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### Abbreviations

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<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tr>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>Australian Bureau of Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIFS</td>
<td>Australian Institute of Family Studies</td>
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<td>ARC</td>
<td>Australian Research Council</td>
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<td>CEDA</td>
<td>Committee for the Economic Development of Australia</td>
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<td>CSIS</td>
<td>Children’s Services Information System</td>
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<td>CRCA</td>
<td>China Research Centre on Ageing</td>
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<td>DoCS</td>
<td>Department of Community Services (NSW)</td>
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<td>DSP</td>
<td>Disability Support Pension</td>
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<td>DSARI</td>
<td>Disability Studies and Research Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>DVA</td>
<td>Department of Veterans' Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>FaCS</td>
<td>Department of Family and Community Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>FASS</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences</td>
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<td>FISS</td>
<td>Foundation of International Studies on Social Security</td>
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<td>FYRST</td>
<td>Follow-on Youth Recovery Support Team</td>
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<td>HASI</td>
<td>Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative</td>
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<td>HILDA</td>
<td>Household Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia Survey</td>
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<td>LDS</td>
<td>[FaCS] Longitudinal Data Set</td>
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<td>LIS</td>
<td>Luxembourg Income Study</td>
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<td>MHIP</td>
<td>Mental Health Integration Project</td>
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<td>NATSEM</td>
<td>National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling</td>
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<td>NGOs</td>
<td>Non-Government Organisations</td>
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<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development</td>
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<td>PLWHA-NSW</td>
<td>People Living With HIV AIDS New South Wales</td>
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<td>SAAP</td>
<td>Supported Accommodation Assistance Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPIRT</td>
<td>Strategic Partnerships with Industry – Research and Training Scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPITC</td>
<td>Social Policy in the City</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAFE</td>
<td>Technical and Further Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSW</td>
<td>University of New South Wales</td>
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<tr>
<td>UTS</td>
<td>University of Technology, Sydney</td>
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<tr>
<td>VHC</td>
<td>Veterans’ Home Care</td>
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<td>YDC</td>
<td>Youth Drug Court</td>
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THE CENTRE

The Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC) conducts research, provides postgraduate research training, and fosters discussion of the nature and consequences of social policy and of the social needs and processes which give rise to it. The primary focus of SPRC research is Australia, with concern also for comparative international study of social policy, including social policy development in Asia. The Centre’s main areas of research are poverty, social inequality and standards of living; the role of households and families in meeting social need; work, employment and welfare reform; the organisation and delivery of human services; locality and geography in social needs, support services and community well-being; the politics of social policy and its institutions; and theory and methodology in social policy research.

The Centre was established in 1980 under an Agreement between the Commonwealth Government (through the Department of Social Security) and the University of New South Wales. The initial five-year Agreement was extended in 1985, 1990, 1995 before being terminated in 2000. The Centre currently attracts funding from a range of sources including the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS), a range of other Commonwealth and State Departments, research funding bodies like the Australian Research Council (ARC) and a variety of non-government agencies. Financial and in-kind support is also provided by the University of New South Wales (UNSW), where the SPRC is located in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

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This is my first SPRC annual report, and it is gratifying to be able to report on a year which saw some significant and important developments in the Centre.

2004 was marked by considerable staff changes at SPRC. Peter Saunders was successful in his application for a 5-year Australian Professorial Fellowship, and stepped down from day-to-day management of the SPRC in April 2004. This is a prestigious award and is a reflection of the enormous contribution Peter has made over the years to the study of poverty and social exclusion in Australia and internationally. Michael Bittman took over as Acting Director of SPRC from April to December 2004, when he left to take up his role as Professorial Fellow at the University of New England. We congratulate Michael on his well-deserved promotion to Professor, and appreciate his invaluable contribution to the SPRC over nine years. Michael has been a key member of the SPRC staff for many years, and his keen intellect, generosity of spirit and engaging personality are sorely missed. Fortunately for us he will continue to be associated with the Centre as an Honorary Research Associate.

Jenny Chalmers moved from her post as Research Fellow at SPRC to become a Senior Research Associate at the Centre for Applied Social Research (RMIT). This is another well-deserved promotion, and Jenny is also missed at SPRC. Tony Eardley, Senior Research Fellow, was seconded for six months to the Water Future Research Alliance at the University of Western Sydney. Melissa Roughley went on maternity leave in June. Congratulations to Melissa for the birth of Ingrid in July. SPRC was fortunate that Alan Morris from the School of Social Science and Policy was seconded to the Centre from May. Alan has brought with him a breadth of research and theoretical insights into housing, ageing and mental illness.

I was also fortunate to join the SPRC as Acting Director in December. For me this has been the best possible introduction to Australia in general and social policy research in particular. SPRC offers not only a challenging and stimulating intellectual climate but it is also an environment where the staff are understanding and supportive of each other and where team work is genuinely valued by all.

As in previous years, SPRC welcomed a number of visiting scholars. These included Tor Erikson (Karlstad University, Sweden), Shinbo Ito (Meijo University, Japan), Jørgen Elm Larsen (University of Copenhagen, Denmark), Carina Mood Roman (Stockholm University, Sweden) and Mikko Niemela, (Turku University, Finland).

The Centre also hosted an extended visit during 2004 from four researchers from the China Research Centre on Ageing (CRCA) – Kaiti Zhang, Sun Lujun, Guo Ping and Chen Gang – who are working with Peter Saunders and Xiaoyuan Shang on an ARC Discovery project examining how the circumstances of the aged in China have changed during the recent reform process. SPRC and CRCA are currently working on extending the research. This is an important part of our programme and the cross-fertilisation between SPRC staff and visitors is always stimulating and interesting. Equally important are our postgraduate students, who form the next generation of social policy researchers. In 2004 Amanda Elliot and Judy Schneider completed their postgraduate studies, and had their PhDs awarded.

2004 was the first full year of SPRC’s membership of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS). It has been an interesting process integrating into the mainstream activities of FASS, and it brings both challenges and opportunities to the Centre. We hope that in the longer term this will result in closer working relationships with the Schools within the Faculty, bringing together teaching, research and postgraduate study in the area of social policy.

SPRC continued to win highly competitive research grants from a range of different funding bodies, including Commonwealth and State Government departments and the ARC. The most important of these contracts is the Social Policy Research Services agreement with the Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS). In 2004 SPRC competed for the renewal of this contract and was successful in the competition. This provides the Centre with a guaranteed income for five years. Each year, around six to eight projects are negotiated with FaCS. In 2004 (under the previous agreement) the projects included the following policy-relevant topics:

Fluid Families was concerned with the volatile state of Australian families, and with the discrepancy between the assumption in benefit policy of stable families and the reality of many families receiving income support. This project was complemented by Parenting Payment Transitions which studied women who have had multiple changes between Parenting Payment Part-
nnered (PPP) and Parenting Payment Single (PPS) benefits. The study sought to elucidate the financial impact of changes in relationship status. Two projects examined the association between young motherhood and economic disadvantage – both for the mother and her children. The first, Young Mothers, provided a descriptive overview of the socio-economic circumstances of young mothers in Australia. Women who have their child when young are disadvantaged on a wide range of indicators – and this disadvantage has been growing over time. The Causal Impact of Young Motherhood, examined whether this association was the result of a direct causal relationship (having a child at a young age disrupts education, employment and family-formation patterns) or of a selection effect (mothers with poor education or employment prospects tend to have children when younger). Disability Support Pension: New Claims complemented a quantitative study of new DSP claimants undertaken by FaCS. The study consisted of a series of focus groups with people who had recently moved onto DSP. Management of Work and Family Balance examined how parents with different labour force statuses spent time with their children, and studied the effects of non-parental care on these patterns.

Evaluation of the Mental Health Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative, funded by NSW Health, is a two-year evaluation of the Mental Health Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI). We are measuring the outcomes and processes from the initiative, focusing on the interests of the people supported by HASI.

SPRC led a consortium, in partnership with the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS), which was successful in tendering for the design stage of the evaluation of phase 2 of the federal government’s Stronger Families and Communities Strategy. This is potentially a very significant piece of research because it puts SPRC in a favourable position for managing the evaluation.

As in previous years, the SPRC was awarded several new ARC research grants (to commence in 2005). A Linkage grant, Negotiating Caring and Employment - the Impact on Carers’ Wellbeing was awarded to Michael Bittman and Cathy Thomson. Another Linkage grant was awarded to Peter Saunders for the project Left Out and Missing Out: Towards New Indicators of Social Exclusion and Material Deprivation and the SPRC also participated in a Linkage Infrastructure and Equipment project Australian Social Science Data Archive: Facility Enhancement and Network (Peter Saunders and Bruce Bradbury)

The SPRC’s contribution to the academic debate on social policy is not confined to producing high quality research. In 2004 we continued our two successful seminar programmes. Social Policy in the City is a joint venture with Mission Australia and The Smith Family, with assistance by Macquarie Bank, which offers regular public lunchtime seminars on important social policy issues. Topics in 2004 included the changing nature of family responsibility, and two presentations on mental health, one relating to the family law system, and the other to income support recipients. SPRC Seminars are held regularly at SPRC, also at lunchtime. SPRC staff, visiting scholars and external speakers present on a wide range of social policy and research topics. Some of the presentations in 2004 were Mark Peel (Historical Studies, Monash); Voices of poverty in Australia. Rachel Lloyd (NATSEM); Getting down to small areas: spatial microsimulation modelling at NATSEM kylie valentine (SPRC); Private lives in public: alternate epistemologies for social research, and Professor Adrian Sinfield (University of Edinburgh) Preventing poverty: a neglected strategy.

