

ICPSR 4006

ICPSR Annual Reports

*Inter-university Consortium for Political
and Social Research*

Annual Report for 2007-2008

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New Directions

ICPSR is expanding in new directions to meet the needs of its diverse and growing community. Publication of this all-digital Annual Report signals these new directions and points to the need for responsiveness in our rapidly changing environment. Our accomplishments this past year, which include development of a new Strategic Plan and Mission Statement, reflect this theme of new directions and innovations. We invite you to review our progress in these new areas and to work with us as we move ahead in advancing social science research and instruction.

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Director & Chair Reports

From the Director

Myron Gutmann

ICPSR has had another outstanding year. We have continued to grow as an organization and to provide excellent service to our members and our sponsors. We've clarified our goals for the future in our new Strategic Plan. Our training and instructional accomplishments stand out as improvements on the past and pointers to the future. And this all-digital Annual Report demonstrates our commitment to new modes of communication and to using a bit less paper and saving more trees.

Elsewhere in this report we publish ICPSR's new Strategic Plan, a project that the ICPSR staff and Council worked on nearly all year. I'm proud of the Plan, with its five clearly stated strategic directions, and I'm especially proud of the new Mission Statement that says with brevity that ICPSR is an organization that provides leadership in its core areas of interest:

ICPSR provides leadership and training in data access, curation, and methods of analysis for a diverse and expanding social science research community.

The Strategic Plan helps the staff and Council think about future directions and measure whether we have succeeded in meeting our goals. With the new Web-based Strategic Plan we can track our progress and report to all of you about what we have accomplished.

Serving ICPSR's member institutions continues to be one of our top priorities. This year we reached and surpassed 650 members, a gain of 53 during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. In order to serve those members as effectively as possible, we continue to develop new ways to deliver the valuable data that ICPSR has been collecting since 1962. This year we introduced the Data-Driven Learning Guides that are housed within our Online Learning Center. Aimed at introductory courses in the social sciences, each of the Learning Guides is a detailed plan for working with and learning from quantitative data in the fields of sociology, social psychology, political science, and quantitative methods. We hope that everyone will try out the Online Learning Center and let us know how we can make it even better. The Learning Guides are but one example of new tools developed this year for our members who concentrate on undergraduate instruction. See the New Initiatives section of this report for other new tools and to see how we've broadened the collection.

The ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research was again a huge success. This year we tried out a new funding model for the Summer Program, and our new Director William Jacoby and his outstanding faculty enlarged and improved the curriculum. The result was record attendance and new ideas about how to broaden the Program further to ensure that we provide the best possible training to our community.

Finally, this electronic Annual Report signals ICPSR's continued commitment to find the most effective way to communicate with its many audiences. We hope that you'll find it useful, and that you'll let us know how we can improve this and other ways we communicate with you in the future.



From the Council Chair

Aletha C. Huston

When I joined the ICPSR Council in 2006, much of the activity in the organization was foreign to my usual academic activities. As a developmental psychologist, I was socialized in a research tradition emphasizing small-scale experiments, collecting one's own data, and observing behavior directly rather than relying on verbal reports. The disciplinary cultures in sociology, political science, and other social sciences whose members historically formed the core users of ICPSR differ from these traditions in several important ways including surveys emphasizing large, representative samples, distal sources of information, and public use of data.



In recent years, ICPSR has expanded its horizons to provide services to a wider range of disciplines, including my own. Two of the many data archives of particular interest to me are Child Care and Early Childhood Research Connections and the Minority Data Resource Center, both of which represent important new directions. The organization houses some major longitudinal studies of children's development, including the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Study of Early Child Care.

With more disciplines come additional challenges. For example, staff are thinking creatively about ways to incorporate biological information, visual images, and spatial representations. The organization is a leader in resolving the tension between protection of privacy for research participants and making the data as widely available as possible to all qualified users. It does an impressive job of anticipating and finding solutions for future needs in a world where technological changes move ever more rapidly.

ICPSR has long been a leader in training researchers in methods and statistics, filling a need that is increasing with the complexity, breadth, and depth of data. The Summer Program continues to flourish, with expansions to include state-of-the-art methods. At the same time, the organization has developed an Online Learning Center that promises to be a valuable resource for teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels, providing well-planned activities that include hands-on experience with real data.

My journey as Council member and Chair has been a wonderful learning experience as I have developed an increasing appreciation for the excellence, talent, and dedication at every level of this extraordinary organization. I am honored to chair a Council composed of people with wide-ranging expertise and experience in the many facets of ICPSR's activities. I feel especially privileged to be associated with the staff of the organization, each of whom has a wealth of knowledge along with a strong commitment to the goals of this unique organization.



Introduction

This is a particularly dynamic time in social science research. Boundaries between scientific domains are becoming increasingly porous, taking science in exciting new directions. Rapid-paced technology evolution requires us to think about digital content and tools in new ways. ICPSR must be poised to meet challenges quickly and to make contributions that advance research and learning. The ICPSR Strategic Plan lays out five strategic directions for ICPSR to pursue in coming years, along with specific strategies and initiatives.

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to introduce the ICPSR Strategic Plan to the broad ICPSR community. The Plan grew out of my conviction that, for ICPSR to continue to lead and to thrive in this increasingly complex world, we need a clear vision of where we are heading and a roadmap to guide our efforts.

