



>>TAKE NOTE

Correction

Please note the following correction to last week's Monday Letter - Dr. Stuart Brooks' name was spelled incorrectly. It is spelled correctly above.

Public Health Faculty Honored at First Million-Dollar Researcher Event

As part of the University's 50th Anniversary Celebrations, President Genshaft and Vice President Chang hosted a dinner at which all USF researchers who have generated one million dollars or more in research in the past year were recognized and inducted into a new USF "million dollar club". The College of Public Health was well-represented with one Gold Member (3 million or more) Dr. Jacqueline Cattani and five Silver Members (one million or more), Dr. C. Hendricks Brown, Ed Feaver, Dr. Yehia Hammad, Dr. Michael Reid and Dr. Jay Wolfson. Please join me in congratulating our public health millionaires!

Dr. M. Rony Francois is Honored as the 2006 USF Distinguished Alumnae

Several events were held this past weekend to honor our own Dr. Rony Francois for receiving the USF Distinguished Alumni Award for 2006. Dr. Francois was honored with a luncheon on Friday, November 3rd at the Alumni Center. USF Health honored Dr. Francois with a reception at 5:00 pm on November 3rd as well. At the USF vs. Pittsburgh Football game on Saturday, November 4th, the alumni award recipients were also honored. Congratulations to Dr. Francois (a picture of events will follow in next week's Monday Letter).

News from the Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida

The Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida (PHLIF) held the second session for Class 11 from October 15 - 20, 2006 at the Dayspring Conference Center in Ellenton. During this week, scholars participated in over 30 hours of classroom activities, outdoor teambuilding challenges, and social events. Topics for this session included: Leadership Theories, Creating and Sharing a Vision, Teambuilding, Emotional Intelligence, and an Introduction to Political Effectiveness.

The PHLIF scholars will next meet in Tampa from January 21 - 24, 2007. This session will include workshops on Risk Communication, Conflict Resolution, and Media Effectiveness. Scholars will be presented material from experts in their respective fields, and will have the opportunity to practice the skills learned.

>>Alumni Update

Updates on Vivian Thompson and Gregg Rottler

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>>Students



Student research and funding opportunities: The comprehensive web site of student research at: <http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/fundingopps.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!

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/ahec/hsevents.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!

Students Present at Meeting: PhD students Ms. Monica Gray, Mr. Max Moreno, and Ms. Darlene Martin presented these award-winning



posters October 22-24, 2006, at the Florida Section Air and Waste Management Association (FLAWMA) Annual Meeting in Atlantic Beach, Florida: "Evaluation of the Performance and Microbial Safety of the Prototype IV Solar Latrine in El Salvador," by Monica Gray and Ricardo Izurieta,

Analytical Method for Natural Waters" by Max Moreno and Noreen Poor, "Aerosolized Microorganisms: Survivability, Infectivity, Detection, and Modeling--A Literature Review" by Darlene Martin and Amy Stuart. Through the generous donations of their conference sponsors, FLAWMA covered the costs of student travel to attend this meeting.

Special thanks to COPH students who have participated in recent USF Health Service Corps activities: Cara De La Cruz, Angie Lloyd, Tina Mutka, Jennifer Muller and Lillian Smith, who provided valuable health education and interpreting services at a health fair for Hispanic families at Beth El mission in Wimauma on Oct. 28th; Tara Trudnak and Cassandra Julmeus, who cheered up families at a picnic at The Spring on Sat. November 4th; and Kimberly Rogers, Aisha Turnbull and Angie Lloyd who contributed to the American Heart Walk! **Upcoming activities! Tuesday, November 14th, 8 am - 2 pm.** National Memory Screening Day at the USF Psychiatry Center, 3515 East Fletcher Avenue, MDC-14. Students will administer free confidential memory screenings, and provide follow up resources and educational materials to those concerned about memory loss. Supervision provided by USF Dept. of Psychiatry. Sign up with Yvonne Bannon, RN, MSHS, CCRC, USF Department of Psychiatry and



College of Public Health

Date: 11/06/2006

>>Students continued...

Behavioral Medicine at 974-2832 or ybannon@health.usf.edu. Wednesday, November 15th, 8 am - 4 pm. Great American Teach In. You can teach, inspire and motivate students at local elementary, middle and high schools in Hillsborough County about becoming a health professional! Bilingual students are also needed and invited to "teach" at Beth El Charter School in Wimauma. Please contact Ellen Kent at EKent@health.usf.edu to sign up to teach any time that day!

