

# Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly

## University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR)

October 2018

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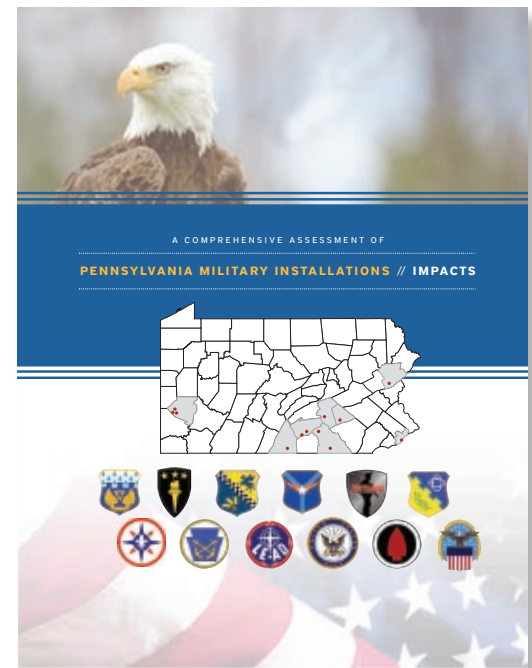
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## Impact of Major Military Installations in Pennsylvania

■ *By Sabina Deitrick and Christopher Briem*

In August 2018, UCSUR delivered its final report on the impact of major military installations in Pennsylvania to the Pennsylvania Military Community Enhancement Commission (PMCEC). The PMCEC is chaired by the state's Lieutenant Governor and administered within the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Charged with enhancing the military value of military installations and organizations, the PMCEC works with Local Defense Groups (LDGs) across the state.

The year-long study focused on the economic and community impacts of Pennsylvania's military and defense installations and was intended to aid policy-makers in understanding the economic and strategic value of its military installations regionally and nationally and the critical ties these installations have to the surrounding communities and also to Pennsylvania industry. The project provides decision support resources that will assist state and local policymakers and other stakeholders in promoting the value of Pennsylvania's military installations. UCSUR



worked with PMCEC to evaluate the impact of 13 major military installations located within Pennsylvania.

The IMPLAN model was used to quantify the total economic impact of each installation, including estimates for job

*continued on page 4*

## 2018 Quality of Life Survey for Allegheny County

■ *By Scott Beach*

In 2011, UCSUR completed its first regional Quality of Life (QOL) survey to explore the behaviors and attitudes of residents across southwestern Pennsylvania. The 2011 survey provides a baseline to evaluate residents' perceptions at the time, but can also be used as a basis for comparison with perceptions today and in the future. How perceptions are changing can inform regional leaders on the priorities of residents and their preferences for changes in local public policy.

In conjunction with the Pittsburgh Today Regional Indicators project, UCSUR recently completed an updated QOL survey focusing on residents of Allegheny County. Using

a panel-based registry UCSUR maintains for current and future research projects, county residents were asked about their overall perception on the region's livability along with detailed questions covering eight major subject areas: environmental conditions, local arts and arts education, transportation and congestion, education, public safety, housing conditions, health, and the economy. The survey also asked specific questions on respondents' perceptions about their local community.

These major subject areas were chosen to encompass the most significant factors that together influence residents' perceptions of the region as a place to live and work. These

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perceptions can directly influence decisions made by households to remain in a particular community within the region, or to move to new communities either elsewhere within the region or to regions outside of southwestern Pennsylvania.

Comparing the responses from Allegheny County residents in 2011, results from 2018 show a general satisfaction with the region's overall quality of life and a marked improvement from overall perceptions in 2011. Sixty-seven percent of county residents reported Southwestern Pennsylvania as either an excellent or very good place to live, compared to 60% who gave similar answers seven years earlier.

The higher level of satisfaction is consistent with perceptions reported on recent trends. Over 52% responded that the overall quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania has improved in the last few years. This contrasts with 27% who answered similarly in 2011. Likewise, the number of respondents who felt that the region's overall quality of life has declined dropped from 26% in 2011 to 10% in 2018.

