

Research Connections — E-Bulletin

Berkeley Workshop Scholarship - Round II

If you are a researcher from the South Caucasus and look for developing a course syllabus, then the University of California, Berkeley (UCB) scholars' workshop is a great opportunity for you! UCB, in collaboration with the Caucasus Research Resource Centers (CRRC), is soliciting proposals from scholars active in the fields of Social Sciences and History to participate in the second round of a two-week workshop at UCB from April 17 to May 1, 2010. The workshop is funded by the Carnegie Corporation in New York. One of the last year researchers from the same program, says: *"If I had to assess the fellowship, I would mark the whole 100 out of the total 100. It was an effective combination of obtaining knowledge, skills, library resources and widening social networks, having a good rest and touristic excitements. Very important reasons for the successful program are the organizers and the well-elaborated design of the project itself"*. Find out how to [apply](#). (Deadline: February 12, 2010)

Selected Upcoming Events

- Orientation Training: [eResources for Research at CRRC-Armenia](#), Yerevan, Armenia, February 13 – Gohar Khachatryan (ARM).
- Presentation: Mechanisms and purposes of production of ethno-national Diaspora in contemporary Azerbaijan, Baku, Azerbaijan, February 23 – Sergey Romyantzev (ENG).
- Fellowship Presentation: [Corporate Culture as a Base of Economic Democracy](#), Yerevan, Armenia, February 23 – Narine Melikyan (ARM).
- Orientation Training for Fellows: [Western Academic Writing: Getting Published in a Peer-Reviewed Journal](#), Yerevan, Armenia, February 26 – Jenny Paturyan (ARM).

For more events, please go to our country websites listed below.

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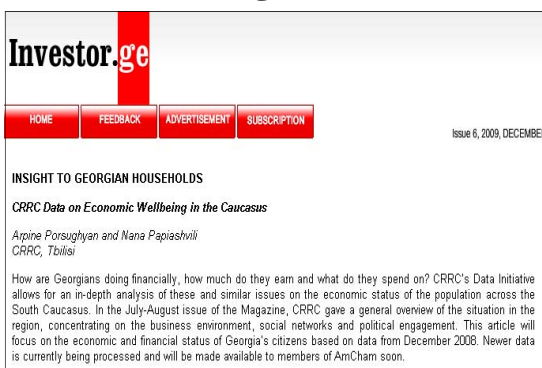


Scholars from the South Caucasus

SDA Tutorials Online!

As you might already know, CRRC has introduced Survey Documentation and Analysis (SDA), a web-based tool that allows you to analyze CRRC's rich data online. To help you get started, we have recorded two short video tutorials. If you spend just 12 minutes watching these, you will be ready to explore the extensive data yourself and get answers to many questions you were wondering about! Watch the videos [here](#).

Getting The Most Out Of The Data: An Introductory Guide for Researchers



How do you apply statistical training to practical political problems? Professor Jesse Driscoll addressed this question in a seminar at CRRC Georgia on January 13, 2010. Driscoll has previously worked with CRRC on various projects and is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of California San Diego. He received his Ph.D. from Stanford University, and is currently a Fellow at the Harvard Academy.

In his talk, Driscoll offered an overview of the "tripartite method," a straightforward technique of refining questions and presenting findings to a lay audience. According to this method, which has been put forward by David Laitin, theoretical models should be tested statistically, and the results should be explained in narrative. This approach is based on Karl Popper's idea of falsification, in which we test theories to learn from their flaws.

Driscoll then applied the method to the question of President Saakashvili's political resilience, showing that the data told a more nuanced story than popular cliché suggests.

To get onto our mailing list so as to hear about upcoming talks, write to nana@crrccenters.org or become our fan on [Facebook](#).

Highlights of the Month

- Inverstor.ge: [Insight to Georgian Household: CRRC Data on Well-being in the Caucasus](#), by Arpine Porsughyan and Nana Papiashvili
- The Georgian Times: [Top Ten Leisure Activities in Georgia](#), by Nana Papiashvili and Arpine Porsughyan

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