



EAST-WEST CENTER

Thirty-Third Summer Seminar on Population

30 May – 29 June 2002 ■ Honolulu, Hawaii

The 2002 Summer Seminar on Population will consist of three workshops:

Workshop 1

- Analyzing Adolescent Risk-Taking Behavior and Evaluating Intervention Programs

Workshop 2

- Using HIV/AIDS Models for Advocacy, Policy, and Planning in Asia and the Pacific

Workshop 3

- Communicating Population and Health Research to Policymakers
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For further information and application forms, contact:

33rd Summer Seminar on Population

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Workshop One: Analyzing Adolescent Risk-Taking Behavior and Evaluating Intervention Programs

In many Asian and Pacific countries, the shift from traditional agriculture toward an industrial, export-based economy has brought about dramatic changes in the lives of young people. Prolonged schooling, employment opportunities outside the home, and delayed marriage have created a population of “adolescents” unheard of a few decades ago. At the same time, the recent shift from high to low fertility has produced a temporary, but significant “youth bulge.” Today, both the absolute number of adolescents and the proportion that this age group comprises within Asian populations are the highest in history.

Recent studies have shown that young people in Asia and the Pacific are taking more risks with their health than was true in the past. Smoking, drinking, substance abuse, and premarital sex are all on the rise. In response, both governments and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) are formulating intervention programs and putting them in place in communities across the region. There is, thus, an urgent need to understand adolescent risk-taking behavior and to evaluate the effectiveness of intervention efforts.

Providing accurate information on this topic requires a careful, meticulous approach to research that is difficult and complex. Adolescents are notoriously difficult to reach for interviews, particularly once they have left school and are no longer living with their parents. Measuring the types of behavior that affect health often involves asking questions about sensitive personal issues. In recent years, new methods have been developed to obtain information on sensitive topics, and several surveys have been conducted in Asia, the Pacific, and the United States focusing on adolescent risk-taking behavior. Methods for monitoring and evaluating the impact of intervention programs have also progressed.

At the analytical level, statistical methods have been improved for analyzing a variety of dependent variables appropriate for the investigation of risk-taking behavior. For example, a researcher can identify the interrelationships among timing of school leaving, first sexual experience, and marriage from a survey of adolescents using event-history analysis. In addition, appropriate computer programs have been developed and are widely available, along with techniques to transform results into simple tabular and graphic formats appropriate for presentation to program managers and policymakers.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

This workshop will cover a variety of survey methods that have proven useful for collecting information on adolescent risk-taking behavior. Coordinators and participants will discuss factors associated with increased probability of risk taking, factors that appear to protect adolescents from risk taking, and attributes of intervention programs designed to modify adolescent risk taking. Discussions will show how different approaches to collecting data can produce widely differing results, for example, depending on how questions are worded and whether responses are clearly designated as confidential. Discussions will also focus on methods for collecting relevant information to evaluate intervention programs.

Sessions will then explore statistical methods commonly used for the analysis of risk factors and for evaluating the impact of interventions. The discussion will begin with the basics of causal analysis and continue to linear regression models, variations of regression models for categorical dependent variables such as binary and multinomial logistic models, and event-history analysis. Discussions will focus on how to translate a research question into a statistical model and on how to interpret and present the results of statistical analysis.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This workshop is designed for researchers who are planning surveys on health-related behavior among adolescents and young adults, analyzing survey data on adolescent risk-taking behavior, or evaluating adolescent intervention programs. It is also appropriate for researchers in related fields who want to learn about statistical methods for causal analysis, especially for analysis of categorical dependent variables and event histories. To gain the maximum benefit, participants are encouraged to bring their own survey data for analysis and discussion.

Prerequisites are training in social science or public health research and knowledge of basic statistical methods for causal analysis (such as regression models). A working knowledge of statistical analysis software packages such as SPSS, SAS, or STATA will be helpful.

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

The workshop will include discussions on adolescent risk-taking behavior and presentations on survey methods, the basics of program evaluation, statistical techniques, and computer applications. Discussions of survey methods will cover problems of sampling, obtaining information on sensitive topics, evaluating key elements of intervention programs, and assessing measures of health behavior. Presentations on statistical methods will cover basics of causal analysis, types of dependent and independent variables, multiple regression analysis, binary and multinomial logistic regression analysis, and event-history analysis. Discussions will follow on the interpretation and presentation of statistical analysis and effective dissemination of research results.

