



Public Administration Research Colloquium

Organized by the Center for Public and Nonprofit Management (CPNM)

Hear leading experts discuss contemporary problems and strategies in public administration research and practice during this event.

The Impact of Income Inequality on Social Capital and Adverse Social Outcomes

By Jeannie Schiff, Ph.D. Candidate

Thursday, October 22, 2009

4:00-5:30 p.m.

HPA II – 247

Please RSVP by October 20, Wednesday to Fatih Demiroz at fdemiroz@mail.ucf.edu.

An interdisciplinary approach to policy and governance recognizes that many social welfare problems are interrelated, and policy-makers seeking solutions have long recognized a need to address the root causes of these problems. There is much evidence that income inequality is one of these root causes but theorists caution that the relationships are complex and causal arrows could run in any direction. Recent research suggesting the effect of income inequality is mediated by social capital has further complicated the relationship. This session will discuss on-going research utilizing structural equation modeling (SEM) to investigate the contextual pathway between income inequality, social capital and selected outcomes in the four disciplinary areas of health care; criminal justice; social work and public administration. One of the key problems in this relationship involves the difficulty of measuring social capital. This session will present preliminary results of a test of a social capital measurement model at the county level.

Jeannie H. Schiff received a BA in Political Science from UCF in 1977 and embarked on a career as an intelligence officer in the US Air Force. She received her MPA from the University of Oklahoma while on active duty, and returned to UCF after retiring from the Air Force. She is currently a Presidential Fellow and Doctoral Candidate in the PhD Program in Public Affairs at UCF and serves as a Graduate Research Assistant in the PAF Department. Her research interests center on the political and social effects of economic inequality.

