



## &gt;&gt;TAKE NOTE

**COPH Holds Graduation Celebration**

On Friday, May 1, the College of Public Health honored its' Spring 2009 graduates with a ceremony and reception. The College honored two students receiving their PhD's; 42 students receiving MPH degrees; five students receiving MSPH degrees and five students receiving MHA degrees. Congratulations to all of the Spring 2009 graduates!

**Office of International Affairs Announces Newly Created Website**

We are pleased to announce our newly created USF Health International Foundation - Panama website (please follow the link below). The site will be kept up to date with the most recent information on Research, Continuing Professional Development, Conferences, International Field Experience, News and Events, and other information relevant to work in Panama by students and faculty. The site also features a bilingual (English/Spanish) page for Ibero-Americas Programs, created by Dr. Carlos Callegari.

Thanks go out to Alina Lezcano (Office of International Programs) for the layout and design of the site, and to the web designers Chris Bahl and Ernest Leong (USF Health IS), for making this new site a reality.

We welcome your suggestions to ensure that this site fulfills its intended functions. <http://health.usf.edu/intprog/panama/home.html>

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## &gt;&gt;Faculty

**Charlene Vespi Presents at Annual Conference**

Charlene Vespi, program manager of USF SafetyFlorida, participated as president of the National Association of Occupational Safety and Health Consultation Programs (OSHCON) in the OSHA Annual Consultation Conference held in San Diego April 27-30. The conference for regional and state-based safety and health administrators addresses timely and critical safety and health management issues affecting workers today. Keynote speaker was Dr. John Howard, director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

USF SafetyFlorida is a workplace safety consultation program for Florida's small businesses. With 11 consultants throughout the state, the program is a service of the University of South Florida's College of Public Health and funded by OSHA and the State of Florida. The consultation program offers complimentary, confidential and comprehensive assistance to small businesses throughout the state including identification of workplace hazards, solutions for safety and health problems, training and education, and safety and health management plan assistance. For more information, visit [www.usfsafetyflorida.com](http://www.usfsafetyflorida.com).

**Dr. Amy Stuart and Colleagues Publish Article**

A.L. Stuart, S. Mudhasakul, and W. Sriwatanapongse (2009). The social distribution of neighborhood-scale air pollution and monitoring protection. *Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association*, 59: 591-602.

**Dr. Donna Petersen Quoted in St. Petersburg Times**

The following is a link to a May 1<sup>st</sup> St. Petersburg Times front page story "Is Florida prepared to handle swine flu?" that includes a quote from Donna Petersen, dean of the University of South Florida College of Public Health (Tampa, FL): <http://www.tampabay.com/news/health/article997100.ece>.

**Dr. Tom Unnasch Appears on Flashpoint**

Dr. Tom Unnasch appeared on WFTS-Channel 28 on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dr. Unnasch did a taped studio interview about public health measures for swine flu.

## &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/fundingopps.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 (monthly) SHARP <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/sharp.html> applications for May is Monday May 4th, 2009. We advise each student to submit their SHARP applications *at least* one month prior to the conference during which they 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 travel (TAR) form can be entered into the university system. 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 spring service activities are listed on the website at <http://health.usf.edu/ahec/hsevents.htm> and calendar at <http://my.calendars.net/servicecorps>. 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](mailto:ekent@health.usf.edu) or 974-6622 or stop by room 2150H at anytime!

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> - 7 - 10 am. [Miles for Moffitt Health Expo](#) Non-clinical activities: COPH students can assist with health education display. Students may sign up with Ellen Kent at [ekent@health.usf.edu](mailto:ekent@health.usf.edu). Free t-shirt and great food for all volunteers.

## &gt;&gt;Center News

**Public Health Leadership Will Soon Be Accepting Applications for 14<sup>th</sup> Class**

The *Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida (PHLIF)* at the *University of South Florida* is very happy to announce We will soon be accepting applications for the 14<sup>th</sup> Class of the PHLIF!

