From the editor’s desk ...

In the last issue of the Newsletter I welcomed Edward Ng to the editorial committee (or may I be bold and call it a board?). His presence is most welcome and the current issue of the Newsletter bears fruit of his vision and ideas. Edward has already made numerous very constructive suggestions that resulted in some changes in this issue. For example, we now have sections that deal with calls for papers and job postings. I look forward to an enjoyable collaboration.

It is with sadness that we note the passing of Chris Taylor. Please read the “In memoriam” section for a tribute to his life and contribution as a Canadian demographer. The call for abstracts for our upcoming meetings in June includes key dates that should be noted. Please refer to the announcement on page 5 for further information. You will also find an announcement for an analytical seminar that will be held on the day preceding our June meetings. The topics to be covered during the four sessions will be of interest to many of you. Please register early.

The number of positions being filled in the social sciences in Canadian institutions has dramatically increased over the past year or so. Is this in anticipation of the double cohort, or is this the result of the leading edge of the baby boom reaching retirement age? In all likelihood it is bit of both. The Newsletter will carry position announcements, as will the CPS web site.

The following announcement appeared in my message in the previous issue of the Newsletter.

“It was proposed during our annual general meeting to organise a contest to find a new name for the Newsletter. Suggestions will be evaluated by an ad hoc committee. Please send your suggestions to the editor (gustave.goldmann@statcan.ca).”

It was pointed out to me that I had forgotten to include a date by which all submissions must be received. This is a painful omission for someone who prides himself in his ability to plan. Let me correct that oversight! Please send all your suggestions by February 15, 2003. I already received a few suggestions and I look forward to many more.

Gustave Goldmann, editor.

CPS Officers: 2002-2004

President: F. Trovato, U. of Alberta
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CPS Newsletter Editor: G. Goldmann, Stat Canada

Deadline for articles for the next issue of the Newsletter: Feb. 15, 2003
The CPS Newsletter  2

From the Webster ...

This byline replaces The WWW ... All the web addresses and URLs are listed on the CPS web site (http://www.canpopsoc.org/).

Send all website submissions/comments/questions to: Judith (Judii) Rempel at: webster@canpopsoc.org

The Student Corner

No submission for this issue

Conference Presentations


Keeping Posted ...

Personal and Professional Activities:

Jim M. Jackson M.A., Sociology, Humber College published an article, "Humber's Student Demographic Changing", in Humber College's newsletter, Humber Today, Vol.9, No.2  Fall 2002. Jim also hosted Greg Sobara's visit to Humber College last winter term. Greg Sobara MPP, (Vaughan-King-Aurora) is President of the Ontario Liberal Party, and he spoke to a large group of students about politics.

On 4 September, Susan McDaniel was awarded the University Cup, University of Alberta, the most prestigious award given by the University for a continuing record of research and teaching excellence. Colleagues from around the world had nominated her

Continued on page 3

Recent Meetings ...

Seventh International Metropolis Conference
Sept. 9-13, 2002
Oslo, Norway

2002 National Policy Research Conference
October 23-25, 2002
Ottawa, Canada

2002 Canadian Association of Gerontology Conference
October 24-26, 2002
Montreal, Canada

Forthcoming Conferences

Conference on the social determinants of Health across the life-span
Nov 29 – Dec. 1, 2002
Toronto, Canada

Sixth National Metropolis Conference
March 21-24, 2003
Edmonton, Canada

2003 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America
May 1-3, 2003, Minneapolis, USA

2003 Canadian Association of Geographers Annual General Meeting
May 27-June 1, 2003, Victoria, B.C.

2003 Association des démographes du Québec (ADQ)
May 2003
Rimouski, Canada

2003 Canadian Economics Association Conference
May 29 – June 1, 2003, Ottawa, Canada

2003 Annual Meeting of the European Society for Population Economics
June 13 – June 15, 2003, New York, USA

2003 European Population Conference
Aug. 26 – Aug 30, 2003
Warsaw, Poland
for this award, along with students present and past. The occasion was a wonderful celebration, joined by numerous colleagues, students and friends.

