

PHPM The Liaison

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Administrative Staff

Anne Rudwick
Administrator

Tree Casiano
Education Manager

Natalie Chin
Education Coordinator

Cara Cooper
Administrative Coordinator & Newsletter Editor

Mark Derby
Grants Contract Coordinator

Hillary Regan
Residency Coordinator

For a hardcopy of The Liaison, contact Cara Cooper in the PHPM Administrative Office:
coopecar@ohu.edu



Dr. Tom Becker

A Message from the Chair

If you turn on your radio or TV these days, it is hard to avoid getting public health messages about Ebola virus infections and strategies to avoid this apparently very unpleasant infection. A related hot topic is vaccine development and testing, which is often viewed as the ultimate prevention strategy for infectious diseases. Coincident with the National Public Radio discussions of Ebola vaccines this week was discussion of the Salk polio vaccine. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Jonas Salk, MD, and the 60th anniversary of his 1954 huge vaccine trial using inactivated polioviruses. One radio segment included an ethicist who discussed that trial, which included about two million participants, most of whom were school-aged children. The ethicist felt that such a trial could not be repeated in current times, even though Albert Sabin conducted an even larger trial in the Soviet Union in the 1960's with the oral polio vaccine.

Polio was the 'Ebola virus infection' of the day when I was a child. We feared it. Our moms feared it. Everyone knew someone with polio. And with the former president Roosevelt providing celebrity status to the disease, the entire planet's attention was focused on it, as it seems to be with Ebola now. I did not participate in the vaccine trial but I do remember lining up for my dose of vaccine later on in grade school. My memory about all this activity around polio was heightened a couple of years ago when I went to see an NIH-sponsored exhibit on polio infections in DC, complete with iron lungs, etc. It was some terrifying stuff.

Polio is not gone from our planet yet. According to medical epidemiologist Tom Weiser of the Portland Area Indian Health Service and Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria still have endemic spread of the disease. Tom went to Indonesia in 2006 to help beef up surveillance for acute flaccid paralysis after that country identified its first cases in over a decade. His stories were quite interesting and he reminded me that we are so close to eradicating this dreadful disease, but we still have much work to do.

Ebola, the infection du jour, is just another in a long list of threats. As a physician, I have never seen a case, and hope that I never do so. Our roles locally in public health should probably center on education and on calming panic - which unfortunately seems to be setting in over the issue of transmission. While we are at it, maybe we can remind our fellow humans that greater threats exist from old, boring diseases like influenza, a challenge that we can actually do something about from a societal perspective, and a disease that still claims a lot of lives - more than Ebola. Perhaps I will see you standing in line at the Hatfield lobby getting your flu shot! I hope so!

Stay Healthy, TB



Public Health and Preventive Medicine Faculty and Staff—NEWS

Grants

New Awards:

Carrie Nielson, *Genetic Risk Factors for Osteoporosis Fracture in Older Adults*, Medical Research Foundation (Early Investigator Grant)

Ana Quinones, *Inconsistencies in Chronic Disease Reports Over Time*, NIA (R03)

Center for Healthy Communities, Prevention Research Center Special Interest Projects Supplements (SIPs)

Jackie Shannon/ Kerri Winters-Stone/ Tom Becker, *Oregon Community Cancer Research Collaborative*, CDC

Raina Croff: Project Lead (PIs: **Tom Becker/ Jeff Faye**), *Oregon Healthy Brain Initiative Research Network Collaborative Center*, CDC

Pending applications:

Janne Boone-Heinonen, *Does diet change from before to during pregnancy? A causal inference approach*, NIDDK (R21)

Traci Rieckmann, *The impact of health reform on access, organization and quality of AUD treatment*, NIAAA (R01)

Thuan Nguyen, *Extending fence methods to meet new challenges in health and medicine*, NIGMS (R01)

Seth O'Neal, *Evaluating corraling and the effect of dung beetles on transmission and control of cysticercosis*, NIAID (R21)

Kathleen Carlson, *Medication safety in Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans who use VA and non-VA opioid prescribers*, DoD (CDMRP)

Kathleen Carlson, *Assessing veterans' risk of firearm injuries: An interagency database linkage*, NICHD (R21)

Thuan Nguyen, *Collaborative research: Prediction and model selection for new challenging problems with complex data*, NSF