Hands-on experience with real data will be an integral part of the workshop. Participants will work individually or in small groups to identify a research question, design a plan for analysis, carry out the analysis, and present the results.

COORDINATORS

Minja Kim Choe (Ph.D. University of Hawaii) is a Senior Fellow in Population and Health Studies at the East-West Center. Dr. Choe has published many articles on the application of statistical methods to the study of demographic and health behavior and is coauthor (with Robert D. Retherford) of *Statistical methods for causal analysis* (New York: John Wiley, 1993). Her recent research activities include analysis of adolescent risk-taking behavior in China, Indonesia, Korea, Nepal, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Thailand.

John Toumbourou (Ph.D. University of Melbourne) is an Associate Professor in Adolescent Health at the University of Melbourne and a Senior Researcher at the University's Center for Adolescent Health. Dr. Toumbourou is a principal investigator on a number of studies of healthy youth development including the Australian Temperament Project and the International Youth Development study. He has also been involved in the development of a number of award-winning youth health-promotion projects.

Workshop Two: Using HIV/AIDS Models for Advocacy, Policy, and Planning in Asia and the Pacific

Since the Durban AIDS Conference in 2000, international support for HIV/AIDS programs has been rising. Much of the emphasis has been on the situation in Africa, however, with little attention paid to HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific. Yet in the past two years, newly emerging epidemics have been seen in populations of sex workers and clients, injecting drug users, and men having sex with men throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic started later in Asia and the Pacific than in many other parts of the world. This delay coupled with low prevalence levels—so far—has led to a great deal of complacency in the region. Many leaders mistakenly assume that HIV/AIDS will be confined to small groups with high levels of risk behavior and that most people in their countries will not be affected. Yet only recently, more than a decade after the introduction of HIV, infection levels have started rising in Indonesia, a society where risk behavior is considered extremely low. This illustrates that no country is immune to the spread of HIV.

To assess the likely progression of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, it is essential to understand both behavioral and epidemiological factors. This involves identifying available behavioral and epidemiological data, assessing the reliability of the data, applying the data to describe behavioral and epidemiological trends over time, fitting these past trends with models, and using the models to project the epidemic's future spread and impact. HIV/AIDS models fall into two major categories:

- *Curve-fitting models.* These attempt to fit mathematical curves to the observed prevalence trends. One recent curve-fitting model has been developed by UNAIDS (Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS) and WHO (World Health Organization) with support from DFID (the British government's Department for International Development). It is based on a set of epidemiologically derived mathematical equations.
- *Process models.* These seek to model the complex of behaviors that transmit HIV, including sex (heterosexual and same-sex), needle sharing, and childbearing (which can result in mother-to-child transmission). The East-West Center has recently collaborated with Mahidol University in Thailand and with the University of the Philippines to develop a new process model, the Asian Epidemic Model (AEM), with support from USAID (United States Agency for International Development). AEM specifically seeks to model the processes important to HIV transmission in Asia.