In July 2002, at the World Congress of Sociology, in Brisbane, Australia, Susan was elected Vice President, Publications of the International Sociological Association. In her role on the Executive of the ISA over 2002-2006, she will serve as the ISA Representative to the United Nations.

She continues to serve for 2002-03 as Past President of the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association.

Her five-year term as Editor, Current Sociology, official journal of the International Sociological Association, ended in August 2002.

Recent Publications


Sauvé, Roger. 2002. “Canada Job Trends - National And Provincial Labour Markets”. For more information, please check the following web site: http://www.peoplerpatternsconsulting.com


News from the ADQ ...

The Association des démographes du Québec (ADQ) will hold its 2003 annual meeting next May in Rimouski, again as part of the larger ACFAS meeting. The theme of the ADQ symposium will be Regional Perspectives in Demography. Other sessions (not related to the symposium) will also be organized. The deadline for submitting an abstract is November 22, 2002. For more information, please visit the ACFAS site at www.acfas.ca.

Pierre Turcotte (pierre.turcotte@statcan.ca)
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From the Society of Edmonton Demographers (SED) and the University of Alberta ...

The Society of Edmonton Demographers (SED) and the Department of Sociology are pleased to announce that Dr. Anne Gauthier of the Department of Sociology, University of Calgary will be this year's guest speaker at the 2002 Distinguished Canadian Demographer Lecture Series. Dr. Gauthier's lecture will be held from 11:00 to 12:00 noon on Friday, the 8th of November in Tory Breezeway, Room TBW-2. All interested students and professionals are invited to attend.

The SED is also pleased to announce the creation of a $5,000 Masters Scholarship in demography or population-related field to be awarded on an annual basis. This Masters Scholarship award is in addition to two Doctoral awards supported by the Society.

Finally, the Society of Edmonton Demographers has contributed $8,000.00 to the Canadian Studies in Population to aid in the publication of the next four issues. This generous contribution will insure that the journal will be able to successfully publish until the next SHRRC grant competition in 2004. Increasing printing and postage costs has made it imperative that the Canadian Studies in Population seek financial assistance from a variety of sources.

The Census Corner ...

2001 Census of Population

At Statistics Canada, Pierre Turcotte and his team are working on the preparation of the upcoming 2001 Census release. On October 22, Statistics Canada will release data on marital status, common-law status, families, dwellings and households.

The following 2001 Census release, scheduled for December 10, 2002, will focus on language, mobility and migration. In the January 21, 2003 release, the 2001 Census data on citizenship, immigration, birthplace and birthplace of parents, ethnic origin, visible minorities and aboriginal people will be made available.

Highlights from previous releases:

March 12, 2002 A Profile of the Canadian Population: Where We Live
  - Canada's population increased by 4.0%, one of the smallest census-to-census growth rates.
  - Urbanization continued. In 2001, nearly 80% of Canadians lived in an urban centre.

July 16, 2002 Age and Sex
  - The median age of Canada's population reached an all-time high of 37.6 years in 2001, an increase of 2.3 years from 35.3 in 1996. This was the biggest census-to-census increase in median age in a century.
  - Canada's working-age population is increasingly made up of older people, as the population aged 45 to 64 increased 35.8% between 1991 and 2001.
  - The population is older and has aged more rapidly in the rural and small town areas than in census metropolitan areas.

Dates scheduled for future Census 2001 releases:

October 22, 2002
Marital Status of Canadians Families and Household Living Arrangements; Housing

December 10, 2002
Language Composition of Canada; Canadians on the Move

January 21, 2003
Immigration and Citizenship; Ethnocultural Portrait of Canada; Aboriginal Peoples of Canada

February 11, 2003
Canada's Workforce: Paid Work; Canada's Workforce: Unpaid Work; Place of Work Commuting to Work; Language Use at Work

March 11, 2003
Education in Canada: School Attendance and Levels of Schooling; Education in Canada: Major Fields of Study; Earnings of Canadians

May 13, 2003
Income of Individuals, Families and Households; Social and Economic Characteristics of Individuals, Families and Households; Religions in Canada

2006 Census of Population

Canada's next Census of Population will be held on May 16, 2006. Planning and development for the 2006 Census are already well underway and feature the most comprehensive changes in over 30 years to census-taking in Canada. Most of the innovations being implemented for 2006 are in the data collection and data capture operations. These operational changes are being made in response to various concerns and opportunities. These changes are intended to: respond to growing concerns about the protection of personal privacy and the security of information; accelerate the release of data; lower census operational costs over the long term; exploit opportunities offered by new

Continued on page 5
technologies; support the Government On-Line project, which aims to make the Government of Canada's services available on the Internet by 2004; meet the expectation of Canadians to complete their 2006 Census form via the Internet.

