

# PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT CAUCUS NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 5, Number 2 Spring 2001

#### **Health Care Workers Say Bill Will Save Thousands of Lives**

By: Rory O'Neill

Members of the nation's largest health care union say passage of bipartisan legislation in the U.S. Senate today will protect health care workers from deadly needlestick injuries that can spread HIV and hepatitis C.

"This bill will save the lives of thousands of health care workers," said Andrew L. Stern, SEIU president. "Today's Senate action is a victory for health care workers nationwide."

The bill requires the use of newer, safer devices in health facilities by strengthening OSHA's standard on bloodborne pathogens. These devices automatically retract, cover, or blunt needles immediately after they are used.

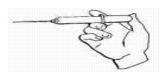
The bill also requires that workers who provide direct patient care have a role in determining which safer needles to use in their workplaces, and consistent documentation of all needlestick injuries.

An estimated 600,000 to 800,000 needlestick injuries occur each year - two thousand every day. More than 1,000 of those workers contract hepatitis C or HIV.

[SEIU press release 26 October 2000]

Why we need a federal law to prevent needlesticks:

- 600,000 to 800,000 health care workers are accidentally stuck by needles each year.
- More than 1,000 of these workers will contract serious diseases, such as HIV or hepatitis B or C.
- If stuck by a contaminated needle, a worker and his or her family must live through a terrifying six months or



Safer needles exist today that can prevent the spread of disease.

- Safer needles have such features as a protective shield or a mechanism that automatically retracts the needles into the barrel after use.
- The FDA has cleared more than 250 such devices for marketing, yet only 15% of needles used by hospitals today are safer needles.
- Most hospitals are not buying or even evaluating safer needles, and regulatory agencies are not requir ing them to use safer products.

"For the price of a postage stamp, for 33 cents,we could save health care workers' lives." – Andrew L. Stern, President, SEIU, Service Employees International Union

From SEIU web site (see link above)

**Inside this Issue:** 

**Continuing Education** 

Career Corner

Join PHSC

Feature Story	Page	1
President's Message	Page	2
Directory Listing of Chairs	Page	2
Maquiladora Health & Safety Support Network	Page	3
Editor's Column	Page	4
Public Health Event	Page	4
Caucus Briefs	Page	5
Development Committtee	Page	5
National Mentoring Program	Page	5
Action Committee	Page	6
Specialty Section News	Page	8
Environment Section	Page	8
Occupational Health and Safety	Page	9
Volunteer Opportunities	Page	10

Page 10

Page 13

Page 16

For more information, visit our website at www.phsc.org

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Melissa Stigler

Hooray, it's the end of the school year!

I am happy to report that, building on the momentum gained at the start of 2001, PHSC continued to make great strides this spring. I remain quite impressed by the work PHSC's Chairs and members are accomplishing on behalf of fellow students of public health. PHSC is blessed by such a strong and talented group of leaders this year. A small sample of recent PHSC efforts (some of which are described in more detail elsewhere in this edition of *News & Views*) are highlighted below. To get involved in any of these initiatives, please do not hesitate to contact me or the appropriate person listed.

- PHSC adds a new initiative! In response to helpful discussion that occurred over the PHSC listserv
  in the last few months, PHSC has added a new Committee to its ranks. The Public Health Student Opportunities (PHSO) Committee will oversee PHSC's
  efforts related to facilitating student access to public
  health-related job, internship, award, and scholarship
  opportunities worldwide. If you are interested in
  getting involved in this initiative, please contact Andrew (University of Massachusetts) at
  <drewdee@earthlink.net> or Kusuma (University of
  Illinois Chicago) at <kmadam1@uic.edu>. PHSC's
  new PHSO Chairs.
- PHSC seeks your input! Heather (University of Minnesota) and Lori (University of Illinois Chicago), PHSC's Action Chairs, are interested in what you think the top issues facing public health in the next few years will be. They have devised a member survey, the results of which they will use to guide PHSC's advocacy efforts in the coming year(s). To fill out one of these surveys, please contact Lori at <law588@yahoo.com>.
- PHSC to reach out to schools of public health!
   Caryn (University of Illinois Chicago), PHSC's
   Advancement Chair, has been working hard to prepare for some targeted outreach that PHSC will do for schools and programs in public health this summer and fall. Working with committee members Chris (University of Kentucky) and Diana (University of Connecticut), PHSC hopes to establish

