



## E-Newsletter – October 10, 2006

### Housing Conference Follow-up

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, the Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies hosted its annual conference on social challenges faced by residents of the Greater Newark area. Greater Newark consists of Newark, East Orange, Orange and Irvington. This year, the Cornwall Center tackled the issue of housing and the challenges urban Essex residents face in obtaining quality homes. The all-day conference was moderated by **Dr. Stephanie R. Bush-Baskette, Esq.**, Director of the Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies and **Mr. Ernest E. Baskette, Jr.**, Senior Vice-President of Neighborhood Housing Services of America. The conference was held at the Paul Robeson Campus Center on the Rutgers-Newark campus.

Topics discussed included a wide range of housing issues. Conference panelists and presenters discussed ways to increase the number of affordable housing units in the area, the need for housing education programs for first-time homebuyers, intergovernmental aid and involvement to increase housing units, redevelopment of abandoned properties, housing tax credits and abatements, rental housing concerns and the need for more public-private partnerships to enhance existing housing stock in the area. Other issues discussed centered upon the housing needs of special populations in the Greater Newark area such as senior citizens, low-income residents, the homeless and prisoners re-entering the community.

Conference panelists discussed ways in which their departments or organizations have assisted residents seeking housing. In addition, some panelists discussed how their organizations developed housing units for residents in urban Essex County. Throughout the day, panelists fielded questions from the audience of about 100 attendees and provided thoughtful analysis of housing concerns. The conference concluded with our traditional 'Where do we go from here?' segment, an invitation for attendees to continue discussion of special housing topics such as assisted living programs, housing discrimination, oversight of condominiums and ways in which the number of affordable housing units can be increased through special housing legislation and greater involvement of municipal planning boards.

The **Honorable Susan Bass Levin**, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, was the conference guest speaker. The **Honorable Robert Bowser**, Mayor of the City of East Orange and the **Honorable Wayne Smith**, Mayor of the Township of Irvington were among the conference panelists and presenters. Several directors of city and state departments and agencies in attendance included **Marge Della Veccia**, Director of the NJ Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency, **Lopa Kolluri**, Director of Division of Housing in the NJ Department of Community Affairs, **Keith Henderson**, Director of Planning for the Council on Affordable Housing, and **Barbara Fuller**, Director of the Office of Community Programs for the

NJ Department of Health & Senior Services. Non-profit organizations were also well represented at the event. Non-profit presenters included **Shelia Baynes**, Executive Director of Newark Emergency Services for Families, **Patrick Morrissy** of HANDS, Inc., **Ray Ocasio** of La Casa de Don Pedro, and **Connie Pascale**, Vice President and Assistant General Counsel from Legal Services of New Jersey. Cornwall Center Senior Research Analyst, **Kelly Robinson, Ph.D.** also participated as a conference presenter. This event was co-sponsored by the Cornwall Center and Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG).



*From left:* Dr. Stephanie Bush-Baskette, Esq., Director of the Cornwall Center, Honorable Susan Bass Levin, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, and Gail Davis, Urban Development Manager of PSEG.



*From left:* Keith Henderson, Director of Planning for the Council of Affordable Housing, Lopa Kolluri, Director of the Division of Housing for the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Dr. Stephanie Bush-Baskette, Esq., Director of the Cornwall Center, and Marge Della Vecchia, Director of the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency.



*From left:* Gail Davis, Urban Development Manager of PSEG and Honorable Robert Bowser, Mayor of the City of East Orange, talk during a break.

**Visit our website for presentations and additional conference pictures:**  
<http://www.cornwall.rutgers.edu/Events.htm#Conferences>

## New Institute Established

The Cornwall Center announces the formation of its **Institute on Communities and Social Justice**. The Institute was established to analyze and research complex issues of social justice that urban areas face - particularly in the Newark metropolitan area. Chief topics include the impact of imprisonment on families and communities, community re-entry process of adults and juveniles involved or at-risk of involvement in the criminal justice system, and related issues.

The Cornwall Center's Institute on Communities and Social Justice will facilitate the development of collaboratives, collection of data, discussion of issues, and dissemination of information. To do this, the Institute will be a conduit for the sharing and exchange of information among faculty, students, community-based organizations, governmental officials and other interested parties.

Faculty and interested parties are invited to participate. Please contact Ms. Irene Welch at 973-353-1750 ext. 221 or [irenew@rutgers.edu](mailto:irenew@rutgers.edu) for more information.

