



Public Policy

News

NEWSLETTER OF THE
A. ALFRED TAUBMAN CENTER FOR
PUBLIC POLICY AND AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS

BROWN UNIVERSITY

Spring 2006

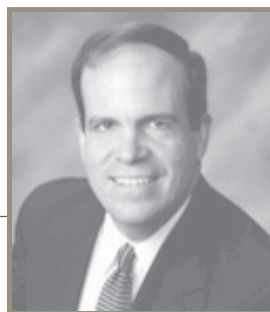
University Of Pennsylvania President Amy Gutmann To Deliver 2006 Meiklejohn Lecture



University of Pennsylvania President Amy Gutmann will deliver the 40th Annual Meiklejohn Lecture, entitled "Certainty and Single-Mindedness: The Lure of Extremism," at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 19 in Salomon 001. Prior to taking office in July 2004 as the eighth president of the University of Pennsylvania, she spent 28 years at Princeton University. Serving most recently as Princeton's provost, Dr. Gutmann also was the Laurance S. Rockefeller University

Professor of Politics and the founding director of the University Center for Human Values, a multi-disciplinary center that supports teaching, scholarship, and public discussion of ethics and human values, at Princeton. Her research examines some of the most controversial contemporary issues including religious freedom, equal opportunity, and ethics and public affairs. The author of more than 100 articles, essays, and edited volumes in political philosophy, practical ethics, and education, her most recent books include *Identity in Democracy* (2003), *Democratic Education* (1999), and *Democracy and Disagreement* (1996).

A board member of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University and Chair of the Executive Committee of the Princeton University Press, President Gutmann is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a former President of the American Society of Political and Legal Philosophy, the W.E.B. DuBois Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and a Fellow of the National Academy of Education.



Anton Lippitt Conference On Emergency Preparedness Scheduled For February 10

The 6th annual Anton Lippitt Conference, which honors Public Policy Professor Emeritus Thomas Anton and honors the memory of Community Leader Fred Lippitt, will bring scholars and tacticians concerned with the timely topic of emergency preparedness to Brown. The conference, entitled "Disaster and Emergency Preparedness," will take place in Leung Gallery on the second floor of Faunce House. On the morning of Friday, February 10, there will be a reception at 10 a.m., followed by two panels of esteemed scholars and practitioners at 10:30 and noon. At the morning panel, moderated by Professor Scott W. Allard, Sociology Professor Lee "Chip" Clarke of Rutgers University, Professor Shirley Laska of the Center for Hazards Assessment, Response, and Technology at the University of New Orleans, and Professor Havidan Rodriguez of the Disaster Research Center at the University of Delaware will examine state and federal efforts to prepare for emergencies and disasters. The afternoon panel, hosted by Professor Marion E. Orr, will feature Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor Charles Fogarty, chair of the state's Emergency Management Council, who will provide a local perspective to the challenges state officials face when preparing for local disasters and emergencies.

Harper's Editor Lapham To Deliver Spring White Lecture

Editor of *Harper's Magazine* since 1983, Lewis Lapham will deliver the Spring White Lecture, entitled "Observations on 40 Years in the Literary Trade," at 4:00 p.m. on April 6 at a venue to be announced. Educated at Yale and Cambridge Universities, he got his start in the business as a reporter for the *San Francisco Examiner*. At the age of 25, he joined the *International Herald Tribune*, covering the United Nations, and finally joined Harper's,

continued on page 2

Spring White Lecture

continued from page 1

America's oldest political journal, in 1975. His monthly column in *Harper's*, "Notebook," won the 1995 National Magazine Award for expressing an "exhilarating point of view in an age of conformity." Commentator Bill Moyers, with whom Lapham has appeared numerous times on PBS, notes that "Lewis Lapham speaks the truth to power and wealth in each issue" of the 156 year-old magazine. The host of the television documentary series "America's Century," he also has been described as a latter-day Mark Twain for his ironic wit. Compared to H.L. Mencken by critics after the publication of his first collection of essays, *Fortune's Child*, he also is the author of *Money and Class in America* (1988), *Imperial Masquerade* (1990), *The Wish for Kings* (1993), *Hotel America*. . . (1995), *Waiting for the Barbarians* (1997), and *Theater of War* (2002).

