### STUDENT UPDATE

Jennifer Dodge presented her paper, “Leadership & Local Knowledge in Environmental Policy: Narrative Cases of Four Nonprofits” at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management (AOM) held in August. Jennifer helped organize two additional panels for that conference, both of which were chaired by Wagner Professor Sonia Osypina. Jennifer also joined Professor Osypina in presenting at November’s Association for Research on Nonprofit Organization and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) conference in a colloquium entitled, “Can Social Change Organizations Lead the Social Justice Movement? A Conversation About Their Role in Moving the Nonprofit Sector.”

Jason Franklin served as Conference Director of the 33rd Annual Conference on Social Theory, Politics, and the Arts (JAMLS) conference article on page 3). He is also serving as guest editor for a special issue of the Journal of Arts Management, Law and Society (JAMLS) focusing on the STP&A 2007.

Michael Gedal co-published a paper with NYU Law Professor Vicki Been at the Conference on Empirical Legal Studies at NYU. The paper uses longitudinal data from New York City to investigate how the development of supportive housing influences surrounding property values.

Robin Jacobowitz wrote “Constituency Building and Policy Work: Three Paradigms” for the spring 2007 issue of The Evaluation Exchange, published by the Harvard Family Research Project. Robin also has been working with the Hudson Valley Writing Project and presented on “evaluating on the STP&A 2007.

Ariel Zaltsman published by the Harvard Family Research Project. Robin also has been working with the Hudson Valley Writing Project and presented on the STP&A 2007.

### NYU WAGNER HOSTS ARTS CONFERENCE

Wagner doctoral students and faculty were active participants in several significant academic conferences during the fall semester. In October, the Social Theory, Politics, and the Arts (STP&A) conference was held in New York City for the first time in more than a decade. About 200 scholars, artists, and cultural-organization leaders from 26 countries and 22 states throughout the U.S. attended the conference and shared their professional experience and research findings through papers and panels. Wagner hosted the three-day event and Wagner faculty member Ruth Ann Stewart served as the program’s chair. Doctoral student Jason Franklin served as conference director and moderated a panel entitled “Cultural Districts: What They Are and Understanding Their Success/Failure.” Also at the conference, doctoral students Angela Beard and Carmen Rogers participated on a panel entitled “Measuring Success in Cultural Industries.”

Arlene listed “The Role of Monitoring and Evaluation in the Budgetary Process: Insights from Children’s Performance-Based Budgeting System,” this past November. Ariel’s committee was chaired by Professor Sonia Osypina and also included Charles Brecher, Dall Forsythe, Dwight Denison and Shanna Rose. Ariel recently accepted a research fellow position at the Inter-American Development Bank’s Office of Evaluation and Oversight. Congratulations, Ariel!

### SPOTLIGHT ON PROFESSOR JAN BLUSTEIN

Jan Blustein describes Wagner as the ideal environment in which to pursue her multiple and varied research interests, “Like its peer professional schools, Wagner’s faculty includes experts in areas as diverse as housing, education, medical care, and employment training. This variety has stimulated and informed my work.” Indeed, throughout her career, Professor Blustein has produced a significant body of scholarship around an array of topics including research ethics, medical care for vulnerable populations, the Medicare program, the well-being of older people, and performance measurement in health care. The theme running throughout this work is equity and distributive justice. Reflecting on her work, Professor Blustein explains, “Much of my research describes prevailing allocational arrangements. My best work — or at least, the work that I am most proud of — calls on the reader to re-think his or her assumptions about the fairness or the desirability of those arrangements.”

Professor Blustein has graduate training in medicine, philosophy and public policy, and uses methods and approaches from these fields to engage a diverse audience. Much of her work on racial disparities in medical care uses epidemiologic methods. These empirical pieces attempt to elucidate the dynamics underlying disparities in treatment, rather than just documenting that disparities occur. For example, in an early paper from her dissertation, she原标题 continued on page 2
HAPPY NEW YEAR! After a busy and productive fall, I know that many of you are looking forward to the time for reading, writing, and preparation. Soon, the days will be filled with teaching, advisement, faculty meetings, and so forth.

