

**Cornell University  
Housing Research and Education Program  
2006 Report**

**Overview and Organization**

Joseph Laquatra, Ph.D., the Hazel E. Reed Human Ecology Extension Professor in Family Policy at Cornell University, coordinates housing research, education, and Extension efforts within the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis. Specific elements of the program include special studies courses for undergraduates, graduate advising in the Human Environment Relations major, and Extension activities. Graduate students study sustainable aspects of housing and focus on topics such as affordability, energy efficiency, housing for special populations, indoor air quality, and other relevant subjects. Extension activities are coordinated through two Program Work Teams (PWT) of Cornell Cooperative Extension, for which Professor Laquatra serves as lead co-chair: the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency PWT and the Family Economic Resource Management PWT. Professor Laquatra and Extension Associate Mark Pierce coordinate other Outreach efforts by working with appropriate groups, organizations, and agencies.

**Publications**

Tremblay, K.R.; J.L. Wysocki; M.P. Vogel; J. Laquatra; B. Allen (2006). Healthy Indoor Air for America's Homes: A Successful Partnership. *Housing and Society*, 33(1): 87-94.

Laquatra, J.; R. Pendall; D. Kay; N. Bills (2006). The changing nature of housing markets in upstate New York. Refereed Abstracts of the 2006 Annual Conference of the Housing Education and Research Association.

Laquatra, J. (2006). An educator's resource for healthy indoor air. Narrated PowerPoint presentation for Healthy Homes program, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Laquatra, J. (2006). Healthy homes for healthy kids, education and training discs. Washington: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Laquatra, J. (2006). Healthy homes for healthy kids, peer educator manual. Washington: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Laquatra, J. and C. Reichel. (2007). Selecting a Mold Remediation Contractor, Cornell University and Louisiana State AgCenter, in press.

**Presentations**

Laquatra, J. (speaker, all day class). Energy Efficient Construction. Builders Association of the Hudson Valley, New Windsor, NY. January 5, 2006.

Laquatra, J. (panel member). Utilizing your university to build and sell better homes. International Builders Show, Orlando, FL. January 12, 2006.

Laquatra, J. (panel member). Air pressure in homes. International Builders Show, Orlando, FL. January 12, 2006.

Laquatra, J. (invited speaker). Energy efficiency at home and work. Presentation for Niagara County department heads, Lockport, NY, April 6, 2006.

Laquatra, J. (invited speaker). Residential energy efficiency. The Energy Engineering Seminar Series, College of Engineering, Cornell University, September 7, 2006.

Laquatra, J. (invited speaker). Is your home a healthy habitat? Cornell Alumni Club of Cape Cod, Hyannis, MA; April 26, 2006.

Laquatra, J. (invited speaker). Is your home a healthy habitat? Cornell Alumni Club of New Hampshire, Durham, NH; April 26, 2006.

Laquatra, J. Controlling asthma triggers in the home. Training for Peer Educators as part of SHIELD project, Syracuse, March 27, 2006; April 10, 2006.

Laquatra, J. Controlling asthma triggers and avoiding lead poisoning in the home. Voices Project. Two-day training for personnel of health departments and non-profits organizations. Atlanta, May 9-10; Detroit, August 1-2; Chicago, August 8-9; Houston, August 29-30 and November 14.

Pendall, R.; D. Kay; J. Suter; J. Laquatra (panel presentation). Rural sprawl in Upstate New York. Joint annual conference of the New York Upstate Chapters of the American Planning Association, the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the NYS Geographic Information Systems Association; Auburn, NY, September 13-15, 2006.

Laquatra, J.; R. Pendall; D. Kay; N. Bills. The changing nature of housing markets in Upstate New York. (refereed abstract; presented by J. Laquatra). Annual conference of the Housing Education and Research Association, Ithaca, NY; October 8-11, 2006.

Laquatra, J. CEPREE inservice training for Extension Educators, December 14, 2006, Ithaca.

Laquatra, J. and M. Pierce. Energy Town Meetings for Extension Educators and the general public via wide area network. Reducing Home Heating Costs II, March 9, 2006; Renewable Energy I, May 8, 2006; Photovoltaics, June 16, 2006 (also web streamed).

Laquatra, J. and M. Pierce. Energy Bike Inservice for Extension Educators, June 15, 2006, Ithaca.

Laquatra, J. (invited speaker). The Consumer Education Program for Residential Energy Efficiency. Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Workforce Education, November 8-10, Troy, NY.

### **Outreach Activities**

- Completed Year 04 of the Consumer Education Program for Residential Energy Efficiency (\$250,000 from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, \$15,000 from Extension Administration). Cooperative Extension offices in 34 counties and New York City participated.
  - Conducted inservice education for participating Extension Educators.
  - Held 4 Energy Town Meetings via Cornell's wide area network.

- Purchased two Energy Bikes for use in the program.
- Was lead speaker at an Energy Forum in Franklin County that attracted 200 people (Malone NY, February).
- Completed production and distribution of the DVD, *Healthy Homes: Assessing Your Indoor Environment*. 1,000 copies sent to State Extension Housing Specialists and regional offices of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
  - Secured follow-up funding of \$42,000 from HUD to develop a User's Guide for Educators for this DVD.
- Began Year 03 of Sprawl and Residential Preferences research/Extension project (\$100,000/yr for 3 yrs). I am PI and working with faculty in Agricultural Economics and Management, City and Regional Planning, and CaRDI.
  - Developed content for project website. Website design currently in-process.
- Completed the peer educator component of the Syracuse Healthy Indoor Environment Living Demonstration (SHIELD) project. Co-authored the final report to HUD.
- Served on the Steering Committee for a U.S. DOE and NASULCG effort to develop a university-level curriculum on high performance buildings, with adaptation potential for community colleges and Extension.
  - Was a group leader during a one-week workshop on this effort that involved 50 faculty members from universities across the U.S. (October, Lexington KY).

## **Award**

J. Laquatra was the first recipient of the *Outstanding Engagement Award* from the Board on Human Sciences of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (November 12, 2006, Houston).

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