

## From the editor's desk...

Martin Cooke

I'm sure that this issue of *CPS News* finds most of us in the midst of the "busy season", with summer fading from memory. I hope that there'll be something in this issue to temporarily distract us from our own work and to focus attention on the achievements of others. In addition to the announcements of publications and conference presentations from other members, student representative Kelli Phythian has provided announcements from our student members. Students are an important part of our Society, and it is wonderful to see so much publication and presentation activity on the part of student members. Page 2 features a note about the excellent work of CPS member David Swanson and his colleagues in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, providing valuable help to those in need. As well as the regular roundup of forthcoming events and member news in this issue, topical information from Statistics Canada about the upcoming cycles of the GSS can be found on Page 8, information bound to be useful to many of us who use these surveys. Thanks again to Pascale Beaupré for her generous help putting this issue together. I look forward to seeing many of you in Montreal on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of this month, at the FCD conference (page 7). Cheers!

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### CPS Online

*Canadian Studies in Population* is now online. It is available at:

<http://janus.ssc.uwo.ca/popstudies/cps/>

To date we have indexed Volume 21, Number 1, 1994 to Volume 31, Number 2, 2004, with full-text of articles in PDF format (with some gaps) from Volume 29, Number 1, 2002 to Volume 31, Number 2, 2004. We will be regularly adding records with the goal of eventually having the entire journal available in full-text online.

### Welcome to new members of the CPS...

- |                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Rozzet Jurdi    | University of Western Ontario |
| Eric Tenkorang  | University of Western Ontario |
| David Walters   | University of Guelph          |
| Ayesha Williams | University of Western Ontario |

### CPS Officers: 2004-2006

- President:** R. Fernando, UWO  
**Vice-President:** G. Goldman, Stat. Canada  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** T. Abada, UWO  
**Councillors:**  
 Anne Gauthier University of Calgary  
 Stephen Obeng Gyimah Queen's University  
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 Charles Jones University of Toronto  
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**Student Representative:** Kelli Phythian, UWO  
**CSP Journal Editor:** W.W. McVey, U of Alberta  
**CPS Newsletter Editor:** M. Cooke, U of Waterloo

Deadline for articles for the next issue of CPS News : January 31, 2006

## News from the ADQ ...

The next symposium of the *Association des démographes du Québec* will be held in Montreal from May 15-19, 2006 at the 74<sup>th</sup> annual ACFAS conference at *McGill University*. The symposium's theme is "*Urban Demography*". As usual, a day or two will also be reserved for plenary sessions for more general demographic topics such as Health, Family, Language, etc. Please visit the ACFAS web site ([www.acfas.ca](http://www.acfas.ca)) for more information.

Pascale Beaupré  
Conference organiser, ADQ  
(613) 951-2445

### Keeping Posted...

#### Personal and Professional Activities

**Roderic Beaujot** continues to be Academic Director of the Statistics Canada Research Data Centre at the University of Western Ontario, and Director of the Population Studies Centre. At the IUSSP meetings in France he organized a session on "The causes of low fertility". With **Zenaida Ravanera** and **David Hall**, he continues with his SSHRC grant on "Gender, interpersonal risk and childbearing".

**Gustave Goldmann** participated in a panel discussion entitled "Longitudinal Surveys of Immigrants – Essential for Informed Policy Making" at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Metropolis Conference in Toronto on October 20, 2005. His presentation, "Immigrant settlement in a complex national and international climate: Highlights of a research program", is based on the work that he is doing with Jean Renaud of the Université de Montréal.

## Professors Assist in Katrina Aftermath

When Hurricane Katrina displaced thousands from their homes in September, it created enormous challenges for communities in the Southern U.S. As in many disasters of this kind, the efforts of volunteers are critical in meeting the immediate needs of those affected. Professors from the University of Mississippi responded to the need by organizing rescue missions to deliver supplies to some of those left stranded in washed-out homes and shelters. **David Swanson**, CPS member and Director of the Center for Population Studies at the University of Mississippi, along with his wife Rita Swanson, a Registered Nurse, were part of a team that also included faculty from Purdue and the University of Kentucky. The team delivered supplies donated by faculty and students, including shoes and socks, insect repellent, food, water, and medical supplies, as well as "I'm safe" forms to the flood-stricken area of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. They also transported a family of six from a temporary shelter at a school to a camp operated by the Methodist Church in Oxford, Mississippi. The team later helped the family, with their three dogs, to join up with friends in Wisconsin.