Finally, a note of caution. The budget figures shown for 2004 in the Funding section of this year’s report are somewhat misleading and, as a close reading of the notes will reveal, SPRC finances were in reasonable shape during the year. The seeming deficit is a result of a series of administrative ‘hiccups’ including contracts coming in at the end of the financial year, delays in invoicing of $510,178, and an accounting backlog. The figures presented do not include the value of invoices that were sent to our funders but remained unpaid at the end of the year. This, along with delayed invoices, accounts for $736,829 of the accumulated deficit.

Overall 2004 has been a year of enormous change and of considerable achievement for the SPRC. The Centre is well placed to move forward into its next phase and to continue to operate at the cutting edge of methodology and policy relevant research.

Ilan Katz
Acting Director

SPRC Seminars
SPRC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Professor Annette Hamilton, Dean, Faculty Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW (Presiding Member)

Associate Professor Michael Bittman, SPRC

Professor Richard Hugman, School of Social Work, UNSW

Ms Helen Lapsley, School of Health Services Management, UNSW

Professor Peter Saunders, SPRC Director

SPRC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Professor Annette Hamilton, Dean, Faculty Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW (Interim Presiding Member)

Professor Mark Considine, Department of Political Science, University of Melbourne

Associate Professor Peter Kriesler, School of Economics, UNSW

Mr Michael Raper, Welfare Rights Centre

Professor Peter Saunders, SPRC

Mr Peter Siminski, Elected Staff Member, SPRC

Ms Philippa Smith, The Association of Superannuation Funds Australia

Associate Professor Peter Travers, School of Social Policy and Administration, Flinders University

Professor June Wangmann, New South Wales Department of Community Services

Ms Serena Wilson, Department of Family and Community Services
SPRC STAFF (AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2004)

**Director and Professor**  
Peter Saunders  
BSc DipEc S’ton, PhD Syd., FASSA

**Professor and Acting Director**  
Ilan Katz  
BSA (Wittersand), PhD Brunel

**Senior Research Fellows**  
Michael Bittman  
BA UNSW, PhD RMIT

Bruce Bradbury  
BSoSc MCom PhD UNSW

Tony Eardley  
BA Oxon, DipSocAdmin Bristol, DPhil York

Karen Fisher  
BA LLB Auck., MEc Macq.

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Gerry Redmond (on leave)  
BSocSci Dublin, GradDipComp MA Bath

Xiaoyuan Shang  
BA Nankai, MA Renmin, PhD Sussex

Cathy Thomson  
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Massey BSocSc

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AO, MD Syd., Hon LittD. USQ, FRACP  
FRACGP FAFPHM

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Robyn Dolby  
BA UNE, PhD Qld

Emeritus Professor Sol Encel  
MA PhD Meltb.

Sara Graham  
BSc London, PhD West Indies

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BSc DipEd BA Macq.

Trish Hill  
BA Murdoch

Kate Norris  
BEd UNSW

Margot Rawsthorne  
BA Macq., PhD Syd.

kylie Valentine  
BA PhD, Syd.

Ciara Smyth  
BA, MSc Applied Social Research, Dublin

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BASocSc UTS

Marilyn McHugh  
BSW Syd.

Peter Siminski  
BMathEcon UOW, BA Syd.

Denise Thompson  
BA PhD UNSW

**Librarian**  
Katherine Cummings  
BA Syd., BLS Tor AALA

**Business Manager**  
Melissa Roughley (on leave)  
BSoSc UNSW

Margaret Micallef  
BSoSc UNSW

**Events and Promotions Coordinator**  
Duncan Aldridge  
BA DipEd UOW
**RESEARCH PROGRAM**

During 2004 there were 64 research projects underway in the Centre, funded from academic grants or contracts, mainly with government departments. These projects are described below grouped into broad areas of social policy. In addition, the Centre contributed to one international project involved in developing infrastructure for social policy research, and another project to develop infrastructure for HIV-related policy research, and supported research towards 11 PhD degrees.

**INCOME, POVERTY AND THE SOCIAL DISTRIBUTION OF NEED**

**An integrated framework for developing credible indicators of deprivation and other dimensions of inequality**

Peter Saunders  
Principal Funder: Discovery Grant and Australian Professorial Fellowship

The existing instruments for measuring poverty have become disconnected from the life events that cause poverty and the adverse outcomes associated with low income. A new approach is needed that is focused on how low-income, deprivation and joblessness produce unacceptable outcomes, particularly for children. Community concern over the growing ‘rich-poor divide’ suggests that poverty research must also be better integrated with issues of affluence and inequality. This innovative program will develop an integrated conceptual and empirical framework for identifying poverty, deprivation and other dimensions of inequality, and use it to derive a set of new social monitoring instruments and policy evaluation tools.

**Valuing time for a ‘full income’ measure**

Trish Hill  
Principal Funder: Office for Women, Department of Family and Community Services

The project proposes to use time-use data to develop a broader picture of the differences in the living standards of Australian women and men. The proposed analysis will build upon current doctoral research to address feminist criticism of traditional income-based measures of living standards, economic inequality and poverty. Income measures describe a level of income but not the sources, circumstances, costs or time taken to earn the income. Two specific issues that will be addressed through the project are: the valuation of the contribution of non-market time to a measure of the standard of living, and the calculation of measures of income and other resources at the level of the individual in addition to the household.
Household income, living standards and economic inequality in Australia and its regions
Peter Saunders, Bruce Bradbury, Michael Bittman, Peter Siminski and Saba Waseem
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council SPIRT Grant with Australian Bureau of Statistics as Industry Partner

The project is undertaking a detailed analysis of the data used to measure poverty and inequality in Australia, with a view to providing a systematic study of trends over the last two decades. In addition, the project involves the development of alternative measures of household living-standards that incorporate non-cash income sources including imputed rental income, domestic production and time, and employee non-wage benefits. Both trends over time and the regional distribution of living standards are being examined. During 2004, research concentrated on exploring how patterns of inequality and poverty are affected by different approaches to the measurement of housing costs.

The impact of breaches on income support recipients
Tony Eardley, Margot Rawsthorne, Jude Brown, Kate Norris and Elisabeth Emrys
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

Activity requirements and penalties for non-compliance play an important role in encouraging participation among unemployed income support recipients. Recent years, however, have seen a substantial and controversial increase in the number of breaches imposed. This study was the first to examine systematically the impacts of breaching, using customer and agency surveys and in-depth qualitative interviews. It found that while breaching does not appear to fall disproportionately on the most vulnerable recipients, they are more likely to experience the most adverse effects. A majority of respondents indicated that being breached had made them try harder to look for work and to meet their other requirements. The findings from the study will feed into the work of the new Taskforce on Breaching.

OECD comparative study of income distribution and poverty – Australian report
Peter Saunders and Peter Siminski
Principal Funder: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

The OECD has recently undertaken an analysis of trends in the distribution of households’ disposable income across 10 OECD countries over the last 20 years. The project provided the OECD with estimates of the distribution of household income and poverty in Australia. The analysis focused on three population groups: the whole population, the working-age population (18-65), and the population of retirees. Results from the full study will be published by the OECD.
Social security and older workforce-age migrants

Bruce Bradbury and Jenny Chalmers
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

This project is examining income support dependency rates among overseas-born Australians aged 45-64. ABS Census data and FaCS administrative data are being used to estimate income support dependency and labour force participation rates for people of different birthplaces and migration dates. These results will be interpreted in the context of previous research on the labour market impediments facing overseas-born Australians – together with the policy responses to these impediments.

Retirees' use of superannuation lump-sum payments

Tony Eardley and Ciara Smyth
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

Available data does not give a clear picture of how retirees who receive substantial payouts use their superannuation. The research will assist in gaining a clearer picture of how retirees use superannuation lump-sum payments. The project is examining the reasons why some retirees choose to take their money out of the superannuation system, and investigates why other retirees choose to keep their payouts in the system by rolling savings over into other superannuation products.

EMPLOYMENT, FAMILY AND THE CARE OF DEPENDENT OTHERS

Management of work and family balance

Michael Bittman
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

Most Australian research on work-family balance has been within the industrial relations tradition of workplace-based studies. While there is some qualitative data on work-family strain and the life course, there very little research which studies the relationship between child care arrangements (including mixed formal and informal care), hours of employment, patterns of paid work, the hours of domestic labour and perceived time-pressure, both for individuals and households. The investigation is focusing on (1) developing an index of work/family strain incorporating time-pressure, health and satisfaction measures; (2) describing how parents with different labour force statuses spend time with their children, and the effects of non-parental care on these patterns; and (3) studying the association between formal child care and informal support (e.g. extended family) and achieving a successful balance between work and family.
Still juggling time?
Individual, generational and historical change in responsibilities for market and non-market work
Michael Bittman and Jude Brown
Principal Funder: Australian Government, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

The core of the project is updating the analysis of confidentialised data from ABS Time Use Surveys. A key finding of the earlier cross-sectional research was that time spent in unpaid work (chiefly housework, shopping and child care) was profoundly affected by gender and life course stage but relatively unaffected by the usual indicators of social disadvantage such as income, social class or ethnicity. An earlier monograph, Recent Changes in Unpaid Work, 1974-1992, concentrated on an analysis of trends in time spent on component tasks of non-market work. This study provided the only exhaustive account of Australians’ changing domestic arrangements.

