Staff members, Bureau of Economic and Business Research
July 2008

Director:
Stanley Smith, Ph.D., Professor and Program Director

Operations Programs

Administrative Services:
Clint Collins, B.S., Program Director
Janet Fletcher
Paula Ivey
Pamela Middleton

Information Technology:
Clint Collins, B.S., Program Director
Eric Lavigne, M.S.
Martin Smith, B.S.
Geoff Stewart, A.A.

Information/Publications Services:
Susan Floyd, M.A., Program Director
Eve Irwin, B.A.
Phoebe Wilson, A.A.

Research Programs

Economic Analysis:
James (Jim) Dewey, Ph.D., Program Director
David Denslow, Ph.D., Professor of Economics
Babak (Bob) Lotfinia, B.A.
Lynne Holt, Ph.D. (part-time)

Population:
Stanley Smith, Ph.D., Professor and Program Director
Scott Cody, M.B.A.
Stefan Rayer, Ph.D.

Survey:
Chris McCarty, Ph.D., Professor and Program Director
Mark Girson, B.S.
Scott Richards, M.A.
Joel Montero, A.A.
Armando Padilla, A.A.
About the BEBR

Founded in 1929, the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) is an applied research center in the Warrington College of Business Administration at the University of Florida (UF). Its primary missions are to: 1) Produce, collect, and tabulate economic and demographic data for Florida and its local areas; 2) Conduct economic, demographic, and public policy research on topics of particular importance to the state of Florida; and 3) Distribute data and research findings throughout the state and the nation. BEBR seeks to conduct research that is both academically sound and directly relevant to public and private decision makers in Florida.

BEBR plays a number of roles within the state, the college, and the university. It conducts research that helps decision makers understand Florida's rapidly changing economic and demographic climate. It provides employment and training for numerous graduate students and more than 300 undergraduate students and part-time employees each year. It generates revenues by obtaining research contracts and grants and by selling data and publications. It creates favorable publicity for the college and the university through its publications, presentations, reference services, and contributions to public policy. Its staff members teach several courses each year. BEBR activities thus fall within the university's traditional functions of teaching, research, and service, but the impact of those activities spreads far beyond campus boundaries.

The Year in Review

BEBR staff members were very active in 2007-2008, serving as principal investigators on research contracts with 28 agencies, generating more than $2 million in total revenue; writing 10 articles accepted for publication in scholarly journals; publishing three articles in Florida Focus, two reports for the Florida Legislature, one book chapter, and 11 technical reports or data compilations; presenting nine papers at professional conferences; serving on 23 university, professional, or civic boards and committees; teaching nine courses (with more than 3,300 students) in academic departments; making 13 presentations to civic groups throughout the state; and responding to more than 3,000 requests for information from businesses, government agencies, the media, and members of the general public. These activities helped solidify BEBR’s national reputation as an innovative and productive applied research center and a leading source of socioeconomic and demographic data for the state of Florida.

The Population Program made population estimates for all cities and counties in Florida; estimates of households and average household size for the state and each county; and population projections by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin for the state and each county. These estimates and projections are used for a variety of planning and budgeting purposes, including the distribution of funds through the state’s revenue-sharing program. Staff members also conducted research on a variety of demographic topics, provided data to the U.S. Census Bureau, and responded to requests for demographic data and analysis from state and local government officials, business leaders, university researchers, members of the media, and the general public.
Stan Smith, director of the Population Program, had articles accepted for publication in *Demography* and the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, one co-authored with Chris McCarty and the other co-authored with Stefan Rayer and Eleanor Smith. Rayer had an article accepted for publication in the *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. Smith reviewed four manuscripts for scholarly publications; presented a paper and chaired two sessions at professional conferences; taught a course on population economics; served on the National Research Council’s Panel on the Design of the 2010 Census Program of Evaluations and Experiments; and was a member of the U.S. Census Bureau’s population estimation review and evaluation committee. Smith and Scott Cody served as Florida’s representatives to the Federal-State Cooperative Programs for Population Estimates, and Smith and Rayer served as Florida’s representatives to the Federal-State Cooperative Program for Population Projections.

