

September 14, 2009

MONDAY LETTER

USF COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TAKE NOTE>>>

ETA Welcomes Two New Instructional Designers

Dr. Sang Joon Lee: Born in Seoul, Korea, Sang Joon Lee received his Ph.D. in Instructional Technology at the University of Georgia in 2009. As a graduate assistant, he worked for the Learning and Performance Support Laboratory and the Case-Based e-Learning group. His research focus has been on improving students' learning experiences in constructivist, student-centered learning environments.

Trudian "Trudy" Trail: is a recent graduate of the University of Georgia, from where she received a degree in Instructional Design and Development. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. Having a background in both learning and technology, she has developed a keen interest in how the two areas can be related. In that regards she is particularly interested in research that is centered around how technology can be used to make learning more interactive and ultimately how interactive multimedia, such as instructional games, can be used to facilitate learning.

USF Announces Outstanding Staff Award Recipients

Congratulations to Anne Marie Little and Nancy Beasley on being selected as USF Outstanding Staff Award Recipients at USF Health.

The recognition ceremony will be held on September 29, 2009 at 2 pm in Theater 1. Join us in celebrating their achievement.

NBPHE To Host Webinar on the Certification Exam

On Thursday, September 17 at 10 a.m. (Eastern), Ms. Molly Eggleston, deputy executive director of the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE), will present the Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam in response to calls to bolster the public health system and to increase the professionalization of the field of public health. She will also take questions on the upcoming exam (August 2010).

Reserve your Webinar seat now at: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/659823803> (Registration can be completed at anytime, including after the webinar has started. Upon registration, you will receive an email from Go To Webinar with a link specific to join the webinar.)

To join the concurrent conference call, please 1-888-272-7337 and enter access code 589-0458.

Title: *Why Now? How CPH Advances the Field of Public Health*

Date: Thursday, September 17, 2009

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM EDT

CENTER NEWS>>>

Update From the Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness

The Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness (FCPHP) was awarded a cost extension grant of \$500,000 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the period of 08/10/09 - 08/09/10. These funds, along with additional carryforward funds, will allow the Center to continue to provide emergency preparedness training programs to the public health community of Florida. Dr. Michael Reid is the Center Director and Principal Investigator and Dr. Danielle Landis is the Co-Principal Investigator and Deputy Center Director. For more information about the Center's training programs, please visit www.fcphp.usf.edu.

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. In fact, the websites for the Student Research Scholarship (SRS) Awards guidelines for 2009-2010 at

<http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/srsawards.html> and Student Honorary Award for Research and Practice "SHARP": guidelines for 2009-2010 at

<http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/officeresearch/sharp.html> have recently been updated. Print copies of the new guidelines and the application forms are also available at the student research display in COPH vending/snack area near the lobby. Students are encouraged 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! Please note that the next deadline for SHARP applications is Monday, October 5th, 6 pm.

Student Service Opportunities:

The USF Health Service Corps (see

<http://health.usf.edu/ahec/USFHealthServicesCorps/servicecorps.htm>)

enables COPH Students to learn and serve in a wide variety of meaningful and FUN health-related service activities with other USF Health students. The website for Fall 2009 USF health service corps events is now available at

<http://health.usf.edu/ahec/USFHealthServicesCorps/hsevents.htm> and the calendar is available at <http://my.calendars.net/servicecorps>.

COPH 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. In fact, special thanks to one of our new COPH Students, Sara Petrick, who participated in the recent USF Health Service Corps 'Fill a Heart pillow making project' with breast cancer survivors on Sunday, as pictured below.

Here is our next special event - We will have USF Health students from each USF health college participating! Don't miss out on this great event!

Sunday, September 20th, 2-5 PM, (rain date of Sunday Sept 27th, same time, same place) - USF Health Service Corps Family Fiesta for the San José Mission in Dover. See flyer at: [San Jose Mission Family Fiesta Sept. 2009](#). The plan is that the children will be able to go to different 'activity stations' that will be led by our USF Health students, so you can sign up to:

* Lead kids in sports and fitness activities * Teach kids about how the health professions and show them the "tools of the trade" related to your health career; * Teach kids about staying healthy and safe; * Help to plant a garden and teach kids about nutrition; and * Enjoy healthy snacks with the kids! Since we are trying to encourage a lot of USF Health students to participate, for this event USF health students can sign up with student leaders from each college, so COPH students can sign up with Sami Spedoske at spedosk@health.usf.edu. For more information or *to even donate plants*, please feel free to contact Ellen Kent, MPH, at ekent@health.usf.edu.



FACULTY>>>

Dr. Hamisu Salihu and Colleagues Publish Article

Salihu HM, Luke S, Alio AP, Deutsch A, Marty PJ. The impact of obesity on spontaneous and medically indicated preterm birth among adolescent mothers. *Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics*. 2009 Aug 26. PUBMED ID: 19707780.