For our first-year doctoral students, the transition to the Wagner Program is now yesterday’s news. In this issue of the newsletter, you will see the rich array of research experiences that this impressive group of students has undertaken. You will also have the opportunity to read about two recent academic conferences in which Wagner faculty, students, and alumni have participated. And, as always, we will reprint the newsletter as an opportunity to boast about the publications, presentations, and appointments that have accrued to our fantastic students and those who have preceded them.

In this newsletter, we shine the light on Professor Jan Blustein and her approach to research. Jan and I have been friends for many years and share the distinction of being the only two members of the faculty who have received PhDs from Wagner. I am delighted to be in the same “club” with someone who has so much to offer. Finally, I want to take this opportunity to say how pleased I am to have Diana Beck in her new position with the Doctoral Program. I am sure you all join me in saying, “welcome!”

Here’s to a great 2008!

Beth C. Weitzman

MESSAGE FROM PROGRAM DIRECTOR, BETH WEITZMAN

The Doctoral Program is delighted to announce that Diana Beck has joined our team! During the fall semester, Diana was appointed Assistant Director for the Health and Doctoral Programs at the Wagner School. Diana brings to the job a great deal of knowledge about the Wagner School and its students. A graduate of Wagner and the School of Social Welfare at Columbia, Diana has twice been chosen to represent Professor of the Year at Wagner and was the recipient of the 2007 L. Stefman Excellence in Teaching Public Administration Award from the New York State Academy for Public Administration. With this background, Diana has been able to “hit the ground running” and is already working with the Doctoral Board and with doctoral students to make the program run more smoothly. If you haven’t already done so, stop by and introduce yourself to Diana. Her office is located on the 2nd floor of the Buck Building. She looks forward to getting to know all of the students. Also, make sure to send her a note and reconnect. We hope Diana enjoys her new role working with the doctoral program.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Here is a list of some of the recent developments of Wagner alum. The goal is to highlight work that is making a difference in public and private sectors. Professor Blustein mentors junior researchers and considers this role to be one of the most satisfying aspects of her job. When asked what advice she would give doctoral students as they hone their research skills and clarify their interests, Professor Blustein offered these suggestions:• Start small: “Junior researchers are apt to approach their work as a monumental endeavor. Many believe that they must find a topic of great importance, and the perfect methodology, for their first effort. I counsel beginners to begin with something very modest—ideally, during the pre-dissertation phase. Find a small, circumscribed piece of work that is highly likely to win publication in a humble journal (a faculty member may be able to help with finding the appropriate journal). Take this work through the research and publication process.”• Imitate the masters: “Art students learn to draw by copying the work of the masters. Doctoral students can profitably use a similar approach. When reading journals, look for topics, data sources, methods and styles that you find appealing. Imitate them. Of course you need to find your own angle, but there is no need for you to invent social science anew.”• Be opportunistic: “Sometimes work that doesn’t pan out in one direction can be recycled. For example, in a study with Professors John Billings, Sue Kaplan and Carolyn Berry, we struggled to get our Research Review Board (IRB) approval at a number of different sites. So we wrote a paper on the difficulties of getting IRB approval in multi-site studies, submitted it to a top journal, and they were pleased to accept it on this basis. The piece was published in Southern Political Science Review. The life-gives-you-lemons-make-lemonade adage applies well to research.”

Do you want your information to be included in the next issue of the newsletter? If so, please submit it to: publications@wagner.nyu.edu. Do not submit your full text and presentation information to Claire McKenna, Doctoral Graduate Assistant, at Claire.mckenna@wagner.nyu.edu.

