



>>Take Note

Congratulations to our Newly Promoted and Newly Tenured Faculty
Please join me in congratulating our newest tenured and promoted faculty! It gives me great pleasure to announce the following decisions by the University Board of Trustees:

Dr. Rita DeBate, awarded tenure
Dr. Dennis Kyle, awarded tenure
Dr. Wendy Nembhard, promoted to associate professor and awarded tenure
Dr. Hamisu Salihu, promoted to full professor

This is indeed an outstanding group of individuals who join our already stellar group of senior faculty and I hope provide encouragement to others of you on this same path. Together, we can succeed both collectively and by supporting each other, individually as well.

Bravo, College of Public Health! Cheers to Drs. DeBate, Kyle, Nembhard and Salihu!.

submitted by Dr. Donna Petersen

Florida Center for Leadership in Public Health Practice Granted Florida DOH Contracts

In July, the Florida Center for Leadership in Public Health Practice (CLPHP) was awarded two Florida Department of Health (FDOH) contracts. The first, "Evaluation of the 2009 Pilot Central Office Performance Improvement Process" requires expertise in the area of program and process evaluation, specifically a review and analysis of the effectiveness of the FDOH's recent statewide quality and performance improvement efforts. Project staff include: Sandra Ruzycski, Katie Jeffries and Dr. Danielle Landis. The second effort, "Multi-County Learning Collaborative Evaluation" requires expertise in evidence based evaluation, specifically working with selected counties to assist them in developing evidence based evaluation plans for their programs, and then working with them to implement, translate results and revise programs. Ms. Ruzycski, Ms. Jeffries and Dr. Landis will also serve as staff on that project.

During this month of July, 2009, we are holding two collection drives at the same time, to make it easier for everyone! Our collection boxes are located in the COPH lobby and the Chiles Center lobby.

(1) Tools for Schools Collection Drive of **NEW** school supplies: NOTEBOOKS, NOTEBOOK PAPER, POCKET FOLDERS (we have the greatest need for these 3 items, please) as well as PENCILS (REGULAR & COLORED), ERASERS; PENS AND MARKERS; CRAYONS; GLUE STICKS; RULERS. The school supplies that we collect will be donated to children who come to the Back to School health fair at the University Area Community Health Center on August 15th.

(2) Collection of **USED Clothing and Shoes** to give to families served by the La Victoria Mission, located in the Dominican Republic and funded by Nativity Catholic Church in Brandon. Catherine Hough, COM Class of 2010, is kindly organizing this drive, so please contact Catherine at chough@health.usf.edu for more information about the Mission or to make large contributions.

>>Faculty

Dr. Hamisu Salihu and Colleagues Publish Article

Salihu HM, Lynch O, Alio AP, Mbah AK, Kornosky JL, Wathington DJ, Marty PJ. Maternal pre-pregnancy underweight and risk of early and late stillbirth in black and white gravidas. *Journal of the National Medical Association* 2009;101:582-587.

>>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. This comprehensive web site also includes Glossaries of Grant Terms and Free Web-based Guides to Writing Grant Proposals. In addition, students may wish to visit the COPH Student Research & Service Resource Center adjacent to Mrs. Kent's office (room 2150H). Please note that at the bottom of this main COPH student research website, we have added in this link: [Student Research Days Photo Galleries](#).

The next deadline for [Student Honorary Award for Research and Practice "SHARP"](#) applications is Monday August 3, 6 pm. Please note: We advise each student to submit his/her SHARP application 8 weeks prior to the conference during which he/she 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 TAR form is 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 Services Corps](#) enables COPH Students to engage in a wide variety of meaningful and FUN health-related service activities with other USF Health students. The summer listing of service events and projects is now 'live' at [Service Corps Events and Projects](#) page and students may also check out the calendar format at [USF Health Service Corps Calendar](#). Moreover, here is the link to the NEW 2008-09 USF Health Service Corps photo gallery <http://health.usf.edu/ahcc/PhotosFall2008Spring2009.htm>, which contains numerous photos of our COPH students engaged in service with other USF Health students and here is a link to a recent story about the USF Health Service Corps at [Reaching Out](#). Students are always welcome 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 stop by room 2150H anytime. And, here is our next FUN event that COPH students may wish to participate in!

Wednesday, July 15th, 7-8 pm. Music and Magnificent Desserts! Hope Lodge Dessert Party with Ultrasounds Orchestra!

Information for USF Health student volunteers: Please sign up with Meredith Hansen with Athletic Training Student Association (ATSA) at mhansen@health.usf.edu and please specify what type of healthy dessert item you plan to bring (e.g. ice cream and topping; fruit dish; pie; etc.) If everyone can please bring one dessert item, then we will be all set! Thanks! (Total # of USF Health student volunteers needed: up to 30) (See flyer at [Music and Magnificent Desserts](#) !)

