



>>Take Note

Dr. Carlos Castillo-Salgado Gives Special Lecture in Epidemiology and Biostatistics Department

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics invited Dr. Carlos Castillo-Salgado, Special Advisor for the PAHO's Forum for Public Health in the Americas, to give a special lecture on Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in Infectious Disease Epidemiology on Wednesday June 17, 2009.



Dr. Castillo-Salgado has been the Area Manager for the Health Analysis and Information Systems Area, Chief of the Special Program for Health Analysis and Information Systems, Program Coordinator for the Health Situation Analysis Program and, Regional Advisor in Epidemiology for the Communicable Diseases Program. In addition he has been consultant for many intergovernmental organizations in the area of measuring health inequalities, geographic

information systems, epidemiological risk assessment and health impact assessment.

He served as Professor and research coordinator in Primary Health and Community Medicine at the National University of Mexico and Visiting Associate Professor in most of the schools of public health in Latin America and Spain. Dr. Castillo-Salgado is also an Affiliate Associate Professor of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, College of Public Health, University of South Florida.

>>Faculty

Dr. Hamisu Salihu and Colleagues Publish Article

Salihu HM, Lynch O, Alio AP, Mbah AK, Kornosky JL, Marty PJ. Extreme maternal underweight and feto-infant morbidity outcomes: a population-based study. *Journal of Maternal Fetal and Neonatal Medicine*. 2009;22(5):428-34.

Drs. Azliyati Azizan, Lillian Stark and Student Jason Ambrose Attend and Present at Conference

Dr. Lillian Stark, Azliyati Azizan and doctoral student Jason Ambrose attended a conference at the Emory Conference center in Atlanta June 23-24, 2009. The conference was organized by the SECEBT organization. The conference was entitled "Southeastern Center for Emerging and Biologic Threats". Also joining them at the conference was a former student, Kelly Fitzpatrick, who is now a CDC EID fellow in Atlanta. Dr. Azizan also presented a talk on June 22nd at the SECEBT partners meeting at the same location, scheduled prior to the conference, on our project, funded by SECEBT. Project Title: Development of In Vitro Model System for Assessing Risk of Progression to Severe Disease Among Dengue, West Nile, & St. Louis Encephalitis Infections.

Dr. Russ Kirby Appointed President of SPER

During the annual conference June 22-23, 2009, Dr. Russell Kirby (Community and Family Health) became President of the Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER) for the year 2009-2010. SPER is a professional organization focused on advancing research, training and scholarship in reproductive, perinatal and pediatric epidemiology in North America and around the world, and also sponsors the journal *Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology*.

>>Students con't...

**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 July 6th, 6 pm. 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).



>>Global Scene

Dr. Hamisu Salihu Initiates Agreement for Collaboration between USF and Cameroon

We are pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the University of South Florida and the Central Maternity, Yaoundé Central Hospital in Cameroon. The Yaoundé Central Hospital is a University Teaching Hospital, and the Central Maternity is staffed by members of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the University of Yaoundé 1.



"The Memorandum of Understanding is an initial step that we hope will lead to several collaborative

endeavors between USF and the institution in Cameroon. Under the agreement, we have already identified several areas of future collaboration that encompasses student and faculty exchange programs, as well as collaborative research in Maternal and Child Health. Already, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at USF has indicated its interest in a number of international grant opportunities for which they will be seeking partners in Cameroon", said Dr. Salihu.

If you are interested in being part of this initiative and you have specific ideas, please contact Dr. Hamisu Salihu at 974-7594 or e-mail hsalihu@health.usf.edu.

Dr. Etienne Pracht Teaches Course in Suriname

Dr. Etienne Pracht (HPM) provided his second teaching engagement June 1-5 in Suriname, a small Caribbean nation located on the North coast of South America.

The training took place at the Suriname Ministry of Public Health and consisted of a hybrid between his courses in Health Economics and Public Health Data and Decision Making. The objective was to train officials at the Ministry of Public Health in empirical methods to conduct research and enhance the development of evidence-based health policy. Because data collection is limited in Suriname, Dr. Pracht made use of publicly available U.S. data to conduct the training. The hope is to establish a consistent data collection effort in Suriname. Until recently, the Suriname Ministry of Public Health had been sending their students to universities in the U.S. to acquire MPH degrees.



Dr. Etienne Pracht (back row - center) with Masters students



Dr. Etienne Pracht (back row- 2nd from right) with hospital administrators

Dr. Virginia Oostburg, the Deputy Director of De Ministerie Van Volksgezondheid (Ministry of Public Health) obtained her MPH in Health Policy and Programs in 2007 where she was Dr. Pracht's student and advisee. She informed the faculty at the Anton de Kom University about Dr. Pracht and he was invited to teach Health Economics I in 2008. Dr. Pracht has been invited to return to Suriname to continue the training in November 2009.

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

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Important Dates

Summer 2009 Field Experience Departmental Debriefings:

Wednesday, July 8, 2009 - 10:00 am, COPH 1122, Global Health Dept.

Thursday, July 9, 2009 - 10:00 am, LRC 108, Community & Family Health

Thursday, July 9, 2009 - 1:00 pm, COPH 2143, Health Policy & Management

Friday, July 10, 2009 - 10:00 am, COPH 1108, Environmental and Occupational Health

Friday, July 10, 2009, 10:00 am, COPH 2016/2018, Epidemiology & Biostatistics

Fall 2009 Field Experience Orientation:

Wednesday, August 19, 2009, COPH 2004

9:30 am Domestic

11:00 am International