



Date: 7/27/2009



>>Take Note

Collection boxes will remain in the lobby areas of the COPH and Chiles Center through Friday morning, July 31st, for these two summer collection drives:

(1) **Tools for Schools Collection Drive of NEW school supplies:** NOTEBOOKS, NOTEBOOK PAPER, POCKET FOLDERS, PENCILS (REGULAR & COLORED), ERASERS, PENS AND MARKERS, CRAYONS, GLUE STICKS and RULERS. Specifically, the school supplies that we collect will be donated to children residing in the University area community.

(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

Communication to PERT Certifiers for Spring 2009 (12/20/08-05/06/09) - Certification Deadline is Friday, August 14, 2009

The **SPRING 2009 PERT** effort reports are currently under review and will be released as soon as they have been verified by Research Administration and Compliance. At this time you will need to make sure that you can access GEMS - Self Service without any problems. The instructions for accessing GEMS - Self Service is noted below:

Access to PERT reports

You may access the PERT system and your effort report via:

- Through GEMS/GEMS Self Service:
<https://gems.fastmail.usf.edu/psp/gemspro/?cmd=logon>
- You will need your userid (**11 digit emplid**) and password. If you don't remember your ID and password, or if your password has expired, you can get the information by contacting the IT helpdesk <<http://itsupportservices.custhelp.com>> or send request to helpdesk@admin.usf.edu <<mailto:helpdesk@admin.usf.edu>> or by contacting Betty Persky.
- *Please remember it could take up to 24 hours to have your password reset and obtain access to your PERT report. If you are having problems accessing GEMS, please contact Betty Persky at 974-4609.*

Thank you for all of your assistance on this very important compliance request.

USF College of Public Health + Florida Public Health Association Educational Conference = A 25th Anniversary Celebration!



You're only 25 once!

Come celebrate USF College of Public Health's Silver Anniversary at the Florida Public Health Association Annual Meeting by attending a celebratory reception with cocktails and hors d'oeuvre with faculty, alumni and friends.

August 5, 2009 * 6 - 8 p.m.
Vista Room * PGA National Resort and Spa * Palm Beach Gardens, FL

For additional information on the 25th anniversary and celebratory events, visit <http://www.health.usf.edu/publichealth/25thAnniversary/>.

No RSVP is necessary.

>>Faculty News

Drs. Alio, Salihu and Colleagues Publish Article

Dr. Amina Alio and Dr. Hamisu Salihu are lead and senior authors of the following publication respectively: Alio AP, Richman AR, Clayton HB, Jeffers DF, Wathington DJ, Salihu HM. An Ecological Approach to Understanding Black-White Disparities in Perinatal Mortality. *Matern Child Health J.* 2009 Jun 27. PUBMED ID: 19585927

>>Faculty News con't....

Drs. Borenstein and Mortimer Present at Conference

Drs. Amy Borenstein and James Mortimer made 8 presentations at the International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease in Vienna, Austria held July 11-17. Seven of the presentations featured results from their NIH R21-funded study covering methodology, quality of life, and neuropsychological, genetic, MRI and lipid findings as risk factors for Alzheimer's disease and Mild Cognitive Impairment in Shanghai, China. The other presentation highlighted the importance of larger brain size in delaying the onset of Alzheimer's disease based on data from the Nun Study. Dr. Borenstein and Mortimer's Chinese collaborator, Dr. Ding, was invited to speak in a symposium on the challenges in diagnosing dementia in China, and her presentation also included results from R21-funded study.

>>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/fundingopp.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). The next deadline for Student Honorary Award for Research and Practice "SHARP" applications is Monday August 3, 6 pm, see also <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/sharp.html>. 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! **NEW!** COPH Students are encouraged to participate in the second annual **Graduate Student Research Symposium** see online application at <http://www.grad.usf.edu/programs/research-week-present.php> and website at http://www.grad.usf.edu/research_symposium.asp

Key Dates:

Application Deadline:Friday, August 28, 2009
Compliance Form Deadline:..... Friday, September 11, 2009
Event Date:..... Thursday, October 8, 2009
Awards Ceremony Date:..... Friday, October 9, 2009

Student Service Opportunities:

The USF Health Service Corps (see <http://www.hsc.usf.edu/ahcc/servicecorps.html>) 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](#). Students are



>>Students continued...

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.

Special thanks to the students who participated in the recent Shriners Summer party, sponsored by USF Health Service Corps and PHSA! And, here is a fantastic service event that COPH students may wish to participate in!

NEW! All About Kids Back to School Bash and Bike Rodeo at Tampa Convention Center on August 8th (10am to 4pm) and August 9th (Noon to 4pm) (see <http://www.backtoschoolbash.com/index.html>) Students can help Safe Kids with fitting bike helmets and run the bike safety rodeo stations. Please sign up with Ellen Kent, MPH at ekent@health.usf.edu (Total # of USF Health student volunteers needed: 16; 8 per day) Free food! Lots of fun! You can feel like a kid for the day while helping kids stay safe!

>>Alumni News

Marissa Zwald Receives ASPH/CDC Fellowship

The Association of Schools of Public Health recently welcomed 30 members of the Class of 2009 ASPH/CDC Public Health Fellows to their new post in Atlanta. Public Health alumna Marissa L. Zwald (CFH) was among the 30 alumni selected for the fellowship program. She will work with the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.

>>Global Scene

India—A World of its Own

Submitted by Angela Lloyd, MSPH candidate

After spending almost four months in India, I'm still struggling to find a more colorful one-word description than *interesting*...but, that truly sums up my experience! I worked with the Community Health Department of St. John's Medical College in Bangalore. I was there to collect data for my thesis and managed to travel as well—talk about a place with lots of random holidays and long weekends!

The faculty and staff of the Department were warm and welcoming. They gave me feedback on my questionnaire and frequently asked me how it was going. Getting started took time as things move at a slower pace, and the appropriate chain of command has to be followed. But, once we had the translated documents and approvals, Sudha and Mohan Kumari hit the pavement (and the dirt) to collect the data in both urban and rural communities. Both are well respected by the women in these areas and were welcomed into homes so the study participants could answer questions about their child care practices and their children's health. I was more a

project manager as I do not speak Kannada (the local language) and could not communicate verbally with most of the study participants. I supplied Sudha and Mohan Kumari with necessary copies, forms and other study supplies. I couldn't have collected my data without them!!



>>Global Scene

While not doing behind-the-scenes project work or entering data, I managed to see a good chunk of India. Being willing to take local busses and sacrifice some of the comforts of home, I was able to see quite a bit....I put my feet in the Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean, Bay of Bengal, and the Ganges River! India has everything from beautiful nature (wild elephants!) to the Taj Mahal. I learned not to plan on anything working out the way it was "supposed to." Sometimes that was a good thing, sometimes not so much.

In the end, I learned how to communicate in Indian English, negotiate with rickshaw drivers (or call them out when trying to cheat me), and come to know what I was actually ordering from the menu. By virtue of leaving my room there was a story to tell every day. All of the ups, downs, frustrations, and little adventures wove themselves into a wonderful experience that I wouldn't trade for the world!



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)

Important Dates

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

Tuesday, August 18, 2009 - 8-5 - College of Public Health Annual Cleaning Day

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

Friday, August 21, 2009 - 8:30 am, COPH 1023- Fall 2009 COPH Student Orientation

Monday, August 24, 2009 - First Day of Classes - Fall 2009

Thursday, August 27, 2009 10:30 am, COPH 1023 - Town Hall Meeting with Representative Kathy Castor