One or both of these modeling approaches may be applied, depending on the availability of epidemiological and behavioral data in a particular country. Each has its own strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. By analyzing existing data and applying either type of model, the user comes to a better understanding of the dynamics of the epidemic. This improved understanding can provide a basis for informed policy and program decisions.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES	<p>Participants will explore the application of the UNAIDS/WHO model and the Asian Epidemic Model to the HIV/AIDS situation in their own countries. In the process, they will analyze existing epidemiological and behavioral data, develop both types of model, examine the effects of various factors on the rate of growth and potential extent of the epidemic, and assess the potential impact on public health, the economy, and society at large. The Spectrum model developed by Futures Group will be used to facilitate the assessment of impact.</p>
WHO SHOULD ATTEND?	<p>This workshop is designed for participants in national HIV/AIDS programs, research universities, and other national or international organizations concerned with developing HIV/AIDS models for specific countries or for the Asia-Pacific region as a whole. It is also designed for participants concerned with using models to explore prevention alternatives and the effects of various prevention strategies on the epidemic and its impact on society. Participants should have a good familiarity with existing epidemiological and behavioral data for their countries and should bring appropriate data to the workshop for detailed analysis. No mathematical background is required, but participants should be familiar with computers and basic analytical tools such as Excel spreadsheets.</p>
WORKSHOP SESSIONS	<p>Workshop sessions will include presentations by the coordinator, resource persons, and participants. Ample time will be allowed for analyzing data, applying the two models, and preparing projections and impact assessments for each of the participants' countries. Sessions will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Analysis of epidemiological and behavioral data biases, quality, and implications for policy and program design ■ Preparation of epidemiological and behavioral trends in key sub-populations ■ Application of the UNAIDS/WHO Model and the Asian Epidemic Model ■ Preparation of country projections and impact assessments ■ Examination of the effects of policy and program alternatives on the course of the epidemic ■ Dissemination of assumptions, results, and policy and program implications of the models ■ Use of the models for advocacy—approaches and cautions <p>Copies of the models and training materials will be provided.</p> <p>Each group of country participants will be expected to prepare two models for their country using the two programs provided. They will also be expected to generate a detailed report describing their analysis of existing data sources, the behavioral and epidemiological trends they used, the assumptions and limitations of the models they produced, the results of the modeling exercise, and the resulting policy and program implications.</p>
COORDINATOR	<p>Tim Brown (Ph.D. University of Hawaii) is a Senior Fellow in Population and Health Studies at the East-West Center. He provides support to UNAIDS on modeling and second-generation surveillance in Asia and the Pacific and has worked extensively in HIV/AIDS modeling in the region. With Dr. Wiwat Peerapatanapokin, he developed the code for the UNAIDS/WHO model and the Asian Epidemic Model. He has experience in behavioral and epidemiological data analysis for HIV, second-generation surveillance systems, and public policy aspects of the AIDS epidemic.</p>

Workshop Three: Communicating Population and Health Research to Policymakers

Population and health studies, demographic surveys, censuses, and other research findings can play a key role in designing programs and guiding policy and resource-allocation decisions. Yet every year, millions of dollars are spent to produce research results that fail to reach policymakers and, consequently, are not used to shape policies and programs.

This research-to-policy gap can arise for a number of reasons. Sometimes, researchers do not ask the right questions, and their findings do not address important policy issues or provide the information that policymakers would find most useful. In other cases, research has policy relevance, but researchers fail to make the extra effort to communicate their findings in nontechnical language or to shape messages specifically for policy audiences.

The East-West Center and the Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs (JHU/CCP) have, between them, more than 20 years of experience conducting workshops to improve communications among population and health researchers, program managers, and policymakers. This year's workshop in Honolulu will offer participants a unique opportunity to benefit from the combined experience of both organizations.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVE	<p>The objective of this workshop is to help researchers become more effective communicators and advocates for evidence-based policies and programs. Specifically, participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Formulate policy messages based on research findings■ Create a policy-level communication and advocacy strategy■ Identify appropriate partners for strategic coalition building■ Develop skills for communicating with policymakers and the media <p>Sessions are designed to help participants identify the policy implications of survey data and research studies, understand how research can influence the policy process, and communicate research findings in simple and compelling formats. Each participant will have several opportunities to make oral presentations and written summaries in appropriate formats for policy audiences. Participants also will learn how to use computer-graphics software to enhance their oral and written presentation skills.</p>
WHO SHOULD ATTEND?	<p>The workshop has been planned primarily for researchers in fields related to population and reproductive health. Program managers and others responsible for formulating and implementing population and health programs will also benefit if they have a strong background in research and data analysis. Preferably, participants should have previous computer experience.</p> <p>Each participant should bring research results or survey data that can be used to address a policy problem. Ideally, participants should address issues relevant to their own programs. To make effective use of the training, participants should have access to computer facilities at their home institutions.</p>

■ WORKSHOP SESSIONS

The workshop will consist of a combination of plenary and small working-group sessions, emphasizing a hands-on, participatory approach. Sessions will cover six areas, each with a corresponding output:

■ *Exploring the research-to-policy gap and designing policy-relevant research*

Participants will examine contradictory ideas about the research process, differing roles of researchers and policymakers, and barriers to the use of research. Interactive exercises will include a case study that illustrates the design of policy-relevant research and participatory approaches to the research process.

