



# UNIVERSITY TIMES

## RESEARCH NOTES

### Professor awarded USAID grant

Mitchell A. Seligson, Daniel

H. Wallace Professor of Political Science, has been awarded a \$250,000 grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development to support the Pitt Latin American Public Opinion Project.

The project carries out studies of public support for democracy in Latin America, and has done research in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Bolivia and Peru.

The USAID grant allows expansion of the project to Ecuador, where more than 5,000 Ecuadorians will be interviewed, measuring their democratic values and their participation in civil society. Research will focus on local government, the environment and poverty.



The GSPH study previously received \$52.2 million from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, \$4.2 million from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive & Kidney Diseases and \$15 million from GlaxoSmithKline.

BARI 2D is a study of the effectiveness of various therapeutic regimens in reducing the number of deaths among type 2 diabetics. Researchers aim to determine whether an aggressive drug therapy is more effective alone or in combination with surgery. In type 2 diabetes, the body is unable to properly use insulin, which is needed to metabolize sugars. Such insulin resistance is a major risk factor for heart disease.

The study will involve 1,000 questions that are designed to help 2,000 diabetic patients with coronary artery disease. In what circumstances should patients undergo revascularization to drug therapy? What is the best method of drug therapy for controlling glucose levels?

Patients will be followed for at least five years.

### GSPH gets \$1.5 million