The authors recommend that incarceration and sentencing should more accurately reflect Rhode Island's sentencing benchmarks, specifically concerning age differences between defendants and victims

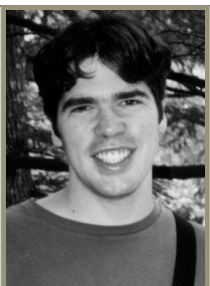
Professor Cheit Recommends Rhode Island Statutory Rape Law Reform

Professor Ross Cheit and Public Policy Alumna Laura Braslow '01 recently released a Brown Policy Report on statutory rape laws in Rhode Island. The report sought to investigate two competing arguments about statutory rape law: one argues that it criminalizes "young love" and that statutory rape laws are too strictly enforced; the other posits that sexual contact with older adults can be mentally and physically dangerous for teenagers, and therefore the enforcement of these laws should be much stricter.

Examining Rhode Island Superior Court cases from 1985 until 2002, the authors found that almost 80 percent of defendants in statutory rape cases in Rhode Island are four or more years older than their victims and one-third of defendants are at least twice as old as their victims. Furthermore, cases involving young defendants often included allegations of force and coercion, debunking the popular "young lovers" narrative. Indeed, in many cases the defendant also is charged with other, more serious sex crimes, such as child molestation and rape.

The study also found that while older defendants do receive more severe punishments than the average of all defendants, their punishments are still relatively lenient and many avoid incarceration.

The authors recommend that incarceration and sentencing should more accurately reflect Rhode Island's sentencing benchmarks, specifically concerning age differences between defendants and victims. They also argue that the state's first-degree sexual assault statute should be amended to remove the "force or coercion" requirement, enabling a broader and clearer definition of rape-based lack of consent, and thereby decreasing the prevalence of qualitatively serious cases charged and deposed as statutory rape. Finally, they recommend increasing public education, especially among teenagers, about what actions constitute sexual assault and statutory rape and increasing state funding of nonprofit organizations that serve victims of sexual assault. Finding that statutory rape is prevalent and significantly under-reported, they hope a public awareness campaign and increased levels of state funding will help decrease the incidence level and increase reporting of the crime.



Brian Knight

Professor Knight Receives National Science Foundation Grant

Professor Brian Knight was awarded a \$264,845 grant from the National Science Foundation to study "Welfare Analysis of Legislative Redistricting." Spurred in part by the intensifying national debate over legislative districting, Knight will examine how legislatures should represent different groups of voters and, with this knowledge attained, how voters should be allocated across districts.

Breaking the project into three papers and using a welfare economic analysis, the first paper will examine how a social planner should distribute citizens with different ideologies across districts in order to maximize aggregate utility. The second paper will provide an empirical exploration of the potential gains that could be yielded from socially optimal districting. In this paper, Knight will apply welfare economic analysis to U.S. state legislative elections using data from the 1990's. Preliminary indications reveal that districtings used by states lead to electoral systems that are very responsive to changes in voter preferences. The final paper will generalize the ideas illuminated in the first two to form a framework in which both voters and candidates are defined by their ideology and race. Among the questions it seeks to answer are how black voters should be represented in legislatures and how they should be allocated across districts.

Faculty News

❖ Mariana Alfonso

Professor Alfonso was awarded a grant from Princeton University's Texas Higher Education Opportunity Project to study the effect of changes in affirmative action policies and demographic shifts in minority enrollment at public universities in Texas. Her article, entitled "The Impact of Community College Attendance on Baccalaureate Attainment," is forthcoming from *Research in Higher Education*. She also organized the symposium "Public Policies and Their Effects on Community Colleges and Their Students," which will be part of the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in San Francisco in April. She currently is working on two research projects. The first, a co-authored study, analyzes the effect of local labor market conditions on the likelihood of persisting in college, while the second examines the impact of changes in financial aid policies on student persistence in college. This semester, she will teach "Education Policy Challenges."

Faculty News

❖ Scott W. Allard

Professor Allard is currently working on a number of projects exploring the transformation of the safety net and retrenchment of the welfare system that followed welfare reform in 1996. In October, he completed work on the Multi-City Survey of Social Service Providers (MSSSP) in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C., which will generate insight into how communities provide assistance to poor populations in the wake of welfare reform. Funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and Brown University, the MSSSP gathered information about service delivery from almost 1,500 governmental and nongovernmental organizations in the three cities. Working with the Joyce Foundation, Professor Allard presented initial findings from this project to survey respondents, community leaders, and government officials in Chicago this past December. To continue to share findings from the MSSSP with researchers, program managers, and policymakers, he launched a website this fall that describes the project and will be updated frequently with research reports: (http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Taubman_Center/Allard/).

❖ Brett M. Clifton

Professor Clifton's article, entitled "The Impact of Campaign Reform on Political Discourse" and co-authored with Darrell West and Sandy Maisel, was published in the Winter 2005-2006 edition of *Political Science Quarterly*.