FIRST-YEAR DOCTORAL STUDENTS, FULL SPEED AHEAD

The transition to life as a Ph.D. student – not to mention life as a New York City resident – can be a difficult one. The rigor of coursework and the reality of not having ready access to the small-town feel that they are used to can be quite grueling for the most committed student. But conversations with members of this year’s entering doctoral class suggest that, overall, the transition has been smooth. As we approach a year’s end in the doctoral program, Diana is now looking forward to the new and thoughtful, steady feedback of her Wagner peers and advisors has been invaluable. They have been afforded the opportunity to continue to gain experience and skill conducting research in their area of interest through Wagner’s many research centers and initiatives.

Emily Anthony is currently working as a research assistant to Wagner professors Amy Schwartz and Leanna Stiefel at NYU’s Institute for Education and Social Policy (IESP). In her role as research assistant, Emily has had the chance to participate in a study of immigrant students in NYC’s high schools. Emily, who previously worked at the Education Policy Center of the Urban Institute, says that her interest in educational research has expanded since coming to Wagner. “Now, I’m constantly thinking about urban school reform and issues around immigrant education. NYC is a fascinating place to do education policy research because virtually every education reform and student subgroup is present in this city.”

Like Emily, Jonathan Bauchet has had the opportunity to build on his prior research work in an advanced doctoral program. Jonathan, who had previously worked as a research assistant for Innovations for Poverty Action, a position which took him to Peru, South Africa, and the Philippines. Now he is working with Wagner Professor Jonathan Morduch on the Financial Access Initiative (FAI), exploring issues surrounding access to financial services for citizens in developing countries. Michael Gedal is working with Professor Ingrid Ellen as a Fellow for NYU’s Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy. Michael is participating in a study of the impact of supportive housing on property values, in NYC. As a New Yorker who is a political science major, Michael describes himself as having a “good fight” that his parents began in the 1970s as housing activists. “My approach may be more institutional than theirs was, but ultimately the goal is the same, to support the development of more good quality housing.” Currently working as a research assistant to Wagner professor Sonia Ospina at the Research Center for Leadership in Action, he is participating in a study examining the nature and impact of inter-sector collaboration in Latin America. Andres Munoz plans to use his doctoral studies as an opportunity to explore the relationships between local public finance and institutional reform in developing countries. He is particularly interested in the role civil society plays in revenue generation and resource allocation. Currently working as a research assistant to Wagner professor Sonja Ospina at the Research Center for Leadership in Action, he is participating in a study examining the nature and impact of inter-sector collaboration in Latin America. Andres came to Wagner with experience working as a UNDP researcher and consultant for the Department of Finance in Bogota, Colombia. Unlike the others, Evan Michelson is pursuing his research interests outside of NYU. During the fall semester, Evan was employed as a Research Associate on the project on Emerging Microtechnologies and International Trade. Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C. This spring, he will be working as a Senior Research Associate at the Rockefeller Foundation’s New York City office. As he describes his role, his responsibilities will be to ‘search for new ideas for the foundation in a broad range of science and technology topics.’

The hope of the program is that the coming years will bring each of our doctoral students many more opportunities to explore their passion for research.

MESSAGE FROM PROGRAM DIRECTOR, BETH WEITZMAN

The DOCTORAL PROGRAM WELCOMES ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, DIANA BECK

SPOTLIGHT ON

L. Stefman Excellence in Teaching Public Administration Award from the New York State Academy for Public Administration.

[Signature]
MESSAGE FROM PROGRAM DIRECTOR, BETH WEITZMAN

The THE Doctoral Program WELCOMES ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, DIANA BECK

The The Doctoral Program is delighted to announce that Diana Beck has joined our team! During the fall semester, Diana was appointed Assistant Director for the Health and Doctoral Programs at the Wagner School. Diana brings to the job a great deal of knowledge about Health and Doctoral Programs at the Wagner School.

Diana has been serving as an adjunct professor, and her experience in the field will be invaluable. She will be joining the team on an informal basis, focusing on administrative tasks and helping to ensure the smooth运行 of the Doctoral Program.