■ *Developing strategies for communicating research results*

What are the key communication or advocacy objectives? Who are the primary and secondary audiences? What are the most important messages for these audiences? What are the most appropriate channels for delivering the messages? Who would be the best coalition members to support these messages? And what are the audiences expected to do with the information they receive? Each participant will develop a communication strategy that answers these questions.

■ *Communicating research results through the media*

A comprehensive policy-communication strategy requires an understanding of how to work effectively with the media. Participants will design a media strategy to communicate their research results to policymakers through newspapers, radio, and television. Skill-building

exercises will include drafting a press release, practicing interview techniques, and learning how to build and maintain good relationships with journalists.

■ *Conveying information in brief written formats*

Research results and policy messages must be presented in ways that policymakers can absorb quickly. One useful format is the short, well-written, and well-designed fact sheet. Participants will prepare a two-page fact sheet based on the current population and health situation in their home countries.

■ *Preparing policy memoranda and briefings*

Policy audiences are the individuals and groups who have the power to enact laws, make regulations, set policies, design and implement programs, and allocate funding—or to influence these processes. Presentation techniques designed for such audiences can enhance communication and advocacy efforts significantly. Participants will draft a policy memorandum and prepare a briefing for a high-level government official based on a case study. In a role-play exercise, participants will conduct policy briefings based on their memoranda.

■ *Making oral presentations using computer graphics*

The workshop will provide hands-on training in computer-graphics presentations using PC-based PowerPoint. Each participant will prepare a 10- to 15-minute oral presentation, supported by computer graphics, that communicates research findings to a selected policy audience. Presentations will be videotaped and critiqued. These ses-

sions will introduce a step-by-step approach to organizing effective policy presentations and will provide design tips for presenting text, graphs, charts, and diagrams.

■ Coordinators

Sidney B. Westley (B.A. Smith College) is Communications Specialist in Population and Health Studies at the East-West Center. Over the past 30 years, Ms. Westley has worked as a writer, editor, and communications director for international research organizations in Ethiopia, Kenya, and the United States. She specializes in helping researchers present their results to a broad audience and has taught courses in science writing for researchers and in science reporting for journalists.

Phyllis Tilson Piotrow (Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University) was the founder and first Director of the Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs (JHU/CCP). Dr. Piotrow has played a leading role in family planning and related health communication programs for 30 years. She served as legislative assistant to a U.S. Senator and was the first Executive Director of the Population Crisis Committee, now Population Action International.

Gladys V. Cortez (B.A. University of the Philippines) is the Health Education and Promotion Officer of the Philippine National AIDS Council (PNAC), Department of Health. Her responsibilities include training, media campaigns, social mobilization, and policy advocacy, and she provides technical assistance to PNAC member agencies in the government and private sector.

Information for Applicants

The 2002 Summer Seminar on Population will consist of three workshops:

- **Workshop 1: Analyzing Adolescent Risk-Taking Behavior and Evaluating Intervention Programs**
- **Workshop 2: Using HIV/AIDS Models for Advocacy, Policy, and Planning in Asia and the Pacific**
- **Workshop 3: Communicating Population and Health Research to Policymakers**

All workshops will be held at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, from 30 May to 29 June 2002. Each workshop will have an independent instructional program, but common activities will provide ample opportunity for professional interaction among all participants.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants for the Summer Seminar on Population should be university graduates proficient in English with training and experience in a field relevant to the topic of their workshop. Preference will be given to applicants holding appointments with universities, government agencies, or private organizations involved in research or planning and to doctoral candidates whose dissertation research is directly related to the workshop topic.

Individuals will be selected on the basis of their potential contribution to one of the Seminar's workshops and to future professional work. Assessment of each applicant's potential contribution will be based on the information provided in the application form plus the required workshop statement, other materials submitted as part of the application, and evidence of relevant experience and interest. In preparing application materials, applicants should take care to address the selection criteria that are specified in the relevant workshop description.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES

Persons who wish to take part in the 2002 Summer Seminar on Population should send the completed application form and other application documents as soon as possible to:

33rd Summer Seminar on Population

East-West Center, Population and Health Studies

1601 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96848-1601, U.S.A.

