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UMSL AWARDED \$400,000 GRANT FOR OLD NORTH ST. LOUIS PROJECT

In October, the Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded a \$400,000 Community Outreach Partnership Center grant to the University of Missouri – St. Louis. This grant is designed to harness the physical, economic, intellectual and creative resources of the University by linking UMSL to Old North St. Louis, an historic neighborhood north of downtown. This award represents a significant accomplishment for UMSL, and specifically for the Community and Neighborhood Development Unit of the Public Policy Research Center. The comprehensive three-year endeavor, named the Old North Neighborhood Partnerships Project, will be directed by Kay Gasen, Director of PPRC’s CND Unit. Throughout this project, students, faculty and Center staff will work with residents of the Old North St. Louis Neighborhood in a way that engages the community in a very results-oriented manner. This will benefit the neighborhood as well as change the way that students are taught.

Community Outreach Partnership Center grants totaling \$8 million were awarded nationwide by HUD to only 25 colleges and universities. This project aims to preserve the character, quality, and culture of the Old North St. Louis neighborhood and to strengthen



community programs and further enable residents to be self-sufficient.

The grant has four components, each one involving different academic disciplines. The activities will include:

- **Neighborhood Stabilization and Historic Preservation** – This aspect will link faculty and students in history, archaeology and museum studies classes to residents in order to document the rich history of the neighborhood. Community tours, a video documentary, archaeological digs, and a community museum space will engage residents in celebrating their history and attract visitors and potential residents to the neighborhood.
- **Environmental Health and Safety** – Nursing faculty and students will work with community partners, the

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LIVABLE communities don't just HAPPEN.

They are CREATED by the PEOPLE who LIVE in them.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



In November, the voting citizens of Missouri will decide whether to permit Home Rule in the City of St. Louis. This is an important decision that affects the entire region. The vote represents phase two in a long process toward leveling

a bump in the state constitution that dramatically impairs city government efficiency.

This constitutional bump has a long history. In 1876, the state Constitution was amended to separate the city and the county into two divergent political entities. This left the city with two classes of elected officials, the already-existing “municipal function” officials; and those who inhabited the new “county functions” which resulted from the separation. As a result, the City of St. Louis has been prohibited from changing the city charter with regard to the number, duties, responsibilities, manner of selection, terms of office, and salary of the county function officials. The county-level positions include circuit attorney, public administrator, circuit clerk, recorder of deeds, collector of revenue, the sheriff, the license collector and the treasurer. Thus, these offices are independent of and largely unaccountable to city officials. The inefficiencies are enormous, services are duplicated, and major change has become impossible, to say nothing for day-to-day business.

As a member of the Committee for Home Rule, I ask each of you to closely examine the issue. The scope of this amendment reaches across the state. Home Rule is not only about the City of St. Louis.

The region as a whole can never reach its full economic potential if it is managed by agencies and officials that do not work together. The business community, and thus the entire region, will benefit when the core city thrives. The passage of Home Rule for the City of St. Louis will not result in changes that are not chosen by the city voters, but without it, change is impossible.

I must also note that this will be my last newsletter as executive director of PPRC. As of July 1, I will be taking up new duties as the dean of the College of Urban and Public Affairs at the University of New Orleans. I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have worked with or encouraged the work of the PPRC. I trust, in some small way, that my efforts have helped to improve the region’s livability.

LACK OF
HOME RULE
HANDICAPS
THE ENTIRE
REGION -
NOT JUST THE
CITY

Alan F.J. Artibise, Ph.D.
Director and E. Des Lee Endowed Professor
of Community Collaboration & Public Policy

NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY COMPLETES FIRST TRAINING PROGRAM

In January, the PPRC worked collaboratively with the Non Profit Management and Leadership Program at UMSL, University Outreach and Extension and the Coro Midwestern Center to initiate its most recent project, the Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA). Hosted by the Office of Continuing Education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, the Academy provides hands-on training to volunteers or community-based organization staff so they can develop their capacity to be effective neighborhood leaders. The Academy was designed to make professional level community development training accessible and relevant to grass roots community leaders.

