



Joseph C. Cornwall Center
for Metropolitan Studies

Cornwall MetroNews – March 23, 2009

Upcoming Conference

On June 10th, the Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies will host its fifth annual full-day conference, “The Impact of Hospital Closings in New Jersey” at the Center for Law and Justice.

The Director of the Center, Dr. Stephanie Bush-Baskette, J.D. Ph.D., states, “The goal of the conference is to provide an open forum in which stakeholders may discuss the impact of hospital closings in New Jersey on consumers, service providers and communities.”

Due to limited seating, RSVPs are required. Please contact Ms. Irene Welch, Administrative Assistant at 973-353-1750 ext. 3869 or irenew@rutgers.edu no later than Friday, May 22nd in order to reserve your seat.

Visit our website for additional conference information:

<http://www.cornwall.rutgers.edu/Events.htm#Conferences>

Research News

Female Prisoner Reentry Project. The Cornwall Center is working in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Corrections (NJDOC) and the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women in Clinton, New Jersey on the Female Prisoner Reentry Project. The project goal is to assist local communities and the NJDOC recognize the needs of female ex-offenders upon reentry. This project is one of the first comprehensive state-level studies conducted in the United States that explores the multifaceted needs of women re-entering society after incarceration. Two Cornwall graduate assistants are involved in this project working with Cornwall researchers as primary data collectors. They work closely with prison officials and have essential responsibility for developing IRB submissions.

Newark Behavioral Risk Factor System Survey. The Newark Behavioral Risk Factor System Survey started in November of 2007. Data is captured using two methods: traditional telephone surveys and face-to-face guided interviews. The purpose of the study is to help the City of Newark identify health status of residents with respect to various health factors such as, asthma, heart disease, obesity, cancers, arthritis, osteoporosis, smoking habits, drinking and driving, HIV/AIDS and women’s health in order to develop health programs and policies. In addition to Cornwall researchers, this study allows the Cornwall Center to employ approximately thirty-one people including graduate and undergraduate students as well as Newark and Essex County residents as program staff.

Faculty News

Cornwall Center Faculty Award. Each year, Rutgers-Newark full-time 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: social justice (including criminal justice and child welfare), health, housing, community development and economic development.

Dr. Keesha Middlemass, assistant professor of Political Science, was the 2008 recipient of the Cornwall Center Faculty Award for her research project, “New Jersey in Denial: Public Housing and The Politics of a Felony Conviction.”

Completed applications for the 2009 faculty award will be accepted through 4:00 PM on Friday, May 1st. Please visit our website at <http://www.cornwall.rutgers.edu/Grants.htm> to download an application.

Cornwall Events

The Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies hosted many exciting events thus far this academic year. These events include:

Faculty luncheon seminars. Two faculty luncheon seminars were held this academic year. These seminars were held at the Cornwall Center headquarters. The series began with a presentation by **Dr. Beryl Satter**, associate professor of the Department of History, who presented “Real Estate Exploitation in Black Chicago: A Preview of the Subprime Mortgage Crisis.” **Dr. Joel Caplan**, assistant professor of the Rutgers School of Criminal Justice, delivered a presentation entitled “Parole Release Decisions in New Jersey: The Impact of Public Input and the Needs of People Who Provide It.”



Dr. Bush Baskette, right, introduces Dr. Joel Caplan, left, to faculty luncheon seminar attendees.

Urban Research Lecture Series. The Urban Research Lecture Series continued this academic year. These lectures were held at the Cornwall Center headquarters. **Dr. Joshua Guild**, assistant professor of History affiliated with the Center for African American Studies at Princeton University, presented “Pressure: Race and Policing of Public Space in 1970s London.” We were also glad to have **Dr. Carla**

Shedd, assistant professor in the Department of Sociology & Institute for Research in African American Studies at Columbia University, deliver the lecture entitled “Blurring the Boundaries: Cognitive Landscapes and Youth Perceptions of Injustice.”



Dr. Keesha Middlemass, right, reads the biography of Dr. Joshua Guild, left, to lecture attendees.

“Meet the Author.” **Dr. Kyle Farmbry**, assistant professor of the Rutgers University School of Public Affairs and Administration, discussed his new book, Administration and The Other: Explorations of Diversity and Marginalization in the Political Administrative State, at a special “Meet the Author” gathering in March.



From left, Dr. Kyle Farmbry, Assistant Professor, School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA) and Dr. Kelly Robinson, Cornwall Center Senior Research Analyst, at the “Meet the Author” reception.

Student Spotlight



Dr. Leila Sadeghi, Graduate Assistant

Cornwall Center Graduate Assistants. Leila Sadeghi, Ph.D. joined the Cornwall Center as a graduate assistant in the fall of 2007. Dr. Sadeghi was hired while a doctoral student in the Urban Systems program at Rutgers University-Newark, with a focus on urban education policy. Dr. Sadeghi successfully defended her dissertation in December of 2008 which examined the effectiveness of correctional education programs in public and private prisons at the national level. Dr. Sadeghi is also the Managing Editor of the *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy*, and has co-authored several publications and conference papers.

Dr. Sadeghi joined our existing team of graduate students: Vivian Pacheco, a doctoral candidate in the Rutgers University School of Criminal Justice and Eileen Russell, a Master's student in the Rutgers-Newark Graduate Division of Political Science.

Cornwall Center Undergraduate Office Assistants. We welcome back Ms. Maryam Abdul-Kabeer and Ms. Olabimpe Fageyinbo, undergraduate office assistants for the past two summers. New undergraduate office assistants at the center are Mr. Mohamed Shalaby and Mr. Rainier Pineda. Mohamed, a Finance major, and Rainier, a first-year student, came aboard this past fall.



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.

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

The Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies

Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

47 Bleeker Street

Newark, NJ 07102

973-353-1750 (telephone)

973-353-1753 (fax)

cornwall@andromeda.rutgers.edu

www.cornwall.rutgers.edu

Stephanie Bush-Baskette, J.D., Ph.D., *Director*, bushbask@newark.rutgers.edu
Robyn Curry, BA, *Senior Program Coordinator*, rdcurry@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Donita Devance, MCRP, *Senior Project Manager*, devance@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Vivian Pacheco, MA, *Graduate Assistant*, vivianp@pegasus.rutgers.edu
Kelly Robinson, Ph.D., *Senior Research Analyst*, krobins@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Eileen Russell, *Graduate Assistant*, eirussel@pegasus.rutgers.edu
Leila Sadeghi, Ph.D., *Graduate Assistant*, sadeghle@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Irene Welch, *Administrative Assistant*, irenew@andromeda.rutgers.edu