ICPSR has a 50-year history of playing a pivotal role in the social sciences. To build on and extend that success, we need to think about leadership in new ways, and the Plan helps us do that. We were fortunate to have a wonderful team of collaborators who brought their varied perspectives to the process, and I thank them for their hard work. The team consulted widely to capture the best thinking of leaders in our field.

I invite you to read the Plan and to share your views. The Plan is intended as a responsive, living document that can adapt as our environment and our community needs change, so your ideas are important. We will of course report back to you as we make progress in reaching the goals embedded in the Plan.

—Myron Gutmann

MISSION STATEMENT

ICPSR provides leadership and training in data access, curation, and methods of analysis for a diverse and expanding social science research community.

Strategic Direction 1: Leadership Role

Through global leadership and strong partnerships, set standards for excellence in data curation and in the ethics of data access and protection for the social sciences and related disciplines.

Strategy A

Drive the development of next-generation tools and standards for data curation — the active management and enhancement of trusted digital resources across the life cycle.

Objective 1 Monitor, respond to, and participate in standards development

Objective 2 With partner archives, develop and integrate tools to address the data life cycle

Objective 3 Move ICPSR's storage management approach from file-based to repository-based in accordance with current trends and best practice

Strategy B

Create, model, and promote policies, procedures, and necessary technologies to enable access to social science research while protecting the rights of research participants.

Objective 1 Develop program and roadmap for next-generation access that furthers responsible secondary use across the lifecycle

Strategy C

Build effective partnerships with other data and technology innovators to help researchers integrate data and content located anywhere in the world.

Objective 1 Develop the means for identifying potential partners and managing relationships with them

Objective 2 Extend access to data internationally

Objective 3 Promote international federation of trusted social science digital repositories



Strategic Direction 2: Membership Value

Enhance the value of membership in ICPSR and attract new members by providing high-quality, innovative, and responsive services and products.

Strategy A

Identify and attract new kinds of members and new constituencies within member institutions and organizations.



Objective 1 Identify current activities and services that could be scaled down or phased out, freeing resources to implement new services and activities

Objective 2 Identify the universe of possible value propositions that would resonate with current members while attracting new types of members and further penetrating into low market share traditional segments

Strategy B

Design and deliver expanded services to members and their representatives, offering clear value and benefits.

Objective 1 Implement a system to continuously monitor users' and members' data needs, current use of/interaction with ICPSR resources, and needs and desires for future use/interaction

Objective 2 Implement a continuous and systematic review of competitive resources for the purposes of identifying threats to ICPSR's dominance and adapting competitive practices that successfully meet data user needs

Objective 3 Schedule periodic gatherings of various customer segments for the purpose of exploring evolving needs, identifying challenges to use of ICPSR resources, and generating new ideas for use

Objective 4 Establish practices that will ensure ICPSR's core competency and leadership in quality data dissemination is solidified and furthered

Strategy C

Develop a strong community that consists of ICPSR members and others in the broader world of education, science, and public policy.

Objective 1 Promote communication in and out of ICPSR and between members of the ICPSR community

Objective 2 Identify opportunities to gather members/potential constituencies to build and broaden the data user community while building ICPSR advocacy

Strategic Direction 3: Broadened Collections

Advance ICPSR's critical role in social science research by broadening the collection, conducting research in the emerging field of data science, and embedding primary social science research in the organization.

Strategy A

Promote new and emerging areas of research by developing the expertise, funding, technology, and timetable required to add data from those new areas to the ICPSR collection.



- Objective 1** Develop an analytical capacity to identify new and emerging research areas with data archiving needs
- Objective 2** Identify and contact leading PIs and sponsors, in order to develop ideas for new topical collections and obtain their support
- Objective 3** Increase the scope and value of the collection

Strategy B

Articulate and realize a research vision related to data science, which encompasses digital preservation, metadata, data integration, and dissemination.

- Objective 1** Identify important areas of potential research that mesh with ICPSR's strategic objectives
- Objective 2** Develop partnerships with research-focused units at the University of Michigan and elsewhere
- Objective 3** Create research projects that bring ICPSR data resources and researchers together with partner researchers

Strategy C

Strengthen ICPSR's commitment to basic and applied research that grows out of the dynamic expertise of the staff.

- Objective 1** Devise incentives and support structures for researchers
- Objective 2** Develop and implement a funding strategy to support research

Strategic Direction 4: Education Strength

Leverage the success of ICPSR's training programs and increase their impact by expanding the curriculum, broadening the faculty, and reaching new audiences.



Strategy A

Build on the Summer Program's excellence in quantitative methods through continued development of the traditional curriculum and expansion into areas that reflect ICPSR's evolving role and mission.

Objective 1 Refine course offerings in Bayesian methodology

Objective 2 Incorporate data science into the Summer Program curriculum

Objective 3 Explore expansion of the Summer Program offerings into new areas

Strategy B

Broaden the base of skilled faculty through increased recruitment, mentoring, and professional development programs to increase ICPSR's ability to provide instruction and educational services to wider audiences.

Objective 1 Expand networking activities

Objective 2 Identify current Summer Program participants as potential future Summer Program faculty

Objective 3 Actively promote the development of faculty at the University of Michigan and other institutions for Summer Program faculty

Strategy C

Extend the reach of ICPSR's training mission into new audiences, locations, and delivery mechanisms.

Objective 1 Expand training to new audiences

Objective 2 Expand training to new locations

Objective 3 Review potential to expand delivery mechanisms for Summer Program material

Strategic Direction 5: Resource Capacity

Invest in ICPSR's people, the systems they rely on, and their workplace environment to assure ICPSR's innovation and leadership in the future.

