

The Oracle

September 2009

Announcements/Congratulations:

Colleagues and Students,

I am writing to announce that **Dr. Bruce Friedman** has decided to take advantage of the opportunity to take a research sabbatical during the upcoming academic year. Bruce joined DCPM more than 10 years ago and during that time he has made significant contributions to our department and to his field. Much of his research, which has been funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, has focused on the impact of depression and function on healthcare utilization; Bruce has published widely in this field. Some of you, however, may know Bruce best through his generous and tireless efforts related to the Doctoral Program in Health Services Research, which he has directed since 2003. In 2007, the T32 training grant that supports five pre-doctoral and post-doctoral fellows was renewed due to the hard work and strategic planning that was accomplished under Bruce's leadership. Bruce will be stepping down from the position as Program Director so that he can give his full attention to his research agenda during his sabbatical. You may have noticed that he seems to have an extra bounce in his step recently! Bruce has shared with me his excitement in having uninterrupted time to consider important health services research opportunities of the next decade. I would like to thank Bruce for the energy and commitment that he has given to our doctoral program over the past 6 years, and I look forward to his return next fall when he will reintegrate into our department and implement his updated and revised research agenda.

I am also happy to announce that I have offered the position as Director of the Doctoral Program in Health Services Research to **Dr. Helena Temkin-Greener**, and she has graciously accepted. Since 2002, Helena has contributed to the mission of our department. She has a strong record of federally-funded research and has been very involved in our educational programs. The academic success and productivity of Helena's doctoral students reflect her excellent mentoring skills and research expertise. I welcome her to this new position and wish her success as she accepts this new responsibility.

Susan

Susan G. Fisher, M.S., Ph.D.

Professor & Chair

Department of Community & Preventive Medicine

Director, Doctoral Program in Epidemiology

The Oracle will now be published on a quarterly basis. Please submit any newsworthy items to Sheila K. McCart for the next issue!

CPM New Members – Welcome!

7/01/09 – Shanti Sharma, MD, Senior Instructor
7/01/09 – Amanda Hagen, MD, Preventive Medicine Resident
7/01/09 – Christopher Ombrello, MD, Preventive Cardiology Post-doc
7/01/09 – Matthew Skerritt, MD, Preventive Cardiology Post-doc
9/01/09 – Christopher Seplaki, PhD, Assistant Professor, Epidemiology
9/16/09 – Erika Sutter, Senior Health Project Coordinator

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New Students!

This academic year we are pleased to welcome 28 new students to DCPM education programs. Student distribution across the 5 education programs is as follows:

Epidemiology:

Natalia Golub
Megan Herr
Erin Philbrick
Kimberly Schmitt
MPH:
Kaja Abbas
Tara Alton-Foti
Denise Aronzon
Kelly Brown
Ethan Corona
Ding Ding
Miranda Drost-Warder
Lydia Fernandez
Dana Finch
Todd Francone
Amanda Hagen
Prachi Hanwathkar
Kayla Jenkins
Skye Peebles
Caitlin Powalski
Melissa Squires
Yvonne Yang

Health Services Research & Policy:

Shirley Li
Nan Qiao
Laura Robinson

MS-CLI:

Shannon Norman
Christopher Umbrella

MS-CTR:

Pedro Calderon
Matthew Skerritt

Student Announcements:

- **Chad Heatwole, MD:**
 - ¹ Nancy Chin, PhD, MPH; ¹ James Hilbert, MS; ¹ Robert Holloway, MD, MPH; ¹ Nicholas Johnson, MD; ¹ Shree Pandya, PT, MS; ¹ Richard Moxley, MD; ¹ Christine Quinn, MS; ¹ Charles Thornton, MD; ¹ Barbara Vickrey, MD, MPH²; David Victorson, PhD. Patient Reported Quality-of-Life Issues in Myotonic Dystrophy Type-1 (DM1): A First Step in the Development of a Disease-Specific Instrument. Presentation at the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (**ISPOR**) 12th Annual European Congress, Paris, France, October 24-27 2009
- **Elizabeth Brownell, MA** (Doctoral Candidate, Epidemiology)
 - has been selected as an American Public Health Association Maternal and Child Health Section Student Fellow for 2009-2010.
- **Shubing Cai**, (Doctoral Candidate, HSR)
 - recipient of the of the Cleckley Minority Issues Research Award given annually for best paper, by the Gerontological Health Section of the APHA;
 - recipient of Honorable Mention for the 2009 Retirement Research Foundation Laurence G. Branch Doctoral Student Research Award. (APHA 11/09).
 - The following paper has been accepted by Medical Care – “Pressure Ulcer Prevalence among Black and White Nursing Home Residents in NYS: Evidence of Racial Disparity?” Shubing Cai, Dana Mukamel, Helena Temkin-Greener, PhD
- **Maggie Holland, PhD**, (HSR)
 - was noted as one of the top winners Greg Alexander Outstanding Student Abstract
- **Nan Zheng**, (Doctoral Candidate, HSR)
 - recipient of Honorable Mention for the 2009 Retirement Research Foundation Laurence G. Branch Doctoral Student Research Award. (APHA 11/09).
- **Lin Fan**, (Doctoral Candidate, HSR)
 - recipient of Honorable Mention for the 2009 Aging and Rural Health Research Award. (APHA 11/09).



