Brother’s Brother Foundation (BBF) is in its fiftieth year of promoting international health and education through efficient and effective distribution and provision of donated medical, educational, agricultural and other resources. The Pittsburgh-based foundation was created in 1958 by renowned anesthesiologist Robert Hingson and is dedicated to connecting people’s resources with people’s needs. Since its founding BBF has donated more than $2 billion worth of medical, educational and humanitarian supplies to more than 120 countries. Medical supplies include antibiotics and other medicines, surgical instruments, hospital beds, walkers, crutches and so on. Educational supplies include textbooks, scholarly journals and children’s books. Humanitarian items include seeds, housing materials, clothing, and Crocs shoes (in partnership with the Crocs’ charity arm, SolesUnited).

BBF is also a community partner for Duquesne’s Peace Corps Fellows program. Joan Marshall, a community partner for Duquesne’s Peace Corps Fellows program, works with the foundation’s webmaster to provide written materials for the Web site. Her work has included updating distribution figures and writing program descriptions and short articles on recent BBF projects and events. She looks forward to the revived BBF Web site going online this month.

Marshall also helps coordinate volunteer activities at the BBF warehouse. Recently, she worked with Mark Morrison, a recent Policy Center graduate who was also a Peace Corps Fellow intern at BBF for two years before taking a full-time staff position there. In partnership with local organizations, they organized student volunteers from Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, who sorted and packed medical textbooks for Iraq and surgical instruments for hospitals in the Third World. In the near future, Marshall will be working with education program coordinator Carol Taylor to manage a huge shipment of surplus books recently acquired from the merger of two publishing companies.

Marshall notes that as a result of the internship, “I am learning much about the inner workings of a non-profit aid agency and gaining some knowledge of how U.S.-based agencies and local partner organizations abroad can collaborate for successful projects. My goal after my studies is to work for an NGO in an underdeveloped country, and this has been a great learning experience for me.”

This February marked the tenth anniversary of Duquesne’s involvement in the Peace Corps Fellows program. Each year, Duquesne is home to several graduate fellows who study in the School of Business, the Graduate Center for Social and Public Policy, or in the environmental science and management program in the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences after completing their Peace Corps tours.

The Peace Corps Fellows program is overseen by Dr. Evan Stoddard, a member of the Policy Center faculty, who notes that Peace Corps Fellows enrich the Policy Center’s courses. “Our Peace Corps Fellows bring back experiences both from abroad and from the community that enrich the discussion in the classroom,” he said.

In addition to special University financial support, the Peace Corps requires graduate fellows to obtain part-time work in a community or government organization whose work is geared toward underserved populations—a selling point for many returning volunteers.

This summer, Marshall is planning to undertake an internship with the Washington-based conflict-resolution NGO, Search for Common Ground (SFCG). Through the internship she expects to travel to either Guinea or the Ivory Coast in West Africa to work with the local SFCG staff on dialogue and constructive cooperation between communities.
**Policy Insider**

**Graduate Conference on Welfare Policy**

The Policy Center’s annual graduate student conference this April features an address by distinguished author Dr. Frances Fox Piven on “Challenging Authority and Welfare Reform” based on her recently published book, Challenging Authority. Dr. Piven is an authority on grassroots movements for political change and is president of the American Sociological Association.

In addition to Dr. Piven’s talk, the conference, whose theme is “The Politics and Ethics of Welfare Policy,” features an address by Dr. Thomas Massaro, author of the recent book United States Welfare Policy: A Catholic Response. Dr. Massaro teaches moral theology at Weston Jesuit School of Theology, near Boston. He has authored and edited several books on Catholic social teaching and co-authored Catholic Perspectives on Peace and War.

The conference features research presentations by students from Duquesne and area graduate programs. It also features a panel discussion on welfare ethics with Dr. Linda Morrison of the Policy Center, the Honorable Estelle B. Richman, secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, and two professionals in the non-profit sector concerned with welfare policy: Goodwill Industries’ Vice President for Human Services Bradley Berger and Rochelle L. Jackson, from the welfare advocacy group Just Harvest.