Oregon Healthy Brain Initiative Network Collaborative Center

Oregon Prevention Research Center and Layton Aging and Alzheimer's Disease Center at OHSU have been awarded a 5-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Healthy Aging Program to form the Oregon Healthy Brain Initiative Network Collaborative Center (PIs *Thomas Becker MD, PhD and Jeffrey Kaye, MD*). The Oregon Center will be one of five collaborative centers across the US promoting cognitive functioning, addressing cognitive impairment for individuals living in the community, and helping meet the needs of care partners. Under the new center, PHPM's Raina Croff, PhD will lead the Sharing History through Active Reminiscence and Photo-imagery (SHARP) Pilot Program. SHARP targets Portland African Americans aged 55 and older and uses historical images of Portland's historically black neighborhoods on cell phones to prompt social reminiscence during small-group neighborhood walks. The study aims to increase social engagement, memory work, and exercise to promote behaviors that may improve cognitive health. Narrative histories and historic images from group walks will be archived on an online community resource as a platform for disseminating culturally-relevant messaging and information about healthy cognitive aging among Oregon's African American communities.

PHPM Faculty and Staff News (continued)

Publications

- Arao R.F., Rosenberg K.D., McWeeney S., Hedberg K. (2014) Influenza Vaccination of Pregnant Women: Attitudes and Behaviors of Oregon Physician Prenatal Care Providers. *Matern Child Health*.
Rob surveyed over 1000 prenatal care providers and found that over 90% of prenatal care providers understood the importance of influenza vaccination during pregnancy. He recommends increased mass_media and social media education of pregnant women to get the flu vaccine.
- Hartung, D., McCarty, D., Fu, R., Wiest, K., Chalk, M. & Gastfriend, D.R. (2014). Extended-release naltrexone for alcohol and opioid dependence: A meta-analysis of healthcare utilization studies. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 47, 113 – 121. doi: 10.1016/j.jsat.2014.03.007. PMID: PMC4110954.
- Lynch, F.L., McCarty, D., Mertens, J., Perrin, N.A., Green, C.A., Parthasarathy, S., Dickerson, J.F., Anderson, B.A. & Pating, D. (2014). Costs of care for persons with opioid dependence in commercial integrated health systems. *Addiction Science & Clinical Practice*, 9: 16. Doi:10.1186/1940-0640-9-16. PMID: in process.
- McCarty, D., Bovett, R., Burns, T., Cushing, J., Glynn, M.E., Kruse, J., Millet, L.M. & Shames, J. (2014). Oregon's strategy to confront prescription opioid misuse: A case study. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, online in advance of print, August 2, 2014. PMID: in process.
- McCarty, D., Braude, L., Lyman, D.R., Dougherty, R.H., Daniels, A.S., Ghose, S.S. & Delphin-Rittmon, M.E. (2014). Substance abuse intensive outpatient programs: Assessing the evidence. *Psychiatric Services*. 65 (6), 718 – 726. doi: 10.1176/aapi.ps.201300249. PMID: 24445620. PMID: 4152944.
- McConnell, K.J., Chang, A.M., Cohen, D.J., Wallace, N., Chernew, M.E., Kautz, G., McCarty, D., McFarland, B.H., Wright, B. & Smith, J.A. (2014). Oregon's Medicaid transformation: An innovative approach to holding a health system accountable for spending growth. *Health Care: The Journal of Delivery Science and Innovation*. 2, 163 – 167. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hjdsi.2013.11.002>. PMID: in process
- Wiest, K.L., Colditz, J.B., Carr, K., Asphaug, V.J., McCarty, D. & Pilkonis, P.A. (2014). Pain and emotional distress among substance-use patients beginning treatment relative to a representative comparison group. *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, online in advance of print. PMID: in process.
- McCarty, D. (2014). A business case for including medication in treatment plans: Toward a 21st Century system of care for alcohol and drug use disorders. *The Bridge: Linking Science and Service*, 4 (3), Fall, 2014. http://www.attcnetwork.org/find/news/attcnews/epubs/v4i3_article06.asp

Presentations

- McCarty, D., Rieckmann, T., Renfro, S., Garvey, K. & McConnell, K.J. Pardon our dust: remodeling care to serve you better. Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Boston, MA: October 16, 2014.
- McCarty, D., Rieckmann, T., Renfro, S., McConnell, J. & Garvey, K. Integrating addiction treatment with primary care: Early lessons from Oregon. American Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC: August 7, 2014.
- Croff, R., Alanis-Hirsch, K., Ford, J., Schmidt, L., McCarty, D., & Chalk, M. Strategies to increase family influence on patient decisions about medication-assisted treatment. College of Problems on Drug Dependence Annual Meeting, San Juan, PR: June 18, 2014.
- Alanis-Hirsch, K., Croff, R., Ford, J., Schmidt, L., McCarty, D. & Chalk, M. Strategies to influence attitudes towards pharmacotherapies for alcohol and opioid use disorders. College of Problems on Drug Dependence Annual Meeting, San Juan, PR: June 17, 2014.
- Janoff, S., Coplan, P., Perrin, N., McCarty, D., Campbell, C., Shuster, E., Ray, G.T., Chilcoat, H. & Green, C.A. Validation of opioid overdoses & poisonings in electronic medical records with medical chart reviews. College of Problems on Drug Dependence Annual Meeting, San Juan, PR: June 16, 2014.