CHALKTALKS:

A newly organized series of presentations given by both faculty and students to:

- Inform faculty and students of current research projects
- Identify available research sources
- Provide a forum for presenters to informally discuss their work and ideas, as well as receive feedback.

Watch for an email regarding date, time and location in the near future.



Mark Your
Calendars!

Public Health Grand Rounds
Linking Research to Community Health Improvement
Jointly Presented by the

URMC Department of Community and Preventive Medicine & The Center for Community Health

Fall Schedule 2009 (Room K-307; 12-1 PM - unless otherwise indicated)

- September 4** **Global Vaccination Gap (presentation to be held in the Class of '62 Auditorium)**
*Adel A.F. Mahmoud, MD, PhD; Princeton University,
Department of Molecular Biology and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs
Vaccination is the major prevention strategy against infectious diseases. Widespread practice of immunization resulted in smallpox eradication as well as remarkable control of many other infections. The science and practice of immunization currently suffers major gaps: 1) slow progress of discovery of vaccines against the killers of our time, 2) inadequate utilization of vaccines against important infections such as seasonal flu, and 3) inequity in coverage and introduction of vaccines globally.*
- September 18** **Fats: The Good, the Bad, and the Slippery**
*Robert C. Block, MD, MPH, FACP
Assistant Professor; Division of Epidemiology
Community & Preventive Medicine, University of Rochester
Well documented evidence exists to support the fact that fat is not bad for us but rather the health effect of fat intake depends upon the type eaten. However, once fats are eaten they are often transformed into other fats and the health effects of this dynamic alteration of the fats in our blood and tissues are generally unknown. This talk will provide an overview of these issues with additional thoughts provided regarding the future of research in the field of fats and health.*
- October 2** **HIV Vaccine Research 2009: Emerging Clues from STEP and the Thai Trial**
*Michael C Keefer, MD
Professor of Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry
The HIV vaccine development field experienced a major disappointment in September of 2007 when the first NIH-supported efficacy trial in the US (the Merck STEP Study) was stopped due to lack of effect on HIV transmission/disease progression and the finding of possible increased susceptibility to infection among a subset of vaccines. Since then, a major focus of the field has been to try to understand why the vaccine failed and to establish new strategies to circumvent these problems. Much has been learned from the STEP Study, but a lot of questions remain; Dr. Keefer, PI of the University of Rochester HIV Vaccine Trials Unit will review the findings of the STEP Study and the post-STEP investigations and discuss how the field is adjusting its approach to preventive HIV vaccine development.*
- October 16** **The Death of a Disease (presentation to be held in Whipple Auditorium)**
DA Henderson
- October 23** **TBD (special presentation with dept. of Psychology)**
Joan Duda, PhD; Professor of Sport Psychology, University of Birmingham
- November 6** **Tracking Influenza: How and Why**
*Ghinwa Dumyati, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
This presentation will review the methods used for influenza surveillance, describe the emergence of 2009 H1N1 Influenza A locally, and review potential interventions to control the impact of an influenza pandemic.*
- November 20** **Presentation on Breastfeeding Project (title to be announced)**
*Ann M. Dozier, RN, PhD
Associate Professor, Division of Social and Behavioral Medicine, Community and Preventive Medicine*
- December 4** **One Fish, Two Fish, Don't Fish, Do Fish: A Rapid Assessment of Subsistence Fishing Patterns in Rochester**
*Katrina Smith Korfmacher, PhD
Assistant Professor and Outreach Coordinator, University of Rochester,
Environmental Health Sciences Center
There are well-known health benefits of eating fish – but the risks of consuming contaminated fish are less familiar. The government issues fish consumption advisories for contaminated waters like Lake Ontario, but these may not effectively reach many low-literacy, low income, and minority groups. A rapid assessment was conducted of the Rochester community to determine which groups may be at risk from consuming local fish and inform outreach strategies to reach these subsistence anglers and their families.*

For updated information please go to:

<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/cpm/CPMWebRounds.html>

Education News: Career Development Center

In this issue: Masters' Research Project Planning Timeline

Informational Session to be held in the near future.

