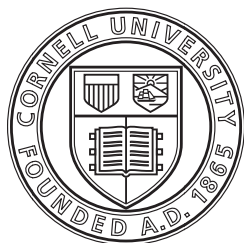




SUMMARY OF THE 2010 ANNUAL REPORT



Cornell University

This report summarizes annual achievements in the three primary programming areas of the Institute for the Social Sciences (ISS) at Cornell:

- The three-year **Theme Projects**, which bring together faculty from across Cornell to explore a promising research topic together
- The new **Faculty Fellows Program**, which provides funding and course relief for assistant and associate faculty in the social sciences
- The biannual **Small Grants program**, which provides funding for cutting-edge faculty research

Theme Projects Active During 2009-2010

Persistent Poverty and Upward Mobility, 2008-2011

Chris Barrett, Team Leader (Applied Economics and Management)

The Persistent Poverty project completed its second year, which is its ISS residency year, in June 2010. It engaged a record number of 190 affiliates from over 25 departments and programs. The team offered an unprecedented number of opportunities for these affiliates to participate in the project via scores of public events. These events included a forum on domestic poverty, two international conferences, two workshops, a University Lecture by William Julius Wilson, and a poster session for the student researchers awarded grants during the previous academic year. The team also taught five theme-related courses and hosted a very well-attended year-long seminar series featuring 11 visiting scholars who stayed for three to five days, meeting with campus members, teaching in classes, and giving public lectures or presentations in related programs.

Judgment, Decision-Making, and Social Behavior, 2009-2012

Ted O'Donoghue, Team Leader (Economics)

The JDSB Project completed its first year in June 2010. It is not common practice to host public events during the planning year of a theme project, but this team held two workshops in addition to the traditional kick-off lecture. The first project workshop, Dual Process Approaches to Human Judgment and Behavior, was designed to identify collaboration opportunities and was attended by the JDSB team members and ten invited faculty and graduate students. The second workshop, Social/Moral Preferences and Behavior, was public and drew about 40 attendees. The workshop presentations were videotaped and are available for viewing as part of the JDSB project's video archive. The team also financially supported a related conference on Behavioral Economics held in Ithaca, NY, and coordinated by the team leader. For 2010-2011, the team has planned a seminar series co-sponsored with the behavioral workshop series, workshops focused on law and neuroscience, and lectures by guest luminaries, such as Bob Cialdini and Dan Gilbert.

Immigration: Settlement, Integration, and Membership, 2010-2013

Michael Jones-Correa, Team Leader (Government)

The Immigration Project, selected in April by the Social Sciences Internal Advisory Council, began its three-year term with a one-day team planning retreat on August 24, 2010. The team includes ten faculty members from seven departments spanning four colleges.

Retired Theme Projects

The largest legacy of the inaugural ISS theme project, The Evolving Family (2004-2007), is the Cornell Population Program founded in 2008, which continues to promote demographic research and training. In addition, the volume resulting from the project's 2006 conference, edited by Elizabeth Peters and Claire Kamp Dush, was published in August 2009: *Marriage and Family: Perspectives and Complexities*.

This year, members of the Networks Project (2005-2008) extended their influence on the field by holding an NSF-funded conference that formed the basis for a new NSF program on networks and led to the formation of a center at Cornell, the Center for the Interface of Networks, Computation, and Economics (CINCE). Team members and affiliates were awarded grants from NSF, NIH, Google, and Yahoo! totaling over \$10,000,000 to support projects through 2014. Making their curriculum available to people worldwide, David Easley and Jon Kleinberg published *Networks, Crowds, & Markets: Reasoning about a Highly Connected World*, the companion text to their co-taught 200-level Networks course that they developed while in residence at the ISS. In its fourth year during 2009-2010, this course, cross-listed in four departments, drew 452 students from over 45 majors in all seven colleges. Other publications this year include books by Geri Gay and David Strang.

The members of the Contentious Knowledge Project (2006-2009) continued to move forward with their many book projects, including two published this year. *The Diffusion of Social Movements*, edited by Becky Givan, Ken Roberts, and Sarah Soule, compiles papers presented at the project's 2007 workshop, and includes chapters by four team members & four affiliates. *Contention and Corporate Social Responsibility* was authored by Sarah Soule.

Faculty Fellows Program

The Fellows Program operates every four years and is designed to give promising assistant and associate faculty members a semester of leave from teaching responsibilities so that they can concentrate on their research while in residence at the ISS. Eleven faculty participated in the inaugural Fall 2008 ISS Fellows Program, supported in part by the PCCW. A majority of fellows focused on writing projects, a number of which have been printed or are in press, and four of the fellows have applied for subsequent external funding since the residency. These fellows have brought in over \$1,335,885 in NSF, Cisco, and AASA funding to support projects over the next several years.

Small Grants Program

During the fall 2009 and spring 2010 semesters, 44 proposals for small grants were received, of which 33 were funded. The amount requested in these two funding rounds was over \$398,000. The average funding per project was \$4,982 for fall 2009 and \$8,426 for spring 2010. Awards totaled \$134,820. Generous support for this program was provided by the Office for the Vice-Provost for Research and the President's Council for Cornell Women.

Updates from the spring 2007 round of funding, in which 12 small grants were awarded, show that recipients have subsequently secured \$140,607 in external funding.

The Institute for the Social Sciences

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