



# Ellertson Fellowship E-Newsletter

WINTER 2007

ISSUE 1

## ***Naming Contest!***

We offer a free manual vacuum aspiration kit (with instruction video!) to the person who submits the most entertaining and appropriate title for this new fellowship e-newsletter.

Send your submissions to [Sarah Gilbert](#) by **April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007**.



## ***Send us Material!***

We encourage all involved with the fellowship to submit articles, pictures, updates, or anecdotes on work and life to include in future issues of the newsletter.

In our next issue, we will include a “**They Claimed WHAT?**” feature on the most unfounded and/or exasperating studies or statements related to abortion and reproductive health encountered.

## **Fellowship Renamed in Memory of Charlotte Ellertson**



This past summer, we made the decision to rename the Ibis Fellowship in memory of Charlotte Ellertson, the driving force behind its establishment and the founder of Ibis Reproductive Health. We chose the new fellowship name — the *Charlotte Ellertson Social Science Postdoctoral Fellowship in Abortion and Reproductive Health* — to honor Charlotte’s commitment to rigorous and relevant social science research to improve women and men’s reproductive lives and autonomy.

## **Welcome to the Second Fellowship Cohort!**

In September 2006, we were delighted to embark on the second round of the Charlotte Ellertson Social Science Postdoctoral Fellowship in Abortion and Reproductive Health. Many thanks to the Fellowship Site Directors and the Fellowship Advisory Committee for identifying and selecting a very strong set of new fellows from a very competitive pool. In addition to the original fellowship sites at [Ibis Reproductive Health](#) and the [Bixby Center for Reproductive Health Research & Policy](#) at UCSF, we now have fellowship sites at:

- [Columbia University](#)
- [Guttmacher Institute](#)
- [Johns Hopkins University](#)

Fellows work on their own independent research, participate in ongoing institutional research, and collaborate with advocates, providers, and policy makers to use research expertise to improve policies and programs. We welcome the five new fellows:

- [Dr. Courtney Jackson](#) at Ibis Reproductive Health in Cambridge. She received her Ph.D. in sociology and a graduate certificate in women’s studies from Rutgers University.
- [Dr. Marcia A. Ellison](#) at the UCSF Bixby Center for Reproductive Health Research & Policy. She completed her Ph.D. and M.A. in anthropology at UCLA.
- [Dr. Jessica Gipson](#) at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. She earned her Ph.D. in public health at Johns Hopkins and her M.P.H. at the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.
- [Dr. Farzana Kapadia](#) at the Guttmacher Institute in New York City. She received her Ph.D. in epidemiology from the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University and her M.P.H. from New York University.
- [Dr. Joanna Mishtal](#) at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University. She earned her Ph.D. in cultural anthropology from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

## ***Upcoming Meetings & Conferences***

### **Training and Access Working Group Meeting**

March 16, 2007  
New York, NY

### **Population Association of America Annual Meeting**

March 29–31, 2007  
New York, NY

### **The Future of Sexuality Research: Methodological to Social Policy Innovations**

April 9–11, 2007  
Bloomington, IN

### **National Abortion Federation Annual Meeting & Social Scientists' Networking Meeting**

April 2007

### **Global Health Council International Conference**

May 29–June 1, 2007  
Washington, DC

### **SisterSong Annual Conference**

May 31–June 3, 2007  
Chicago, IL

### **American Sociological Association Annual Meeting**

August 11–14, 2007  
New York, NY

### **European Society of Contraception Seminar “From Abortion to Contraception”**

September 21–22, 2007  
Bucharest, Romania  
Abstract Deadline:  
**July 15, 2007**

### **Reproductive Health 2007 (ARHP, SFP, SARC, PPFA)**

September 26–29, 2007  
Minneapolis, MN  
Abstract Deadline:  
**March 21, 2007**

## **Fourth Annual Social Scientists' Networking Meeting**

Two new fellows have taken central roles in organizing panels at the fourth annual Social Scientists' Networking Meeting being held this coming April in association with the National Abortion Federation (NAF) Annual Meeting.

**Dr. Joanna Mishtal** (Columbia) has crafted a panel examining the role and power that religious groups hold in shaping domestic and foreign policy affecting abortion rights and access. She will present her research on the role of the Catholic Church in shaping abortion access and policy in Poland, and other speakers will explore the situations in the U.S. and Muslim worlds.