Diana will be spending the majority of her time working on the doctoral program, but she will also be available to assist with other initiatives as needed. We are excited to have her on board and look forward to working with her on our many projects.

The Doctoral Program is thrilled to have Diana Beck as our new Assistant Director. We are confident that her expertise and dedication will help us to continue to build a strong and successful doctoral program.

Beth Weitzman, Program Director

SPOTLIGHT ON...-

L. Steigman Excellence in Teaching Public Administration Award from the New York State Academy for Public Administration. With this background, Diana has been able to “hit the ground running” and is already working with the Doctoral Board and with doctoral students to make the program run more smoothly.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to say how pleased I am to have Diana Beck in her new position with the Doctoral Program. I am sure you all join me in welcoming her to our team.

Here’s to a great 2008!

C. Beck

ALUMNI UPDATE

Lisa Duchon (PhD ‘93) and Dennis Andruski co-authored “The Changing Landscape of Hospital Capacity in Large Cities and Suburbs: Implications for the Safety Net”, published in the February 2008 issue of The American Journal of Medicine. Many of the entering doctoral class suggest that, overall, the transition has been smooth. As the students approach their internship sites, they will be assessing whether they think they are ready for the “good fight” that their parents began in the 1970s as housing activists. “My approach may be more institutionalized than theirs was, but the ultimate goal is the same: to partner with communities and organizations to make change.”

Anita Stiefel (PhD ‘07) has had the opportunity to build on her prior research and is now working on a project at The Rockefeller Foundation. She is exploring the idea of a “double dividend” – that is, the way in which certain environmental policies can yield both economic and environmental benefits.

Jonathan Morduch (PhD ‘02), Assistant Professor at Florida State University, has had the opportunity to build on his prior research experience since joining Wagner’s doctoral program. Jonathan has previously worked as a research assistant for Innovations for Poverty Action, a position which took him to Peru, South Africa, and the Philippines.

He is now working with Wagner Professor Jonathan Morduch on the Financial Access Initiative (FAI), exploring issues surrounding access to financial services for citizens in developing countries.

Michael Gedal is working with Professor Ingrid Ellen as a Doctor for New York University’s Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy. Michael is participating in a study of the impact of supportive housing on property values in New York City.

He has been involved in several related studies, including a study of the impact of supportive housing on property values in New York City.

The transition to life as a Ph.D. student – not to mention life as a New York City resident – can be a difficult one. The rigor of coursework and the reality of residency can be overwhelming. And, as always, we want to make sure that you are supported throughout your experience.

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For our first-year doctoral students, the transition to the Wagner Program is now yesterday’s news. In this issue of the newsletter, you will see the rich array of research experiences that this impressive group of students has undertaken. You will also have the opportunity to read about two recent academic conferences in which Wagner faculty, students, and alumni have been involved. And, as always, we want to stay connected to you by updating you on important news and events.

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Wagner students and faculty also actively participated in the November conference of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), held in Washington D.C. The theme of the conference was “What Else Shapes Public Policy Analysis and Management?” Professor Ingrid Ellen served on this year’s program committee and also presented some of her work. Doctoral student Martha Galvez took part in a poster session presenting preliminary findings from her research regarding Section 8 voucher recipients. Dylan Conger, Wagner doctoral alumnus, presented a paper co-authored with Professors Amy Schwartz and Leanna Stiefel concerning immigrants and education. Beyond these significant papers and presentations, members of the Wagner community, past and present, had the opportunity to socialize and catch up at the school’s well-attended reception. And, for the first time, APPAM hosted a special networking event for all current doctoral students and recent doctoral alumni. This spring, the American Planning Association (APA) will hold its annual conference in Las Vegas from April 27 to March 1. The American Society of Public Administration (ASPA) will host its annual conference from March 7 –11 in Dallas. As always, we hope to see Wagner doctoral students and alumni sharing their work at these events.

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