

# SRDG NEWSLETTER

The Southern Regional Demographic Group is a scientific and educational corporation operating under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is comprised of persons with professional interests in demography and population studies. The SRDG Newsletter is compiled and edited by Cliff Patrick, 2024 Westwood Terrace, Vienna, VA 22180.

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

At the annual meeting in Austin, Texas, October 16-18, President William Serow announced the results of the recent SRDG election. Following are the new officers, their terms beginning November 1, 1985.

President-Elect: Parker Frisbie, University of Texas at Austin

Director: Barbara Foley Wilson, National Center for Health Statistics

Julia Martin, University of Virginia, currently a Director, was elected Vice President by the SRDG Board of directors. Congratulations to these new officers.

Including those newly elected, the 1986 Board of Directors is comprised of seven members. Their terms as board members expire in the years shown in parentheses.

Immediate past President William Serow (1987)  
 President V. Jeffery Evans (1987)  
 President Elect W. Parker Frisbie (1988)  
 Director and Vice President Julia Martin (1986)  
 Director Stanley Smith (1987)  
 Director Barbara Foley Wilson (1988)  
 Secretary-Treasurer Benjamin S. Bradshaw (1986)

## \*CALL FOR PAPERS ISSUED FOR 1986 MEETING\*

The program chairman has issued a call for papers and ideas for sessions for the SRDG annual meeting scheduled for October 15-17, 1985, in Baltimore, Maryland, at the Inner Harbor Holiday Inn. Please send abstracts and ideas for sessions to: W. Parker Frisbie, Population Research Center, 1800 Main Building, The University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712.

## !AUSTIN MEETING A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS!

With 142 officially registered participants and an undetermined number of unregistered "auditors," attendance at the recent annual meeting of the Southern Regional Demographic Group approached an all-time record. The meeting was held October 16-18, 1985, at the Hilton Inn, Austin, Texas. Ninety papers were presented during 21 regular sessions, and there were also two plenary luncheon sessions, four poster sessions and three panel discussions, all well attended. A USUA-sponsored migration group for the western U.S. also held its meeting in conjunction with SRDG in Austin.

Besides attending to business, and despite the rainy October weather, the participants enjoyed the many pleasures and diversions of Austin. Jeff Evans, who as President-Elect organized the program, and Parker Frisbie, who served as local arrangements chair, deserve the membership's hearty thanks for a first rate job.

## SRDG COMMITTEES KEEP BUSY

**Applied Demography Committee--**The Committee sponsored a microcomputer applications workshop which was given Wednesday, October 16, prior to the beginning of regular annual meeting activities. The workshop was well attended and useful to the participants. The Committee also organized three sessions for the meeting. Plans for the future include the development of a register of consulting demographers, and publication of a monograph based on papers presented at the 1984 small area estimation workshop. The Committee is in the process of developing its 1986 program. Persons wishing to work with the Committee should contact Harold F. Goldsmith, Room 18-105, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

**Outreach Committee--**As announced in an earlier Newsletter, has begun establishing state population research committees. The primary objective of the committees is to encourage linkages between state, local, and academic demographers. Collaborative research sponsored by SRDG is being discussed or is underway in several SRDG states. As an example of an operating research committee, the Florida group presented a progress report on their collaboration at the luncheon session on Thursday, October 17. The Committee will attempt to involve state and federal demographers in the 1986 and subsequent meetings. Persons interested in working with the Outreach Committee should call or write Leon Bouvier, Population Reference Bureau, 2213 M Street NW, Washington, DC 22046, phone (202)785-4664.

## ?SHOULD SRDG CHANGE ITS NAME?

This question was raised at the annual business meeting at Orlando in 1984, and then-President Daniel Price appointed an ad hoc committee headed by George Myers to consider the matter. The outcome of the committee's deliberations were presented to the membership at the business meeting in Austin. Their conclusion was that SRDG should change its name, but they made no specific recommendation as to what the

name might be. In the discussion at the business meeting a number of members expressed the feeling that the word "regional" together with "southern" was redundant, the word "group" was not only "nondescriptive," but somewhat bizarre for a professional organization. The members present voted by a show of hands that SRDG's name should be changed, and that the ad hoc committee should draw up a selection of names from which to choose. The Board of Directors will consider the matter further at their next meeting, which will be in San Francisco in April 1986.

To change the name would require an amendment to the constitution--a rather lengthy process involving discussion at a business meeting and a mail ballot. Thus, a name change, if any were approved, could not take place before about January 1987.

#### OFFICERS NOMINATED FOR 1987

The Nominations Committee has selected the following slate of nominees to stand for the annual election, which will be held in September 1986.

For President Elect: Omer Galle  
Cliff Patrick

For Director: Edward Cahill  
Isaac Eberstein

Members of the Nominations Committee were Daniel Price, Chair, Marilyn McMillan, and William O'Hare.