The initial NLA program included nine sessions from January 15 to May 14, 2002. Through seminars, individual community-based projects, and interactive training sessions, participants developed personal leadership skills,



NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
SPRING 2002 GRADUATING CLASS

learned about organizational leadership and management, and worked to put into practice community development principles and strategies. Twenty-two neighborhood leaders from communities as far away as Jefferson County

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RESEARCH DIVISION ENTERS FINAL PHASE OF TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

The Research Division of the PPRC is in the final phase of its evaluation of the operation of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership (TPPP). The evaluation has been supported by a grant from the Missouri Division of Social Services. The project assessed TPPP's impact as a coalition of metropolitan St. Louis social service agencies and also as sponsor of the development of coalitions in three Missouri pilot site counties.

Jeanne Ortega, senior research analyst on the Center's staff, conducted the evaluation. For the St. Louis area component, Ortega used the following methods:

- interviews with staff members
- review of organizational records from 1997 through the present to document TPPP's activities prior to this evaluation
- mail survey to collect data from regular participants in TPPP activities
- mail survey to collect data from agencies that are

not regular participants in TPPP but that hold a mission related to the prevention of teen pregnancy

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess TPPP's success in strengthening available teen pregnancy services in the St. Louis area and establishing communication and coordination among over 750 organizations that provide services related to teen pregnancy prevention. The final report will be available by the end of this year. The survey results are to be reported to TPPP's staff and board of directors to assist them in fundraising and future coalition building activities.

In early 2001, TPPP issued a request for proposals to assist in the development of teen pregnancy coalitions in outstate Missouri. Barton, Pemiscott, and Dallas counties were selected as pilot sites. For the pilot site evaluation, interviews were conducted with team leaders

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MIDAS FOCUSES ON THE WORKFORCE

MIDAS continues to focus its research activity on workforce-related issues. The unit recently completed two related projects: the Job Openings Survey and the Workforce Information System (WIS) website.

The first Job Openings Survey was completed and analyzed in September 2001. The survey allows MIDAS to estimate the number of job openings in the region by county and by industry. The survey also includes information about the wage rates, benefits, and incentives for each job, as well as the skills, education, and experience required.

The survey will be conducted twice each year, in May and October. With a sample size of approximately 2500 companies, the entire process takes about 60-90 days to complete. MIDAS and its research partners are now undertaking the second survey.

Since its launch, the WIS website has become an important public policy planning tool by providing a wide



range of workforce-related data and allowing users to interact with the data. For instance, the results of the first Job Openings Survey are available on the site. Users can display the results by occupation, industry, and geography. Users can then relate the survey results to other information, like an employer database, demographics of the region, and economic indicators.

Completion of the WIS website will allow the MIDAS staff more time for research and analysis. The website is located at <http://pprc.umsl.edu/wis/>

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UMSL RECEIVES \$400,000 GRANT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

City of St. Louis Health Department, and the St. Louis Lead Prevention Coalition to examine health risks in the community and to improve the health of the residents. Specific targets will include environmental factors that contribute to lead poisoning and asthma.

- **Home Maintenance and Financial Literacy** – Faculty from University Outreach and Extension will work with community partners to provide resident training in home maintenance and ownership, and financial literacy.
- **Community Organizing and Leadership** – PPRC staff and students will provide leadership training and skill building for neighborhood residents, along with support for community partnerships that will remain vibrant long after the grant funding has been utilized.

In this vein, the community partners in this project include:

- Old North St. Louis Restoration Group
- Gateway to Financial Fitness, a collaboration between Neighborhood Housing Services, Catholic Commission on Housing and University of Missouri Outreach and Extension
- City of St. Louis, Department of Health
- Missouri Historical Society
- Grace Hill Settlement House
- Parent Link

UMSL maintains an office in the Old North neighborhood. This office, located at 2800 North 14th Street, is headed by Charlotte Moten, a full-time community development specialist. For more information about the events, contact Charlotte at 314.241.5031.

