The Liaison

November 2011

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Grants

New applications:

Janne Boone-Heinonen, “Exercise and food deserts in the Portland Metropolitan Area: can we measure them better?,” Medical Research Foundation

Ana Quiñones, “Exploring race/ethnic disparities in the care coordination of older, multimorbid patients,” Medical Research Foundation

Philippe Thuillier, “Niche - stem cell interaction and restriction during melanoma development,” Department of Defense Medical Discovery Award

Dongseok Choi, “High Resolution Predictions for Patient Waiting Time,” Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute

Thuan Nguyen, “Educational and Research Visits at JPSM—the Joint Program in Survey Methodology,” Burroughs Welcome Fund

Please notify Mark Derby at 4-0181 or by email at derbym@ohsu.edu if you intend to apply for a grant.

Public Health and Preventive Medicine

Faculty and Staff—NEWS

Publications:

The November/December 2011 issue of The Nation’s Health (the official newspaper of the American Public Health Association) includes in the “States in Brief” column a summary of results from the analysis of Oregon’s parity legislation. The report in the American Journal of Psychiatry found little increase in the use of mental health and addiction treatment services following the implementation of parity. The lead author on the paper, John McConnell (Department of Emergency Medicine, joint appointment in the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine) notes the similarity between Oregon’s parity implementation and the federal parity legislation. PHPM faculty, Traci Rieckmann and Dennis McCarty, are co-authors on the paper.


The Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Faculty and Staff NEWS (continued)


Peizhong Mao1,2*, Charles K. Meshul3,4, Philippe Thuillier2, Natalie R.S. Goldberg3 and P. Hemachandra Reddy1,5. CART Peptide is a Potential Endogenous Antioxidant and Preferentially Localized in Mitochondria.

Presentations:

Dr. Carrie Nielson (Assistant Professor, Epidemiology) presented her research at the Building Interdisciplinary Research - Careers in Women’s Health (BIRCWH) meeting in Rockville, MD, on November 16. Collaborating with our own Priya Srikanth and with Ann Hill in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, she reported associations between cytomegalovirus seropositivity and frailty and osteoporosis in older men and women in the NHANES III survey*. As a BIRCWH scholar, Dr. Nielson also attended Scholars Day on the Hill, a program designed to educate researchers on the legislative process and policies regarding women’s health. Scholars were encouraged to maintain ties with legislative representatives and other community members to heighten awareness of the importance of research for public health.


Assistant Professor Ruth Ann Tsukuda was a presenter at the Gerontological Society of America 64th Annual Scientific Meeting on November 19, 2001 in Boston: “Teams in the VA: Past, Present and Future” as part of a symposium, “Making the Case and Taking the Challenges of Interdisciplinary Teamwork Education in Geriatrics.”

Travel:

Public Health and Preventive Medicine (PHPM) Attends The American Public Health Association’s (APHA) 139th Annual Meeting and Exposition.
http://www.apha.org/meetings.htm

From October 29, 2011 to November 2, 2011, Dr. Dennis McCarty, Professor, and Dr. Bill Lambert, Associate Professor – both representing OHSU from Public Health and Preventive Medicine (PHPM) – attended the annual meeting of The American Public Health Association (APHA) in Washington, DC. Says Dr. Lambert, “With over 12,000 in attendance, the annual meeting of the APHA might seem too big and too scattered to be useful. Yet, every year I come away with a few gems of knowledge and I feel inspired. Hanging out with your extended family who also fight the good fight recharges your public health soul and gives you ideas as a scientist and educator.”

This year’s meeting was themed Healthy Communities Promote Healthy Minds & Bodies. Dr. Lambert presented multiple papers from the Prevention Research Center (PRC) on prevention of noise-induced hearing loss, bicycle injuries, and prevention of STDs and teen pregnancy. The PRC’s Steve Mansberger presented on the Center’s vision health project. Dr. McCarty was the session facilitator for a symposium reporting the primary outcomes from the NIATx 200 study of organizational change in 200 outpatient addiction treatment centers. Dr. McCarty also presented an initial analysis of data from the Clinical Trials Network (CTN) assessing the influence of organizational and workforce variables on variation between treatment centers participating in the National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network randomized trials. The CTN’s Katherina Wiest hosted a poster and reported that patients in treatment for opioid dependence were more likely to report pain and have more interference from pain.