Currently there are five main changes proposed for the 2006 Census: the production of a register of all mailable addresses in Canada so that questionnaires can be mailed to at least two thirds of the households (the remainder will be hand-delivered); offering respondents the option of completing their census questionnaire via the Internet; the creation of a high-security processing centre to which all completed questionnaires will be mailed by respondents; automating the registration, scanning and capture of questionnaires; automating the editing of questionnaires and the telephone follow-up of questionnaires which fail edit.

From an operational standpoint, these changes and innovations will bring enormous benefits, although their implementation will carry some risks. In order to minimise these risks, numerous tests and control procedures are being developed. Statistics Canada's approach is to focus time and resources on the planned operational changes, while minimising changes to all of the other census aspects, including the content.

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**CANADIAN POPULATION SOCIETY**  
**Call for Abstracts for the 2003 CPS Annual Meetings**  
at the Congress of Social Sciences and Humanities  
Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia  
Sunday through Tuesday 1-3 June 2003  
and Announcement of  
Pre-Conference symposium on advanced analytical methods Saturday 31 May 2003

The next CPS Annual Meetings will be held in at Dalhousie University in Halifax from Sunday June 1 through Tuesday June 3, 2003. Please send your abstracts (250 words maximum) by email directly to the Program Chair (Russell Wilkins, wilkrus@statcan.ca). Be sure to include your telephone and fax numbers as well as a full mailing address and your institutional affiliations. Once received, the Program Committee (Russell Wilkins, Doug Norris, George Kephart, Alison Yacyshyn, Rosemary Venne) will arrange the abstracts into appropriate session titles. In due course CPS colleagues will be contacted to serve as Chairs for those sessions.

**Student Paper Competition**  
Abstracts for the student paper competition should be sent to Tina Chui, Chair of the Committee on the Student Paper Competition (tina.chui@statcan.ca), as well as to Russell Wilkins, Program Chair (wilkrus@statcan.ca). The deadlines for the student papers are the same as for regular papers.

**Pre-conference symposium on advanced analytical methods**  
Gustave Goldmann (gustave.goldmann@statcan.ca) is organising a pre-conference symposium on advanced methods with a focus on longitudinal analysis on Saturday May 31, preceding the regular CPS Annual Meetings. Since many of you will be staying over Saturday night to benefit from cheaper airfares, why not plan on attending this symposium as well? There will be a registration fee of $20. Lunch is included. Please contact Gustave for more information, and to indicate your interest in attending this symposium.

**Timeline (same for regular papers and student paper competition):**

**Deadline for receipt of abstracts:** Sunday May 1, 2003.
**Notification of accepted abstracts:** Wednesday May 14, 2003.
**Deadline for submission of completed papers:** Friday May 29, 2003.

Copies of completed papers (preferably in Word or WordPerfect) are to be sent to the Program Chair (Wilkins) and Session Chair (to be named), and if applicable, to the Chair of the Student Paper Competition (Chui).

**Note:** The Congress theme for 2003 is “Conflict and Cooperation” with three sub-themes: “Local, National, Global; Representations of Justice; Wealth and Creativity.” However, papers on any demographic topic are welcome for submission to the CPS meetings and student paper competition.

