

# A YEAR IN REVIEW



## PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH CENTER Annual Report 2002 - 2003



### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



The Public Policy Research Center is an information resource for metropolitan St. Louis. Generating accurate and timely information for public decision makers and engaging citizens as community leaders and active participants is at the heart of our philosophy and direction, and it is the force behind our accomplishments.

And accomplish, we have. Though I have been a part of the PPRC for more than 12 years, the past year marks my first as Director. It has been a year of tremendous growth, both for myself as well as the PPRC. As a leading public research institution in a major metropolitan area, the PPRC has a responsibility and an opportunity to contribute to the well being of the St. Louis region. Between July 2002 and June 2003, we initiated and expanded several projects to engage the community. One of our new resources is Community History Research and Design Service, providing a link between history and current community and economic development needs. Some of the projects of our three divisions include the Community Outreach Partnership Center in Old North St. Louis, the second full session of the Neighborhood Leadership Academy, two comprehensive Workforce Information System survey reports, and an analysis of impediments to fair housing in four cities and a metropolitan county. We researched the impact of community gardens on neighborhood vitality, job opportunities in the St. Louis metropolitan area, and renewal strategies for inner-ring housing. All our projects highlight one thing: people – people’s jobs, homes, lifestyles and relationships. Our work is devoted to developing what people need to create successful communities.

And people are the reason that the PPRC is so successful. We are able to accomplish a great deal because of our dedicated staff. This past year saw a number of transitions for our Center, including a change in management, a physical expansion, and the implementation of several significant projects. Through each challenge, our staff remained adaptable, committed, and determined. It has been my privilege to work with such a talented and loyal staff.

As you read over this report, I invite each of you to bring your ideas and comments to the Center. Feel welcome to drop by and visit our new offices and view our photo gallery, or to pick up copies of our latest publications. We also look forward to seeing you at our forums, lectures and conferences, and we invite you to stay in touch with us via our website. On behalf of the staff at the PPRC, we look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Mark Tranel, Ph.D.  
Director of the Public Policy Research Center

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RESEARCH TEACHING SERVICE PROGRESS



MISSION, VALUES AND VISION

The Public Policy Research Center is a campus-wide division of the University of Missouri—St. Louis. PPRC works with faculty and staff throughout the University to accomplish its mission.

COMMUNITY

Internally, the PPRC is organized around core activities (administration, communication, and photographic displays) as well as three functional divisions:

**APPLIED RESEARCH, COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT (CND)**, and **METROPOLITAN INFORMATION AND DATA ANALYSIS SERVICES (MIDAS)**—that are each headed by a director.

OPPORTUNITY

PPRC focuses on issues related to neighborhood and community development; economic vitality; local, county, and regional governance; land-use and transportation policy planning; and health, education, and social policy.

**TO ACHIEVE ITS MISSION, THE PPRC:**

VISION

- Undertakes objective basic and applied research
- Analyzes regional information and data
- Organizes forums and seminars for debates and discussions
- Publishes policy briefs, issue papers, research, reports, and newsletters
- Comments on public policy issues
- Identifies regional challenges and opportunities
- Provides training for community and government leaders, and professional organizations
- Evaluates public and community programs

PEOPLE

PPRC partners with local, regional, and state governments and agencies; non-governmental organizations; and citizens' groups. PPRC seeks support for its activities from government and private granting agencies.

NEIGHBORHOODS

### **Old North Neighborhood Partnership:**

The Center completed its second year of the partnership with the Old North St. Louis neighborhood in the City of St. Louis. Funded by a Community Outreach Partnership Center (COPC) grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the ONNP linked students, faculty, and staff with Old North residents to provide leadership training, capacity-building with Restoration Group staff, environmental health assessments, home maintenance and financial literacy training, and historical documentation. The project also completed a historic bike trail through the neighborhood. The project achievements were highlighted at the National COPC Conference in San Diego.

### **Neighborhood Leadership Academy**

**(NLA):** A total of 18 leaders graduated from the second NLA. This program is sponsored by PPRC's Community and Neighborhood Development division, in cooperation with UMSL's Non-Profit Management and Leadership Program and the Coro Leadership Center. Through seminars, community-based projects, and interactive training, participants developed personal leadership skills, gained organizational management tools, and implemented community development strategies.