Although its 1,000 oral presentations and posters are overwhelming, several trends and best practices were evident at this meeting, including health care reform and the role of public health in setting up coordinated care organizations (CCOs) and training community health workers (CHWs). Keynote speakers included former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and SAMSHA’s Pamela Hyde. The closing session was devoted to commemorating the 100-year anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in New York City. One hundred and forty-six workers, mostly immigrant women, died that day. The historical context of the Triangle Fire was compared to the current tragedies of the Upper Big Branch coal mine and the Deepwater Horizon offshore drilling rig, as well as to gaps in government oversight and regulation. “Clearly, protecting and improving federal and state programs for worker health remains a paramount need for healthy communities,” said Dr. Lambert.

Next year’s meeting of the APHA will be held in San Francisco between October 27, 2012 and October 31, 2012, and the theme Prevention and Wellness Across the Lifespan has been announced. The call for abstracts is now open and will close in February. The exhibit hall is always a major attraction.

*A pared-down version of this article was included in the 11/9 edition of the Staff Thoughts blog. You can read it here (login required):
Bill Lambert and Dennis McCarty participated in the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting in Washington, DC October 29 – November 2, 2011.


J. D. Kravitz, MD, MPH; V. S. Palmer; W. A. Harris, MD; J. Boyd, PhD, MBA; P. S. Spencer, PhD, FRCPath, Global Health Center, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, Oregon, USA 97239. "Innovative, Interprofessional Global Health Educational Model at Oregon Health & Science University"

Recipient of a 2008 NIH Fogarty Framework grant, The Global Health Center at Oregon Health and Science University has embarked on a path to stimulate and support research, education, service, and advocacy for global health campus-wide. The Center has created an innovative, synergistic, previously untried, inter-professional educational model for students (medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, and public health) to attend classes together. Newly developed – and well-received – courses allow students to interact with refugee and immigrant communities and the homeless, while learning to address complex global changing 'environments.' A bi-weekly seminar, open to all students and the public, 'Conversations in Global Health,' highlights global health professional endeavors and challenges. Community health professionals with an interest in working abroad or in local, free clinics enroll in a concentrated global health curriculum to refresh primary care and public health skills. A competitive scholarship program supports students, who have completed Center-sponsored courses, to travel abroad to learn about the realities of life and health in low-income countries, while focusing on modest research questions.

Awards and Honors:

Dr. Tom Becker’s Sharp Professorship Featured in the Fall 2011 Circle of Hope

Follow this link to read the interview with Tom Becker regarding his appointment as the first Charles R. and Velma E. Sharp Endowed Professor:


Jodi Lapidus and Mike Lasarev Honored For Excellence

This announcement is excerpted form the 11/10 Clinician Commons blog. To read the full article, please visit this link: http://ozone.ohsu.edu/blogs/clinician-commons/2011/11/10/faculty-students-honored-for-excellence/

Few callings make such a strong impact on so many lives as teaching. This sentiment was celebrated at the annual Faculty Teaching Honors & Student Awards Luncheon, as 17 distinguished School of Medicine faculty members and three students were honored for their outstanding contributions to the school’s education mission. The event was held on November 1, 2011 at the BICC Gallery and was attended by past award recipients, faculty members, students, staff, and family. Allison Fryer, PhD, Professor, Department of Medicine, and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, and Dr. Edward Keenan, PhD, Professor, Department of Physiology & Pharmacology, and Interim Associate Dean for LCME & Curriculum presented the 2011 award recipients with a certificate and a bottle of Oregon pinot noir.

Jodi Lapidus, PhD was presented the Faculty Excellence in Education Award and Mike Lasarev was presented the Faculty Excellence in Teaching Awards for the Graduate and MD Programs—an award chosen by his students.

Congratulations, Jodi and Mike!
Dr. Elena Andresen, PhD, part of the CDRC, has recently joined PHPM as a Professor. Dr. Andresen completed her PhD in epidemiology at the University of Washington (UW) in 1991. During her training, she was a predoctoral fellow with the Seattle VA HSR&D service, and trained in the UW’s new “doctoral opportunities” program in health services research. She has been on the faculty of the University of Rochester School of Medicine, Saint Louis University School of Public Health, University of Florida College of Public Health and Health Professions, and National University of Singapore’s Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health. She joined OHSU in July of this year. Currently, Dr. Andresen is Chief of the Disability and Health Research Group at the Institute on Disability and Development.

