



Date: 2/16/2009



>>TAKE NOTE

USF Health Research Day

Please be sure to come join us this year at USF Health Research Day, to meet and learn from a number of our COPH students, research staff, and post docs who will be presenting their own research! Our COPH Student and Sunshine ERC posters will be located in the College of Nursing, second floor and our faculty, staff and post doc posters will be located on the College of Nursing, first floor. Our COPH and ERC Student posters will be judged between 8-10 am, and the oral presentations will take place between 10:30-12:30. In fact, two of our COPH students, Patricia Spencer and Marissa Zwald, will be giving oral presentations. In addition, Dr. C. Hendricks Brown will be recognized as a USF Health Distinguished Professor at 1 pm and Dr. Carol Bryant will be giving the keynote address for the donors' brunch at 10:15 am in the library. We look forward to seeing a number of COPH Folks at Research Day (The complete schedule is at http://health.usf.edu/research/agenda_pdf.pdf); websites with information about COPH student involvement in recent research days can be accessed at <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/researchdays.html>.

>>Faculty

Dr. Russell Kirby and Colleagues Publish Article

Honein, Margaret A., Russell S. Kirby, Joann Petrini, Jian Xing, Nataliya Yuskiv, Michael Davidoff, Cara Mai, Robert E. Meyer, Nyasha I. Skerrette, Lisa Marengo, and Lowell E. Sever for the National Birth Defects Prevention Network, "The Association Between Major Birth Defects and Preterm Birth", *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 13.2 (March 2009), 164-175.

>>Classifieds

DIRECTOR, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Yeshiva University seeks a dynamic and experienced public health educator to plan and direct a new MPH program at the Institute for Public Health Sciences (IPHS) of Yeshiva University (YU) in New York City. The IPHS and the MPH program are jointly sponsored by the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology. The MPH program along with a companion Certificate in Public Health, was developed in collaboration with other YU schools and programs, including its schools of law, business, and social work, and has been approved by the New York State Department of Education. Our students will be drawn from integrated pre-doctoral programs (MD/MPH; PhD/MPH), and post-doctoral training programs. We emphasize hands-on experience in community-based research for all trainees, and a scholarly focus on behavioral issues in public health, global health, prevention, and health disparities. More information can be found at: <http://www.yu.edu/iphs/>.

>>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 applications (<http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/sharp.html>) for February is Monday March 2nd, 2009. 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 Winter and Spring service activities are now listed on the website at <http://health.usf.edu/ahec/hscevents.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!

Upcoming service events!

Wednesday, February 25th, 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Committed Action to Community Health (CATCH) Health Fair at Tampa Bay Downs, Oldsmar. Non-clinical activities: COPH students can assist with interpreting and educational displays; please sign up with Ellen Kent at ekent@health.usf.edu. NOTE! This is a really unique and FUN health fair. We will be providing health education and screening services for the stable workers who travel with the horses, and who are now residing at Tampa Bay Downs. Many of these people lack health insurance and they are very appreciative of this annual health fair, and the health education services provided by COPH Students. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to learn and serve with other USF Health students!

>>Alumni Updates

Correction to the 2/9/09 Monday Letter. The entry in last week's alumni updates section was incorrect. Lauren Ratner is still at student at COPH.



>>Global Scene

Ngobe Bugle Indigenous Community in Rural Panama: An IFE Experience

Arlene Calvo, Assistant Professor of COPH Department of Global Health in association with the Gorgas Memorial Institute in Panama is leading a community-



based participatory project for health education among the Ngobe Bugle Indians a rural indigenous population in the mountainous region of Panama. The project consists of a first preparatory formative phase which includes focus groups and interviews among community leaders and key authorities in the town of San Felix, Chiriqui. A second phase of five health education activities in the community focusing on the main health problems

the community has identified. The health education activities will be interactive, provide capacity for 50 participants in each course. The participants will be community health promoters (*promotoras*), midwives (*parteras*) and local shaman (*curanderos*). The project will also have a final evaluation phase. The main health problems include respiratory diseases such as pneumonia and tuberculosis, gastrointestinal such as diarrhea and parasitic infections and malnutrition.

Each health education activity will be conducted in a centrally located Jesuit run education foundation in San Felix. The Project is currently undergoing the first phase and will run through this year as a pilot project to then be implemented among other indigenous populations in Panama. Other partners in the project include the Panamanian Ministry of Health Department of Promotion, US Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS) and McGill University of Canada. Funding is provided the USDHHS as a Supplement to a large public health education grant conducted at the Gorgas' Regional Training Center. The Project also serves as platform for International Field Experience projects such as the current Global Health student Amanda Eiden, who participated on the last community meeting on February 6th. It also sets a foundation in the community for study abroad types of courses for USF Health students and faculty research projects.

**Important Dates**

Monday, February 16, 2009 - 4:00-5:30 pm, COPH 2004 - Informational Session - Training Opportunities with ASPH. From more information and to confirm your attendance please contact Natalie Preston-Washington at npreston@health.usf.edu.

Tuesday, February 17, 2009 - 4:00 pm - IDR Building, Room 302 - Research Seminar - "Exploring the biology of malaria sporozoites in the mosquito hemocoel: hemolymph flow and the molecular basis of salivary gland invasion" by Dr. Julián Hillyar

Wednesday, February 18, 2009 - 4:00-5:15 pm, COPH 1023C - ERIC Seminar - "Effecting Environmental Change: the Misnomer of "Soft BMP's" - John McGee, Chief Environmental Scientist, City of Tampa

Friday, February 20, 2009 - 8:30 - ? - College of Nursing Rotunda - USF Health Research Day

Friday, February 20, 2009 - 12-1 pm - COPH 2006 D/L Studio - ETA Workshop - Checkbox. Please RSVP your attendance to eta@health.usf.edu