#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The 1987 meeting will be in Atlanta, Georgia. Gladys Bowles has agreed to serve as local arrangements chair, and she is presently searching for suitable hotel accommodations. Members wishing to assist Gladys in the considerable work of local arrangements should write to her at 161 Milledge Heights, Athens, Georgia 30606; or call her at (404) 549-2821.

#### ->RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES<-

##### Research on Teen Contraceptive Behavior

The Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch (DBSB), Center for Population Research (CPR), National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), supports research on the antecedents and consequences of adolescent pregnancy, contraception, and childbearing. Scientists are invited to submit grant applications for the support of research on an important aspect of adolescent fertility, the factors affecting the ability of sexually active teenagers to contracept effectively.

Research documents that one of the main reasons teen fertility in the United States is high (relative to other developed countries) is inadequate or ineffective contraceptive use among sexually active teenagers. A number of research studies have found, particularly among young female teens, failure to use contraception at first intercourse and during the first year after first intercourse. As a result, the risk of pregnancy is very high during this period. Although contraceptive use gradually improves, there is still a substantial failure rate among contraceptors. Use-effectiveness rates among female teens are much lower than those among older women. Almost nothing is known about teen male contraceptive behavior. A number of hypotheses have

been advanced to explain teen contraceptive behavior. Some focus on individual factors: ambivalence about one's sexuality, lack of knowledge of the risk of pregnancy, substance use/abuse, inability to plan ahead, cognitive immaturity, low aspirations, inadequate motivation to avoid pregnancy; on couple factors: inability to communicate embarrassment, failure for one person to take responsibility; on community factors: lack of accessible, appropriate and affordable family planning methods/services, lack of meaningful alternatives to childbearing; and on societal factors: lack of contraceptive advertising, and ambivalent societal attitudes about sexuality and contraception.

The purpose of the proposed research would be to test some of the hypotheses advanced to explain use and non-use of contraception, the process of contraceptive adoption, pattern of use between first intercourse and regular use, the effectiveness of use, and the choice of methods among teenagers. Researchers would be encouraged to conduct research on males as well as females. Although researchers would be expected to focus on adolescents and their behavior, contraceptive use cannot be interpreted as a uniquely adolescent problem unless their behavior is compared with that of comparable older individuals. Thus researchers may wish to have a comparison group of older women and/or men. The results of this research will complement planned research on contraception among adults and ongoing research on the consequences of pregnancy resolution decision, as well as help fill the gaps in our understanding of teen fertility behavior in general.

The support mechanisms for this program will be the individual research project grant and the New Investigator Research Award (NIRA).

Copies of the complete RFA may be obtained from: Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch, National Inst. of Child Health and Human Development, 7910 Woodmont Ave., 7C25, Bethesda, MD 20205; (301) 496-1174.

##### NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

The National Center for Health Services Research (NCHSR) is the primary source of Federal support for research on problems related to the quality and delivery of health services. During FY 1984, NCHSR funded more than \$7.8 million in grants for extramural research projects. This included \$3.3 million to start 27 competitively selected new research projects and support of 13 dissertation research grants totaling \$260,000.

NCHSR describes the role of its extramural research as "to contribute to the health services knowledge base from which empirically based information can be derived by policymakers - both immediately and over the coming decades. Equally important is the development of the methodological foundation for addressing the next generation of policy issues." Four areas identified as being of primary importance in the present decade are:

(a) Primary care/health promotion and disease prevention - development and testing of better designs, measures, and analytic techniques to improve primary care research; evaluation and surveillance techniques to assess the quality of care and the effectiveness of

health promotion and disease prevention efforts; studies of the medical decision-making process; systematic evaluations of the effectiveness and costs of clinical care; health status measurement; organization and provides studies; analysis of public and private program interventions; and methods to increase consumer knowledge and change health attitudes and behavior.

(b) Technology assessment - studies of the safety, efficacy effectiveness, and cost effectiveness of specific technologies; development of new methods for evaluating medical technologies; and diffusion of medical technology.

(c) Market forces in health care services - market and industry structure; expenditure studies; strategies to enhance cost consciousness; and productivity studies.

(d) State and local health problems - improving data and methods for projecting the demand for service and related supply requirements, and forecasting health expenditures; studies to develop and evaluate decision models for allocating health care resources at various jurisdictional levels and among various programs in a cost-effective manner; and techniques to assess and project the impact of changes in health expenditures.

Grant applications and information may be obtained from the Grants Review Branch, 301-443-3091.

#### PUBLICATIONS BY SRDG MEMBERS

Clyde B. McCoy and Diana H. Gonzalez. Cuban Immigration and Immigrants in Florida and the United States: Implications for Immigration Policy. Gainesville, Florida: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research. \$9.00.

Some three-quarters of a million Cubans have immigrated into the United States during the last twenty-five years. They have come in waves, with periods of frenetic activity followed by periods of relative inactivity. Who are these immigrants? Where are they going? What are they doing? How have they affected the areas into which they have moved? How have people in the United States responded to them?