Strategy A

Foster a vibrant workplace culture that attracts, encourages, and rewards excellent people at every stage of their careers.

Objective 1 Improve transparency of career paths at ICPSR

Objective 2 Improve internal communications



Strategy B

Broaden ICPSR's commitment to diversity, within the organization and externally through our work.

Objective 1 Recruit and retain staff to ensure ICPSR has an outstanding staff that contributes to the broad diversity of our community

Strategy C

Empower ICPSR's staff by providing world-leading technologies and advanced workflow systems.

Objective 1 Improve technology training for ICPSR staff

Objective 2 Implement collaboration technology programs

Objective 3 Improve workflow management throughout the organization

Objective 4 Develop financial resources to maintain ICPSR's technology leadership

Strategy D

Strengthen ICPSR's sustainable financial model by diversifying its funding streams and exploring new options.

Objective 1 Continue analysis of challenges in ICPSR's business models and research new business opportunities to support ICPSR's long-term financial sustainability

New Initiatives

Online Learning Center (OLC)

Supporting Quantitative Literacy

ICPSR's Online Learning Center is designed to provide an effective and reliable means of integrating data into the undergraduate social science classroom. Intended especially for use in introductory-level substantive courses, the OLC resulted from discussions with instructors who were interested in bringing data into such courses but found it challenging with existing resources.

Specifically, instructors wanted the ability (1) to quickly locate relevant data that are easy to work with and effectively demonstrate the concepts, and (2) to customize materials to their own teaching approach and syllabus. Use of the OLC requires no additional software, so it helps faculty meet the goal of encouraging students to work with data early and often across the social science curriculum.

Teaching faculty designed, built, and tested OLC tools, including the Data-Driven Learning Guides. These guides are rich instructional resources aimed at teaching the core concepts of the social sciences across the disciplines of political science, sociology, social psychology, and quantitative methodology. In order to be useful to the widest audience, the focal topics are drawn from concepts that are included in standard textbooks in these areas.

Undergraduate instruction is an important new direction for ICPSR. Watch for further developments over the course of the next year.



Some of the OLC content developers:
DeAunderia Bryant, Frederique Laubepin
(front row), Amie Emens, Andrea Benjamin,
Michael Ybarra (back row).