**Richard Clarke Critiques Homeland Security Policy**

In October 2007, the Policy Center, together with the office of the provost and the office of the dean of the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, sponsored a conference on homeland security policy, which included an address from former Chief Counterterrorism Advisor for the National Security Council Richard A. Clarke. Clarke, who held the chief counterterrorism position during the 9/11 attacks and the Bush administration’s subsequent decision to invade Iraq, which he wrote about in his book Against All Enemies: Inside America’s War on Terror, delivered a detailed critique of policies in the “War on Terror.”

Clarke’s well-attended presentation was followed by a discussion of the politics and strategies of counterterrorism policy. During the discussion, Clarke—who was a senior advisor for presidents George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton, as well as George W. Bush—refuted the idea, popularized by television shows like 24, that torture of prisoners does anything to enhance U.S. security.

A panel of Policy Center faculty—which included faculty members Dr. John Sawicki, C.S.Sp., Dr. Daniel Lieberfeld, and Dr. Norman Conti, along with guest panelist Raymond V. DeMichiei, deputy director of the emergency management and homeland security office for the City of Pittsburgh—offered perspectives on homeland security policy before Clarke’s presentation.

**New Faculty Profiles**

**Dr. Linda Morrison**

Dr. Linda Morrison comes to the Policy Center and Sociology Department from Oakland University in Michigan. She received her doctorate in 2003 from University of Pittsburgh, where she also earned master’s degrees in anthropology and social work.

Her specialty areas are the sociology of medicine and mental health, social welfare, and qualitative methods. Her research involves attention to unheard recipient voices in the health, mental health, and policy arena. Morrison’s book, Talking Back to Psychiatry: The Psychiatric Consumer/Survivor/Ex-Patient Movement (Routledge, 2005), is a descriptive analysis of a social movement that has worked to shift power relations, treatment choices, and views of recipients in the mental health arena. Her recent work involves attention to competing views of the expansion of involuntary psychiatric commitment, and the success of consumer-driven quality-improvement processes in mental health services.

**Dr. Ann Marie Popp**

Dr. Ann Marie Popp, assistant professor of sociology, joined the Sociology Department and the Policy Center in fall 2007. Before coming to Duquesne, Dr. Popp was a member of the faculty at the University at Albany.

Her current research focuses on improving understanding of victim selection, in order to predict bullying and criminal victimization among middle and high school students, and on guardianship strategies for students. Her research interests also include investigations into the determinants of organizational effectiveness of human-service agencies and the relationship between the development of the urban underclass and the distribution of crime rates. Dr. Popp’s teaching interests include statistics and methodology, crime and deviant behavior, and social inequality.
Faculty Accomplishments

**Dr. Daniel Lieberfeld** was awarded a Presidential Scholarship at Duquesne for research on the outcomes of antiwar protests in Israel. He also edited and contributed articles to a special issue of International Journal of Peace Studies on the theme of evaluating the influence of antiwar movements. Dr. Lieberfeld published articles on “Secrecy and Two-Level Games” in the Oslo Accord: What the Primary Sources Tell Us” in the journal International Negotiation and “Teaching about War through Film and Literature” in PS: Political Science & Politics. He contributed chapters to two recently published books—Peace, Justice, and Security Studies: A Curriculum Guide (7th ed.) and Negotiation and World Transformations: Ten Challenges to Meet, Ten Opportunities to Seize.

**Dr. Sara MacMillen** published an article in Notre Dame Magazine.

**Dr. Moni McIntyre** was honored by McAnulty College for service to the mission of the University. The award recognized her work in urban ministry as rector of the Church of the Holy Cross, and her work in health care ethics for the military, particularly as an ethics advisor to Navy doctors.

**Dr. Kent Moors** presented the keynote address, “Oil Sustainability in a Volatile Market,” in September 2007 in Banff, Canada, at the Global Business Forum, which was comprised of government ministers and corporate CEOs from 22 countries. Dr. Moors also addressed the Natural Gas Policy Conference in Stockholm, Sweden, on the likelihood of an international pricing arrangement for gas and conducted briefings for the U.S. State Department on Kurdish oil policy and on Russian/Ukrainian natural gas policies.

**Dr. Charles Rubin**’s essay “Human Dignity and the Future of Man” was published in Human Dignity and Bioethics by the President’s Council on Bioethics. The volume also contains Dr. Rubin’s response to an essay by philosopher Nick Bostrom.

**Dr. John Sawicki, C.S.Sp.** received the McAnulty College award for teaching in 2008. In 2007 Dr. Joseph Yenerall edited the textbook The Sociology of Health Policy.