Russell Wilkins, CPS Vice-President and Program Chair, Health Analysis and Measurement Group, Statistics Canada, RHC-24A, Ottawa ON K1A 0T6  
Tel: 1-613-951-5305 Fax: 1-613-951-3959 Email: wilkrus@statcan.ca
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Symposium on Advanced Analytical Methods
Saturday, May 31, 2003

A symposium on methods of analysis of longitudinal data is being organised for Saturday, May 31, 2003 – the day immediately preceding the annual CPS meetings – at Dalhousie University at a location to be announced later. Quantitative researchers from many disciplines in the social sciences are moving towards the analysis of longitudinal data with complex survey designs. This symposium will provide an overview of the methods that serve in this type of analysis. Social science researchers from all disciplines will benefit from the presentations of the 4 principal methods currently in use. The symposium will be organised as follows:

9:00 – 10:30 – event history analysis (Céline LeBourdais)
10:30 – 11:00 – health break
11:00 – 12:30 – hierarchical linear modelling (Marie-Andree Sommers)
12:30 – 13:30 – lunch (included in the symposium fee)
13:30 – 15:00 – econometric methods for longitudinal analysis (TBD)
15:00 – 15:30 – health break
15:30 – 17:00 – proportional hazard modelling (Rajulton Fernando)

A nominal fee of $20 will be collected at the door to cover the costs for the symposium. To register for this symposium please send the following information to Gustave Goldmann (gustave.goldmann@statcan.ca).

Name:
Affiliation:
e-mail address:
Day time telephone number:

It is recommended that you register early since it is anticipated that the symposium will be very well attended.

Call for Papers ...

The 2003 Student Paper Competition

The annual competition for the best paper prepared by a student(s) is held in conjunction with the annual meetings. The winner will present the paper at the annual CPS conference.

To be eligible for the 2003 competition, the following criteria apply:

Applicants must be CPS member(s) enrolled in a graduate program in any university in Canada or abroad. An abstract of the paper must be received by the Vice-President and the Student Competition Committee Chair no later than November 29, 2002, and be accepted (notification on January 15, 2003) for presentation at the 2003 meetings. The paper must deal with a population-related topic, should be written in English and be within 25 pages in total. The paper should be solely the work of the participating student(s). Co-authored paper with non-student will be excluded.

Award Details

A $500 cash prize, discount airfare travel costs to the 2003 conference, and 3 nights’ accommodation will be awarded to the winner. Students who enter the competition with quality paper and meet the criteria will be awarded a one-year CPS membership.

Deadlines

Student papers are held to all the regular paper submission deadlines. Refer to the call for abstracts and details of the 2003 conference. As well, eligible candidates must submit 3 copies of their papers by March 14, 2003 to:
The 2003 Warren E. Kalbach Population Conference

The Society of Edmonton Demographers and the Department of Sociology of the University of Alberta are pleased to announce that the annual Warren E. Kalbach Population conference will be held on the 20th and 21st of March, 2003. This year's conference will be a two-day event for the first time in its 14-year history.

The first day of the conference will be devoted to presentations based on the results of research conducted by the Population Research Laboratory. The second day will feature a selection of papers in honor of Professor P. Krishnan on the occasion of his retirement from teaching duties at the University of Alberta.

All academic, government and applied researchers are invited to contribute papers to the Kalbach Conference and/or to a Festschrift (collection of papers) in honor of Dr. P. Krishnan. Papers submitted to the Festschrift may also be presented at the conference. Consistent with Professor Krishnan’s research interests we are seeking papers from colleagues and former students of Dr. Krishnan’s on methodological and substantive topics in demography and population studies. Once received, the papers will be bound into a volume and presented to Professor Krishnan at a ceremony during the Kalbach Conference.

Papers intended for the Krishnan Festschrift should be submitted on diskette and in duplicate hard copy to Dr. Frank Trovato (Ftrovato@ualberta.ca) or Dr. Wayne McVey Jr. (wmcvvey@ualberta.ca), Department of Sociology, The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H4. Authors are asked to prepare their papers in accordance with publication guidelines listed in the inside cover of Canadian Studies in Population.

Festschrift celebration to honour Dr. Krishnan

After three decades of service to teaching and research at the University of Alberta, Professor Parameswara Krishnan has retired from academic duties. Dr. Krishnan has been a devoted scholar and teacher. Many of his students have taken academic and research positions throughout Canada and other parts of the world. He graduated from Cornell University in 1972, the same year in which he assumed his teaching post in the Department of Sociology at the University of Alberta. Shortly after his arrival at the University of Alberta, Krishnan directed the Population Research Laboratory, a post he held until 1975. Among his many accomplishments, Krishnan is the founding editor of Canadian Studies in Population, the official journal of the Canadian Population Society. As one of the founding fathers of the Canadian Population Society, Dr. Krishnan served on CPS Council during 1975-1977.