**Dr. Marcia Ellison** (UCSF) has designed a panel to explore how social categories, such as race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status, marital status, and age affect women's fertility and maternity decisions in the U.S.

## **Social Scientists' Networking Meeting April 2007**

### **Religious Clashes over Abortion: Comparative Perspectives**

**Katherine Hancock Ragsdale**, *Executive Director, Political Research Associates*

**Anissa Hélie**, *Visiting Assistant Professor, Mt. Holyoke College*

**Joanna Mishtal**, *Ellertson Fellow, Columbia University*

**Angel Foster**, *Associate, Ibis Reproductive Health*

### **Reproductive Rights: Disparities in Contraception, Abortion, and Maternity**

**Larry Finer**, *Assistant Director of Research, Guttmacher Institute*

**Rickie Solinger**, *Independent Historian and Curator*

**Marcia Ellison**, *Ellertson Fellow, UCSF*

### **Discussion and Open Mike**

We welcome you to join us at the Social Scientists' Networking Meeting, and ask that you email to let us know if you would like to attend so we can adhere to NAF's important security procedures. For more information, please contact [Sarah Gilbert](#).

## **The Virtual Research Seminar**

With the experience and guidance of Columbia University Site Director, Dr. Wendy Chavkin, the Ellertson Fellowship has begun a “virtual” research seminar (VRS) series to engage the fellows, fellowship site directors, and interested mentors in intellectual discussions (via email) about a research topic selected by a different fellow on a bi-monthly basis. Now in its second installment, the VRS is proving to be an excellent way to increase communication, encourage discussion, and foster relationships between the disparate fellows and fellowship sites. The first seminar — led by Dr. Courtney Jackson (Ibis) — focused on maternal request Cesarean Section, and the second seminar — with Dr. Jessica Gipson (Johns Hopkins) at the helm — is exploring male involvement in sexual and reproductive health.

[Marie Stopes International  
Global Conference on Safe  
Abortion](#)

October 23–24, 2007  
London, UK  
Abstract Deadline:  
**February 28, 2007**

[American Public Health  
Association Annual  
Meeting](#)

November 3–7, 2007  
Washington, DC  
Abstract Deadline:  
**February 15, 2007**

[Society for the Scientific  
Study of Sexuality Meeting](#)

November 7–11, 2007  
Indianapolis, IN  
Abstract Deadline:  
**March 16, 2007**

[American Anthropological  
Association Annual  
Meeting](#)

Nov. 28–Dec. 2, 2007  
Washington, DC  
Abstract Deadline:  
**March 31, 2007**

## *Fingers Firmly on the Pulse*

Short on ideas for  
**Valentine's Day?**

Marie Stopes International is offering Valentine's Vasectomies for a discounted price of £350! Get yourself or your loved one a **vasectomy (voucher)** instead of those over-priced roses.\* What better way to say you care/want to share the responsibility for contraception?



*\*If applicable.*

## Society of Family Planning Grants Program

The Society of Family Planning (SFP) will sponsor a research grants program for SFP fellows and junior fellows conducting studies focused on abortion. The SFP was founded to bring together medical professionals who are interested in the scientific study of family planning, focusing, although not exclusively, in the areas of contraception and abortion. The activities of the organization are oriented toward scientific purposes, for the advancement and promulgation of knowledge regarding family planning, and for the facilitation of personal relationships among scientific investigators of family planning and related topics. For more information on the SFP, please visit its [website](#).



Three types of competitive grants will be offered:

1. **Pilot Grants:** Small grants providing flexible funding for start-up or pilot studies (e.g., for a research assistant, to acquire data sets, or to cover costs of collecting data);
2. **Investigator-Initiated Grants:** Grants to conduct a specific research project on a pressing research problem as defined by the investigator; and
3. **Multi-Center Studies:** Unlike investigator-initiated grants, the research problem will be defined by SFP and sites will submit RFPs to participate.

[Membership](#) in the SFP is open to any qualified person who has an interest in family planning and demonstrates post-doctoral training, a substantial clinical or laboratory practice in this field, or academic presentations or writings within this field. These criteria include persons who perform clinical, basic science, epidemiologic, social services, demographic, statistical or related types of studies. The essential criterion for election is continuing identification with the field of family planning.