New Initiatives

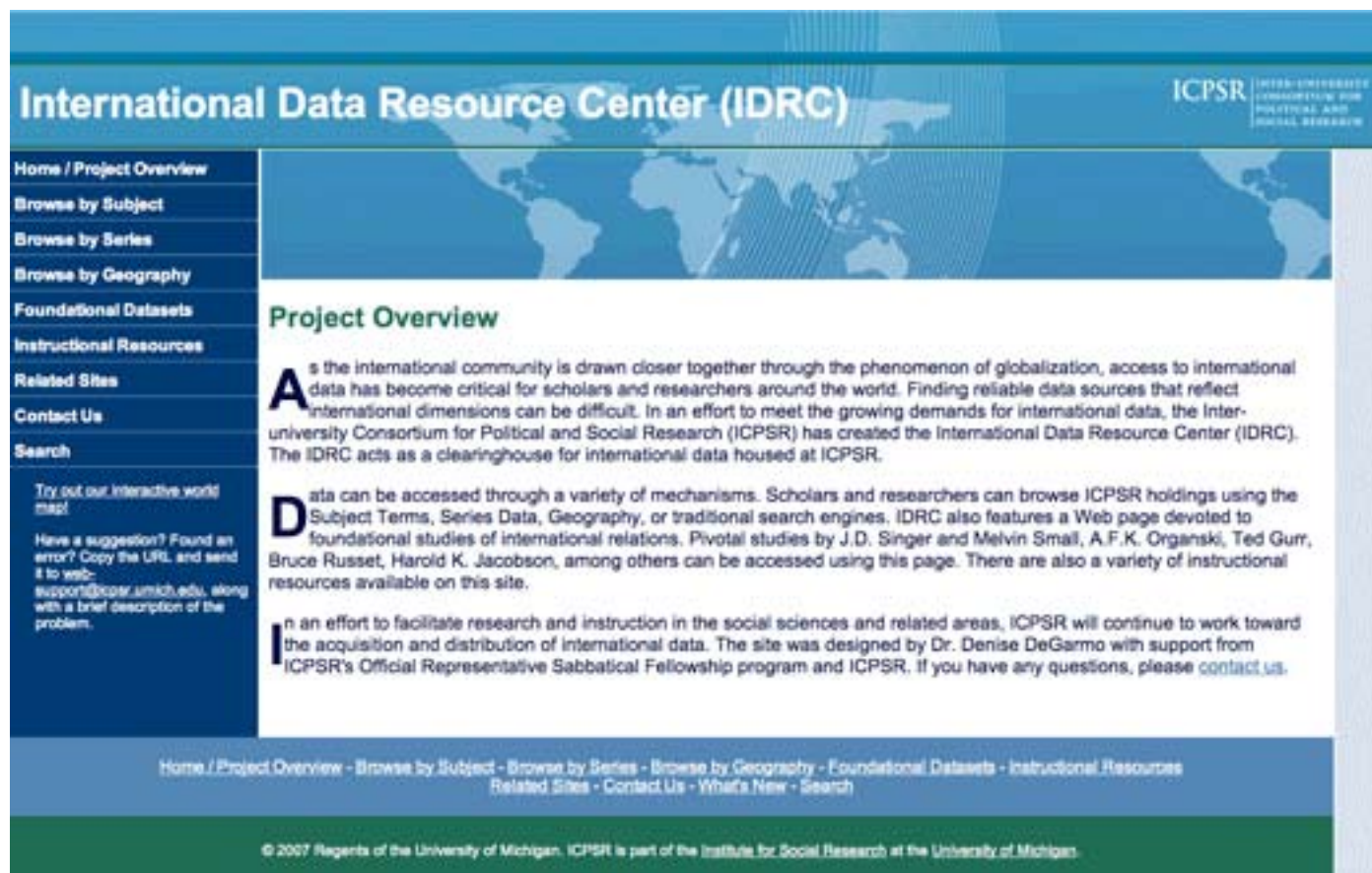
International Data Resource Center

Going Global

ICPSR launched the International Data Resource Center to meet the growing demands for international data. IDRC was created to serve as an entry point into ICPSR's wide array of international data holdings. Dr. Denise DeGarmo, Associate Professor of Political Science at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, developed the site while in residence as an ICPSR Official Representative Sabbatical Fellow.

IDRC covers a broad spectrum of subjects including conflict, economics, electoral systems and political behavior, the environment, health, human dimensions of international relations, public opinion, and international organizations. The Foundational Datasets page links to pivotal studies by notable scholars in the field of international studies. The Instructional Resources page is designed to help instructors introduce quantitative analyses based on international data into the classroom.

Offering an innovative map-based browsing interface, IDCR enables users to locate international data holdings by country, region, and continent by clicking on the desired area of the world. Additionally, IDRC provides a variety of search tools to help researchers easily access the data they are interested in.

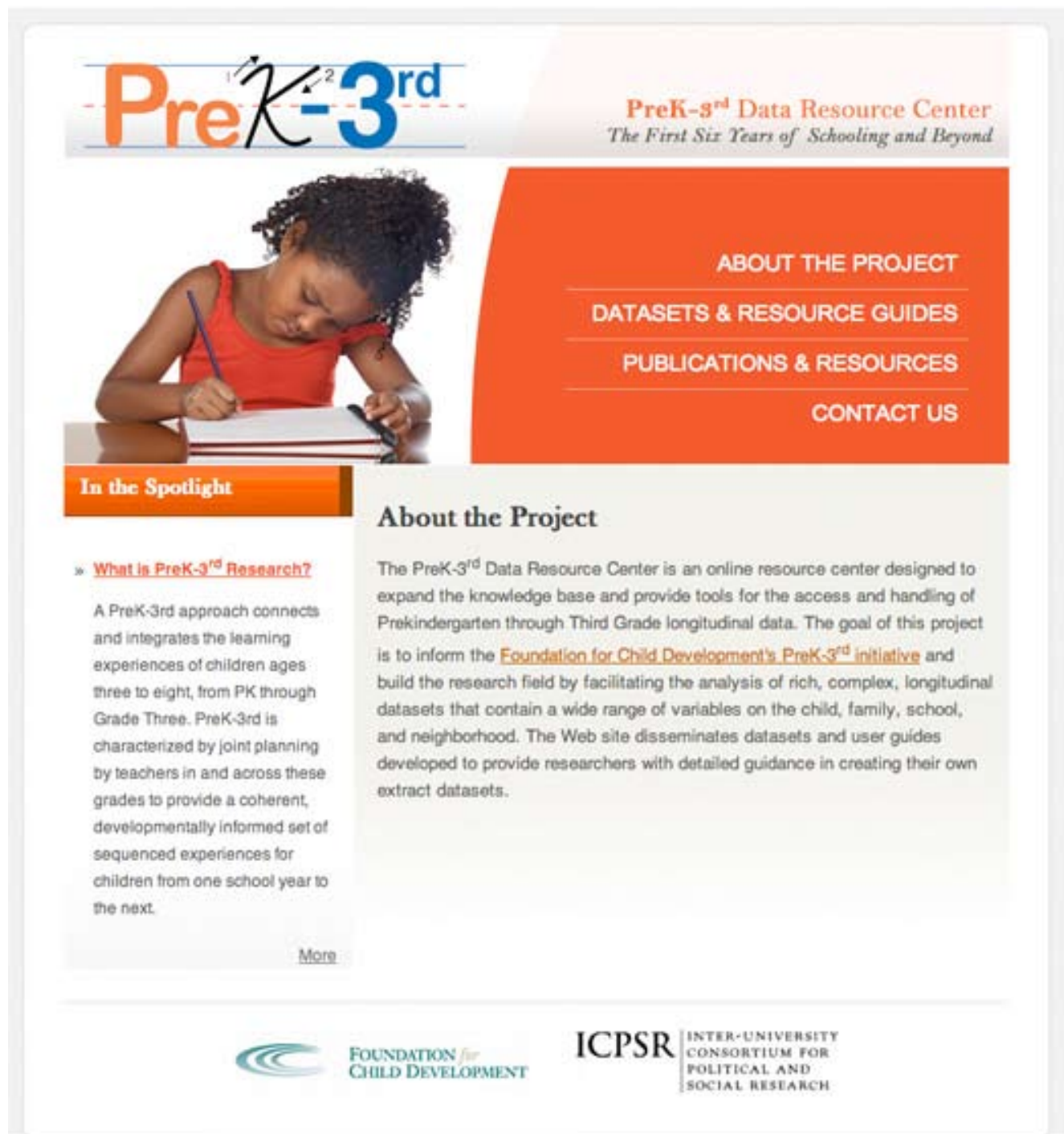


New Initiatives

Pre-K-3rd Data Resource Center

Facilitating Research

The PreK-3rd Data Resource Center is designed to provide tools to assist users in accessing and analyzing early childhood longitudinal data. The goal of this project is to support the Foundation for Child Development's PreK-3rd initiative and to build the research field by facilitating the use of rich, complex datasets that contain a wide range of variables on the child, family, school, and neighborhood. The Web site disseminates datasets and user guides developed to provide researchers with detailed guidance in creating their own extract datasets.



