Fresh Faces
SPEA presents our most recent faculty appointments

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Jamie Levine Daniel joined SPEA as an assistant professor after completing her Ph.D. at Ohio State University’s John Glenn College of Public Affairs. After earning her bachelor’s in international relations and Jewish Studies from American University, Jamie spent five years working as a program associate with the international youth organization BBYO, Inc. She then spent a year doing volunteer work in Turkey before getting her MBA from the Fisher College of Business at Ohio State. Jamie later worked as a Freelance Strategy Consultant and researched health and labor trends for Fremont, Ohio’s federally qualified health center, among other projects. Jamie has also provided consultation to the Global Initiatives Partnership between between the Joint Distribution Committee, a humanitarian assistance organization, and BBYO. At Ohio State, Jamie taught classes on public policy analysis and leadership in public and nonprofit sectors and has led seminars for high school internship programs. Jamie is the recipient of several awards and fellowships and was most recently named a 2014 Hubert Human Service Fellow.
Timothy Dickinson is a visiting assistant professor at SPEA. His research interests include the impact of communication on decision-making and the deterrence process among offenders in real-life settings and circumstances. His latest research, published in the *British Journal of Criminology*, examined the relationship between gossip, decision-making, and deterrence among a group of active drug dealers. Timothy earned his master’s and bachelor’s degrees in criminology and criminal justice, both from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He has experience lecturing on the prevalence and control of crime at the community level, typological approaches to studying crime, and research methods. He is the recipient of a $24,000 grant for a project that studied conflict and social control among active drug dealers.
Vladimir Fleurimond is a visiting assistant professor at SPEA. He is also a research fellow for SPEA’s Political Economy and Environmental Research initiative, which is housed in SPEA and aims to promote scholarly research on politics related to markets and entrepreneurship, voluntarism, or regulation. After earning a bachelor’s degree in economics from Florida International University, Vladimir earned a master’s degree in economics from Michigan State University and recently received his Ph.D. in economics from Georgia State University. His research interests include public finance, economics of education, political economy, and applied microeconomics. Recent research has examined the impact of alternative education programs on juvenile crime, as well as the links between direct democracy, redistribution and income inequality throughout the U.S., and the state of fiscal spillovers between counties in California. Fluent in English, French, and Spanish, Vladimir has taught economics courses at Miami Dade College.
After teaching governmental and nonprofit accounting as an adjunct instructor for more than five years, Vickie Fry joined SPEA full-time as a lecturer. She earned her bachelor’s degree in accounting from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University and has been a certified public accountant since 2001. Her professional experience spans the private and nonprofit sectors and includes past positions with BKD, LLP and Stone Belt Arc, Inc. Since 2005, Vickie has held various positions within Indiana University’s Financial Management Services Office, where she was most recently the University Tax Manager. She has also taught accounting and financial management courses through Ivy Tech Community College and Indiana University’s Lifelong Learning program.
Brad Fulton joined SPEA as an assistant professor. He earned his master’s and Ph.D. in sociology from Duke University. He also holds a master’s in social science from the University of Chicago and a bachelor’s in industrial engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. Brad’s research examines the consequences of social diversity within community-based organizations, specifically how internally diverse organizations manage social differences and how they can leverage those differences to increase their effectiveness. Brad’s research has been published in journals including the *American Sociological Review* and the *American Journal of Health Promotion*, as well as in major media outlets like *The Washington Post*, *Huffington Post*, and *New York Magazine*. He has earned awards from the Academy of Management, American Sociological Association, American Political Science Association, and the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action. He recently coauthored *A Shared Future: Faith-Based Organizing for Racial Equity and Ethical Democracy* (University of Chicago Press 2015).
Jeff Gruenewald joined SPEA as an assistant professor. After graduating with bachelor’s and master’s degrees in criminal justice from Indiana University Bloomington, Jeff went on to earn a Ph.D. in criminal justice from Michigan State University. He has taught as an assistant professor at Florida International University and more recently at the University of Arkansas. He has taught graduate and undergraduate courses on terrorism and homeland security, hate crimes and extremism, policing, and other criminal justice topics. A widely published scholar on the topics of terrorism and hate crimes, Jeff has served as a co-investigator on a $1.6 million research project on terrorism and extremist crimes for the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, a U.S. Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence. He is currently a co-investigator on a project examining patterns of terrorists’ behaviors funded by the National Institute of Justice. Jeff is a member of several professional associations, including the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and the American Society of Criminology.