Women’s lifework case studies
Michael Bittman, Bruce Bradbury, Kate Norris, Kylie Valentine, Margot Rawsthorne, Ciara Smyth and Peter Siminski
Principal Funder: Office For Women, Premier’s Department, NSW

The Women’s Lifework Project aims to achieve a deeper understanding of women’s labour market experiences over their life course, a better understanding of how work and family commitments affect different social groups, and an evidence-base for governments and businesses to develop responses that facilitate a better reconciliation of work and family life. The project uses a mixed method approach involving qualitative methods of data collection and qualitative and quantitative data analysis.

Fluid families
Bruce Bradbury and Kate Norris
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

Much income support policy in Australia provides assistance based on the circumstances of the co-resident family. However, there is evidence that the family circumstances of income support recipients are extremely volatile. The degree of volatility has implications for the definition of different classes of income support, for administrative practices for movement between payments, for services for clients and for means tests. The objective of this project is to provide a descriptive profile of the patterns of change in household structure among Australian families. The project will draw upon data from both the LDS (1% file) and the first two waves of the HILDA survey.
Young mothers
Bruce Bradbury
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

In 1998-99, three-quarters of mothers aged under 25 were receiving parenting allowance. This association between young motherhood and economic disadvantage may be due to either a direct causal relationship (having a child at a young age disrupts education, employment and family formation patterns) or a selection effect (mothers with poor education or employment prospects tend to have children when younger). In either case, being born to a young mother is very strong indicator of childhood economic disadvantage. This project will examine the socio-economic characteristics associated with becoming a young mother, describe the social and economic outcomes associated with this, and examine longer-term outcomes. The project will draw upon ABS Census data, HILDA and LDS data.

The causal impact of young motherhood
Bruce Bradbury
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

Though young mothers and their children tend to have poorer socio-economic outcomes than older mothers, much of this relationship could be due to women with poorer education and labour market prospects being more likely to have children at a younger age – rather than a direct effect of young motherhood per se. To estimate the direct impact of young motherhood, it is necessary to identify a group of women who are similar to the young mothers in all relevant respects except for their motherhood status. One approach is to compare young mothers with a sample of women who experienced a miscarriage within the same age-window. This study will replicate studies that have been undertaken in the US and the UK using this technique. Data from the Women’s Health Australia survey will be used.

The time costs of children
Lyn Craig
Principal Funder: Office for Women, Department of Family and Community Services

The project will explore the impact of children on the total paid and unpaid workload of families and gender differences in the allocation of that workload. This is an issue of profound significance in the lives of women, who continue to shoulder the major burden of domestic responsibility and upon whom the time demands concomitant with life-course changes including childbirth disproportionately fall. There is a significant body of research that addresses the domestic division of labour and another that addresses the money cost of children, but little that directly addresses the time cost of children and variation by gender.
**Parenting payment transitions**

Margot Rawsthorne
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

This project used qualitative methods to complement the quantitative analysis undertaken in the Fluid Families project. A small sample of women with multiple changes between Parenting Payment Partnered (PPP) and Parenting Payment Single (PPS) were interviewed. The qualitative interviews sought to elucidate the financial impact of changes in relationship status, and the role of these financial impacts and other factors in influencing relationship-status choices.

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**The role of family-friendly policies in explaining interstate differences in fertility**

Michael Bittman, Jenny Chalmers, Ciara Smyth and Peter Siminski
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

Policy-makers are currently coming to grips with the higher dependency ratios projected to accompany the trend towards low fertility. In recent years, it has been the countries with the highest female labour force participation rates that have the highest rates of fertility. This project explores the association between social and economic factors and fertility. Using inter-state differences in fertility trends as the basis for a quasi-‘natural experiment’, the project will assess the salience of various influences on fertility. A special-purpose database has been developed to test the significance of the relationships between the fertility rate and the costs of accommodating and raising a child; the supply of affordable, quality child care places; the family-friendliness of workplaces; and gender norms.

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**A review of Work for the Dole as a labour market program**

John Nevile (School of Economics) and Tony Eardley
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council - Linkage Grant

The project reviewed the Work for the Dole program in terms of its stated objective of instilling work habits in young people, and in the wider context of giving young unemployed people the skills and confidence that will increase their chances of finding employment. The principal research tools used were sample surveys and in-depth interviews. This project was undertaken with Anglicare Australia and the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) as Industry Partners. The project concluded during 2003 and the Centre for Applied Economic Research published a research monograph, *Work for the Dole: Obligation or Opportunity*, based on the findings.
**Carers and service non-use**

Cathy Thomson and Kate Norris  
Principal Funder: UNSW University Research Support Program

Formal services such as respite care can assist carers to continue to support care recipients at home. However, many carers do not take up these services. To date, studies examining the issue of service non-use have had to extrapolate from data about small numbers of service users. This project investigates the characteristics of informal carers who do not use formal services, as well as the reasons they give for non-use. It is especially concerned with those carers who have an evident need for such services. Using data from the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, measures of association and regression analysis were conducted to identify variables that significantly predict service non-use.

**Domestic technology and the management of time**

Michael Bittman, Judy Wajcman (Australian National University) and Kimberly Fisher  
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council - Discovery Grant

This project will make a significant contribution to contemporary debates about time poverty and work-family balance. It analysed under-utilised data sources to investigate whether time-pressure can be alleviated through the application of information and communications technology, such as personal computers, mobile phones and programmable domestic equipment. It is a widespread assumption that domestic technologies simply save time. This project explores the extent to which technologies in the home instead facilitate ‘time-shifting’ or the re-scheduling of tasks, in a way that may reduce feelings of time-pressure and enhance the quality of leisure time.

**Reaching isolated carers: contacting carers with unmet needs for information and support**

Michael Bittman, Cathy Thomson, Trish Hill and Kimberly Fisher  
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council - Linkage Grant

This study is an extensive collaboration between the SPRC, a consortium of the relevant NSW government departments, and Carers NSW. The project aims to use an innovative method for recognising isolated carers (i.e. carers who do not self-identify) and their needs for support. It proposes evidence-based strategies to develop an effective policy for reducing the isolation of these carers. Informing isolated carers about support services would lead to significant improvements in carers’ lives.

**The costs of foster care in Australia**

Peter Saunders, Judy Cashmore and Marilyn McHugh  
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council, Australian Postgraduate Award Industry Grant with the Association of Children’s Welfare Agencies as Industry Partner

The grant funds PhD research on the costs of foster care in Australia. The project is described in more detail in the section on Research Training. (See Page 29)
Couple parenting: sharing the responsibility for paid work and exit from the income support system
Jenny Chalmers
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

The project documents the patterns of paid employment and caring responsibilities among jobless couples with children as they exit the income support system and move into sustainable employment. The project aims to show how the paths taken vary with the characteristics of the couple, and investigates how income support policy might impinge on these paths. The research will be useful to policy makers in highlighting ways to facilitate successful transitions from joblessness to sustained employment.

Returning to work after unemployment: is casual work as good as it gets?
Jenny Chalmers and Trish Hill
Principal Funder: UNSW Faculty Research Grant

This project is examining the ability of casual work (an increasingly significant part of the Australian labour market) to facilitate entry to stable employment. The research looks for differences in outcomes based on the type of casual job (industry and occupation), the characteristics of the job seeker (gender, age and ethnicity), and what precipitated unemployment (retrenchment, etc). The research will make a significant contribution to policy debates since current Commonwealth Government policy is to encourage unemployed income support recipients to take up casual work on the basis that it leads to more stable employment.

When usual child care arrangements breakdown: emergency arrangements made by solo parents
Cathy Thomson and Jacqueline Tudball
Principal Funder: University Research Support Program

The study explores the arrangements working sole parents make in unanticipated situations when the usual child care arrangements break down. ‘Unanticipated’ refers to situations where parents have less than one day to organise an alternative. In-depth interviews are being conducted with sole parents who have preschool-aged children and who work more than 25 hours per week. Parents who usually use formal services will be compared with those who usually use informal services. The study is particularly relevant in light of increasing female labour force participation.
Housing, location and employment
Bruce Bradbury and Jenny Chalmers
Principal Funder: Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI)

Do housing markets and housing policies provide incentives for people to live in areas of low employment opportunities? Does living in such an area directly impede employment prospects? Though the association between location and employment outcomes is well established, the causal relationships underlying this are not. Existing research does not identify whether it is the characteristics of the locality that influence employment outcomes, or whether it is simply that people with poor labour market prospects can only afford to live in certain regions (or whether both factors are at work). This study used the Census data as well as longitudinal data in the FaCS LDS to estimate these relationships, focusing on the labour market outcomes of people who move between localities.