### Aboriginal Policy Research

**Jerry White** and **Paul Maxim** have been awarded a \$30,000 SSHRC President's Innovation Fund grant to develop the linkage between research and policy making and the awareness of Aboriginal Policy Research.

The *Second Triannual Aboriginal Policy Research Conference* will be held in Ottawa, March 21-23 2006 at the Westin Conference Centre. Organized and sponsored by Sociology Western, The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the National Association of Friendship Centres. Space is limited to the first 1000 delegates. Information at <http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/sociology/aprc-crmpa/>

# Student Announcements

Kelly Phythian

Congratulations to all of our student members for your achievements! Below is a list of our recent conference presentations, publications, awards, and accomplishments. The CPS is proud that its student members have been active in academic life and we wish you all continuous success.

## Fellowships and Awards

**Jennie Mae Thompson.** Ellen Nielsen Award for Outstanding Achievement in Graduate Work, Department of Sociology, The University of Western Ontario.

## Special Announcements

Congratulations to **Yimin Lou**, who successfully defended her Master's thesis entitled, "What Happens to The 'Healthy Immigrant Effect': The Mental Health of Immigrants to Canada" on 12 August 2005 at the University of Western Ontario. **Yimin** is now doing doctoral work at RAND in Los Angeles. Wishing you all the best, Yimin!

Congratulations to **Ann Kim**, who will be defending her Ph.D. dissertation on 31 October 2005. Ann is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at Brown University. Following her defense, you will find Ann working with **Monica Boyd** and **Eric Fong** as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto. Good luck Ann!

And best wishes to **Christopher J. Fries**. Christopher has recently accepted an appointment as Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Manitoba. You can find some of Christopher's recent work in the *Canadian Journal of Public Health* and *Canadian Ethnic Studies*. Congratulations!

As student representative of the CPS, I would like to thank all of you who contributed information on your achievements for this column. We would like to continue providing updates of the accomplishments of our student members in future newsletters. Please continue to send details of your publications, conferences, awards, thesis/dissertation defenses, and other relevant announcements as they occur to [klphythi@uwo.ca](mailto:klphythi@uwo.ca).

## Student Publications/Discussion Papers

**Erfani, A.** 2005. "Shifts in Social Development and Fertility Decline in Iran: A Cluster Analysis of Provinces, 1986-1996." Discussion Paper 05-12. Population Studies Centre, The University of Western Ontario.

**Erfani, A.** and R. Beaujot. 2005. "Familial Orientation and the Rationales of Childbearing Behaviour." Discussion Paper 05-07. Population Studies Centre, University of Western Ontario (In submission to academic journal).

Balakrishnan T, P. Maxim, and **R. Jurdi**. 2005. "Residential segregation and socio-economic integration of visible minorities in Canada." *Migration Letters*, 2(2): 126-144.

El Kak F, **R. Jurdi**, A. Kaddour, and H. Zurayk. 2005. "Gender and sexual health in clinical practice in Lebanon." *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, 87(3): 260-266.

White, M. J., **A. H. Kim** and J. E. Glick. 2005. "Mapping Social Distance: Ethnic Residential Segregation in a Multiethnic Metro." *Sociological Methods and Research*, 34: 173-203.

Gyimah, S. O., D. Walters, and **K. L. Phythian**. "Ethnicity, Immigration, and Housing Wealth in Toronto." *Canadian Journal of Urban Research* 2005; December (in press).

