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The Newsletter of the Ray Marshall Center for the Study of Human Resources

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### Recent Publications

[Factors Associated with Education and Work after High School for the Classes of 2008 and 2009](#) February 2012. By Greg Cumpton, Deanna Schexnayder, and Christopher King; with assistance from Chandler Stolp. The third report in a series examining factors linked to successful postsecondary transitions for Central Texas high school

Issue 9

March 2012

### Center News

#### [Aspen Institute Convenes Ascend Fellows Forum](#)



Dr. Chris King at Ascend Meeting

On March 7-9, the [Aspen Institute's](#) Ascend Program for Family and Economic Success convened the first meeting of the [Ascend Fellows](#). A diverse group of 20 experts and leaders who are leading efforts to promote educational and economic success for both parents and their children. [Dr. Chris King](#), as well as Center partners [Dr. Lindsay Chase-Lansdale](#) from Northwestern University and [Steven Dow](#), executive director of [Community Action Project of Tulsa County](#), were selected to the inaugural class of Ascend Fellows. In conjunction with the

announcement of the Fellows Program, Ascend also released the report [Two Generations, One Future](#) which outlines the a two-generation approach for helping low-income families achieve economic security.

#### [Schroeder Presents SNAP-UI Research with USDA](#)

On March 5, [Dr. Daniel Schroeder](#), research scientist with the Ray Marshall Center, met with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service in Washington D.C. to present findings from research titled "Interactions between SNAP and UI in Texas: Before and during the Great Recession." Dr. Schroeder analyzed the interactions between the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Unemployment Insurance benefits programs in the state of Texas from 2006 through 2010, and explored the extent to which the dynamics of the two programs changed in response to the Great Recession.



Dr. Daniel Schroeder

#### [Cumpton to Present Research at AERA Annual Meeting](#)

[Greg Cumpton](#), social science research associate at the Center, will present a research paper entitled "The Cumulative Effect of Factors Associated with Higher College Enrollment Rates" at the [American Educational Research Association](#) (AERA) at their annual meeting to be held April 13-17 in Vancouver, Canada. Cumpton's

graduates.

**Dual Generation Strategy Initiative**

**Research Brief**  
February 2012. By Tara Smith. The brief provides an overview of the dual-generation project, including its theory of change, conceptual framework, opportunities and challenges, as well as next steps in the research agenda.

**Information Brief: Common Definitions for ACAN** February 2012. By Tara Smith. This brief, prepared for the Austin College Access Network (ACAN), defines the terms "access" and "persistence" and explains how each will be measured in an evaluation.

**Texas Child Care Market Rate Survey**  
2011 February 2012. By the Center for Social Work Research and the Ray Marshall Center for the Study of Human Resources, at The University of Texas at Austin. This report presents results of an annual survey of child care market rates in Texas.

**Initial Report on**

research reviews data and student survey responses from the 2008 and 2009 Central Texas high school graduating classes and examines the cumulative effect of specific factors on initial postsecondary education outcomes.

**Work Group Advises on Two-Generation Strategies**



Greg Cumpton



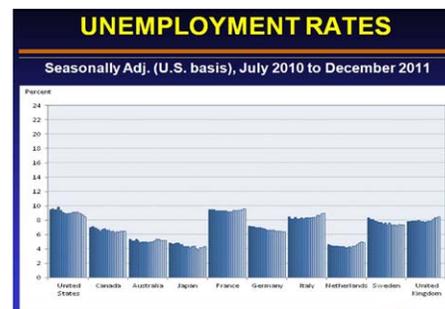
On Feb 10, **Dr. Chris King** attended an Advisers Meeting organized by Harvard's **Center on the Developing Child (HCDC)** and the **Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP)** in Washington D.C. Experts from around the nation met to explore two-generation approaches for improving outcomes for young families. Meeting participants comprised researchers,

philanthropists, policymakers, and leaders in education and social policy programs and research. The Advisers Meeting is part of the Work Group on Assuring Family Success, a partnership between HCDC and CSSP that works to identify, implement and scale interventions that simultaneously strengthen the economic success of parents and the healthy development of the child.

