



Date: 3/20/2006

## &gt;&gt; TAKE NOTE !

**The Lawton and Rhea Chiles Center Receives Approval for Funding**  
The Lawton and Rhea Chiles Center recently received approval for funding from the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County to conduct a longitudinal study of parent engagement in Healthy Families Pinellas (HFP), a home visiting program for high risk families with young children. HFP is the largest of the more than 450 approved Health Families America programs in the U.S. The \$50,000 project will run from April, 2006 to February 2007 and will examine parent and program characteristics that distinguish families who participate in and follow through with the Healthy Families Pinellas program from those who do not. Findings from the exploration study will provide important data to inform the development of a larger prospective study of relationships among families and program staff that predict and support successful family participation, adaptation, and development. Darlene Shearer, DrPH (CFH) is the principal investigator and project director. Peter Gorski, MD, MPA (CFH) is co-investigator. The Center for Collaborative Research in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics will assist with the design of the study and with analyses.



Dr. Entisar Ariabi and Interpreter  
Aseel Albanna

**Dr. Entisar Ariabi's Speaks on Healthcare in Iraq**  
Dr. Entisar Ariabi, pharmacist at the Yarmook Teaching Hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, spoke to a packed and hushed auditorium on March 15, 2006. At the COPH-co-sponsored event, "Healthcare in Iraq: the impact of war on public health" Dr. Ariabi's outlined her day-to-day experience in dealing with the impact of war. She explained, "I work as a pharmacist in one of the largest

*hospitals in Baghdad. I stood by helplessly during the 13 years of sanctions and watched my people—especially children--die from lack of medicines and poor sanitation. UNICEF estimated that over 200 children died everyday as a direct result of sanctions. . . Before the occupation, with all the problems we had under sanctions, Iraq ranked number 80 in the worldwide list of deaths of children under five. Today, we have jumped up to number 36. UNICEF has said that the rate of severe malnutrition among Iraqi children has almost doubled since the occupation."*

Through her interpreter, Aseel Albanna, Dr Ariabi said "Many people thought that after the US occupied our country and the sanctions were lifted, the health care of the Iraqi people would improve. But the occupation has made it worse. Many of the Iraqi hospitals in cities like Baghdad, Al-Qaim, and Fallujah were bombed and destroyed. Many ambulances were attacked and health workers killed, despite the fact that it is illegal under international law to attack hospitals, ambulances and health workers." She shared photographs of destroyed hospitals.

*"After our hospitals were bombed and looted, many millions of dollars were given to contractors to repair them. We suggested that this money be used to buy things that we urgently need, but the contractors refused and instead bought furniture and flowers and superficial things. Meanwhile, we suffer from a critical shortage of medicines, emergency supplies and anesthesia, and there is no sterilization in the operation rooms. As the director of the pharmacy department in my hospital, I refused to sit on a new chair while there were no sterile operating rooms.*

*Many of the diseases that were under control under the regime of Saddam Hussein, diseases such as cholera, hepatitis, meningitis, polio, have now returned to haunt the population, especially the children. Death due to cancer has increased because treatment programs stopped and medicines are not available. The health of the Iraqi people is also devastated by environmental contamination due to the destruction of our water and sewage systems."*

Dr. Karen Liller welcomed the speaker and audience with opening remarks, and Dr. John Arnaldi and Rae Abileah, co-sponsor CODEPINK Local Group Coordinator, provided background for this tour of Iraqi professional women to the US.

For a complete copy of Dr. Ariabi's remarks, contact [sujames@hsc.usf.edu](mailto:sujames@hsc.usf.edu).

## &gt;&gt;Students

**Student Service and Research Information**

**Research:** For information on additional internal (USF) and external funding opportunities for COPH students, go to <http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/fundingopps.html>. For more info on the Student Honorary Award for Research and Practice "SHARP" awards go to <http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/sharp.html>.

**Student Service:** To find out about additional service opportunities for the spring available through the USF Health Service Corps, COPH students may also look at the web site at <http://www.hsc.usf.edu/ahec/servicecorps.html> for more info about the USF Health Student Service Corps. The calendar at <http://my.calendars.net/servicecorps> as well as the web site at <http://www.hsc.usf.edu/ahec/hsc events.html> have been updated, and there are handouts at the display table near snack area.

