



Date: 2/02/2009



## &gt;&gt;TAKE NOTE

**February Book Collection Drives**

The College of Public Health will be holding two book collection drives in February:

(1) For children: We will collect slightly used/almost new books to give to the USF Reach out and Read (ROR) program; please see <http://usfpeds.hsc.usf.edu/programs/reachout.htm>.

(2) For students in India: We will collect books for students who are attending Symbiosis University in India, where Kay Perrin, PhD., MPH., RN, Associate Professor and Director of Academic and Student Affairs, is currently doing her Fulbright scholarship!!! COPH students, staff and faculty can donate text books and they will be sent to the students in India, who do not have textbooks of their own. As Dr. Perrin writes: 'I am in the College of Nursing at Symbiosis University. In the entire health science library, there are only 1330 books. Most of the books are from the early 1980s. The students have no textbooks and use only what is in the library. I would like to see if it might be possible to organize a USF Health student book drive for these students.'

We will have book collection boxes in the lobby - please consider donating to these collection drives.

**College of Public Health Hosts "Against the Odds" Reception**

The College of Public Health hosted a traveling exhibit entitled "Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health" from January 20-30, 2009. This exhibit was sponsored by the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health with support provided by Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce.



*The Against the Odds Exhibit*



*Drs. Kwa, Bernard, Wolfson, Petersen and Stockwell*

The College invited alumni, faculty, staff and students from the entire USF Campus as well as community partners to view the exhibit. The reception was held on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. More information regarding the exhibit can be found at: <http://apps.nlm.nih.gov/againsttheodds/index.cfm>.

**PRESS RELEASE - U.S. Labor Department's OSHA, Gulf Coast Latin Chamber of Commerce and University of South Florida's SafetyFlorida forming alliance - Jan. 28 signing ceremony highlighted Hispanic worker safety efforts in Central Florida**

TAMPA, Fla. - The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is forming a new alliance with the Gulf Coast Latin Chamber of Commerce and the University of South Florida's SafetyFlorida Consultation Program to reduce occupational injuries and illnesses among workers in Manatee and Sarasota counties, focusing particularly on Hispanic employees.

"We are committed to raising safety and health awareness, and hazard recognition among employers and their employees in Central Florida, particularly with the state's non-English speaking and youth workforce," said Les Grove, OSHA's area director in Tampa. "Together, we can reduce the injury incidence rate among Hispanic workers."

A key feature of the alliance is to develop and make available effective safety and health training and education tools, in English and in Spanish. The focus will be on construction and general industry hazards, including but not limited to falls, electrical operations, ergonomics, bloodborne pathogens, fire safety, egress/exit routes and evacuation plans.

Companies and groups interested in learning more about OSHA's activities to improve employee safety and health in Central Florida may contact the agency's area office in Tampa, 5807 Breckenridge Parkway, Suite A; telephone 813-626-1177.

OSHA operates a vigorous enforcement program, conducting almost 39,000 inspections and finding nearly 88,000 violations of its standards and regulations in fiscal year 2008. OSHA currently has more than 470 alliances throughout the nation with organizations committed to fostering safety and health in the workplace.

## &gt;&gt;TAKE NOTE continued...

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthy workplace for their employees. OSHA's role is to promote the safety and health of America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual process improvement in workplace safety and health. For more information, visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

## &gt;&gt;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/fundingoppo.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 annual Student Research Scholarship ( <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/srsawards.html> ) is Monday, January 26, 2009 and deadline for the (monthly) SHARP applications ( <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/sharp.html> )for

February is Monday February 2nd, 2009. Feel free to contact Ellen Kent, MPH, Coordinator, Student Research Grants at any time at [ekent@health.usf.edu](mailto: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/hsevents.htm> and calendar at <http://my.calendars.net/servicecorps>.

**Upcoming Service Events**

Sunday, February 8th, 2- 4 pm. Love a Senior Memory Day at Weinberg Village. USF Health students are invited to serve as volunteers by helping the seniors with arts and crafts memory book activities. Co-sponsored by USF Health Service Corps and Jewish Medical Student Association; please sign up with Allison Reiter, MSI, at [areiter@health.usf.edu](mailto:areiter@health.usf.edu) or Ellen Kent, MPH at [ekent@health.usf.edu](mailto:ekent@health.usf.edu).

## &gt;&gt;Faculty

**Dr. Hamisu Salihu and Colleagues Publish Seminal Paper in *Lancet***

Dr. Hamisu Salihu and colleagues have published a seminal paper in the *Lancet*. *Lancet* is one of the world's foremost medical journals with an impact factor that is greater than that of *Science* and *JAMA*. Its current impact factor (28.6) is comparable to that of *NATURE*. The paper is titled: Alio AP, Nana PN, Salihu HM. Spousal violence and magnitude of potentially preventable single and recurrent spontaneous fetal loss in an African setting. *Lancet* 2009;373:318-324.

**Dr. Rita DeBate and Colleagues Publish Article**

DeBate RD, Huberty J, Pettee K. (2009) Psychometric Properties of the Commitment to Physical Activity Scale. *American Journal of Health Behavior*, 33(4), 425-434.



