CURA Annual Report, 2013-2014

The Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) was created in 1968 to connect the University of Minnesota with the community and issues facing the state. This report summarizes the activities during the past year. For more information on any of the programs listed, visit our website at cura.umn.edu.

This is the third year CURA has used this format to present an annual report. The report provides an overview of more than 230 projects and events CURA conducted last year. These projects engaged nearly 70 different University departments/programs and more than 200 different local and state community organizations.

Research Projects: 86

33 Faculty and Graduate Student Research Projects

4 Faculty Interactive Research Program. Competitive program that supports public policy research on issues of significance to Minnesota communities

► John A. Arthur (Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UMD), Structural and Individualistic Determinants of Access to Healthcare Services: A Case Study of Somali and Sudanese Immigrants and Refugees in Duluth, Minnesota

► Karen Gran (Department of Geological Sciences, UMD), Identifying and Mitigating Impacts from Expanding Urbanization to Duluth-Area Streams

► David Karjanen (Department of American Studies), Fringe Banking and Low-Income Communities in the Twin Cities

► Phyllis Moen (McKnight Presidential Endowed Chair, Department of Sociology), Minnesota Boomers at Work/in Transition

1 Fesler-Lampert Chair in Urban and Regional Affairs. Endowed chair honoring Bert Fesler and Jacob Lampert

► Hari Osofsky (Law School), Fostering Suburban Climate Change Efforts in the Twin Cities

1 Dissertation Research Grant. Provides one year of support to a doctoral student to complete work on an issue of local significance.

► Daniel Nidzgorski (Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior), Green Cities and Clear Waters: Can Urban Trees Help Protect our Lakes and Streams?

10 Hennepin-University Partnership. Facilitates strategic connections between Hennepin County and the University of Minnesota that support collaborative research, sharing of expertise, and student field experiences.

► Tim Sheldon (Center for Applied Research & Educational Improvement) Be@School Evaluation

Technical Assistance Projects: 188

74 Minnesota Center for Neighborhood Organizing. A total of 18 training sessions and 56 significant projects serving 64 different organizations

► Ned Moore - 9 trainings and 19 projects

► Jay Clark - 9 trainings and 37 projects

82 Community GIS. Maps and other projects for community organizations requiring 5+ hours effort per project.

3 Charles R. Krusell Fellowship in Community Development. Three organizations supported by graduate students of color enrolled in the Humphrey School.

15 Neighborhood Partnership Initiative. Provides grants up to $10,000 to community-based organizations and/or artists working to build vibrant neighborhoods that engage their diverse residents, build neighborhood resiliency, and increase the collective efficacy and action in a place.

4 CURA:Tech. Small planning grants funding collaborations among diverse communities in the Twin Cities to design, create, and deploy civic technology tools and practices.

10 Hennepin-University Partnership. HUP responded to specific requests from seven different county departments.
10 CURA-organized events
- Anchoring Equity: Minnesota’s Tomorrow. March 2014; 240 attendees. (Neeraj Mehta with Alliance for Metropolitan Stability, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation, Nexus Community Partners, Northwest Area Foundation and The McKnight Foundation)
- Housing Forum: Two events with an average attendance of 50 people
- CURA:Tech: Two-day Human-Centered Design workshop on strategies for designing civic technologies (40 attended), and four collaboration sessions to develop proposals (average of 15 people at each) Spring 2014
- Community-Based Research Workshops. Two events with a total attendance of 25 people
- Minnesota Foreclosure Roundtable with Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers, MN Housing and Minnesota Foreclosure Partners Council, February 2014 (25 people attended)

7 CURA co-sponsored conferences
- Policy Analysis Conference. October 2013 (provided scholarships for three organizations)
- Twin Cities Media Alliance Fall Forum: Getting the Word Out. November 2013

3 Hennepin-University Partnership events
- Ripple Effect Mapping. September 2013 — 40 people attended
- Family Shelter Dialogue. December 2013 — 42 people attended
- Diversity and Inclusion Exchange. April 2014 — 90 people attended

3 Resilient Communities Project
- RCP-North St. Paul Kickoff Event, September 2013, 50 people attended
- RCP-North St. Paul Community Open House, October 2013, 70 people attended
- RCP-North St. Paul End-of-Year Celebration, May 2014, 90 people attended

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<th>CURA Projects by Research Area</th>
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CURA in the News

CURA projects, programs, and staff were featured in 20 local, state, and national news stories. Links to the news stories featuring CURA can be found on the CURA website at www.cura.umn.edu/about/newsmakers.