# Social Networks and Disaster Recovery

**David Swanson**, chair of the Sociology & Anthropology Department at University of Mississippi and two other Ole Miss faculty, Rich Forgette, Chair of the Political Science Department and Mark van Boening, chair of the Economics Department, have received word from the US National Science Foundation of forthcoming approval of their "fast track" proposal to study perceptions of relief and recovery, and the role of social networks among Mississippi Gulf Coast residents in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The researchers will conduct a field survey in Hancock and Harrison counties, two of the hardest counties in the Mississippi Gulf Coast region. Their survey instruments will measure the strength and number of kinship and neighbor relationships for individuals within various Mississippi Gulf Coast communities, providing a measure of bonding and bridging networks in these communities. The broader impact of this research is that it will enhance the ability of communities and groups to understand how aspects of public policy, health, safety and public welfare can be addressed in advance and in the aftermath of catastrophic natural events by identifying community social networks. For more information, contact David Swanson at [dswanson@olemiss.edu](mailto:dswanson@olemiss.edu).

## Conference Presentations

- T. R. Balakrishnan, P. Maxim, and R. Jurdi.** *Residential segregation and socio-economic integration of visible minorities in Canada* presented at the XXV IUSSP International Population Conference, Tours, France 18-23 July 18-23, 2005.
- M. Boyd, and L. Kaida.** *Foreign Trained and Female: The Double Negative at Work in Engineering Occupations* presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, May 2005.
- S. O. Gyimah, B.K. Takyi, and G. Fosu.** *Religion and HIV/AIDS Related Behaviour of Men.* Presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Philadelphia, USA, March 31-April 2 2005.
- K. Maximova and Amélie Quesnel-Vallée.** *Unintended Births, Involuntary Childlessness, and Depression: Life Course Dynamics* presented at the International Sociological Association Mid-Congress Symposium on Inequalities in Population, Sliema, Malta, September 15-16, 2005.
- K. Phythian.** *Ethnic attachments and their effects on the economic integration of Canada's racial minority immigrants* presented at the International Sociological Association Mid-Congress Symposium on Inequalities in Population, Sliema, Malta, Mid-Congress Symposium on Inequalities in Population, Sliema, Malta, September 15-16, 2005.
- D. Swanson with S. El-Badry.** *Controversy over Providing Special Census Tabulations to Government Security Agencies: the Case of Arab-Americans.* Presented at the 2005 Conference of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, Tours, France, 18-23 July, 2005.
- J.M. Thompson.** *Severity of Sentencing in the Criminal Justice System: Theoretical and Methodological Issues in the Study of the Impact of Social Class on Severity of Sentencing* presented at the Third Annual Conference of the Canadian Society of Criminology at York University, Toronto, 2005.

## Social Development Canada

In news from SDC, **Pierre Turcotte**, previously of Statistics Canada, has now joined Social Development Canada as an Assistant Director in the Knowledge and Research Division.

## Forthcoming Conferences

### ESRC/JISC Census Programme

Census: Present and Future  
16-17 November 2005,  
University of Leicester, UK  
<http://census.ac.uk> .

### Federation of Canadian Demographers (FCD)

Longitudinal Studies and demographic Challenges of  
the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
November 18-19, 2005  
Montreal, Quebec  
[http://www.demo.umontreal.ca/conf\\_demo/english.htm](http://www.demo.umontreal.ca/conf_demo/english.htm)

### Vienna Institute of Demography (VID)

International Seminar on Postponement of  
Childbearing in Europe  
1-3 December, 2005  
Vienna, Austria  
<http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/>

### Second Triennial Aboriginal Policy Research Conference

March 21-23, 2006  
Ottawa, Ontario  
<http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/sociology/aprc-crmpa/>

### Population Association of America (PAA)

March 30-April 1, 2006  
Los Angeles, California  
<http://www.popassoc.org/meetings.html>

### L'Association francophone pour le savoir (ACFAS)

May 15-19, 2006  
Montreal, Quebec  
Deadline for submitting abstracts is January 6, 2006.  
<http://www.acfas.ca>

### Statistics Canada Socio-Economic Conference 2006

May 15-16, 2006  
Ottawa, Canada  
Deadline for submitting abstracts is November 10  
2006.  
[miles.corak@statcan.ca](mailto:miles.corak@statcan.ca)  
[darren.lauzon@statcan.ca](mailto:darren.lauzon@statcan.ca)  
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/conferences/socioeconomic2006/>

### International Conference on Longevity: Early-life Conditions, Social Mobility and Other Factors that Influence Survival to Old Age

