

GOLDMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY
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February 2006

Dear Goldman School Faculty and Staff:

In addition to the special events cited in the FEATURES section below, this semester the School has a wealth of VISITING FACULTY members. Our deepest thanks to the donors whose generous support helped bring the following distinguished visitors to GSPP:

JOHN DECKER, budgeting expert in the California Senate Office of Research, will be working with Professor John Ellwood.

PETER HART, public opinion research and political behavior expert (chief pollster for NBC News and The Wall Street Journal for 15 years) teaching, "The Public Dialogue: The Role of Public Opinion in Leadership Decisions" and "'From Vietnam to Iraq: The Role of Public Opinion in Decision Making."

PATRICK JOHNSTON, CA State Assembly member and State Senator (Appropriations Committee chair) teaching "Sorting Out the Scrum of California Policy Making."

PAUL KIBEL, prominent water rights attorney, teaching "Environmental Policy and International Trade" with Professor Michael Hanemann.

LORETTA LYNCH, former President of the California Public Utilities Commission, teaching "Energy Politics" with Professor Lee Friedman.

MARION NESTLE, Goddard Professor of Nutrition, Food Studies, and Public Health at NYU, teaching "Food Politics and Policy": also hosting a guest speaker seminar series.

RUTH ROSEN, Professor Emeritus, History, UC Davis, former SF Chronicle columnist, gender and public policy authority, teaching "Gender Matters: Public Policy in America."

This eDigest includes upcoming events and recent examples of GSPP alumni, faculty and students in the news. Summaries of the articles follow a quick reference list.

eDIGEST FEATURES

- Upcoming Events
- Quick Reference List
- Alumni and Student Newsmakers
- Faculty in the News
- Recent Faculty Speaking Engagements
- Videos & Webcasts

UPCOMING EVENTS

eDigest_February_2006

1. EIGHTH ANNUAL RHODA GOLDMAN DISTINGUISHED LECTURE IN HEALTH POLICY

"A Conversation with Robert Klein"- regarding Stem Cell Research

Mr. Klein is Chair of the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

February 8, 2006. 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Chevron Auditorium, International House, UC Berkeley; <http://www.berkeley.edu/map/>

2. PUBLIC POLICY CAREER FAIR

February 9, 2006. 1-4 pm. Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union -- Pauley Ballroom

Register at: <http://www.easepubpol.com/gspberkeley/index.php?script=local-logi n>

3. "Should Coal Be King? Confronting the Human & Environmental Costs"

Presented by: GSPP and the Graduate School of Journalism

February 10, 2006, 7:00 pm -- 8:30 pm. North Gate Hall, Room 105

Reception: 6:00 pm, North Gate Hall, Courtyard/Library

A panel discussion and reception celebrating the opening of the photo exhibit "Coal Hollow"

The new exhibit "Coal Hollow," features photographs by Ken Light, foreword by ROBERT REICH & Orville Schell and oral history by Melanie Light (Book Signing 6:00-7:30 p.m).

Panel discussion with Prof. DANIEL KAMMEN, Barbara Freese, author of "Coal: A Human History," and Melanie Light, author of "Coal Hollow."

<http://journalism.berkeley.edu/events/details.php?ID=269>

4. "California and the Future of Environmental Policy"

The GSPP Center for Environmental Public Policy and Boalt Hall School of Law's California Center for Environmental Policy present a conference that will address the state's environmental agenda for the next 20 years.

Feb. 16-17, 2006. UC Berkeley campus.

Featuring remarks by: DEAN MICHAEL NACHT, DANIEL KAMMEN, and MICHAEL HANEMANN.

More info at:

http://www.law.berkeley.edu/centers/evrolaw/conferences/cal_enviro_policy/

5. "Building Bridges: Keeping Youth Connected"

How are municipalities and nonprofit service providers putting service integration and inter-agency collaboration into practice?

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., with reception to follow

South Light Court, City Hall

San Francisco, CA

Presented by the Goldman School and the City and County of San Francisco, this policy in practice roundtable discussion will offer practical guidelines and best practice models for municipalities and nonprofits providing services to transitional youth.

REGISTER at <http://gspp.berkeley.edu/buildingbridges/> Seating is limited, advance registration advised. For questions, contact BuildingBridgesSF@gmail.com

6. "Berkeley Symposium on Real Estate, Catastrophic Risk and Public Policy"

The 7th Annual Berkeley Conference on Housing and Urban Policy commemorates the centennial of the 1906 earthquake in San Francisco.

March 23-24, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Alumni House, UC Berkeley campus.

Contact Mercedes Arvalo-Romero for more information: 510-672-0891.

7. TWELFTH ANNUAL AARON WILDAVSKY FORUM FOR PUBLIC POLICY

Professor John DiIulio, Jr.: "What Would Franklin Do? A Centrist Civic Primer on Religion, Politics, and Community-Serving Programs"

April 6, 2006, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Booth Auditorium, Boalt School of Law, UC Berkeley

Discussion session the following morning, April 7, 8:30-10:00 a.m. at GSPP.

8. CLASS OF 2006 COMMENCEMENT
May 20, 2005. 10 a.m. Faculty Glade

QUICK REFERENCE LIST

In addition to the print media referenced below, broadcast media coverage includes numerous interviews with DEAN NACHT by KRON TV, KGO TV and KTVU, among others.

ALUMNI AND STUDENT NEWSMAKERS

1. "Governor's bid to cut raise for needy rejected. Democrats on budget panel amend bill to restore SSI increase" (Sacramento Bee, January 27, 2006); story citing ELIZABETH HILL (MPP 1975);
<http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/v-print/story/14120719p-14949891c.html>
2. "Santa Cruz looks to raise minimum wage to \$9.25/hour" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 18, 2006); story citing study co-authored by GINA VICKERY (MPP Cand. 2006);
<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f ile=/n/a/2006/01/18/state/n094107S04.DTL&type=printable>
3. "College transfer rate remains low" (Contra Costa Times, Jan. 18, 2006); story citing ELIZABETH HILL (MPP 1975);
<http://www.contracostatimes.com/ml d/cctimes/email/news/13651793.htm?template=contentModules/printstory.jsp>
4. "Investors may have misread the Fed" (Associated Press, Star-Ledger, The (Newark, NJ), January 17, 2006); story citing MICKEY LEVY (MPP 1974).
5. "Pay down debt, urges legislative analyst. New spending in governor's budget proposal is criticized" (Sacramento Bee, January 13, 2006); story citing ELIZABETH HILL (MPP 1975) and MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980);
<http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/ca/budget/v-print/story/14068331p-14899087c.html>
6. "Governor complains about autopilot spending but embraces it" (Sacramento Bee, January 13, 2006); op-ed citing ELIZABETH HILL (MPP 1975);
<http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/ca/budget/v-print/story/14068332p-14899092c.html>
7. "No raises for state's rank and file included" (Sacramento Bee, January 11, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980);
<http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/story/14060901p-14892001c.html>
8. "Pair vying to lead Franchise Tax Board" (Sacramento Bee, January 11, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980) and GOLDMAN SCHOOL EXECUTIVE PROGRAM;
<http://www.sacbee.com/content/business/story/14060970p-14892043c.html>
9. "It's a good time to be overseas" (Christian Science Monitor [*requires registration], January 9, 2006); story citing MICKEY LEVY (MPP 1974).
10. "Minimum-wage jousting. Democrats will push governor for cost-of-living increases" (Sacramento Bee, January 9, 2006); story citing study by DAVID CARROLL (MPP 2000); <http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/story/14054276p-14885561c.html>
11. "Debate brews over housing. The governor's plan ignores shortage, and Democrats are offering their own proposals" (Sacramento Bee, January 8, 2006); story citing

MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980);

<http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/story/14051111p-14882437c.html>

12. "Spending proposal raises questions. Some say governor is straying from fiscal conservatism" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 8, 2006); analysis citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/01/08/BAGPDGKAHC1.DTL&hw=mi ke+genest&sn=001&sc=1000>
13. "Governor's plan omits housing and transit. Critics say crucial needs unmet under ambitious bond proposal" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 7, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/01/07/BAGFNGJL2R1.DTL&hw=mi ke+genest&sn=002&sc=668>
14. "Governor asks lawmakers to dump bond measure for high-speed rail" (Associated Press, January 6, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2006/01/06/state/n181132S24.DTL&hw=mi ke+genest&sn=003&sc=615>
15. "Minimum Wage May Get Boost. Opposition to a hike has eased, but some say the governor's proposal of a \$1 raise isn't enough" (Los Angeles Times, January 6, 2006); story citing studies by DAVID CARROLL (MPP 2000) and GINA VICKERY (MPP Cand. 2006); <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-mi n wage6jan06,0,2330757,print.story>
16. "San Francisco: Minimum wage law praised in new study. But restaurants say they raised prices, earned lower profits" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 4, 2006); story citing study co-authored by GINA VICKERY (MPP Cand. 2006); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/01/04/BAGJOGGJ8F1.DTL&type=printable>
17. "Valley native's world expands; Being UNICEF head is high-profile but sobering for ex-Ag chief ANN VENEMAN" (Sacramento Bee [*requires registration], January 2, 2006); story featuring ANN VENEMAN (MPP 1971); <http://www.sacbee.com/>

FACULTY IN THE NEWS

1. Letters To The Editor: "Berdahl was a bargain" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 28, 2006); letter to the editor citing ROBERT BERDAHL; <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/01/28/EDGMDGTH4H1.DTL&type=printable>
2. "Site Offers A Way To Offset Pollution. San Jose Mercury News [*requires registration], Jan. 27, 2006); story citing DAN KAMMEN; <http://www.mercurynews.com/ml d/mercurynews/news/local /13725142.htm?template=contentModules/printstory.jsp>
3. "Screen Test: Why we should start measuring bias" (Slate.com, Jan. 26, 2006); story citing JACK GLASER; <http://www.slate.com/id/2134921/>
4. "Environmental benefits of ethanol reported hazy" (Contra Costa Times [*requires registration], Jan. 26, 2006); story citing study co-authored by DAN KAMMEN, MICHAEL O'HARE, and BRIAN TURNER (MPP 2005); <http://www.contracostatimes.com/ml d/cctimes/email /news/13715972.htm?template=contentModules/printstory.jsp>
5. "Bring on the biofuels. Ethanol's bad rap for energy efficiency is bogus" (Salon.com, Jan. 27, 2006); story citing study co-authored by DAN KAMMEN, MICHAEL O'HARE, and BRIAN TURNER (MPP 2005); http://www.salon.com/tech/htww/2006/01/27/biofuel_efficiency/print.html
6. "Studies Support Emissions Plans. Two independent analyses say an effort, opposed

by business, to cut greenhouse gases could be beneficial for California's economy" (Los Angeles Times, January 23, 2006); story citing study by MICHAEL HANEMANN; <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-climate23jan23,1,6782659,print.story>

7. "Iconic Fed Chief Prepares His Departure" (New York Times Online [*requires registration], January 23, 2006); story citing ROBERT REICH; <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/business/AP-Greenspan.html?pagewanted=print>

8. "Sneaky banking practices" (Marketplace, American Public Media, January 18, 2006); commentary by ROBERT REICH; <http://marketplace.publicradio.org/shows/2006/01/18/AM200601181.html>

9. "What Is a Living Wage?" (New York Times [*requires registration], January 15, 2006); story citing ROBERT REICH; <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/01/15/magazine/15wage.html?pagewanted=print>

10. "Former UC Berkeley Chancellor ROBERT BERDAHL named president of Association of American Universities" (UC Berkeley press release, January 5, 2006); story featuring ROBERT BERDAHL; http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/01/05_berdahl.shtml

ALUMNI AND STUDENT NEWSMAKERS

1. "Governor's bid to cut raise for needy rejected. Democrats on budget panel amend bill to restore SSI increase" (Sacramento Bee, January 27, 2006); story citing ELIZABETH HILL (MPP 1975); <http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/v-print/story/14120719p-14949891c.html>

By Clea Benson -- Bee Capitol Bureau

It will be months before lawmakers approve the next state budget, but the Senate Budget Committee on Thursday took an early stand against Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposal to withhold a cost-of-living increase for needy disabled, blind and elderly Californians.

Schwarzenegger's \$125.6 billion spending plan for the fiscal year that begins July 1 would save \$233 million over the next two years by withholding federal funds intended as a raise for about a million recipients of a cash assistance program known as Supplemental Security Income...

The committee quickly amended the budget bill, Senate Bill 1129, to rescind the cuts, with Democrats voting in favor and Republicans voting against it...

Democrats said they would figure out later where to cut the governor's budget to make up for funds they were restoring.

That problem might be partially solved for them if the state continues to take in unexpectedly high amounts of tax revenue.

ELIZABETH HILL, THE LEGISLATURE'S NONPARTISAN BUDGET ADVISER, testified Thursday that estimates based on early income-tax payments for 2005 show state revenues will be even higher than the governor projected when he released his budget Jan. 10...

2. "Santa Cruz looks to raise minimum wage to \$9.25/hour" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 18, 2006); story citing study co-authored by GINA VICKERY (MPP Cand. 2006); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2006/01/18/state/n094107S04.DTL&type=printable>

Associated Press

Santa Cruz, Calif. (AP) -- Labor leaders in this left-leaning coastal city have launched a controversial campaign to raise the minimum wage to \$9.25 an hour, \$2.50 more than the state-mandated minimum...

If the drive is successful, Santa Cruz would join only a handful of other cities, including San Francisco and Santa Fe, that have their own minimum wages.

Supporters point to a UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY study that concluded that San Francisco's higher minimum wage of \$8.82 an hour has raised prices throughout the city but did not trigger layoffs or business collapses....