In order to give you the most helpful feedback possible in preparing your Master's Research Project in time for May graduation, and to be fair to the time demands put on the faculty to carefully review your work, you must have a 1st draft of your proposal to your Committee by **March 1st**.

This is what the overall time line should look like:

Sept/Oct - identify a research topic, get approval from the Education Director (me), line up a committee - 1 Chair from the list in the DCPM Grad Handbook of approved chairs; a 2nd DCPM faculty member; a 3rd committee member from outside DCPM.

Oct/Nov - get a proposal draft to the committee; set a proposal presentation date with Sheila McCart; start your RSRB application.

Nov/Dec - Present proposal to DCPM and start data collection (if doing primary data collection) or start cleaning data if working on a secondary analysis of an already existing data set.

Jan/Feb - collect and analyze data; start writing.

March 1st – 1st draft to your committee. Note: early submissions before this deadline are welcomed.

March 15th – the committee should have comments back to you for revisions/edits/further work.

March 30th – 2nd draft to your committee

April 7th -- the committee should have just a few further required changes

April 15th – FINAL draft with committee sign-off in Pattie's office

May – Graduation!!

Remember: the proposal, which is done in the Fall, already contains the project Research Question(s); Background and Significance; Lit review; Methods of data collection and analysis. Once the data is analyzed the student just has to write the Findings, Discussion/Conclusions.

If you miss the March 1st deadline you cannot graduate in May. However, you can continue to work on your project for submission to Pattie until August 15th without incurring any additional registration fees.

The same time rules apply: you must get a 1st draft of your research project paper to your committee 6 weeks before it is due into Pattie.

As soon as you get committee sign-off you can use your MPH or MS initials after your name. If you don't finish by August 15th, you'll have to enroll for the Fall semester and pay \$925.

Fall Translational Research Activities:

- **CTSA Consortium Steering Committee and Strategic Goal Committees, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland (October 7-9, 2009)**
- **A Global Summit on Education and Training in the Prevention of Heart Disease and Stroke.** (Organized and Co-sponsored by the National Forum for Prevention of Heart Disease and Stroke and the Preventive Cardiology Program of DCPM), **Harkin International Center, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia (October 14-16, 2009)**
 - A consortium of worldwide experts in education and training in cardiovascular disease prevention at the clinician, investigator, and policy-maker levels.
- **Personalized Medicine Symposium: Genomics and Translational Medicine** (Co-sponsored by the Office of Corporate Alliances and the Rochester CTSI), **University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY (October 22-23, 2009)**
 - A 1 ½ day symposium to examine the challenges and opportunities posed by genomic research in the development of the new field of personalized medicine.
- **The Humanistic and Social Science Basis of Translational Research** (supported by Mellon Foundation and the Rochester CTSI) **(October 30-31, 2009)**
 - A 1 ½ day invited workshop to explore major humanistic and social paradigms underpinning translational research. The workshop will feature some of the most foremost historians of science and translational research leaders in the U.S

Grant News: Proposals

Investigator	Sponsor	Title
Dozier, Ann	NICHD NICHD NICHD	Smoking Cessation Supplement to RO1 PRAMS Supplement to RO1 Food Practices and Breastfeeding Supplement to RO1
Noyes, Katia	St. Jude Medical Myraid Genetic Laboratories	Economic Burden Associatd with Essential Tremor in the US Cost Effectiveness Analysis of Genetic Testing on Breast Cancer Susceptible Genes (BRCA1/2)
Pearson, Thomas	NHLBI	Research Training in Preventive Cardiology (Renewal)
Simning, Adam	AHRQ	Anxiety and Depression Among Elderly Public Housing Residents
Temkin-Greener, Helena	NIH (ARRA)	Improving End-of-Life Care in Nursing Homes
vanWijngaarden, Edwin	NEIHS	Environmentat Lead & Cognition: Evaluating Mechanisms in a Cohort Study

Grant News: Awards

Investigator	Sponsor	Title
Dozier, Ann	NICHD (ARRA)	Community Partnership for Breastfeeding Promotion & Support
EldarLissai, Adi	CTSI	The Effect of Mass Media on Geograpic Variations in Cancer Treatment Outcomes
Fernandez, Diana	NIH	Electronically-Mediated Weight Interventions for Pregnant and Postpartum Women
Fisher, Susan	CTSI/NIH	Development of A Sustainable Community Cohort for Translational Research
Kakinami, Lisa & Xian, Ying	CTSI/NIH	Is the Wii Fit Good Enough? A Comparison of the Energy Expenditure from Interactive Physical Activity Promoting Technology to Walking and Running
McIntosh, Scott	NYSDOH	Greater Rochester Area Tobacco Cessation Center (Renewal)
Noyes, Katia	National Multiple Sclerosis Society	Evaluating Nursing Home and Other Long-Term Care in Multiple Sclerosis (ENHOLMS)
Ossip, Deborah	NIH/NCI	Community-Partnered Tobacco Control in Underserved Dominican Republic Communities

Dr. Pearson was recently appointed PI of CTSI.