In this monograph, Dr. Clyde McCoy and Diana Gonzalez of the University of Miami provide some answers to these questions. Drawing on many sources, McCoy and Gonzalez describe six stages of Cuban immigration into the United States. They provide information on the raw numbers of immigrants, as well as their socio-economic and demographic characteristics. They then go beyond the numbers to look at the impact of Cuban immigration on the United States and Florida, particularly the Miami area. Throughout the monograph they focus on federal, state and local responses to Cuban immigration, and to the implications for future immigration policy.

This monograph draws together much pertinent information from diverse data sources and provides a substantial amount of previously unpublished data. It promises to become an important research tool for planners, scholars and policy analysts, as well as a useful source of information and analysis for the interested lay person.

#### DATA CORNER

The Data for Demographic Development (DDD) project at Westinghouse has adapted the Bureau of the Census' Computer Programs for Demographic Analysis to the IBM-PC. The DDD project is funded by USAID and the

package is free to persons from USAID supported developing countries. There is a nominal \$50 charge for all others. For further information or a complete description of the package, contact Jorge del Pinal or Richard Sturgis, P.O. Box 866, American City Building, Columbia, MD 21044; (301)992-0066.

Westinghouse is initiating a quarterly newsletter focused on microcomputer uses in demography and family planning. The newsletter includes information on what's being done with microcomputers, who's doing it and where, and brief information on new or interesting hardware and software. The basic objective is to share information. Persons wishing to receive the newsletter should send their name and address to MICRO-NEWSLETTER, P.O. Box 866, American City Building, Columbia, MD 21044. Any information to be included in the newsletter should be sent to the same address.

#### FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

American Statistical Association/NSF/Census Bureau Research Associateships begin September 1, 1986 at the Census Bureau for one year or shorter period. Opportunity to make major advances in methodological or subject matter research related to Census Bureau operations or data. General areas for research are social and demographic studies, economic measurement and analysis, and statistical methodology and computing. Requirements: for Associates, at least two years graduate study in relevant field. Salaries are commensurate with qualifications and experience; also, fringe benefits and a travel allowance are provided. For information on specific research topics and on how to apply contact Dr. Daniel Kasprzyk, Special Assistant for SIPP Research, Room 2024-3, Population Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233 (303-763-5784).

#### \$Employment Opportunities\$

->Bilingual Research Associate needed by international research organization to manage projects in maternal-child health care. Ph.D. in maternal-child health, bio-statistics or demography, or Master's degree with four years relevant experience. At least two years experience in analyzing data and report writing. Sound knowledge of statistical methods. Demonstrated written and verbal communication skills in English and French. Send resume to Personnel, Family Health International, 1 Triangle Dr., Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

->The Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Alabama is seeking a demographer who will be responsible for the technical aspects of preparing state and county level population estimates and projections, as well as instituting a program for producing sub-county estimates and projections. The incumbent will have secondary responsibilities in other areas of CBER's research and outreach activities. These may include support activities of the Alabama State Data Center, the Alabama Econometric Model, CBER's publications program, or other special assignments. The successful candidate must have a master's degree in sociology or statistics with a specialization in demography. He or she should have

training in research, statistics, and computer methods. A minimum of two years professional experience is required. The position reports to the Assistant Director of the Center for Business and Economic Research. Salary will be commensurate with skills. The Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) at the University of Alabama is a major repository for business, economic, and demographic data for the state of Alabama and the region. It is the lead agency in the Alabama State Data Center and also is the Alabama agency participating in the Federal State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates and Projections. All applications must be made through: University Employment Office, P.O. Box 6163, University, AL 35486. For further information about the position, please contact Annette Watters, Assistant Director, CBER, at (205)348-6191, P.O. Box AK, University, AL 35486.

->Applications are invited for an Economic Demographer who will have a joint appointment in Florida State's Center for the Study of Population and the Department of Economics. Rank and salary are open, but preference will be given to applicants with a distinguished Assistant or Associate Professor record. All applicants should have strong research credentials and demonstrate the potential to initiate grant writing and work on multidisciplinary team projects. All speciality areas within population/economics will be considered, but preference will be given to persons who combine at least one substantive area with mathematical demography. Send vita and three letters of reference to David F. Sly, Director, Center for the Study of Population, Florida State Univ., Tallahassee, FL 32306-2011.

->The World Bank is seeking economists to initiate, design, and manage major policy studies and applied research on population, health, and nutrition topics. Candidates should have Ph.D. in Economics or extensive experience in social sector economic analysis, and knowledge of the population health nutrition, or related fields in developing countries. The World Bank is seeking Specialists in Population who are interested in the challenge of assisting developing country governments develop, appraise, finance, and monitor population projects. Candidates must have graduate degree in relevant field, e.g., demography, medicine, sociology, plus five years in population or family planning at the national or regional level. Frequent international travel. Competitive salary and benefits package offered. Send detailed resume to: Staffing Div., The World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, DC 20433.

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All news and comments of interest to SRDG are welcome and will be included as space permits. Send items to Cliff Patrick, 2024 Westwood Terrace, Vienna, VA 22180.

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