Two CFH Students Appointed MCH Section Fellows

Cara de la Cruz and Melissa Mercado-Crespo, both doctoral students in Community and Family Health, have just received the honor of being appointed as APHA Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Section Fellows for 2009-2010. Congratulations to both of you.

submitted by Marti Coulter

Manoj Agravat Publishes Article

Manoj Agravat, MPH Epidemiology and Biostatistics, published an article in the Proceedings' Statistics and Data Analysis section of SUGI 2009. His article titled "*A New Effect Modification P value Test Demonstrated*" will be presented at the SESUG '09 (Southeast SAS® Users Group) meeting to be held in Birmingham, Alabama October 25-27.



>>Students continued...

COPH Students Present at Graduate Student Research Challenge Grant Program

Several College of Public Health students made presentations during the Graduate Student Research Challenge Grant Mid-Year presentation session which was held on July 8, 2009 in the Oak Room of the Marshall Center. Listed below are the students and the titles of their presentations:

"*Fanaticism, America, and Sustainability*" presented by Ellen Mueller, Robb Fladry, Jeffrey Hinzmann, Elizabeth Victor, and Andrew Romaner (COPH); "*Exploring the Impact of Health Report Cards*" presented by John Trainor, Rheanna Ara, Sarah Bonnema, and Jenna Brunaugh (CFH); Sustainability Related to Mercury Use: A Multidisciplinary Approach Integrating Environmental, Economic and Socio-Cultural Dynamics" presented by Trina Halfhide, Joniqua Howard, Ryan Michal (EOH), and Daniela Soledad. Congratulations to all the students who made presentations!

>>Global Scene

International Field Experience in Honduras

Submitted by: Annie Heffernan



My international field experience was in Roatan, Honduras, working in the public hospital and pediatric clinic. As a pediatrician seeking a MPH in global health, this was the perfect place for me! I was able to improve my knowledge and clinical skills in tropical diseases in the mornings and work on public health projects in the afternoons. I attended "charlars", which were discussions in the community among local women about a health topic. During my visits, the discussions included dental hygiene, nutrition, breast feeding, and contraception. I also attended an after school program, helped the children with their homework and taught them the value of properly washing their fruits and vegetables, drinking bottled or purified water, and wearing shoes. The Honduran vaccine program is very efficient so I spent some time with the vaccine nurse at the clinic who runs the program. She explained the program to me and showed me their method of record-keeping. In collaboration with the local physicians, I developed a brochure about reproductive health and breast feeding for the women. We distributed the brochures in the clinic and in the postpartum ward at the hospital. It was a topic of one of the charlars and the brochures were distributed there as well. The brochures will continue to be distributed in the clinics, hospital, and charlars.

A little bit about the island...

The island is beautiful. When I arrived, I thought I was in paradise. The locals were so nice and welcoming, the island was very safe, and the physicians and public health practitioners were patient and helpful. However, I soon began to

wonder about my initial assessment when I was attacked by the sand flies in the ten seconds it took to get from the water, dry off, and re-apply insect repellent...when the electricity and water was off for about 2-3 hours at a time periodically throughout the week due to cost issues...when I saw the condition of the public hospital...when there was an earthquake and tsunami warning!



Although it may not have quite been paradise, I still fell in love with the island and its people. It was a great experience and I plan to return to the island to continue my special project and improve the health of the people.

We would like to know about any international initiatives you may be working on! Please send information and photographs for the [Global Scene](#) to Barbara Kennedy (bkennedy@health.usf.edu)

>>Alumni News

Alan Card Earns CPHQ

Alan Card has earned the credential of Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) from the Healthcare Quality Certification Board. Congratulations Alan!

Update on Eliot Gregos

Eliot Gregos, MPH
Environmental Manager
Hillsborough County Health Dept
Environmental Health Services
1105 E. Kennedy Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33675
813-307-8015
email: eliot_gregos@doh.state.fl.us

Ivette López Receives Teacher of the Year Award



Ivette A. López Ph.D., M.P.H. received the 2009-2010 Teacher of the Year Award from the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences' Institute of Public Health at Florida A&M University. Dr. Lopez earned her PhD in Social and Behavioral Science in December 2004. Presently, she is an Assistant Professor at FAMU. She may be reached at:

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Important Dates

Wednesday, August 5, 2009 - 6-8 pm, Masters Ballroom; PGA National Resort and Spa, Palm Beach Gardens, FL - USF COPH 25th Anniversary Celebration Reception at the Annual FPHA Meeting

Fall 2009 Field Experience Orientation:
Wednesday, August 19, 2009, COPH 2004
9:30 am Domestic
11:00 am International