Dr. Andresen’s funded research includes topics in aging, disability across the lifespan, and a special focus on health related quality of life methods and measures. Her funders include the CDC, NIH, NIDRR, the Alzheimer’s Association, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

In recent years, Dr. Andresen and her team developed and tested a surveillance module of questions to expand data on the public health issues of caregiving. This project is now a particular interest of former first lady Mrs. Rosalynn Carter, who set an objective for her own Institute that all states will track the health of family caregivers on the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

Dr. Andresen has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles and three books. Most recently she was the Editor and an author for a textbook for undergraduate public health (Jossey-Bass/Wiley) and an editor for a new textbook on disability and public health with Dr. Don Lollar at OHSU. Dr. Andresen and her husband, Kevin Mickelsen, are delighted to return to the Pacific Northwest after a 20 year absence.

Dr. Xinbo Zhang recently joined PHPM as a joint-appointed Research Assistant Professor. Dr. Zhang obtained his Ph.D. in Biostatistics from University of Southern California in 2009. He moved to Portland and joined Casey Eye Institute in 2010. His research interest in Ophthalmology is to use parameters measured by imaging devices to predict glaucoma progression. Currently Dr. Zhang is supported by NIH grant “Advanced Imaging in Glaucoma Study”, which develops cutting edge technology in optical coherence tomography for glaucoma prediction and detection. Dr. Zhang joined the department of public health and preventive medicine in December 2011 to promote his interest in statistical research, which includes missing data method, survival analysis, and methods for longitudinal studies.

GRAND ROUNDS CALENDAR

- 5-Jan-12 Special Grand Rounds—Jai Choi, PhD, Research Professor, Institute of Economics, Korea, University, Seoul, Korea CSB679—Sponsored by The Division of Biostatistics
- 19-Jan-12 Eli Schwarz, DDS, MPH, PhD, Professor & Chair of the Department of Community Dentistry CSB679
- 16-Feb-12 Katie Witkiewitz, PhD, Research Scientist at the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute CSB679
- 15-Mar-12 Tom Greene, PhD, University of Utah CSB679
- 19-Apr-12 Diane Rohlman, PhD, CROET CSB679
- 17-May-12 Dr. Donald Rubin, PhD, John L Loeb Professor of Statistics, is at Harvard University CSB679
- 21-Jun-12 Preventive Medicine Residents CSB679

All Grand Rounds are held in the PHPM conference room from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. Food and drink are always provided.
PHPM Birthdays

DECEMBER
2-Dec Steve Gallon Associate Professor
7-Dec Carrie Nielson Assistant Professor
7-Dec Eric Suhler Associate Professor
24-Dec Raina Croff Senior Research Associate
30-Dec Todd Korthuis Assistant Professor
31-Dec Philippe Thuillier Assistant Professor

JANUARY
3-Jan Tosha Zaback Senior Research Assistant
14-Jan Kathleen Carlson Assistant Professor

*New Feature* Recipes

Apple Crisp
By Priya Srikanth

Ingredients for Base:
- 3-4 med apples (of different varieties)
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 Tbsp vanilla
- 2 tbsp lemon, or orange juice

Ingredients for Topping (Crispy):
- 1.5 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup quick oats
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- mix in shredded fresh ginger.

Method:
- Make a powder of some nutmeg, 1” cinnamon, cardamom (3-4) and star anise (1). These spices can be mixed and changed based on personal preference.
- 3/4 stick of melted butter

- In a rectangular glass baking dish, chop up the apples and squeeze the lemon/orange juice on it. Stir in the sugar and vanilla.
- Mix the topping material. It should resemble bread crumbs. If needed, add a small quantity of water. Then, add this on top of the chopped up apples and press (but not too hard).

Bake in oven at 375 F for 25 minutes (if covered) or 40 minutes if uncovered. The best test is to check if the topping browns and also check for the liquid boiling in the base.

Serve warm with ice-cream.

NEWSLETTER NEWS—The Liaison Is Becoming a Blog
By Gloria Harrison

I’m excited to announce that PHPM is planning to not only publish a monthly newsletter, but also to post out more timely information on a PHPM blog, which will be located on the Ozone. While this plan is still in the development phase, there are a few things I’d like you to know now, as well as a few requests that I’d like to make.

Most importantly, please let me know as soon as important news occurs.