...continued on page 3

PHSC 2001 Executive Committee Melissa Stigler (stigler@epi.umn.edu) President Resa Jones (jones r@epi.umn.edu) President-Elect France Nguyen (fnguyen@ucla.edu) Immediate Past-President **April Sperstad** (April-sperstad@uiowa.edu) Secretary Lara Lamprecht (lamprecht8@hotmail.com) Treasurer Committee Chairs Melissa Carbine (mcarbine@doh.state.ut.us) Abstract Lori Williams (lori@nualumni.com) **Heather Britt** (britt@epi.umn.edu) Action (cetkin1@uic.edu) Caryn Etkin Advancement Thein Shwe (tshwe@hsc.wvu.edu) Sallie Beth Johnson (sbjohnson@hsc.wvu.edu) Development Linda Hazlett (ljhazlett@sc.rr.com) Membership Cindy Summers (csumme1@uic.edu) Mentorship Marc Oliver-Wright (mwright@nmh.org) MPHI Yolanda Marshall (yolie95@hotmail.com) Newsletter Christina Vo (cvo@email.unc.edu) Programming Smitha Arekapudi (SArekapu@hsph.harvard.edu) PHSC Advocate Mimi Sur (ssur@rhsmith.umd.edu) Website Andrew Dzurisin (drewdee@earthlink.net) Kusuma Madamala (kmadam1@uic.edu)

If you need medical advice, let these three things be your physicians; a cheerful mind, relaxation from business, and a moderate diet.

... Schola Salern

PHSO

#### Maquiladora Health & Safety Support Network

By: Garret Brown

The "Maquiladora Health & Safety Support Network" is a volunteer network of 400 occupational health and safety professionals who have placed their names on a resource list to provide information, technical assistance and on-site instruction regarding workplace hazards in the over 3,200 "maquiladora" (foreign-owned assembly) plants along the U.S.-Mexico border. Network members, including industrial hygienists, toxicologists, epidemiologists, occupational physicians and nurses, and health educators among others, are donating their time and expertise to create safer and healthier working conditions for the 1.2 million maguiladora workers employed by primarily U.S.-owned transnational corporations along Mexico's northern border from Matamoros to Tijuana. The Support Network is not designed to generate, nor is it intended to create, business opportunities for private consultants or other for-profit enterprises. On the contrary, Network participants will be donating their time and knowledge pro bono to border area workers and professional associations.

The Maquiladora Health & Safety Support Network was launched in October 1993 at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA). It includes occupational health specialists from Canada, Mexico and the United States who are active in the APHA, American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH), American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), National Safety Council (NSC) and the 25 local grassroots Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (COSH) groups in the U.S. and Canada. The Support Network is continuously seeking more health and safety professionals and activists to join the network, as well as looking for more border community organizations who can make use of the information and technical assistance offered. An example of the Network Support is listed in the article below:

# Hesperian Foundation Gets Major Grant & Hires Coordinator For EPZ Health & Safety Manual

By: Garret Brown

In March, the Berkeley, CA-based Hesperian Foundation received a \$300,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to significantly advance the work needed to publish a health and safety manual for workers in the world's "export processing zones," including maquiladora workers in Mexico. The manual will be similar in format and style to Hesperian's widely acclaimed health publications such as "Where There Is No Doctor" and "Helping Health Workers Learn."

The Foundation has just hired Maggie Robbins, former regional health and safety coordinator for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and later for the California Federation of Labor, to coordinate the book's development and publication.

One of Robbins first tasks will be to edit and circulate for comment a chapter on hazards to garment workers produced by the Labor Occupational Health Program (LOHP) at UC Berkeley. Network members interested in providing volunteer assistance and technical expertise on this and other chapters should contact Robbins at the Hesperian Foundation, 510-845-1447 or mrobbins@wiggle.sf.ca.us.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