**King Gives Seminar on Global Labor Market Trends and Policies**

Center director Dr. Chris King gave a graduate seminar on **global labor trends and policies** to the Feb. 23 International Business Fellows Seminar. The global economy is still recovering and labor markets in several countries are facing a crisis. Dr. King provided an overview of international economic transitions and labor market policies and trends, as well as corresponding changes in work environments, job access, and career pathways.

Dr. King's presentation also compared labor market conditions and policies across different countries and concluded with ideas for action and needed cooperation to improve opportunities for workers, especially among young adults.



Global Unemployment Rates

**HHS Official Visits Career *Advance*® Program**

**Mark Greenberg**, deputy assistant secretary for policy at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, visited the **Career *Advance*®** project on Jan. 27. **Career *Advance*®** is an innovative dual-generation program aimed at addressing the educational needs of children and their parents operated by the **Community Action Program of Tulsa County**. The Ray

[ACAN Comparison Group Matching](#)  
January 2012. By Greg Cumpton, Deanna Schexnayder, and Patty Rodriguez. This report presents a summary of the preliminary work performed to create matching cohorts of 2010 high school graduates from Austin College Access Network (ACAN) partner organizations.

[Development of a Student Tracking System for ACAN Participants](#)  
January 2012. By Deanna Schexnayder, Patty Rodriguez, and Greg Cumpton. This report describes a model for developing a FERPA-compliant data collection approach that could be used for either program evaluation purposes or for monitoring college enrollment and persistence for ACAN member agencies.

[Expanding the CareerAdvance® Program in Tulsa, Oklahoma](#)  
January 2012. By Robert W. Glover; Christopher T. King, and Tara Carter Smith. This report provides the background, rationale and results from the first year implementation of

Marshall Center had developed the design for the [dual generation workforce development](#) approach earlier in 2008. CareerAdvance® completed the first year of implementation in August 2011 and Center researchers have recently released a [report](#) in review of the program's feasibility, achievements and potential for expansion. Last fall 2011, the Department of Health and Human Services awarded the project a [grant](#) to expand and scale up CareerAdvance® through September 2015. During his visit, Mr. Greenberg met with program administrators and staff, the project's research team, as well as program participants.



L-R: Liz Eccleston, CareerAdvance instructor, and Mark Greenberg.

## Project Updates

### [Central Texas College Access and Persistence Program Evaluation](#)

The Ray Marshall Center is participating in the [Central Texas College Access and Persistence Program Evaluation](#), in partnership with [E3 Alliance](#). The project is supported by the TG Public Benefit Grant Program.

[Dr. Chris King](#) and [Tara Smith](#) are serving as co-principal investigators. The evaluation seeks to increase regional capacity to provide critical and effective support to traditionally underrepresented college students to help ensure that they enter college and persist in their studies through completion. As part of the evaluation, researchers will review and map the different types of college access and persistence services offered by Central Texas organizations, identify service gaps, and analyze the net impacts on enrollment and persistence rates for populations of interest.



### [Integrated Child Support System Evaluation](#)

In partnership with the Child and Family Planning Research Partnership, the Ray Marshall Center is working with the [Texas Office of the Attorney General \(OAG\)](#) to conduct a [program evaluation](#) to measure the impacts of the Integrated Child Support



System (ICSS). ICSS requires those getting divorced or separated to be referred to the OAG for a child support enforcement program, mandated under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. Operating under a waiver from the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) in 17 counties, the ICSS changes the default action from opt-in to opt-out in order to increase participation in IV-D services, raise child support compliance, and avoid the accumulation of child support debt. Center researchers will conduct the waiver evaluation using a combination of random assignment and comparison site evaluation designs to measure the impacts of the waiver at statewide and county-level operational scales in Texas. The evaluation will report on child support compliance over time, including amount of payment and

CareerAdvance®, a workforce development program for parents with children in Head Start in Tulsa, OK.

stability of payment as well as enforcement actions taken, cost effectiveness, and reasons parents choose to opt out. [Dr. Daniel Schroeder](#) is the principal investigator.

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### Upcoming Reports

Central Texas Student Futures Project: 2011 Senior Survey Report, Mar. 2012

The Ray Marshall Center is a research unit of the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin

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