Udall Center Fellows Selected for 2001-2002

Starting with the 1990-91 academic year, the Center initiated a scholars-in-residence program to allow The University of Arizona (UA) faculty members and researchers, and occasionally scholars from outside the UA, to spend a semester at the Center engaging in public policy research. Fellows for 2001-2002 were recently selected.

In fall 2001, Linda T. Darling, associate professor of history, will complete a manuscript chapter discussing the relevancy of indigenous relationships between Middle Eastern governments and their peoples in contemporary policymaking. J.E. de Steiguer, professor and chair of the Watershed Program in the School of Renewable Natural Resources, will develop a framework for establishing public policy priorities in order to mitigate potential for global environmental change damage to natural resources located on federal lands of the American West.

During the spring semester, Suzanne Dovi, assistant professor of political science, will evaluate the legitimacy of public policy advocates and, specifically, will analyze the accountability between advocates and historically disadvantaged groups. Linda Green, assistant professor of anthropology, works on issues of inequality in healthcare policy and during her fellowship will compile preliminary data research on tuberculosis cases among Alaska Natives.

Beth Mitchneck, associate professor of geography and regional development, also selected as a Udall Center Fellow, will defer this award to assume her new position as associate dean for academic affairs, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Including the 2001-2002 Fellows, 85 UA faculty members and five non-UA scholars have participated in this program. To celebrate the first dozen years of Udall Center Fellows scholarship, a report detailing the program, including a bibliography of works written and researched by the Fellows during their residency, is forthcoming from the Center in fall 2001.

Lillian S. Fisher Prize

Winners for 2001

The Center is pleased to announce two winners of the 2001 Lillian S. Fisher Prize in Environmental Law and Public Policy. Yakini Shakir's essay on "A Case Study of Environmental Justice in Convent, Louisiana: You Should Know This" and Christopher Basilevac's essay on "Understanding the Endangered Species Act: A Case Study of the Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl in Arizona" are this year's winning entries. Each student will win a stipend of $500.00.

Each spring, students in The University of Arizona (UA) College of Law are eligible to submit an essay discussing an environmental law or public policy issue for the Fisher prize, which is judged by a panel of UA faculty members.

Conference to Address Native Nations and Natural Resources

“Building Native Nations: Environment, Natural Resources, and Governance” will be held in Tucson, Arizona, December 11-13, 2001. Sponsored by the Udall Center and the Morris K. Udall Foundation, this conference will address themes of institution building, comanagement issues, traditional knowledge, and western science, among others.

Now in the planning stages, the Center will post information about this conference on its Web site as the program crystallizes. Inquiries can be directed to Joan Timeche at timechej@email.arizona.edu or at (520) 884-4393.
In May, the Udall Center released a report summarizing its public outreach work in the Upper San Pedro River Basin, in both Sonora, Mexico, and Arizona. This report, “Views from the Upper San Pedro River Basin: Local Perspectives of Water Issues,” presents a preliminary assessment of public perspectives on water management, policy, and research in the basin, based on interviews, surveys, and public meetings conducted between April 1998 and December 2000. The overall goal is to facilitate information exchange and sharing. The assessment was made possible with funding from the Ford Foundation, National Science Foundation Science and Engineering Foundation, and Riparian Area the views of those who live, work, and conduct research in the basin.

Working with local governments, federal agencies, and interested citizens, Udall Center staff began by assessing basin residents’ views on water issues of concern, preferred water policy options, and sources of water-related information. The Center then compiled the results of its ongoing outreach related to water issues and water policy on the U.S. side of the basin. The section of the report summarizing Mexican residents’ views is significant because it represents the first time many of the Mexican residents of the basin have been asked to share their opinions on water issues. Approximately 300 Mexicans and over 500 U.S. residents provided input to this report.

To identify the hydrologic information necessary to develop water policy options, the Udall Center interviewed individuals on both sides of the border with extensive experience or expertise in water research, water policy, or water management. The report provides a basis for directing future research in the basin. To request a copy of this publication, contact Jen McCormack at jenmack@email.arizona.edu or at (520) 884-4393.

CENTER STAFF GROWS...

Anne Browning-Aiken has joined the Center as a postdoctoral fellow, where she works with Robert Varady on projects related to the Udall Center’s U.S.-Mexico border and environmental and natural resources programs. Browning-Aiken completed her doctoral program in cultural anthropology in December 2000; her dissertation assessed the impact of economic policy changes on the lives of people in the mining community of Cananea, Sonora.

Denise Moreno has been hired as a program assistant at the Center. She assists Anne Browning-Aiken with the Center’s outreach efforts in the San Pedro River Basin and is working on binational communication studies with Robert Merideth. Moreno graduated with both a B.S. degree in environmental science and a B.A. degree in Spanish from Northern Arizona University in December 2000.