Overall positive responses on the region's quality of life contrast sharply with increasing concerns over racial diversity and race relations. In 2018, 27% of respondents felt that race relations within their neighborhood were a severe or moderate problem, an increase from 14% in 2011. The proportion of respondents who said neighborhood race relations were not a problem at all dropped from 58% in 2011 to 37% in 2018.

Other significant shifts between 2011 and 2018 include an increase in concerns about local road and bridge quality. While 32% of Allegheny County residents felt road and bridge quality was a severe problem in 2011, 57% of county residents responded similarly in 2018. Ninety-four percent of respondents said that road and bridge quality was either a severe or moderate problem. Only 6% replied that road and bridge conditions were either a minor problem or not a problem at all, a decline from 23% six years earlier.

The survey also addressed current high profile issues in the region including, but not limited to, perceptions toward the potential expansion of an Amazon headquarters in the Pittsburgh

## Over **52%** responded that the overall quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania has improved in the last few years.

region; redistricting of federal political boundaries, potential legalization of recreational marijuana sales within Pennsylvania, and attitudes toward regulation of retail sales of alcohol via Pennsylvania's state store system. Where possible, the survey explored the differences in responses across age, race, gender, and educational attainment.

The 2018 UCSUR/PittsburghTODAY Regional Quality of Life Survey was conducted in June 2018. A web-based online survey was sent to 4,934 members of the UCSUR Research Registry residing in Allegheny County, resulting in 1,881 completed surveys (38% response rate).

The 2018 data were adjusted for age, sex, race, education, income, and political affiliation to make the sample more representative of the

Allegheny population age 18 and older. Data are compared to the 2011 Regional Quality of Life Survey, which was conducted using random digit dialing (n = 799 Allegheny County respondents). The 2011 data was also weighted for probability of selection, age, and sex to make it more representative of the county population age 18 and older. Using the weighted data from 2011 and 2018 allows comparisons of trends over time.

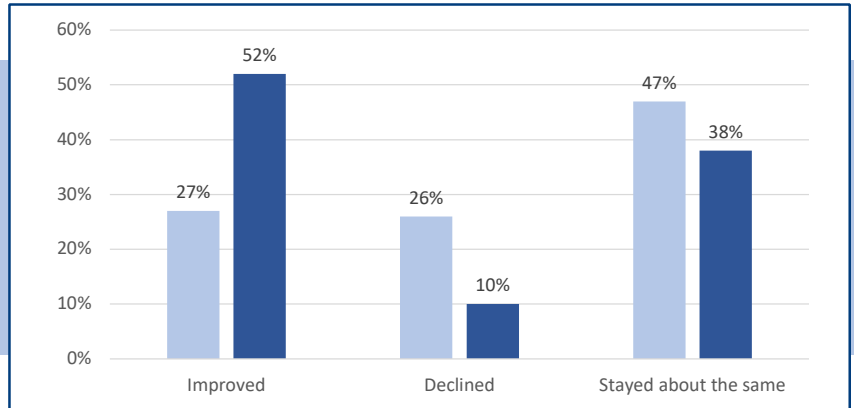
UCSUR will continue to evaluate the results from the 2018 Quality of Life Survey and incorporate those results in future research. An overview of findings from the 2018 Quality of Life Survey for Allegheny County is available on the UCSUR web page at [www.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu).



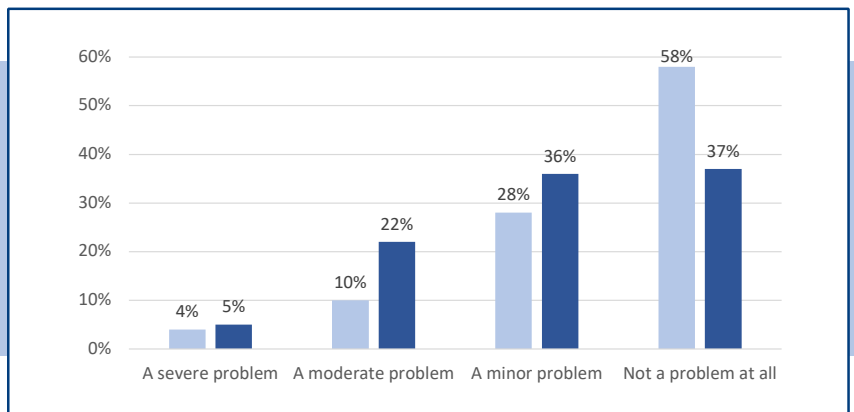
# Survey Response of Allegheny County Residents