While PHPM doesn’t have its own blog just yet, I will begin to push high-impact and timely information out to the blogs that already exist on the Ozone. These include: Research News, Staff Thoughts, Staff News, Web Strategies, TechTalk

We need content contributors to submit fully written, fact-checked stories about specific, pertinent topics. And we need them to be timely. This point is especially important – when submitting news for a blog (and whenever possible, for The Liaison as well), please write it in the third person, in full sentences, and with proper capitalization, spelling, grammar, and punctuation. News that is not submitted in this format runs the risk of not being accepted for publication on the Ozone blogs and delays the publication of The Liaison.

I will still send out a monthly call for newsletter articles, and I will still publish a monthly Liaison for the previous month (and upcoming events) – even after our blog is up and going. This is because many of our affiliates don’t have access to the Ozone. The newsletter will contain all of the information I’ve pushed out to blogs, as well as any department-specific information (reminders, birthdays, births, etc) that is normally published in the newsletter.

Stay tuned for more information about our blog and, in the meantime, keep the information coming!
I still remember the excitement and some anxiety when I was planning for this trip, and now I am already back for over three months.

It was one of those once-in-a-life-time experiences and from these slides, you could see the steps to the roof of Africa and the safari animals. As I have told some of you, physically the climb of Kilimanjaro turned out to be much easier than I expected, partly thanks to “walk really slow” policy of the group I went with. I was also glad to find out that I am indeed very fit :) and my training before the climb paid off. I was grateful that my body acclimatized well. I did not have any adverse response to the high altitude and did not have a heavy step during the whole climb. Still it was a climb of highest mountain of Africa, and there was no escape from the dry and cold weather, and the very very dusty trails.

There are different routes to the summit and I really liked the routes this group took. For the botanist left in me, I am always thrilled to see the lush rain forest, the various wildflowers and the best of all, the endemic Senecio forest with a pre-historical feeling. However, the landscape of the alpine desert (on which we hiked at least two days), the black-rocky trails, the clusters of white or yellow everlasting flowers, was so powerful that could really touch one’s heart and soul. It became the most memorable part of trip for me, even the feeling on the summit was not as strong.

**Employee Resources: Career Enhancement Lending Library**

You may not be aware, but The Career and Workplace Enhancement Center has a growing collection of books and DVDs in a wide array of subjects including: Career and Job Search, Resume and Cover Letter Writing, Conflict Management, and Process Improvement to name a few. Books and DVDs are available for checkout for two weeks. Visit this link: [http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/about/services/human-resources/career-and-workplace-enhancement-center/self-paced-learning/lending_library.cfm](http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/about/services/human-resources/career-and-workplace-enhancement-center/self-paced-learning/lending_library.cfm) to peruse their collection of books and DVDs using LibraryThing, as well as to learn about their policies.

**Newly Approved MS/Masters in Biostatistics**

The Department of Public Health & Preventive Medicine is proud to announce OHSU’s new MS/Masters program in Biostatistics. The Oregon State Board of Higher Education approved the education program during its October 27 meeting. This degree program provides graduate level training in the application and theory of biostatistics to those wishing to pursue a career as an intermediate level biostatistician or apply for doctoral programs in biostatistics. It will help to train and prepare current and future scientists, researchers and clinicians at OHSU, other educational institutions, and federal and state agencies that require support for interpreting data using current biostatistical methods.

Review of completed applications will start in mid-April, but we will continue to accept applications received by May 15, 2012, or until program capacity is reached. Therefore, we strongly suggest applications be made in advance of the May 15th deadline.

For more information, please contact biostatprogram@ohsu.edu or visit [www.ohsu.edu/msbiostat](http://www.ohsu.edu/msbiostat)
Thesis Opportunities

Assistant Professor Emerita Katie Riley has informed us of two possible thesis projects for MPH students.

1) Dr. Riley is on the board of Sequoia Mental Health Services located in Washington County and as she has learned more about their programs, realized that they would be able to offer an excellent thesis opportunity. They have files on about 2-3,000 clients. Services include residential community placements and caseworker and related services for both forensic and non-forensic clients. Data are collected as part of the State CPMS system at enrollment and termination. There is also a LOCUS system for authorization and re-authorization of services. Most of the data are hard copy in charts. Sequoia is in the process of scanning the data and will destroy the hard copies because they are moving to a new facility that does not have storage space. But a researcher/thesis student could be authorized to take them and then have them shredded after use. For a student that is interested in going into psychiatry or some aspect of mental health, this would be a gold mine of data. Dr. Riley would be happy to talk with any interested student about doing such a project and could also provide copies of some forms used to collect data. Once someone is identified who is serious about the project, she will put him/her in touch with the Exec. Director of Sequoia.