*Current Ellertson Fellows who would like to become Junior Fellows of the SFP should contact [fellowship staff](#) for more information.*

## The October Fellowship Meeting

The new fellows, fellowship site directors, and fellowship staff met in October at the Guttmacher Institute in New York City to kick off the second cohort of the Ellertson Fellowship. The meeting began with a short introduction and background of the fellowship by Sarah Jane Holcombe, the fellowship director. Then each of the fellows gave a short presentation to introduce themselves and their research. Dr. Cynthia Harper (site director, UCSF), Dr. Larry Finer (site director, Guttmacher Institute), and Dr. Amy Schalet (former fellow, UCSF '06) then discussed achieving career goals and conducting research for policy impact. The first day of the meeting was concluded with a reception for the new fellows attended by various researchers, advocates, clinicians, clinical fellows, and funders based in the New York area. The second day of the meeting consisted solely of a "fellows-only" morning get-together, which provided time for the fellows to ask questions and delve further into the fellowship details. *Thank you to the Guttmacher Institute and its wonderful staff for hosting us!*

## Updates on Former Fellows:



Amy Schalet's new — and greatly-appreciated! — office.



Jillian Henderson's new family member, Ramona Sapru Henderson (who arrived in February 2006).



## Belated Bon Voyage!

We also extend our warmest congratulations to the four “graduated” fellows:

- **Dr. Kimala Price** (Ibis '06) is now an assistant professor of women's studies at San Diego State University, a tenure-track faculty position.
- **Dr. Rachel Roth** (Ibis '06) is continuing her work on imprisonment and reproductive rights with the support of an 18-month Soros Justice Fellowship from the Open Society Institute.
- **Dr. Jillian Henderson** (UCSF '06) received a faculty appointment as an assistant professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at UCSF.
- **Dr. Amy Schalet** (UCSF '06) accepted a position as an assistant professor in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

## Recent (and Forthcoming) Publications and Presentations by Fellows

**Gipson JD.** Issues in the Reduction of Maternal and Neonatal Mortality in Developing Countries. Lecture for Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health class “Abortion and Safe Motherhood in Developing Countries”; 2006 Nov 22; Baltimore, MD.

**Gipson JD, Hindin MJ.** ‘Marriage means having children and forming your family, so what is the need of discussion?’ Communication and negotiation of childbearing preferences among Bangladeshi couples. *Culture, Health, and Sexuality*. Forthcoming.

Harvey SM, **Henderson JT**, Casillas A. Factors Associated with Effective Contraceptive Use Among A Sample of Latina Women. *Women's Health*. 2006;43(2):1-16.

Harvey SM, **Henderson JT**. Correlates of Condom Use Intentions and Behaviors among A Community-Based Sample of Latino Men in Los Angeles. *Journal of Urban Health*. 2006;83(4):558-74.

**Jackson CB.** Connecting the dots: Linking .edu with .org: An Interactive Networking Workshop for Advocates and Academics. Panel discussion at the National Advocates for Pregnant Women Summit; 2007 Jan 18-21; Atlanta, GA.

**Jackson CB.** The Sociology of Reproduction. Panel discussion at the Eastern Sociological Society Meeting; Forthcoming 2007 Mar 15-18; Philadelphia, PA.

**Mishtal JZ.** The Politics of Reproductive Rights and Health in Poland: Fertility Decline and Family Planning Restrictions since 1989. Presentation for Physicians for Reproductive Choice and Health; 2007 Jan 23; New York, NY.

**Mishtal JZ.** The Politics of Reproduction in Poland: Fertility Decline and Family Planning Restrictions since 1989. Lecture for Mailman School of Public Health graduate seminar "Fertility Decline in the Developed World"; 2007 Feb 12; New York, NY.

**Schalet A.** Adolescent Sexuality Viewed Through Two Different Cultural Lenses. In: Kuriansky J, series editor; Tepper MS, Owens AF, volume editors. *Sex, Love, and Psychology: Sexual Health, Vol. III. Moral and Cultural Foundations*. Westport, CT; Praeger Publishing; 2007.

**Schalet A.** Changing our Paradigm for Understanding Adolescent Sexual Health. Keynote address at the Annual Meeting of the National Coalition of STD Directors; 2006 Oct 10-13; San Diego, CA.

**Schalet A.** Normalizing and Dramatizing Adolescent Sexuality: The Management of Adolescent Sexuality among the American and Dutch White Middle Class. *Revista Estudos Feministas*. Forthcoming (in Portuguese).

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### Ellertson Fellowship Staff

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