## Overall Perception of Quality of Life Among Allegheny County Residents

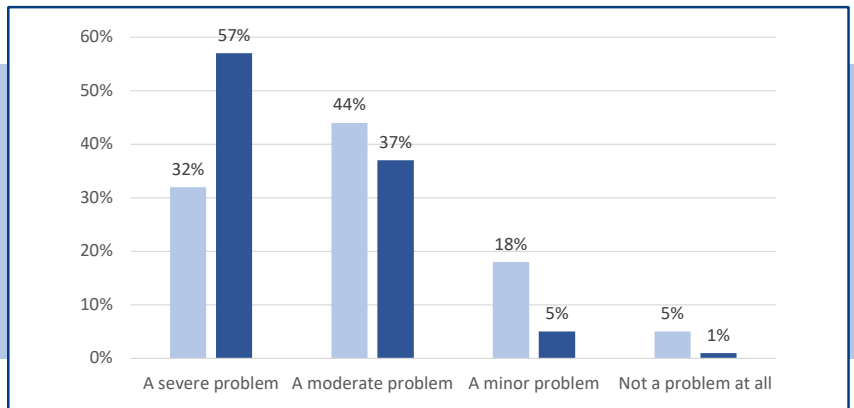
Question: *Would you say that the overall quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania region has improved, declined, or stayed about the same during the past few years?*



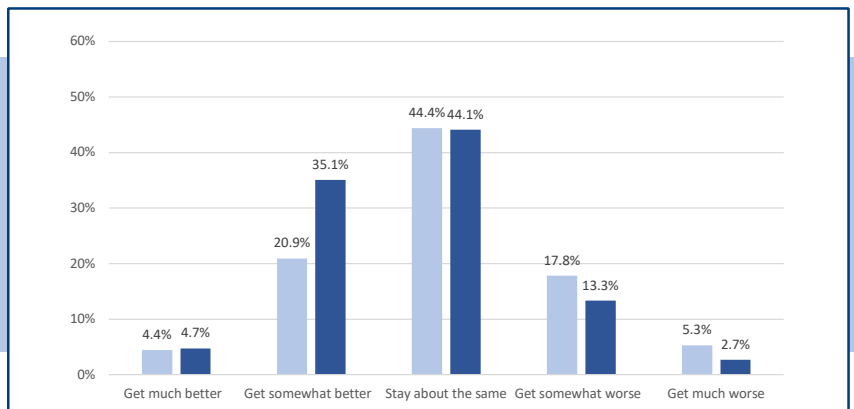
Question: *How much of a problem, if any, do you think race relations are in your own neighborhood or local community?*



Question: *How much of a problem, if any, do you think there is with road and bridge quality in the region?*



Question: *Thinking about the local or regional economy, would you say that over the next year the region's economy will...*



■ 2011 ■ 2018

continued from page 1



creation and economic output, and was coupled with an assessment of each installation's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) looking into the future. These results were synthesized into individual reports specific to each installation, and a comprehensive statewide report.

Three of the state's major military installations are located within southwestern Pennsylvania, including bases supporting the Air Force Reserve's 911th Airlift Wing and the 171st Air Refueling Wing of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, both co-located at the Pittsburgh International Airport, along with the headquarters of the Army Reserve's 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command (ESC) located in Moon Township. A Defense Commissary, providing grocery services, and a branch store of the Army-Air Force Exchange System (AAFES) - both serving active duty and retired military families, along with the families of reservists and guardsmen - are located adjacent to the 316th ESC.

