Introduction by Bill Friday, former President of UNC  
8:45 a.m.

Confronting Poverty: What Role for Public Programs?  
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

The public social safety net in the U.S. comprises a set of programs, benefits, and supports designed to maintain a minimum level of financial resources and to ensure that people do not lack the basic necessities of life. Historically, families receiving AFDC have been categorically eligible for Medicaid, and many states developed combined application procedures for AFDC, Medicaid, and food stamps. Education and job training, child care, and/or child support services are examples of other public safety net programs that help people move toward economic self-sufficiency. Other public child-focused programs, such as Head Start, have the overall goal of increasing the school readiness of young children in low-income families. Have such programs been effective? What role should they play in the future?

Moderator - Dan Gitterman, UNC, Public Policy  
Alice O’Connor, UCSB, History  
Peter Edelman, Georgetown, Law  
David Ellwood, Harvard, School of Government  
William Sandy Darity, UNC, Economics & The Institute of African American Research

Family Structure, Poverty, and Family Well-Being  
10:45 - 12:15 p.m.

Given what we know about the interrelationships between family structure, family transitions, child or adult well-being and poverty, how can social policy best address poverty in the family arena? Consider how family processes and stability differ by population subgroups defined by race, ethnicity, nativity, and social class. What potential does social policy designed to influence family transitions and stability have to improve family well-being and alleviate poverty?

Moderator - Kathie Mullan Harris, UNC, Sociology  
Isabel Sawhill, Brookings Institution  
Wade Horn, DHHS, Administration for Children and Families  
Marsha Garrison, Brooklyn Law School  
Greg Duncan, Northwestern University, Institute for Policy Research

Moving Out of Low-Wage Jobs: Opportunities and Barriers  
12:45 - 2:15 p.m.

Boxed lunch will be served with this panel.

What are the chances that people are able to move out of low wage jobs in the United States? Have opportunities for mobility out of low wage jobs decreased in recent years? What are the main factors that (a) facilitate and (b) impede peoples’ ability to escape such jobs? Are some groups of people (defined by their demographic characteristics, for example) more or less able to move out of low wage jobs?

Moderator - Arne Kalleberg, UNC, Sociology  
Richard Freeman, Harvard, Economics  
Tim Kane, Heritage Foundation  
Marvin Kosters, American Enterprise Institute  
Katherine Newman, Princeton, Sociology & The Woodrow Wilson School
Community Economic Development and Poverty Alleviation  

Since the 1960s, when poverty alleviation and economic development were in two different "silos," there has been considerable integration of the two schools of thought, research and policy. Many now see economic development (broadly defined to include community development) as an effective strategy to alleviate persistent poverty. How is poverty being reframed and addressed through community economic development strategies? How effective are these strategies?

Moderator- **Jesse White**, UNC, Office of Economic and Business Development  
**Michael Sherraden**, Washington University of St. Louis, Center for Social Development  
**Suzanne Morse**, Pew Partnership for Civic Change  
**Karl Stauber**, Northwest Area Foundation  
**Anita Brown-Graham**, UNC, Institute of Government

Please note that the final panel will take place in Carroll Hall, Room 111.

Katrina’s Lessons: Moving Forward in the Fight Against Poverty

Hurricane Katrina had a profound impact on public perceptions of poverty in America. This new awareness has created an opportunity for creative thinking about the causes of poverty and innovative ways to combat it. What are the most important lessons of Katrina in understanding poverty in America? What concrete steps should be taken by government and the private sector to alleviate the kind of concentrated poverty that was so evident in New Orleans? How can we take advantage of this unique moment to build coalitions to change government policies affecting low-income Americans?

Introduction by Gail Agrawal, Dean of the UNC School of Law

Moderator- **John Edwards**, Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity  
**William Julius Wilson**, Harvard, Kennedy School of Government  
**Jared Bernstein**, Economic Policy Institute  
**Tim Kane**, Heritage Foundation  
**Anna Burger**, Change to Win  
**Ray Boshara**, New America Foundation

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