

**URBAN APPALACHIAN COUNCIL RESEARCH COMMITTEE**  
**November 19, 2009**

**Present:** John Besl, John Bryant, Roberta Campbell, Intisar Khanani, Rebecca Lee, Robert Ludke (Chair), Michael Maloney, Phillip Obermiller, Kay Russ, Louise Spiegel

*Updates:*

Roberta presented on “The Myth of Appalachian Whiteness” to the Humanist Sociologist Association in New Orleans in November.

Mike is retiring at the end of December. He shared a publication by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on the common experience of immigrants that will be distributed to schools. .

Kay was asked to write a chapter for a textbook on how to teach Appalachian students. She also reported on a presentation on counseling Appalachian clients at the National Counseling Association. Appalachians show high rates of somaticization, depression, and self-medication.

Phil noted that the United Way no longer has a geographic focus on neighborhoods.

*Strategic Plan and Greater Cincinnati Survey:*

Bob noted that the survey, which will be conducted in the spring, is looking to cut questions. The Greater Cincinnati Health Foundation will pay for questions. The committee discussed which questions we would like to include, particularly those that identify Appalachians. Also, Phil suggested that Phyllis should be involved in the discussion regarding questions about substance abuse and mental health.

*Miscellaneous:*

Mike said the Episcopal Church wants to address Native American poverty. The tribal counsel had concerns about “help” that actually destroyed culture.

*Respectfully revised and submitted by Roberta M. Campbell on December 28,, 2009.*