The report shows that Pennsylvania plays a vital role in supporting America's military and defense infrastructure. From Pittsburgh to Philadelphia, the state's military installations support a diverse set of activities that are critical components of our nation's military infrastructure, including logistics, distribution, advanced manufacturing, electronics, leadership education, and refueling and repair.

Pennsylvania is the workplace of more than 56,000 Department of Defense (DoD) employees, including civilians, active duty service members, reservists of all branches, and

Army and Air National Guard members. Civilians make up 90% of Pennsylvania's full-time DoD workforce. This research estimated the total impacts of Pennsylvania's major military installations on the state's economy.

Through direct, indirect, and induced effects, Pennsylvania's major military installations generated \$4 billion in labor income and \$11 billion in total economic output in 2016, resulting in 55,000 full-time equivalent jobs in the state. Typically, each installation is among the largest and most established employers in its county and a major source of high-quality jobs for Pennsylvania workers. Each installation has its own competitive assets and challenges, and collectively Pennsylvania's major military installations share several important characteristics.

Pennsylvania's multifaceted support for America's military services includes two distinct clusters of support for operating forces worldwide: (1) Pennsylvania's well-developed commercial logistics and transportation industries tie directly to several Pennsylvania military installations that are critical parts of the nation's defense logistics infrastructure; (2) and Pennsylvania is also the home to a significant portion of the nation's defense industrial base; a crucial part of the defense industrial base includes the organic depot-level installations that are concentrated in Pennsylvania.

Enhancing the capacity of these two core defense clusters will require continued investment and dedicated support from state and local governments. As each of the major installations will need to continue adapting to

## Key Findings on Major Military Installations in Pennsylvania

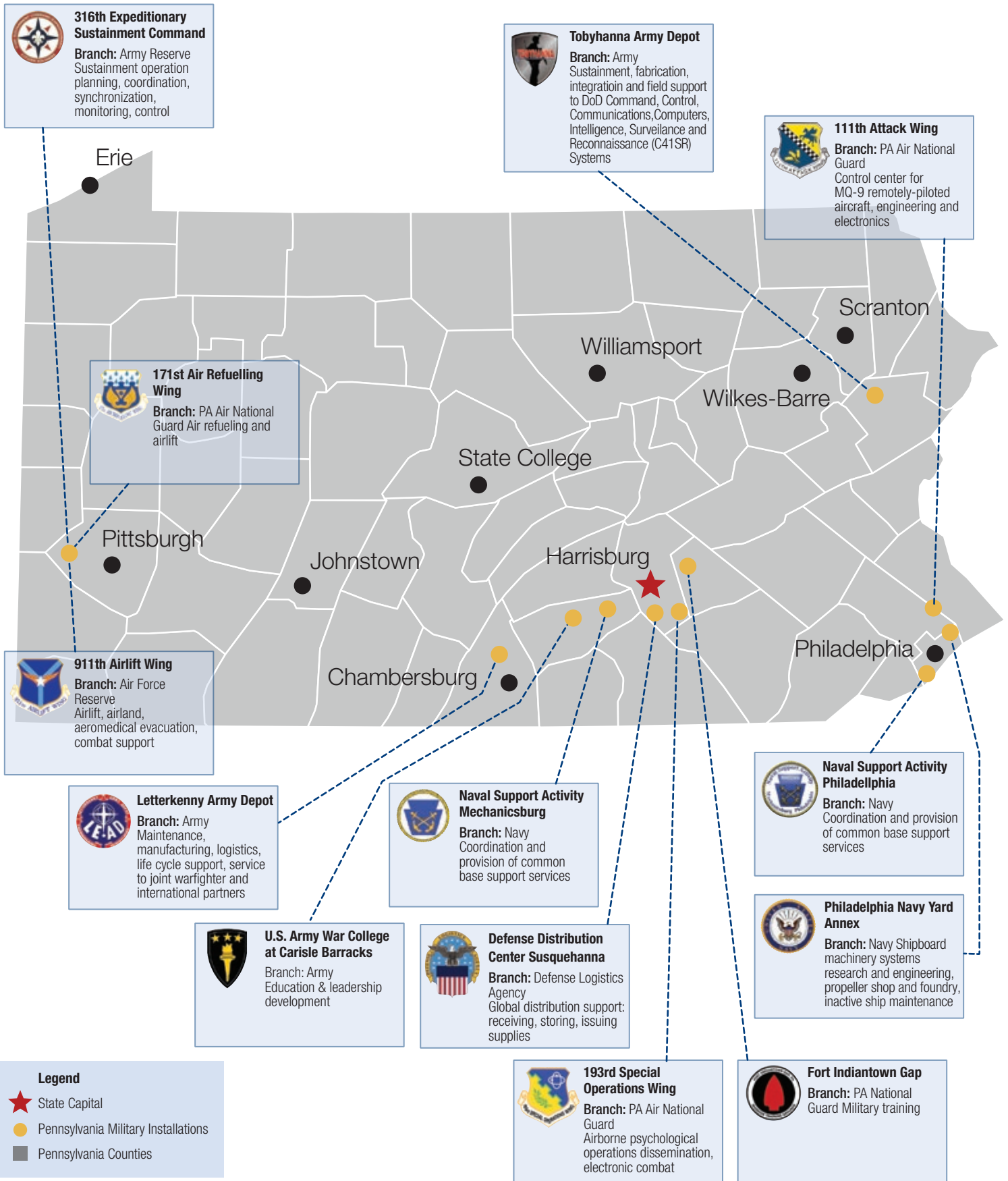
- The ability of the state's installations to recruit and retain career federal workers over many decades is a critical competitive advantage and a major strength. DoD is an "employer of choice" across Pennsylvania.
- Local Defense Groups represent a major strength to enhance Pennsylvania's military installations, regionally and statewide, and a critical opportunity for promoting each installation's importance and impact.
- Mutually beneficial installation-community partnerships and outreach efforts are critical strengths that also create opportunities for recruitment, community integration, and shared resources at both regional and state levels.
- State and local officials have worked hard to enhance local installations, but support for Pennsylvania's military sector has been inconsistent across installations and over time.
- Pennsylvania has proven strength in defense logistics and the defense industrial base.