Availability of foster carers
Marilyn McHugh, Jenny Chalmers, Justin McNab, Ciara Symth, Peter Siminski and Peter Saunders
Principal Funder: Department of Community Services, NSW

The demand for people, usually mothers, willing to foster is increasing as the number of children in out-of-home care rises. However, with the growing propensity for women to participate in paid employment there are decreasing numbers of women available to become foster carers. This study examines the current (and projected future) socio-demographic characteristics of foster carers in NSW through interviews and focus groups with key stakeholders and through secondary data analysis. It also identifies the factors that attract people to become carers and tests the premise that certain communities are more likely to provide carers than others. Based on these findings, the study forecasts the future supply of carers in NSW and identifies options for the government to facilitate wider involvement in foster caring.

Exploring the determinants and impact of participation among FaCS customers: Stage II
Peter Saunders, Kate Norris and Jude Brown
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

This project builds on two recently completed SPRC research projects on economic and social participation which provided valuable information detailing the nature and impact of different types of participation. The current project is interviewing a sample of people who recently made the transition from unemployment benefit into paid work in order to understand better which forms of participation are most closely associated with exit from the welfare system.
Community Services Outcomes and Evaluations

Stranger Families and Communities Strategy evaluation design
Ilan Katz, Karen Fisher, Kylie Valentine, Cathy Thomson, Natasha Corits and Christiane Purcal with Alison Morehead, Australian Institute of Family Studies, and advisers
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

The Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services contracted the UNSW Consortium, managed by the SPRC, to design the evaluation of the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy (2004-2008) (SFCS) (Stage One). The SFCS aims to: help families and communities build better futures for children; build family and community capacity; support relationships between families and the communities they live in; and improve communities’ ability to help themselves. The evaluation will be undertaken in two stages, consisting of Stage One, the design of an evaluation plan, and Stage Two, the implementation of the evaluation plan and data analysis and reporting. The evaluation design will be based on a program theory approach. Data collection will use mixed methods, including individual and group interviews, site observation, stakeholder meetings, quantitative data (primary data about process, longitudinal outcomes and costs, and secondary geo-coded outcomes data) and document review. Data will be analysed using meta-analysis, and local context, process, outcome and cost-effectiveness evaluation techniques.

Evaluation of Mercy Arms older homeless persons’ day care centre service
Alan Morris
Principal Funder: Catholic Health Care Service Limited

The Mercy Arms, a Catholic Health care service began operating in 1990. It provides services for older people in the inner city. These services are assistance and care for the aged, Community Aged Care Packages, Community Visitors Scheme and Domestic Assistance. The SPRC has been approached to conduct an evaluation of the day centre service (Community Connections) at Mercy Arms. Community Connections provides recreational and social activities for marginalised older homeless people who have difficulty accessing mainstream services. The evaluation will examine the benefits or otherwise for the participants, provide information for future development, and provide evidence of the need for government funding for centre-based support services especially for older homeless people.

Evaluation of the Mental Health Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative
Alan Morris, Karen Fisher, David Abelló, Kelly Sutherland and Sarah Yallop with Michael Bleasdale (DSARI)
Principal Funder: NSW Health

The project is a two-year evaluation of the NSW Health Mental Health Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI). We are measuring the outcomes and processes from the initiative, focusing on the interests of the people supported by HASI. Methods will include interviews with people supported by HASI, providers, government, carers and advocacy groups; quantitative data analysis; and document and literature reviews.
Children in the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)
Tony Eardley, Kate Norris, Sonia Hoffmann and Denise Thompson
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

The central aim of the research is to identify critical issues and opportunities to improve SAAP’s capacity to understand and better meet the needs of children. This project is intended to contribute to the overall knowledge about children and homelessness in Australia through two main activities: a literature review of current research into legal, policy and program activities concerning children (both accompanying parents and unaccompanied) who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and/or in SAAP programs; and a comprehensive analysis of the circumstances of, and outcomes for, children accessing SAAP services, drawing on data to be provided by the SAAP Data Analyst and the National Data Collection Agency (NDCA).

Disability Support Pension: new claims: a focus group study
Alan Morris and David Abelló
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

The project builds on previous research, by Chalmers and Siminski (2003) and Cai (2002), which showed that, although there is a common perception that movement onto the DSP usually follows a period of other income support receipt (particularly unemployment payments), a substantial proportion of new DSP customers have not been in recent receipt of income support prior to making a claim for the pension. Although we have some information about this particular group in terms of their age, gender and marital status, there is a lack of wider knowledge about their circumstances. The study builds on a survey of new DSP claims being carried out by the FaCS, which aims to provide a systematic, quantitative analysis of new DSP recipients’ characteristics, their disability and impairment status, their labour market histories and aspirations, their educational and training backgrounds, their pathways onto income support, and their service needs. A series of focus groups will be carried out with people recently moving onto DSP to explore qualitatively customers’ processes of moving onto the pension, the situations and circumstances that brought them to apply for payment, their capacities and aspirations for work and other forms of participation, and the kinds of assistance and service support they would find helpful in meeting these aspirations.

Evaluation of the NSW Youth Drug Court pilot program
Tony Eardley, Peter Saunders, Karen Fisher, Justin McNab, Janet Chan (School of Social Science and Policy) and Lisa Maher (School of Community Medicine)
Principal Funder: Attorney General’s Department of NSW

The study evaluated a pilot Youth Drug Court set up in two Children’s Court areas of western Sydney as a result of the NSW Drug Summit. The evaluation involved several studies employing both quantitative and qualitative methods. These included: implementation reviews, an outcomes study, an analysis of program costs, and a legal issues review. The research assisted the NSW Government in setting future directions for the YDC in the context of drugs policy more generally.
Tenancy Guarantees Pilot Project mid-project review
Tony Eardley
Principal Funder: Office of Community Housing

The Tenancy Guarantee Pilot Project is designed to assist people who have the financial means to take on private sector renting but are unable to secure a tenancy because of a lack of tenancy history and personal references, or because of some form of discrimination by real estate agents and/or landlords. In its pilot stage the scheme provides for up to 350 tenancy guarantees offered through six community housing organisations in areas of NSW where such problems have been identified. The SPRC is undertaking a mid-Project review of the scheme to assess its effectiveness and to make recommendations for any necessary changes to the focus and/or design of the Project. The methods include: review of data from service agencies; review of literature on similar schemes elsewhere in Australia and overseas; consultations with stakeholders; and fieldwork visits and interviews with participating delivery organisations, real estate agents, referral agencies, and individual applicants or beneficiaries of tenancy guarantees.

Follow-up to the longitudinal study of wards leaving care
Judy Cashmore
Principal Funder: Department of Community Services, NSW

This study gathers information about the experiences of the cohort of young people who were interviewed for the earlier SPRC project, Longitudinal Study of Wards Leaving Care, conducted in the early 1990s. It provides, for the first time, a continuous record of what happens to young people over an extended period of time beyond their time in care. The project also provides a basis for the development of practice in this area, at a time when leaving care/after care services are just being established.

Outcome study of the use of children’s services as a strategy in child protection
Karen Fisher, Peter Saunders, Judy Cashmore, Robyn Dolby, Marilyn McHugh, Cathy Thomson, Elizabeth Fernandez (School of Social Work), Kathy Gray and Amanda Coulston (Office of Childcare)
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council SPIRT Grant with the NSW Department of Community Services as Industry Partner

Children’s services have been used to protect children at risk of harm. However, there is little empirical evidence to indicate whether this is an effective strategy for preventing children from moving further into the child protection system. The research covers a three-year period of following a cohort of children at risk. The longitudinal data collected is being used to measure the effectiveness of using children’s services as a preventive child protection strategy. The project aims to identify the factors leading to successful outcomes for children within different service types.
Families First evaluation
Karen Fisher, Cathy Thomson, Sonia Hoffmann, kylie valentine, Peter Saunders, Michael Bittman, Judy Cashmore, Richard Henry (School of Women's and Children's Health), Gawaine Powell Davies (Centre for General Practice Integration Studies), Elizabeth Harris, Lyn Kemp (Centre for Health Equity Training, Research and Evaluation); and Cynthia a’Beckett (University of New England)
Principal Funder: NSW Cabinet Office

Families First is an initiative developed by the NSW Government which aims to increase the effectiveness of early intervention and prevention services in helping families to raise healthy, well-adjusted children. Drawing primarily on existing services and resources, the initiative is concerned with developing linkages between specialised health, community service, education and other services to ensure a coordinated and prevention-focused approach to providing support to families. The evaluation involved two major tasks. The first was to review the implementation of the Families First strategy; the second was to develop a framework to measure the longer-term outcomes of the intervention.