Alex Hollingsworth joined SPEA as an assistant professor. He recently completed his Ph.D. in economics at the University of Arizona, where he also earned a master’s in economics. At the undergraduate level, Alex studied quantitative economics and diplomacy and foreign affairs at Miami University. Alex studies health economics, industrial organization, and economic history. His most recent research focuses on how access to retail health clinics affects unnecessary visits to nearby emergency departments. He found that the savings associated with diverting expensive emergency department treatment to less costly retail clinics could be conservatively estimated at $88 million in 2012 alone. He is currently working on two projects. The first involves studying the role of medical education in the rise of the modern hospital, focusing on the first half of the twentieth century. The second looks at the health and economic consequences of energy policy spillovers, specifically negative leakage due to renewable portfolio standards.
Sara Johnson is the Director of Executive Education at SPEA. The Executive Education program partners with employers throughout the country to provide graduate-level degrees, certificates, and non-credit leadership training. As part of her role as clinical assistant professor, Sara teaches graduate and Executive Education courses. Sara holds a bachelor’s degree in health services management from the IU School of Medicine as well as a master of health administration from SPEA. Her areas of expertise include the healthcare industry, organizational behavior and development, human resources, nonprofit leadership and board development, and strategic planning. A recipient of the IUPUI Spirit of Philanthropy Award, Sara is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and currently serves the college as the Indiana Regent. Prior to joining SPEA, Sara taught graduate and undergraduate courses at the Fairbanks School of Public Health at IUPUI and served as the school’s Director of Undergraduate Programs.
David Konisky joined SPEA as an associate professor from the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University, where he was an associate professor of public policy. Previously, he was an assistant professor at the Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs at the University of Missouri. David’s research focuses on American politics and public policy, with particular emphasis on regulation, environmental politics and policy, state politics, and public opinion. His research has been published in various journals, including the *American Journal of Political Science*, the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, and *Public Opinion Quarterly*. David has co-authored two books on environmental economics and policy and is the editor of a third: *Failed Promises: Evaluating the Federal Government’s Response to Environmental Justice* (MIT Press 2015). David earned his Ph.D. in political science at MIT. He also holds two master’s degrees from Yale University: one in environmental management and one in international relations. At the undergraduate level, he studied history and environmental studies at Washington University in St. Louis.
Mark M. Levin
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Mark Levin joined SPEA as a clinical associate professor with extensive professional and teaching experience in public management and urban policy. Mark has been the city administrator of Maryland Heights, Missouri, since 1985. He is also an active member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and has received many awards for his record of public service, including the ICMA’s 40 Year Service Award and the L.P. Cookingham Professional Award for Career Development. Most recently, Mark taught a proseminar in public administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UM-SL). He has also taught local government and public budgeting at UM-SL, Northern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University, St. Louis University, and Washington University in St. Louis. He has published articles on local government, community relations, and teaching. Mark earned his bachelor’s in education from Miami University and his MPA from Kent State University. He also attended a program for senior executives in state and local government at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.
Anthony Liu joined SPEA as an assistant professor. Previously, Anthony was a visiting assistant professor of economics at the Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business in China and a fellow at Resources for the Future in Washington, D.C. Anthony’s research interests include climate change policy and the environment in developing countries. Some of his recent work addresses carbon taxes and the unique properties that could make them attractive components of modern tax systems. He is also interested in pollution issues and the interactions between the environment and the economy in China, and he has studied large-scale water treatment infrastructure in China. Anthony earned his Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, San Diego. He earned a master’s in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara, after completing his bachelor’s in economics from Stanford University.
Xian Liu is a visiting assistant professor at SPEA whose research interests focus on environmental economics and policy, economics of regulation, political economy, and public policy analysis. His recent research examines the relationship between attitudes toward the environment and economic conditions and its affect toward voting behavior. After earning a bachelor’s in business from the University of Shanghai for Science and Technology, and his master’s from Brigham Young University, Xian earned a Ph.D. in agricultural and applied economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he also provided research assistance. Xian was recently a postdoctoral fellow at Tulane University’s Department of Economics and the Murphy Institute. He is the recipient of several awards, including the Fitzsimmons Award for outstanding Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Xian is a research fellow for SPEA’s Political Economy and Environmental Research initiative, which is housed in SPEA and aims to promote scholarly research on politics related to markets and entrepreneurship, voluntarism, or regulation.
Frank Nierzwicki is a clinical assistant professor at SPEA, where he has taught as an adjunct professor and visiting lecturer since 2003. Frank brings over 30 years of professional experience in local government and urban planning to the classroom. Frank’s professional interests include civil engagement at the state and local level; urban studies at the federal, state, and local levels; and community development and planning at the local level. Currently, he serves on the Executive Board of the American Planning Association–Indiana Chapter as the professional development officer. The Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association awarded his graduate capstone classes with the “Outstanding Student Project” designation in 2014 and 2015. Previously, Frank was a senior transportation planner with the Indiana Department of Transportation, manager in the planning department with the City of Bloomington, Indiana, and a planning director for the Town of Ellettsville, Indiana. Frank earned his MPA from SPEA in 1985 after completing his undergraduate studies in history at Valparaiso University.