The PHLIF was able to secure additional, unrestricted funds through other sources - this particular pool of funds can be used for FDOH employee travel! For members of Class 14, all travel will be processed through the University of South Florida using these alternate funds. We understand how difficult this travel ban has been on state and local government, and this is one of our ways of "sharing the burden" - and reflects how critical we believe leadership development is to Florida's public health workforce and its role in protecting the health of the citizens and visitors of Florida.

The application will remain almost the same, so please feel free to resume filling out the version sent in January 2009. The revised application will be placed on the web page next week and will include: a travel estimate sheet (for our budgeting purposes), some additional information about the Institute, a revised deadline of June 15<sup>th</sup>, and a revised tuition amount.

The increased tuition amount reflects a loss in funds that were previously used to subsidize staff costs and defrayed the tuition costs for the agencies. You will find the increase minimal - only about \$70 per workshop!

If you have any questions once you receive the new application, please let me know. We are looking forward to hearing from you and to a great 14<sup>th</sup> year.



## &gt;&gt;Global Scene

## Taking Care of the Elderly in Latin America

The Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) Elder Population Section, in partnership with Mexico's Inter-American Center for Social Security Studies (CIESS) and faculty from USF, implemented a year-long



*Pictured (left to right): Dr. Miguel Angel Fernández, Director CIESS; Dr. Laurence G. Branch, Distinguished Professor USF; Dr. Patricia Spencer, COPH student; Dr. Enrique Vega, Regional Adviser for the Health of the Elderly for PAHO*

specialization course entitled "Health Administration for the Elder Population" to improve the quality of programs and services for older people in the Latin American and the Caribbean region.

There were representatives from every country at the inaugural sessions held at Mexico City this last February. Dr. Laurence Branch, Distinguished Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, conducted the second week of educational activities, and prepared the highly qualified students for the work to be done during the year in their home country.

Participating faculty also included Patricia Spencer, a doctoral student from the Department of Health Policy and Management.

It is PAHO's expectation that all the professionals participating in this course will have an impact on future policies in their home countries, and will use USF as a base for many future projects.



*Inter-American Center for Social Security Studies, Mexico*

## US-EU Drug Prevention Meeting held in Lisbon

The first meeting of the U.S./European Union Cross-National Evaluation of Prevention Programs for Youth Drug Abuse was held in Lisbon, Portugal, from March 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> at the European Monitoring

Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.

European drug prevention researchers from throughout Europe and US researchers from University of Akron, University of Miami, University of South Florida, and University of California, Davis attended the meeting.



Dr. C. Hendricks Brown,

Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, hosted the methodology section and Dr. Wei Wang, Research Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, presented on the additive modeling and multilevel statistical modeling techniques. Three joint research groups were formed during the meeting and a series of conferences have been scheduled for further collaboration. The meeting was supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA).

Please submit ideas and/or articles for the Global Scene to Alina Lezcano at [alezcano@health.usf.edu](mailto:alezcano@health.usf.edu).

## Important Dates

**Tuesday, May 5, 2009** - 11:59 pm - Deadline for submitting E-Grades for Spring 2009

**Wednesday, May 6, 2009** - 12:30-1:30 pm, COPH 2024 - NORA Symposium - "Prevalence and Influence of Quality of Life of Symptoms Caused by Inhaled Odors, Chemicals, and Irritants: Comparison Between Hispanics and Americans" - Carmen Perez, MD

**Friday, May 8, 2009** - Last Date to Submit Change of Grade Forms to Academic Affairs

**Friday, May 15, 2009** - 12:00 pm, COPH 1023A - Dean's Public Health Lecture Series - Dr. Cheryl Healton - "Building a Legacy of Truth: David versus Goliath in the Tobacco Wars"

**Friday, May 22, 2009** - 12:00 pm, COPH 1023A - Dean's Public Health Lecture Series - Dr. Balbir Singh - "Malaria, Monkeys, Man & Malaysia"