PPRC SEEKS COMMUNITY FELLOWS

The Public Policy Research Center is now seeking applicants for its 2002-2003 Community Fellows program.

The Community Fellows program connects experienced members of community-based organizations working to improve the region with UMSL faculty and students. The program, now in its second year, is designed to foster partnerships that will strengthen the St. Louis metropolitan area.

The PPRC will choose two individuals to serve as Community Fellows. These individuals will serve by developing a collaborative community/university project; working with the PPRC staff on research or outreach

projects; or by serving as “community faculty” in workshops and University courses.

Selected fellows will remain in their current positions during the fellowship, but make a one-year commitment to work with the University. The fellowship stipend ranges from \$7,500 to \$12,000 for a calendar year, and fellows could be eligible for up to an additional \$3,000 to implement the fellow’s project.

Applicants will be required to outline an issue, project, or activity to be pursued during the fellowship. Preference for one of the fellowship positions will be given to applicants interested in working with faculty to explore

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PPRC NAMES 2002-2003 FACULTY FELLOWS

The Public Policy Research Center strongly supports the research efforts of UM-St. Louis faculty members. In 2000, 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 receive a stipend as determined by the scope of the research project, as well as access to the expertise of the PPRC staff.

2002-2003 FACULTY FELLOWS:

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

In May, the Center announced the appointment of the 2002-2003 Fellows. The fellowship period is from July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003. Further details on specific Fellow projects may be obtained by contacting the center at 314.516.5273.

PPRC STAFF NOTES

New Staff

Connie Coleman has worked as a secretary for the Public Policy Research Center since January 2002. She brings more than 12 years of administrative experience, and has developed her skills in data management, event coordination, payroll and customer service. Connie is currently pursuing a communication degree from UMSL.

Charlotte Moten joined the PPRC in January 2002 as the community project manager for the Old North Neighborhood Partnership Project. She brings an extensive background in coalition building, community development, grass roots organizing and program implementation. Her professional experience includes projects with Juneteenth Coalition, Safe Place, the Prevention Partnership, and County Youth Programs. She holds a bachelor's degree in administration of justice.

Talessa Nolan currently serves as the accounting manager for the PPRC. She has been with the Center since 2002, and has played an instrumental role in developing and maintaining an accounting system that is accessible to the entire department. She brings more than 12 years of accounting experience, as well as considerable research and data analysis skills. Talessa is currently pursuing a MBA from Lindenwood University.

Rebecca Pastor joined PPRC in October 2001 as the communications coordinator. She completed a bachelor's degree in psychology at Webster University in 1992, and she is currently working towards an MFA in creative writing. Becky brings a strong background in community development, writing and public relations. Prior to joining PPRC, Becky directed the recycling programs for the City of St. Louis. She is accomplished in grantsmanship, and public education. Previous writing projects have

included work with Barnes-Jewish Hospital; the Clayton Farmer's Market; and Abundant Life Seed Foundation.

Diana Petrova is an exchange student intern as part of the Russia-U.S. Young Leadership Fellows and Public Service Program. The YLF Program provides opportunities for outstanding university graduates and young professionals from the Russian Federation to participate in public service projects and non-degree academic study at leading U.S. institutions. Diana has joined the MIDAS unit and is conducting a study of the local IT infrastructure as the public-service component of her internship. She will be with the Center until July 20, 2002. Her hometown is Yakutsk, in Northeastern Russia.

Josh Renaud joined PPRC in May 2002, as a student assistant to the communications coordinator. Josh is an UMSL student pursuing a communication degree and a writing certificate. He has worked as the editor-in-chief of UMSL's student newspaper, *The Current*, and as a sports page design intern at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Josh recently won first place for in-depth news reporting at the 2001-02 Missouri College Media Association awards for a story examining UMSL's parking structures and how they are financed.

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COMMUNITY FELLOWS

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housing development strategies for inner-ring suburban communities.

Application forms for the PPRC Community Fellows program can be obtained by contacting the PPRC by phone at 314.516.5273, by email at pprc@umsl.edu or by visiting the PPRC website at <http://pprc.umsl.edu>. Applications are due July 30, and successful applicants will be notified by Aug. 19.

NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

and as close as Pine Lawn and the City of St. Louis participated in the first Academy.

Participants who successfully complete the program receive the Chancellor's Certificate in Neighborhood Leadership and may receive a total of 4.35 Continuing Education Units. The Center will offer the next Neighborhood Leadership Academy in January, 2003. For information, contact the Center at 314.516.5273, or check our website at <http://pprc.umsl.edu>.

Congratulations are extended to the participants of the first Neighborhood Leadership Academy class: Maria Chappelle-Nadal, Liza Cohen, Samuel Coleman, Murlean Haley, Patty Hofer, Helen Jackson, Octavia Johnson, Julann Johnson-Dale, Darryl Jones, Jennifer Kennedy, Carmella Kranz, Marguerite Little, Jesse Moore, Charlotte Moten, Serena Muhammad, Kimberely Smith, Chanel Thompson, Ra Khem Thoth, Anne Wiehagen and Michelle Joy Wright.

MIDAS FOCUSES ON THE WORKFORCE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

Other MIDAS projects on the horizon:

- To complement the Job Openings Survey, MIDAS is undertaking a series of in-depth studies of industry sectors. A labor demand study of the life and plant science sector is now underway, using the same basic instrument as the Job Openings Survey. This study will go farther, asking about the health of individual companies and the entire industry, as well as asking respondents to describe their past, present, and future labor demand. Future studies of the health services and advanced manufacturing sectors are also planned.
- The Census 2000 data will soon be released, and MIDAS plans to conduct numerous ap-

plied analyses. For example, MIDAS will contribute to two chapters of an edited volume being published in collaboration between UMSL and the Missouri Historical Society. These chapters will overview demographic and labor force changes in the region during the 1950-1990 period. MIDAS will also use the census data as a benchmark for demographic estimates and projections.

- Other future projects for the MIDAS staff include a job fair in association with state and local workforce development personnel, as well as the creation of an Innovation Index to measure the region's level of invention and technology development.

RESEARCH UNIT FINALIZING TPPP ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

and selected coalition members to assess their success in coalition building.

TPPP was organized in 1997 by a steering committee of health service providers and other agencies concerned about the rate of teen pregnancy in the St. Louis region. As a coalition of social service agencies, TPPP holds

quarterly meetings for participating organizations. It also has sponsored two annual conferences featuring nationally-known speakers on the best practices in teen pregnancy prevention. These conferences have been attended by agencies in Missouri and Illinois. TPPP has developed a resource manual of teen pregnancy prevention services available in the St. Louis area.

STAFF NOTES (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

Congratulations and Farewells

Zina Karapetyan, a research analyst with MIDAS, left the Center for Russia on May 19 in order to fulfill the research portion of her study exchange program. Zina will spend two years conducting research in Russia to complete her doctorate program in political science. Her dissertation measures the effects of post-democratization business policies on large corporation operations, and she will use a sample of companies in Russia and Hungary. She is currently living with her family in Saratov, approximately 500 miles south of Moscow. Zina has been with PPRC since June 2000.

In April, **Cornelius Lewis**, a senior research analyst with the Applied Research Unit, completed his dissertation and received his Ph.D. in industrial/organizational psychology at UMSL. He has accepted a position as a consultant for Applied Psychological Techniques (APT), an industrial/organizational psychology consulting firm in Darien Connecticut. Neil has been with the Center since May 2000. Neil's professional experience includes work in human resources, job analysis, personnel selection, and statistics.

PPRC GALLERY

CURRENT EXHIBIT:

St. Louis Growth Through Maps

May 24 - June 28, 2002

A special show in cooperation with the Mercantile Library, the Department of History, and the Southern Industrial History Conference, and hosted by the PPRC.

COMING SOON:

Artists, South St. Louis

July 9 - August 30, 2002

A photographic exhibit by St. Louisan Bob Reuter.

Exhibits curated by Jean Tucker. For more information on current or upcoming shows, call 314.516.5273

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