



>>TAKE NOTE

College of Public Health Holds Length of Service Celebration

On Friday, January 23, 2009, the College of Public Health held a length of service celebration in the auditorium followed by a reception in the College atrium.



Dean Petersen hosted the event where a total of 16 employees from the College were honored for their years of service to USF. The following people were honored for five years of service: Keith Brown; Donna Haiduven, RN, PhD; Wendy Nembhard, PhD; Leah Phillips, BS, Patrick Stark, AAS, CHST; and Cheri Wright-Jones, MS. Four individuals celebrated 10 years of service: Lo Berry, MA; Debra King, MPH; Fay Maciaszek and

Marilyn Merida, BS. The College also had four honorees who celebrated 15 years of service: Stephanie Gaskins, BA; Tom Mason, PhD; Mike Reid, PhD, MBA; and Yiliang Zhu, PhD. Finally, two employees celebrated 20 years: June Lake, MA; and Judy Sommers, MBA. Following the ceremony in the College auditorium, a reception was held in the lobby with fabulous food and drink. A BIG thanks to Ms. Sandy Wirth and Ms. Wendy Morales for their hard work on the event!



>>Center News

Update from the Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida

The third meeting for Class 13 of the Institute was held January 11 - 14, 2008 at the Blaise Alfano Conference Center in Tampa. The session theme was "Leadership in Times of Crisis." The topic areas included: Emotional Intelligence & Leadership Skills, Risk Communication, and Media Effectiveness.

Scholars began the week with a presentation and activities with facilitator Dr. Charles Martin learning about the importance of emotional intelligence to life in general and successful leadership in particular. The group also met with Steven Reynolds, Enterprise Communication Officer at CDC, and Arlynn Fillomeno, also from CDC, to discuss the goals of risk communication, the importance of communicating expertise and trustworthiness, assessing your audience and constructing basic messages. Following this session, the scholars worked with John Anderton, Associate Director for Communication Science at CDC. Dr. Anderton presented the class with ideas for effectively utilizing the media, including many real-life examples of media "do's and don'ts." The scholars participated in mock interviews in different settings that were videotaped, with a follow-up critique by the scholars and Dr. Anderton. These "interviews" allowed the scholars to utilize some of the skills demonstrated in the Risk Communication session from the previous day.

The meeting concluded on Wednesday afternoon with a Q&A session with Florida lobbyist Lester Abberger. Discussion and questions better prepared scholars for the Political Effectiveness workshop coming up in April. Mr. Abberger emphasized the importance of getting involved and meeting your legislators in their home district *before* making the trip to Tallahassee.

The next meeting for the PHLIF Scholars will be the *Legislative Effectiveness* session on April 6 - 8, 2009 in Tallahassee. This session will provide scholars with the opportunity to meet with their legislators; experience committee meetings; observe the State House of Representatives and State Senate general sessions; and ask questions of lobbyists, former legislative members, and the Clerk of the House.

The program application for Class 14 is now available on our website. If you have any questions about the Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida or would like more information, please visit our website (www.health.usf.edu/phlif) or call Kirsten Miller (813.974.8267).

Date: 1/26/2009



>>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 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>.

A number of COPH Students participated in Stampede of Service activities over the MLK weekend, including a project led by IDA with a local food bank, as well as a USF Health Service Corps bike rodeo and fitness fiesta with the kids at San Jose Mission in Dover! Here are some photos of our COPH students in action:



Upcoming Service Events

(1) Week of Jan 26-29 (any day, any time!): Teaching at Wiregrass Ranch HS: The Wiregrass Ranch High School in the Meadow Point community of Wesley Chapel welcomes speakers for its school to work program, four weeks of the year. Students who wish to come and speak about an area of their interest during the week of Monday, Jan. 26th - Thursday Jan 29th can contact Ellen Kent at ekent@health.usf.edu.

(2) Tuesday evening Jan 27th. 6:30-8:30 PM : Party at Children's Cancer Center during Family Support Night. Co-sponsored by USF Health Service Corps and Interdisciplinary Oncology Interest Group (IOIG). Please sign up with Tabitha Cooney, MSIII, at cooney@health.usf.edu.

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!

Melody Schiaffino-Espinoza and Colleagues Publish Article:

Nielson CM, Schiaffino MK, Dunne EF, Salemi JL, Giuliano AR: Associations between Male Anogenital Human Papillomavirus Infection and Circumcision by Anatomic Site Sampled and Lifetime Number of Female Sex Partners. *J Infect Dis.* 2009 Jan 1;199(1):7-13. PMID: 19086813 [PubMed in process].



>>Students continued...

College of Public Health Students Inducted into Eta Sigma Gamma

On Friday, January 16, 10 CPH students were inducted into Eta Sigma Gamma, the National Health Education Honorary. The purpose of Eta Sigma Gamma is to enhance the professional competence and dedication of individual members to the profession of health education. To be eligible for membership, students had to have earned an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher and have a focus on health education. To learn more about Eta Sigma Gamma, visit <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/cfh/esg/index.htm>. Congratulations students!