Victoria Perez joined SPEA as an assistant professor. She recently earned her Ph.D. in managerial science and applied economics from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, where her dissertation focused on the effects of private managed care on Medicaid. She also holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from the University of Pennsylvania. Victoria’s research interests include privatization of public services, healthcare finance, and insurance economics. Her research has been published in *Health Economics* and the *International Journal of Services, Economics and Management*. She has also worked as a research assistant and programmer in the health policy division at Mathematica Policy Research.
Troy Riggs
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Troy Riggs joined SPEA as a clinical assistant professor. He is also the Director of Public Safety Outreach at the Indiana University Public Policy Institute, a research arm within SPEA that delivers unbiased and data-driven expert analysis to help public, private, and nonprofit sectors make important decisions. For three years, Riggs served as the Director of Public Safety for the City of Indianapolis, where he led a team of 3,200 employees and collaborated with community partners to reduce crime and improve quality of life. Prior to joining the Indianapolis Mayor’s Office, Riggs, a Louisville, Kentucky, native, was the Assistant City Manager for Public Health and Safety and Chief of Police in Corpus Christi, Texas. In 2003, Riggs worked as Chief of Staff for the Louisville Metro Police Department, leading several city units, including narcotics, homeland security, and bomb squad. Riggs has a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Louisville as well as an Executive Master of Business Administration from Sullivan University.
Amanda Rutherford joined SPEA as an assistant professor. She recently earned her Ph.D. in political science from Texas A&M University, where she concentrated on public administration, public policy, and race and ethnic politics. Her dissertation focused on politics, management, and performance in the context of higher education. Amanda earned her MPA from the University of Oklahoma, focusing on education policy. Her undergraduate work was also at the University of Oklahoma, where she studied advertising and marketing and supply chain management. Amanda’s research interests include managerial values and decision making, performance management, organization theory, representative bureaucracy, higher education policy, and research methodology. Her work has been published in various journals, including the American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, International Public Management Journal, and Public Administration. Amanda has also won numerous honors and awards, including the Junior Scholar Research Grant from the Paul A. Volcker Endowment for Public Service Research and Education.
Allison Schnable joined SPEA as an assistant professor. She recently earned her Ph.D. in sociology from Princeton University, where her dissertation explained how popular American notions of charity and social mobility are exported to the global South through small development NGOs. Allison also holds a master’s degree from the University of Chicago, and her undergraduate work was in political theory and social relations at Michigan State University. Allison’s research interests include globalization, NGOs, organizational behavior, nonprofit theory and management, philanthropy, development, and the sociology of religion. She has been the recipient of numerous fellowships and grants, including the Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship and the Lake Institute Dissertation Fellowship. Her work has been published in Social Problems, Sociology of Religion, Poetics, and highlighted in the Stanford Social Innovation Review. Prior to starting her doctoral program, Allison was a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal and a Presidential Management Fellow with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
Marlene Walk is an assistant professor at SPEA whose research interests focus on human resource management, the meaning of work, organizational change and volunteering, and volunteer management. Marlene earned a master’s degree from the School of Social Work and Health Care from the University of Applied Sciences and Arts in Hildesheim, Germany. She also earned a master’s in management in nonprofit organizations from the School of Business Management & Social Sciences at the University of Applied Sciences in Osnabrück, Germany. Before pursuing her Ph.D. in social welfare at the University of Pennsylvania, Marlene worked as a licensed social worker in Germany for three and a half years. As the recipient of several awards and fellowships, Marlene received the Emerging Scholar Award from the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organization and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) in 2013 and the Best Paper Based on a Dissertation Award from the Organization Development and Change division of the Academy of Management (AOM) in 2015.
Nikos Zirogiannis is an assistant scientist at SPEA, where he had been a visiting assistant professor since 2013. Nikos is a resource economist specializing in applied econometrics, time series analysis, and environmental economics and policy. His work focuses on statistical models that measure performance of public and nonprofit institutions, such as water utilities and public universities, over time. His environmental policy research explores factors that drive differences in shale gas regulations among states. Nikos has previously conducted work on cotton subsidies and their effects on Western African cotton producers, and he has examined the economic incentives of private homeowners to invest in wildfire prevention in the U.S. Great Basin region. Nikos holds a Ph.D. and master’s in resource economics from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He also has a master’s in environmental sustainability from the University of Edinburgh and a bachelor’s in business administration from Athens University of Economics and Business. He is a member of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association.