

## Research Connections — E-Bulletin

### How to Develop Winning Research Proposals

In order to help researchers better their fundraising skills for research, Hans Gutbrod, the Regional Director of CRRC conducted a lecture entitled “How to Develop Winning Research Proposals” in Armenia. The training was attended by 18 social science researchers interested in honing their research grant-writing skills and used lessons learned from the CRRC research fellowship grants as an example. Dr. Gutbrod highlighted major challenges that applicants have faced, such as embedding research in the appropriate literature. The call for the applications for the CRRC fellowships will be announced this summer, so, stay tuned! One piece of good news is that some of the fellows from 2007 already received confirmation that their papers will be published in peer-reviewed journals. For more details on CRRC research fellowships, please visit our [website](#).

### Selected Upcoming Events

- Regional Training: [Sampling and Weighting](#), Tbilisi, Georgia, July 4-6 – Daniel Hidalgo (ENG).
- Workshop: [Survey Data Quality Assessment: Methodology and Techniques](#), Yerevan, Armenia, July 7 – Fritz Scheuren (ENG).
- Presentation: [An Assessment of Factors that Influence the Effectiveness of Targeted Social Assistance Mechanisms](#), Baku, Azerbaijan, July 8 – Vusal Qasimli (ENG, AZE).

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

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Hans Gutbrod presenting

### TI Survey on Public Attitudes

What do Georgians know and think about their Parliament? CRRC teamed up with Transparency International Georgia to find out. According to the survey, trust toward the Parliament in Georgia is low, and the citizens of Georgia have little knowledge of parliamentary procedures. TI will shortly make the survey publicly available online. Some initial data snapshots and results are already available [here](#).

### CRRC Regional Training on Data Archiving



Discussing data at CRRC-Armenia

What happens when you have complex relational data that you really do not want to store in one unwieldy file? Gary Pollock, a professor from Manchester Metropolitan University conducted a four-day training for scholars and researchers from the South Caucasus on data archiving. The training focused on how to use SPSS syntax to manipulate large datasets based on a variety of research questions. Trainees learned how to create new datasets out of complex existing datasets using syntax and discussed ways of storing different types of data files based on different research goals. All examples were drawn from surveys conducted by CRRC in the Caucasus.

### CRRC Welcomes Summer Fellows

CRRC would like to extend a warm welcome to its Summer Fellows from the US: Reid Hamel, a PhD student at U.C. Berkeley; Melissa Scholz, a recent graduate from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and Dzovinar Derderian also from Georgetown. For more information, click [here](#).

In Armenia, the same materials are being used to repeat an Armenian language version of the training. On June 26-27, Karine Sahakyan, a regional training participant, shared what she learned from Gary Pollock and passed on the new skills to counterparts in Armenia. Training participants expressed their gratitude for the training outcomes. As one participant writes, “I want to express my gratefulness for the work that you do and for the possibilities that you create for the young scholars by means of your trainings and resources. The training and outcomes exceeded my expectations.”

For the PowerPoint presentation from the data archiving training, click [here](#).

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