Krishnan has published extensively in the areas of statistics, mathematical sociology and population studies. Among his works is Mathematical Models of Sociology (University of Keele, England, 1977). He is co-editor of Differential Development and Demographic Dilemma (B. R. Publishers, 1994) and Methodology for Population Studies and Development (Sage India, 1993). Krishnan’s contributions to scholarship have been acknowledged by a number of professional bodies. He is a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, and holds memberships in the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, International Statistical Institute, the American Statistical Association, The Population Association of America, The Canadian Population Society, and several population associations in India.
The Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS), a component of the Université du Québec, invites applications, at its Urbanisation, Culture et Société centre, for two tenure track positions of research professor in the fields of "Migrations and population shifts" and "Family."

Functions

- Within multidisciplinary research teams, develop innovative research projects focusing:
  - for the position in Migrations: on migrations and population shifts at the intraregional, interregional and international levels; on the many determinants (demographic, social, economic and cultural) of such movements, their spatial patterns, as well as the policies that influence them.
  - for the position in Family: on family issues; on the evolution of family composition and its role and importance within society; on the family trajectories of individuals through their life course; and on intergenerational dynamics.
- Obtain financing for research activities through grants and contracts with various partners, and with the support of INRS.
- To teach at the master's and Ph.D. levels and to supervise graduate students and research assistants.

Requirements

- Qualifications:
  - position in Migrations: Ph.D. in demography or in a related field. Expertise in quantitative methods applied to social statistics is required.
  - position in Family: Ph.D. in social sciences. Expertise in quantitative methods applied to social statistics is an asset.
- Post-doctoral research experience is an asset.
- Scientific publications demonstrating autonomy and originality.
- Ability to work in a team and within research networks.
- Ability to teach and supervise students at the graduate level. (Teaching experience is an asset)
- Potential to develop major research projects and to secure funding.

Place employment and working language

The place of employment is Montréal. The working language is French. Knowledge of English is required; a third language is an asset. Interested applicants should forward a complete CV, a copy of their three most important publications, a brief summary of research and teaching interests as well as the name of three references, no later than December 15th, 2002, to:

The Department of Sociology at the University of Alberta, in collaboration with the Society of Edmonton Demographers and the Population Research Laboratory, is planning a Festschrift celebration to honor Dr. Krishnan. The organizing committee is therefore issuing this call for papers. All received papers will be presented as a bound volume to Professor Krishnan at a special function in March of 2003 at the University of Alberta. Substantive and technical works in demography are welcome.

Contributors are asked to submit two hard copies of their papers as well as a copy on diskette, or electronically by email attachment. Please follow the guidelines for manuscript preparation given in the inside cover page of Canadian Studies in Population.

Please submit papers by February 15, 2003 to Frank Trovato (ftrovato@ualberta.ca) or Wayne McVey (wmcvey@ualberta.ca), Co-Chairs, Krishan Festschrift Committee, at the following address:

Department of Sociology
The University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2H4

Position Announcements ...

Institut national de la recherche scientifique – Research Professors

The Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS), a component of the Université du Québec, invites applications, at its Urbanisation, Culture et Société centre, for two tenure track positions of research professor in the fields of “Migrations and population shifts" and "Family.”

Functions

- Within multidisciplinary research teams, develop innovative research projects focusing:
  - for the position in Migrations: on migrations and population shifts at the intraregional, interregional and international levels; on the many determinants (demographic, social, economic and cultural) of such movements, their spatial patterns, as well as the policies that influence them.
  - for the position in Family: on family issues; on the evolution of family composition and its role and importance within society; on the family trajectories of individuals through their life course; and on intergenerational dynamics.
- Obtain financing for research activities through grants and contracts with various partners, and with the support of INRS.
- To teach at the master's and Ph.D. levels and to supervise graduate students and research assistants.