The **Survey Program** had another productive year, both in terms of generating revenues through contracts and grants and making a variety of improvements to the operation of the survey lab. Surveys were conducted for several UF colleges including Business Administration, Education, and Law; research centers including the UF Institute for Child Health Policy; state agencies including the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families and Department of Transportation; and outside organizations including the Kaiser Family Foundation and RAND Corporation. Overall, the program conducted 55 surveys and produced more than 60,000 completed interviews.

The Survey Program also continued its development of the “Scheduler” lab management software program. This Java-based program is built around Wincati, a computer program licensed for survey sample management. Over the past year two critical modules were added, one for real-time budgeting and the other for monitoring attendance. Staff members also made improvements to existing modules that schedule interviewers and evaluate their productivity. The Scheduler program produced substantial cost savings by incorporating roles previously performed by supervisors and by more closely monitoring income, expenditures, and interviewer activity.
Chris McCarty, director of the Survey Program, co-authored articles that will be published in *International Sociology* and *Maternal and Child Nutrition*. He received two grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and served as a consultant on two other grants. He presented workshops on social networks at two national conferences; co-organized the Sunbelt Social Networks Conference; gave talks at two universities; presented a paper at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association; reviewed proposals for two NSF panels; taught a course on survey research methods; and served on faculty advisory committees for UF’s Water Institute and Medicaid Research Center.

The **Economic Analysis Program** published the Florida Price Level Index for the Legislature's use in allocating K-12 education funds and the Florida County Retail Price and Wage Indices for general use. In conjunction with UF’s Shimberg Center and researchers at Florida State University, staff members completed an analysis of the effects of the proposed changes to Florida's property tax system, as described in Amendment 1 to the Florida Constitution voted on earlier this year. A summary of the results were published in *Florida Focus*.

Jim Dewey, director of the Economic Analysis Program, co-authored an article with Dave Denslow and several others that was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Teacher Education*. He also presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Science Association and was invited to join the advisory board for the ACCRA Cost of Living Index. Dave Denslow co-authored an update of *Tough Choices* and made 12 presentations to government, civic, and business groups throughout the state. He also served as a member of Gainesville’s Police and Fire Pension Board, the Collins Institute Board of Directors, and the Florida Council of Economic Advisers. Lynne Holt co-authored papers that will be published in the *CommLaw Conspectus: Journal of Communications Law & Policy*, the *Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law* and the *Texas Journal of Oil, Gas and Energy Law*. She and Bob Lotfinia published a book chapter on Florida’s education finance system.

The **Information/Publications Services Program** produced and published three annual statistical volumes about Florida and three monthly or annual reports during the past year: *Florida Statistical Abstract (41st edition)*, *Florida County Rankings*, *Florida County Perspective*, *Annual State and County Building Permits and Housing Starts, 1976-2006* and *1976-2007*, *Building Permit Activity in Florida*, and *Gross and Taxable Sales*. Staff members also published and distributed *Florida Estimates of Population* and three issues of *Florida Population Studies*. Staff members edited and published three online Economic Analysis Program (EAP) reports and indexed a book chapter authored by EAP staff members. Staff members are currently working with the Florida State Fire Marshal’s office to produce the *Florida Public Schools Annual Fire Safety Report*.

Additionally, staff members coordinated, copy-edited, and published three online *Florida Focus* articles during the year, managed the BEBR web site content, monitored web site use statistics, and regularly uploaded news articles to the “BEBR in the News” section of the web site. Current web-based projects include assessing usability and evaluating design issues related to user feedback. Staff members responded to more than 2,300 telephone and e-mail information requests throughout the year. Susan Floyd, Eve Irwin, and Phoebe Wilson served as judges for
the 2007 Association for University Business and Economic Research (AUBER) Publications Award of Excellence. Susan Floyd served on the AUBER board of directors, as a session coordinator, chairperson, and presenter for the 2007 annual fall conference held and is planning sessions for the 2008 conference.

