

IPSR Newsletter FALL 2018

Institute for Policy & Social Research News & Events



Weighing tarp with old tires, Brookover Ranch Feed Yard, May 2012, by Larry Schwarm

Hot off the Presses – Kansas Statistical Abstract, 52nd Edition

Did you know that local governments have increased their [use of special taxing districts](#)? Or that [Douglas County's population is expected to grow 42 percent](#) from 2014 to 2044? Or just how much Kansas contributes to agricultural exports? Kansas ranked [7th of the 50 states in 2016](#) in dollars of agricultural exports to the world, with [soybeans, wheat, and beef](#) as its primary exports. Read more about these trends and how they compare to the U.S. in the Kansas Statistical Abstract.

Published annually since 1965, the [Kansas Statistical Abstract](#) contains the latest available state, county, and city-level data for Kansas on population, vital statistics and health, housing, education, business and manufacturing, exports, employment, income, finance, state and local government, crime, recreation, communications, transportation, agriculture, climate, and energy and natural resources.

For more on the KSA, including data questions, write Xan Wedel, xan@ku.edu

How IPSR Spent the Summer

Summer 2018 brought many changes to IPSR. As we bid a fond farewell to former Assistant Director Travis Weller, Jena Gunter accepted the position of Assistant Director, bringing her experience, her savvy, and her dedication to the position. Other staff—Carolyn Caine, Mandy Frank, Christie Holland, and Whitney Onasch—

took on new responsibilities. With this [great team](#) in place, we're excited to advance policy relevant, social science research throughout this year and into the future.

Got a question? Ask Jena Gunter at kujena@ku.edu

This summer also brought the [Haskell Environmental Research Studies Institute](#) (HERS), under the direction of Jay Johnson, director of the Center for Indigenous Science, Research, and Technology, and Cody Marshall of Haskell Indian Nations University. The program had support from GRAs Vicky Walsey and Trina McClure, five KU graduate student mentors, and staff member Mandy Frank. This project prepares future Native American STEM professionals to understand the impacts of environmental change and develop strategies for sustainable responses that combine Indigenous ecological knowledge with scientific programs. After an intensive eight weeks of professional development and mentoring for the 13 interns, they headed to Boulder, Colorado to present original research at the University Corporation of Atmospheric Research Conference.

Want to know more about HERS? Ask Mandy Frank at mandy.frank@ku.edu

Researchers of Today and Tomorrow – IPSR Welcomes a New Doctoral Fellow Cohort

This fall, IPSR welcomes a new cohort of participants in our [Doctoral Research Fellows Program](#)! Congratulations to Darlingtona Atakere (Psychology and Gerontology), Matt Comi (Sociology), Mariah Crystal (Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies), Nicole Humphrey (School of Public Affairs & Administration), Gregory Leung (Economics), Nicholas Natchoo (Curriculum & Teaching), Cassandra Osei (School of Public Affairs & Administration), and Courtney Wilt (Special Education).

The Doctoral Research Fellows Program helps to develop the next generation of interdisciplinary social science scholars by providing training and support. Throughout the academic year, fellows will meet to discuss topics such as dissertation writing and publishing, academic hiring and job talk preparation, and interdisciplinary research collaborations. Their work will conclude in April with a presentation of the fellows' current research.

Questions? Want to nominate a student for next year? Contact Whitney Onasch, wonasch@ku.edu.

Research Spotlight – Compassion and Risk Reduction

Funded by the National Science Foundation, Ward Lyles' project "[Integrated Modeling of Hazard Mitigation Stakeholder Networks for Compassionate, Sustainable Risk Reduction](#)" is now underway. Through this work, Lyles studies local decision-making aimed at mitigating natural hazards and damages due to disasters, such as flooding or hurricanes. His research project focuses on cultivating compassion in urban planning. To understand how to increase compassion and sustainability in reducing hazard risks requires closer attention to decision-making at the local level alongside studies of federal and state policy interventions and technical solutions.

Doctoral student Kelly Overstreet, along with a group of master's and undergraduate students, contribute to the research. Through this project, the team will promote classroom teaching, online learning, informal learning, and personal growth through opportunities such as conferences, seminars, and in-person training. These activities will build a future generation of hazard mitigation advocates from across disciplines.

Interested in learning more? Contact Ward Lyles, wardlyles@ku.edu

Research Opportunity – Social Data Initiative, Social Science Research Council

The Social Science Research Council is partnering with Social Science One to form the [Social Data Initiative](#), which will "examine social media's impact on society, explore questions about the responsible use of social

network data, and generate insights to inform solutions." These awards may include access to data from Facebook in addition to funding. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Contact Nancy Cayton Myers with research development questions at ncmyers@ku.edu

Visualization of the Moment – Debt

Where's the debt in America? [Urban Institute's Debt in America: An Interactive Map](#) displays student loan debt and medical debt by race and place, with options to drill down from the national to county level.

Want to visualize your own data? Contact Xan Wedel, xan@ku.edu.

Ask IPSR – Limited Submissions

Q: I want to apply for a grant, but the guidelines say that each school can only submit three proposals. How does that work?

A: When an agency or a funding program limits the number of proposals KU can submit, the KU Office of Research sends out a notice. Be alert for emails with the subject line "Limited Submission" from KUOR so that you don't miss out on an opportunity. If you're interested in applying for one of these grants, you'll need to send KUOR a notice of intent, and you may need to submit a pre-proposal. Read the [limited submission policy](#) for more details.

Events

IPSR Research Luncheons

November 9th – Hyunjin Seo

November 30th - End of Year Luncheon

February 1st – Karin Chang

March 22nd – Donna Ginther

IPSR Graduate Student Working Group on Qualitative Research

November 30th at 3pm, The research process, from initial idea to publication

Registration required: ipsr.ku.edu/CSI/qm/registration.php

IPSR affiliates at the Hall Center for the Humanities

November 30th at 3 pm – Cécile Accilien, "Colonialism Seminar"

December 10th at 3pm - Jennifer Ng, "Place, Race and Space Seminar"

December 13th at 3pm – Argun Saatcioglu, "The Urban Experience Seminar"

Kansas Economic Policy Conference

Join us for "Pragmatic Policy: Reforming Kansas Taxes" on October 25, 2018 from 8:30 to 2:30. Find additional details at ipsr.ku.edu/conferen/kepc18. Affiliates, contact Carolyn Caine (caine@ku.edu, 785-864-9102) to register.

Visit [Larry Schwarm: Kansas Farmers](#), at the Spencer Museum of Art, now through January 2019. Photographs taken in concert with [IPSR-supported research](#) on humans' environmentally based actions.

Got a question? A tip? A comment? Write us at ipsr@ku.edu.