



Date: 4/27/2009



>>TAKE NOTE

USF Health Participates in March of Dimes - March for Babies

The March of Dimes/March for Babies walk was held on Saturday, April 25th in South Tampa. Several USF Health staff and students participated in the walk. The group is pictured below:



Pictured l to r: M. Batchellor, E. Kent, L. Estefan, J. Kent, W. Morales, S. Morales, P. Smith, M. & R. Linger

Global Disaster Management & Humanitarian Relief: A new MPH concentration in the Department of Global Health

The field of disaster management and humanitarian relief plays an important role in global health, especially in areas of armed conflict and natural disasters. With the increase in weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear and biological threats from terrorist groups and radical states, the need for formal training and education has increased. Local and international organizations, governments and United Nation agencies are in need of highly trained professionals to manage and direct programs to reduce the global public health threats that continue to plague us. Where and when the next tsunami or earthquake will strike, or how the next terrorist group will respond is unknown. But the logic behind professionally mitigating and preparing for one of these incidences places us in a stronger position to respond.

This concentration builds on the existing framework of the College of Public Health core courses, field experience and special project. Combining this framework with the existing disaster management and humanitarian courses will provide graduates with the ability to recognize, assess, implement and evaluate a global/local disaster.

The field of disaster management and humanitarian assistance has had a growing interest since September 11th. The University of South Florida's College of Public Health began the Graduate Certificate in Disaster Management (DM) in 2002 and the Graduate Certificate in Humanitarian Assistance (HA) in 2005. Both certificates complement one another and have had strong enrollment numbers. The DM courses focus on the disaster cycle (preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation), while the HA courses disseminate global health knowledge at the recovery phase (i.e., refugees and internally displaced populations).

Contact Dr. Wayne Westhoff for additional information on applying for either the new concentration in Global Disaster Management and Humanitarian Relief, or for the Graduate Certificates in Disaster Management or Humanitarian Assistance wwesthof@health.usf.edu or 813-974-6621.

COPH Welcomes 14 Babies!

The College of Public Health has recently had several different ducks make their home right out side the entrance to the College. After several attempts, we have finally hatched some duck eggs and now have 14 ducklings to welcome into our family. We have kept the landscaping crews away from the nest and tried to keep the mother duck as comfortable as possible. We even placed a small "pond" in the area of the nest so the ducklings can learn to swim. A few photos of the newborn ducklings are below.



>>Students

**Student Research and Funding Opportunities:**

COPH students are encouraged to check out the comprehensive web site of student research at <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/fundingopps.html> which provides links to COPH student funding opportunities at the COPH, USF, as well as external private foundations and federal funding agencies. The deadline for the (monthly) SHARP <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/sharp.html> applications for May is Monday May 4th, 2009. We advise each student to submit their SHARP applications *at least* one month prior to the conference during which they will be presenting their research, to ensure that there is sufficient time for (a) the application to be reviewed and (b) for the student to work with their departmental administrator to ensure that their travel (TAR) form can be entered into the university system. Feel free to contact Ellen Kent, MPH, Coordinator, Student Research Grants at any time at ekent@health.usf.edu or in room 2150H for advice or further assistance!

Student Service Opportunities:

The USF Health Service Corps is a wonderful way in which you can participate in a wide variety of health-related service activities with other USF Health students. The spring service activities are listed on the website at <http://health.usf.edu/ahec/hsevents.htm> and calendar at <http://my.calendars.net/servicecorps>. Feel free to send questions or suggestions pertaining to student service to Ellen Kent, MPH, Coordinator for the USF Health Service Corps at ekent@health.usf.edu or 974-6622 or stop by room 2150H at anytime!

Saturday, May 9th - 7 - 10 am. Miles for Moffitt Health Expo Non-clinical activities: COPH students can assist with health education display. Students may sign up with Ellen Kent at ekent@health.usf.edu. Free t-shirt and great food for all volunteers.

