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The synergy Newsletter

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Notes from the Chair

The Fall semester is well under way, and the Center's activities are moving into high gear. For example:

~ The Center recently co-sponsored a special presentation by economics professor David Card on preparing research proposals for the National Institutes of Health. A streaming video of his talk is available online; check the Center's website—healthresearch.berkeley.edu—for further information.

~ The Center's research seminar in health services and policy analysis—offered on alternate Tuesdays throughout the year—has a wide range of excellent speakers lined up; you can read more about them and sign up for email reminders at the Center's website.

~ Encouraged by the success of the inaugural Health Care Quality & Outcomes (HCQO) Research Conference—co-sponsored by the Center for Health Research—plans are under way for a second conference this coming May. More information can be found at the Center's website.

If you've noticed a common thread to these entries, you aren't alone. Interest in and use of the Internet continues to grow exponentially every year. With it, researchers can connect with

other researchers, data repositories, and funding agencies. It can be an invaluable resource—but it can also be a nightmare of blind alleys and wrong turns.

The Center has taken a leadership role in this area by providing our members and other readers with an extensive **Internet Resource Guide**, found in the center of this issue of *synergy*. We hope that this pull-out reference will find a home near your computer and be of continued value to you in your work. This information has also been posted to the Center's website. We welcome your thoughts and comments.

And of course, the Center's management staff continue to provide pre- and post-grant award support to principal investigators from many departments across the Berkeley campus who are conducting research on health, health care, and health technology issues in the United States and other

countries.

I invite you to learn more about the Center for Health Research, and if you're not already a member, to join us!

Thomas G. Rundall
Chair

synergy:
*the working together of
two or more things
to produce an effect
greater than the sum
of their individual effects*

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Focus on Our Members

The Center's 71 members come from nearly a dozen departments and organizations on the UC Berkeley campus, as well as the Institute for Health Policy Studies at UC San Francisco (UCSF) and the joint UC Berkeley-UCSF Global Health Institute. Each issue of *synergy* focuses on a representative sampling of our members.

Andrew Bindman (UCSF; bindman@itsa.ucsf.edu) is the director of the Primary Care Research Center in UCSF's Department of Medicine and chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine at San Francisco General Hospital. His research interests include access to care for low-income and minority populations, primary care, evaluation of health care reform, and the impact of Medicaid managed care on primary care physicians. He has a special interest in the role of public institutions in providing health care.

Ken Chay (Economics; kenchay@econ.berkeley.edu) is an associate professor of economics with research interests in labor economics, econometrics, and empirical microeconomics. His ongoing research projects include an analysis of the effect of air pollution on infant mortality and a study of the impact of regulation-induced air quality improvements on the value of housing in different counties. He recently received funding from the National Science Foundation for research that will attempt to provide empirical evidence on the costs and benefits of environmental regulation, by asking the question: "Does air quality matter?"

Helen Ann Halpin (Public Health; helenhs@uclink.berkeley.edu) is a professor of health policy and serves as the director of the Center for Health and Public Policy. She is also the director of the California Health Policy Roundtable, whose goals are to better inform health insurance policy decision making at the state and national levels. Her major research interests are access to health insurance and the integration of health promotion and disease prevention into the U.S. health care system, in particular, health insurance policy for treating tobacco dependence. She has testified many times before the U.S. Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee and the California State Legislature. She served for 10 years on the editorial board of the *UC Berkeley Wellness Letter* and is currently the associate editor for policy for the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Andrew Hildreth (Economics; hildreth@econ.berkeley.edu) is a member of Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging and a professor of economics. He is also the research director of the California Census Research Data Center (CCRDC), a partnership between the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the University of California. The Center for Economic Studies (CES) of the U.S. Bureau of the Census has established Research Data Centers in order to provide secure physical locations for researchers to study non-public microdata collected by the Census Bureau.

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The Center for Health Research is aided in its mission by an outstanding group of faculty and staff who meet at least once a semester to review the Center's activities and financial status. Current members of the Committee include Bob Barde, Ray Catalano, Peg Hardaway Farrell, Elizabeth Flora, Paul Gertler, Hal Luft, Ted Miguel, Geoffrey Owen, Mary Pittman, Kristi Raube, Jamie Robinson, Kathy Romain, Tom Rundall, Bill Satariano, Richard Scheffler, Joe Selby, Carl Shapiro, and Steve Shortell.