Veterans’ Home Care evaluation
Natasha Posner, Peter Saunders, Sharon Burke, Karen Fisher, Justin McNab, Saba Waseem, Bruce Bradbury and Jude Brown, together with Elizabeth Comino, Mark Harris and Gawaine Powell Davies (all at the Centre for General Practice Integration Studies)
Principal Funder: Department of Veterans’ Affairs

This evaluation assessed the impact and immediate outcomes of the VHC program introduced in January 2001. Customer surveys, interviews and focus groups with stakeholders were used to monitor the health status, functioning, satisfaction and quality of life outcomes of VHC recipients over the initial years of the program. DVA Administrative data were analysed to examine effects on mortality, health services use and the cost-effectiveness of the program. The evaluation identified a number of important contributions of the VHC program to veterans and war widow(er)s who experienced difficulty with activities of daily living. In terms of outcomes, VHC users expressed high levels of satisfaction with services.

The FaCS evaluation panel
Peter Saunders, Michael Bittman, Bruce Bradbury, Jenny Chalmers, Tony Eardley, Karen Fisher and Cathy Thomson
Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

FaCS is concerned with the well-being of Australians as individuals, families and communities, and its focus is on broad social policy objectives and outcomes. Along with other institutions, companies and individuals, the SPRC is a member of an evaluation panel established to provide advice to and carry out evaluation services for FaCS. No specific projects were undertaken by SPRC under this arrangement during 2004.
### Volunteering: incidence, motivations and barriers

**Michael Bittman, Kimberly Fisher and Denise Thompson**

Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

The project outlined methods for estimating the value of services provided by volunteers. It compared the two major sources of information about volunteering – the ABS Survey of Voluntary Work and the ABS Time Use Survey. These sources reveal slightly different pictures of the factors promoting and inhibiting participation in voluntary work. In general, living in a capital city tends to lower the likelihood of volunteering, as does membership of culturally and linguistically diverse groups. Volunteering occurs across all social classes. The research also examined the volunteering rate among groups who are more likely to be FaCS customers, and compared it with rates found in the Australian community at large.

### Evaluation of NSW Mental Health Integration Project (MHIP), Illawarra

**Natasha Posner and David Abelló**

Principal Funder: Department of Health and Aged Care

This evaluation used the National Evaluation Framework for integrated mental health care demonstration projects to assess outcomes for consumers and providers of mental health care, and to assess integration at the levels of service provision, the health system and between sectors. The main aims of the Illawarra MHIP are to improve consumer access to a range of mental health services, to collaborate with and support GPs in their role as primary carers, and to develop collaborative partnerships between public and private mental health services and non-government organisations. The evaluation used a range of investigative tools with consumers and carers, health professionals and other service providers, to obtain their views and experiences at different stages of the project.

### Supporting families who have a child with a disability

**Karen Fisher, Jacqueline Tudbull, Katherine Cummings together with Phillip French, Leanne Dowse and Therese Sands (Disability Studies and Research Institute)**

Principal Funder: Families First Inner West

This project investigated what happens to families who have a child with a disability, at the point of assessment and identification of the child’s disability. The research examined this experience from the perspective of both the families themselves and the staff of service providers who assess children. The methodology included a literature review, review of documentation, and case studies and interviews with families and service providers.
Parent support strategies
Karen Fisher, Kylie Valentine, Nicole Aggett together with Prue Warrillow and Fay Bennett (Families At Work)
Principal Funder: Families First Cumberland Prospect

Parent Support Program strategies aim to understand the support and information parents need, and to develop, implement and evaluate systems that improve the coordination between existing parent support groups, so that families have increased access to these groups. Parent support in this context means services to assist parents with parenting, such as parent education and skills groups, information services and support groups for parents. The project documented existing services and family needs, identified strategies to improve sustainability and appropriateness, implemented and evaluated short-term strategies, and documented longer-term options.

Early learning strategies
Karen Fisher and Kylie Valentine together with Prue Warrillow and Fay Bennett (Families At Work)
Principal Funder: Families First Cumberland Prospect

This project aims to increase formal early learning opportunities for children aged 0-5 years in the Families First Cumberland/Prospect Area. Formal early learning opportunities include structured early learning programs or activities beyond the family home. The project documents issues about groups who do not access formal early learning opportunities in the area; develops early learning models and strategies that would increase early learning opportunities for children aged 0-5 years from the identified groups; and develop a plan outlining priority strategies to increase early learning opportunities to be implemented over the next three year period in each local government area.

Evaluation of the Resident Support Program
Karen Fisher, David Abelló, Bruce Bradbury, Peter Siminski, Sally Robinson (Disability Studies and Research Institute) and Lesley Chenoweth (University of Queensland)
Principal Funder: Disability Services Queensland

The Resident Support Program aims to enhance the community involvement of people with disabilities living in privately owned boarding houses and hostels in Queensland. The evaluation researches the process of implementation of the program; the services provided to residents by the contracted support providers, residents’ perceptions of the appropriateness of these services and of their impact on quality of life, health, wellbeing and social participation, and the impact of these services on residential facility operators and staff and other human services providers and Departments. The evaluation also reviews the cost-effectiveness of the program.

Low intensity coordinated care in child disability assessment
Karen Fisher, Sonia Hoffmann and Ciara Smyth
Principal Funder: UNSW Faculty Research Grant

This project is examining whether low intensity coordinated care improves the quality of families’ experiences during child disability assessment. Research has shown that parents want ongoing support to improve their understanding about their experiences. Case management can be costly, however, and the effectiveness of low intensity coordinated care for these families has not been examined. This project measures outcomes for children, families and government in two locations, with and without low intensity coordinated care, using qualitative interviews with families.
The Early Childhood Teachers Interim Policy assists child care providers experiencing difficulty attracting qualified teachers. This research has reviewed the policy’s effectiveness, the barriers to its implementation, the relationship of the policy to industrial and vocational training, future options in regard to continuation, amendment or cessation of the policy, and other possible policy options. The review included analysis of Children’s Services Information System (CSIS) data, and interviews with Children’s Services Advisers, those services already using the policy, and other stakeholders.

DoCS is reviewing the policy criteria for preschool fee relief funding. A literature review of international fee relief models for early childhood services that target disadvantaged families was conducted to enable the Department to formulate recommendations to the Minister. The review included an analysis of the ease with which they could be applied in NSW.

This is a cross-disciplinary project in public policy and economics. It tests the argument that decisions to fund preventive human service programs can be made in terms of cost savings. It is important to make a distinction between the net benefits to society and the financial savings made from cutting back on particular programs, in order to avoid policy decisions that result in the under-funding of programs. Cost-benefit analysis is being applied to longitudinal service usage data from a coordinated care trial, in order to measure cost savings. The outcomes will inform Commonwealth and State resource decisions about preventive human services.

FaCS uses many NGOs to deliver community services and to provide policy and service delivery advice. NGOs in turn rely on FaCS to provide an efficient and effective policy and service framework. This project examines concepts of partnership in the relations between government and NGOs, and the possible impacts of increasing reporting/accountability requirements for NGOs.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Funding Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The provision of human services: funding models and outcomes</td>
<td>This grant funds PhD research into the nature and role of the funding models used by government to fund community organisations to provide human services, and the linkages between these models and the outcomes for both organisations and their clients. The project is described further in the section on Research Training. (See page 28).</td>
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<td>Sheila Shaver, Tony Eardley and Kim Jamieson</td>
<td>Principal Funder: Australian Research Council SPIRT Grant with NSW Department of Community Services as Industry Partner</td>
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| The Smith Family VIEW Clubs of Australia: from philanthropy to social enterprise | This grant funds PhD research investigating The Smith Family VIEW Clubs’ response to the plan for them to play a new role in social development and social change. The project is described further in the section on Research Training. (See page 29). | Sheila Shaver, Michael Bittman and Christie Robertson  
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council SPIRT Grant with The Smith Family as Industry Partner |
| Evaluation of Follow-on Youth Recovery Support Team (FYRST) services       | The Follow-on Youth Recovery Support Team (FYRST) in Fairfield and Parramatta provide post-detoxification case management services for young people aged 16-25 with drug-use problems. The SPRC is conducting an evaluation from December 2002, through to September 2005. The evaluation focuses on determining how the FYRST project meets its aims of contacting young people completing detoxification or rehabilitation; providing practical assistance to alleviate immediate crises; providing ongoing care support using a holistic client-focused model; and assisting people with their ongoing recovery. |
| Tony Eardley                                                                | Principal Funder: Salvation Army – Youth link                                                      |
| Provision of evaluation services for Centrelink                            | Centrelink is a government agency delivering a range of Commonwealth services to the Australian community. Centrelink has established a three-year program to evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness and/or responsiveness of its service delivery functions. Along with other institutions, companies and individuals, the SPRC is a member of an evaluation panel established to provide advice to and carry out evaluation services for Centrelink. |
| Peter Saunders, Michael Bittman, Bruce Bradbury, Jenny Chalmers, Tony Eardley, Karen Fisher and Cathy Thomson | Principal Funder: Centrelink                                                                         |
The extent and cost of kinship foster care of orphans in rural China
Peter Saunders, Xiaoyuan Shang, together with Andrew West (Save the Children Fund, UK)
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council - Linkage Grant, with Save the Children, UK, as Industry Partner

This project will explore the extent of kinship foster care provided to orphaned children in rural China. It will also, for the first time, estimate the costs of kinship care, by modifying Australian budget standards research to suit conditions in rural China. The project will combine a strong research team with a leading international NGO working in China and will draw on support from government officials from the Ministry of Civil Affairs. The results will be used to estimate child poverty among the target group and will provide a knowledge base for future research in the area.