...continued from page 2

- campus liaisons individuals who can represent PHSC on their campus at many universities nationwide. Funding for this initiative has been graciously provided for by APHA, who continues to see much merit in reaching out to and involving students of public health. For more information, please contact Caryn at <cetkin1@uic.edu>.
- PHSC t-shirts coming soon! Thein (West Virginia University) and Sallie Beth (West Virginia University), PHSC's Development Chairs, are working on developing the first ever PHSC t-shirt! These t-shirts will be sold at the APHA Annual Meeting in Atlanta in October of this year. Thein and Sallie Beth are also working to see if PHSC is able to secure housing at the Annual Meeting at a reduced cost for students. If you have any creative ideas that might help with either of these efforts, please contact Thein at <tshwe@hsc.wvu.edu> or Sallie Beth at <sbjohnson@hsc.wvu.edu>.
- PHSC to offer exciting program plan at the APHA Annual Meeting! In addition to highlighting a number of student-authored papers and posters at the Annual Meeting this October, PHSC will offer a number of helpful sessions designed especially for students. This includes sessions entitled 'Getting Started in International Health', 'For Talking Out Loud! Strategies for Successful Public Speaking', 'Developing a Career as a Public Health Professional', and 'Introduction to Conferencing: Navigating, Networking, and Presenting at a National Conference.' Don't forget to check out PHSC's welcome session for students on Tuesday morning of the meeting, too! For more information about PHSC's program plan, contact PHSC's Programming Chair, Christina (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill) at <cvo@email.unc.edu>.

I hope your summer is a good one. Enjoy the break from classes!

Melissa Stigler, MPH President, PHSC University of Minnesota School of Public Health stigler@epi.umn.edu

#### **EDITOR'S COLUMN**

By: Yolanda Marshall

My intention for our second edition of the *News & Views* was to write a substantive, but pithy segment. However, as current professional and educational demands would have it, time has been of the essence. Therefore, I have decided to comment on the closing of the school semester, graduation, job hunting, and the upcoming APHA conference.

For those of you who were in school and finished your exams, my hat is off to you. You have completed another long and hardworking semester. Education is a powerful thing for the mind not to be wasted.

For those of you who had the honors of graduating, graduation and all of its trimmings is admirable. We at PHSC commend you for all of your hardwork and efforts while continuing your education. It is the after effect that we look forward to—a job. There are many resources available to you in your efforts in searching for a job such as various government entities, colleges and universities. Also, available to you are search firms, headhunters and, of course, the world wide web. All of which will assist you in preparing your resume, cover letters, networking tips, and interview techniques. These resources will prove to be invaluable in search for either your first job, career change, internships or fellowships.

The 129th APHA annual meeting is scheduled for October 21-25, 2001 in Atlanta, Georgia. PHSC is looking for volunteers to assist at various sessions and booths. For more information regarding volunteering at the APHA meeting, please contact Melissa Stigler at via e-mail: stigler@epi.umn.edu.

#### News & Views

News & Views is published quarterly by the Public Health Student Caucus ("PHSC") as a means of reporting and sharing news and opinions of interest to PHSC members. Any opinions expressed herein are those of the writer and not necessarily those of PHSC. Publication herein does not imply endorsement in any manner.

If you have important information regarding the public health profession, notices of upcoming meetings, events or other dated material, or section reports to be included in our monthly newsletter, all must be submitted to the Editor no later than the deadlines listed below:

7/10/01 for the 7/17/01 issue 9/10/01 for the 9/17/01 issue

In order to produce each newsletter to reach our membership in a timely manner, this deadline must be met. Any material not received by the designated due date will be held for the following quarter's publication. Your understanding and appreciation in meeting our deadline will be greatly appreciated.

The Editor and Communications Committee reserve the right to edit articles submitted for grammar, clarity and space.

Submit all materials to:

Yolanda Marshall, Newsletter Editor 151 E. Little Creek Rd., Apt. D-1 Cedar Hill, Texas 75104 or E-Mail: yolie95@hotmail.com

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH EVENT**



Mark your calendars!

129TH APHA ANNUAL MEETING ~ ONE WORLD: GLOBAL HEALTH OCTOBER 21-25, 2001 ~ ATLANTA, GA

The 129th APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition will be held in Atlanta, Georgia on October 21-25, 2001. The theme for the meeting is "One World: Global Health". For more information on student activities held during the event, check out the 2001 Annual Meeting Information link on our homepage www.phsc.org. Students are invited to attend welcome sessions, listen to guest speakers, and visit research presentations. Make arrangements now to join us in Atlanta. Information is now posted on APHA's website at http://www.apha.org.