PreK-3rd
The First Six Years of Schooling and Beyond

ABOUT THE PROJECT

DATASETS & RESOURCE GUIDES

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES

CONTACT US

In the Spotlight


» **What is PreK-3rd Research?**

A PreK-3rd approach connects and integrates the learning experiences of children ages three to eight, from PK through Grade Three. PreK-3rd is characterized by joint planning by teachers in and across these grades to provide a coherent, developmentally informed set of sequenced experiences for children from one school year to the next.

[More](#)

About the Project

The PreK-3rd Data Resource Center is an online resource center designed to expand the knowledge base and provide tools for the access and handling of Prekindergarten through Third Grade longitudinal data. The goal of this project is to inform the [Foundation for Child Development's PreK-3rd initiative](#) and build the research field by facilitating the analysis of rich, complex, longitudinal datasets that contain a wide range of variables on the child, family, school, and neighborhood. The Web site disseminates datasets and user guides developed to provide researchers with detailed guidance in creating their own extract datasets.

 **FOUNDATION for CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

ICPSR INTER-UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

Educational Activities

2008 ICPSR Summer Program

Expanding the Scope

The ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research has been an ICPSR success story for 45 years. It offers a broad curriculum, high-quality instruction, excellent facilities, and a supportive environment for graduate students and faculty from a wide range of academic disciplines. The ICPSR Summer Program is recognized throughout the world for excellence in providing basic and advanced training in the methodologies and technologies of social science research.

In 2008, the ICPSR Summer Program had record-breaking enrollment. The Program's 827 participants represented 26 disciplines from 267 colleges, universities, and organizations in the United States, Canada, and about two dozen other nations. The Program included 52 courses offered by 82 instructors and 42 teaching assistants. The Program faculty represented 50 institutions and 11 disciplines.

Along with the traditional broad curriculum of lectures and workshops covering statistics and research methodology, the 2008 Summer Program expanded the scope of its courses. For example, there were three workshops on Bayesian statistical inference. Two other first-time offerings focused on statistical analysis using the Stata software package. Another new course examined the use of biomarkers in social research. Finally, the Hubert M. Blalock Lecture Series included several new entries on causal inference, multidimensional scaling, and topics in professional socialization.



Assistant Director and
Director of the Summer
Program (left to right):
Dieter Burrell and
William Jacoby



James Jackson, Director of the Institute for Social Research and
Professor of Psychology at the University of Michigan, teaching the
Collaborative Psychiatric Epidemiology Surveys course

Educational Activities

Undergraduate Internship

Training a New Generation

This past year the ICPSR Undergraduate Student Internship Program recruited eight undergraduate interns from across North America: Gina Kim, Western Washington University; Martha Franquemont, Bradley University; Lauren Reed, University of Michigan-Dearborn; and Anne Bordieri, Southern Connecticut State University (front row); Chen Yu "Andy" Wu, Macalester College; Sara Achauer, Calvin College; Michael Weaver, University of Chicago; Paul Condon, Gonzaga University (back row).



Supervised and mentored by experienced research assistants and associates, the interns processed data and documentation, attended courses in ICPSR's Summer Program, and attended a weekly Lunch and Lecture series to learn about the day-to-day work performed at ICPSR and ISR. On the lighter side, they attended a Detroit Tigers baseball game, enjoyed the Summer Program picnics, attended the Ann Arbor Art Fair, and did volunteer work for a local housing program.

In their farewell presentations at the end of summer, the interns reviewed their experiences. Michael Weaver reflected that "ICPSR offers a comprehensive internship program, with a wide variety of activities. We gained exposure to graduate level material." Gina Kim noted, "We were given responsibilities that will help us grow professionally."