**Student service opportunity:**

We need a few more wonderful COPH students to help out at the health expo portion of the Miles for Moffitt at USF event, on Saturday morning, April 8th! (8:30-11 am) Our College of Public Health (COPH) is partnering with Moffitt on this event in recognition of National Public Health Week. If you are interested, please contact Ellen Kent at [ekent@hsc.usf.edu](mailto:ekent@hsc.usf.edu) to sign up and she can give you all the details, and assign you to a table where you will be able to give out valuable health education info to the public. Also, there will be other perks, such as a post race party, free t-shirt and a chance to enter into a raffle with fantastic prizes! Thanks!

## &gt;&gt; Faculty

**HPM Faculty Publish Research Paper**

Celso, B, J Tepas, B Langland-Orban, E Pracht, L Papa, L Lottenberg and L Flint. A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Comparing Outcome of Severely Injured Patients Treated in Trauma Centers Following the Establishment of Trauma Systems. *Journal of Trauma, Injury Infection & Critical Care*. February 2006. 60(2):371-378.

**Dr. Elizabeth Barnett and Student Chrystal Smith Publish Article**

Chrystal Smith, MA MPH, a doctoral student in the Department of Anthropology, and Dr. Elizabeth Barnett, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, co-authored the lead article in the December 2005 issue of the *Pan American Journal of Public Health*. The study, titled "Diabetes-related mortality among Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, and Cuban Americans in the United States" found that the diabetes-related mortality rate for Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans was twice as high as the diabetes-related mortality rate for Cuban Americans. **Citation:** Smith CAS, Barnett E. Diabetes-related mortality among Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, and Cuban Americans in the United States. *Rev Panam Salud Publica*. 2005; 18(6):381-7. A copy of the article may be obtained from Dr. Barnett ([ebarnett@hsc.usf.edu](mailto:ebarnett@hsc.usf.edu)).

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## &gt;&gt; Faculty

## Faculty and Staff Opportunities

## USF Health - Spanish Immersion Course for University of South Florida Health Sciences Faculty and Staff

City of Knowledge, Panama - July 14-29, 2006

Language &amp; cultural immersion for USF Health faculty and staff. Program includes:

- 2 weeks of Spanish language training + cross cultural competence, 4 hours daily, groups of maximum 4 students, tailored to the needs of healthcare staff working with Hispanic patients
- 3 lectures by healthcare specialists on providing healthcare to Hispanic patients
- 2 site visits to local healthcare facilities
- Access to all facilities of ILISA and City of Knowledge (Internet, pool, tennis court)
- 1 one-day excursion to indigenous village (Emberá)
- Hotel accommodation (single or double) in Best Western
- Transport between hotel and ILISA, airport pickup- and return

Cost: \$ 1.665,-- (single occupancy); \$ 1.345 (double)

With an optional spouse program

For more information or to sign up, contact:

Thorwald Westmaas, Director

E-mail: [thorwald@ilisa.com](mailto:thorwald@ilisa.com)

Skype: panamathor

Website: [www.ilisa.com](http://www.ilisa.com)

Telephone: (507) 317-1011

Mobile: (507) 6671-2112

ILISA, City of Knowledge, Panama

## Faculty Development Program - Spanish Language Immersion - Panama 2006

June 30- July 15, 2006

International Affairs is offering a faculty development opportunity for those faculty members who would like to learn conversational Spanish for their personal and professional development. The program will involve participating in four on-campus language classes at USF Tampa campus and then travel to Panama for two weeks of additional language instruction and cultural visits. Classes in Panama will be provided by ILISA, a language school located in the City of Knowledge, near the Panama Canal. <http://www.ilisa.com/panama>. Open to all USF faculty and administrative professional staff who need to learn Spanish to be more effective in their professional work, who are at the beginner level, and who can commit to the full duration of the program.

USF campus-based Spanish classes: 9 a.m.-Noon: May 31, June 7, 14 and 21 (dates are tentative).