UF recently implemented a “Think Before You Ink” campaign to curtail printing costs by encouraging electronic printing alternatives. BEBR began implementing its own printing-reduction program well in advance of the campus-wide campaign. As a result of these efforts, electronic sales have more than doubled in the last three years and now account for roughly 38% of all publication sales. This not only substantially reduces the use of paper, but also has led to substantial reductions in printing, handling, and mailing costs. Upon learning of BEBR’s efforts in this area, Dan Williams, UF’s Director of Marketing, commented in a recent e-mail, “…it sounds like you [BEBR] are setting a great example for the rest of campus!”

The **Administrative Services Program** manages the budget, tracks revenues and expenditures, maintains personnel files and appointments, handles orders and shipments of publications, provides oversight for compliance with UF rules and regulations, and performs many other essential office tasks. Staff members also provide grant management services for the CIBER program and maintain the fire safety inspection portal for the State Fire Marshall’s Office. These two projects generated $23,500 during the past year.

The **Information Technology Program** continues to update and redesign the BEBR web site, which generates approximately 30,000 page views and 5,500 unique visitors per month. Staff members are looking into a number of usability enhancements and investigating ways to implement a fully integrated E-commerce sales program. IT staff members also provide a great deal of assistance to the Survey Program, helping develop its automated system for monitoring and evaluating telephone interviewers, installing a new telephone system, and installing new computer equipment for 75 interview stations. Clint Collins, director of the Administrative Services and IT programs, won a Superior Accomplishment Award for meritorious service to the university. He continued to serve on UF’s Technology Administrative Committee and Enterprise Calendar Project and as president of the Gator Linux Users Group. Martin Smith served as a member of the UF LGBT committee, the Bridges/IPAY focus group, and the DSO Friends program and was a judge for the GatorLUG programming contest. In personnel moves, Geoff Stewart was hired to replace Matt Collins, who left for another position at UF.

BEBR currently employs 22 staff members and a large number of graduate students, undergraduate students, and part-time hourly workers (see Figure 2). This report provides a quick overview and summary of our activities and accomplishments from May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008. For additional information of BEBR’s products, services, and research activities, check out our website at [www.bebr.ufl.edu](http://www.bebr.ufl.edu) or give us a call at (352) 392-0171.
Figure 2. Organizational Chart, BEBR

- BEBR Director
  - Smith

  Research Programs

- Population
  - Program Director
    - Smith
  - Rayer
  - Cody
  - Student Assistant

- Survey
  - Program Director
    - McCarty
  - Girson
  - Richards
  - Padilla
  - Montero
  - 3 Graduate Research Assistants

- Economic Analysis
  - Program Director
    - Dewey
  - Denslow
  - Holt
  - Lotfinia
  - 200-250 Student Assistants
  - 3 Student Assistants

- Operations
  - Program Director
    - Collins

- Administrative Services
  - Fletcher
  - Middleton
  - Ivey
  - 2 Student Assistants

- Information/Publications Services
  - Program Director
    - Floyd
  - Irwin
  - Wilson
  - 2 Student Assistants

- Information Technology
  - Smith
  - Lavigne
  - Stewart
  - 3 Student Assistants
Denslow, David and Carol Weissert


Denslow, David, Jim Dewey and Tom Durrenberger


Dewey, Jim, David Denslow and Bob Lotfinia


Dewey, Jim, David Denslow, Chifeng Dai, Paul Sindelar and Mike Rosenberg


Dewey, Jim, David Denslow, Lynne Holt and Bob Lotfinia


Floyd, Susan, Eve Irwin and Phoebe Wilson


Holt, Lynne and Mary Galligan

Holt, Lynne and Mark Jamison


Holt, Lynne, Paul Sotkiewicz and Sanford Berg

“When to Build or Not to Build?” Texas Journal of Oil, Gas and Energy Law, forthcoming