[Another story on this topic appeared in the San Jose Mercury News]

3. "College transfer rate remains low" (Contra Costa Times, Jan. 18, 2006); story citing ELIZABETH HILL (MPP 1975); <http://www.contracostatimes.com/ml d/cctimes/email/news/13651793.htm?template=contentModules/printstory.jsp>

By Matt Krupnick

California's public universities need to do a better job helping the state's 1.6 million community college students transfer to the four-year schools, the state legislative analyst said Tuesday.

According to a report by LEGISLATIVE ANALYST ELIZABETH HILL, several obstacles continue to hinder students transferring to the University of California and California State University systems. Universities have not done enough to help students at California's 109 two-year colleges figure out which classes they need to take in order to transfer, the report said.

HILL estimated that as few as 19 percent of community college students transfer to four-year schools, a problem due in large part to varying transfer requirements at university campuses.

"Our review found that the state's transfer process continues to lack standardization," the report stated. "Students must navigate a complex maze of requirements that vary across campuses."

While recent legislation has improved the transfer process in the 23-campus Cal State system, HILL said, similar fixes have yet to help transfers to the nine undergraduate UC campuses. A student who has completed required work for one UC campus may not be allowed to attend other campuses.

UC officials also have taken note of the difficulties faced by potential transfer students and are trying to improve the university's system, UC spokesman Brad Hayward said Tuesday.

Several recent studies have noted that a failure to improve community college transfer rates could harm the state economically in coming years....

4. "Investors may have misread the Fed" (Associated Press, Star-Ledger, The (Newark, NJ), January 17, 2006); story citing MICKEY LEVY (MPP 1974).

By Ellen Simon; Associated Press

Wall Street could be wrong about the Federal Reserve - in more ways than one.

Stocks rocketed higher after the Jan. 3 release of minutes from Fed policymaker's most recent meeting. Investors interpreted the minutes to mean the end of the central bank's 18-month streak of short-term interest rate hikes is near; the major indexes subsequently hit new 4 1/2-year highs on the assumption that once the Fed is finished raising rates, stocks will soar even higher.

But investors shouldn't be so sure about when the rate hikes will end or what that will mean for stocks.

MICKEY LEVY, BANK OF AMERICA'S CHIEF ECONOMIST, has interpreted the Fed's latest notes to mean the central bank is entering a "data dependent" phase, in which it will set policy using the latest data, instead of entering each policy meeting with the conviction that rates are too low....

5. "Pay down debt, urges legislative analyst. New spending in governor's budget proposal is criticized" (Sacramento Bee, January 13, 2006); story citing ELIZABETH HILL (MPP 1975) and MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980); <http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/ca/budget/v-print/story/14068331p-14899087c.html>

By Clea Benson -- Bee Capitol Bureau

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed budget "moves the state in the wrong direction" by spending part of a revenue windfall on new programs instead of paying off debt, the Legislature's nonpartisan budget adviser said Thursday.

LEGISLATIVE ANALYST ELIZABETH HILL said Schwarzenegger's spending plan for the fiscal year that begins July 1 uses money that might decrease in the future to ratchet up new financial commitments by about \$2 billion.

HILL said Schwarzenegger should instead use more of the unexpected income created by recent economic growth - an estimated \$9.2 billion - to pay off loans that were taken out to balance budgets in leaner times.

"We are concerned that the plan really puts the state on the wrong path in terms of the long-term goal of fiscal balance," HILL said.

MIKE GENEST, SCHWARZENEGGER'S FINANCE DIRECTOR, said the state had made a lot of progress in balancing its books over the past two years. When Schwarzenegger took office, the projected deficit for 2006-07 was about \$10 billion higher.

"By any measure that I'm familiar with, we're moving in the right direction," he said....

"There is quite a bit of money in the general fund (this year), and to try to reduce programs when you don't absolutely have to is not prudent," GENEST said.

In his 2006-07 budget, the governor proposed cuts only in programs that serve the poor. He increased the budget for schools by \$4.3 billion. And he recommended raises for a host of other programs, such as \$129.4 million for public universities to avert a planned increase in student fees.

At the current rate of spending, Schwarzenegger's Department of Finance projects that the state deficit will grow to about \$9.6 billion in the 2008-09 fiscal year.

HILL said the state needs to do more to cut the deficit for future years.

She agreed with the governor's assessment that revenues will continue to grow in the near future. But she cautioned that some of that projected increase is based on "volatile" sources, such as business profits and gains in the value of stocks - a reason not to spend the new money on ongoing programs.

"What goes up also can come down," she said.

GENEST said the Finance Department is being cautious in its projections of future revenues, and believes about 13 percent of tax receipts will be based on capital gains and stock options, a level similar to the mid-1990s. When the state got into trouble in the late 1990s, he said, those sources ballooned to about 19 percent of the state's revenues, and then dropped.

HILL also reviewed the governor's proposal to spend \$222 billion on public works projects over the next two decades, including \$68 billion in bonds.

She praised the plan's long-term outlook, but said the administration has yet to come up with a legally required detailed list of infrastructure projects that could be ready to go if the bonds are issued.

HILL also said the proposal, dubbed the Strategic Growth Plan by the administration, might be overly optimistic in its assessment of whether private businesses and the federal government would be willing to come through with billions of new dollars for public works.

GENEST said the administration is almost finished preparing its detailed list of projects, and believes the state will not have trouble getting money from other sources.

"The federal government has consistently stepped up to its share of costs," he said.

6. "Governor complains about autopilot spending but embraces it" (Sacramento Bee, January 13, 2006); op-ed citing ELIZABETH HILL (MPP 1975); <http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/ca/budget/v-print/story/14068332p-14899092c.html>

By Dan Walters -- Bee Columnist

Then-Gov. Pete Wilson coined, or at least adopted, the phrase "autopilot spending" in the early 1990s as he struggled to close an immense state budget gap and confronted political and legal barriers that made it nearly impossible to reduce spending even when revenues had plummeted.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has voiced the same complaints, most recently this week when he proposed a budget for the 2006-07 fiscal year. But an exchange with reporters also underscored that while Schwarzenegger complains about automatic spending, he's also an ardent advocate of it....

But moments later a reporter asked him why, if he's complaining about automatic spending, he's also implementing Proposition 49, a measure he sponsored in 2002 before becoming governor to provide state funds to preschool and after-school programs that will cost about a half-billion dollars in its first year.

Proposition 49 requires the state to begin allocating money after the budget reaches a certain level of spending, an automatic trigger that is being pulled in 2006-07....

Schwarzenegger's claim that Proposition 49 isn't "crowding out other programs" is just as dubious because he is making cuts - freezing welfare grants, for example, and reducing money for child care for working welfare mothers - to provide funds for Proposition 49, Proposition 98 and other legal and political priorities....

ELIZABETH HILL, THE LEGISLATURE'S BUDGET ANALYST, has suggested that in light of the state's continuing budget deficits, voters be asked to delay implementation of Proposition 49, but Schwarzenegger's not doing that. "Proposition 49 is a good example of automatic spending," HILL said in an initial analysis of his budget....