new challenges and missions, Pennsylvania state government can play a vital role in guaranteeing that these installations continue their missions into the future.

Pennsylvania's military sector is critical to national security and to the state's economic competitiveness, yet its importance is not widely understood. The report recommends that the state and local officials can more effectively promote and enhance Pennsylvania's military sector by: (1) ensuring continued competitiveness of Pennsylvania's defense workforce; (2) boosting the Local Defense Group network and its capacity; (3) strengthening the advocacy role of the Pennsylvania Military Community Enhancement Commission; and (4) building on areas of strategic competitive advantage in defense logistics and the defense industrial base.

The full report, and individual reports for each installation, are available via DCED and are on the UCSUR web page: [www.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu).

# Military Installations in Pennsylvania



Created by the University of Pittsburgh Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR), 2018.

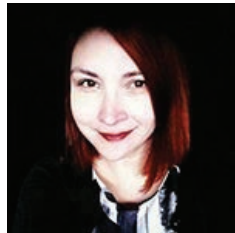
## Urban and Regional Brown Bag Lecture Series – Fall 2018

Bring your lunch and join us for presentations that highlight neighborhood, community, economic, and other social research by our esteemed colleagues. Presenters include local, national, and international social research experts. Lectures are from noon to 1:15 p.m. Please note the location of the seminars: 3911 Wesley W. Posvar Hall, at 230 South Bouquet Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 (next to the Hillman Library on the Schenley Oval in the center of University of Pittsburgh Oakland campus). On-street metered parking is available as is a metered parking lot at Semple and Bouquet streets. Other parking is available at the parking garage underneath Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Bigelow Boulevard. More information and schedule updates are available online at [ucsur.org/ura-brown-bag](http://ucsur.org/ura-brown-bag). RSVP before attending one of our sessions by phone 412-624-1019 or e-mail [SWPA@pitt.edu](mailto:SWPA@pitt.edu).