Holt, Lynne and Bob Lotfinia


Holt, Lynne and Susan MacManus


Irwin, Eve


Irwin, Eve and Phoebe Wilson


McCarty, Christopher and Amber Wutich


McCarty, Christopher, Miranda Lubbers and Jose Lius Molina

Rayer, Stefan


Smith, Stanley and Scott Cody


Smith, Stanley and Chris McCarty


Smith, Stanley and Stefan Rayer


Smith, Stanley, Scott Cody and Stefan Rayer


Smith, Stanley, Stefan Rayer and Eleanor Smith

Table 2. Presentations at Academic/Professional Conferences, 2007-2008

**Dewey, Jim**


**Lavigne, Eric**


**McCarty, Chris**


“A Personal Network Measure of Acculturation,” Arizona State University, April 2008.

“Two Methods to Identify Potential Victims of Prison Violence Using Reports from Correctional Officers: A Proposal to the National Institute of Justice,” Kent State University, April 2008.

**Smith, Stanley, Stefan Rayer and Eleanor Smith**

Table 3. Presentations to Business/Civic/Government Groups, 2007-2008

Denslow, David

“State Fiscal Policy,” Florida Association of County Commissioners, Gainesville, October 2007

“State Fiscal Policy,” Tax and Budget Reform Commission, Tallahassee, November 2007

“Economic Outlook,” Florida Institute of CPA’s, Gainesville, November 2007

“State Fiscal Policy,” Tax Watch Board of Directors, Tallahassee, December 2007

“Economic Outlook,” Florida Association of Business Editors, Tallahassee, January 2008

“Jacksonville Economic Outlook,” St. John’s Realtors’ Association (at request of UF Alumni Association), St. John’s County, January 2008

“Property Taxes and Sales Taxes,” Tax and Budget Reform Commission, State Fiscal Policy, Tallahassee, January 2008


“Florida’s Fiscal Policy,” Editorial Boards, Palm Beach Post, Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel, State Fiscal Policy and University Tuition, Palm Beach and Fort Lauderdale, January 2008


“Economic Outlook,” Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade UF Alumni Associations, West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Miami, May 2008

Smith, Stanley

Table 4. Professional and University Service, 2007-2008

Cody, Scott

Florida Representative, Federal State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates, US Census Bureau

Collins, Clint

Member, Technology Administrative Committee, Network Infrastructure, UF
Member, UF Enterprise Calendar Project
President, Gator Linux Users Group

Denslow, David

Member, College of Business Teaching Committee
Member, UF Academic Policy Council
Chair, UF Honorary Degree Committee
Member, City of Gainesville Police & Fire Pension Board
Member, Collins Institute Board of Directors
Member, State of Florida Council of Economic Advisers

Floyd, Susan

Member, UF Communications Network
Board of Directors, Association for University Business and Economic Research (AUBER)

Holt, Lynne

Panelist, Florida Chapter of the Federal Communications Bar Association

McCarty, Chris

Member, Faculty Advisory Committee, UF Water Institute
Member, Faculty Advisory Committee, UF Medicaid Research Center
Reviewer, National Science Foundation Dissertation Proposal Panel
Co-Organizer, Sunbelt Social Networks Conference, St. Petersburg, FL
Member, International Network for Social Network Analysis

Rayer, Stefan

Florida Representative, Federal State Cooperative Program for Population Projections, US Census Bureau
### Table 4. Professional and University Service, 2007-2008 (continued)

**Smith, Martin**

- Participant, OSCON
- Member, LGBT Concerns Committee (Presidential)
- Participant, AP Assembly
- Member, DSO Friends Program
- Member, Judge for the 2008 GatorLUG Programming Contest
- Participant, Bridges/IPAY Focus Group
- Participant, CNS events and lunch talks about security and other topics
- Participant, Free/Open Source Software Contributions (almost all as a representative of UF)

