



Date: 1/8/2007

>>TAKE NOTE

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Dr. Orban Announces Plan to Step Down as HPM Chair

Dr. Barbara Orban (HPM) has advised Dean Petersen that she plans to step down as department chair following the summer of 2007. After serving as chair for nearly 10 years, Dr. Orban plans to spend more time on her research regarding emergency medical and trauma systems. The very productive research team that has formed in recent years has developed more than 10 manuscripts, which have been published in top scientific journals such as *Surgery*, *Annals of Surgery*, *Journal of Trauma*, and *Medical Care Research and Review*.

Dr. Orban has provided thoughtful leadership to the department, particularly in advancing courses and programs. This includes the development of two graduate certificate programs and the college's second on-line MPH concentration (Public Health Administration). Dr. Orban has agreed to continue serving as MHA program director and will direct the application for CAHME accreditation of the program.

Dean Petersen plans to conduct a national search for an HPM chair. This is an important area of growth for the College given ongoing national debate on health care delivery and financing policy, and the need for outstanding leadership to guide the evolving public health and health care systems in this country. She is appointing a search committee that reflects the strengths of the department, the College and the University and that will be charged with seeking out the best candidates for this position.

We thank Dr. Orban for her years of dedicated service to the department and for her contributions to the overall leadership of the College. Watch for upcoming events honoring Dr. Orban and opportunities to meet the candidates for department chair.

Dr. Clifford Blair's New Textbook to be Released

Dr. Clifford Blair, Professor Emeritus and former Interim Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of South Florida, College of Public Health has co-authored a textbook entitled Biostatistics for the Health Sciences. The textbook will be officially released on January 12th, but is available for pre-order on the Amazon.Com website at:

http://www.amazon.com/Biostatistics-Health-Sciences-Clifford-Blair/dp/0131176609/sr=11-1/qid=1168283866/ref=sr_11_1/002-9187588-6186462.

>>Students



Student research and funding opportunities: The comprehensive web site of student research at:

<http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/fundingoppops.html> provides links to COPH student funding opportunities at the COPH, USF, as well as external private foundations and federal funding agencies. The monthly internal COPH Student Honorary Award for Research and Practice (SHARP) (see <http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/sharp.html>) provides financial assistance to University of South Florida College of Public Health (COPH) students who are traveling to present and/or compete at a state, regional, national, or international professional meeting/conference. The annual Student Research Scholarship award

(<http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/srsawards.html>) provides funding for degree-seeking COPH students to carry out research for their special project/thesis or dissertation. Handouts are also available at the display in the snack area. Feel free to contact Ellen Kent, Coordinator of Student Research at ekent@health.usf.edu if you have any questions!

>>Students continued...

Student Service: The USF Health Service Corps is a great way in which you can become involved in interdisciplinary service activities with other USF Health students. Check out the web site of Fall service events at <http://www.hsc.usf.edu/ahcc/hsccevents.html> and the updated calendar at <http://my.calendars.net/servicecorps>. Handouts are also available at the display in the snack area. Feel free to contact Ellen Kent, Coordinator for the USF Health Service Corps at ekent@health.usf.edu if you have any questions or suggestions!

COPH Student Research Notes!

Monthly COPH Student Honorary Award for Research and Practice "SHARP" awards. The next deadline is Monday, January 8th.

Please see guidelines at <http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/sharp.html>. The purpose of the SHARP award is to provide a financial incentive (up to \$500) to COPH students to complete a body of work to a stage sufficient for presentation at a regional, national, or international professional meeting/conference.

Annual Student Research Scholarships: Please see guidelines at <http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/srsawards.html>. The purpose of this research scholarship is to provide funding for degree-seeking COPH students to carry out research for their special project/thesis or dissertation, by defraying some of the costs associated with their research. The scholarship funds may be used to cover expenses that are reasonable and directly related to the student's research. The (*one and only*) deadline for the 2006-2007 year is Monday, January 29, 2007 at 6:00 pm

Students! USF Health Research Day will be held on February 23, 2007.

The deadline for submitting the (online) abstract form will be January 10, 2007. The abstract form is now up at <http://hscf.hsc.usf.edu/abstract/abstract.cfm>.

Karen Jackson writes article for HCHD wellness newsletter

Please visit: http://24.173.147.140/community/newsletter/CW_January-February_2007_newsletter.pdf to view the article which appears on page 7.

Thomas Gronow Secures Fellowship

Thomas Gronow (MHA) secured an administrative fellowship with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. He begins in June.

>>COPH Administration

USF will be closed for the following holiday dates:

- Monday, January 15, 2007

If you are taking vacation time, please remember to input your leave request into the ALT system.