A comparative study of women’s policy machinery in Korea and Australia
Peter Saunders and Kyungja Jung
Principal Funder: Australian Research Council - Linkage International Fellowship

The project aims to contribute to the better understanding of women’s policy machinery in Korea and Australia in order to develop more effective policy-making and implementation. The research will investigate the relevance of national machineries for the advancement of women. It will examine the appropriate mechanisms through which the mainstreaming of gender can take place, the levels of governance involved, the relationship between gender mainstreaming and state structures, and the effect of this relationship on policy implementation.

Patterns of deprivation in Australia, Britain and Finland
Peter Saunders (SPRC), Laura Adelman (University of Loughborough) and Mikko Niemelä (University of Turku)
Principal Funder: University funding from the three participating institutions

This project is developing indicators of material deprivation and hardship and exploring patterns of incidence and form in Australia, Britain and Finland, using comparative definitions and data sets. Attention is being paid to the overlap between indicators of deprivation and the incidence of income poverty, and to the role of choice in affecting the apparent existence of deprivation. This involves examining the relationship between deprivation and income across the entire income distribution, and across different social groups within the population. The principal goal is to understand better the nature of deprivation and the role of policy in alleviating its effects in different countries.
The role and impact of the social support system on the well-being of the elderly in China

Peter Saunders and Xiaoyuan Shang, together with Kaiti Zhang, Sun Lujun, Chen Gang, Guo Ping (China Research Centre on Ageing, CRCA)

Principal Funder: Australian Research Council - Discovery Grant

This research is examining how recent changes to the system of formal and informal support for the elderly in China has affected their well-being. The project will analyse two unique data sets that provide a wealth of information on the economic and social circumstances of the elderly in China in 1992 and 2000. The collaboration with CRCA researchers is generating new insights into how the circumstances of the elderly are changing in the context of economic transformation and social change. The results will have implications for social policy development in China and shed light on the theoretical debate over the role of Confucianism in China’s version of ‘welfare orientalism’.

Fighting for social inclusion and de-institutionalisation in Nanchang City

Xiaoyuan Shang

Principal Funder: UNSW Faculty Research Grant

The project will investigate a recent policy development, de-institutionalisation of alternative care, in a Chinese city, Nanchang, and examine how this change affects the well-being of the most vulnerable children in Chinese society from the perspective of social exclusion and inclusion. It will also explore the question of whether a new type of welfare regime, based on the newly established capitalist market economy, is emerging in China.

Alice Tay Human Rights Award - Creating a humane inclusive social environment for vulnerable children: child protection in the Sinkiang Uighar autonomous region of China

Xiaoyuan Shang

Principal Funder: Australian/China Council

This research will identify the main focus and causes of social exclusion among vulnerable children in Sinkiang, analyse the impact on them of social change, and examine the effectiveness of the child protection programs provided. The main aim of the research is to achieve a better understanding of children’s rights employing the theoretical framework of social exclusion used in western countries, and at the same time to enrich and develop the theory of social exclusion by providing new analytical perspectives and empirical evidence from a developing and transitional East Asian society.

Collaborative youth services – international experience

Tony Eardley and Margot Rawsthorne

Principal Funder: Department of Family and Community Services

This project built on the previous SPRC/FaCS project exploring government/non-government relations, which identified the strengths and limitations of frameworks such as social coalition, compacts and capacity building. The objectives of this project were to: document international policy and service delivery initiatives aimed at facilitating collaboration and integration; document the success or otherwise of these initiatives; discuss and test the applicability of these initiatives to the Australian context; explore the role of government and other partners (such as the NGO sector, business and communities) in integrated youth services and make recommendations about future policy and service delivery initiatives.
RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Luxembourg Income Study
Peter Saunders and Bruce Bradbury
Australian Funders: Australian Bureau of Statistics, ANU Centre for Social Research and SPRC

The LIS was established in 1983 under a grant from the Luxembourg government. Its main aim is to assemble in one location a series of micro-data files for a range of advanced countries, and to render the data comparable by the adoption of standardised concepts and definitions. The data are then made available to researchers in each member country and are used for comparative analysis of aspects of poverty, inequality, redistribution and economic well-being in those countries. SPRC's participation in this project has ensured that it maintains close and continuing links with the international social policy research community.

Consortium for social policy research on HIV, Hepatitis C and related diseases
Karen Fisher, Justin McNab and Peter Saunders, with the National Centre for HIV Social Research (UNSW), AIDS Council NSW and People living with HIV and AIDS, NSW
Principal Funder: NSW Department of Health

The SPRC is part of a consortium with National Centre in HIV Social Research, the AIDS Council of New South Wales and People Living with HIV and AIDS, New South Wales (PLWHA-NSW) to build and strengthen research capacity at the intersection between academic and health service organisations in the area of HIV and Hepatitis C in NSW, and to encourage collaborative research and the formation of healthy public policy in these fields.

Indigenous women's mentoring
Karen Fisher, Trish Hill, Margot Rawsthorne and Kylie Valentine
Principal Funder: UNSW Equity Initiatives Grant

This grant under the UNSW Equity Initiatives is to commence an Indigenous Women Researcher Mentor Program aimed at the needs of Indigenous women who are or wish to become academics. The Mentor Program provides an opportunity for Indigenous women to further develop either their research skills in social policy and related areas, or their academic and social policy research careers. Additionally, the Mentor Program enables SPRC, a key contributor to social policy research in Australia, to develop our Indigenous research capacity. The Mentor Program seeks to address, not only the issues identified by the UNSW Equity Plan, but also wider concerns about the lack of research training and opportunities for Indigenous women researchers.
RESEARCH TRAINING

SPRC offers research training at PhD level, providing research supervision, accommodation and facilities, and access to research literature, data and skills training. Students in the Centre are enrolled in an appropriate School of the University, and are jointly supervised from the Centre and their School of enrolment. Their study is funded through a variety of scholarships.

Welfare reform as 'risk management': young adults and mutual obligation
Linda Arnold

The thesis explores recent changes to the Australian welfare system and the introduction of mutual obligation. A number of concepts underpin these changes, particularly ideas of community, participation, the work ethic and the individual. However, these concepts may be seen as problematic and contradictory in relation to the experiences of people who, for various reasons, have a precarious link to the labour market. Questions being addressed include: what are the effects of these changes on people who rely on welfare benefits as their main source of income? How may the inability to realise the norms that underpin welfare reform be linked to the changing nature of the labour market, competition, and the increasingly unequal distribution of social and economic resources in Australian society?

The birth rate and the social distribution of the time cost of children
Lyn Craig

This project uses the ABS Time Use Survey 1997 to investigate the time cost of children. It compares the welfare of parents and people without children, using as a measure daily workload, including paid and unpaid work. It investigates how the amount of time households devote to children varies with age and number of children, and how child care time is divided by gender, both in total, and in the types of activities performed and the social context of that time. It looks at whether the amount and the intra-household distribution of child care varies with parental attributes including education, income, child care use and workforce participation. It examines how lone parents’ time with children compares with that of partnered parents. It discusses whether the time cost of children is implicated in falling national fertility rates. The PhD was submitted during 2004.
Contracting democracy: a case study of women’s health centres in a restructuring welfare state
Amanda Elliot
Supervisors: Sheila Shaver and Jocelyn Pixley
School: Sociology
Scholarship: SPRC Postgraduate Scholarship

Since 1974, women’s health centres in South Australia have received government funding for the provision of alternative, feminist-informed health services. In addition, their funding arrangements have provided them with the opportunity to identify and define new needs and offer criticism of existing interpretations of women’s health needs. However, changes in the wider policy environment (e.g. restructuring and the advent of new public management theories) have threatened these opportunities, forcing women’s health services to enter into a new phase of negotiation of the terms of their funding and operations. The thesis discusses the implications of these developments for social movement theory generally, and in particular for the conceptualisation of relations between social movements and the state. The thesis was submitted and the degree conferred during 2004.

Gender, poverty and human capital
Trish Hill
Supervisors: Sheila Shaver and Peter Kriesler
School: Economics
Scholarship: SPRC Postgraduate Scholarship

Feminist critiques have highlighted a number of questions in economic analysis that need to be addressed for a more complete picture of the economic lives of men and women. Two key areas of concern are inequalities in economic well-being and inequalities in the rewards and incentives for economic activity. This thesis deploys a gender analytical framework to explore conceptual and methodological issues in conventional poverty and human capital analysis. The thesis conducts a gender-sensitive empirical analysis of Australian data from the 1990s to identify the characteristics of men and women in poverty under different intra-household sharing regimes. The research also deploys a human capital framework to identify the gender differences in earnings differentials focusing on educational qualifications and experience.