PHPM Faculty and Staff News (continued)

Awards and Honors

OCTRI announces 2015 Catalyst Award recipients

The Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) has funded four projects designed to enhance translational research at OHSU. These novel, collaborative, multidisciplinary studies will lead to further research and funding in translational research. The funding was made available through institutional support of OCTRI from the School of Medicine and the Office of the Senior Vice President for Research.

Congratulations to 2015 Catalyst Award winner Willi Horner-Johnson, PhD for her project entitled “Reproductive Health of Women with Disabilities Initiative”. OCTRI Catalyst funding is specifically intended to enable the development of compelling new grant applications that will sustain the proposed research activity. For more information on OCTRI’s resources and services, please visit: www.octri.org.



Dr. Willi Horner-Johnson

Welcome

Cara Cooper

Hello! I’m Cara Cooper, the newest addition to the PHPM Admin Staff as the general Administrative Coordinator (and editor of this newsletter). I’ve been at OHSU for about five years, first as a temporary employee in a few departments around campus, before settling into an Admin Assistant role in the Risk Management department.

I’m a proud graduate of the University of Oregon (Go Ducks!) with a degree in Journalism. In my free time, I enjoy baking and cooking, I’m a big sports fan, and I love trying new restaurants and seeing live music around Portland.

I’m looking forward to working with and getting to know all the PHPM staff and faculty!

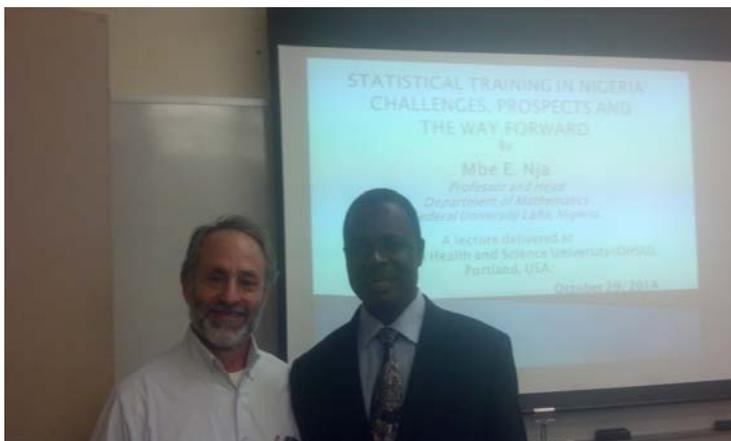
Jamie Jones

Jamie Jones is the new Field Experience Coordinator for the MPH Epidemiology and MPH Biostatistics students. Jamie graduated with her Master of Public Health in Health Promotion in 2011. She has taught Introduction to Public Health at Portland State and was a Research Associate with the Oregon Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation Program in the Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences at OHSU. Before returning to OHSU, she was an Academic Advisor to undergraduate health students at Portland State. Jamie is very excited to be back on the hill and working with MPH students. Next time you are in Gaines Hall, please stop by and say hello.

PHPM Faculty and Staff News (continued)

Events

The Division of Biostatistics hosted Professor Mbe Egom Nja from Nigeria on October 30, 2014. Dr. Nja is Head of the Department of Mathematics at the Federal University in Lafia, Nigeria. He gave a special lecture entitled “Statistical Training in Nigeria: Challenges and Prospects” in which he gave an overview of Nigerian history, culture and their education system. He met with biostatistics faculty, visited the Global Health Center, and discussed several collaborative projects including faculty exchange, collaborative teaching, and Nigerian men’s cohort study. His wife, Glory, is a PhD trained nurse working in the Public Health Department in Nigeria. Her main interest is ENT public health issues.



Dr. Jay Kravitz and Dr. Mbe Nja



Glory and Mbe Nja at Multnomah Falls

Upcoming Events

First International Symposium on Substance Use Disorders
and Co-Occurring Mental Health Conditions
December 18, 2014 in Lima, Peru
The Center for Global Innovation, Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya

The first annual symposium on substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health problems discusses ethical and evidence-based treatment for substance abuse, addiction mechanisms, comorbid mental and/or physical health issues, the relationship between substance use and education, alcohol and drug policies, and innovative treatment interventions. Dr. Dennis McCarty, a leading substance abuse treatment researcher in the U.S., provides the keynote address. This meeting is sponsored by the Center for Global Innovation at Ruiz, INCAAS, and the U.S. National Institute of Health to increase knowledge about substance use prevention, treatment, recovery, and the use of evidence-based practices and promote discussion and dialogue about the need for increased knowledge of international and country level policies and programs.

