

## 2011 Kershaw Award Winner

**Washington, D.C.**--The Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) has selected Esther Dufo, Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor, as the winner of the 2011 David N. Kershaw Award. The Kershaw Award and Prize comes with an honorarium of \$10,000 and recognizes individuals under the age of 40 who have made distinguished contributions to the field of public policy analysis.

Dufo has made unique contributions to the study and practice of international development and poverty alleviation. Her research focuses on microeconomic issues in developing countries, including household behavior, education, access to finance, health and policy evaluation. She has made her mark as the champion of high quality evaluation research using field experiments designed to improve the lives of people in developing nations. She co-founded the Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) at MIT, where Dufo is the Abdul Latif Jameel Professor of Poverty Alleviation and Development Economics in the Department of Economics.

Paul Decker, chair of the Kershaw Award Selection Committee notes, "Esther Dufo is revolutionizing the study of international poverty interventions by gathering real data to show, with certainty, which interventions work. She's an economist using her research to change the world. She joins the small but distinct group of past Kershaw Award winners that are having a profound influence on the field of public policy."

Dufo is the recipient of numerous awards and honors including the John Bates Clark Medal (2010) for the best economist under 40, a MacArthur "genius grant" Fellowship (2009), *Foreign Policy Magazine* lists her as one of the top 100 public intellectuals in the world, one of *The Economist* top 8 young economists in the world (and the largest vote getter), *Time Magazine's* 100 most influential people in the world in April 2011, and the Harvard Kennedy School's 2011 Thomas C. Schelling Award for an individual whose scholarly work has had a transformative impact on public policy.

The David N. Kershaw Award and Prize is named in honor of the first president of Mathematica Policy Research, a policy research organization headquartered in Princeton, New Jersey, who died of cancer in 1979 at the age of 37. The award is presented every two years at the APPAM Fall Research Conference.

The Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving public policy and management by fostering excellence in research, analysis and education. With over 1,500 academic, practitioner, organizational and institutional members, APPAM promotes its mission through the annual Fall Research Conference, the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management (JPAM), the association's journal, several award programs and various activities including international and national conferences and workshops

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## DAVID N.KERSHAW AWARD: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

**Background:** The Kershaw Award and Prize is offered every other year if a suitable recipient is identified. On several occasions there have been two recipients named in the same year. Funding for the award comes from a memorial endowment established following the death of David N. Kershaw and managed by independent trustees.

**Purpose of Award:** The David N. Kershaw award has been established to honor persons who, at under the age of 40, have made a distinguished contribution to the field of public policy analysis and management. David Kershaw was the first president of Mathematica Policy Research; he died of cancer at the age of 37. The award is given periodically through the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. If a suitable recipient can be identified, the fifteenth award in the series is planned for November 2011 in conjunction with the APPAM Fall Research Conference in Washington, D.C.

**Nature of Award:** The award consists of a commemorative medal and a cash prize of \$10,000. This prize is among the largest awards made to recognize contributions related to public policy and social science. For the third time in the history of the award, the 2011 recipient will be announced in advance of the APPAM Fall Conference, and invited to give a talk at the conference about the research recognized by the award.

**Eligibility:** A nominee must be under the age of 40 at the time the nomination is made (but not necessarily at the time the award is bestowed). A person may be nominated again if not selected for the current award. Any body of work will be considered, although the selection committee may, from time to time, decide to establish time limits for what may be considered. The selection committee may decide not to make an award in any particular year. Joint awards for a single contribution will be considered where the jointness of the contribution can be clearly identified.

**Selection Committee:** According to the rules governing the award endowment, the selection committee always consists of the president of Mathematica Policy Research, the president of APPAM, and the dean of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

**Nominating Procedure:** Nominations may be made by any individual or organization. (Individuals may nominate their own work.) The letter of nomination (with the nominee's current address, email address, and phone number) should include a nominating essay, the c.v./resume of the nominee and written evidence of the nominee's contribution in the form of an article, book, report or other appropriate evidence. The letter

nominee and written evidence of the nominee's contribution in the form of an article, book, report or other appropriate evidence. The latter requirement is to provide convincing evidence of the nominee's responsibility for the contribution identified. Nominations should be emailed to Paul Decker, President, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. at [Kershaw2011@mathematica-mpr.com](mailto:Kershaw2011@mathematica-mpr.com) or sent by regular mail at PO Box 2393, Princeton, NJ 08543-2393, or by delivery service at 600 Alexander Park, Princeton, NJ 08540.

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**Prior Award Recipients:** The prior winners, and their institutional affiliations at the time they won the award are as follows:

- 1st award: Joseph Newhouse (Rand Corporation)
- 2nd award: Lee Friedman (University of California at Berkeley)
- 3rd award: David Ellwood (Harvard University)
- 4th award: Deborah Freund (Indiana University)
- 5th award: Katherine Swartz (Urban Institute)
- 6th award: Rebecca Blank (Northwestern University)
- 7th award: John Dilulio (Princeton University)
- 8th award: Alan Krueger (Princeton University)
- 9th award: Jonathan Caulkins (Carnegie Mellon University)
- 10th award: James Hamilton (Duke University)
- 11th award: David Cutler (Harvard University)
- 12th award: Carolyn Heinrich (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- 13th award: Jens Ludwig (Georgetown University)
- 14th award: Brian Jacob (University of Michigan)
- 15th award: Esther Duflo (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)