Pictured above, L to R: Kristine Nodarse-Hernandez, Jaime Myers, Melissa Mercado Crespo, Tali Schneider, Tamara Looney, and Kimberly Canipe. New members not pictured: Kendrea Austin, Sarah Doughty, Marissa Zwald, and Kamilah Thomas.



Pictured above, L to R: Dr. Eric R. Buhi (Chapter Advisor & Assistant Professor, Community and Family Health), Lauren Ratner (Chapter President), Claudia X. Aguado Loi (Chapter Vice President), and Teri Malo (Chapter Treasurer).

>>Faculty

Dr. Hamisu Salihu Publish Articles

Obinna N.N., McCorvey S., Campbell-Forrester S., Chang J., Salihu HM, Jolly PE. Factors influencing condom use among sexually transmitted infection clinic patients in Montego Bay, Jamaica. *Reproductive Science Journal* 2009;1:45-50.

Obinna N.N., McCorvey S., Campbell-Forrester S., Chang J., Salihu HM, Jolly PE. Factors influencing condom use among sexually transmitted infection clinic patients in Montego Bay, Jamaica. *Reproductive Science Journal* 2009;1:45-50.

Dr. Amina Alio and Colleagues Publish Article

Alio, A.P., Nana, Philip N., Salihu, HM: Spousal violence and potentially preventable single and recurrent spontaneous fetal loss in an African setting: Cross-sectional study. Dr. Alio's study was also mentioned in USA today. Click here for the complete article: <http://www.voanews.com/english/2009-01-23-voa1.cfm?rss=africa&loc=interstitialskip>.

Dr. Eric Buhi and Colleagues Publish Article

Buhi, E. R., Clayton, H., & Surrency, H. H. (2009). Stalking victimization among college women and subsequent help-seeking behaviors. *Journal of American College Health*, 57(4), 419-425.

Dr. Russell Kirby and Colleagues Publish Article

Arneson CL, Durkin MS, Benedict RE, Kirby RS, et al., 'Prevalence of cerebral palsy: Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network, three sites, United States, 2004', *Disability and Health Journal* 2009 Jan. 1:45-48.

Dr. Wil Milhous Presents Lecture

Dr. Wil Milhous presented a lecture entitled "Emerging Neglected Diseases as a Career Path in Global Public Health," at the International Schools Studies Association (ISSA) at its annual conference in Tampa, January 18. The conference brought together over 350 K-12 educators from a wide variety of schools in the U.S. and Mexico to help them in their goal of improving students' understanding of the world.

>>Global Scene

Winter Break in the Andes!

Daragh Gibson, a Global Health Practice and Master's International Peace Corps student, spent the winter break in Ecuador in the small rural community of Pucará in the Northern Highlands. The purpose of the trip was to complete the initial assessment for her project on water, sanitation, hygiene practices, and incidence of gastrointestinal parasite infection and diarrheal disease.



Daragh and community water operator at first tank of fresh water source

Daragh tells her story: "To assess Pucará's water system, we hiked up into the Andes for four hours, some of it through mud slides. Our goal was to see the water source, a fresh-water spring, the tanks, and the distribution pipes. On the return, I mapped Pucará, walking with a member of the community who serves as the operator of the water system. He helped me find each house until all 70 houses were mapped, noting community and household water faucets. Next, we talked with a group of key informants reviewing a survey that will be implemented in the summer. The group made important suggestions to ensure that the survey would be directly applicable to them. As a final step, I discussed the survey with the local health clinic physician and we made further changes, and cemented plans for the future. At the end of our meeting the physician said, 'Daragh, you need to stay here and work with me on these public health problems.'"

Taking time out from work, Daragh took part in the holiday customs of this rural Ecuadorian community. She said, "The New Year was a lovely

experience. The whole community got together to stuff old clothes to make old men mannequins. The people add personal testaments, and at midnight, throw the old mannequins into the fire, in an act described as 'quemando los viejos', or 'quemando el año viejo' (Burning the old (men), or burning the old year). The night began and ended with much dancing to cumbia, bomba, national music,



New Year's Eve

and merengue." Daragh said of her trip, "Once again working in Ecuador was an enlightening and amazing experience."

Daragh will return to Pucará this summer to go door-to-door administering her survey, and will also be measuring chlorine levels, fecal coli forms, and turbidity in the water to determine the functioning of the water treatment and distribution system. The results will be used to develop a program to reduce diarrheal disease and parasite infection in the community of Pucará. She will also publish a paper through USF's ISLAC (the Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean).

Daragh would like to acknowledge ISLAC for help with the funding for the Ecuador trip.

Important Dates

Tuesday, January 27, 2009 - 4:00 pm, COPH Atrium/Lobby - "Against All Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health" reception

Wednesday, January 28, 2009 - 4:10- 5:15 pm, COPH Auditorium, Room 1023-C - ERIC Seminar - "TBA" - Cassandra Ecker, Transportation Planning Group Manager, Jacobs, Inc., Tampa Bay Regional Transportation Planning