The provision of human services: funding models and outcomes
Kim Jamieson
Supervisors: Sheila Shaver, Tony Eardley and Sue Keen
School: Social Science and Policy
Scholarship: Australian Postgraduate Award – Industry

This project examined the nature and role of the funding models used by government to fund community organisations to provide human services. The linkages between these models and the outcomes of funding for funded organisations and their clients are also examined. The project focused on funding by DoCS, the Industry Partner for the project. Kim Jamieson relinquished her grant and withdrew from studies during 2004.
The cost of foster care in Australia
Marilyn McHugh
Supervisor: Peter Saunders, Judy Cashmore and Deborah Oxley
School: Social Science and Policy
Scholarship: Australian Postgraduate Award – Industry
This project examines the economic and social costs of fostering for carers. It uses methodology on itemised costing for children to estimate the direct costs of a foster child, in conjunction with empirical data to derive conclusions about whether current levels of allowances are adequate to meet the needs of a foster child. The principal aim of the study is to determine appropriate levels of reimbursement for carers by undertaking empirical research on direct and indirect costs associated with fostering.

Social capital, trust and volunteering
Roger Patulny
Supervisors: Michael Bittman and Jocelyn Pixley
School: Sociology
Scholarship: UNSW Postgraduate Research Scholarship
Although broad consensus has been reached on the centrality of such aspects as trust, networks of reciprocity and volunteering/joining action, the trends of and the dynamics between these aspects are under-explored. This thesis examines these issues using two main datasets, the World Values Survey (to incorporate values and emotional motivations such as trust and confidence) – and the ABS Time Use Survey (to evaluate practical outcomes such as volunteering). Related issues, such as the effects of TV watching, trust as emotion versus rational construct, and social capital as reciprocity versus altruism, will also be addressed. The focus will be on Australia, although the thesis will also incorporate a comparison with a number of yet-to-be-determined countries (time-use data pending).

Mid-life women envisage their income security and caring in old age
Ping Feng
Supervisor: Peter Saunders and Alan Morris
School: Social Science and Policy
Scholarship: UNSW International Postgraduate Research Scholarship
This research aims to explore middle-aged women’s expectations, preparations, and aspirations about income security and caring in urban China against a background of rapid demographic change and economic transformation. Three social groups based on their current pension/welfare entitlements in Nanjing city will be included in this study. The research will be useful for policy development and to address risks and improve women’s well-being in old age. Feng Ping withdrew from her studies during 2004.

The Smith Family VIEW Clubs of Australia: from philanthropy to social enterprise
Christie Robertson
Supervisor: Michael Bittman and Sue Keen
School: Social Science and Policy
Scholarship: Australian Postgraduate Award – Industry
The research investigates The Smith Family VIEW Clubs’ response to a new role in social development and social change, particularly the question of whether this response differs between rural, regional and metropolitan areas. The research is addressing key questions concerning which members and clubs take up the new role in social development and social change envisaged by the Smith Family; what distinguishes them from those who seek to maintain the traditional orientation of club activity; and whether and in what way these responses differ across rural, regional and metropolitan areas.
Income-sharing between young people and their parents

Judy Schneider

Supervisor: Peter Saunders and Jocelyn Pixley
School: Sociology
Scholarship: SPRC Postgraduate Scholarship and Ronald Henderson Research Scholarship

The thesis examines income-sharing between parents and young people aged 15 to 24 years, and particularly the extent to which public policy can rely on parents to support financially dependent young people aged 15 to 24 years. It brings together literature from sociology, economics and social policy in order to identify, build and evaluate models of family income-sharing. It also demonstrates that government policies have contributed to the situation in which more young people are reliant on sharing with parents, because the adequacy of their personal incomes has been reduced. Finally, it presents results showing how young people and parents share income and the likely effects of reductions in young peoples’ incomes on their well-being. The thesis was submitted and the degree conferred during 2004.

Children’s view of their health and applications to the policy process

Jacqueline Tudball

Supervisor: Michael Bittman, Lynn Kemp, Richard Henry
School: Public Health and Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine
Scholarship: Australian Postgraduate Award

The thesis involves a sociological analysis of children’s constructions of health and illness and self-management of asthma within a family context. Childhood sociologists tend to separate the ‘biological immaturity’ of childhood from its social construction. Thus, the health sciences that focus on this biological immaturity regard social aspects of children as outside their remit. Consequently, health policy and practice are lagging behind the socially oriented disciplines in understanding how childhood asthma is managed away from medical surveillance and intervention. The thesis will demonstrate the nexus of children’s biological experience of asthma and their social location in their constructions of health, illness and self-management.
The SPRC publishes a regular newsletter containing articles about current issues in social policy, reports from research in progress in the Centre, information about forthcoming and recent seminars and conferences, and other information of interest to the social policy community. The SPRC Newsletter is available free of charge by post or through the Centre’s website (www.sprc.unsw.edu.au). The three SPRC Newsletters published during 2004 were edited by Karen Fisher, Cathy Thomson and Duncan Aldridge.

No. 86, Lead Article by P. Siminski and P. Saunders, ‘Accounting for housing in regional income comparisons’

No. 87, Lead Article by P. Saunders, ‘Budget standards: Alive and well!’

No. 88, Lead Article by J. McNab and T. Eardley, ‘Evaluation of the Youth Drug Court Pilot Program’

The SPRC Discussion Paper series is a forum for discussing research in progress at the Centre. SPRC Discussion Papers are available free of charge through the Centre’s website. During 2004, the SPRC Discussion Paper Series was edited by: Bruce Bradbury, Peter Saunders and Kylie Valentine. The following Discussion Papers were published in 2004.

No. 135, P. Siminski and P. Saunders ‘Accounting for housing costs in regional income comparisons’

No. 134, R. Patulny, ‘Social capital norms, networks and practices - a critical evaluation’

No. 133, L. Craig, ‘Time to care: a comparison of how couple and sole parent households allocate time to work and children’.

No. 132, B. Bradbury, ‘The price, cost, consumption and value of children’

No. 131, P. Saunders, ‘Towards a credible poverty framework: from income poverty to deprivation’

The SPRC Reports (Available on the SPRC website: www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/reports)


No. 2/04, P. Saunders, P. Patulny, and A. Lee, Updating and Extending Indicative Budget Standards for Older Australians, report prepared for the Association of Superannuation Funds Australia.

No. 3/04, D. Thompson, B. Bittman and P. Saunders The Impact of the Australian Catholic University’s Paid Maternity Leave Provision, report prepared for the Australian Catholic University.


**BOOKS**


**EXTERNAL PUBLICATIONS**


**BOOK CHAPTERS**


REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


These in-house seminars are held approximately fortnightly in or near the SPRC’s campus premises and are open to the public. The program and selected seminar papers are available on the Centre’s website at www.sprc.unsw.edu.au. The 2004 Seminar Program was arranged by Peter Siminski.

Mark Peel (Historical Studies, Monash University), ‘Voices of poverty in Australia’, 24 February.

Rachel Lloyd (National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling, Australian National University), ‘Getting down to small areas: spatial microsimulation modelling at NATSEM’, 9 March.

Andrew Passey (Australian Centre for Co-operative Research and Development, University of Technology, Sydney), ‘Linking society and economy through membership associations in NSW’, 23 March.


George Matheson (School of Social Sciences, Media and Communication, Wollongong University), ‘Measurement and the social sciences’, 20 April.


Bruce Headey (Melbourne Institute), ‘Money doesn’t buy happiness or does it? A reconsideration based on the combined effects’, 15 June.

Adrian Sinfield (School of Social and Political Studies, University of Edinburgh), ‘Preventing poverty: a neglected strategy’, 22 June.


Catherine Spooner and Kate Hetherington (National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW), ‘The structural determinants of drug use’, 3 August.


Tony Vinson (School of Social Work, UNSW), ‘Community disadvantage, resilience and social cohesion – the concentration of disadvantage in New South Wales and Victoria, its persistence and the improving life opportunities in highly disadvantaged areas’, 7 September.

Bruce Bradbury, ‘Recent trends in income poverty in Australia’, 21 September.

Chang Kyung-Sop (Seoul National University), ‘Developmental liberalism: the social policy regime of the developmental state in South Korea’, 16 November.

Social Policy in the City is a seminar series jointly sponsored by SPRC, The Smith Family, and Mission Australia with additional support by Macquarie Bank, including hosting. This series takes discussion of current developments in social policy to the city centre and the practitioners and policy makers that work there. The seminars are held at lunchtime at the Bond Street branch of Macquarie Bank and are open to the public without charge.

Presentations during 2004:

Bryan Rodgers (Family and Community Health Research Unit, Centre for Mental Health Research, Australian National University), ‘Mental health in the family law system’, 18 March.

Peter Butterworth (Centre for Mental Health Research, Australian National University), ‘The prevalence of mental health problems among income support recipients: a key to promoting participation and employment’, 17 June.

Panel Discussion featuring, Richard Fletcher (Family Action Centre, University of Newcastle), Marian Baird (Discipline of Work and Organisational Studies, School of Business, University of Sydney) and Patricia Reeve (formerly of Council on the Ageing), ‘Changing family responsibilities’, 19 August.


Conference and seminar presentations

SPRC staff contribute to the dissemination of research and its contribution to policy through their involvement in seminars, workshops and conferences organised by other organisations. The following list of presentations illustrates the breadth and extent of such activity during 2004.

