January 30, 2013

Presenters: Eric Hershberg, Director, Center for Latin American and Latino Studies (CLALS) and Professor of Government, AU and Dennis Stinchcomb, Program Coordinator, CLALS.

With this work in progress seminar, the Center for Latin American and Latino Studies team hopes to solicit feedback on an in-progress NIH (R21) proposal entitled, "Household Disruption and Child Welfare: Exploring the Impacts of Parental Deportation on U.S. Citizen Youth of Salvadorian Origin" that aims to examine the social and health ramifications produced by rising deportation that disproportionately affect Latino communities.

February 6, 2013

Presenter: Terry L. Davidson, Director, Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, Professor, Department of Psychology, AU.

Professor Davidson will speak about his newly launched Center for Behavioral Neuroscience and its potential synergies with CHRS, especially in areas where basic science at AU might be integrated with CHRS’ interests in the social dimensions of health. He will also shed light into his current research project that uses neuroscience techniques to show how common dietary factors in the current human food environment promote not only obesity but also brain pathologies that are precursors for Alzheimer’s Disease and other cognitive dementias.

February 13, 2013

Presenter: Sabrina McCormick, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental & Occupational Health, School of Public Health and Health Services, the George Washington University.


February 20, 2013

Presenter: Kristen Springer, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University.

Topic/title: TBA

February 27, 2013

Presenter: Christopher C. Weiss, Clinical Associate Professor of Sociology, Director, Applied Quantitative Research (AQR) Program, New York University

Topic/title: The Social Structure of Adolescent Fighting

Please note, March 6 seminar by Jeremy Shiffman and Rachel Robinson that was cancelled due to bad weather will be held on May 1 at our usual place and time.

March 20

Speaker: Allison Goldberg, PhD candidate in the Department of Sociomedical Sciences at Columbia University.

Talk title: Assessing the Impact of Social Networks on Mothers’ Childhood Immunization Decisions in Northern Nigeria.

About the speaker: Allison Goldberg is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociomedical Sciences at Columbia University, earning an interdisciplinary doctorate in Public Health and Political Science. Allison has worked with private and public sector leaders around the world on topics ranging from HIV/AIDS to maternal and child health, performance-based incentives, and health systems strengthening. A recognized subject matter expert, Allison has published widely and presented on these topics at a range of venues, including national
and international conferences and expert meetings with the United States Government and United Nations. Allison previously worked for Abt Associates Inc. and Columbia University’s International Center for AIDS Care & Treatment Programs (ICAP). She is currently consulting for Johnson & Johnson while finishing her dissertation on the impact of social networks on childhood immunization use in northern Nigeria.

March 27

Jeffrey B. Kaplan, Director, Center for Food Studies and Associate Professor, Department of Biology, AU will lead a seminar to brainstorm ideas to develop a grant proposal in the topic of Latino childhood obesity. All are welcome.

April 3

Presenter: Cecilia Van Hollen, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Maxwell School for Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University.


About the speaker: Van Hollen's scholarly interests are in cultural anthropology; medical anthropology; global health; reproduction; HIV/AIDS; gender; nationalism; and South Asia studies. Van Hollen's first book Birth on the Threshold: Childbirth and Modernity in South India was published by the University of California Press in 2003. She has received two Fulbright Fellowships, as well as a fellowship from the American Institute for Indian Studies. In 2012 she received the Steven Polgar Paper Prize from the Society for Medical Anthropology of the American Anthropological Association for the Best Paper Published in Medical Anthropology Quarterly that year. And in 2007 she received the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Award for outstanding teaching, research and service by an untenured Maxwell School faculty member, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University. Van Hollen served as Director of the National Resource Center for South Asia Studies at Syracuse University from 2010-12 and as a Trustee of both the American Institute for India Studies (AIIS) and the South Asia Language Institute (SASLI) also from 2010-12. Van Hollen has been a visiting Adjunct Associate Professor in the Asian Studies Program of the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University during the 2012-13 academic year.

