

# Haynes Foundation **NEWS**

supporting social science research for Los Angeles



## UPCOMING PROPOSAL DEADLINES

### *Major Research Grants:*

- October 29, 2009
- March 24, 2010
- May 7, 2010
- August 31, 2010
- October 28, 2010

### *Faculty Fellowships:*

- December 3, 2009

### *Archival Grants:*

- January 8, 2010

### *Doctoral Dissertation*

#### *Fellowships:*

- February 11, 2010

## Discovering the California Island

*Can we foster a more productive political culture of social investment?*

The demographics of California's population often figure prominently in many public policy narratives and discussions where selected demographics are cited to explain a wide variety of public policy issues, such as elections, employment, housing, education and taxes. New research by Dr. Dowell Myers, Professor of Urban Planning and Demography at the USC School of Policy, Planning and Development, suggests that California's demographics are dynamic and traditional narratives should be revisited and revised as necessary.

To that end, the Haynes Foundation awarded Dr. Myers a grant of \$200,000 to analyze the extent to which the demographics of California have changed since World War II

and the implications of that change for public policy in California. As part of this grant, Dr. Myers plans to test whether the demographic data has changed and if so, whether the research supports a new narrative of a more self-contained "California Island."

The concept of a California Island stems from reduced transiency into the state and suggests that the future of California will be increasingly determined by California's older voters and its growing children. The results of Dr. Myers' research should help to inform a wide range of public policy decisions, including the need to redirect and reprioritize government revenue, spending, and investment.

## **The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation**

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## On the Ground in Suburbia

*A chronicle of social and civic transformation in Los Angeles since 1945*

When the topic of suburbia is addressed in today's literature, suburbia is likely to be associated with concepts such as deep social alienation and a decline in the social capital of America. However, Dr. Becky Nicolaides of the Huntington Library

suggests that this image of a flawed suburbia was not always the case. For example, literature of the 1950's characterized the suburbs as a place of strong community engagement. Neighbors were not just acquainted but were connected to each

other through child raising, mutual concerns about local civic issues, intellectual and spiritual life and other levels.

The Haynes Foundation has awarded Dr. Nicolaides a grant of \$58,700 to further examine the history of Los Angeles suburbs from 1945 to the present day and explore the conundrum that is present in the literature on suburbia. Dr. Nicolaides notes that much of the recent literature on suburbia originates in political science, sociology, anthropology and urban planning. Dr. Nicolaides proposes to add a perspective from the historian's point of view by using the lived experiences of suburbanites to examine how and why social and civic patterns have changed.

The grant will allow Dr. Nicolaides to lay the groundwork for a book-length manuscript. The manuscript will be written for both the scholarly reader and the general public, with the hope that the research will lead to a better understanding of the relationship between the built environment of suburbia and the social and civic engagement of its residents.

## Faculty Fellowship Awards 2009

R. Michael Alvarez, *California Institute of Technology*, "The Future of Convenience Voting in California."

Victoria Basolo, *University of California, Irvine*, "On-going Study of the Neighborhood Council System in Los Angeles."

Stacy Lee Burns, *Loyola Marymount University*, "New Approaches to Persistent Social Problems: The Expansion of Problem-Solving Courts in the Los Angeles and Southern California Region."

Nina Eliasoph, *University of Southern California*, "Connecting Affordable Housing and Green Neighborhoods in Los Angeles: How Organizations Link Issues in the Public Arena."

Gregory Freeland, *California Lutheran University*, "Redistricting by Citizen Task Force: An Analysis of the Impact on Ventura County."

Christine L. Jocoy, *California State University, Long Beach*, "Community-based Coalitions and Social Change: The History of Homeless Advocacy in Long Beach, California."

Matthew E. Kahn, *University of California, Los Angeles*, "Gentrification and Environmental Regulation: The Case of the California Coastal Act."

Mark Latonero, *California State University, Fullerton*, "Analyze the Los Angeles Fire Department's Use of Communication Technologies as a Means to Alert the Public About Local Emergencies."

Rebecca Overmyer-Velazquez, *Whittier College*, "Regional Equity and the Industrial Cities of Los Angeles County."

Gary Dean Painter, *University of Southern California*, "The Role of Ethnic Communities, Residential Location, and Self Employment in the Labor Market Success of First and Second Generation Immigrants."

William Perez, *Claremont Graduate University*, "Negotiating Identities: Indigenous Mexican Youth and Achievement in Los Angeles Schools."