>>Administration

Welcome a New Employee in Academic Affairs

Please welcome Linda Rodriguez, the new interim International Field Experience Counselor, to the College of Public Health. Linda replaces Marena Cortes who has now moved on to a new home in Panama. A native of Puerto Rico and long-time Tampa resident, Linda brings a wealth of experience from her social work background and extensive experience in Central America counseling victims of hurricanes. She is looking forward to meeting and working with students interested in doing an international field experience or who simply would like to talk with her about her experiences working in the global arena. She is also a very experienced Yoga instructor! So, please stop by her office to say hello and welcome her to the College.

>>Global Scene

IT and Public Health in India



Deepti Shukla (*shown here at right*) said, "The two years with USF were [an] excellent experience."

It all began in the fall of 2004 when seven Indian students sat in a classroom in Hinjawadi, India and listened to their first College of Public Health lecture.

Umashankar Subramanian (*at far left*) wrote upon receiving his USF diploma, "Now it really feels great to receive the MPH from USF!" Gopichand Mukkapati (*pictured to his right*) wrote, "...my mother received the diploma from the postman and she was very happy after looking at the diploma." Last month those same seven Indian students received their well earned USF diplomas. The students each earned a Masters of Public Health degree with a concentration in Global Health Informatics. This degree program was a unique 2 ½ year endeavor between USF's College of Public Health and the International Institute of Information Technology (I²IT) in Pune, India.

Today we are happy to report that within days of graduation, four of the seven students obtained jobs- three with CalSoft, a US-owned firm based in Chennai, India - and one student with DataMonitor, a UK based firm, based in Kerala, India. Three of the four students are aiming for public health positions in India, where the country is just beginning to build a public health infrastructure.



One student, Parag Borkar (*shown here on left*), has been successful in reaching his aim. Parag began with CalSoft but recently wrote that he has been selected for the position of Program Health Officer with the Canadian Red Cross in the Indian office. Parag will be involved in the community health development programs in three states in southern India.

His responsibilities include data collection, designing health programs tailored to the local context and developing program evaluation strategies. Parag writes, "I am really happy that I got a public health job." We look forward to hearing more as our special I²IT alumni move into the future. Congratulations to one and all!



Graduates (left to right): George Thomas, Padmavati Vegesna, and Vinod Gopalakrishnan.

>>Faculty

Dr. Andrea M. Spehar and her colleagues had an article published online in the Journal of the American Medical Directors Association. A Multivariate Fall Risk Assessment Model for VHA Nursing Homes Using the Minimum Data Set • ARTICLE In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 27 October 2006

Dustin D. French, Dennis C. Werner, Robert R. Campbell, Gail M. Powell-Cope, Audrey L. Nelson, Laurence Z. Rubenstein, Tatjana Bulat and Andrea M. Spehar. *J Am Med Dir Assn* 2006. DOI: 10.1016/j.jamda.2006.08.005 Available at URL:

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/15258610>

Important Dates

Thursday, November 2, 2006 - HSC 4933-008 Secret History of Death and Disease Video Presentation - Surviving Atomic Attack, 9:30-10:45 am, COPH 1023B

November 4-7, 2006 - ASPH Annual Meeting, Boston Marriott Copley Plaza, Boston, MA

November 4-8, 2006 - APHA Annual Meeting, Boston, MA

Monday, November 13, 2006 - Grant Writing Seminar for students. 9:30AM-12:00PM in Room 2016. This will be the second of our professional skills and development seminars.

November 13-17th, International Education Week Screenings on College of Public Health Atrium television.

Friday, November 17, 2006 - Dean's Public Health Lecture Series, 12:00-1:00 pm COPH 1023A - Dr. Paul Wise - "The Impact of Medical Innovation on Social Disparities in Health"

Fall 2006 Field Experience Departmental Debriefings

Dept.	Date	Time	Location
CFH	Thurs., Nov. 16	9am	Billirakis Room/Chiles Ctr.
EOH	Thurs, Nov 16	11am	COPH 1108
EPI/BIO	Wed, Dec 13	noon	COPH 2022
GH	Tues, Nov 14	10am	COPH 2024
HPM	Fri, Nov 17	1pm	COPH 2143