Educational Activities

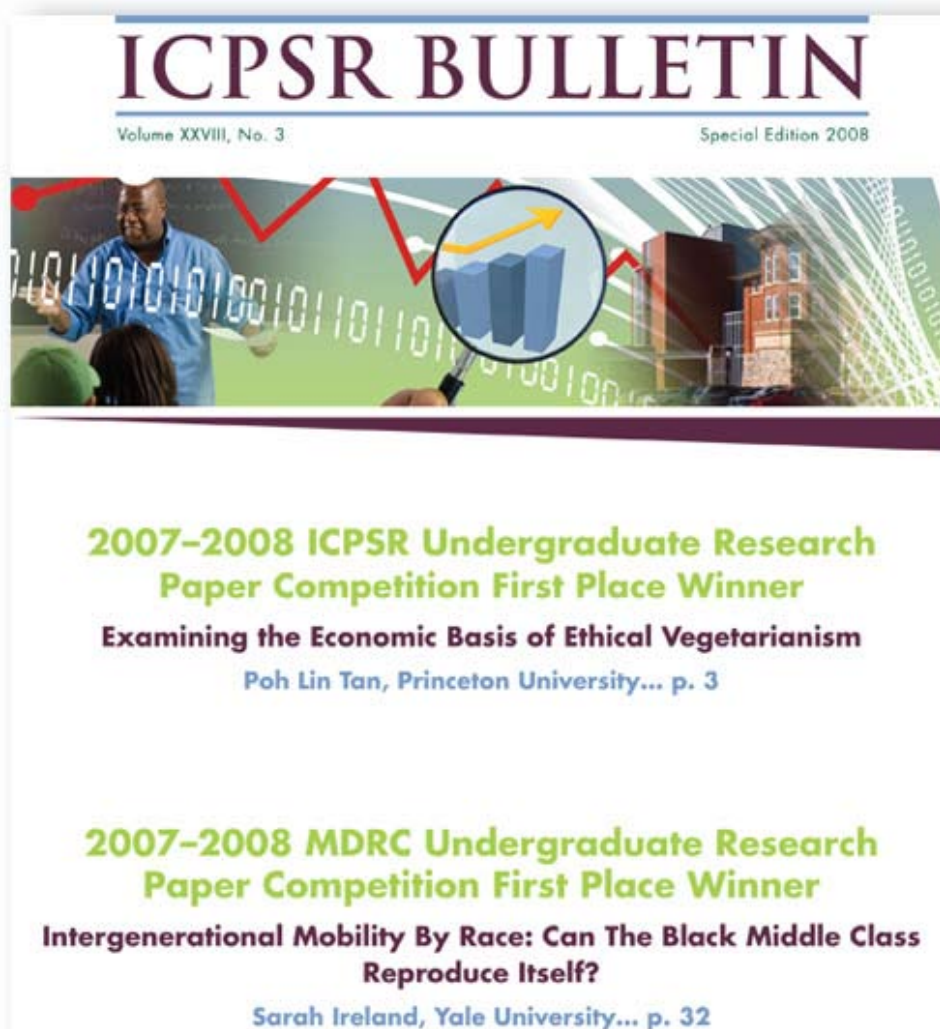
Undergraduate Research Paper Competition

Encouraging Scholarship

ICPSR sponsored two Undergraduate Research Paper Competitions during the year — one for ICPSR as a whole and one under the auspices of the Minority Data Resource Center (MDRC). For the ICPSR competition, students examined a social science topic by conducting quantitative analysis of data held within the ICPSR archive. The MDRC competition papers addressed issues relevant to underrepresented minorities in the United States including immigrants, using data drawn from the MDRC.

Many outstanding papers were submitted. ICPSR's first-place award was granted to Poh Lin Tan, Princeton University, for "Examining the Economic Basis of Ethical Vegetarianism." MDRC's first place paper was written by Sarah Ireland at Yale University and is titled, "Intergenerational Mobility By Race: Can The Black Middle Class Reproduce Itself?"

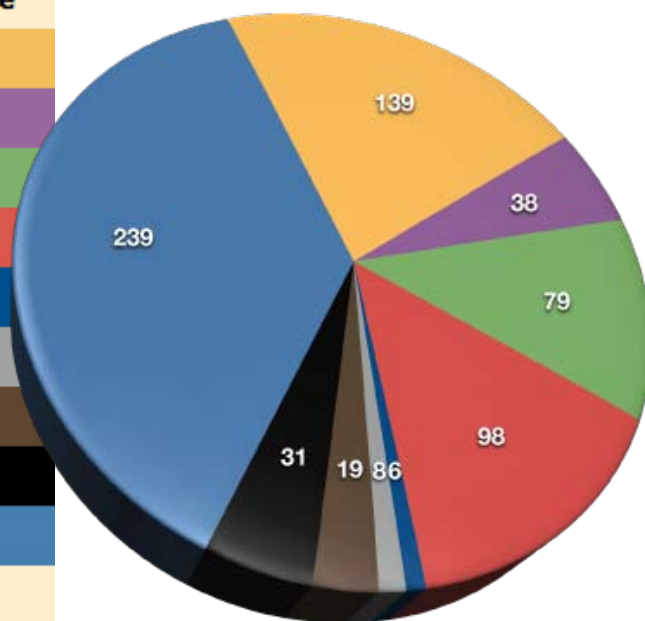
The authors of the top three ICPSR papers and first-place MDRC paper received cash prizes and their papers were published on the ICPSR Web site, while both first-place papers were published in the 2008 Special Edition of the ICPSR Bulletin.