Joe Selby, Director of Kaiser Permanente's (KP) Division of Research, and Mary A. Pittman, President of the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET), represent the Center's research partnerships with KP and HRET.

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The research director works extensively with researchers who use the CCRDC and promotes the Center to researchers throughout California and the nation.

Stephen Hinshaw's (Psychology; hinshaw@socrates.berkeley.edu) main interests lie in the fields of clinical child and adolescent psychology and developmental psychopathology. Major themes of his work include the diagnostic validity of childhood disorders, the role of peer relationships in normal and atypical development (particularly ADHD), the utility of identifying subcategories of aggressive behavior, the early prediction of behavioral and learning problems, the neuropsychology and neurobiology of impulsive and externalizing behavior in childhood, the contribution of family factors to acting out and antisocial behavior, and the implementation of combinations of psychosocial and pharmacologic intervention for children with externalizing behavior disorders. Increasingly, his research interests are focusing on adolescent and young adult outcomes, as children in his various projects continue to participate in prospective, longitudinal studies.

Lucy Canter Kihlstrom (IPSH/ISHOT; lucyck@uclink.berkeley.edu) is a research scientist at the Institute for the Study of Healthcare Organizations and Transactions (ISHOT) as well as an assistant research scientist in the Institute of Personality and Social Research (IPSH). Her interests include consumer beliefs about herbal remedies, the organization and delivery of pharmaceutical and mental health services, the management of chronic illness, use of the Internet to provide health care information, organizational theory and behavior as they apply to health care organizations, and emerging organizational forms in health care delivery. She is the author of several articles and chapters that focus on aspects of the changing health care system.

Jonah Levy (Political Science; jlevy@socrates.berkeley.edu) is associate professor of political science and teaches courses in the areas of comparative political economy, West European politics, and social policy. His current research examines the relationship between partisanship and welfare reform in contemporary Western Europe. He is a member of the Institute of European Studies (IES) where he organized a collaborative research project entitled *The State after Statism: Economic and Social Policy in the Global Age*. Its central purpose was to explore the changing place of the state in the economic and social arena. IES is home to one of the leading concentrations in the United States of researchers and teachers on Europe. The Institute is a National Resource Center funded by the U.S. Department of Education (Title VI) to promote, develop and improve instruction, research, and training in international and area studies. Levy was also the recipient of a 2001 CHR small grant for his work on "Progressive Politics and Health Care Reform in Western Europe," which examined the welfare state reform policies enacted by the center-left governments of France, Italy, and the Netherlands.

Meredith Minkler (Public Health; mink@uclink.berkeley.edu), professor of community health education and health and social behavior, also serves as the director of the DrPH program in the School of Public Health. Her research interests include a national longitudinal study of the health and social status of grandparent caregivers, application of political and moral economy theories to

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Enrich Your Research with the Internet

If you've ever searched on the Internet for a particular bit of health information, you know how easy it is to lose your way and become overwhelmed with the sheer volume of information available. But if you try to target your searches, you can't help but feel that you're looking in all the wrong places. The truth may be out there, but where?



The Center for Health Research has done some exploring on your behalf and has collected the addresses of Internet resources covering health news, research, data, and funding sources that may assist you with your research. The following pull-out **Internet Resource Guide** (see pp. 5-8) is intended as a guide, but by no means does it cover the entire expanding universe of online health resources available to health researchers.

While a number of online health care resources have come and gone over the past decade, the Internet is still bursting with news

sites covering health care business, policy, politics, products, technology, delivery, costs, and research. Some websites contain “push” resources for obtaining health care news online. These Internet sites automatically send (“push”) requested information on a regular basis to the email accounts of subscribers who have signed up for the service.

One of the most comprehensive is *iHealthBeat.com*, which sends out daily updates on such areas as care delivery, access, public health and research, business and finance, and health care policy. Other sites include the Kaiser Family Foundation, which provides news on health policy, HIV/AIDS, and reproductive health; the Commonwealth Fund, which covers health care policy and social issues; and HealthLeaders, which provides links to health care business and technology news from newspapers nationwide.

There are also many so-called “pull” information websites—meaning that users must visit the site to retrieve the information. “Pull” news resources covering such topics as behavioral health and health care delivery include the California HealthCare Foundation, which posts health care policy news; Health Intelligence Network, which covers the health care industry; Medscape, which includes policy and clinical news; and Yahoo! health news, which posts anything related to health. Some sites require users to register before they are allowed to access some or all of the free content. Some news resources, including most of those discussed above, offer both “push” and “pull” options for retrieving information.