June 8-10, 2006  
Lund, Sweden,  
<http://www.iussp.org/Activities/scc-his2/hist%20early-lifeannounce.pdf>

### 2006 European Population Conference

June 20-24, 2006  
Deadline for submitting abstracts is [November 1, 2006](#)  
<http://epc2006.princeton.edu>

### European Society for Population Economics (ESPE).

June 22-24, 2006  
Verona, Italy  
Deadline for submitting abstracts is February 1, 2006  
<http://dse.univr.it/espe/>

### World Congress of Sociology

July 23-29, 2006  
Durban, South Africa  
<http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/congress2006/>

### International Conference on Child Cohort Studies

Oxford, UK  
September 12-14, 2006  
<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/news.asp?section=000100010003&item=282>

### Association internationale des démographes de langue française (AIDELF)

September 18-23, 2006  
Aveiro, Portugal  
<http://www.aidelf.org>

## Recent Member Publications

**Beaujot R. & J. Liu.** 2005. "Models of time use in paid and unpaid work". *Journal of Family Issues* 26: 924-946.

Gebrenegus, G., **S. O. Gyimah**, P. Lofstedt, & A. Johnson . 2005. "The use of flexible parametric duration functions in modelling the tempo of fertility: Applications to the analysis of birth intervals in rural China". *Population Review*, 44(1):1-25. Available online [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/population\\_review/toc/prv44.1.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/population_review/toc/prv44.1.html)

**Gyimah, S. O.** 2005. "The dynamics of timing and spacing of births in Ghana". *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*. 36(1): 41-60.

**Gyimah , S. O.** 2005. "Polygamous Marital Structure and Child Survivorship in Ghana: Age Dependent Effect?" *Population Studies Centre Discussion Paper*. Number 05-13. The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada.

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- Gyimah, S. O., Maxim, P & White, J.** 2005. "Cohort perspectives on educational attainment and timing of parenthood in Ghana". *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*. 26(1) 123-142.
- Hou, F. & Myles, J.** 2005. "Neighbourhood inequality, neighbourhood affluence and population health". *Social Science & Medicine*. 60 (7): 1557-1569.
- Kerr, D. & Beaujot R.** 2005. "Demographic change and mandatory retirement in Canada", Pp. 102-117 in C.T. Gillin, D. MacGregor and T.R. Klassen (ed.), *Time's Up! Mandatory Retirement in Canada*. Toronto: James Lorimer and Company.
- Ng E & Wilkins R, Gendron F, Berthelot J-M.** 2005. Dynamics of immigrants' health in Canada: evidence from the National Population Health Survey. *Healthy today, healthy tomorrow? Findings from the National Population Health Survey*. Ottawa: Statistics Canada catalogue 82-618, 2:1-11.
- Ng E & Wilkins R, Gendron F, Berthelot J-M.** 2005. "The changing health of immigrants." *Canadian Social Trends* 2005 Autumn;15-19. Statistics Canada catalogue 11-008.
- Schellenberg, G. & **Hou, F.** 2005. "The economic well-being of recent immigrants to Canada". *Canadian Issues*. Spring 2005.
- Ram, B. & Hou, F.** 2005. "Sex differences in the effects of family structure on children's aggressive behavior". *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*. 36 (2): 329-341.
- Renaud, J. & **G. Goldmann.** 2005. "Les répercussions du 11 septembre 2001 sur l'établissement économique des nouveaux immigrants au Canada et au Québec". *Recherches sociographiques*. XLVI : 2.
- Swanson, D.** (with L. Pol) 2005 "Contemporary Developments in Applied Demography within the United States." *Journal of Applied Sociology*. 21 (2): 26-56.
- Wilkins R.** 2005. Study: Childhood leukemia and socioeconomic status, 1985 to 2001. *The Daily* July 5:4.
- Wilkins R.** 2005. *PCCF+ Version 4F User's Guide. Automated geographic coding based on the Statistics Canada*

## Population Change and Public Policy

The SSHRC Strategic Research Cluster on *Population Change and Public Policy* has received support from the University of Western Ontario, and has been invited to apply for an interim grant from SSHRC. The leadership team for this cluster includes **Roderic Beaujot** (PI), **Monica Boyd**, Robert Bourbeau, **Céline Le Bourdais**, **Kevin McQuillan**, **Zenaida Ravanera**, Byron Spencer, **Frank Trovato**, and **Zheng Wu**.

