This continuing seminar fosters interdisciplinary discussions and relationships among Case Western Reserve university, mobilizing faculty interest and participation in policy-related activities, creating opportunities for increased contact between researchers and the local policy community. CPI has enhanced the connections among research, education, and child policy at Case Western Reserve University, mobilizing faculty interest and participation in policy-related activities, creating opportunities for increased contact between researchers and the local policy community.

Continued Support from the George Gund Foundation

The Schubert Center is delighted to announce that the George Gund Foundation has awarded continued funding for the Child Policy Initiative (CPI) through 2009. Established in 2004 with the Foundations support, CPI is focused on three main areas: graduate education, early education, and health and policy at Case Western Reserve University, mobilizing faculty interest and participation in policy-related activities, creating opportunities for increased contact between researchers and the local policy community.

Over the past three years, CPI has developed three new child policy courses, two of which include experiential components to give students a firsthand look at the policymaking process. Students have met with policymakers and advocates in Columbus, Ohio and Washington, D.C. As their work has evolved in the field, they have published a number of Child Policy Initiative-focused policy papers, many of which have been disseminated to local, state, and federal policymakers, and many others who are interested in policy development.

The final highlight of CPIs first phase was an inaugural Legislative Breakfast in January 2008 which brought together local and federal policymakers, and many others who are interested in policy development. For more information about the work of CPI, visit the Child Policy Briefs section of the Schubert Center website. (See also cover story.) As Life Unfolds...
Manh Child Policy Externship

With support from the Manh Robbins Fund, the Schubert Center organizes “externships” for undergraduates seeking experience working with various community organizations involved in child policy. Since 2007, eleven students have served as Manh Child Policy Externs with various community organizations including the Center for Community Solutions, Voices for Children, in Children, and the Alliance of Child Caregiving Service Providers.

Ms. McRitchie was selected to participate in an externship at the Governor’s Office of Children, Youth, and Families. Her placement experiences included attending meetings of the Governor’s cabinet, participating in rapid response training exercises, and meeting with representatives of policy, education, and advocacy groups.

As the semester progressed, I started to realize that many of the behavioral problems that psychologists must face could be ameliorated through education. I have learned that in a society with an increasing emphasis on problem solving, mathematical and technological competence, and scientific research, a strong educational foundation is necessary to lay the groundwork for higher education, specialization, and national growth. However, the public health education community continually strives to meet the needs of many children while overcoming the years when the brain is most malleable.

The Schubert Center looks forward to sponsoring and taking part in other events when community members, researchers, policymakers, and advocates interact face-to-face with children and families in our community.

The Schubert Center is Expanding

We are happy to welcome two new associate directors and a department assistant at the Schubert Center for Child Studies.

Elizabth Short, Associate Director. Dr. Short has been on the faculty since 1984 and is currently a professor at the College of Arts and Sciences at Case Western Reserve University, promoting early and social development of a variety of populations, including very low birthweight children, children exposed to violence, and children with a variety of diagnosed problems (e.g., learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, language disabilities, reading disabilities, and autism). She has been involved with the Schubert Center for Child Studies since 1997 and has oversaw the childhood obesity and early care and education campaigns since 2006. As one of the Center’s associate directors, she will take a leadership role in childhood studies programming and advocacy.

Elizabeth Short, Associate Director. Dr. Short has been on the faculty since 1984 and is currently a professor at the College of Arts and Sciences at Case Western Reserve University, promoting early and social development of a variety of populations, including very low birthweight children, children exposed to violence, and children with a variety of diagnosed problems (e.g., learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, language disabilities, reading disabilities, and autism). She has been involved with the Schubert Center for Child Studies since 1997 and has oversaw the childhood obesity and early care and education campaigns since 2006. As one of the Center’s associate directors, she will take a leadership role in childhood studies programming and advocacy.

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