### **Workforce Information Systems (WIS)**

**Survey Reports:** The WIS labor market studies employed a multi-method design to measure the demand for labor in specific sectors. The surveys also analyzed skills required for various jobs within the sector, and evaluated the workforce's compatibility. During this fiscal year, MIDAS completed a survey report for the Advanced Manufacturing sector and the Life and Plant Sciences (LPS) sector. The LPS study established PPRC and MIDAS as a partner in

the region's significant investment in research and development in Life and Plant Science technology. The results of these and other WIS surveys can be viewed at <http://pprc.umsl.edu/wis/>.

### **Community History Research and Design Services (CHRDS):**

PPRC's commitment to innovation and progress inspired the development of the new CHRDS program. CHRDS is a resource to help communities rediscover their past and shape their future. The project interprets, documents, and publicizes community history through professionally-designed brochures, exhibits, community tours, signage, video productions, and websites.



### **Creating Livable Communities Symposium:**

The second annual Creating Livable Communities Symposium attracted more than 140 researchers, policymakers, community leaders, practitioners and students. It provided an opportunity to share information, expertise and tools regarding key local and regional issues and best practices. Speakers represented universities and colleges from throughout the St. Louis region, as well as community organizations and institutions.

**Applied Research Seminar Series:** Ten seminars were offered this year as part of the Applied Research Seminar Series. This series supports the work of faculty fellows, through forums on and discussions of current and significant research related to public policy. These presentations generated discussion among faculty, staff, students and community members. Seminar topics included voting reform, the arts as a development tool, and refugees in the St. Louis workforce.

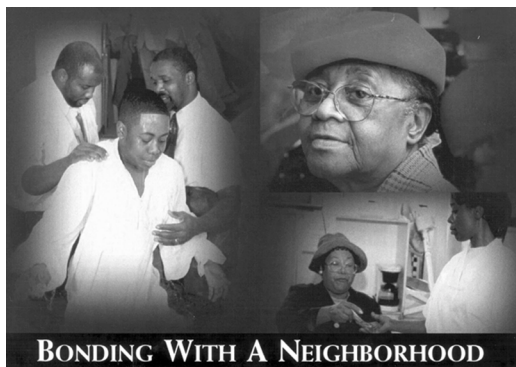
**Gateway Greening Whitmire Community Garden Study:** This ongoing evaluation examines the impact of community gardens on their surrounding neighborhoods. The initial research created a typology of garden types. Surveys of community gardeners and community residents provided data on the citizen's perception of garden impact. Data from secondary sources measured changes in home ownership, property value and other indicators of neighborhood stability. During this year, the research results were presented at several conferences and meetings.

**Publications:** Communications has been an essential component of the Public Policy Research Center's mission since its beginning. During the last year, PPRC disseminated

quarterly newsletters, event announcements, academic research papers, policy briefs, and strategic plans. PPRC is very actively engaged in the community at all levels, and it is through the communications efforts that the Center creates its strong community presence.

**Gallery:** The PPRC Gallery relies on the power of a picture to speak many words. The photos function not only as art, but also as a voice for the community. The images focus upon public policy issues and highlight the impact of these issues on people. Since its 1974 opening, the gallery has exhibited the works of more than 150 photographers. Exhibits during the last year have included photos reflecting Cuba's economic changes, deciphering the cultural clues offered by clotheslines, and celebrating the relationships between individuals and community in North St. Louis City.

**PPRC Website:** The Center's main webpage, located at <http://pprc.umsl.edu>, is one of our strongest tools for keeping in touch. Updated almost daily, we provide current news on our projects, lists of funding opportunities, links to community resources, and a calendar of upcoming events. The Center recently added several sections and tools, including an Old North Neighborhood Partnership website, a community toolbox, slideshow presentations of current and past research, funding and community development resources, and copies of all our publications.