The Internet is also an ideal vehicle for gaining free access to current or archived articles

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Research Tools/Resources

Local Government

Alameda County Public Health Department
— www.co.alameda.ca.us/publichealth

San Francisco Department of Public Health
— www.dph.sf.ca.us

California Government

Department of Health Services — www.dhs.cahwnet.gov

Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development Healthcare Information Division — oshpd.ca.gov/hid

U.S. Government

Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality
— www.ahrq.gov

Census Bureau — www.census.gov

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
— www.cdc.gov

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
— cms.hhs.gov

Food and Drug Administration — www.fda.gov

MedWatch (FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program) — www.fda.gov/medwatch

Department of Health & Human Services
— www.hhs.gov

Health Resources and Services Administration — www.hrsa.gov

National Institutes of Health — www.nih.gov

National Institute of Mental Health — www.nimh.nih.gov

National Science Foundation — www.nsf.gov

Occupational Safety and Health Administration — www.osha.gov

Office of Minority Health (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) — www.omhrc.gov

U.S. Department of Agriculture — www.usda.gov

Data and Statistics

AHRQ Data and Surveys Information — www.ahrq.gov/data

California Health Information Survey — www.chis.ucla.edu

CDC Data and Statistics — www.cdc.gov/scientific.htm

CDC National Center for Health Statistics
— www.cdc.gov/nchs

TheDataWeb (a collaboration between the U.S. Census Bureau and the CDC) — www.thedataweb.org

National Agricultural Statistics Service — www.usda.gov/nass

World Health Organizations research tools links, including statistics and WHO publications database — www.who.int/research/en



General Research Tools & Resources

CenterWatch Clinical Trials Listing Service
— www.centerwatch.com

ClinicalTrials.gov (clinical trials information)
— clinicaltrials.gov

Google search engine — www.google.com

MEDLINEplus — medlineplus.gov

MEDLINEPlus Drug Information — www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation.html

MEDLINEPlus Medical Dictionary — www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/mplusdictionary.html

NIH Clinical Alerts and Advisories — www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/alerts/clinical_alerts.html

NIH Bioethics Resources on the Web — www.nih.gov/sigs/bioethics

PDR drug information and news — www.pdr.net/HomePage_template.jsp

PubMed — www.ncbi.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi

PubMed journals database — www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov:80/entrez/query.fcgi?db=journals

THOMAS U.S. legislative information — thomas.loc.gov

World Health Organizations research tools links, including statistics and WHO publications database — www.who.int/research/en

World Health Organization websites — www.who.int/entity/en



Funding

Resources

Center for Health Research — healthresearch.berkeley.edu/grants

Council on Foundations member websites — www.cof.org/index.cfm?containerid=95

The Foundation Center — fdncenter.org

The Foundation Center grantmaker listings — fdncenter.org/funders/grantmaker

Illinois Researcher Information Service (IRIS) — www.library.uiuc.edu/iris

UC Berkeley Sponsored Projects Office — www.spo.berkeley.edu

UC Berkeley Research Administration and Compliance — rac.berkeley.edu

Research Advocate newsletter — rac.berkeley.edu/ra/list.html

Government Sources

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality — www.ahrq.gov/fund/grantix.htm

CDC Funding Opportunities — www.cdc.gov/funding.htm

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Health Resources and

Services Administration — www.hrsa.gov/grants

DHHS GrantsNet — www.dhhs.gov/grantsnet/grantinfo.htm

HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau — www.mchb.hrsa.gov/grants

NIH Office of Extramural Research Grants Home Page — grants1.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm

NIH Bioethics Resources on the Web — www.nih.gov/sigs/bioethics/withinnih.html#funding

NIH National Institute of Child Health & Human Development — www.nichd.nih.gov/funding/funding.htm

NIH National Institute of Mental Health — www.nimh.nih.gov/grants

NIH National Institute on Aging — www.nia.nih.gov/funding

National Science Foundation — www.nsf.gov/home/menus/funding.htm

University of California Special Research Programs — www.ucop.edu/srphome

Private Sources

California HealthCare Foundation — www.chcf.org

Commonwealth Fund — www.cmwf.org

The Foundation Center — fdncenter.org

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation — www.gatesfoundation.org

Global Forum for Health Research — www.globalforumhealth.org

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis & Malaria — www.globalfundatm.org