**Smith, Stanley**

- Member, Panel on the Design of the 2010 Census Program of Evaluations and Experiments, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences
- Member, Committee to Evaluate Housing Unit-Based Population Estimates, US Census Bureau
- Session Chair, annual meeting Southern Demographic Association, Birmingham
- Session Chair, Population Association of America, New Orleans
- Outside Tenure Reviewer, UC-Riverside and Rice University
- Participant, fall and spring meetings of the Florida Demographic Estimating Conference, Tallahassee
### Table 5. Contracts and Grants Awarded, 2007-2008*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Funding Agency</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collins, Clint</strong></td>
<td>“Inspection Report Data Entry Module,” Division of State Fire Marshal</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,527</td>
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<td><strong>Dewey, Jim</strong></td>
<td>“Florida Price Level Index,” Florida Legislature</td>
<td></td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<td><strong>McCarty, Chris</strong></td>
<td>“Social and Cultural Context of Racial Inequalities in Health,” National Science Foundation</td>
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<td>$14,650</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Social Network Analysis of the Collaborative Interaction of Scientific</td>
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<td>$355,993</td>
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<td></td>
<td>in Academic and Non-Academic Settings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>McCarty, Chris, Scott Richards, Armando Padilla and Mark Girson</strong></td>
<td>Surveys for:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agency for Health Care Administration</td>
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<td>$197,575</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fl Department of Children &amp; Families</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,974</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fl Department of Transportation</td>
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<td>114,180</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Florida Dept of Corrections</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kaiser Family Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td>19,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Public Service Commission</td>
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<td>6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Purdue University</td>
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<td>39,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RAND Corporation</td>
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<td>30,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UF - College of Business Administration</td>
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<td>56,508</td>
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<td>UF - College of Education</td>
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<td>UF - College of Fine Arts</td>
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<td>UF - College of Law</td>
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<td>UF - College of Nursing</td>
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<td>UF - College of Public Health</td>
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<td>UF - College of Veterinary Medicine</td>
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<td>UF - Dept of Tourism, Recreation &amp; Sports Mgmt</td>
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<td>UF - Institute for Child Health Policy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University of Miami</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VA Medical Center</td>
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<td>VISIT Florida</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Subtotal</td>
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**Table 5. Contracts and Grants Awarded, 2007-2008***

*(continued)*

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<tr>
<td>Smith, Stanley</td>
<td>“Population Research Contract,” Florida Legislature</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Evaluation of Small-Area Population Projections,” Shimberg Center, UF</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$2,402,668</strong></td>
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*Note: These data refer to contracts and grants awarded during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Not all of the revenues were actually received during that fiscal year.
### Table 6. Courses Taught, 2007-2008

**Denslow, David**

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<th>Term</th>
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<th>Course Title</th>
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<td>Summer A 2007</td>
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<td>Intro Macroeconomics</td>
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<td>Summer B 2007</td>
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<td>Fall 2007</td>
<td>ECO 2013</td>
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<td>Spring 2008</td>
<td>ECO 2013</td>
<td>Intro Macroeconomics</td>
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<td>Spring 2008</td>
<td>ECO 4934</td>
<td>Honors Urban Economics</td>
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**Dewey, Jim**

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2007</td>
<td>ECP 3703</td>
<td>Managerial Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2008</td>
<td>ECP 3703</td>
<td>Managerial Economics</td>
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**McCarty, Chris**

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<th>Term</th>
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<td>Summer C 2007</td>
<td>PHC6937</td>
<td>Survey Research Methods</td>
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**Smith, Stanley**

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<tr>
<td>Spring 2008</td>
<td>ECP 3113</td>
<td>Population Economics</td>
<td>37</td>
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