Requirements

- Qualifications:
  - position in Migrations: Ph.D. in demography or in a related field. Expertise in quantitative methods applied to social statistics is required.
  - position in Family: Ph.D. in social sciences. Expertise in quantitative methods applied to social statistics is an asset.
- Post-doctoral research experience is an asset.
- Scientific publications demonstrating autonomy and originality.
- Ability to work in a team and within research networks.
- Ability to teach and supervise students at the graduate level. (Teaching experience is an asset)
- Potential to develop major research projects and to secure funding.

Place employment and working language

The place of employment is Montréal. The working language is French. Knowledge of English is required; a third language is an asset. Interested applicants should forward a complete CV, a copy of their three most important publications, a brief summary of research and teaching interests as well as the name of three references, no later than December 15th, 2002, to:
University of Alberta

Statistics/Quantitative Methods: Assistant Professor, Quantitative Methods and Statistics.

The Department of Sociology, University of Alberta, invites applications for a tenure track position at the Assistant Professor level, in the area of Quantitative Methods and Statistics, commencing July 2003. The 2002-2003 salary scale for this rank is $47,184 to $66,816 and the benefits package is comprehensive. A Ph.D. is required and candidates will have a strong record/outstanding potential for research, excellent communication and teaching skills and leadership potential. Preference will be given to candidates with teaching and research interests in quantitative methods or statistics or in substantive areas using advanced quantitative methods or statistics. This person will not only apply statistical and quantitative methods but also take methodology itself as an object of inquiry. The successful candidate will help to advance the field of statistics technically through the application of statistical methods to various problems, and conceptually by working on new methods and new forms of measurement. In addition, we seek a person who will make a significant contribution to our graduate program by offering advanced courses focused on the most up-to-date statistical models and techniques. The candidate will be expected to provide guidance and counselling on statistical issues to faculty and graduate students. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Closing date for applications is November 15, 2002. Applicants should submit a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and arrange for three confidential letters of reference to be sent to:

Dr. R.A. Sydie
Professor and Chair
Department of Sociology
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2H4
Canada
E-mail: rsydie@ualberta.ca
Fax: (780) 492-7196.

Visit our Web site at http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/socweb/. The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity in employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons.

University of Western Ontario

Tier II Canada Research Chair in Social Demography

The Department of Sociology at the University of Western Ontario invites application and nominations for a probationary position at the Assistant or Associate Professor rank in the field of social demography. Appointment is conditional on the successful applicant being approved as a Tier II Canada Research Chair. The successful candidate will have a completed Ph.D. in sociology, demography, or a related area, and have the demonstrated capacity to build a research programme in demography that will attract national and international attention. The Department seeks applications from candidates in all areas of social demography with a preference for scholars working in one or more of the following fields: migration studies, mortality and health, population and the environment, and population ageing.
The Department of Sociology has twenty-five full-time faculty members and provides a full range of programmes at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Ph.D. programme offers a specialisation in three areas: Social Demography, sociology of Health and Ageing, and Social Class and Social Change. To date, more than thirty students have graduated from our doctoral programme in demography. Our graduates are employed at leading universities, government agencies, and international organisations around the world.

A complete curriculum vitae, including the names of three referees, and sample publications should be sent to:

Professor Jerry White  
Chair, Appointments Committee  
Department of Sociology  
Social Science Centre  
The University of Western Ontario  
London, Ontario, N6A 5C2   Canada

The Position is subject to budgetary approval. The Committee will begin reviewing applications on October 15, 2002 though applications and nominations will be accepted until the position is filled. The University of Western Ontario is committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, aboriginal people and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents will be given priority.
In Memoriam - Christopher (Chris) Taylor, May 27, 1948 – September 1, 2002

The late Chris Taylor could be described as an innovative policy wonk, superior strategist, effective team leader, enthusiastic record collector, affectionate husband, father, son and brother, and a courageous self-eulogist.

Christopher Taylor wrote his own poignant and potent eulogy a few days before his departure on September 1, 2002 in Vancouver of cancer of the esophagus and became a lively presence at his own memorial service. He had delivered eulogies before, and had decided, “If the opportunity was ever given to me, I’d write my own. Well – lucky me – I got the chance.”