Three administrative supplements submitted by the CTSI for ARRA funding will be awarded.

Epidemiology:

Publications:

van Wijngaarden E, Campbell JR, Cory-Slechta DA. Bone lead levels are associated with measures of memory impairment in older adults. *Neurotoxicology* 2009;30(4):572-80.

van Wijngaarden E, Myers GJ, Thurston SW, Shamlaye CF, Davidson PW. Interpreting epidemiological evidence in the presence of multiple endpoints: An alternative analytic approach using the 9-year follow-up of the Seychelles Child Development Study. *International Archives of Occupational and Environmental Health* 2009;82(8):1031-41.

Fagnano M†, **van Wijngaarden E**, Connolly HV, Carno MA, Forbes-Jones E, Halterman J. Sleep-disordered breathing and behaviors of inner-city children with asthma. *Pediatrics* 2009;124(1):218-25.

Shim YK, Mlynarek SP, **van Wijngaarden E**. Parental exposure to pesticides and childhood brain cancer: United States Atlantic Coast Childhood Brain Cancer Study. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 2009;117:1002-1006.

McClintic, BR, McClintic JI, Bisognano JD, **Block RC**. The Relationship between Retinal Microvascular Abnormalities and Coronary Heart Disease: A Review. *The American Journal of Medicine*. In press with publication pending February 2010.

Mallah HS, Brown MR, Rossi TM, **Block RC**. Omegaven®-Associated Burr Cell Anemia. *Journal of Pediatrics*. In press.

Block RC, Tran BC, McIntosh S. Integrating the Chronic Care Model into a Novel Medical Student Course. *Health Education Journal*. In press

Faculty Announcements:

- We would like to welcome Christopher Seplaki, Ph.D. to our faculty. Dr. Seplaki joined the Division of Epidemiology on September 1. His work investigates a range of biologic, social and economic indicators of multisystem dysregulation leading to frailty, disability, and mortality. Dr. Seplaki is currently funded by a K01 career development award from the National Institute on Aging (NIA).

Health Policy and Outcomes Research:

Publications:

Veazie PJ, Johnson PE, O'Connor PJ (2009) "Is there a downside to customizing care? Implications of general and patient-specific treatment strategies" *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice* (In Press).

Temkin-Greener, H; Zheng, N; Cai, S. Zhao, H; Mukamel, DB. "Nursing Home Environment and Organizational Performance: Association with Deficiency Citations." Accepted for publication in *Medical Care*, 2009.

Presentations:

Helena Temkin-Greener, PhD (van Reenen, C., Phillips, C) – Invited Presentation. "Using PDE Data to Analyze PACE Enrollees' Medication Utilization." - National PACE Association Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, October 19, 2009

Nan Zheng & Helena Temkin-Greener, PhD – Invited Presentation – "The Effect of CNA Staff Communication on Nursing Home Performance in End-of-Life Care Processes." - State Society on the Aging of NY - 37th Annual Meeting, Rochester, NY, Oct 15th-17th, 2009

NCDHR:

Publications:

Pollard R, **Barnett S**. (2009). Health-related vocabulary knowledge among deaf adults. *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 54(2), 182-185.

Pollard R, Dean R, O'Hearn, A, Haynes, S. (2009). Adapting health education material for deaf audiences. *Rehabilitation Psychology*; 54(2), 232-238.

Graybill P, Aggas J, Dean RK, Demers S, Finigan E, Pollard RQ. (2010). A community participatory approach to adapting survey items for Deaf individuals and American Sign Language. *Field Methods* (in press).

Presentations:

Schlehofer D, Hurwitz V, Mowl M, Haynes S. (2009). "Lessons learned about interpersonal violence: Importance of collaboration." Deaf Women United Conference. Portland, OR (July 25).

McKee M. (2009). "Mental health and health illiteracy among the Deaf: The distressing reality." Gallaudet Research Institute-Connections: Culture, Collaboration and Creativity- Working with Deaf Individuals with Mental Health Issues. Orlando, FL (June 12).