Telephone: 1-808-944-7410 (Peter Xenos)

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Fax: 1-808 944-7490

Email: sumsem@eastwestcenter.org

Information on the 33rd Summer Seminar on Population is available on the Internet at: www.eastwestcenter.org/events-ce-detail.asp?conf_ID=287. Application forms can be downloaded from the web site.

Application material should arrive in Honolulu by 15 February 2002. Applications sent by fax or email should be followed by an original sent by air mail. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Acceptance letters will be sent out by the middle of March.

Prospective applicants are advised to seek funding from their home organizations or from national or international agencies. The East-West Center can only provide tuition waivers to a very few outstanding candidates. Apart from these limited sources, applicants are expected to seek their own financial support. In submitting applications, evidence that support is available should be forwarded to the East-West Center as soon as possible. Information on funding is essential before documents can be sent out for visa purposes.

Applicants should submit application forms to meet the 15 February 2002 deadline even if they are still in the process of obtaining funding. Interested candidates who obtain funding after the deadline are encouraged to submit late applications, which will be seriously considered.

Citizens and permanent residents of Bangladesh, Samoa, Singapore, and Tonga must apply through their East-West Center country representatives. They should check with the country representatives listed here, who will explain in-country procedures and deadlines. All other candidates should apply

PARTICIPANT COSTS

Tuition	\$4,000
Housing (dormitory)	\$480*
Subsistence in Honolulu (\$30/day)	\$930*
Health insurance/repatriation	\$144*
Activity fee/bus pass	\$130
Total (not including airfare)	\$5,684

*For arrival on 30 May and departure on 29 June 2002.

directly to the East-West Center in Honolulu.

SEMINAR COSTS

The table above gives estimated participant costs for the 2002 Summer Seminar. These costs include all activities in Honolulu. **They do not include air travel.**

Graduate-student housing is available at the East-West Center. Accommodations comprise private rooms in all-male, all-female, or mixed dormitory areas, all with shared bathrooms and kitchens. The cost is \$480.

STAFF

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Private-sector applicants need not apply through the Public Service Division.

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EAST-WEST CENTER

The U.S. Congress established the East-West Center in 1960 with a mandate to “promote better relations and understanding between the United States and the nations of Asia and the Pacific through cooperative study, training, and research.” Officially known as the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange between East and West, the Center is a public, nonprofit institution with an international Board of Governors. Funding for the Center comes from the U.S. government with additional support provided by private agencies, individuals, corporations, and a number of Asian and Pacific governments.

For 33 years, the East-West Center has been a world leader in research and education on population issues in the Asia-Pacific region. More recently, the Center has expanded its activities to examine important health issues facing Asia and the Pacific. The Center conducts basic and applied research, offers professional education and training, and facilitates the exchange of information between policymakers and scholars on critical health and population issues facing the region. The goal is to improve understanding of how social, economic, cultural, political, and environmental conditions interact with health and demographic trends.

The annual Summer Seminar on Population is one of the Center's most important professional-development activities. Since the first Summer Seminar in 1969, nearly 2,000 participants have come to Honolulu from more than 30 countries. Former participants hold positions of responsibility in governments, universities, population programs, and research institutions, not only in Asia and the Pacific but also in Africa, Latin America, and the United States.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR COMMUNICATION PROGRAMS (JHU/CCP)

The Center for Communication Programs (JHU/CCP) was established in 1988 within the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health to focus attention on the central role of communication in health behavior and in social change and to provide leadership in the field of behavior-change communication. With nearly 500 staff in 31 countries, JHU/CCP has developed and managed more than 700 country-based projects and contracts in 81 countries involving more than 400 local organizations. With funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and other public- and private-sector donors, JHU/CCP specializes in the following areas:

- Advocacy and women's and community empowerment
- Maximizing access to and quality of health services
- Generating demand for quality health services and products
- Integrated reproductive health communication
- Large national and regional behavior-change projects
- Institution-building for behavior-change communication
- Interpersonal communication and counseling
- The Enter-Educate approach and the use of mass media
- The PRO Approach (PROmoting PROfessional PROviders)
- Community mobilization
- Research and evaluation as the basis for strong programs
- Men's participation in reproductive health
- Behavior-change communication for youth