2) Hillsboro Empowers Youth is a drug and alcohol prevention coalition that needs to have an evaluation of their effectiveness. They have prevention “clubs” at the four middle schools and could possibly use Oregon Healthy Kids data plus other data from schools for an evaluation. Dr. Riley would love to talk with anyone who might be interested. This project might also be able to fund a small stipend.

If you are interested in either of these projects, please contact Dr. Riley directly at rileyk@ohsu.edu or 503-349-2965.

Education News From OMPH by Greg Lee

Oregon MPH Program at APHA

The Oregon MPH Program had a strong presence at the annual APHA (American Public Health Association) conference in Washington DC. The OMPH would like to send a special thank you to 2nd year student and OMPH Graduate Assistant, Emily Gaige, and 1st year student Rae Trotta who helped to manage the vendor booth and professionally represent the entire program to hundreds of visitors over four days. Prospective students asked about a range of topics, including our International Health track, living in Portland, how the collaborative arrangement works, kinds of research faculty are engaged in, sustainability and public health, food systems opportunities in public health, doctoral programs available, financial aid availability, etc. Many faculty members from the Oregon MPH Program were in attendance to present papers or posters on a range of research topics, including these representatives from PHPM:

- Ken Rosenberg: “Fostering safe communities: mental health and wellness among youth,” “Influenza vaccination among two year olds in a population based survey.”
- Bill Lambert: “Partnering with a Northwest tribal community to begin a sustainable noise-induced hearing loss prevention program,” “Hitting the streets: bike commuting injuries in Portland, Oregon,” “Using film-making to engage Native American youth in reproductive health improvement.”
- Dennis McCarty: “Community-based addiction treatment clinical trials: Site variation.”

Congratulations for the fascinating research and knowledge sharing.

Planning has begun for the Spring 2012 Student Symposium. This wonderful event will be held in Portland on April 20, 2012. This is an invaluable opportunity for students to present their work via poster or oral presentation.
Oregon Public Health Association Conference

From left to right: Annika Giesbrecht, Tessa Steel, Valerie Riss, and Lynette Chen. These ladies enjoyed two days at the Oregon Public Health Association Conference in Corvallis in October. They enjoyed themselves tremendously, going to lectures and research presentations about subjects as diverse as epigenetics, daycare, and active transportation reform efforts. Of course, they spent the evening diligently working on their biostats homework.

2012 Student Research Contest

Do you know an exceptional student who’s doing great work in the field of chronic disease prevention and health promotion? Preventing Chronic Disease (PCD) is currently taking submissions for its 2012 Student Research Contest. This contest seeks to recognize, encourage, and promote scientific research and writing and to provide an opportunity for students to publish their work.

Submission Requirements:
PCD uses PCD Manuscript Central for manuscript submission and tracking. Before you submit your manuscript, read the instructions provided on the manuscript requirements section of the PCD website: http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/for_authors/submit_manuscript.htm

Deadline:
Papers must be received electronically no later than 11:59 PM EST on January 9, 2012.

Award:
The winning manuscript will receive recognition on the PCD Web site and will be published in a 2012 PCD release.

Contact: Preventing Chronic Disease Editorial Office pceditor@cdc.gov, (404)645-3355

Preventive Medicine Residency News

PM Residency Symposium held on November 3rd, 2011

On November 3rd the Preventive Medicine Residency put on its third HRSA-sponsored Health Policy Symposium on the recently enacted Early Childhood Health Policy initiative. Residents Mellisa Pensa and Jennifer Gilbert worked closely with Pam Curtis and the OHSU Center for Evidence-based Policy to organize this half-day symposium. Speakers involved in the development of this policy outlined the reasons for addressing early childhood health and education and reviewed the policy's development from inception through legislative enactment. Governor Kitzhaber finished the morning by laying out his vision for next steps in implementing this policy in Oregon. The eighty participants (students, clinicians, community providers of child health and education services) then split into workgroups to discuss key implementation issues over lunch. The Preventive Medicine residents facilitated these group discussions, summaries of which were transmitted to the Governor's Early Learning Council to assist the development of implementation plans that will be presented to the legislature in January. Special thanks to Sherril Gelmon for helping us with the venue, to the residents for their hard work before, during and after the event, and to Hillary Regan and Beth Church for taking care of the details that made it a success for all of us.