❖ Christine Heenan

Professor Heenan was named one of the "40 Under Forty" by the *Providence Business News*. The article recognized young business leaders in the state who have demonstrated a commitment to or have had a major impact upon Rhode Island through their career or involvement in the community.

❖ Carl Kaestle

As part of a study group convened by the Southern Education Foundation and co-sponsored by the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and several NYU Law professors, Professor Kaestle is working on a project dedicated to determining if there is a constitutional right to equitable and adequate education for all students. Specifically, it is revisiting the 1971 United States Supreme Court's *Rodriguez 5-4* decision that the Fourteenth Amendment did not require equalization of per pupil expenditures across district lines within a state. The committee is exploring avenues for re-arguing the case or other constitutional bases for adequate education, including the prospects for a constitutional amendment.

❖ Jennifer Lawless

Professor Lawless' research on women's congressional retention and retirement recently produced a co-authored article in *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. "Will She Stay or Will She Go? Career Ceilings and Women's Retirement from the U.S. Congress" offers the first broad-based, systematic, times series assessment of the gender dynamics underlying congressional retirement and finds that women are less willing than their male counterparts to remain in Congress when their ability to influence the legislative agenda stalls. Due to women's relatively early departures from the House of Representatives, her analysis suggests that prospects for women's representation are less promising than the conventional wisdom often assumes. She tackles the same issue in a book chapter of Lois Duke Whitaker's edited volume *Women and Politics: Insiders or Outsiders*, a popular undergraduate textbook.

❖ Glenn D. Loury

Professor Loury's co-authored book, *Ethnicity, Social Mobility, and Public Policy: Comparing the US and the UK*, was published in 2005 by Cambridge University Press. A co-authored article, "Distribution of

Ability and Earnings in a Hierarchical Job Assignment Model," appeared in the December 2004 *Journal of Political Economy*. He was honored to be the 2005 recipient of the John von Neumann Award, given annually to an outstanding economist by the Laslo Rajk College, Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary. One of his current projects examines the practice of social science and social criticism, drawing upon his own evolution from traditional liberal to nationally prominent "black conservative" during the Reagan era to his current position as a left-of-center critic of conservatism. The narrative will relate this political odyssey to the intellectual positions illustrated by Loury's past technical and discursive essays collected in the volume and will present a model for how technically adept social scientists can engage in the larger, national conversation on issues of policy significance. He will offer two new courses in the spring: EC 137, which covers the political economy of race in the United States, and EC 237, which surveys current research in economics on the topic of inequality.

❖ Peter M. Marino

Professor Marino was named one of the "40 Under Forty" by the *Providence Business News*. The article recognized young business leaders in the state who have demonstrated a commitment to or have had a major impact upon Rhode Island through their career or involvement in the community.

❖ Edward A. Miller:

Professor Miller recently published "State Health Policy Making Determinants, Theory, and Methods: A Synthesis" in *Social Science and Medicine*, and co-authored two articles in *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, which were entitled "Cognitive and Normative Determinants of State Policy Making Behavior: Lessons from the Sociological Institutionalism" and "Punishing the Pioneers: The Medicare Modernization Act and State Pharmacy Assistance Programs." Whereas the former article suggests

ways in which to integrate rational actor and cultural-based views for understanding why states choose certain public policies, the latter identifies a previously undocumented form of intergovernmental interaction characterized by federal usurpation of previous state responsibilities while requiring state governments to continue to expend financial resources on programs over which they have limited influence. Another article, "Federal Oversight, State Policy Making, and the Courts: An Empirical Analysis of Nursing Facility Litigation Under the Boren Amendment," is forthcoming from the *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*. Recent presentations include a paper on The Medicare Modernization Act at the American Political Science Association's annual meeting and an examination of the state of long-term care at the Executive Session of the National Commission for Quality Long-Term Care, chaired by former Speaker Newt Gingrich and former Senator Bob Kerrey. In supporting the Commission, he continues to work with Brown Medical Science Professor Vincent Mor on ways to improve how long-term care is organized and financed in the United States.

❖ Antoinette J. Pole

Professor Pole's co-authored chapter, entitled "What Do Political Bloggers Do When Trent Lott Isn't Sticking His Foot in His Mouth? An Average Day on an Average Political Blog," appeared in the newly released *The Power and Politics of Blogs*, edited by Daniel Drezner and Henry Farrell. Another article, "Trends in E-Representation: The Vermont and New York Legislatures," was reprinted in *State and Local Government*, a volume edited by Kevin Smith. She also was one of ten individuals invited to participate on a roundtable conference on blogging, held at the University of Chicago in September, and presented "Black Bloggers and the Blogosphere" at The Second International Conference on Technology, Knowledge, and Society in Hyderabad, India in December.

