Real Impact Is More than Numbers

In the Integral Economic Development Program, we understand that real impact is more than immediate or short-term impacts. To fully understand and reach sustainable development, we must consider that people are social by nature. Integral economic development is an approach that seeks to strengthen interventions for development by ensuring that, in their design, implementation and evaluation, civic and social institutions required for sustainable development are integrated. This approach takes into account the person’s role in society. It is an approach which development entities increasingly demand. Economic development, seen from the perspective of the whole human person and his or her interaction with others, is at the core of our programs.

IED Professor of Economics, Dr. Piras, Honored

Professor Gianfranco Piras, who joined the IED faculty this fall, has been awarded the Spatial Economic Analysis Best Paper 2014 for his publication, “Efficient GMM estimation of a Cliff and Ord Panel Data Model with random effects.” The award, given by the Regional Studies Association, will be presented at the organization’s Winter Conference in London in late November. The paper, published in Spatial Economic Analysis in 2013, suggests an estimation procedure for a Cliff and Ord type spatial panel data model with random effects, demonstrating the estimation procedure to be effective.

“It is not enough to fish for people, or even to teach them to fish. We must be willing to fish with them; to understand their lives, their abilities, and their needs. Only in that way can we hope to influence development.”

- Nicola Sanna
CUA Advisory Board Member and Leaders in Development Speaker

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- Inset on Impact: Student Research Projects
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In October 2014, Dr. Aguirre addressed the 2nd International Conference on Family and Society in Barcelona, Spain, as the keynote speaker. Her address, entitled “Family and Sustainable Development,” presented research regarding the impact that family structure, and more specifically marriage, has in the building of sustainable development.

“The first and most basic economic activity takes place in the home, more specifically within the household. This is important as it is in this environment where the economic agent develops important habits that will add or subtract from both human and social capital and thus, from sustainable development.”

The Impact of the Family on the Economy

Dr. Aguirre also presented at the Organization of American States on “The Impact of the Family on the Economy: A New Approach to Achieve Countries’ Development.” Dr. Aguirre introduced her research on the relationship between family structures and poverty levels in various countries. The event, sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Paraguay, Guatemala, and Haiti to the OAS and the Alliance Defending Freedom, was attended by several Ambassadors to the OAS, as well as development professionals from the United States and several other countries.

Students Discuss Research Projects

As a requirement of the program, all students must choose a geographical area of study and topic of research, and subsequently design an impact evaluation of a particular program or policy.

The Brown Bag October seminar provided three students with the opportunity to discuss their evaluations and receive valuable feedback in preparation for their thesis and issue of final reports.

Carlo Sandrin evaluated the initiatives of business leaders in Guatemala to promote regional development; Vanessa Anez discussed the impact of a Dominican Republic school in improving students’ lives through creating after-school programs; and Alex Lutz measured the impact of Catholic Relief Services on the institutional strengthening of local partners in Africa.
Students **Huda Alahmdi** and **Omar Fallatah** will journey to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in December to analyze a civic education program being implemented in grade schools.

Estefania Cohn, **Marc Rugani**, and faculty advisor **Dr. Maria Sophia Aguirre**, with the collaboration of the Koch Foundation, traveled to Guatemala to evaluate the impact of the “Red Nacional de Grupos Gestores,” which seeks to promote private initiative and cooperation in order to improve local development.

**Nasim Mahmoud** and faculty advisor **Dr. Martha Cruz-Zuniga**, with the collaboration of the McArthur Foundation, visited Lagos, Nigeria, to evaluate “Qaardan,” a teacher training program.

Globe icons on the map indicate additional student Applied Research Projects. For more information, visit our website: [http://integraldevelopment.cua.edu/applied-research-projects.cfm](http://integraldevelopment.cua.edu/applied-research-projects.cfm)
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Leaders in Development

Development is not a new idea. How we do development, however, has changed drastically over the last decade. Through the weekly Leaders in Development seminars, IED Program students interact with professionals in the field, gaining timely insight and posing thought-provoking questions.