Membership

Membership Institution Totals by Category

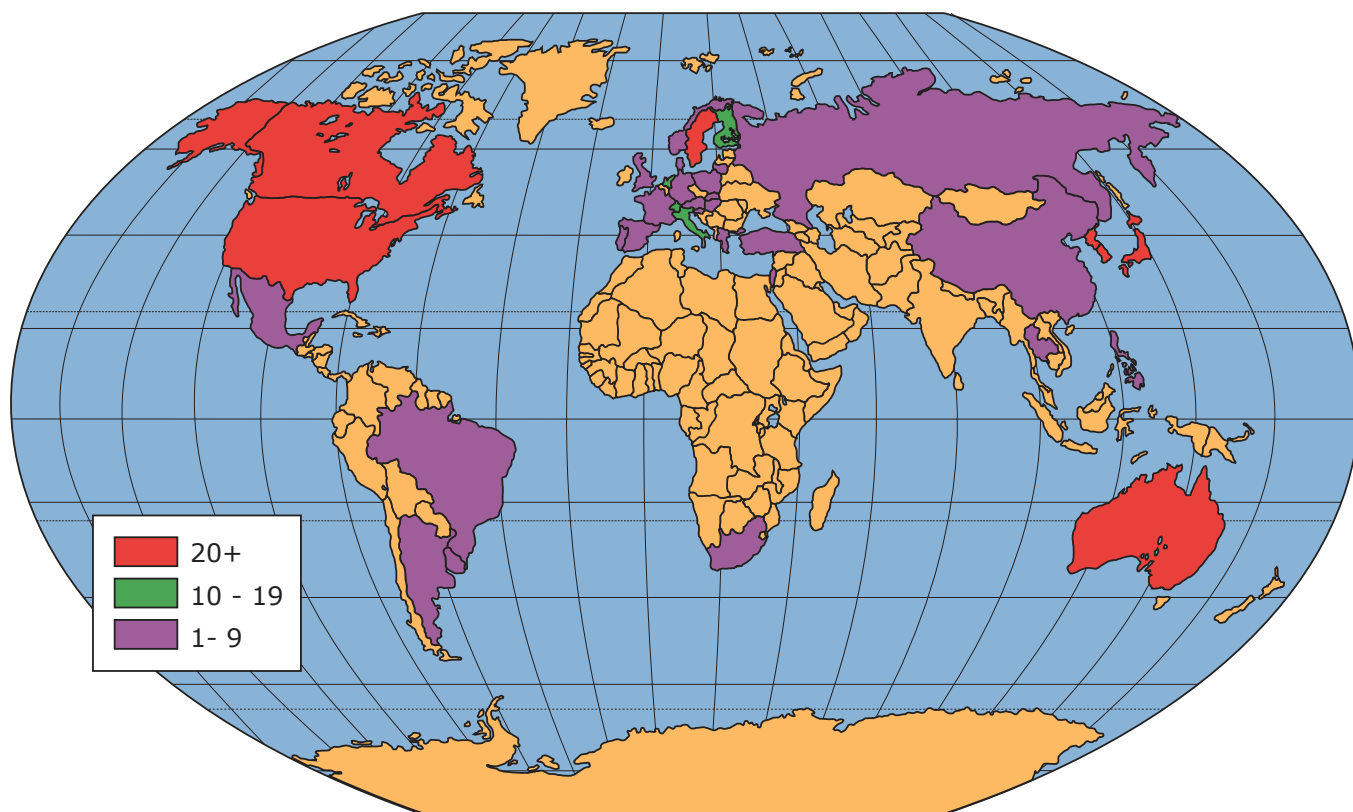
	Total	Increase
Doctoral Research Extensive	139	2
Doctoral Research Intensive	38	3
Master's Comprehensive	79	6
B.A. Universities	98	9
Specialized Institutions	6	--
Associate/Community Colleges	8	--
US-Based Associates	19	3
Canadian Institutions	31	1
Other International Institutions	239	29
Total	657	53



New Directions in Membership

ICPSR continues to expand its reach, adapting the delivery of its products to increase its relevance to new audiences. In FY2008, membership in ICPSR grew to 657 institutions. A total of 53 new institutions joined the Consortium, representing an increase in almost all categories of membership. The largest increase was in the category of international institutions located outside of North America, with 29 new members joining. Within North America, the greatest growth was among Bachelor's and Master's institutions in the United States, rising by 9 and 6 members respectively.

Membership



2007 Official Representatives Meeting

Over 110 ICPSR Official Representatives met in Ann Arbor on October 18–20, 2007, for a productive and informative meeting. The 2007 conference theme was “ICPSR and the Social Science Commons: Sharing Data With the Community.” ORs convened to discuss issues related to the rapidly changing social science research community, and the ORs played an active role in planning and presenting much of the program content.

Financial Reports

By the Numbers

ICPSR closed fiscal year 2008 with revenues totaling \$16.3 million, representing a 14-percent increase over fiscal year 2007. Membership dues income, totaling \$3.2 million, rose 2 percent since 2007 and contributed 20 percent of the organization's total revenue. Sponsored project awards contributed \$7.9 million and accounted for 40 percent of ICPSR's revenue, representing a 20-percent increase since 2007. Investment income declined in 2008 compared to 2007 due to unfavorable market conditions. ICPSR's overall expenses exceeded \$15.6 million, a 2-percent increase from fiscal year 2007.