Friday, November 9th, 2018

### “From Bricks & Mortar to Virtual Spaces: Using Digital Innovation to Advance Nonprofit Missions”

**Catherine DeLoughry, Toby Greenwalt and Regina McDonald Russian**



Interested in how nonprofit organizations are implementing digital innovations like chatbots and geofencing to strengthen relationships with their users and visitors? Join us for a roundtable discussion with Toby Greenwalt, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Regina Russian, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh Innovation Studio, moderated by Catherine DeLoughry, Civic DecisionMaking, about encouraging innovation and implementing new technologies.

Friday, February, 8th, 2019

### “Governing without Government: Nonprofit Governance in Detroit and Flint”



#### **Davia Downey**

Associate Professor of Public Administration  
School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration  
Grand Valley State University

**Davis Downey**, Ph.D., Associate Professor and the MPA Program Coordinator for the NASPAA accredited Masters of Public Administration program at Grand Valley State University in the School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration. Her research looks at the impacts of natural and man-made disasters on economic development in cities and states. She also dabbles in research on tax increment financing, the interplay of party capability theory cross-nationally, and exploring the interrelationships between nonprofit organizations and local governments as they navigate long-term collaborative partnerships.

Scholars across the social sciences have shown how economic, social, and political changes are weakening local governments and contributing to rising nonprofit activity in urban politics. These trends, largely studied in isolation, could add up to a new form of governing in some U.S. cities. This presentation explores the convergence of government austerity and a burgeoning nonprofit sector have created space for what we term “nonprofit governance.” In some cities, nonprofit leaders work as insiders to guide policy, often with limited input from elected officials or citizens. First, we apply insights from studies in comparative politics to demonstrate how nonprofit leadership expands in the context of a weak state. Second, we use empirical indicators of government capacity as well as nonprofit surveys to examine Detroit and Flint as potential cases of nonprofit governance. These cases allow us to trace the development of nonprofit governance and its consequences for public services and government capacity. This work was conducted with Sarah Reckhow of Michigan State University and Joshua Sapotichne.



## Survey Research at UCSUR



### Scott Beach, PhD

Interim UCSUR Director  
Director of the Survey Research Program

UCSUR provides survey research services through its Survey Research Program (SRP). SRP maintains a highly experienced staff of survey professionals, trained interviewers, and data management specialists. SRP services are available to faculty, staff, and students throughout the University and to local, state, and federal agencies and others working in the public interest.

SRP is able to carry out any or all phases of a survey research project, including sample design, questionnaire design, data collection, data processing, statistical analysis, and reporting. SRP staff have the training and experience to design scientifically valid studies customized to client research needs. SRP can help to clarify study objectives and provide advice on how to obtain the highest quality data within available resource constraints. More specifically, SRP provides assistance in the following areas:

- Survey Sample Design
- Questionnaire Design
- Interviewing & Data Collection via UCSUR's 40-line phone bank and computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) system
- Custom database applications for study participant tracking and quality control Statistical Analysis of Survey Data
- Report Preparation & Presentation
- Research participant recruitment through the UCSUR Research Registry and other methods

UCSUR's Survey Research Program (SRP) has developed and actively maintains a local IRB-approved (PRO11060616) research registry currently containing approximately 8,000 regional residents with detailed socio-demographic and contact information who are willing to take part in research studies. Participants are continually recruited from local population-based telephone surveys conducted by UCSUR. This demographically diverse registry can be used in collaboration with SRP to cost-effectively recruit local participants for externally funded research projects, including repeated panel surveys.

For more information contact UCSUR at 412-624-5442 or [ucsur@pitt.edu](mailto:ucsur@pitt.edu).



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PITTSBURGH ECONOMIC QUARTERLY

## UCSUR Programs and Resources

Southwestern Pennsylvania Community Profiles

[profiles.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://profiles.ucsur.pitt.edu)

Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center

[wprdc.org](http://wprdc.org)

Pittsburgh Today Regional Indicators Program

[pittsburghtoday.org](http://pittsburghtoday.org)

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