An agreement with the Policy Research Initiative called "The Population, Work and Family Policy Research Collaboration" that brings the cluster into activities and exchanges at the federal level. This agreement with the PRI also includes the clusters on *The Canadian Labour Market* (Craig Riddell as PI) and *Bringing all the Threads Together: The Contribution of Longitudinal & Lifecourse Approach to Knowledge, Informed Public Debate and Decision Making* (Paul Bernard as PI). In this context, we took part in the 24 May 2005 PRI *SSHRC Policy Research Roundtable* on "Population aging, older workers and the labour market". We were also included in a consultation with senior civil servants sponsored by PRI on "Population, work and family issues and public policy" held on 21 September. We are taking part in a PRI project on "Work-life balance" that will be part of a 1-2 December roundtable on family questions being organized by Social Development Canada. The Population, Work and Family Policy Research Collaboration is planning a first annual symposium for January 2006. The agreement has now evolved to include more formal participation of Social Development Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

Over the coming year, other planned activities include a mini-conference on "demographic trends and inequality", and a workshop to plan research on "issues of low fertility". For further information, consult:

<http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/sociology/popchange/>





**FEDERATION OF CANADIAN DEMOGRAPHERS**  
**FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DE DÉMOGRAPHIE**

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**INVITATION**

The Federation of Canadian Demographers invites you to the **Special Conference** :

**Longitudinal Studies and  
Demographic Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

November 18 and 19, 2005  
Université de Montréal  
Pavillon Roger-Gaudry  
2900, Boul. Édouard Montpetit

Preliminary program available on the Web Site  
([http://www.demo.umontreal.ca/conf\\_demo/](http://www.demo.umontreal.ca/conf_demo/))

**About 60 papers**

- **Family transformation**
- **International immigration and the integration of immigrants in host societies**
- **Youth and the transitions to adulthood**
- **Patterns of labour market participation including the transition to retirement**
- **Health during the various life stages**

**Keynote Speakers**

**JAMES F. PHILLIPS**  
Senior Associate, Policy Research Division  
Population Council, New York.

**CÉLINE LE BOURDAIS**  
Canada Research Chair in Social Statistics and Family Change  
Department of sociology, McGill University.

**Register now**

Registration Form available on the Web Site

# Statistics Canada: Upcoming General Social Surveys

## Cycle 18

On November 24, 2005, Statistics Canada is releasing the Public Use Microdata file for Cycle 18 of the General Social Survey (GSS) on **Victimization**. This follows the release of preliminary findings from this survey in Statistics Canada's The Daily ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)) on July 7 and 14, 2005.

Cycle 18 of the GSS was conducted between January and December 2004. This is the fourth cycle of the GSS (after cycles 3, 8 and 13) to collect information on the nature and extent of criminal victimization in Canada. Content from Cycle 13 on senior abuse and public perception of alternatives to imprisonment was not repeated. New topics of interest were added including stalking, use of restraining orders and social disorder. Other subjects common to all four cycles include perceptions of crime, police and courts; crime prevention precautions; and accident and crime incident reports.

For more information about Cycle 18 of the General Social, contact the Dissemination Unit, Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division at (613) 951-5979 (e-mail: [sasd-dssea@statcan.ca](mailto:sasd-dssea@statcan.ca)).

## Cycle 19

**Time Use** is the core topic for the 2005 General Social Survey. The survey, currently in the field, collects information from selected respondents aged 15 years and over from roughly 25,000 households across Canada. The respondents are asked to report a diary of their time use over a 24-hour period. The diary provides information on how Canadians allocated their time for work, both paid and unpaid, as well as personal and leisure activities. The survey covers a wide range of topics such as unpaid household responsibilities, commuting patterns, participation in sports, volunteer, and cultural activities, and the social ties of Canadians. This is the fourth time that the GSS will collect data on the subject of time use in Canada. Similar information had been collected by the GSS in 1998, 1992 and 1986.

Information from this survey will be available in the summer of 2006.