School of Public Health Update

News from the School of Public Health Initiative Dean's Office

In July 2014, Elena Andresen, Ph.D. was appointed as the Interim Dean for the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health Initiative. She appointed an administrative leadership team consisting of Leslie McBride, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Katherine Bradley, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Practice; and Nancy Goldschmidt, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Accreditation. Also joining the Deans office are Jamie Jones, MPH, Field Experience Program Coordinator; Casey Conrad, Administrative Assistant; and Dianna Kaady, Executive Assistant.

The website is in development as we seek accreditation. Information about meetings, meeting minutes and progress can be found on the School of Public Health Initiative website: www.ohsu.edu/ohsu-psu-publichealth.

The School of Public Health Initiative Deans Office is located on the 2nd floor of Gaines Hall.



From left – Dianna Kaady, Leslie McBride, Casey Conrad, Alison Schneiger, Jamie Jones, Elena Andresen, Katherine Bradley, Nancy Goldschmidt

Integrated Program in Community Research

Jackie Shannon, PhD, was appointed Director of the Integrated Program in Community research. Their mission is to align and leverage existing OHSU community research programs to grow the capacity for grant funded community research, extend the role of community in all institutional missions and garner institutional support to create a sustainable and collaborative program recognized by community and academic leaders for excellence in community research.

The program will be supported through OCTRI and the Provost's Office as a cross-programmatic, cross-school endeavor, and as such it is anticipated that all investigators, regardless of affiliation, will have the opportunity to advance their research.

Program News (continued)

MPH Program News

Thesis Defense

Erin Coburn

Relation of pre-operative pre-albumin and transferrin to 30-day risk of complication in elective spine surgical patients

December 1, 2014—CSB679

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

New Report from Former MPH Student

Former MPH student Kim Repp, PhD, MPH, recently completed a report on marijuana and health effects entitled *Marijuana and Health: A Comprehensive Review of 20 Years of Research*. This report summarizes over fifty marijuana associated topics ranging from clinical trials for therapeutic use, car crash risk, and prenatal exposure effects, all the way to schizophrenia development. The research in this review is as up to date as it gets with 30 studies included from 2014 alone. To learn more, you can read the study in it's entirety [here](#).

Preventive Medicine Residency Program

Congratulations Rachel Seltzer!

Rachel Seltzer, MD, MPH, completed her MPH in Health Management and Policy and graduated from the Preventive Medicine Residency in September 2014. For her practicum work, she completed a number of projects with the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) and focused most of her practicum on the transformation of services within the Columbia Pacific Coordinated Care Organization. Her clinical work included the Washington County teen STD/family planning clinic. She is now resuming her family medicine training with Hidalgo Medical Services in Silver City, NM, a rural training track (RTT) of the University of New Mexico. She is involved in a forward-thinking and innovative patient-centered medical home in a federally qualified health center (FQHC), a partnering hospital, and the Center for Health Innovation, a not-for-profit primary care research center. Good luck, Rae!!

Welcome Amy Kerfoot!

Amy Kerfoot, MD started the Preventive Medicine Residency at the end of July 2014. She completed a Master's Degree in Biomedical Informatics at OHSU in 2009, after which she pursued her MD at Albany Medical College in New York. She has continued to work with the Department of Biomedical Informatics and Epidemiology and completed a year of Anesthesiology residency here at OHSU prior to transferring to Preventive Medicine. She is also in the Oregon Army National Guard Medical Command and works in a prevention clinic at Andersen Readiness Center for one weekend each month.

Superfund Site Field Experience

On September 11, 2014, the Preventive Medicine Residents, along with the OHSU Toxicology fellows and faculty toured the superfund sites on the Willamette River with environmental public health experts and the Willamette Riverkeepers. This on-river tour highlighted the threats to the Willamette River and to the regions health of various kinds of environmental contamination and the difficult challenges of remediating these threats once established.

Preventive Medicine Residency News (continued)

Mycology Field Experience

On October 30, 2014, the Preventive Medicine residents and faculty, along with the OHSU Toxicology fellows and faculty, went on a mycological field experience southeast of Estacada in the Mt. Hood National Forest. Led by Mycology expert, Judy Roger (who was contracted to catalog over 2,000 varieties during the Clinton Administration), the group learned about the identification and biological & toxicological characteristics of many wild mushrooms found in the Pacific Northwest.



A sampling of wild mushrooms seen on the excursion.