7. "No raises for state's rank and file included" (Sacramento Bee, January 11, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980);
<http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/story/14060901p-14892001c.html>

By Andy Furillo -- Bee Capitol Bureau

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's new budget unveiled Tuesday contains no pay raises for the 156,000 rank-and-file state employees whose contracts have expired or are scheduled to run their course this year.

FINANCE DIRECTOR MIKE GENEST said the administration didn't include money for raises because "we don't want to presage what we plan to do at the negotiating table" with the nine unions representing 18 bargaining units that are already at the table or are about to take their seats across from the state's representatives.

GENEST said "it's not uncommon" for the state to refrain from putting money in the budget for new contract agreements, but instead "to wait and see what the negotiations result in."

Jim Hard, president of Service Employees International Union Local 1000, which represents 90,000 workers in nine of the bargaining units, said the administration is "ignoring the human infrastructure of the state" by not yet including budget money for raises....

GENEST said the Department of Personnel Administration is going to base its final proposals on a massive salary and benefits survey it plans to conduct this spring, comparing the state's pay scales to those in local government and private business.

"It's been a long time since the state has taken a data-driven approach to negotiations, and this time we're going to use that data to find out what we think is a reasonable compensation package for each group of employees and then that will be in the back of our minds as we sit down at the bargaining table," GENEST said.

Hard called the survey "a diversion" to getting on with the tougher business of bargaining. "I say, get the survey done and make it public," Hard said.

The 2006-07 budget plan also is calling on each department in state government to reduce its salary and benefit spending 1 percent over the next fiscal year, which GENEST said would result in \$58 million in savings.

8. "Pair vying to lead Franchise Tax Board" (Sacramento Bee, January 11, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980) and GOLDMAN SCHOOL EXECUTIVE PROGRAM;
<http://www.sacbee.com/content/business/story/14060970p-14892043c.html>

By Andrew McIntosh -- Bee Staff Writer

After postponing the key decision at a December meeting, Franchise Tax Board members will meet again today to pick a new leader for the state's biggest tax collection agency.

The board's members - Controller Steve Westly, FINANCE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR MICHAEL GENEST and Board of Equalization Chairman John Chiang - are slated to select and announce their new executive officer.

Before the decision was delayed at GENEST's request last month, officials inside and outside the agency believed the leading contender for the top job was Will Bush, a Franchise Tax Board veteran who is interim executive officer....

Bush, who joined the FTB in 1975, helped spearhead improvements in technology and customer service in recent years.

Under his leadership, residents across the state have enjoyed easier access to the

tax board through expanded Web-based customer services, including electronic filing, direct deposit and payment. Tax return processing times and agency costs have been cut through the increased automation, according to the board's biographical notes about Bush.

He has a business administration/accounting degree from California State University, Sacramento. He is also a GRADUATE OF THE STATE AND LOCAL EXECUTIVE INSTITUTE AT THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY....

9. "It's a good time to be overseas" (Christian Science Monitor [*requires registration], January 9, 2006); story citing MICKEY LEVY (MPP 1974).

By David R. Francis

The world is changing for American investors. In the past decade or so, foreign stocks have become more easily accessible through mutual funds - and, sometimes, more profitable.

"Generally speaking, the rest of the world did better last year [for American investors] than the United States," says David Wyss, chief economist of Standard & Poor's, a New York investment information firm. "Not that the US did terrible."

Many foreign stocks were in a catch-up phase. Some were blessed by high prices for raw materials. Others by a more stable financial or political picture....

According to a Wall Street Journal survey, American economists expect US output to grow at an annual rate of 3.5 percent in the first half of this year and 3.1 percent in the second half. But there are perils ahead.

One is the huge deficit in US international payments. The US current account ran about \$811 billion in deficit last year, or 6.5 percent of GDP, calculates MICKEY LEVY, CHIEF ECONOMIST AT BANK OF AMERICA. So far, foreign central banks and other foreigners have financed that deficit - but with some trepidation.

Mr. LEVY expects a "relatively benign adjustment" to ease this problem over time. But he also sees "a potential for an economic hard landing" if the US and creditor nations do not take steps to remedy the situation.

LEVY's forecast calls for a 3.4 percent rise in global GDP this year, up slightly from 3.3 percent in 2005...

10. "Minimum-wage jousting. Democrats will push governor for cost-of-living increases" (Sacramento Bee, January 9, 2006); story citing study by DAVID CARROLL (MPP 2000); <http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/story/14054276p-14885561c.html>

By Andy Furillo -- Bee Capitol Bureau

California's working poor stand to pocket an extra \$2 billion under the Schwarzenegger administration's proposed minimum wage hike, but Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's adversaries are looking for more than a one-shot deal....

Schwarzenegger last year vetoed a minimum-wage increase tied to an indexing formula. But Art Pulaski, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, said Democrats will push the Republican governor for indexing again, "because this is the year he will give it."...

California's minimum wage currently stands at \$6.75 an hour. It's been four years since the state last increased the rate from the previous level of \$6.25.

Under Schwarzenegger's proposal, the wage would go up 50 cents in September to \$7.25 and would rise another half-buck in July 2007 to \$7.75.

Rick Rice, a spokesman for Schwarzenegger's Labor and Workforce Development Agency, said the administration's estimate of a \$2 billion transfer from employers to low-wage workers is based on an assumption that the raise would affect 2 million full-time workers at or near the minimum-wage level....

A recently revised brief [by DAVID CARROLL] published by the California Budget Project shows that the purchasing power of the state's minimum-wage workers has decreased by 33 percent since 1968. Jean Ross, executive director of the nonprofit group that analyzes public policy with an eye toward improving the lives of low-and middle-income people, said the governor's proposal still would leave minimum-wage workers 25 percent short of their Lyndon Johnson-era standing....

11. "Debate brews over housing. The governor's plan ignores shortage, and Democrats are offering their own proposals" (Sacramento Bee, January 8, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980); <http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/story/14051111p-14882437c.html>

By John Hill, Bee Capitol Bureau

Affordable housing advocates planned to ask California voters as early as this year to approve a real estate fee or other permanent source of revenue to address the state's chronic housing shortage.

But with no consensus on where to find the money, and potential opposition from the real estate industry and the public, housing advocates changed course. They hoped to piggyback on a massive public improvement plan that could go to voters in June.

Then, last week, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger unveiled an ambitious public works plan with no money for affordable housing....

The Schwarzenegger administration decided not to include affordable housing because it wanted to keep overall debt below 6 percent of the state's yearly general revenue and felt that other needs were more pressing, FINANCE DIRECTOR MIKE GENEST said.

"Nor is the state (government) the best place to finance housing," he said....

12. "Spending proposal raises questions. Some say governor is straying from fiscal conservatism" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 8, 2006); analysis citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/01/08/BAGPDGKAHC1.DTL&hw=mi ke+genest&sn=001&sc=1000>

By Lynda Gledhill; Chronicle Sacramento Bureau

Over the past two weeks, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has outlined short- and long-term spending increases that have some wondering if he has turned his back on his roots as a fiscal conservative.

