



# PolicyTalk

## September 2017

### Institute of Museum and Library Services Grant Awarded

Center staff working with Lincoln Community Foundation on Lincoln Reads Aloud Project

The Lincoln Community Foundation, in partnership with local museums, libraries, and the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, was recently awarded funds through the Institute of Museum and Library Services Community Catalyst grant initiative to offer the Lincoln Reads Aloud Program, a community-wide reading aloud initiative. Lincoln Reads Aloud builds upon momentum established through [Prosper Lincoln](#), an existing community-created collective impact agenda, to situate libraries and museums in Lincoln as initiative leaders to link their cultural, civic, and educational assets to the goal of ensuring all children are kindergarten ready by promoting reading aloud to children aged 0 - 8. The project provides museums and libraries with the resources they need to extend their reach through reading-oriented complements to exhibits and events.

University of Nebraska Public Policy Center Associate Director, [Dr. Nancy Shank](#), is providing consultation for monitoring, tracking, and assessing progress to ensure appropriate tools and methodologies are used that best capture progress on process and outcomes to be reported to both the community and the funder.

Key partners include: Lincoln Community Foundation, Lincoln Children's Museum, Lincoln City Libraries, Midwestern African Museum of Art, Nebraska History Museum, University of Nebraska State Museum, and the Public Policy Center.

[The Lincoln Journal Star recently covered this project.](#)

## Center Research Partnering on International Project

Assessing human security supports within Islamic schools in Thailand

The Public Policy Center is partnering with researchers at Fatoni University and Yala Rajabhat University in Thailand to assess human security, behavioral health, and educational supports for students and teachers in community Islamic schools ('ponok'). Center Research Specialist, [Tarik Abdel-Monem](#) and project partners are collecting and analyzing data and identifying policy strategies to strengthen the role of Islamic schools in addressing human security needs. 'Ponok' are important community institutions because they meet the cultural and religious needs of the Muslim Thai minority in Southern Thailand. Since 2004, over 6,000 people have been killed in a domestic insurgency in the area.



Photo credit: Tarik Abdel-Monem

## Thomas C. Sorensen Policy Seminar Series

Mark your calendars for the next installment

Congressman Don Bacon will speak about U.S. foreign policy at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, on Wednesday, October 18, 2017, from 2 to 3 PM. The event will be at the Great Plains Art Museum, 1155 Q. Street, and is free and open to the public. The title of Congressman Bacon's talk is, "[U.S. Foreign Policy: A View from the House of Representatives.](#)"

This event is part of the Public Policy Center's [Thomas C. Sorensen Policy Seminar Series](#) supported by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Arts & Sciences through the Thomas C. Sorensen Endowment. Co-sponsors include the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center for Civic Engagement, College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Political Science, and Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.



Congressman Don Bacon

For more information, please contact Tarik Abdel-Monem at [tarik@unl.edu](mailto:tarik@unl.edu), or (402) 472-3147.

During Homecoming Week, a VIP dropped by the Public Policy Center. Thanks, Herbie!

**Go Big Red! (...and Go Big Research!) #GBR**



## Contact Us

University of Nebraska Public Policy  
Center  
215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 401  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
402.472.5678 | [ppc.nebraska.edu](http://ppc.nebraska.edu)

Our mission is to link policy with research, process, and practice.

We team with policymakers and other stakeholders to actively inform public policy by bringing expertise in a variety of areas.

.....  
**Stay Connected**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
PUBLIC POLICY CENTER