## Faculty News

**2006 Cornwall Center Faculty Award.** Each year, Rutgers-Newark faculty are invited to submit a proposal to the Cornwall Center for support in conducting a scholarly or applied research project on urban and/or metropolitan issues. These issues include but are not limited to housing, social justice, education, health, and community, and economic development. Dr. Kyle Farmbry, assistant professor of Public Administration, is the 2006 recipient of the Cornwall Center Faculty Award for the research project, "Explorations of Administration and The Other: The Municipal Context." Dr. Farmbry will conduct a presentation on this project on November 9, 2006 in the second Cornwall "brown-bag" luncheon seminar. (See below for details.)

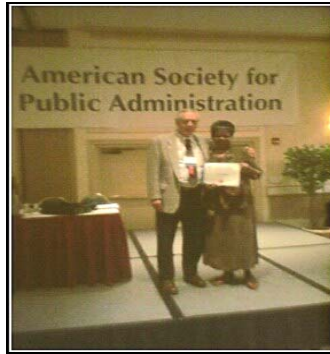
## Cornwall Events

***Cornwall Center will host a series of "brown-bag" luncheon seminars during the fall semester.***

The Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies will host three brown-bag luncheon seminars during the fall semester. The series will begin on November 2, 2006 with the presentation "NESF/Social Services Going Forward" by **Shelia Baynes**, Executive Director of Newark Emergency Services for Families, Inc. **Dr. Kyle Farmbry**, assistant professor of the Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration, will deliver the second seminar, "Exploration of Administration and The Other: The Municipal Context " on November 9, 2006. **Dr. Byron E. Price**, also of the Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration, will deliver the third seminar, "Why Do States Subsidize Private Prisons?" on December 7, 2006. Lectures will be held at the Cornwall Center headquarters, 47 Bleeker Street, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm.

If you would like to attend, please contact Ms. Irene Welch at 973-353-1750 ext. 221 or [irenew@rutgers.edu](mailto:irenew@rutgers.edu). Our seating is limited, so responses will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis.

## Student Spotlight



*From the left:* Former ASPA President Donald C. Menzel presents Fayth Ruffin with the 2006 Founders' Forum Fellowship Award.

***Graduate Assistant Receives Award*** - The American Society for Public Administration awarded Cornwall Center graduate assistant Fayth A. Ruffin, Esq. a 2006 Founders' Forum Fellowship, presented at ASPA's 67<sup>th</sup> annual conference in Denver, Colorado earlier this year. ASPA is the leading public service organization advancing the art, science, teaching, and practice of public and non-profit administration and achieving innovative solutions to the challenges of governance. Ms. Ruffin is a doctoral candidate in the Rutgers-Newark Graduate Division of Global Affairs concentrating on public administration and researching innovative local/global governance of public-private partnerships in metropolitan areas.



Graduate Assistant Vivian Pacheco

***Cornwall Center Graduate Assistant s***– Vivian Pacheco, M.A. joins the Cornwall Center as our newest graduate assistant. Ms. Pacheco received her B.A. from the University of Maryland-College Park. Currently, Ms. Pacheco is on the Ph.D. track in the Rutgers School of Criminal Justice. Her research interests include gender and crime issues, drug policies and felon disenfranchisement. Vivian joins our existing team of graduate students: Fayth Ruffin, Esq. a Ph.D. candidate in the Rutgers-Newark Graduate Division of Global Affairs and Eileen Russell, a Rutgers-Newark Graduate Division of Political Science Master's student.

***Cornwall Work Study Students*** – We welcome back Ms. Candice Henry, a Cornwall Center work study student since 2003. New work study students are Ms. Maryam Abdul-Kabeer, Mr. Jason Malki, and Ms. Andrea Ruiz. Maryam, a Biomedical Engineering major, stayed with us for the duration of the 2006 summer prior to returning to the New Brunswick campus this fall. Andrea, a Clinical Lab Sciences major, and Jason joined the Cornwall Center team this fall.

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The Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies circulates the *Cornwall MetroNews* e-newsletter to: 1) inform readers about important local and state issues and, 2) showcase the work of the Center and members of the Rutgers-Newark community. The Center's primary geographic focus is Northern New Jersey, with special emphasis on the urban Essex area – Newark, East Orange, Orange and Irvington.

If you would like to add an item or add/remove a name from our distribution list, please contact Robyn Curry. Additionally, Robyn Curry is the contact for story ideas and suggestions. Contact information follows.

*The following individuals contributed to this edition of the Cornwall MetroNews:* Robyn Curry, Donita Devance-Manzini, Fayth Ruffin, Eileen Russell and Irene Welch.

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