Schwarzenegger campaigned on budget responsibility at a time when the state was facing a multi-billion dollar budget deficit. But with the state's economy improving, the governor has proposed spending \$1.7 billion more on education next fiscal year than is constitutionally required and has plans to borrow \$68 billion through general obligation bonds over the next 10 years....

"Our ability to pay for these investments is directly tied to the fiscal discipline of the past two years," he said. "That discipline must continue."

MIKE GENEST, SCHWARZENEGGER'S DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE DIRECTOR, said it is important to note that state revenues go up substantially over the life of the proposal.

"The long range estimate of revenues shows that they triple in the 20-year period," he said.

He also said the governor is not retreating on his promise to "tear up the credit card."

"This is more like a mortgage on a house," he said. "When you take on a long-term mortgage, you're not looking at the current year, you're looking at the long-term investment."...

13. "Governor's plan omits housing and transit. Critics say crucial needs unmet under ambitious bond proposal" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 7, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/01/07/BAGFNGJL2R1.DTL&hw=mi ke+genest&sn=002&sc=668>

By Greg Lucas; Chronicle Sacramento Bureau

For all its size and sweep, critics say Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's ambitious 10-year public works construction plan leaves out or glosses over several key needs in California, specifically affordable housing and a bigger investment in mass transit...

California is home to the top 20 least affordable housing markets in the country, according to a study sponsored by the state's Building Industry Association.

Yet Schwarzenegger's massive public works financing proposal contains no money to help generate more affordable housing.

"It's extremely disappointing to hear the governor lay out a 10-year strategy of this magnitude and leave one of the central areas of infrastructure off the list entirely," said Christine Minnehan, a lobbyist for the Western Center on Law and Poverty who also led the campaign for Proposition 46, a \$2.1 billion homelessness and housing bond approved by voters in 2002. Funds from the bond are nearly exhausted.

"The state is the only entity that has provided housing for the lowest-income people," Minnehan said. MIKE GENEST, DIRECTOR OF SCHWARZENEGGER'S DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, said the administration weighed including housing but capital improvements to education and transportation were the highest spending priorities. A cap the Republican governor wants to impose on debt payments prevented housing from making the cut, GENEST said...

14. "Governor asks lawmakers to dump bond measure for high-speed rail" (Associated Press, January 6, 2006); story citing MIKE GENEST (MPP 1980); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2006/01/06/state/n181132S24.DTL&hw=mi ke+genest&sn=003&sc=615>

By Steve Lawrence, Associated Press Writer

Sacramento, (AP) -- Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is asking lawmakers to scrap a \$9.95 billion high-speed rail bond measure already on the November ballot to clear the way for his massive, \$222.6 billion public works program.

"We could not afford the entire package of infrastructure (in the governor's plan) if we did the \$10 billion for high-speed rail," STATE FINANCE DIRECTOR MIKE GENEST said Friday. "We did not see it being affordable in a 10-year cycle."

He called high-speed rail "a visionary idea (that's) kind of far in the future."

Supporters tout high-speed rail as a much-needed alternative to crowded freeways and

jammed airports as the state's population increases over the next 20 years. But it's had difficulty getting rolling...

GENEST said the governor wasn't proposing that lawmakers eliminate the California High-Speed Rail Authority, the nine-member board that's overseeing planning for the system. Instead, he said the administration hopes the board can devise another way of paying for it.

"There's still hope for high-speed rail," he said. "There may be another way to finance it."...

15. "Minimum Wage May Get Boost. Opposition to a hike has eased, but some say the governor's proposal of a \$1 raise isn't enough" (Los Angeles Times, January 6, 2006); story citing studies by DAVID CARROLL (MPP 2000) and GINA VICKERY (MPP Cand. 2006); <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-miwage6jan06,0,2330757,print.story>

By Roger Vincent, Times Staff Writer

The California business community's long-standing opposition to boosting the state's minimum wage is eroding -- at least for now -- amid a growing recognition that increases are inevitable and previous hikes haven't produced dire economic consequences.

But consumers should expect to help pick up the tab by paying a bit more to eat in restaurants, sleep in hotels or buy other products and services produced by the state's lowest-paid workers, experts said.

Several California business leaders and economists indicated this week that they would accept a higher minimum wage or at least wouldn't fight Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposal in his State of the State address Thursday to bump up basic hourly pay to \$7.75 from \$6.75 by the middle of next year....

Possibly also influencing California business leaders are economic reports showing that mandatory minimum wage increases have not resulted in the level of staffing cuts predicted by opponents who said many companies couldn't afford the raises.

A new study by [DAVID CARROLL, SENIOR POLICY ANALYST at] the nonpartisan California Budget Project in Sacramento concluded that moderate increases to the minimum wage resulted in little, if any, loss of employment.

"Most employers are already working with the lowest number of employees that they can," said Jean Ross, executive director of California Budget Project. "Sectors that employ large shares of low-wage workers actually increased employment at a faster rate than the state economy as a whole" between 1997 and 2004.

Even in San Francisco, where the minimum wage is now \$8.82 per hour and rises annually with the cost of living, raises have not adversely affected employment or resulted in business closures, said UC Berkeley economist Michael Reich.

Restaurants bear the biggest burden of minimum wage raises, he said, but employment in San Francisco restaurants has been growing faster than the general business average since the city's wage laws were enacted in 2003.

Small increases in prices and improvements in workers' productivity pay for the difference, Reich said. Average prices of menu items have risen about 3% more than those of restaurants outside the city on the east side of San Francisco Bay, according to a recent report coauthored by Reich [and GINA VICKERY].

Linking annual wage raises to the cost-of-living index "works very well," Reich added, because increases are predictable and affect competitors equally....

16. "San Francisco: Minimum wage law praised in new study. But restaurants say they raised prices, earned lower profits" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 4, 2006); story citing study co-authored by GINA VICKERY (MPP Cand. 2006); <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/01/04/BAGJ0GGJ8F1.DTL&type=printable>

By Charlie Goodyear, Chronicle Staff Writer

A 2-year-old city law that boosted San Francisco's minimum wage -- from \$6.75 an hour in 2003 to \$8.82 this year -- hasn't hurt the city's economy or its businesses, according to a report from a Berkeley labor policy think tank.

The study by the Institute of Industrial Relations at THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY found that a gradual rise in San Francisco's minimum wage hadn't spurred layoffs or business failures, although advocates for local businesses most affected by the law say they are feeling a financial pinch.

Michael Reich, a UC Berkeley economics professor and one of the study's authors, said he was surprised by the data he analyzed and said it should encourage other cities and states to raise their minimum wage levels.

"We found that the San Francisco minimum wage policy has proved to be a very effective means of raising wages, without adverse effects on employment, business or the city's economy," Reich said Tuesday. "It's also promising in that it means that other increases in the minimum wage in other cities or at the state level are likely to have similar effects." Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is considering a proposal to increase California's minimum wage from \$6.75 to \$7.75 by next year.