Due to the up-coming holiday, time sheets and time logs will be due to COP-HR (rm. 1009) earlier than normal. Please note the following due dates for time logs and time sheets:

- Pay period 1/12/07 - 1/2/07 are due on Friday, January 19, 2007



>>Global Scene

Exploring Health Needs in Haiti and the Dominican Republic: *mission with Dr. Rony Francois, FI. Sec of Health*

Dr. Ann DeBaldo, Associate Dean for International Programs, College of Public Health, recently returned from a Florida delegation to Haiti and the Dominican Republic led by Secretary of the Florida Department of Health, Dr. Rony Francois. Dr. Francois, fluent in French and Creole, was born in Haiti and came to Florida in 1979 for his education and is a USF and College of Public Health graduate.

Other members of the delegation were Dr. John Lanza, Director of the Escambia County Health Department, Carolyn Rose-Avila, President of The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas, Inc. (FAVACA), Marie Chery, FAVACA, Irv "Doc" Kokol, Communications Director Florida Dept of Health, and Brian Williams, International Liaison for the Executive Office of the Governor.



In Haiti: In Port au Prince, the delegation met with the Minister for Health, Dr. Robert Auguste, to learn about the need for capacity building and training in healthcare, exploring Florida universities' offerings of courses and certificates through distance education, with disaster management as a priority. Pictured here is Dr. Francois meeting with Haitian Prime Minister Jacques- Édouard Alexis.

Lack of access to healthcare, minimal prenatal care for pregnant women, high maternal mortality and increasing numbers of teen pregnancies are among the serious health problems facing the country. While in Haiti, the group visited Les Centers GHESKIO, (Groupe Haitien d'Etude du Sarcome de Kaposi et des Infections Opportunistes), dedicated to fight against AIDS through outstanding research, patient care and prevention. Formed in 1982, it is one of the oldest institutions dedicated to fight against AIDS and its work, under Director Jean William Pape, is outstanding in research, patient care and prevention. As a high-prevalence HIV country, Haiti receives funds from PEPFAR as well as support from other organizations.

In the Dominican Republic: In Santo Domingo, Sec. Francois and the delegation [pictured here with US Ambassador [Hans H. Hertell](#) from left to right—US embassy staff member Chris Davey,



Carolyn Rose-Avila, Brian Williams, Ann DeBaldo, Ambassador Hertell, Sec. Francois, John Lanza, and "Doc" Kokol] met with the Minister of Health to discuss current health issues in the country. Visiting Los Mina Hospital helped the group identify Florida's possibilities for potential training for health professionals.

At the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, Dr. DeBaldo led a discussion with the Rector Lic. Roberto Reyna, Deans and faculty, along with the Florida delegation, on possible collaborative educational and research programs in the health field.

The Florida group also met with representatives from PAHO and USAID. Together they explored roles for Florida in capacity building and other activities in the Dominican Republic. One of the delegation members, Dr. Lanza, provided an overview of disaster management procedures and training used in Florida relevant to the Caribbean.

The delegates met with Sra. Sonia Pierre, Executive Director of Dominican-Haitian Mothers (MUDHA) and recent Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award recipient, then visited Alejo Martinez Field Hospital (a hospital in need of medical supplies) and Batey Monte Coca new San Pedro de Macoris. The Alejo Martinez Hospital is a model for patient-centered compassionate care. Physicians there assist with healthcare provided to those living in the area including Batey Monte Coca. Bateys are settlements of families living and working in agriculture settings such as sugar cane plantations.

College of Public Health

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>>Global Scene continued...



Pictured here is Dr. Francois addressing this community. Many are from Haiti, unable to obtain birth certificates, and therefore unable to better their lot in life.

FAVACA recently received state funding to help provide short-term expert assistance to countries in the Caribbean and the Americas.

FAVACA President, Carolyn Rose-Avila summarized how this assistance will go a long way towards accomplishing its goals during meetings with health officials from the private sector, universities, and NGO's.

For more information about this initiative, or to donate medical supplies for the hospitals mentioned above, please contact the Office of International Programs, c/o sujames@health.usf.edu.

>>Faculty

Dr. Charles Mahan Receives Two Awards

Dr. Charles S. Mahan was presented 2 awards at the statewide Sharing Solutions Conference in Clearwater in December 2006: 1) A Special Award for over 3 decades of Maternal and Child Health Leadership in Florida by the Florida Department of Health; and 2) The March of Dimes Florida Chapter Statewide Volunteer of the Year-2006. Congratulations Dr. Mahan!

Important Dates

EPB Seminar - Wednesday, January 10th

12-1 pm, COPH 1023-C

"Built Environment, Behavior and Health" - Jose Szapocznik, Ph.D., Professor and Director, Center for Family Studies, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

ERIC Seminar - Wednesday, January 10th

4-5:15 pm, COPH 1023-A

"Benign Design and Manufacturing - Reducing the Eco-industrial Footprint" - Delcie Durham, Associate Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, University of South Florida

Spring Field Experience Orientation Thursday, January 11, 2007

Distance Learning Studio (COPH 2006)

10a.m. - Domestic FE Orientation

11a.m. - International FE Orientation

Friday, January 19, 2006 - 12:00 pm, 1023 COPH - Dean's Public Health Lecture: Dr. Bill Little presents "Linking Community, Public Health Practice and Academia: A Local CHD Perspective"