Student Counts: 508

83 Individual research. Students are hired by CURA to work on specific community-based or university-led research projects.

358 Class research projects. Students work on class projects that enhance their understanding of the material. Projects are proposed by community organizations. Student projects are graded by the instructor.

67 Other
- 60 Volunteer tutors for high school students
- 7 Facilitated agency hires. Known instances where CURA helped an agency find and hire a university student to work on a specific project.

Academic Departments and Programs Supported: 70

University of Minnesota: 67
- Carlson School of Management
  - Human Resources and Industrial Relations
  - Marketing
- College of Biological Sciences
- Conservation and Cell Biology
- Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior

College of Continuing Education
- Conference Services and Program Planning
- Liberal Studies

67 Other
- 60 Volunteer tutors for high school students
- 7 Facilitated agency hires. Known instances where CURA helped an agency find and hire a university student to work on a specific project.
This section lists the outside nonprofit and governmental organizations that CURA served in the past year. Organizations are listed by geographic area impacted by their CURA project, not necessarily by their physical location or their service area. Because of this, an organization with multiple CURA projects can appear more than once.

Minneapolis—85
- 2909 Somali Residents–South Mpls
- Afro-Eco–North Minneapolis
- Appetite for Change–North Minneapolis
- Audubon Neighborhood Association
- Bancroft Neighborhood Association
- BBC (report on Somali community)
- Beltrami Neighborhood Council
- Bright Water Charter School–North Minneapolis
- Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Association
- Citizens for a Loring Park Community
- City of Minneapolis
- CPED–Development Services
- CPED–Housing
- City View Housing–North Mpls
- City View Soccer Team–North Mpls
- Cleveland Neighborhood Association
- Corcoran Neighborhood Association
- courageous heARTS–Standish
- CTUL–Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en Lucha–Phillips
- East Phillips Improvement Coalition
- EMPower-Education Matters: Parents Organized and Working for Education Reform
- Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
- Folwell Neighborhood Association
- Free Poet’s Press–Cleveland
- Green Central
- Harrison Neighborhood Association
- Hawthorne Eco Village
- Health Equity Engagement Cohort–North Minneapolis
- Henry High Students
- Heritage Park Residents Association
- Hmong Halloween
- Hmong Police Supporters
- Hmong Soccer
- Hope Community–Phillips
- Horn Towers–Lyndale Neighborhood
- Isuroon–Seeking Health and Empowerment for Somali Women
- Jordan Area Community Council
- Juxtaposition Arts–North Minneapolis
- Kingfield Neighborhood Association
- Land Stewardship Project–Phillips
- Lao Assistance Center–North Mpls
- Learning Dreams
- Legacy Village–North Mpls
- Little Earth of United Tribes–Phillips
- Little Earth Residents’ Association–Phillips
- Longfellow Community Council
- Lyndale Neighborhood Association
- Marcy–Holmes Neighborhood Association
- McKinley Community
- MCTC Homeless Students
- Minneapolis Asian Institutions
- Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition
- Minneapolis Riverfront Partnership
- Minnesota Internship Center Charter High School
- Native American Community Development Institute–Phillips
- Nicollet Island/East Bank Neighborhoods
- Northeast CDC
- Northside Fresh
- Northside Funders Group
- Northside Residents Redevelopment Council
- Phillips Bhutanese
- Pillsbury House Theater
- Pohlad Foundation–North Mpls
- Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association
- Prevention Health Care Agency dba Isuroon Project
- PRG–Powderhorn Residents Group
- Project Footsteps–Lyndale
- Project for Pride in Living
- Project Sweetie Pie–North Minneapolis
- Rainbow Terrace Senior Highrise–North Mpls
- Seward Neighborhood Group
- Seward Redesign
- Southside United Neighborhoods
- Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association
- SUN Collaborative–South Minneapolis
- The Family Partnership–Corcoran
- Twin Cities Community Land Bank
- Twin Cities Media Alliance–Seward
- United Neighborhood Association
- Urban Homelands
- Volunteers of America Residential Reentry Center
- Waite House–Pillsbury United Communities–Phillips
- Walker Art Center
West Broadway Business and Area Coalition
Whittier Alliance