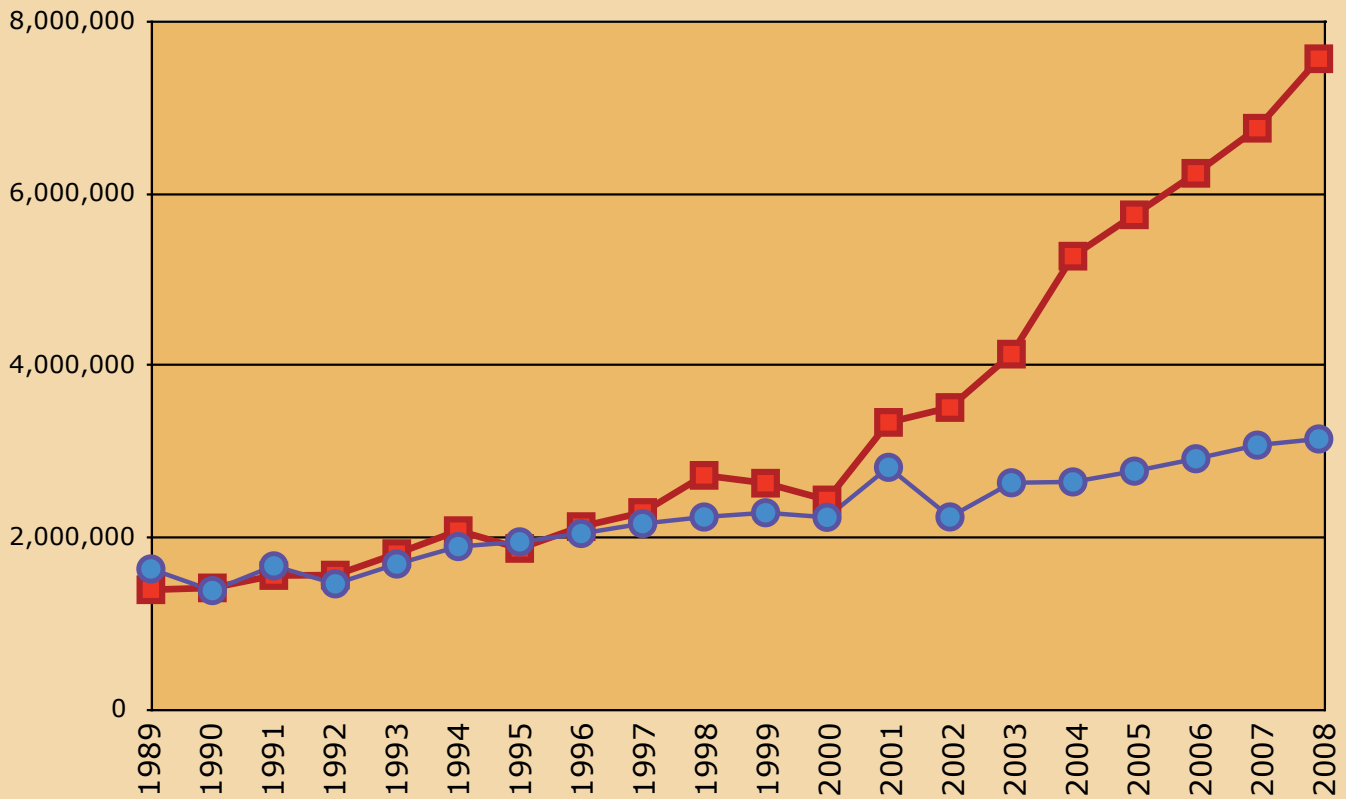
The organization closed fiscal year 2008 favorably by \$637,133. As of June 30, 2008, ICPSR maintains a total fund balance of \$3,924,494. With the fund balance being at its healthiest level to date, the organization can look forward to investing in strategic directions for the future.

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Beginning Balance	3,271,003
Revenue	
General Fund Transfers	351,830
General Income	4,450,642
Gifts and Grants	7,974,360
Indirect Cost Recovered	2,137,264
Investment Transactions	174,316
Recovery From Rebilled Items	1,068,355
Transfers	108,319
TOTAL REVENUE	\$16,265,086
Expenses	
Staff Salaries	\$6,804,022
Fringe Benefits	1,541,012
Consultants	553,298
Respondents/Subjects	300
Stipends	81,506
Student aid	20,788
General Expenses	936,764
Data Processing	1,069,808
Postage	26,317
Telephone	50,613
Subcontract Under 25K	37,128
Subcontract Over 25K	967,247
Alterations and Renovations	3,049
Travel/Hosting	523,951
Equipment	62,786
Plant Assets	(62,786)
Transfers	791,834
Transfers and Distributions	-
Other Spec Service Facil	66,694
Indirect Costs	2,137,264
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$15,611,595
Total Revenues - Total Expenses	\$653,491
Ending Fund Balance	\$3,924,494

Financial Reports

Revenue From Membership and Grants/Contracts *(Direct and Indirect)* Fiscal Year 1989 through 2008



Research Insights

The American Voter Revisited

Expanding the Knowledge Base

Summer Program Director and University of Michigan Research Scientist William G. Jacoby, who is also Professor of Political Science at Michigan State University, coauthored the book *The American Voter Revisited* along with Michael S. Lewis-Beck, Helmut Norpoth, and Herbert F. Weisberg.

Published by the University of Michigan Press in June 2008, *The American Voter Revisited* harkens back to the 1960 classic, *The American Voter* (by Philip Converse, Warren Miller, et al.), a study of voter behavior during the presidential elections of 1952 and 1956. In *Revisited*, the authors test the ideas and methods of the original book against data drawn from the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections. They find that the contemporary American voter behaves politically in a fashion surprisingly similar to voters of the 1950s. In addition, each chapter includes a Comment and Controversy section, which brings the reader up-to-date on the numerous scholarly and political questions that the material of the chapter has generated over the years.

View the podcast video of William Jacoby and Philip Converse discussing voter behavior produced by the University of Michigan News Service and the Institute for Social Research:

<http://www.isr.umich.edu/home/news/podcasts/Converse-Jacoby.mov>



Deep Blue Publishes and Preserves ICPSR Scholarly Works

ICPSR staff publications are now available through the ICPSR Collection at Deep Blue – the University of Michigan’s repository for scholarly work produced by the UM community. Organized by collections, Deep Blue allows users to browse or search for works by topic, author, or title within each collection. Visit <http://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/> to view ICPSR’s Deep Blue Collection.