Refereed conference presentations


Other presentations

(+ Invited)

Abelló, D, ‘Profile of the Sydney gay liberation movement, 1978’ presented at the Australian Homosexual Histories Conference 6, Sydney University, 2 October.

Bittman, M., ‘Sunday working and family time – the lessons learnt from analysing time-diary data’, presented at the ESRC Research Methods Festival, St Catherine’s College, Oxford, 1-3 July.


Bradbury, B., ‘Using time-use data to estimate the full costs of children’, presented at the 28th IARIW conference, Cork, August; and at the Conference of Economists, Sydney, September.

Bradbury, B., ‘Consumption and the within-household income distribution: outcomes from an Australian “natural experiment”’, presented at the Economic and Social Research Institute, Dublin, 30 August; and at the Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex.


Eardley, T., ‘Research into children in SAAP’, presented to the SAAP National Coordination and Development Committee (CAD), Brisbane, 10 June.

Eardley, T., ‘The impact of breaching on income support customers’, presented to the Taskforce on Social Security Breaches and Penalties, FaCS, Canberra, 1 April.

Eardley, T., ‘Policy strategies underpinning income support for people of working age’, a lecture in the FaCS series, Key Principles and Current Debates in Social Policy, Canberra, May 5; and presented to staff of the FaCS NSW State Office, Sydney, 19 August.


Siminski, P., ‘Housing costs, imputed rent and income distribution’, presented at the School of Economics and Information Systems, University of Wollongong, 23 September.


McHugh, M., ‘Paying for caring labour: using a feminist approach to argue the case for paying a fee to foster carers’, presented at the Third Society of Heterodox Economists Conference for the Australian New Zealand Association of Feminist Economics (ANZAFE), UNSW, 13-14 December.


+ Saunders, P., ‘Ageing, institutional change and pension reform in China’, presented at a research seminar, Department of Public and Social Administration, City University of Hong Kong, 3 February.

+ Saunders, P., ‘Welfare reform in Australia: from entitlement to obligation?’ presented at a research seminar, Centre for Research on Ageing, Beijing, 10 February.


+ Saunders, P., ‘Participation patterns and welfare to work transitions among unemployed Australians’, presented at a research seminar, School of Finance and Economics, UTS, Sydney, 21 May.


+ Saunders, P., ‘Welfare reform in Australia: from targeting to obligation and participation’, presented at a research seminar, Department of Social Policy, University of Turku, Finland, 8 September.

+ Saunders, P., ‘The impact of China’s pension and other reforms on the well-being of the aged’, presented at a research seminar, Department of Social Policy, University of Turku, Finland, 9 September.

+ Saunders, P., ‘The rise and fall of Australian poverty research’, presented at an International Workshop on Poverty and Inequality, Archipelago Ferry Boat, Turku, Finland, 10 September.


The Centre and its researchers participate in a wide range of scholarly, developmental and policymaking activities elsewhere. These activities range from peer review of manuscripts for publication, research grant applications and the performance of other research centres, to contributions to the work of community and industry groups in the wider social policy arena. Much of this work is unpaid, and the cost of staff time involved is borne by the Centre and the University.

Visitors to the Centre include academics from Australia and overseas, often on sabbatical from their own institutions. Increasingly, the Centre is also receiving visits from government officials and policymakers from other countries, mainly in East and Southeast Asia.

**ACADEMIC COMMITTEES AND WORKGROUPS**

SPRC staff are included among the Chief Investigators for the following Research Networks, funded for the first time by the Australian Research Council in 2004:

- Research Network in Ageing Well (Peter Saunders)
- Asia-Pacific Network (Peter Saunders)
- Future Generation (Peter Saunders)
- Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, Chair of Workshop Committee (Peter Saunders)
- Advisory Board, Institute for Social Development and Public Policy, Beijing Normal University (Peter Saunders)
- Disability Studies and Research Institute Board (Karen Fisher)
- Executive Committee of the Social Sciences in Australia (Peter Saunders)
- Project Steering Committee, Building Ageing Research Capacity, National Strategy for an Ageing Australia (Peter Saunders)
- Research Agenda Working Group Committee, Australian Research Alliance on Children and Youth (Peter Saunders)
- Research Advisory Council, NSW Department of Community Services, Member (Peter Saunders)
- UNSW Indigenous Network (Karen Fisher)
- Selection Committee, Director of the Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University (Peter Saunders)

**CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEES**

- Annual forum of the Australian Association of Gerontology, 20 August, on public transport (Sol Encel)
- Forum on Grandparents as Caregivers, Council on the Ageing, 23 November. (Sol Encel)

**COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEES AND WORKGROUPS**

- Active Employment (D. Abelló, President)
- Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association of NSW (D. Abelló, Committee Member)
- Erkskineville Youth Housing (D. Abelló, Chairperson)
- Access Plus – Spanning Identities (D. Abelló, Co-president)
- NSW Welfare Rights and Legal Centre (T. Eardley, Board of Directors)
Australasian Evaluation Society NSW (Karen Fisher)
Policy advisory committee of the Council on the Ageing NSW (Sol Encel)

VISITING APPOINTMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS
Honorary Professor, Institute for Social Development and Public Policy, Beijing Normal University (Peter Saunders).
Research Affiliate of the National Poverty Center, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan (Bruce Bradbury).

MEMBERSHIP OF EDITORIAL BOARDS
Australian Journal of Labour Economics (Bruce Bradbury)
Journal of Social Issues (Bruce Bradbury)
ANZ Third Sector Review (Sol Encel)
Social Policy & Administration, Editorial Advisory Board (Peter Saunders)
Review of Income and Wealth (Peter Saunders)

REVIEWING AND REFEREEING
During 2004 SPRC staff refereed manuscripts for the following Australian and international journals and publishers.

Journal of Social Policy
Policy Research Papers
(Department of Family and Community Services).
Australasian Journal of Gerontology
Australian Journal of Labour Economics
Australian Journal of Political Science
Australian Research Council (Discovery grants program)
Australian Social Policy Journal
The Drawing Board
Economic and Labour Relations Review
Journal of Population Economics
Journal of Social Policy
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Review of Income and Wealth

PHD THESIS EXAMINATION
University of Queensland
Professor Erikson continued his ongoing research into pension reform and workers’ compensation in Sweden drawing on Australian experience in these fields.

**SHINOBU ITO**
April 2004 – March 2005

Faculty of Economics, Meijo University

Shinobu Ito’s primary research interest is income distribution and the differences in the perception of fairness between regions and between generations.

**JØRGEN ELM LARSEN**
Department of Sociology at the University of Copenhagen

October 2003 – February 2004

Jørgen’s current area of research is the integration of marginal groups. His work is using a population-wide framework that defines exclusion in several dimensions, including the household economy and deprivation, social relations, leisure activities, political participation and health conditions.

**CARINA MOOD ROMAN**
Phd Candidate, Department of Sociology, Stockholm University, Sweden

October 2003 – September 2004

Carina’s areas of interest include Social Assistance receipt in Sweden, and in particular the issue of stigma and non-take-up.

**MIKKO NIEDELA**
Phd Candidate, Faculty of Social Sciences, Turku University, Finland

November 2003 – May 2004

Mikko’s areas of interest include the methodological aspects of the measurement of poverty, intergenerational transmission of poverty, and links between labour market status and well-being. During Mikko’s time at the Centre he is working on two articles relating to Income, expenditure and livelihood in Finland.
SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCH CENTRE

Statement of Financial Performance
for the Year Ended 31 December 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Funds (i)</td>
<td>1,525,212</td>
<td>1,761,346</td>
<td>(a), (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSW Research Quantum</td>
<td>253,333</td>
<td>189,038</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSW Research Infrastructure Block Grant</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>1,858,545</td>
<td>2,030,384</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>1,628,135</td>
<td>1,716,926</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>11,131</td>
<td>15,288</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials</td>
<td>359,155</td>
<td>619,597</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent on premises</td>
<td>164,800</td>
<td>164,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>95,961</td>
<td>143,103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>2,259,181</td>
<td>2,659,714</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Operating result</strong></td>
<td>-400,636</td>
<td>-629,330</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surplus(Deficit) Bfwd from Prior Year</strong></td>
<td>-411,206</td>
<td>218,124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Correction of Prior Year Accumulated Fund</strong></td>
<td>-13,933</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adjusted Brought Forward</strong></td>
<td>-425,138</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accumulated Funds Surplus(Deficit)</strong></td>
<td>-825,774</td>
<td>-411,206</td>
<td>(d)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(i) Excludes debtors (unpaid invoices) 226,651 463,367

Notes to the Statement of Financial Performance

(a) These statements are prepared on a cash basis with unpaid invoices being excluded from income.
   To enable comparison, the 2003 figures which had included the unpaid invoices have been adjusted
   to exclude the unpaid invoices.

(b) Due to an administrative backlog $510,178 of 2004 invoicing did not occur until 2005.

(c) The adjustment to the 2004 accumulated funds is due to an error in the 2003 year end figures.

(d) The 2004 accumulated funds balance including debtors of $226,651 and the $510,178 described in note (b)
    is -$88,945