The John A. Hartford Foundation — www.jhartfound.org

W.K. Kellogg Foundation — www.wkkf.org

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation — www.macfound.org

The Pew Charitable Trusts — www.pewtrusts.com

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation — www.rwjf.org

The Rockefeller Foundation — www.rockfound.org

Soros Foundations Network and Open Society Institute — www.soros.org

Health Care News

Alternative Health News Online — www.altmedicine.com
 American Health Line — rwjf.org/news/ahlnews.jhtml
 American Medical News — www.ama-assn.org/public/journals/amnews/amnews.htm
 BioMedNet — www.bmn.com
 bizjournals health care news — www.bizjournals.com/industries/health_care
 California HealthCare Foundation — www.chcf.org
 California Medical Association — www.calphys.org
 California Nurses Association — www.calnurse.org
 CenterWatch Clinical Trials Listing Service — www.centerwatch.com/professional/ind_news.html
 Eurekalert — www.eurekalert.org
 Global Health Council Global Health News — globalhealth.org/news
 Center for Advancement of Health Health Behavior News Service — www.cfah.org/hbns/current.cfm
 Health Intelligence Network — www.hin.com
 HealthLeaders — www.healthleaders.com
 HospitalConnect — www.hospitalconnect.com
 HIV InSite — hivinsite.ucsf.edu
 iHealthBeat — ihealthbeat.com
 Kaiser Family Foundation — www.kaisernetwork.org
 Los Angeles Times health articles — www.latimes.com/features/health
 Medical DeviceLink — www.device-link.com
 Medscape — www.medscape.com
 CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) — www.cdc.gov/mmwr
 New Scientist — www.newscientist.com
 New York Times health articles — www.nytimes.com/pages/health
 pharmiweb.com — www.pharmiweb.com
 PDR drug alerts and news — www.pdr.net/

[drug_alerts/Drug_Alerts.jsp](#)
 Sacramento Bee medical articles — www.sacbee.com/content/news/medical
 SFGate.com health stories — sfgate.com/health
 Science.bio.org — science.bio.org/all.news.html
 ScienceDaily — www.sciencedaily.com
synergy — healthresearch.berkeley.edu/synergy
 Wired med-tech news — www.wired.com/news/medtech
 World Health Organization — www.who.int
 Yahoo! health news — news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=index&cid=751



Email Newsletters

Alternative Health News Online — www.altmedicine.com
 American Medical News — www.ama-assn.org/public/journals/amnews/annalert.htm
 BioMedNet — update.bmn.com/alerts
 Bizjournal's industry-specific email updates — www.bizjournals.com/account/modify_email_subs
 British Medical Journal email alerts — bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/alerts/customalert
 California HealthCare Foundation — www.chcf.org
 Commonwealth Fund — www.cmwf.org/email_alert/login.asp?link=10
 The Foundation Center — fdncenter.org/newsletters
 Health Intelligence Network — www.hin.com
 HealthLeaders — www.healthleaders.com
 iHealthBeat — ihealthbeat.com
 Kaiser Family Foundation — profile.kff.org/profile

- Medscape — www.medscape.com
- MedWatch — www.fda.gov/medwatch/elist.htm
- New Scientist — www.newscientist.com
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation — www.rwjf.org/global/subscribeEmail.jsp
- Yahoo! keyword news alert — alerts.yahoo.com/config/edit_notification?t=n&s=u&done=/config/set_notification%3f.t=n



Health Links & Resources

- Center for Community Health — socrates.berkeley.edu/~jmm716/Internet_Resources.html
- Center for Health Research — healthresearch.berkeley.edu/resources
- Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging — www.ceda.berkeley.edu/links.html
- Health Affairs: The Policy Journal of the Health Sphere — www.healthaffairs.org/1650_links.php
- Institute for Global Health — www.igh.ucsf.edu/resources_links
- Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law — www.jhpl.org/links
- Mayo Clinic Internet Resources — www.mayoclinic.org/healthinfo/resources.html
- Medical Device Manufacturers Association — www.medicaldevices.org/public/links
- UCSF Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics — www.epibiostat.ucsf.edu/general/links
- University of Chicago Center on Demographics and Economics of Aging — www.src.uchicago.edu/coa/links.html
- WWW Virtual Library List of Public Health Journals — www.ldb.org/vl/top/topjour.htm