St. Paul–31
Ain Dah Yung Center
Anderson Youth Science Center–Frogtown
Aurora/St. Anthony Peace Sanctuary Garden
Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa
Dayton’s Bluff Community Council
District 1 Community Council
District Councils Executive Directors/Community Organizers Group
East Side Progress Campaign
Eastside Financial Center
Frogtown Neighborhood Association
Frogtown Rondo Home Fund
Grand Avenue Business Association
Hamline Midway Coalition
Highland District Council
Historic Saint Paul
Lexington–Hamline Community Council
Macalester–Groveland Community Council
Model Cities
NEDA–Neighborhood Development Alliance
Neighborhood Development Center
Neighborhood Energy Connection
Nexus Community Partners
Parkway Montessori/Community Middle School
Payne–Phalen Residents
Poetry for Thought–Hamline Midway
Science Museum of Minnesota’s Kitty Andersen Youth Science Center
Selby Avenue Action Coalition
Skyline Tower Advantage Center–Union Park
Union Park Community Council
Westside Community Organization
World Culture Heritage District–University Avenue

Hennepin County Departments–10
Community Corrections and Rehabilitation
Environmental Services
Hennepin County Library
Housing Community Works and Transit
Human Resources
Human Services and Public Health
Information Technology
Public Affairs
Resident and Real Estate Services
Transportation

North Saint Paul Departments–6
Administration
Community Development
Economic Development
Fire
Police
Public Works

Greater Twin Cities–50
Accountability Minnesota
ACER–African Career, Education & Resource, Inc.–Brooklyn Park
African Immigrant Services
Alliance for Metropolitan Stability
Asamblea de Derechos Civiles
Asian Indian Family Wellness
Blue Line Coalition
Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis
Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy
Center for Families
Children’s Justice Initiative
Community Engagement Team
Corridors of Opportunity

Dakota County Planning Commission
District Councils Collaborative of St. Paul and Minneapolis
Equitable Opportunities Project
Fair Housing Equity Assessment
FamilyWise
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
Gardening Matters
Hennepin County Teen Parent Connection
Hmong American Partnership
Homes Within Reach–Hennepin County
Hopkins and Wayzata Hmong Students
Hopkins Parks
HousingLink
Jewish Community Action
La Asamblea de Derechos Civiles
Lao Assistance Center
Legacy Family Center–Hennepin County
MetroGIS
Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers
Metropolitan Council
Mujeres en Accion y Poder (Women in Action and Power)
New American Academy–Eden Prairie
Nexus Community Partners
Partnership for Regional Opportunity
Peta Wakan Tipi/Dream of Wild Health
Rainbow Health Initiative
Sanneh Foundation
SEIU Healthcare Minnesota
SEWA-Asian Indian Family Wellness
St. Paul Public Schools
Sonance Family Foundation
Twin Cities Agricultural Land Trust
Twin Cities Community Land Bank
Twin Cities Daily Planet
Twin Cities RISE!
Union Gospel Mission
Vermillion River Watershed Wetland Engagement Team

Greater Minnesota–13
Big Stone Products
City of Duluth
City of Winona
Eagle Bluff Learning Center–SE Minnesota
Fargo–Mooshead Kurd Association
Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board
Hiawatha Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council
Isanti County Parks Department
Melrose Lake Improvement Association
Middle Snake–Tamarac Rivers Watershed District–NW Minnesota
Region 5 Development Commission
Southeast Sheep and Fiber Advocates
Zumbro Watershed Partnership

Statewide–20
AMAZE
American Planning Association–Minnesota Chapter
Board of Water and Soil Resources
Center forVictims of Torture
Goodwill– Easter Seals
Karen Association of Minnesota
Legal Services Advisory Committee (Minnesota State Courts)
Minnesota Association of Museums
Minnesota Budget Project
Minnesota Department of Human Services
Minnesota Foreclosure Partners Council
Minnesota Public Health Association
MN GEO Statewide Geospatial Advisory Council
MN GIS/LIS Consortium
Organizing Apprenticeship Project
Preservation Alliance of Minnesota

Renewing the Countryside
Rural Advantage
SEIU Healthcare Minnesota
Steppingstone Theater for Youth Development

National–15
American Community Survey Data Users Group
American Composers Forum
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
GIS Certification Institute
Imaging America
Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago
Minnesotans for the American Community Survey
National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership
National States Geographic Information Council
Sustainable City Year National Network
Technology Affinity Group serving foundations
Transportation Research Board
University Consortium for Geographic Information Science
Urban & Regional Information Systems Association
US Department of Justice

CURA Supporters
CURA would like to thank its funders for their support. Without them, our work would not be possible. Minnesota and the Twin Cities are better places because of you!

Alliance for Metropolitan Stability
Blandin Foundation
City of Minneapolis
City of North St. Paul
Hennepin County
The Initiative Foundation (through their support of rural communities)
Local Community Organizations
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
The McKnight Foundation
Metropolitan Council
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
Nexus Community Partners
Pohlad Family Foundation

University of Minnesota:
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