

PolicyTalk took a sabbatical over the summer, and now returns with three items.

1. *By the People* discussion on Immigration

On **Sunday, October 14th, 2007, 1:00 pm - 5:30 pm** at the **Milo Bail Student Center** on the **UNO campus**, NET Television, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, University of Nebraska at Omaha's Difficult Dialogues Initiative, University of Nebraska at Omaha Honors Program, and the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center are sponsoring a discussion on immigration issues as they relate to Nebraska. Approximately 100 randomly selected Omahans have been invited to offer their views on immigration issues. NET Television will be on hand filming portions of the day's activities for a television broadcast about immigration in Nebraska. The NET program will air later in the winter.

Omaha is one of 11 communities holding a community conversation in October as part of the *By the People's* Dialogues in Democracy: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. The other communities are: Albuquerque, NM; Baton Rouge, LA; Bowling Green, OH; Cleveland, OH; Denver, CO; Houston, TX; Kansas City, MO; New Haven, CT; Rochester, NY; and Seattle, WA. New Haven, like Omaha, will discuss immigration; the other communities will discuss issues ranging from health care to economics. *By the People* is a partnership between PBS' MacNeil/Lehrer Productions, local PBS affiliates, universities, community colleges, and civic groups across the nation. See <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/btp/>.

If you would like to observe the immigration discussions and a Q&A with elected officials and academicians with interest and expertise in immigration matters, please call (402.472.2634) or email (ppc@nebraska.edu) by noon on Wednesday, October 10, 2007. Note that observers will have no opportunity to speak or otherwise participate -- rather, this is simply an opportunity to observe the activities. We will supply you with a map of the UNO campus if you need.

For more information, see <http://ppc.nebraska.edu/ByThePeople/10-07event.htm>. In November, we will post a Report on the event at the this webpage.

2. Public Policy Center Staff Receive National Board Appointments

Nancy Shank, Associate Director, has been elected to the board of the National Human Services Data Consortium. The consortium develops effective leadership for the best use of information technology to manage human services. Its goal is to provide information, assistance, peer to peer education and lifelong learning to its membership and other interested parties in the articulation, planning, implementation and continuous operation of technology initiatives to collect, aggregate, analyze and present information regarding the provision of human services. See <http://www.nhsdc.org>.

Elizabeth Neeley, Project Director, has been elected to the board of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts. The National Consortium is committed to encouraging the highest courts of each state to create commissions that examine the treatment accorded minorities in their courts and then share the collective knowledge of task forces and commissions with courts, law enforcement, and the community. The National Consortium also provides technical assistance and expertise to commissions, task forces, and other interested organizations and individuals on the subject of racial and ethnic fairness. See

<http://www.consortiumonline.net/mission.html>.

3. The Public Policy Center is on the Move

After five years of officing at the Miller & Paine Building in Lincoln, the Public Policy Center will move at the end of this year two blocks to the 4th floor of the Lincoln Community Foundation, 215 Centennial Mall South. More details to follow. The move is necessitated by the Center's expansion: We now have approximately 40 students, staff, and researchers working at the Center. We will occupy nearly the entire 4th floor of the LCF building. Telephone numbers and emails will remain the same.

We have appreciated your support over the years (July 1, 2008 will be the 10th anniversary of the Center), and we look forward to continuing challenges and opportunities.

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Please pass along POLICYTALK to anyone you think would be interested in receiving this. To sign up for POLICYTALK emails or to view previous POLICYTALK emails, go to http://ppc.nebraska.edu/about_us/policy_talk.html. Also, let me know of any suggestions you have for PolicyTalk matters.

Alan

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A center representing: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Nebraska Medical Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha, University of Nebraska at Kearney

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