The institute's study, which surveyed the minority of businesses in San Francisco that can attract employees while paying the minimum wage, mostly restaurants, found the city law increased an estimated 54,000 workers' pay while keeping their health benefits stable....

[More info at:

http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/01/02_livingwage.shtml]

[Read full report, "The Economics of Citywide Minimum Wages" by Michael Reich, Arindrajit Dube and GINA VICKERY, at:

<http://www.iir.berkeley.edu/research/sfminimumwage.pdf>]

17. "Valley native's world expands; Being UNICEF head is high-profile but sobering for ex-Ag chief ANN VENEMAN" (Sacramento Bee [*requires registration], January 2, 2006); story featuring ANN VENEMAN (MPP 1971); <http://www.sacbee.com/>

By Michael Doyle, Bee Washington Bureau

New York -- Welcome to ANN VENEMAN's world, where the contrasts can make your head spin.

There's glamour, yes, as the Modesto native and former Bush administration official rubs shoulders with the likes of billionaire philanthropist Bill Gates, former President Bill Clinton and assorted heads of state. It's all part of leading UNICEF, the famed kid-friendly United Nations agency that VENEMAN has run since May 1....

Then there's the flip side. Call it, simply, bearing witness.

Like last year, when VENEMAN visited southern Africa. She was the first UNICEF director in the agency's 60-year history to visit Swaziland, where 39 percent of the adults are infected with the virus that causes AIDS. So there she was, an unmarried, 56-year-old graduate of Modesto's Downey High School in a room filled with children who had lost parents to AIDS.

"These kids are like other kids," VENEMAN said. "They want an opportunity to go to school. They want to get a job, but you know their chances are already very difficult. They are losing not just their parents, they are losing the farmers. They are losing their teachers.

"You're losing," VENEMAN summed up, "this entire generation."...

Three weeks after a devastating earthquake ripped Pakistan, VENEMAN was bound for another disaster area. She met with the mighty, discussing protection for children with Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf in his Islamabad office. She met with the stricken, in refugee camps and hospitals.

There were 17,000 children killed, by UNICEF's estimate. Most died when poorly constructed schools and government buildings collapsed. "I saw two little babies just hanging in traction," VENEMAN said, shaping the memory with her hands. "They were just little babies."...

UNICEF, VENEMAN said, is one of the best-run United Nations agencies. It's won praise even from John Bolton, the Bush administration's fiery ambassador who once said if the U.N. headquarters lost 10 stories, "it wouldn't make a bit of difference."...

FACULTY IN THE NEWS

1. Letters To The Editor: "BERDAHL was a bargain" (San Francisco Chronicle, January 28, 2006); letter to the editor citing ROBERT BERDAHL;
<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/01/28/EDGMDGTH4H1.DTL&type=printable>

Editor -- In its relentless recent exposure of purportedly unwarranted salary supplements and off-the-book payments to UC administrators, The Chronicle seems to have missed the bigger story: ROBERT BERDAHL served effectively for seven years as chancellor of an institution that the Financial Times called one of the two greatest universities in the world. His pay was roughly one-third that of the president of the University of Pennsylvania, not to speak of the other Ivies.

Almost every department at Berkeley is consistently ranked among the top three in the nation; our faculty salaries rank 30th. Is it such a scandal that the former chancellor gets two courses off after a well-earned sabbatical? The citizens of California are getting a bargain.

Thomas W. Laqueur
Helen Fawcett, Distinguished Professor
Department of History, UC Berkeley

2. "Site Offers A Way To Offset Pollution. San Jose Mercury News [*requires registration], Jan. 27, 2006); story citing DAN KAMMEN;
<http://www.mercurynews.com/ml/d/mercurynews/news/local/13725142.htm?template=contentModules/printstory.jsp>

By Paul Rogers, Mercury News

People can't take steps to reduce global warming unless they know how much they are contributing to it.

Using that belief as a starting point, environmentalists and Silicon Valley companies rolled out a new plan Thursday to help South Bay businesses and the public

compute how many pounds of "greenhouse gases" they are generating, and then voluntarily offset that pollution with donations to companies that produce wind power and other renewable energy....

"One of the main problems with global warming is that humans are not programmed when they wake up in the morning and go get a gallon of milk to think about typhoons in Bangladesh," said Carl Pope, national executive director of the Sierra Club....

In a related development, Pacific Gas & Electric announced Wednesday that it will be offering its own greenhouse-gas offset program in 2007. Customers would see on their bills the amount of greenhouse gases their electricity and natural gas usage is generating, and then could voluntarily pay a small amount -- about \$4 a month on average -- to offset that. The money at first will be used to plant trees, which soak up carbon dioxide....

"These programs are not gimmicks," said DAN KAMMEN, AN ENERGY EXPERT AND PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC POLICY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY. "They are really refreshing. They allow people to vote their conscience."

3. "Screen Test: Why we should start measuring bias" (Slate.com, Jan. 26, 2006); story citing JACK GLASER; <http://www.slate.com/id/2134921/>

By Jay Dixit

"Everyone's a little bit racist sometimes," proclaims the Broadway musical Avenue Q. "Doesn't mean we go/ Around committing hate crimes/ Look around and you will find/ No one's really colorblind/ Maybe it's a fact/ We all should face/ Everyone makes judgments/ Based on race."

How do you test internal bias? You can try asking people, but since most of us don't like to think of ourselves as biased, we won't necessarily admit to it on a questionnaire, even anonymously. But there's a test to detect the kind of bias people won't admit to and may not even be aware of themselves--a test that works. The psychologists who devised it, however, are squeamish about real-world uses of it. They shouldn't be. Though it shouldn't be used as the basis for hiring decisions, the test has its place.

In 2003, Mahzarin Banaji, Anthony G. Greenwald, and Brian Nosek published a paper detailing an experimental methodology they had developed called the Implicit Association Test, or IAT. Rather than asking subjects what they thought about different races (or what they thought they thought), Banaji and her colleagues decided to time them as they paired words and images.

In the test's most popular version, the Race IAT, subjects are shown a computer screen and asked to match positive words (love, wonderful, peace) or negative words (evil, horrible, failure) with faces of African-Americans or whites. Their responses are timed. If you tend to associate African-Americans with "bad" concepts, it will take you longer to group black faces with "good" concepts because you perceive them as incompatible. If you're consistently quicker at connecting positive words with whites and slower at connecting positive words with blacks--or quicker at connecting negative words with blacks and slower at connecting negative words with whites--you have an implicit bias for white faces over those of African-Americans. In other words, the time it takes you to pair the faces and words yields an empirical measure of your attitudes....

Using the implicit bias test for employment screening, then, goes too far (and it's easy to imagine the legal challenges). But employers should be able to use the test to assess employees once they've been hired. Ideally, an employee's individual result would be revealed only to him or her (employers could get aggregate reports so they could better make decisions about how to reduce bias in the workplace). One reason to encourage employers to give the test is that, as BERKELEY [PROFESSOR AND] PSYCHOLOGIST JACK GLASER points out, just taking it may sometimes be enough to

convince people they are prejudiced and should try to change. It's called "unconsciousness raising"--if you know what your unconscious is doing, you may work to override it.