This fall, the program welcomed experts from both government and civil society. Speakers introduced collaborative models and discussed past obstacles. Students engaged in conversation and provided examples through their project evaluation experience to learn more from the speakers. The practical approach inherent to the IED Programs positions each graduate to lead the development of communities and countries.

Seminars are free and open to the public. For a list of upcoming events, or to read more about past seminars, visit our website at:

integraldevelopment.cua.edu
Mission becomes Passion for CUA Student

Christian Domaas is not your average graduate student. Actually, he’s not even your average undergraduate student. As a current junior at CUA, Christian is already proving his leadership talent and passion for service. As a sophomore Christian participated in a mission trip to Jamaica, and that trip became a calling:

“I realized the necessity for help in developing countries, and having worked side by side with people who have committed their lives to helping those less fortunate is one of the biggest reasons for me being in the program today.”

Christian is getting a head-start on a graduate degree through the IED Program’s 5th Year Option. He will complete graduate-level courses during his junior and senior years, and upon graduation will be able to complete his Master of Arts in Integral Economic Development Management within one year. Read more about the 5th Year Option below.

5th Year Option for CUA Undergraduate Students

The IED Program offers an accelerated Master of Arts Degree in Integral Economic Development Management (IEDM) for CUA undergraduates pursuing a Bachelor’s Degree in Economics in one of the following majors:

- Economics (B.A. or B.S.)
- B.S. in International Economics and Finance (Honors)

Graduate-level courses are taken during a student’s junior and senior years, which fulfill requisites for both undergraduate and graduate credit. Upon completing undergraduate courses, a student can earn a Master’s Degree in one year.

For more information, contact:

Holly Triska, IED Program Director
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The Integral Economic Development Program is connecting with students, alumni, professors, prospective employers, and other experts in development through social media. Follow us, like us, learn with us, discuss with us, and contribute to the community.

CUA Integral Economic Development

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cua.international development

#IntegralDev_CUA
Since its inception in 1961, the Peace Corps has worked globally to partner with countries in development efforts, bridging the knowledge gap between Americans and foreign nationals, and creating more peaceful societies. Over 215,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have worked in 139 countries over the last 50 years in the areas of education, health, environment, community economic development, youth development, and agriculture.

In 2013, the Integral Economic Development Program forged a formal partnership with the Peace Corps to offer returned volunteers graduate scholarships. As an official Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program, the Catholic University’s IED Program now offers two scholarships that cover 50 percent of total tuition costs for the most qualified Coverdell Fellows. This partnership affirms CUA’s commitment to service and support of those who seek to promote peace and justice in the world.

The first Coverdell Fellow, Rachel Sladich, joined the program as a full-time student this fall. Rachel, a recently-returned volunteer from Azerbaijan (2011-2013), worked in youth and NGO development, implementing several small grant projects to engage local youth, develop organizational capacity, and encourage civic engagement. Her work abroad provided a practical foundation for the integral approach fundamental to the IED Program.

A two-year deferral is available to those who are admitted to the IED Program as full-time students and choose to join Teach for America. Additionally, Teach for America alumni may be eligible to receive merit-based scholarships.

For more information on either partnership program, visit our website at: integraldevelopment.cua.edu/Partners/partners.cfm
Sustainable Development, Human Focus

The Integral Economic Development Program is the first to create and implement the integrated perspective that development entities demand. It develops innovative measures to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of development programs, while teaching applied management and economics skills.

Choose between one- and two-year, full-time master’s programs or a flexible part-time option.

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<th>M.A. in Integral Economic Development Policy</th>
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<td>• One year program full-time, with part-time option.</td>
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<td>• Uses innovative measures and an integrated approach to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of development programs.</td>
<td>• Pioneers the implementation of an integrated approach on economic development policy.</td>
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<td>• Teaches applied management and economics.</td>
<td>• Teaches applied policy and economic techniques in an integral framework of development.</td>
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International Development: An Integral Approach

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