## &gt;&gt;Center News

**Florida Prevention Research Center Update**

In keeping with the ASPH / Prevention Research Center Blue Ribbon Panel recommendations to "augment the ties between Prevention Research Centers and their local and state health departments," the Florida Prevention Research Center at the University of South Florida (FPRC) has established a working relationship with the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) to provide training and technical assistance in social marketing, community-based prevention marketing and community-based participatory research. The FPRC's first training activities were held in January. Drs. Robert McDermott and Carol Bryant conducted webinars for the NACDD Diabetes Council and General Members.

**January 2009 saw a busy training schedule for the Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness (FCPHP).**

FCPHP presented the Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training (FIRST) program in Bartow on January 13, 2009 to Florida Department of Health epidemiology professionals. Program participants were from Polk, Highlands, Orange, and Manatee County Health Departments, as well as, Healthy Start and Lakeland Regional Medical Center. Sarah Matthews (USF-MPH), Lake County Epidemiology Program Manager, and Sandra Ruzycski, Associate Director, FCPHP, presented this program.

On January 14, the Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training (FIRST) program was delivered in Tampa at the FDOH State Laboratory facilities on the USF campus. Sharleen Traynor, Charlotte County Epidemiology Program Manager, and Sandra Ruzycski, Associate Director, FCPHP, presented this program. Several USF College of Public Health undergraduate and graduate students participated in this program. Program participants also came from Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Manatee, Polk and Lake County Health Departments, as well as, FDOH Bureau of Labs, Lutheran Services Florida - Child Care Food Program, and Medi-Weightloss Clinics.

FCPHP's Disaster Behavioral Health programs were delivered in Madison County Florida on January 21, 2009 and Leon County, Florida on January 22, 2009. Nadine Mescia, Associate Center Director, FCPHP, delivered these programs. The Disaster Behavioral Health First Aid Specialist Training with Special Populations (BFASTplusSN) and Disaster Behavioral Health First Aid Specialist Training with Children (CFAST) were delivered in Madison, FL to participants from Suwannee, Lafayette, Jefferson, and Madison County Health Departments. The Disaster Behavioral Health First Aid Specialist Training with Special Populations (BFASTplusSN) and the Disaster Behavioral Health First Aid Specialist Training for Responders (RFAST) were delivered in Tallahassee to participants from Lafayette, Gulf, Leon, Suwannee, Taylor, Jefferson, Wakulla, and Gadsden County Health Departments, as well as, FDOH Divisions of Environmental Health, Public Health Preparedness, and General Counsel.

The Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training (FIRST) was delivered on January 28, 2009 in Pensacola, FL and January 29, 2009 in Tallahassee, FL by Kelly Cruse, Florida Hospital Zephyrhills, and Sandra Ruzycski, Associate Director, FCPHP. FIRST-Pensacola program participants were from Escambia, Walton, Bay, and Okaloosa County Health Departments, as well as, the Navy Hospital - Pensacola and Santa Rosa County Emergency Management. FIRST-Tallahassee was delivered to participants from Leon, Calhoun, Wakulla, Suwannee, Lafayette, Taylor, and Walton County Health Departments, as well as, FDOH Bureau of Immunization and Bureau of Epidemiology.

For information about FCPHP programs, see: [www.fcphp.usf.edu](http://www.fcphp.usf.edu) FCPHP's February-April 2009 training calendar is at [http://www.fcphp.usf.edu/courses\\_calendar.htm](http://www.fcphp.usf.edu/courses_calendar.htm).

## &gt;&gt;Global Scene

**Visiting Scholar in Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics**

Dr. Weian Du, PhD in Econometrics, is an associate professor at Wuhan University of Technology (WHUT) in China and received a prestigious



award from Chinese government to sponsor his research and study in the US. Dr. Du has joined Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics at COPH as a visiting scholar for one year. Dr. Du had 13 year's teaching experiences in WHUT and the main courses he taught are econometrics, health insurance, and security and investment analysis for graduate & undergraduate students. His research interests focus mainly on

econometric statistics, health insurance and risk analysis. In WHUT he had won honors and awards including "excellent teaching award" and "excellent individual on teaching moral" etc. Dr. Du will closely work with the departmental faculty Dr. Yangxin Huang to develop collaborative research agent on statistical applications to health economics, finance and health insurance. He may also explore possibilities to collaborate with other faculty in the Department and College.

## &gt;&gt;Alumni Updates

**Updated Information on Jessica Cohen**

Jessica Cohen, MPH (EPI)  
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**Important Dates**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2009 - 12:30-1:30 pm, COPH 1108 - NORA Symposium: Foday Jaward, MD - "Determination of Potential Exposure of Office Workers in The Tampa Bay Area to Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDE's) Using Passive Samplers".**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2009 - 4:00 pm, COPH 1023C (Auditorium)- ERIC Seminar - Dr. Joni Downs, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography - "Using GIS to Map Sand Hill Crane Habitat".**

**Friday, February 13, 2009 - 5:00 pm - Spring 2009 Comprehensive Core Exam Application Deadline**

<http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/academicaffairs/compexam.html>

Note: You may take the core exam as soon as you have completed all your core classes (or are registered in your last core class). Go to link above for more information on eligibility requirements and application.