Health-Related Journals

- Acumen Journal of Life Sciences — www.acumenjournal.com
- Aging Today (newspaper of the American Society on Aging) — www.agingtoday.org
- The American Journal of Bioethics — bioethics.net
- American Journal of Managed Care — www.ajmc.com
- American Journal of Public Health — www.ajph.org
- Business & Health Institute — www.businessandhealth.com/be_core/b/index.jsp
- British Medical Journal — bmj.bmjournals.com
- Health Affairs: The Policy Journal of the Health Sphere — healthaffairs.org
- Health Policy and Planning Journal — heapol.oupjournals.org
- Inquiry: The Journal of Health Care Organization, Provision and Financing — www.inquiryjournal.org
- International Journal for Quality in Health Care — intqhc.oupjournals.org
- Journal of the American Medical Association — jama.ama-assn.org
- Journal of Urban Health — jurban.oupjournals.org
- Managed Care Magazine — www.managedcaremag.com
- The Milbank Quarterly: A Journal of Public Health and Health Care Policy — www.milbank.org/quarterly.html
- The New England Journal of Medicine — content.nejm.org
- Public Health Reports Journal — phr.oupjournals.org
- Western Journal of Medicine — www.ewjm.com

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Member Spotlight: David A. Levine The Economics of Good Health



Story by L. Rochelle Roniger; photo by Patt Bagdon

Business professor David Levine says his office used to look rather dull. With an approximately 10-foot-long colorful papier-mâché dragon suspended across the ceiling, a slide show of his family looping on his computer screen, an assortment of Koosh balls on the book shelves, and a bicycle he uses for commuting thrown into the current mix, this seems hard to believe.

Levine says he rescued the dragon, which had been made by his younger son's preschool class to celebrate the Chinese New Year, from the fate of the trash, in an effort to enliven his office. "Not everyone has to like it, but they do have to agree that it isn't bland," he says, relaxing at his desk in khaki shorts on a hot September day.

Levine worked in computer science following college, but later turned his focus to economics. The computer science field was progressing rapidly, he says, so he took the less obvious route and turned his attention to "the dismal science,"

which he had studied, along with computer science, as an undergraduate at Cal. "Economics had problems that were harder to solve," Levine says.

Much of Levine's work "has focused on more traditional business school research—why bad management is so common and why some people make more money than others." He has also been examining the effects of age, race, and gender diversity on the workplace.

Since 1998 Levine has also been studying the effects of financial and social capital on the health of children, which, as he explains, is "what causes children to be better taken care of." Along with fellow CHR member Paul Gertler (Business and Public Health), he has been looking at the effects of both types of capital on children in Indonesia after their parents become sick.

"It is important to have financial assets," Levine says their research has determined. Social capital, on the other hand, did not have the same protective effect on the health and education of children, he says.

One study conducted by Levine and Gertler, as well as Enrico Moretti, assistant professor of economics at UCLA, confirmed the importance of access to financial institutions for Indonesian families following a significant health reduction of a head of household or spouse. The researchers concluded that government promotion of microfinance and micro-savings

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*"My job is to pick the most important questions and to look at them....
It's the best job in the world."*

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the study of aging, and participatory action research with the disability community. She is also a board member for the Board of Scientific Advisors, Buck Center for Research and Aging, the National Advisory Board, AARP Grandparent Information Center, and the National Advisory Board, Community Health Scholars Program.

Kamran Nayeri (UC DATA; knayeri@uclink.berkeley.edu) works on health care and welfare policy research projects at UC DATA/Survey Research Center. His recent and current research has included an examination of the changes in the Cuban health care system since the collapse of the Soviet Union—for which, with fellow CHR member Jane Mauldon, he received a 2002 CHR Small Research Grant; a study of nurses' perception of union efforts to improve work processes and quality of care; and a review of immunization rates of preschool children in poverty. Another project will provide an overview of California's immigrant families in the 1990s, with special focus on changes in patterns of participation in public assistance programs.

Nayeri was recently awarded a 2003 CHR Small Research Grant to initiate and implement a collaboration between UC Berkeley and the institute which holds all Cuban public use health care data, resulting in the transfer of some of these data files to UC DATA. All acquired data will subsequently be archived and their availability publicized in the UC community. UC DATA is UC Berkeley's principal archive of computerized social science and health statistics information. Its holdings are primarily machine-readable datasets, although many of its materials, such as codebooks or census reports, are available for browsing at its Berkeley offices.