Nancy Ryba, *California State University, Fullerton*, "Legal Definitions of Immaturity Related to Competency to Stand Trial for Juvenile Offenders."

Christopher Weare, *University of Southern California*, "Democracy by Design: The Institutionalization of Neighborhood Participation Networks in Los Angeles."

David Yoo, *Claremont McKenna College*, "Religion and Social Justice in the City."

# Tracks of Change

## *Guiding Development Around Southern California High-Speed Rail Stations*

In November 2008, California passed Proposition 1A and approved the issuance of \$9.95 billion of general obligation bonds to partially fund the construction of a \$40 billion, 800 mile, high-speed railway line linking the major California population centers of San Francisco, Sacramento, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Among the improvements that the high-speed railway expects to achieve are reductions in traffic congestion and fuel consumption, and the creation of efficient alternatives to intrastate air and highway transport. However, little research is available to assess or manage the impact on the surrounding communities that will be caused by the construction and operation of new stations along the railway.

In response to a proposal, the Haynes Foundation has awarded a grant of \$183,621 to a multidisciplinary team from UCLA to study the likely effects that high-speed rail stations will have on urban development in the affected Southern California communities.

Dr. Dana Cuff, Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at UCLA, will lead the team. The proposed study intends to examine the types of development that have emerged around high-speed rail stations in other countries, to distill best practices in terms of urban design, land use planning, and transportation policy practices, and to propose policies and plans that Southern California communities can use to encourage desirable development patterns.



## *2009 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship Awards*

Terressa Benz, *University of California, Irvine*, "A Room in the Jungle: The Residential Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles."

Nicholas M. Dahmann, *University of Southern California*, "Downtown Democracy: The Role of Civic Participation in the Redevelopment of Central Los Angeles, 1994-2009."

Ryan Enos, *University of California, Los Angeles*, "The Effects of Residential Segregation on Voting Behavior."

Camille Fink, *University of California, Los Angeles*, "The Presentation of Self in Everyday (Transit) Life: An Ethnographic Study of Los Angeles Bus Culture."

David P. Levitus, *University of Southern California*, "Social Democracy? The Contradictions of Left-Liberalism in New Deal-era Los Angeles, New York, and Chicago."

Pavankumar Murali, *University of Southern California*, "Strategies to Improve Rail Track Capacity Use in the Los Angeles Area."

Abigail Rosas, *University of Southern California*, "On the Move and in the Moment: Community Formation, Identity, Politics, and Opportunity in South Central Los Angeles, 1945-Present."

Mona Seymour, *University of Southern California*, "Biodiversity and the Diverse City Wildlife Conservation and Socio-cultural Diversity in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Region."

Karen S. Wilson, *University of California, Los Angeles*, "On the Cosmopolitan Frontier: Jews and their Social Networks in Nineteenth-Century Los Angeles."

## 2009 Archival Grants

### California State University, Northridge

Preservation and Archiving of the Catherine Mulholland Collection  
\$25,000

### Claremont University Consortium

Concluding the Dr. Walter Lindley Scrapbook Preservation Project  
\$25,000

### Library Foundation of Los Angeles

Archiving the *Herald Examiner* Photographs  
\$25,000

### Natural History Museum

Cataloging Photographic Collections Online to Expand New Research on the History of Los Angeles  
\$25,000

### University of California, Los Angeles

The Bunche Center for African American Studies Archival and Digitization Project at UCLA  
\$25,000



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## Adapting to Aging Out

Foster care is an important part of the nation's overall child welfare system, which endeavors to provide support for minor children until they reach adulthood. A principal focus of foster care policy is to prepare youth for independent living and adulthood after they have "aged out" or have been "emancipated" from foster care. Foster care and emancipated youth are very relevant policy issues in Southern California, where nearly 8% of the nation's 500,000 foster care youth reside.

Dr. Tuppert M. Yates of the Department of Psychology, University of California, Riverside, who has conducted research in this area, finds that some emancipated youth have managed to navigate their transition to adulthood better than others.

The Haynes Foundation awarded Dr. Yates a grant of \$95,781 to expand his research and conduct a three-year study of emancipated youth in order to identify factors and developmental processes that help or hinder the transition of these youth into adulthood and the non-foster environment.

The study will document the status of over 100 emancipated youth in the Los Angeles region, and will examine their current needs, their access to and use of available resources and services, and then trace their pathways of adaption. Dr. Yates hopes the findings of the study will yield specific recommendations for child welfare policy and practice in Los Angeles and surrounding counties.