In Panama: June 30- July 15, 2006

The approximate cost of the program is \$2,085, excluding airfare (estimated \$500-\$700). Program costs include the instruction at USF, ten days of instruction in Panama, housing, field trips, transportation to and from the airport in Panama, and several dinners. The International Affairs Center (IAC) will cover a portion of these costs, along with the participant, with a request to the sponsoring college or department for support as well.

Deadline for application: **March 31, 2006**

For application forms or information: contact Dr. Don Dellow, [Dellow@iac.usf.edu](mailto:Dellow@iac.usf.edu), or [sujames@hsc.usf.edu](mailto:sujames@hsc.usf.edu)

## Faculty Development Program - Study Tour of South India - June 5-23, 2006

Dr. Gurleen Grewal, Women's Studies, is leading a study abroad tour to South India this summer. In an effort to provide faculty with the opportunity to experience India's immense cultural landscape, International Affairs will provide partial funding for up to five faculty. Dr. Ann DeBaldo, College of Public Health, is the lead faculty member for this faculty development program. The proposed itinerary includes travel to India via Singapore, Chennai (Madras), Kalakshetra - Dakshin Chitra - Mahabalipuram, Kanchipuram & Mahabalipuram, Kanchipuram, (one of the seven holiest Hindu cities and famous for hand woven silk fabrics), Tiruvannamali Pondicherry, Mahabalipuram - Tanjore, with a 5000-year-old heritage, - Trichy, Madurai-Periyar, Periyar - Kumarakom, Cochin. The total price of the trip including airfare from Tampa is \$3,600. This cost of participation is divided among International Affairs, the sponsoring college or department (suggested contribution), and the individual faculty member. Interested faculty will complete an application form which will then be forwarded to the appropriate department head and dean for approval.

Deadline for application: **March 31, 2006**

For application forms or further details: contact Dr. Don Dellow, [Dellow@iac.usf.edu](mailto:Dellow@iac.usf.edu), or [sujames@hsc.usf.edu](mailto:sujames@hsc.usf.edu)

## &gt;&gt; Alumni Information

## Dr. Zuber Mulla Receives Award

Zuber Mulla, MSPH ('94), PhD ('01), was recently notified that he would receive the Professional Achievement Award from The University of Arizona Alumni Association (UAAA). The National Board of Directors of the UAAA voted to bestow the award on him in part for his doctoral dissertation research on the antibiotic treatment of invasive group A streptococcal disease. The award ceremony will be held in Tucson this November.

*Marisa Rappa, MPH, CHES*

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[marisa.rappa@baycare.org](mailto:marisa.rappa@baycare.org)Please send updates to Peggy Smith at [msmith3@hsc.usf.edu](mailto:msmith3@hsc.usf.edu)

## Important Dates

March 24, 2006 - COPH Comprehensive Exam  
March 24, 2006 - Last day for students to drop a class and receive a grade of "W"

National Public Health Week  
April 3-8, 2006

COPH Networking Fair  
Tuesday, April 4, 4-6 pm, COPH Atrium

Spring Field Experience Departmental Debriefing Dates  
Friday April 14 - 11-noon - EPI/BIO - Rm 2003 COPH  
Monday, April 17 - 10-11 am - GH - Rm 1122 COPH  
Friday, April 21, 9-10 am - HPM - Rm 2143, COPH  
Wednesday, April 26 - 10-11 am - EOH - Rm 1108 COPH  
TBA - CFH

Friday, May 12, 2006  
10am Domestic FE Orientation  
11am International FE Orientation  
Orientation will be held in the Distance Learning Studio.  
Contact [feadvisor@hsc.usf.edu](mailto:feadvisor@hsc.usf.edu) with questions.

November 4-8, 2006  
Annual APHA Meeting, Boston, MA. For more information visit:  
[www.apha.org/meetings](http://www.apha.org/meetings) or e-mail [conventions@apha.org](mailto:conventions@apha.org).

## Links of Interest

[Meetings, Courses and Training Opportunities](#)[Calls for Proposals](#)[USF Health Funding Finds](#)