Diana Lima Selected as Intern at the National Cancer Institute

Ms. Diana Lima has been selected as an intern for the NCI Health Communications Internship Program's Fall 2009 class. Diana has been assigned to work in the Office of Science Planning and Assessment and your mentor will be Dr. Samir Sauma. The initial term of your internship will be from 7/13/2009 to 1/12/2010. The term of your internship may be extended based on mutual agreement between you and your host office. Congratulations Diana!

CFH doctoral student publishes Op-Ed at Orlando Sentinel (April 18, 2009)

Melissa C Mercado-Crespo - doctoral student at the Department of Community and Family Health, and Graduate Research Associate at the Harrell Center for the Study of Family Violence - recently wrote an Opinion Editorial (Op-Ed) article for the Orlando Sentinel newspaper. In this article, she shares her views on the important role communities can play in the prevention of youth violence in Florida. To read the article and comment on it, go to:



http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/opinion/orledpnewvoices18crespo041809apr18_0_1048818_story.



>>Faculty

Dr. Eric Buhi Receives American STD Association Development Award

Dr. Eric Buhi, assistant professor in Community and Family Health, has been awarded the American STD Association Development Award for his research proposal entitled, "Internet sex-seeking behaviors and associated STD risks among youth visiting publicly funded teen health clinics." This two-year project will involve collaboration with the Pinellas County Health Department and includes total costs of \$118,703.

Dr. Chu-Hsiang (Daisy) Chang and Colleagues Presented at Conference

Dr. Chu-Hsiang (Daisy) and colleagues presented at the 7th Annual Regional National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Young/New Investigators Symposium, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Chang, C.-H., Bernard, T. E., Eatough, E., Johnson, R. E., & Blowski, D. S. (April, 2009). *Employee outcomes of musculoskeletal symptoms: Psychosocial factors as moderators*. Paper presented at the 7th Annual Regional National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Young/New Investigators Symposium, Salt Lake City, Utah.

>>Program News

USF Sunshine State Safety Awards Improve Safety at Construction Sites

Moss & Associates, a construction company based in Fort Lauderdale, recently received Florida Sunshine State Safety Recognition Awards for two projects. Moss has received a total of nine Sunshine State Safety awards from the University of South Florida's Safety Consultation Program since last July. "We focus on improving safety practices at every project statewide, making sure our subcontractors become very involved in the educational process," said Brian Trusky, Moss vice president - loss prevention. Moss & Associates is also using innovative techniques like "data mining" to analyze accident patterns; and deploying automated external defibrillators on each of its job sites, accelerating a life-saving response in the event of a cardiac arrest. Since USF launched the Florida Sunshine State Safety Recognition Awards program in 2006, Moss has received more awards than any Florida-based construction services firm. "Moss' company-wide clarity about safe work practices translates into meeting schedules, boosting morale, establishing higher levels of expectation for the safety performance of subs, and delivering projects on time and on budget," said Charlene D. Vespi, program director, USF Safety Consultation.

>>Alumni News

COPH Alum Appears in Cancer Center Brochure

Dr. Peter Allen, the CEO for the Ministry of Health in Belize is pictured in a brochure that was recently published regarding the Belize Cancer Center in Dangriga.



Pictured (L>R): Ver Rodriguez; Arthur Roches, MOH (State); Dr. Peter Allen, CEO-MOH; Pablo Marin, Minister of Health; Dr. Ellsworth Grant, BCCD Medical Director; Sr. Carolyn Obi and Dellone Pascascio, BCCD Director

This brochure introduces the Belize Cancer Center-Dangriga. The center opened in Belize on October 1, 2009 to primarily provide chemotherapy to patients diagnosed with cancer who had no option for treatment because of economic limitations. To date, the cancer center is following more than 100 patients and new referrals are constantly coming in. It is the only center of its kind the country and its day to day operations is overseen by the only chemotherapy certified nurse in Belize.