**Mark Tranel, Ph.D.**  
Director, Public Policy  
Research Center

**Applied Research**

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**Mark Tranel, Ph.D.**  
Director

**Jeanne Ortega, M.A.**  
Senior Research Analyst

**Larry Handlin, M.A.**  
Senior Research Analyst

**Wil Winter, M.A.**  
Research Analyst

**Steve Gardner, B.S.**  
Graduate Research Assistant

**Jeffrey Roorda, M.A.**  
Graduate Research Assistant

**Community and  
Neighborhood Development**

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**Kay Gasen, M.P.P.A.,**  
Associate Director

**Miranda Duncan, J.D., M.A.**  
Community Dev. Specialist

**Holly Ingraham, M.P.P.A.**  
Community Dev. Specialist

**Charlotte Moten, B.S.**  
Community Project Manager

**Metropolitan Information and  
Data Analysis Services**

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**David Laslo, Ph.D.,**  
Associate Director

**Richard Rabe, B.S.**  
Database Administrator  
**Maria Weldele, M.A.**  
Research Analyst

**Communications**

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**Rebecca Pastor, B.S.**  
Communications Coordinator

**Core Staff**

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**Telesa Nolan, B.S.**  
Administrative Associate

**Gallery**

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**Mel Watkin, M.F.A.**  
Gallery Director

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**STAFF AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**Highest Honor given to PPRC for the Workforce Information System (WIS)**

On June 14th, the WIS received highest honor during the 4th Annual ACCRA Applied Community and Economic Research Awards. The ACCRA awards program recognizes the contribution of research activities to the success of local, regional, or state/provincial economic development initiatives. Congratulations are in order to all of the MIDAS staff.

**Kay Gasen receives 2003 C. Brice Ratchford Memorial Fellowship Award**

The University of Missouri System selected Kay Gasen, Director of PPRC’s Community and Neighborhood Development division, to receive the 2003 C. Brice Ratchford Memorial Fellowship Award. The award is presented annually to a UMSL faculty member, in recognition of commitment, vision and effectiveness in advancing the University of Missouri land-grant mission.

**Telesa Nolan selected as a Shear Fellow**

PPRC Administrative Associate Telesa Nolan was selected by the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life to participate in the 21st Century Leadership Academy. The Academy is the premier leadership program for Missouri college women, and Ms. Nolan’s selection gives her the status of Shear Fellow. The Academy is composed of 35 of Missouri’s top college women and a distinguished faculty of recognized leaders.

**Mark Tranel and Kay Gasen Present at the Federal Reserve System’s Community Affairs Research Conference**

Gasen and Tranel presented their paper entitled, “Community Partnerships: A Sustainable Resource for Nongovernmental Organizations” during the third annual conference in Washington, D.C., March 27 and 28th. You can read the paper on the PPRC website’s Publications page.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2003**

The Public Policy Research Center's Advisory Committee is dedicated to providing input that will ensure that the Center is meeting its objectives. The composition of the Advisory Committee is designed to represent all units at University of Missouri – St. Louis, as well as a wide variety of agencies and governmental units in the bi-state, metropolitan St. Louis region.

