

UCLA Newsroom

UCLA Headlines January 21, 2014

By Office of Media Relations | January 21, 2014

IN THE NEWS:

Gambling on an Oscar

NPR's "[All Things Considered](#)" and [Slate](#) reported Sunday, and [Salon](#) reported Friday, on a study by UCLA associate professor of sociology Gabriel Rossman and Oliver Schilke, a UCLA doctoral candidate in sociology, in which the researchers developed an algorithm to calculate a film's "Oscar appeal" and determined the average amount of box-office boost movies get when they receive Oscar nominations. Rossman was interviewed on NPR.

UCLA Again Tops in Applicants

The [Orange County Register](#) reported Friday, and the [Imperial Valley News](#) reported Sunday, on the number of applications UCLA received for fall 2014 undergraduate admission.

Put the Razor Down, Michael Phelps

[Nature World News](#) reported Saturday on research by John Kim, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering at the UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, and colleagues demonstrating that properly designed rough surfaces can decrease drag in the water more than smooth surfaces. Kim was quoted.

Helping Philippine Typhoon Victims

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) reported Saturday that Elena Dahl, a registered nurse at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, is part of a group of nurse volunteers heading to the Philippines to help victims of the recent typhoon. Dahl was quoted.

Ongoing Tale of Dogs and Wolves

The [Christian Science Monitor](#) and the [Indo-Asian News Service](#) reported Friday on a study led by Adam Freedman, a UCLA senior research fellow in ecology and evolutionary biology, showing that today's dog breeds may not have evolved from the gray wolf, as previously assumed. Freedman was quoted in the coverage.

Health Reform and Medical Costs

A column in Monday's [Los Angeles Times](#) about how the Affordable Care Act is affecting health care costs referenced the UCLA Division of Geriatrics. Dr. David Reuben, chief of the division, was quoted.

Knowing a Culture Through Language

[San Diego Jewish World](#) reported Saturday on "A Social History of Hebrew," a new book by William Schniedewind, UCLA professor of Near Eastern languages and cultures. Schniedewind was quoted.

Grand Challenge of Sustainability

Monday's [High Country News](#) featured a column by Jon Christensen, adjunct assistant professor of history and a member of the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, that highlighted UCLA's major environmental "grand challenge" research project aimed at making Los Angeles a global model for sustainability.

Northridge Earthquake, 20 Years Later

An article in Wednesday's [Los Angeles Argonaut](#) about the 20th anniversary of the Northridge earthquake highlighted seismic research by Jonathan Stewart, professor and chair of civil and environmental engineering at the UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, and referenced "Northridge 20," a symposium at UCLA focused on local infrastructure improvements and liabilities. Stewart was quoted.

Acetaminophen and Liver Failure

Dr. Fady M. Kaldas, assistant professor of surgery at the Dumont–UCLA Transplant Center, was interviewed Sunday on **KNX-1070 AM** about a recommendation by the FDA that doctors stop giving patients high-dose acetaminophen because of the danger to the liver.

Pushing for More Computer Science in LAUSD

Sunday's **Los Angeles Times** featured an op-ed co-written by Jane Margolis, a senior researcher at UCLA's Institute for Democracy, Education and Access, and Marcelo Suarez-Orozco, dean of the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, about the need for computer science instruction in Los Angeles public schools, particularly in Latino and African-American communities.

Artist Spotlights Plight of Latino Workers

Chon Noriega, director of the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center and a professor of film and television at the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television, was interviewed today on **KPCC-89.3 FM** about artist Ramiro Gomez, who paints life-sized cardboard cutouts of Latino workers and places them in wealthy areas of Los Angeles.

Poverty Intervention Among the Cherokee

An op-ed in Saturday's **New York Times** about the potential links between childhood poverty and mental health issues among Cherokee youth in North Carolina cited research by Randall Akee, assistant professor of public policy at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, on casino profit allocation among families of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Losing the Best Years of Our Lives

An article in Saturday's **Los Angeles Daily News** about Americans living longer but facing more years of bad health because of chronic diseases resulting from poor diet cited the work of Dr. Patrick Dowling, chair of the department of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dowling was quoted.

California's Crisis of Unpaid Wages

KCRW-89.9 FM reported today a study by researchers at the UCLA Center for Labor Research and Education and colleagues showing that thousands of workers in California have been unsuccessful at collecting unpaid wages from their employers, even when state authorities have ruled in their favor and ordered the employers to pay.

QUOTABLE:

Susan Bowerman

Bowerman, assistant director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was quoted Saturday in a **Los Angeles Daily News** article about the chronic health problems Americans face because of poor diet.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow

Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted Monday in a **HealthDay News** article about research indicating that exposure to sunlight may help lower blood pressure. Fonarow also was quoted Friday in a **Men's Journal** article about the health benefits of magnesium.

Dr. David Heber

Heber, professor at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was quoted Saturday in a **Los Angeles Daily News** article about the chronic health problems Americans face because of poor diet.

Jan-Christopher Horak

Horak, director of the UCLA Film and Television Archive, was quoted Friday in a **Los Angeles Times** article about Paramount Pictures' decision to go completely digital and stop releasing movies on film.

Darnell Hunt

Hunt, director of UCLA's Bunche Center for African American Studies and a professor of sociology, was quoted Friday in an article in Britain's **Guardian** about the progress of black filmmakers in Hollywood.

Daniel Losen

Losen, a researcher with Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles at UCLA, was quoted Saturday in an **Atlanta Journal-Constitution** article about disproportionate suspension rates for black students in Georgia

schools.

David Nimmer

Nimmer, visiting professor at the UCLA School of Law, was quoted Saturday in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about accusations that the California-based Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals tends to side with Hollywood studios in its decisions.

Dylan Roby

Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and an assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Sunday in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about how the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in California will affect undocumented residents.

Dr. Daniel Siegel

Siegel, clinical professor of psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and co-founder of UCLA's Mindful Awareness Research Center, was quoted Monday in a [Sacramento Bee](#) column about the benefits of mindfulness meditation.

Eugene Volokh

Volokh, the Gary T. Schwartz Professor of Law at the UCLA School of Law, was quoted Friday by the [Los Angeles Times](#) and [Reuters](#), and Monday by the [Associated Press](#), about a federal appeals court ruling that bloggers and the public have the same First Amendment protections as journalists if they are sued for defamation.

Alex Wang

Wang, acting professor at the UCLA School of Law, was quoted Monday in a [New York Times](#) article about new findings that emissions from China's export industries contribute to air pollution in the western U.S.

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