Other News:

Two observers came from CDC to see "Deaf Strong Hospital," an annual experiential learning activity for first year U of R medical students in which deaf community members role play healthcare system personnel and the students must navigate a healthcare system where the primary language is American Sign Language (ASL). NCDHR personnel play a major role in organizing and conducting Deaf Strong Hospital. CDC hopes to produce an article about the visit for the CDC Prevention Research Centers Program website.

Erika Sutter MPH, Senior Health Project Coordinator, is now full-time with NCDHR. Erika has been working with NCDHR since 2004. Her prior home department was Pediatrics.

Social and Behavior Medicine:

Publications:

Dozier, A.M., Ossip, D.J., Diaz, S., Sierra-Torres, E., Quiñones de Monegro, Z., Armstrong, L., **Chin, N.P., McIntosh, S.** (2009). Health care workers in the Dominican Republic: Self-perceived role in smoking cessation. *Evaluation and the Health Professions*, 32, 144-64.

Hall, N., Hipple, B., Friebely, J., **Ossip, D.J.**, & Winickoff, J.P. (In press). Addressing family smoking in child healthcare settings. *Journal of Clinical Outcomes Management*.

Watt, C.A., Lassiter, J.W., Boyle, J.R., Kulak, J.A., & **Ossip-Klein, D.J.** (2009). An examination of policies addressing resident smoking in nursing homes. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 10, 258-263.

Block, R.C., Tran, B., & **McIntosh, S.** (In press). Integrating the Chronic Care Model into a Novel Medical Student Course, *Health Education Journal*.

Gibson, K.; Szilagyi, P.; Swanger, C.M.; Campbell, T.; McNerny, T.; Fiscella, K.; **Duckett, J.; & Guido, J.** (in press) "Physician Perspectives on Incentives to Participate in Practice-Based Research: A Greater Rochester Practice-Based Research Network (GR-PBRN) Study". *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*

D'Aoust, R., **Martina, C.**, Wall, A., & Ward, D. (2009). Interdisciplinary clinical education. In N. Ard & T. Valiga (Eds.). *Clinical Nursing Education: Current Reflections* (pp.165-179). NYC, NY: National League for Nursing.

Presentations:

- Joseph Guido, MS: Paper Presentation – “Guido’s Guide to Proc Univariate – A Tutorial for SAS® Users”, 9/16/09
- Barbara Suter, MS: Guest Presenter – “Use of Coder Fax as Ongoing Training Tool”, NENY Perinatal Data System, July 2009

Faculty Announcements:

- Ann Dozier, RN, PhD:
 - Alexis Wasson, the summer SURF student hosted by **Scott McIntosh, Duncan Ververs, Ann Dozier and Holly Widanka** presented her research project in the School of Medicine on July 25, 2009 and took First Place (there were approximately 12 competitors - mostly bench science related). Alexis is a rising junior from Spelman College. Her project was "Cardiovascular Risk Factors Among Minority Residents", a Qualitative Research project conducted with individuals from the Charles Settlement House neighborhood.
- Stephen Kuntz, MD, PhD:
 - Heath Clark Visiting Lecturer at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (2/09 – 4/09)
 - Keynote speaker at the annual meetings of the Australasian Epidemiology Association and the New Zealand Public Health Association, both in Dunedin, New Zealand.
 - Visiting fellow at the Australian Centre for Economic Studies on Health at the Australian National University in Canberra and lectured at Massey University in Wellington and the University of Auckland, both in New Zealand, and at the University of South Australia in Adelaide, Australia.

Professional Meetings:

- Joseph Guido, MS:
 - Co-Chair, Statistics and Analysis Section of NorthEast SAS Users Group (NESUG) Meeting, Burlington, VT, Sept 2009
- Camille Martina, PhD:
 - American Educational Studies Association (social foundations research) November 4-8, 2009 Pittsburgh, PA.
- Nancy P. Chin, MPH, PhD:
 - Annual Public Health Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (11/09)
- Ann Dozier, RN, PhD:
 - Annual Public Health Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (11/09)
 - CTSA Face-to-Face Meeting, Washington, DC (11/09)
 - American Evaluation Association, Orlando, FL (11/09)
 - MCH EPI Conference (CDC), Tampa, FL
- Scott McIntosh, PhD:
 - Medical Education Conference (11/09)
- Deborah Ossip, PhD:
 - North American Quitline Consortium/European Network of Quitlines Research Meeting – Montreal, CANADA (11/09)
 - Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Board Meeting – Madison, WI (11/09)
 - CEASE Annual Project Meeting – Boston, MA (12/09)