Jeff Oxendine (Public Health; oxendine@uclink.berkeley.edu) is the executive director of the Center for Public Health Practice, which promotes individual and community health by working with students, faculty, and practitioners to achieve excellence in practice. He also serves as field supervisor for students in the health policy and management and maternal and child health programs in the School of Public Health. He is also the founder of Health Career Connection, a non-profit organization that assists students to discover and develop public health careers, and the Healthcare Change Institute, which is devoted to assisting practitioners to more effectively implement organizational change.

Karlene Roberts (Haas; karlene@haas.berkeley.edu) is a professor in the Haas Organizational Behavior and Industrial Relations Group. Her expertise is on the management of organizations and systems in which error can have catastrophic consequences. Results of this research have been applied in U.S. Navy aircraft carrier operations, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the medical industry, among others. She is a member of several local and national organizations dedicated to patient safety, in addition to the Advisory Panel for Human and Organizational Risk Management, Engineering for Complex Systems Program, National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA). She received a grant: "Development of Situational Awareness in High Reliability Organizations" from the National Science Foundation for the period 2001-2004.

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Andrew Scharlach (Social Welfare; scharlac@uclink.berkeley.edu) holds the Eugene and Rose Kleiner Chair in Aging and directs the Gerontology specialization in the School of Social Welfare. He also serves as director of the Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services, which conducts research designed to inform development of innovative and effective services for older adults. In addition, Dr. Scharlach serves on the California Commission on Aging, the state's principal advocacy and advisory body on the needs of senior citizens. His research interests include aging; inter-generational relationships; caregiving; work/family issues; death, dying, and bereavement; long-term care policies, programs, and services.

Stephen Shortell (Public Health; shortell@uclink.berkeley.edu) is the former chair of the Center for Health Research, and assumed the duties of Dean of the School of Public Health last summer. He is the Blue Cross of California Distinguished Professor of Health Policy & Management and Professor of Organizational Behavior. His research focuses on strategy, structure, and performance of health care systems; strategy change and adaptation; organizational performance; organizational and managerial correlates of continuous quality improvement and health care outcomes; empirical analysis of physician-organizational relationship; and evaluation of community health demonstration programs. He also serves as a member of the Governing Council of the Institute of Medicine, the National Academy of Sciences; the Advisory Committee of the Hospice of the North Shore (Chicago IL), and the Institute of Medicine Committee, "Designing the 21st Century Health System."

Sources for this story include the websites of the California Census Research Data Center (www.ccrdc.ucla.edu), the Institute of European Studies (ies.berkeley.edu), the Institute for Industrial Relations (www.iir.berkeley.edu), and the Institute for Business and Economic Research (iber.berkeley.edu).

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programs—in addition to other programs, such as subsidies and health and disability insurance—may be helpful in assisting families in weathering adverse health shocks.

Levine is also studying the effects of industrialization on the health of children in Indonesia and is expanding the project to examine the same issue in Mexico and China.

Outside of his work, Levine took his first course at UC Berkeley as a professor earlier this year, enrolling in improvisational drama. "It's something that I love but for which I have no talent," he says. He hasn't yet determined what his next class will be.

He does, however, have more developed ideas about his future health and economics research. Levine says he might like to combine his expertise in these areas to think about ideal ways to organize a health care system.

"My job is to pick the most important questions and to look at them," he says. "Give or take the state budget crisis, it's the best job in the world."

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Non-Profit Org.
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California

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and abstracts published in health care journals, such as the *American Journal of Public Health*, *The Milbank Quarterly*, and the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. The popular PubMed journal article database, provided by the National Library of Medicine, offers a convenient way to search for and read abstracts from hundreds of journals worldwide.

Other helpful online health care research resources are government sites that provide data and statistics, links to layers of government programs and divisions, and grant information. For example, the website for the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality provides data and survey information, as well as background on applying for grants. The National Institutes of Health's web pages are filled with resources on health topics and grants, links to various divisions, and research tools, such as a medical dictionary and drug information.

Additionally, the Internet contains sites for obtaining research funds—such as IRIS (the Illinois Researcher Information Service) and The Foundation Center—that include funding source databases and links to other grant resources. Numerous foundations that provide grants for health care research—such as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Global Forum for Health Research—have virtual homes on the Internet.

If you're seeking additional Internet signposts, several organizations—such as the Institute for Global Health at UCSF and the *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*—host pages with links to online health news, as well as policy, data, research, and funding information.

The truth is out there—and with our handy **Internet Resource Guide**, you'll be sure to find it!