Policy Center Students Present Research

Policy Center students presented their research at the annual conference of the Pennsylvania Sociological Association, which took place in fall 2007 at California University of Pennsylvania. Students who presented their research-in-progress included Glynnis Harvey, who spoke about environmental politics regarding a gas pipeline in County Mayo, Republic of Ireland. Policy Center student Matthew Searight presented his work on the public education system in Ireland. Joseph Yenerall, Policy Center director, also presented research on enforcement policies in the state of Pennsylvania related to animal cruelty laws at the conference.

Professor John Mueller Analyzes Potential for Atomic Terrorism

In January the Policy Center sponsored a talk by Ohio State University professor of political science John Mueller on the topic “The Atomic Terrorist: Assessing the Likelihood.” Dr. Mueller, who is well known for his scholarship on issues pertaining to war and peacemaking, enumerated the barriers that a hypothetical terrorist group would have to be overcome in order to perpetrate an act of atomic terrorism. Based on his estimates of the probability of such a group’s overcoming each of the hurdles in the long sequence from contacting and corrupting workers in an atomic facility to smuggling and delivering such a device across borders, Dr. Mueller concluded that threats related to atomic or nuclear terrorism had been vastly overstated by those with political or economic interests in highlighting such threats. A discussion followed that focused in part on the question of what level of risk-tolerance might be considered appropriate for unlikely, but potentially catastrophic, dangers.

Symposium on Handgun Violence

In April, the Policy Center co-sponsored “Handgun Violence: America’s Growing Epidemic,” a national symposium that examined violence in American schools and cities, and violence aimed at public officials. Featured speakers included Jim Brady, press secretary to President Ronald Reagan, who was shot during the 1981 assassination attempt on Reagan.

Other symposium presenters included Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, daughter of assassination victim Senator Robert F. Kennedy; Tom Mauser, father of a shooting victim at Columbine High School; Dr. Diane Strollo, mother of a Virginia Tech shooting survivor; former Secret Service Agent Marisa Randazzo, specialist in school and terrorist threats; Pittsburgh Police Department Detective Jill Smallwood-Rustin, a specialist in handgun violence in the city; and Dr. David Hemenway, author of Private Guns: Public Health and director of Harvard University’s Injury Control Research Center and the Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center.

State government leaders and a representative from the Pennsylvania National Rifle Association were also invited. Retired Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Cynthia A. Baldwin moderated the symposium.
In March, Policy Center and Political Science Professor Lew Irwin shared lessons from his recent tour of duty in Afghanistan with the United States Army, in which he was recently named for promotion to the rank of colonel. During his overseas service, Dr. Irwin was responsible for designing and implementing a nationwide reform of the Afghan National Police. In this capacity, he worked with senior NATO, U.S. and Afghan leaders as well as European Union and United Nations officials. The Afghan National Police consists of nearly 80,000 police officers spread throughout Afghanistan’s 34 provinces and its capital, Kabul.

Dr. Irwin’s talk analyzed the main challenges facing the NATO mission in Afghanistan, including the lack of a unitary command structure, insufficient troop levels, restrictions on the use of troops contributed by various NATO member-states, an armed insurgency by the Taliban in several parts of the country, cultures of corruption and inter-tribal divisions that complicate the nation-building project.

He considered the goals of the NATO forces to be the “establishment of a safe, stable, self-sustaining and democratic Afghanistan,” but emphasized that despite some progress in the areas of safety and stability, self-sustainability and democracy were distant, perhaps unattainable, prospects, and that the effort there would entail a decades-long commitment by the United States. Dr. Irwin advocated that the U.S. make this commitment, because of the importance of the region to national interests and because Afghanistan could serve as a forward base for future military operations.

According to Dr. Irwin, force levels are badly distributed between Iraq and Afghanistan, which has only about a fifth as many troops fighting against insurgents, despite its being larger than Iraq in both population and area. He also noted that extended troop deployments were weakening the U.S. military by driving many younger military professionals to leave the service.

A lively discussion followed the talk, with attention to how the absence of a military draft, and the Bush administration’s decision to fund the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq with debt passed on to future generations, rather than as part of regular budgetary and taxation processes, had left most citizens with little sense of connection to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan or to the soldiers fighting there.