>>Global Scene

Social Class Determinants of Cardiovascular Health in the Caribbean: A USF/UWI Collaboration

Dr. Elizabeth Pathak, Associate Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Dr. Natasha Sobers-Grannum, MPH student in Epidemiology, met with Ms. Angela Rose, Senior Lecturer in Epidemiology at the Chronic Disease Research Centre of the University of the West Indies in Barbados at the Annual Conference of the American Heart Association Council on Epidemiology and Prevention



Pictured: Ms. Angela Rose of the University of West Indies, Barbados, and Dr. Elizabeth Pathak, USF MPH Student in Epidemiology

in March. Along with Ms. Rose and other scientists at the CDRC, Dr. Pathak and Dr. Sobers-Grannum are collaborating on analyses of the SABE Study (Study of Health and Well-Being in the Elderly) which was sponsored by PAHO and conducted in seven Latin American and Caribbean nations, including Barbados. The team presented two posters at the conference:

Pathak EB, Sobers-Grannum N, Hambleton IR, Rose AM, Hennis AJ. "Social Class and Prevalence of Cardiovascular Risk Factors Among Urban Elders: Study of Health, Aging, and Well-Being (SABE) in Barbados, West Indies." AHA Council on Epidemiology and Prevention Annual Meeting, Palm Harbor FL, March 2009.

Sobers-Grannum N, Pathak EB, Hambleton IR, Sloan MA, Rose AM, Hennis AJ. "Awareness of Drug Treatment in an Elderly Hypertensive Population: Findings from the Study of Health, Aging, and Well-Being in Barbados, West Indies." AHA Council on Epidemiology and Prevention Annual Meeting, Palm Harbor FL, March 2009.

According to the Centers for Disease Control in 2003, the worldwide population aged 65 years and older is expected to increase from approximately 550 million to 973 million, increasing from 6.9% to 12.0% worldwide and from 5.5% to 11.6% in Latin America and the Caribbean. "The elderly experience disproportionately high levels of chronic disease and disability, which reduce their quality of life, and increase the demand for health care and social services. "There needs to be evidence-based programs aimed at reducing diseases such as diabetes and hypertension in these regions," said Dr. Sobers-Grannum. El Estudio Sobre Salud y Bien Estar en el Envejecimiento (Study of Health and Well-being in Aging) also known as SABE was conducted in the following seven countries- Buenos Aires, Argentina; Sao Paulo, Brazil; Santiago, Chile; Havana, Cuba; Mexico City, Mexico; and Montevideo, Uruguay in 1999-2000.

"Our work with the SABE data focused on some of the social determinants of cardiovascular health in the elderly Barbadian population. Preliminary findings suggest that the pattern of social determinants observed in transitional economies such as Barbados' differs from what is seen in industrialized nations. Hypothesis-testing studies need to be done to explore these theories to ensure that the governments of these countries can be equipped to manage the exponential increases in chronic disease burden being experienced," said Dr. Pathak.

We would like to know about any international initiatives you may be working on! Please send information and photographs for the Global Scene to Alina Lezcano, International Programs Coordinator, Office of International Programs (alezcano@health.usf.edu).



Date: 4/27/2009

Important Dates

Friday, May 1, 2009 - 3:00-5:00 pm, CPH 1023A/Lobby - Graduation Celebration and Reception for Spring 2009 Graduates. Please RSVP to Academic Affairs at 974-6505.

Tuesday, May 5, 2009 - 11:59 pm - Deadline for submitting E-Grades for Spring 2009

Friday, May 8, 2009 - Last Date to Submit Change of Grade Forms to Academic Affairs

Friday, May 15, 2009 - 12:00 pm, CPH 1023A - Dean's Public Health Lecture Series - Dr. Cheryl Heaton - "Building a Legacy of Truth: David versus Goliath in the Tobacco Wars"

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 12:00 pm, CPH 1023A - Dean's Public Health Lecture Series - Dr. Balbir Singh - "Malaria, Monkeys, Man & Malaysia"