4. "Environmental benefits of ethanol reported hazy" (Contra Costa Times [*requires registration], Jan. 26, 2006); story citing study co-authored by DAN KAMMEN, MICHAEL O'HARE, and BRIAN TURNER (MPP 2005); <http://www.contracostatimes.com/ml d/cctimes/email/news/13715972.htm?template=contentModules/printstory.jsp>

By Mike Taugher, Contra Costa Times

A new study claims to settle a decades-long dispute over the use of ethanol as a motor fuel, saying it can reduce dependence on foreign oil but does not yet provide significant environmental benefits.

The study, by UC BERKELEY RESEARCHERS and published today in the journal Science, says earlier studies were wrong to claim ethanol is an ineffective fuel because it takes too much petroleum to produce.

But it also said that ethanol made from corn -- as is nearly all ethanol available today -- would reduce greenhouse gas emissions only marginally.

"The long-standing debate over whether ethanol is good or bad on an energy basis ... we believe that 20-year-old argument is now solved," said one of the study's authors, DAN KAMMEN, a professor at Berkeley's Energy and Resources Group and THE GOLDMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY.

"You can get more energy out," he added. "What we don't know is, is that good for the planet?"

KAMMEN said the real benefits from ethanol will come when it can be produced economically from switch grass, trees and other woody plants. Production of ethanol from those sources could greatly reduce greenhouse gas emissions....

KAMMEN said the future for ethanol from sources other than corn is very bright. He also said although gasoline in California typically has no more than 10 percent ethanol, more substantial benefits could result with ethanol blends between 60 percent and 100 percent.

He said most light trucks, vans and sport utility vehicles today can already accept higher ethanol blends and that retrofitting cars to accept more flexible fuels costs very little. A Ford Taurus, he said, could be retrofitted with better hoses and a gas cap to burn higher ethanol blends for about \$60....

[Another story on this topic appeared in the Los Angeles Times and Washington Post and also appeared in the San Jose Mercury News]

5. "Bring on the biofuels. Ethanol's bad rap for energy efficiency is bogus" (Salon.com, Jan. 27, 2006); story citing study co-authored by DAN KAMMEN, MICHAEL O'HARE, and BRIAN TURNER (MPP 2005); http://www.salon.com/tech/htww/2006/01/27/biofuel_efficiency/print.html

By Andrew Leonard

Want to get a roomful of biofuel geeks hopping mad? Tell them that the production of

biofuels like ethanol or biodiesel consumes more energy than it delivers. In the world of renewable energy, that's a cardinal sin. If more fossil fuel is consumed making a gallon of ethanol than in making a gallon of gasoline, why even bother?

Getting hard data on the net energy costs of biofuels is a challenge. If you start Googling around, you end up lost in a maze of competing studies, most of which are tough for the layman to evaluate. Which is why I went on full alert this morning when Grist informed me of a paper in this week's Science that evaluated a sheaf of studies and concluded that the research stating corn-based ethanol is not energy efficient is seriously flawed.

This is important news, and I wanted to know more. I paid \$10 for access to the Science article (which I later learned was unnecessary) and then promptly called up the lead author of the paper, Alex Farrell, an assistant professor at the Energy and Resources Group at the UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY. How did he and his colleagues come to their conclusions? ...

Farrell and his co-authors [including DAN, KAMMEN, MICHAEL O'HARE, and BRIAN TURNER] were able to compare the studies they were evaluating by plugging their data into a common set of system boundary parameters. And one of the major things they found was that the most important studies declaring ethanol was not energy efficient had left out a pretty major factor. They ignored the energy savings generated by the "co-products" that resulted from ethanol manufacture....

[For more info on the UC Berkeley study, visit:
http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/01/26_ethanol.shtml

Read the article, "Ethanol Can Contribute to Energy and Environmental Goals" published in Science 27, January 2006 at:
<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/311/5760/506>]

6. "Studies Support Emissions Plans. Two independent analyses say an effort, opposed by business, to cut greenhouse gases could be beneficial for California's economy" (Los Angeles Times, January 23, 2006); story citing study by MICHAEL HANEMANN; <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-climate23jan23,1,6782659,print.story>

By Usha Lee McFarling, Times Staff Writer

The state's ambitious plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions could create tens of thousands of new jobs and dramatically boost the economy in coming years, according to two new independent analyses.

The reports, one led by ECONOMISTS AT UC BERKELEY, the other by a Washington think tank that emphasizes market solutions to environmental problems, agree with a draft version of a state plan released earlier this month and reject concerns that curbing the gases that contribute to global warming would hurt the economy.

"It's basically a very good news story," said Ned Helme, president of the Center for Clean Air Policy, an environmental think tank based in Washington, D.C. "We found you could do this very cheaply."

THE BERKELEY REPORT found that the cost savings on fuel and gas generated by curbing greenhouse gases would translate into more money for consumers and more jobs. In addition, they predicted that investment in technology to reduce greenhouse gases could pay off for the state in the way that investment in computer technology has paid off for Silicon Valley....

The two new analyses agree with the state draft report in suggesting that many industry fears are unfounded.

"We can save money now by addressing climate change," said Alex Farrell, an Assistant Professor in the Energy Resources Group at UC BERKELEY who co-led one

study with W. MICHAEL HANEMANN, AN ECONOMIST WHO DIRECTS THE CLIMATE CHANGE CENTER AT UC BERKELEY. "And by acting now, California can gain a competitive advantage by becoming a leader in new technologies that will be used worldwide."

The state draft analysis suggests that California would gain 83,000 jobs and \$4 billion in income if changes to curb greenhouse emissions were made. The study assumes that savings to consumers would generate more demand for goods that would create additional jobs.

The Berkeley analysis used a different economic model and analyzed eight policies the state could undertake to reach half of the 2020 target. That goal would result in an additional 20,000 jobs for the state and an increase in the gross state product of \$60 billion, Farrell said. The authors concluded that the entire target could probably be met with a net gain as well but did not provide specific numbers....

Farrell said he and his coauthors felt strongly that California could reduce emissions and could profit financially, thereby disproving the widely held assumption that economic growth requires increased energy consumption and high levels of greenhouse gas production.

"That assumption is incorrect," Farrell said. "In California, we can prove that."

[Read more at: http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/01/23_climate.shtml]

[This story also reported in http://www.insidebayarea.com/search/ci_3435323>Oakland Tribune]

7. "Iconic Fed Chief Prepares His Departure" (New York Times Online [*requires registration], January 23, 2006); story citing ROBERT REICH; <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/business/AP-Greenspan.html?pagewanted=print>

By The Associated Press

Washington (AP) -- America has embraced Alan Greenspan with irrational exuberance. The slight, aging economist with the supersize glasses and claymation facial expressions has inspired a symphonic overture, a country music paean and a red-hot gallery exhibition of "'Alan as Art.'" Queen Elizabeth awarded him honorary knighthood....