**Robert Archibald**, Chair,  
Missouri Historical Society

**Steve Acre**, Regional Housing/Community  
Development Alliance

**Nasser Arshadi**, Vice Chancellor, Research,  
UM-St. Louis

**Brady Baybeck**, UM-St. Louis

**Ed Bryant**, St. Louis Regional Health Commission

**Marilyn Bush**, Bank of America

**Tom Curran**, St. Louis County

**Mary Domahidy**, St. Louis University

**Joseph Cavato**, Community Program  
Development Corporation

**Christine Chadwick**, FOCUS St. Louis

**Tim Fischesser**, County Municipal League

**Richard Fleming**, RCGA

**Barbara Geisman**, City of St. Louis

**Andrew Hurley**, UM-St. Louis

**Mike Jones**, Greater St. Louis Empowerment Zone

**Tom Jones**, St. Louis Agency on Training  
and Employment

**David Klostermann**, UM-St. Louis

**James Krueger**, UM-St. Louis

**Dixie Kohn**, UM-St. Louis

**Jill McGuire**, Regional Arts Commission

**Marsha Mellitz**, Center for Emerging Technologies

**Debra Moore**, Southern Illinois State University

**Raymond Mundy**, UM-St. Louis

**John Roberts**, Civic Progress

**Richard Rosenfeld**, UM-St. Louis

**Gina Ryan**, SLACO

**Douglas Smith**, UM-St. Louis

**Les Sterman**, East-West Gateway  
Coordinating Council

**Lottie Wade**, United Way

### **FACULTY FELLOWS 2003**

The Public Policy Research Center strongly supports the research efforts of UM-St. Louis faculty members. In 1990, the Center made a formal commitment to faculty research by implementing the Faculty Fellows Program. For the duration of the fellowship, each fellow undertakes public policy research in an area that compliments PPRC's work. The research is conducted in cooperation with neighborhood and community groups for the purpose of advancing a public policy agenda. The fellows for 2003 were:

**Brady Baybeck**, Assistant Professor, Political Science

**Tim Baumann**, Assistant Professor, Anthropology

**Andrew Hurley**, Professor, History

**Bruce Jacobs**, Associate Professor, Criminology

**E. Terrence Jones**, Professor, Political Science  
and Public Policy Administration

**David Kimball**, Assistant Professor, Political Science

**Roberta Lee**, Professor, Nursing

**Donald Phares**, Professor, Economics

**Van Reidhead**, Associate Professor, Anthropology

**David C. Rose**, Assistant Professor, Economics

**David B. Robertson**, Professor, Political Science

**Uma Segal**, Associate Professor, Social Work

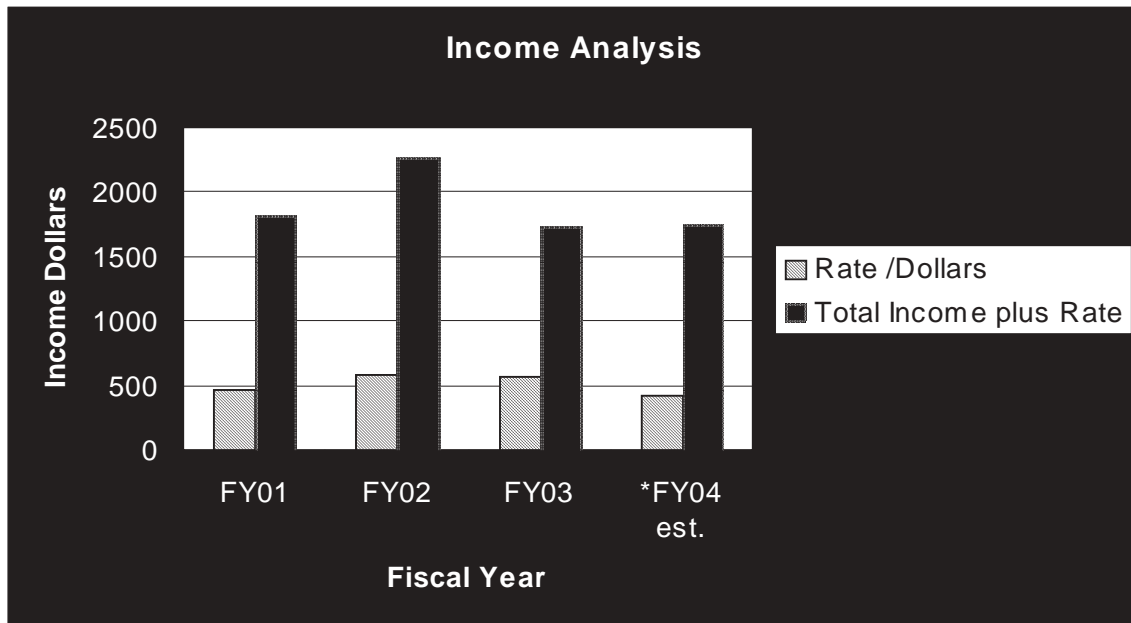
**Lana Stein**, Professor, Political Science