USF Awarded a Summer Institute for Training in Biostatistics by NIH

Researchers from Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, College of Public Health are recently awarded a three-year, \$800,000 grant from National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to establish a Summer Institute for Training in Biostatistics at USF. Led by Dr. Yiliang Zhu of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, with Drs. G. Dagne, Huang, Salihu, and Wu of the same department serving as co-investigators, the success of the USF team is the result of multidisciplinary collaboration among researchers from Colleges of Public Health, Medicine, Nursing, Moffitt Cancer Center, Jaeb Center for Health Research, and Tampa VA hospital. It is also critical that the program received strong institutional support from College of Public Health and USF School of Graduate Studies. USF's summer institute, along with those at North Carolina State/Duke, Wisconsin, Iowa, Washington U., Emory, U. Pitts, and Boston U., is a part of the national efforts to train next generation of biostatistical scientists, through which to address a persistent shortage in Biostatistics training and to support medical and health research in the nation. Locally, it will also aim to stimulate the growth of biostatistical training, research, and support within USF Health and beyond.

The summer institute will open in the summer of 2010-12. Its six-week, all-expense-paid program is open to undergraduate and graduate students nationwide who are interested in pursuing an academic program or a professional career in Biostatistics or related field. Please contact Professor Yiliang Zhu at yzhu@health.usf.edu for more detail.

ALUMNI NEWS>>>

Angela Lloyd (Global Health) was accepted into the DrPH program in Community Health Practice at the University of Texas School of Public Health. While in Houston, Angie will complete courses for the Global Health concentration and work as a graduate assistant for the Office of Public Health Practice.

Update on Miriam Bell

Miriam T. Bell, M.P.H.
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Ann Lea Burchfield Begins Fellowship

Ms. Anna Lea Burchfield was accepted to the ASPH/CDC Public Health Preparedness Fellowship Program. For complete details please see the article in the ASPH Friday Letter at http://fridayletter.asph.org/article_view.cfm?FLE_Index=10669&FL_Index=1585.

GLOBAL SCENE>>>

Public Health in Action: Niamey, Niger

We (COPH and College of Business graduate students) have just returned from a two-week visit to Niamey, Niger. In Niger, we had the unique opportunity to meet with several NGO's and to participate in one (or more) of the five research projects guided by CFH professor, Dr. Amina Alio. The projects were obstetric fistula, breast cancer, cervical cancer, breast-feeding, and sustainable business practices.



Front row, l to r: Heather Clayton, Shan Huuda, Kimberly Roxburgh, Sandra Delgado, Andrea Naylor, Professor Amina Alio, Shahnjayla Connors, Alazandria Cruze, Rosa Joseph, Renee Clarke, Laura Merrell, Linda Bomboka, Brian Madigan.

When telling our friends and families about our trip to Niger, we quickly realized that many people either: (1) had never heard of Niger, (2) did not realize that Niger was in Africa, or (3) confused Niger with Nigeria. So where is Niger, and why was it an ideal location for a public health trip? Well, Niger is located in West Africa, with the majority of its territory in the Sahara Desert. The capital of the country, Niamey, is in the south, near the Niger River. The landscape of this desert nation is dramatic and beautiful.

Unfortunately, Niger has many

challenges. As one of the poorest countries in the world, it has the highest fertility rate (7.75 children per woman), and the lowest literacy rate (20%). Not surprisingly, there are numerous public health issues in Niger: infectious diseases, infant and child mortality, maternal mortality and morbidity. However, what may be surprising is that the leading causes of death for women in Niger are breast and cervical cancers. For these reasons, Niger provided an ideal opportunity to observe the activity of international health organizations, and to experience first hand, the public health challenges experienced by a developing country.

While in Niamey, we met and toured with several NGO's such as the Helen Keller Institute (working on nutrition and blindness) and DIMOL (an organization focused on the prevention and treatment of obstetric fistula). We were also welcomed by the Central Maternity Hospital in Niamey, and were given a guided tour of their facilities. In addition to visiting with NGO's, we actively worked on one of the several research projects mentioned above.

The trip also provided time to explore Niger. Students traveled into the desert and climbed to the top of a sand dune at sunset, and also visited the last free roaming herd of Giraffe in West Africa. While many of the experiences on the trip were once-in-a-lifetime moments, the undisputed favorite would have to be the Giraffes. Another trip highlight was spending some time with local families in Niger. We were treated to amazing hospitality - wonderful dishes served outdoors (eating with our right hand), as well as sampling the mint tea that is typically prepared by Nigerien men. The only problem with the trip was that it was too short - two weeks just flew by.

Submitted by Heather Clayton, MPH (Doctoral Candidate)



l to r: Kimberly Roxburgh, Renee Clarke, Alazandria Cruze, Rosa Joseph

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009 - 4:00 pm - CHE Room 102 - ERIC - "Toward Sustainable Water Reuse in Israel and the Palestinian Authority" - Sarina Ergas, Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, USF

Thursday, September 17, 2009 - 12:00-1:00 pm - COPH Room 2006 - ETA Workshop - "Elluminate: Synchronous web Conferencing Software" - Samantha Lopez, MEd. RSVP to eta@health.usf.edu.

Friday, September 18, 2009 - 2:00 pm, Bilirakis Room, Chiles Center - "Who says the birth disparities found in African American families are intractable?" - Ruth Watson Lubic, CNM, Ed.D.

Friday, September 18, 2009 - DEADLINE FOR Fall 2009 Comp Exam Applications and Fall 2009 Graduation

Friday, September 25, 2009 - 12 - 1 pm, COPH 1023 A - Dean's Lecture - "Community Directed Intervention in Onchocerciasis Control and for Public Health Interventions" - Dr. Boakye Boatman, Research Leader UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/ WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases