



Date: 3/6/2006

>> TAKE NOTE !

Faculty from COPH Visit Kolkata, India

Drs. Noreen Poor (Dept. of Environmental and Occupational Health), Thomas Mason (GCDMHA), and Associate Dean for International Programs Ann DeBaldo returned recently from Kolkata, India, where they participated in a workshop on Water, Sanitation and Environmental Health in India, sponsored by the INDO-US Joint Working Group on Environmental and Occupational Health. The four topics addressed during the workshop



Dr. Mason, Dr. Peter Falk, Consul General Henry Jardin, Dr. Poor, Dr. DeBaldo

were access to safe water and water quality, sanitation hygiene and health, environmental contaminants in water and public health intervention and demonstration. Dr. Poor presented "The Relationship between Air Pollution and Water Pollution: Case Studies for Nitrogen and Mercury" and Dr. Mason talked about the "Impact of Disasters on Water Resources" to the more than two dozen invited Indian and American participants.



Settling pond that allows water from the Ganges River to settle before being treated for drinking

During discussions following the scientific presentations, Dr. DeBaldo expressed the College's interest in playing a major role in the continuing collaborative agreement, citing the many programs and high level of faculty interest and involvement in research and capacity building in India. "This will provide outstanding opportunities for faculty to do mutually beneficial environmental and occupational health research with Indian researchers." The Indian scientists present were particularly interested in developing student and faculty exchange programs with the COPH.

Dr. Henry Falk, Director, Coordinating Center for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) spoke to the purposes of the joint collaborative program in environmental and occupational health - to improve the health status and well-being of individual workers in both countries and to develop mechanisms to translate research results into policies and actions. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare acts as the Indian nodal agency and the CDC and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services act as the US nodal agencies. US Consul General Henry V. Jardine paid his compliments to the gathering during an evening event and expressed his pleasure that US and Indian scientists were identifying so many areas of common interest in which to do research.



Ramakrishna Math in Kolkata, India

USF Health Research Day Wrap Up

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics had outstanding representation at the 16th Annual USF Health Research Day. EPB associated students presenting posters of their work were:

Mubeena Begum, MSPH student in Epidemiology presenting *Combining Gene Expression Profiles and Clinical Parameters for Survival Prediction in Dukes' B and C Colorectal Cancer Patients*.

>> Take Note continued...

Leigh Mathias, Doctoral Student in Epidemiology - *The Stroke Belt: No Improvement in Stroke Mortality Rates for African American Elderly in Urban and Rural Counties, United States, 1990-2000*.

Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor Suppresses Src Kinase Signaling And Induces Apoptosis in Human Osteosarcoma Cell Lines.

Monika Wahi, Doctoral Student in Epidemiology - *Sleep Disturbances Are Negatively Associated With Mortality Risk In Older Mexican-Americans: Findings From the Hispanic Established Populations For The Epidemiologic Studies Of the Elderly*.

Ali Kandil, an MPH student in Epidemiology had a poster in the Gastroenterology section entitled: *Disparities in the Utilization of Bariatric Surgery Among Residents of Hillsborough County*.

Ali Kandil Received First place in his category

Audrey Shor, a Dual MPH/PhD student in Epidemiology and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, presenting in the Oncology section - *Dasatinib (BMS-354825)*

Thanks to all who participated and Congratulations to all our students!

Global Health Department Celebrates 2 Year Anniversary in Conjunction with the 2nd Annual GHSA Talent Show

The Global Health Department celebrated their 2nd anniversary in conjunction with the Global Health Student Association's 2nd annual talent show and silent auction. The celebration started off with a program including the following remarks from Jane Mai who is a student in the Global Health Department:

"Good evening, my name is Jane Mai and I am an MPH student in the Global Health department with a concentration in Global Communicable Disease. As I am finishing up my final semester here at the College of Public Health, I have been asked to talk about my experience as a student in this department. Almost two years later, I can still recall sitting upstairs in our "Global Health" orientation and feeling slightly overwhelmed. I think my peers can relate to this feeling after all of us having to deal with parking passes, sonitrol cards, HIPPA certifications and just trying not to get lost in traffic on our way to campus. I was nervous and I didn't know what to expect what with this new formality and seriousness of "graduate school." But - I also felt excited. I was excited about being in my program and anxious to meet my professors who would direct me in this field of international health. I quickly realized that I was in good hands. Listening to Dr. Kwa introduce the department and looking at all of the faces of faculty members lined up in the back of the classroom, I remember feeling an immediate sense of welcoming and comfort. It was this feeling of reassurance that allowed me to freely explore my interests in global health with the knowledge that my department would provide a wealth of resources and a constant support. Every member of the Global Health department has played an integral role in making this program a success. From the smiles and dedication of Katherine and Evelyn, to the guidance and academic wisdom from Drs. Azizan, Cattani, Haiduven, Izurieta, and Dr. Kay, this program is continually being strengthened. I must extend a personal acknowledgement and appreciation to Dr. Westhoff. Thank you, Dr. Westhoff for your unwavering positive spirit, and for opening my eyes wider to the developing world. Dr. Westhoff has the natural ability to warm the hearts of his students and bring joy to everyone around him, here in the U.S. and abroad. It would be impossible for me to forget Dr. Kwa, my advisor and mentor, of whom I have the utmost respect and appreciation for. Dr. Kwa, you may or may not be aware of

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>>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/ahcc/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/ahcc/hscsevents.html> have been updated, and there are handouts at the display table near snack area.

Wonderful health fair opportunity!

The American Diabetes Association is holding a large DIABETES EXPO on Saturday, March 11, 2006 at the Tampa Convention Center (see web site at <http://www.diabetes.org/communityprograms-and-localevents/diabetesexpo/Tampa-Expo.jsp>). If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Joanne Vaccaro-Kish, jovaccar@hsc.usf.edu RN, CDE, Coordinator, Diabetes Education/Training of the USF Diabetes Center or 813/974-5734, and tell her your area of interest/expertise and what time you prefer to volunteer. (e.g. 10-1 or 1-4). There are many clinical and non-clinical volunteer opportunities available and bilingual students are needed to serve as interpreters!

EPA Summer Opportunities Web Site Now Available

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has launched a Web site for students, which provides a central Web portal through which students may learn about EPA offices and summer employment opportunities. The EPA Jobs Web site is located at: <http://www.epa.gov/careers>. The direct link to the Summer Student Employment Opportunities Web site is <http://www.epa.gov/ohr/student>. Questions about the EPA summer hiring program can be directed to Ms. JoAnn Brant at (202) 564-0375. From ASPH Friday Letter #1402.

>> Faculty

Deadline Extended for International Interest and Experience Survey
Please respond to the COPH International Interest and Experience Survey by March 7th. Your response will help the College in planning future international work.

Dr. Charles Mahan Presents at FIU Public Health Advisory Board Meeting

On February 24, Dr. Charles S. Mahan presented a seminar on The National Board of Public Health Examiners to the Florida International University School of Public Health Advisory Board, of which he is a member. The meeting was held in Miami.

Dr. Michael Reid Named to Advisory Committee

Dr. Michael Reid, Director of the Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness, was recently named to the Advisory Committee for the Florida Department of Health's Emergency System for Advanced Registration of Volunteer Healthcare Professionals (ESAR-VHP).

>>Take Note continued....

this, but you have changed my life forever. Almost exactly 1 year ago, after Dr. to Kwa's recommendation to our class, I attended a conference at the University of Alabama at Birmingham on Achieving Equity in Global Health. Everyday I am inspired by what I have learned there and I cannot imagine not being a part of such an impactful event. Dr. Kwa, even though I am your advisee, I show no bias when mentioning your academic talents. You captivate your students with your lectures and encourage all of us in academia acquire a better global understanding. Dr. Kwa, thank you for your leadership, your humor, your motivation and encouragement. We students all thank you.

The Global Health Department and the College of Public Health are rapidly expanding. I look forward to the development of the International Programs office through the active efforts of Susan James and Dr. DeBaldo. And, under the direction of Dean Petersen, I can without a doubt, further predict an upward trend in this college. Also at the Birmingham conference, several MPH students enviously asked me how their former Dean was doing at USF. I responded with "She's amazing!...and No, you can't have her back."

I can honestly say that I am a better student today because of the Global Health Department. I am excited for the new global health students just beginning their journey and for the opportunities they will have in this program.

With globalization becoming the new "catch phrase" and more of a reality in today's world, this Global Health department is essential to the success of not only this College, but also for this University. Knowing that the leadership of Dean Petersen and the global health staff will continue to fortify this program, I am confident that there will be more "right-minded" health care professionals leaving this school.

Thank you for your unfailing support and guidance. Thank you for letting me be a part of this Global Health family and for helping me to become a better health care professional."

The evening continued with the GHSA talent show which included several faculty, staff and students who showcased various talents. A great time was had by all and those in the audience discovered what a talented group of people work in the College of Public Health! The show was a great success and the Global Health Student Association raised over \$1000.00 for their chosen charity Common Ground Collective in New Orleans, Louisiana. If you would like more information on this charity, please visit their website at <http://www.commongroundrelief.org/>.

>>Administration

Request for Summer 2006 semester appointments are due to COPH-HR by Friday, March 17, 2006

PERT Certification Deadline - March 17, 2006

The FALL 2005 PERT effort reports are currently under review and will be released as soon as they have been verified by HR and Research Compliance. At this time you will need to make sure that you can access GEMS - Self Service without any problems.

Please remember it could take up to 24 hours to have password reset and obtain access to your PERT report. If you having problems accessing GEMS, please contact Betty Persky at 974-4609.

Important Dates

Friday, May 12

10am Domestic FE Orientation

11am International FE Orientation

Orientation will be held in the Distance Learning Studio. Contact feadvisor@hsc.usf.edu with questions.

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

November 4-8, 2006

Annual APHA Meeting, Boston, MA. For more information visit:

www.apha.org/meetings or e-mail conventions@apha.org.

Links of Interest

[Meetings, Courses and Training Opportunities](#)

[Calls for Proposals](#)

[USF Health Funding Finds](#)