Chris was in the federal public service as BC/Yukon Director General of Health Canada. Prior to that, he was with Citizenship and Immigration with the same job designation. He joined Immigration in 1981 and became Director of Migration and Demographic Policy. In 2000-01 he was Senior Associate in the Centre for Policy Research at Simon Fraser University. At the same time, he worked at the Privy Council Office (Prime Minster’s department) as Senior Advisor to create a national learning network for policy research.

The eulogy states: “I would like to believe that my main accomplishment as a federal civil servant was an effective team leader...So I worked extra hard at devising ways and the techniques to support team culture, team development, and team spirit.” He totally dedicated himself to the task with unbridled energy, unstinted enthusiasm and unquestionable integrity. He was a diplomat par excellence in his single-minded pursuit of policy goals with colleagues, superiors and subordinates and supremely fair-minded and even handed.

His achievements in immigration policy development were considerable. He marked a new chapter in policy development in Ottawa in early 1980s based on research, information and consultations with stakeholders – not merely based on feelings and instincts. As a policy wonk, academics from coast to coast were brought into the consultation circle and were stimulated to respond to challenging policy questions, both theoretical and practical. He was himself an academic in his spare time, publishing policy related papers with accomplished academics from across Canada. It is Canada’s loss that Chris will not have a chance do similar work for health policy especially based on the Roy Romanow report to be out shortly.

One of his friends in academia, the well-known demographer, Prof. David Foot of the University of Toronto says: “He was a delight to work with – full of creativity, enthusiasm, integrity, and also realism. He loved policy but understood implementation, a rare combination. He could be convinced by good research but never by power or influence. We have lost an amazing colleague...The shock of his far-too-early departure is substantial and his legacy reinforces the necessity to live every day to its fullest, as Chris did.”

His boss in Immigration in Ottawa, former Canadian Ambassador to Yugoslavia, James Bissett notes: “Chris was one of those rare officers who excelled at developing policy, while also having the ability to implement policy at the working level. He could translate ideas into practical measures that could be carried out in a meaningful fashion. Above all, as a colleague he was always fun to be with. We will all miss him, and I’m afraid Canada has lost someone that represented all that was best in the country’s public service.”

Chris had a special interest in population policy from his days as an MA student in Geography. I have had the opportunity to participate with him in a number of population meetings from Ottawa to Victoria and Edmonton to New Orleans. He was active in the Canadian Population Society at that time and helped it to become more relevant and policy oriented.

His love for policy and strategy did not stop him from having a good work-life balance. He had a tremendous and absorbing interest in music. The attendees of the memorial service in Vancouver received a Beach Boys CD to take home. He says in his eulogy: “Not just because it happens to be the best pop CD of the last century, but because in listening to Brian Wilson and his mystical capacity to communicate via music..... It also became part of me.”

Once Chris told me with boyish glee of the immense pleasure he got in meeting by chance in a hotel, the famous singer, B. B. King, whose concert we had attended together in New Orleans in the 1980s. He was an avid and ardent record collector with thousands of LPs and 45s collected from 1981 on at garage sales, junk stores and record shops. In his eulogy he recollects: “I remember at Uncle Phil’s funeral and going right after to a junk store to look for records -- I knew he’d understand.”
He concluded his eulogy: “I carry with me 54 years of glorious life – a speck in the infinity of time – but a speck that when connected to all others sustains this chain of that we are all part of.... So I look forward to seeing you again in some different manifestation but for essentially the same purpose – to love and support all those we know.”

Chris was born in Kitchener, Ontario. He graduated from Simon Fraser University in 1969 and received his M.A. from the University of Toronto. Before joining the federal government, he taught at the University of Toronto.

He is survived by his wife Helen, a registered nurse, who works with the Vancouver-Richmond Health Board. They had been married for “33 glorious years” and were “looking forward to another 33 years.” Chris also leaves behind his son Lenny (25), his daughter Vanessa (24), his mother Ruth Taylor, along with two sisters and a brother.

John Samuel
Chris’ colleague and
Adjunct Research Professor, Carleton University, Ottawa