Brown University • Box 1977 • Providence, RI 02912

SPRING 2006 EVENTS CALENDAR

ANTON LIPPITT URBAN CONFERENCE – “Disaster and Emergency Preparedness”

10:00 a.m., Friday, February 10, 2006
Conference Reception, Leung Gallery
(Faunce House)

10:30 a.m., Friday, February 10, 2006
Morning Panel: “National Perspectives
on Emergency Preparedness,” with Lee
Clarke, Department of Sociology,
Rutgers University; Shirley Laska, Center
for Hazards Assessment, Response, and
Technology, University of New Orleans;
and Havidan Rodriguez, Disaster
Research Center, University of Delaware,
Leung Gallery (Faunce House)

Noon, Friday, February 10, 2006
Afternoon Panel: “Local Perspectives on
Emergency Preparedness,” with Rhode
Island Lieutenant Governor Charles
Fogarty, Leung Gallery (Faunce House)

Noon, Wednesday, February 15, 2006
Information Session on White and Licht
Internships, Brett Clifton, Assistant
Director of Administration and
Programs, seminar room
(lunch provided)

Noon, Thursday, February 16, 2006
Taubman Luncheon Series, Michael
Widmer, President, Massachusetts
Taxpayers Foundation, “Governmental
Reform, Tax Policy, and Politics: The
Experience of the Romney
Administration in Massachusetts,”
seminar room (lunch provided)

Noon, Thursday, February 23, 2006
Taubman Luncheon Series, Matthew
Brown '87, “Energy Policy by Accident:
A Quest for A Strategy,” Energy Project
Director, National Conference of State
Legislatures, seminar room (lunch
provided)

4:30 p.m. Thursday, February 23, 2006
Sheldon Krinsky, “The Corporate
Capture of Academic Science: Winners
and Losers in Turning the University into
a Private Enterprise Zone,” Professor of
Urban and Environmental Policy and
Planning, Tufts University

Noon, Friday, March 3, 2006
Taubman Luncheon Series, Jacob Hacker,
“Privatizing Risk without Privatizing the
Welfare State: The Hidden Politics of U.S.
Social Policy Retrenchment,” Peter
Strauss Family Associate Professor of
Political Science, Yale University, seminar
room (lunch provided)

Noon, Wednesday, March 8, 2006
Information Session on Writing a Senior
Thesis, Professors Ross Cheit and Brett
Clifton, seminar room (lunch provided)

4:00 p.m., Thursday, April 6, 2006
Lewis Lapham, Editor, *Harper's
Magazine*, “Observations on 40 Years in
the Literary Trade,” Venue TBA
(White Lecture)

4:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 19, 2006
Amy Gutmann, President of the
University of Pennsylvania, “Certainty
and Single-Mindedness: The Lure of
Extremism,” Salomon 001
(Meiklejohn Lecture)

❖ Darrell M. West

Professor West recently published two articles: “Managing Citizen Fears: Public Attitudes Toward Urban Terrorism” in *Urban Affairs Review*, co-authored with Marion Orr, and “The Impact of Campaign Reform on Political Discourse” in *Political Science Quarterly*, co-authored with Sandy Maisel and Brett Clifton. This past fall, he also delivered talks about his digital government research at El Colegio de Mexico and the Korean Association of Policy Studies.

❖ Kenneth K. Wong

Professor Wong spent much of the fall semester planning for the June 2006 arrival of the first class of students for the new Master's Program in Urban Education Policy. He also is principal investigator of several major research projects that received more than \$3 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the U.S. Department of Education that examine the design, implementation, and effects of charter schools. He also has started a multidisciplinary investigation, which involves Brown faculty in the physical and the social sciences, on the effectiveness of the NSF-funded national Math and Science Partnership Program. In addition to serving as co-editor of the *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* journal of the American Educational Research Association, recent publications include two edited volumes: *System-Wide Efforts to Improve Student Achievement*, published by Information Age Publishing, and a special edition of the *Peabody Journal of Education*, entitled “Contemporary School Choice Research.” He also published “The Changing Landscape in School Governance: Implications for Establishing Knowledge Claims,” which appeared in *New Foundations for Knowledge in Educational Administration, Policy, and Politics*, and “Educational Policy and Reform,” which appeared in the *Encyclopedia on Education and Human Development*. Among his invited presentations were an analysis of federal assessment policy at the MacArthur Foundation, a discussion of charter schools at the National Academies of Sciences, and testimony about the effectiveness of mayoral leadership before the Commission on School Governance Restructuring of the Los Angeles Unified School District.