### **COMMUNITY FELLOW PROGRAM**

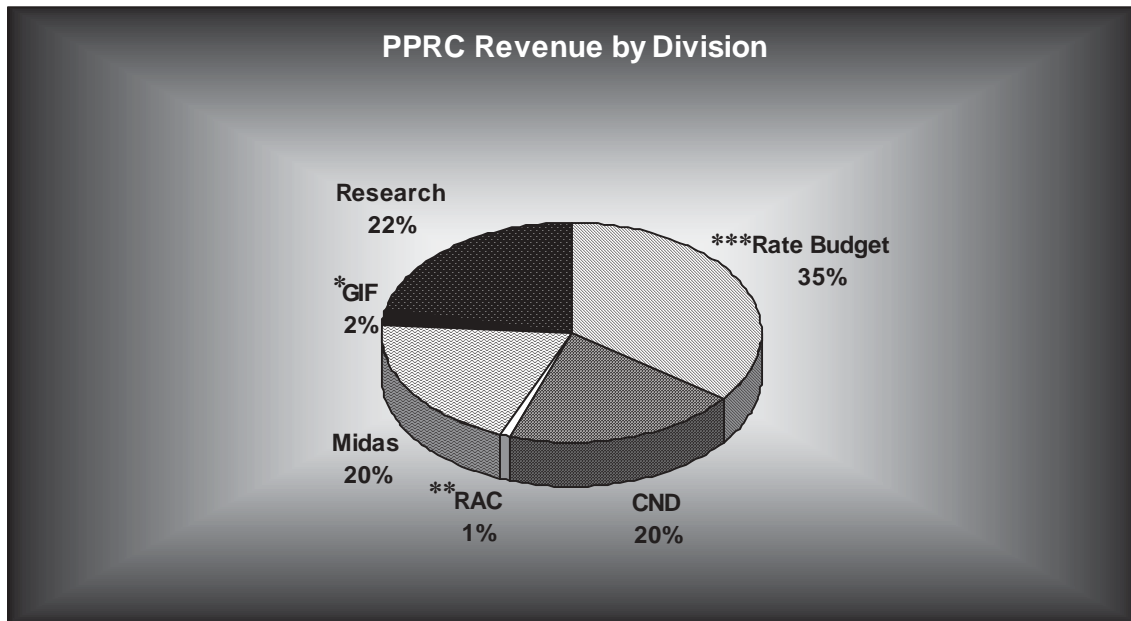
The PPRC's Community Fellows Program links the university with community leaders involved in key metropolitan issues. The 2002 Community Fellow was **Rachel L'Ecuyer**, **Project Manager with the Regional Housing and Community Development Alliance**. During her fellowship with the Center, Ms. L'Ecuyer researched housing strategies for inner-ring suburban municipalities.



The graph below reports financial data for the last four fiscal years. Values for Fiscal Year 2004 have been estimated, based on previous years and upcoming contracts.



The graph below reflects the distribution of income earned per division.



\* Grants Incentive Fund

\*\* Reginal Arts Commission

\*\*\*Rate Budget refers to the dollars allocated by University of Missouri

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS AND CLIENTS:

City of Creve Coeur	SLATE (Saint Louis Agency for Training & Employment. )
City of Jennings	Spirit of St. Louis Airport
Gateway Greening, Inc.	St. Louis Association of Community Organizations
Greater St. Louis Regional Empowerment Zone Management Corporation	St. Louis County
Green Center	St. Louis Housing Authority
Herculaneium Community Advisory Group	St. Louis Regional Empowerment Zone
Mid County Partners for Progress	St. Louis University College of Public Service
Old North St. Louis Restoration Group	STEP, Inc.
Regional Center for Education and Work	Sustainable Neighborhood Initiative
Regional Housing and Community Development Alliance	United Way of Greater Saint Louis
RegionWise	Vashon Compact

This list represents some of the organizations with which PPRC has collaborated. For a complete list of clients and partners, please contact the Center.



PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS  
3001 Natural Bridge Road  
St. Louis, Missouri 63121-4499

314.516.5273 Phone  
314.516.5268 FAX  
<http://pprc.umsl.edu> Web  
[pprc@umsl.edu](mailto:pprc@umsl.edu) Email