater access to innovative loan funds. These findings were presented in November at the Loan Fund's Meredith Institute. Contact Sally Ward at sally.ward@unh.edu with questions about Carsey's evaluation program.

Carsey Partner Receives \$800,000 to Create Strategy for Northern Forest

The Northern Forest Center and the North Country Council recently received major funding from the Economic Development Administration to create an economic development strategy for the Northern Forest region of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York. The Carsey Institute is partnering with the Northern Forest Center to provide data and analysis on families and communities of the Northern Forest; Carsey graduate students are currently developing an indicators report with the center. For more information on this award, go to <http://www.northernforest.org/press-release-20051004.htm>

New Projects

Forthcoming Report on Demographic Change in Rural America

The Carsey Institute's next publication in the *Building Knowledge for Rural America's Families and Communities in the 21st Century* series, funded by the Annie E. Casey and Kellogg Foundations, is expected out this January. This report will give a portrait of rural America and identify the changes affecting rural areas by region. Kenneth Johnson, Professor of Sociology at Loyola University-Chicago and a specialist in U.S. demographic trends, will be authoring the report, which will be posted in January to the Institute's website at <http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/research.html>.

New Staff

Introducing Carsey's New Associate Director

Priscilla Salant has traded potatoes for granite, coming to the Carsey Institute from the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at the University of Idaho. Her research areas include social and economic trends in rural areas and European rural policy. Salant is author of *Small Towns, Big Picture* (Aspen Institute) and *How to Conduct Your Own Survey* (John Wiley & Sons), among other publications. She developed the Northwest Area Foundation's indicators site and is currently managing Carsey's northern New England indicators site. She is also directing the Investing in Rural Communities project, and, in her role as Associate Director, helping the Institute to steer a straight course ahead. Contact Priscilla at Priscilla.salant@unh.edu.

Introducing Our 2005-06 Visiting Faculty Member

Most of the time Amy Glasmeier is a professor of geography and regional planning at Pennsylvania State University, but she likes us so much that she's visiting the Carsey Institute for one year. As Visiting Faculty at Carsey, Glasmeier is writing reports and policy briefs on issues facing rural families and communities. Back at Penn State, she is the E. Willard Miller Professor of Economic Geography. Glasmeier is also the John Whisman Scholar of the Appalachian Regional Commission and the author of the book, *An Atlas of Poverty in America: One Nation, Pulling Apart 1960 – 2003*, recently published by Routledge Press and featured by National Public Radio. Contact Amy at amy.glasmeier@unh.edu and read about the *Atlas* at <http://www.povertyinamerica.psu.edu>.

Introducing Our Newest Graduate Student on Staff

Jason Rudokas, currently working towards a Masters degree in Economics at UNH, is interested in how demographic changes affect economic opportunities within different regions of the country. This interest explains why he is so fascinated by the work he is doing for the Carsey Institute with Senior Fellow Ross Gittell. Together, they are researching the changing nature of income inequality in northern New England. Rudokas is also our resident expert at using the LCD projector and can be found projecting his latest findings on the walls of the Institute. Contact Jason as jrudokas@cisunix.unh.edu.

Spotlight on Carsey Affiliate

The New Hampshire Institute for Health Policy and Practice

According to Ned Helms, the director of the Institute for Health Policy and Practice in Hewitt Hall at UNH, "It is critical if we are to improve the health of our population to look beyond the traditional medical model." NHIHPP will be working with the Citizen's Health Initiative in a state wide effort to create a system of care that "promotes health, where quality is assured and care is accessible, affordable, effective and safe." This effort is supported by UNH, the Endowment for Health, the NH Charitable Fund, the Health Trust and other NH organizations. The Institute continues to work with the State Medicaid office on health care financing and data management projects, with the NH Insurance Department on issues of the uninsured and charity care, and the Endowment for Health to further develop and provide training and technical assistance to community health workers. Visit NHIHPP at <http://www.shhs.unh.edu/nhihpp>.

Tools for Research

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research

It is now possible for UNH users of the ICPSR data repository to directly download data at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu> rather than having to go through a representative. The consortium acquires, processes, and provides access to social science data for research and instruction in political science, sociology, history, economics, gerontology, demography, criminal justice, public health, education, law, and international relations. Membership in the consortium includes tuition reduction and travel stipends to support faculty or graduate students who wish to take advantage of courses in research design, statistics, and data analysis. Contact Thelma Thompson at Dimond Library at Thelmat@cisunix.unh.edu with any questions about ICPSR services and programs.

NIH Regional Seminar in Program Funding and Grants Administration

The Office of Extramural Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) sponsors regional seminars in program funding and grants administration to help demystify the application and review process, clarify Federal regulations and policies, and highlight current areas of special interest or concern. These seminars are appropriate for researchers new to NIH and graduate students. The next seminar will take place in Boston from March 29 – 31, 2006 at the Sheraton Boston Hotel. Program and registration materials are available at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/seminars.htm>.

The Carsey Forum is published by The Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire. Inquires and requests to subscribe and unsubscribe should be addressed to Amy Seif, Forum editor, at amy.seif@unh.edu.