April 10

Speakers: Sarah Irvine Belson, Dean, School of Education, Teaching & Health(SETH) and Anastasia Snelling, Associate Dean at SETH, AU.

Talk title: A is for Apple and F is for Fat: Investigating the influence of health on educational outcomes.

This seminar is co-sponsored with Institute for Innovation in Education.

April 17

Presenter: Jennifer S. Hirsch, Professor and Deputy Chair for Doctoral Studies, Department of Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

Talk title: “Desire Across Borders: markets, migration, and marital HIV risk in rural Mexico”

About the speaker: Dr. Jennifer Hirsch is Professor and Deputy Chair for Doctoral Studies in the Department of Sociomedical Sciences at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. Professor Hirsch's research focuses on gender, sexuality, and reproductive health, U.S.-Mexico migration and migrant health, and the applications of anthropological theory and methods to public health research and programs. Her books include A Courtship After Marriage: Sexuality and Love in Mexican Transnational Families, which explores changing ideas and practices of love, sexuality and marriage among Mexicans in the U.S. and in Mexico, and two edited volumes on the comparative anthropology of love (Modern Loves and Love and Globalization). She is also lead author of The Secret: Love, Marriage and HIV, which presents findings from an NIH-funded comparative ethnographic study of the social organization of men's extramarital relations in five countries. A Principal Investigator of many NIH-funded research projects, Hirsch is currently one of two PIs of PrEP for Black MSM: Community-based Ethnography and Clinical Research. In April of 2012 Dr. Hirsch was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to complete her next book.
April 24

Speaker: **Lisa Bowleg**, Ph.D., Associate Professor Applied Social Psychology Program of the Department of Psychology at The George Washington University

Talk title: **Structuring Black Men’s HIV Risk: An Overview of Research on Factors such as Unemployment, Incarceration, Housing, & Neighborhoods**

**About the speaker:** Her research interests include: (1) the effects of individual-level and social-structural factors (e.g., unemployment, incarceration, racial discrimination) and resilience on Black men’s HIV sexual risk and protective behaviors; (2) intersectionality; and (3) stress and resilience in Black, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. Currently, she is the joint-Principal Investigator (PI) with Dr. Anita Raj, UCSD of a 2012 NIH/NIMH funded R01 to evaluate MEN Count, a housing and employment case management HIV prevention intervention for Black heterosexual men. Dr. Bowleg is also the PI of another 2012 NIH/NIMH-funded R01 to test a conceptual model of individual and neighborhood-level social-structural stressors and resilience on Black men’s sexual HIV risk and protective behaviors. Dr. Bowleg is a member of the DC Developmental Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) and the Behavioral and Social Consequences of HIV/AIDS Study Section at NIH. Her recent awards include the 2012 Drexel University President’s Award for Intercultural Engagement and Diversity, and the 2008 Red Ribbon Award for Research from the Community Advisory Board of the University of Pennsylvania CFAR.

May 1

Presenter: **Jeremy Shiffman**, Associate Professor, Department of Public Administration and Policy, AU and **Rachel Sullivan Robinson**, Assistant Professor, School of International Service, AU

Talk title: **Managing the Politics of Adolescent Sexuality Education in Nigeria and Mississippi**

**About the speakers:** In this work inprogress seminar, Drs. Shiffman and Robinson will discuss their plans for a newly awarded research grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The research aims to investigate the factors that explain differences in adoption of sexuality education across geographic areas, paying particular attention to the strategies of proponents. Drs. Shiffman and Robinson will focus on the political aspects of this process, including negotiations between key social and political actors, rather than technical aspects of implementation, through studies across different administrative levels in Nigeria. As part of the research, comparisons will be made between sexuality education efforts in Lagos, Nigeria, where scaling-up initiatives have advanced the furthest in the country, with that of Mississippi, where the majority of school districts have chosen an abstinence-only strategy.

For further information, contact **chrs@american.edu**.

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