Marcel Béchard  
[marcel.bechard@statcan.ca](mailto:marcel.bechard@statcan.ca)

## Cycle 20

The 2006 General Social Survey will be on **Family Transitions**. It is the fourth cycle of the GSS (the first three were Cycles 5, 10 and 15) to collect data on families. Cycle 20 covers much the same content as previous cycles on families with some sections revised and expanded. The data enable analysts to measure conjugal and fertility history (chronology of marriages, common-law unions, and children), family origins, children's home leaving, fertility intentions, child custody as well as work history and other socioeconomic characteristics. Questions on financial support agreement or arrangements (for children and the ex-spouse/ex-partner) for separated and divorced families have been modified. Also, sections on social networks, well-being and housing characteristics have been added.

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### Cycle 21:

The 2007 General Social Survey will be on Older Canadians: **Family, Work and Retirement**. This GSS cycle will survey older Canadians on their experiences of transitions such as job changes, moving from work to retirement (and back to work), retraining, family formation or dissolution, residential transitions, choices related to finding balance and satisfaction in life, and taking on care-giving responsibilities for parents, children or grandchildren. The survey will measure experiences of social networks, community, workplace environment, leisure, as well as the exchange of resources in relation to key transitions for older Canadians. New content includes quantifying the consequences of care-giving on the caregivers by looking at changes in their labour productivity, job attrition, pension accumulation and experiences of re-entry into the labour force.

Heather Dryburgh  
[heather.dryburgh@statcan.ca](mailto:heather.dryburgh@statcan.ca)

## The Family, Community, and Health in the Context of Economic Change

Investigators from the Population Studies Centre and the Aging and Health Research Centre at Western have completed the research project, *The Family, Community, and Health in the Context of Economic Change*. From January 2004 to September 2005, the research team led by **Rod Beaujot** examined the relation between family structure and health of adults and children, the influence of income and community characteristics on health, the differences by social class in trajectories to parenthood, and the impact on fertility of values attributed to children. Funding for the project was provided by Health Canada through its Applied Research and Analysis Directorate.

Making use of data from surveys conducted by Statistics Canada such as the National Population Health Surveys, National Longitudinal Surveys on Children and Youth, Canadian Community Health Survey, and the 2001 General Social Survey on Family History, 15 studies were completed including *Aggregate-level Community Characteristics and Health* by **Roderic Beaujot** and **Jianlin Niu**; *The Effects of Being Bullied on Self-Rated Overall Health and Depression among Canadian Adolescents* by **Teresa Abada**, **Feng Hou** and **Bali Ram**; *Parental Marital Status, Perceived Stress and Mediating Factors* by **Ali Muhammad** and **Alain Gagnon**; *Health over the Life Course: A Chain Graph Model of Inter-relationships among Socio-demographic, Societal and Lifestyle Factors* by **Fernando Rajulton** and **Jianlin Niu** and *Neighborhood Characteristics, Individual and Household Attributes and Health Perception among Elderly Canadians* by **D. Walter Rasugu Omariba**. The project also supported two MA students enabling them to complete their thesis: *What Happens to the 'Healthy Immigrant Effect': The Mental Health of Immigrants to Canada* by Yimin Lou and *Why are Canadians Having Children? An Investigation of the Value attributed to Children and its Impact on Demand for Children* by Melissa Moyser.

For further information, consult: [www.ssc.uwo.ca/sociology/familyhealth/](http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/sociology/familyhealth/)

## CPS 2006...

Gustave Goldmann

Planning is underway for the 2006 CPS meetings. A call for session proposals was sent out about 1 month ago. A number of proposals have been received and I look forward to others. Suggestions, including an abstract and proposed chair, were to be sent to me (at [gustave.goldmann@statcan.ca](mailto:gustave.goldmann@statcan.ca)) by **October 21<sup>st</sup>**. We are exploring the possibility of joint sessions with the CSAA and the PAA. We will also cross-list sessions that may be of interest to our members (e.g. sessions dealing with the Canadian Century Research Initiative). Naturally we will continue with our annual series of methods symposia. The focus of this year's workshop has yet to be finalised. Suggestions are welcome...