Stephanie Joseph is a new administrative assistant at the Udall Center, where she coordinates the reception area, oversees the undergraduate assistants, and maintains the Center’s database system, among other responsibilities. She is a member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and was born in Phoenix and raised on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. She has a bachelor’s degree in Russian and Soviet Studies from the UA and will pursue graduate work in Russian & Slavic languages starting with the fall 2001 semester.

Monica Cortes has joined the Center staff as an accounting associate. Working closely with Donna Sloan, she will manage payroll operations and general accounting procedures, as well as budget monitoring. Cortes comes to the Center with extensive university experience, including two years of administrative work with the UA police department.

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The Udall Center (UC) invites Update readers to log on to its recently redesigned and widely expanded Web site at udallcenter.arizona.edu. There you will find pages on each of the Center’s program areas; a listing of its publications, many of which are available for site users to download; and a “What’s New” listing that announces everything from conference information to job openings.

From the Center’s Web site, you can explore the four UC-sponsored Web sites: Arizona Common Ground Roundtable, Aurora Partnership, Native Nations Institute, and San Pedro Basin Projects—all of which are maintained by the Center.

Arizona Common Ground Roundtable: udallcenter.arizona.edu/commonground/home.html
Includes Roundtable papers, including “Why Are Arizona’s Wide Open Spaces Disappearing? What Can Be Done About It? An Overview of the Issues” and “Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) and PDR Programs: An Overview,” as well as additional links and resources and a report on the Roundtable’s first year of activity.

Aurora Partnership: www.aurorapartnership.org
Focuses on the use of spatial decision-support technology for place-based decisionmaking. Review the Partnership’s archived newsletter, case studies, resources, a bibliography, notices of Partnership events, and selected links to relevant Web sites.

Native Nations Institute: udallcenter.arizona.edu/nativenations/home.html
Details the program components of the recently-established joint enterprise of the Udall Center, the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at Harvard University, and the Morris K. Udall Foundation, which aims to serve as a self-governance resource to Native Nations.

San Pedro River Basin Projects: udallcenter.arizona.edu/sanpedro/home.html
Concentrates on both northeastern Sonora, Mexico, and southeastern Arizona, and seeks to improve communication about water management and water policy. Among the resources on this site is a section on Dialogue San Pedro, archives of San Pedro News & Comment, and a map of the basin.

Innovative Approaches to the Environmental Species Act

The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies project, an effort facilitated by the Udall Center, recently held two national meetings with representatives from state and federal agencies. Participants in these forums discussed new, proactive approaches to species conservation. Specifically, the dialogues aimed to help communities protect species prior to crises. These efforts will complement rather than replace the current “emergency room” approaches as characterized by the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

This summer, the Center is facilitating six regional workshops with multiple stakeholders across the United States to test and refine the ideas from two previously held national workshops. Additionally, the development of a state conservation agreement approach is in progress; this would enable cross-jurisdictional conservation agreements and a broader consideration for the ecological systems supporting species at risk. A synthesis of the meetings will be available in September 2001. For more information contact Mette Brogden at metteb@u.arizona.edu or at (520) 884-4393.
Other Recent Publications
by the Udall Center and Staff

Primer on Climatic Variability and Change in the Southwest, by Robert Merideth. 28 pp., ISBN 1-931143-12-9. Available at no cost in printed version; PDF version available at udallcenter.arizona.edu/primer/intro.html.

The primer is aimed at a range of decisionmakers, stakeholders, and other interested citizens, and provides, in nontechnical language, answers to a number of questions about the Southwest's past, present, and future climate.


This paper offers an overview of issues, policies, and approaches to the environmental restoration of the Lower Colorado River Basin and Delta. The observations and analysis are based on a symposium and workshop held in Riverside, California, Sept. 29 to Oct. 2, 2000. The binational Riverside event brought together stakeholders representing most of the relevant interests to discuss perceived problems and solutions to seven topics: historical policy and legal matters, the ecological connectivity of the Colorado River and Delta, the allocation and valuation of the waters of the Colorado River, community and cultural concerns relating to the Delta region, water quality, wildlife conservation, and future directions for the Delta and Upper Sea of Cortés.


To obtain these publications, contact Jen McCormack at jenmack@email.arizona.edu or Kathleen Veslany at veslany@email.arizona.edu or (520) 884-4393.

Udall Center Update is published periodically by the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at The University of Arizona. The Center's areas of focus are environmental conflict resolution, U.S.-Mexico border environmental issues, environmental policy in the Southwest, and American Indian economic development and self-governance policy.

Udall Center Update
No. 14, July 2001
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