Even among those who criticize Greenspan for backing Bush's tax cuts, many still give the Fed chief great credit for his overall record and for being the first to recognize that the U.S. economy could grow faster than previously thought without igniting inflation. As a result, the central bank kept interest rates lower and pursued a less restrictive monetary policy than it would have otherwise.

"'It's a terrific legacy, and if he hadn't supported those stupid tax cuts -- it's beyond stupid: regressive and unwise -- his reputation would be untarnished,'" said ROBERT REICH, A PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY who was President Clinton's labor secretary.

Greenspan's grasp of changing global dynamics stems in part from his near-legendary ability to tease important but obscure information about the U.S. economy out of the sprawling federal bureaucracy and people in the business world.

REICH, in his memoir, wrote of Greenspan asking him during the 1995 government shutdown if "'Cindy'" could be allowed to remain on the job. Reich was puzzled, unaware of the lower-level employee to whom Greenspan was referring.

REICH recalled Greenspan explaining: "'She tallies the weekly number of new applicants for unemployment insurance, and phones it in to me every Wednesday

morning. Very useful data.' ' ...

[This story appeared in more than 100 news sources worldwide, including the Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle, and Sacramento Bee]

8. "Sneaky banking practices" (Marketplace, American Public Media, January 18, 2006); commentary by ROBERT REICH;
<http://marketplace.publicradio.org/shows/2006/01/18/AM200601181.html>

Commentator [and UC BERKELEY PROFESSOR] ROBERT REICH bemoans a surprising bank practice that's keeping him from accessing his money.

9. "What Is a Living Wage?" (New York Times [*requires registration], January 15, 2006); story citing ROBERT REICH;
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/01/15/magazine/15wage.html?pagewanted=print>

By Jon Gertner

If It Happened in Baltimore, Maybe It Can Happen Anywhere

For a few weeks in the summer of 1995, Jen Kern spent her days at a table in the Library of Congress in Washington, poring over the fine print of state constitutions from around the country. This was, at the time, a somewhat-eccentric strategy to fight poverty in America. Kern was not a high-powered lawyer or politician; she was 25 and held a low-paying, policy-related job at Acorn, the national community organization. Yet to understand why living-wage campaigns matter - where they began, what they mean, and why they inspire such passion and hope - it helps to consider what Kern was doing years ago in the library, reading obscure legislation from states like Missouri and New Mexico....

In the mid-1990's, the last time Congress raised the minimum wage, the Clinton White House was reluctant to start a war over the federal rate, according to ROBERT REICH, the former labor secretary. For an administration bent on policy innovation, that would have seemed "old" Democrat. "Then we did some polling and discovered that the public is overwhelmingly in favor," Reich told me recently. "At which point the White House gave the green light to Democrats in Congress." REICH, NOW A PROFESSOR AT [THE GOLDMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AT] THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, happens to view the minimum wage as a somewhat inefficient tool for alleviating poverty (compared with earned income tax credits, say). But he acknowledges that it has a powerful moral and political impact, in states red as well as blue, and especially now, in an era when workers see the social contract with their employers vanishing. "They see neighbors and friends being fired for no reason by profitable companies, executives making off like bandits while thousands of their own workers are being laid off," REICH says. "They see health insurance drying up, employer pensions shrinking. Promises to retirees of health benefits are simply thrown overboard.

The whole system has aspects that seem grossly immoral to average working people." As REICH points out, whatever the minimum wage's limitations may be as a policy instrument, as an idea "it demarcates our concept of decency with regard to work."...

10. "Former UC Berkeley Chancellor ROBERT BERDAHL named president of Association of American Universities" (UC Berkeley press release, January 5, 2006); story featuring ROBERT BERDAHL; http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/01/05_berdahl.shtml

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Association of American Universities (AAU), an association of 62 leading public and private research universities, announced today the appointment of ROBERT M. BERDAHL, former chancellor of the University of California at Berkeley and former president of the University of Texas at Austin, as its new president.

Martin Jischke, AAU's current chair and president of Purdue University, said that BERDAHL "has a long and distinguished academic career as both a scholar and an administrator at AAU universities. Moreover, he shares AAU's mission to strengthen the nation's research university system and educate a new generation of scientists, engineers and scholars. "...

More than one million undergraduates and 450,000 graduate and professional students currently attend AAU member institutions. The association's 60 U.S. universities perform nearly 60 percent of university-based research funded by the federal government and award more than one-half of U.S. doctoral degrees.

"The partnership between the federal government and our nation's research universities that has resulted in such extraordinary advances in knowledge is threatened by stagnant federal investment in research and intensifying competition from abroad," said BERDAHL. "This partnership has been essential to national security and economic growth for more than half a century. I look forward to directing AAU's efforts to reaffirm and strengthen this partnership."

BERDAHL added, "Our country's global leadership depends on our capacity to innovate -- to stay on the cutting edge of science and scholarship. We cannot sustain that innovative capacity unless we continue to attract exceptionally talented people from the U.S. and abroad into our university education and research programs, develop them into the next generation of leading scientists, engineers, and scholars, and give them the opportunity to conduct groundbreaking research.

"To accomplish these goals, we need to revive the nation's commitment to basic university research and to the development of new talent, particularly young American scientists and engineers. "...

[This story was reported in numerous news sources, including the http://www.insidebayarea.com/search/ci_3377067>Oakland Tribune]

[A related story: "Former Chancellor BERDAHL returns (briefly) to Berkeley. Later this spring, he'll assume helm of higher-ed advocacy org in D.C." (Berkeleyan, January 12, 2006); interview with ROBERT BERDAHL; http://www.berkeley.edu/news/berkeleyan/2006/01/12_Berdahl.shtml]

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RECENT FACULTY SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS and EVENTS

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January 9-10, 2006 ROBERT REICH commented on "The End of Pensions?" (Open Source, Public Radio International).

January 13, 2006 ROBERT REICH presented the Annual Walter E. Hoadley Economic Forecast at the Commonwealth Club of California. Broadcast January 27, 2006 on KQED-FM, 88.5.

January 23, 2006 DAN KAMMEN discussed solar energy for California today on the Pete Wilson Show, KGO (ABC) radio, 810 AM.

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January 24, 2006 DAN KAMMEN spoke at NASA Ames Research Center on: "After Oil - Transition to a Clean Energy Economy." Event description at: http://environment.arc.nasa.gov/pub_events.php

January 24, 2006 ROBERT REICH participated in a panel discussion on seeking "Gross National Happiness", at UC Berkeley's International House; <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/01/23/MNGAPGRIJB1.DTL>

January 26, 2006 DAN KAMMEN discussed his report, "Ethanol Can Contribute to Energy and Environmental Goals" at the 6th National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment, in Washington, D.C.

VIDEOS & WEBCASTS

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We are always delighted to receive your material for inclusion in the Digest. Please email the editor at wong23@berkeley.edu.

Sincerely,

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(This digest was edited by Theresa Wong)

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