COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Center for Studies in Demography & Ecology

The Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology supports education, research, and scholarly exchange in population studies at the University of Washington. The Center focuses on interdisciplinary research, with an emphasis on understanding the structural mechanisms that link individual behavior to population level outcomes.

STUDENTS (AUTUMN 2008)

675	Student affiliates use CSDE services
4	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Fellows
2	Shanahan Endowment Fellows

MAJOR STUDENT AWARDS* (SINCE 2005)

3	National Science Foundation (NSF) Dissertation Improvement Grants
1	National Institutes of Health (NIH) Postgraduate Career Development Award
1	NIH Predoctoral Clinical Research Fellowship
1	NSF Scholars Award Graduate Research Fellowship
1	Fulbright Postgraduate Award
1	National Institutes of Mental Health National Research Service Award
1	West Coast Poverty Center Research Center Fellowship
1	American Anthropological Association Minority Dissertation Fellowship
1	Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship
1	UW Graduate Opportunity-Minority Achievement Program Award
1	Mary Gates Undergraduate Research Scholarship

* plus more than 20 other major awards

The CSDE logo at the upper left of this page features a male and female salmon, signifying the core subjects of demography: fertility, migration, and mortality. The logo was designed by Marvin Oliver.

Highlights

- The Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology (CSDE) was awarded five-year renewals of two major National Institute of Child Health & Development (NICHD) institutional grants: a population infrastructure center grant and a population research training grant. CSDE is one of only 11 Population Centers in the country to have both research and training grants from NICHD.
- CSDE, in partnership with the Department of Global Health, is the institutional home of a five-year NICHD-funded Global Partnerships for Social Science AIDS Research grant. The project is a partnership between the UW and the University of Nairobi that is building capacity for rigorous social and behavioral science research on HIV/AIDS at the University of Nairobi, and is supporting foundational research projects in HIV prevention.
- CSDE has the only biodemography core in the country offering general use laboratory facilities to its affiliates. The lab specializes in developing, optimizing, and carrying out biomarker assays for large-scale research projects.
- With an emphasis on interdisciplinary research, CSDE brings together more than 80 affiliates from the UW and other Pacific Northwest institutions in disciplines ranging from sociology to economics to public health, and has connections to the UW's Center for AIDS Research, Center for Statistics and Social Sciences, the Department of Global Health, and the West Coast Poverty Center.

Education

The Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, founded in 1947, provides students with a unique opportunity to study demography in an interdisciplinary environment. Some students specialize in demography as part of an M.A. or Ph.D. program—such as anthropology, economics, geography, sociology, statistics, or social welfare—whereas others are drawn to the computing, GIS, information, biodemography, statistics, and administrative support infrastructure of an NICHD-funded population research center, including state-of-the-art computing resources and a wide range of instructional workshops and individual consultations.

CSDE offers six fellowships each year, funded by the National Institutes of Health and a special University endowment fund, for students who specialize in demography and population studies as part of their doctoral programs of study. Fellows are nominated by their home departments and receive professional training through specialized courses and direct involvement with research projects of affiliated faculty.

Center Affiliates

CSDE supports more than 60 research affiliates at the University of Washington, with the majority holding appointments in the College of Arts and Sciences in Sociology, Anthropology, Geography, Economics, History, Psychology, Statistics, and International Studies; the remainder (about 30 percent) are drawn from the School of Social Work, School of Public Affairs, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, and the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. In addition, CSDE has 20 affiliates from other institutions in the Pacific Northwest, including Battelle Institute's Center for Public Health Research and Evaluation, Western Washington University, and the University of Victoria, BC, Canada.

Many affiliates are leaders in their field, serving as past presidents of the Population Association of America, the Association of American Geographers, the American Sociological Association, the Association for Asian Studies, and the Evolutionary Anthropology Association, and as directors of the UW Center for Research on Families, the West Coast Poverty Center, and the Sociobehavioral and Prevention Research Core, Center for AIDS Research. In addition, our UW affiliates include many of the University's most productive and prominent scholars, and receive more than half of the external research funding in the social sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Research and Scholarship

CSDE is one of the leading centers of demographic research in the world. Among many other topics, our faculty and students research teams are addressing some of society's most challenging problems related to immigrant adaptation, HIV prevalence, and America's opportunity structure. Recent projects by CSDE affiliates include:

- *The Association of Age at Immigration with Mental Health Outcomes among Asian Immigrants*. Janxin Leu, David Takeuchi, and their collaborators examined whether age at immigration is associated with symptoms of anxiety or depressive disorder. They found that Asian-American immigrants who came to the United States before they were 25 years old tend to have poorer mental health than their compatriots who came when they were 25 or older, suggesting that Asian youth confront particularly trying challenges in adapting to American social norms.
- *Probabilistic Projections of HIV Prevalence Using Bayesian Melding*. Adrian Raftery and Sam Clark, together with former CSDE fellow Leontine Alkema, have developed a sophisticated statistical model to calculate projections of HIV prevalence for countries that lack detailed prevalence data. Their technique has been adopted by the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for producing bi-annual estimates and projections of HIV prevalence.
- *The Impact of Marginal Tax Rates on Low- and Moderate-Income Workers*. Jennifer Romich examines how low- and moderate-income workers are affected by a high marginal tax rate, resulting from a progressive tax system, credits for low-income workers, and means-tested transfer programs. The high rates reduce their economic resources and make it more difficult for them to maintain control over their lives through work.

Fiscal Information (as of June 2008)

Research infrastructure support:	National Institutes of Health	$372,436
	University of Washington	$632,294
Training grant:	National Institutes of Health	$126,314
Faculty research grants:	National Institutes of Health	$9,802,701
	National Science Foundation	$1,787,690
	Other	$3,324,211
Total		**$16,045,646**

RESEARCH AFFILIATES (AUTUMN 2008)

64	University of Washington
9	Battelle
4	Western Washington University
7	University of Victoria

RESEARCH GRANTS TO AFFILIATES

45	National Institutes of Health
13	National Science Foundation
2	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2	US Dept of Education
2	US Dept of Health and Human Services
1	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
1	World Health Organization
1	US National Park Service
1	Northwest Area Foundation
1	Inter-American Development Bank
1	Packard Foundation
20	Other Funders

AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Demographic Methods
- Family Demography
- Social and Biological Contexts of Population Health
- Migrants, Minorities, and Unequal Opportunities
- Population-Environment Dynamics

CONTACT INFORMATION

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