#### **Development Committee**

#### **Funds and Fashion for PHSC**

The Development Committee is striving to increase the financial base of PHSC. Currently, the committee is managing two fund-raising projects: (1) Sponsorship letters and (2) T-shirt sales. On May 24, 2001, letters were sent to Deans of Schools of Public Health and public health programs throughout the country. The letters introduced the Deans to the Public Health Student Caucus and asked for

donations in the amount of \$500. A brochure highlighting PHSC's mission and activities were included with the letter. As PHSC members, please encourage your Deans to contribute to this campaign. The funds that we raise will go directly to publish-

# Fundraising ensures that PHSC continues to grow and meet the needs of all public health students

ing our quarterly newsletter, *News & Views*, supporting scheduled seminars and lectures at the upcoming APHA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, maintaining our student-focused website, and encouraging the exchange of information via listservs and mailings. In addition, to Sponsorship letters to the Deans, letters are being sent to Atlanta area hotels and airlines seeking donations and/or discounts for PHSC members. We will keep you informed of the progress.

The Development Committee is also in the process of ordering T-shirts to promote PHSC. There will be two designs available. One design will be a long-sleeve heather gray, quality T-shirt including the PHSC logo on the left front chest area and one of the famous public health quotes by Dr. Koop: "Health care is vital to all of us some of the time, but public health is vital to all of us all of the time" printed largely

in navy blue ink on the back. The other design will be a short-sleeve T-shirt including the "Top Ten Reasons to be a Public Health Student". If you have a creative, humorous, or insightful idea, please e-mail Sallie Beth Johnson at sbjohnson@hsc.wvu.edu, by June 1st. If your idea is included in the list of reasons, you will receive a free "Top Ten Reasons

to be a Public Health Student" T-shirt. All T-shirts will be available for only \$15.00 from the PHSC website by July 1st or at this year's APHA Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

If you have any other ideas or suggestions for PHSC fundraising, please let us know by contacting either Sallie Beth Johnson at *sbjohnson@hsc.wvu.edu* or Thein Shwe at *tshwe@hsc.wvu.edu*. Fundraising ensures that PHSC continues to grow and meet the needs of all public health students.

#### **National Mentoring Program In Public Health**

Registration for the National Mentoring Program (NMP) 2001-2002 will be available on-line in late June!! Contact the NMP Chair, Cindy Summers, at summe1@uic.edu or go to <a href="https://www.apha.org/ppp/mentoring/">www.apha.org/ppp/mentoring/</a> for more information. NMP aims to: (1) improve the relevance of the academic training that Public Health students receive; (2) increase the professional success and productivity of Public health students and professionals; and (3) help to strengthen the field of Public health through the retention and growth of strong committed leaders.

#### BE A PART OF THIS VISION!

We want to match at least 100 pairs of mentees and mentors in September 2001 for the 2001-2002 NMP. Register on-line this summer at <a href="https://www.apha.org/ppp/mentoring/">www.apha.org/ppp/mentoring/</a>. All matched participants will be notified by mid-September and will participate in the 2001-2002 NMP from October 2001 to June 2002. The participants will be invited to a kick-off event at the October 2001 APHA Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

#### **CAUCUS BRIEFS**

#### **Action Committee**

# PHSC Action! Advocacy and Policy Change

So you're a little concerned about a particular issue that's being debated on Capitol Hill? You've been called by your Dean to testify down at the state legislature about your favorite public health issue? You've decided to talk about that hot health care debate at this week's city council meeting?

If you've answered yes to any of these questions or have ever lingered over the policy and legislation section in your local paper, then PHSC has a committee for you. The ACTION committee serves as part of the PHSC and its role is to provide both advocacy training and advocacy opportunities for students involved in the Student Caucus. We've been around for a few years and are finally trying to develop some sort of strategic plan to direct our activities for the next several legislative sessions. We're interested in ensuring the sustainability of the committee as well as making sure that students and new professionals are able to develop skills to advocate effectively throughout their lifetime.

We have a three-part plan in place to accomplish our goals:

- first, we're surveying the membership of PHSC to find out student perspective on advocacy, training, and hot public health issues. Once we've completed the survey process,
- second, we'll develop some training activities and opportunities, mostly web-based, for members to use. After training,
- third, members can move straight into advocacy—at the local, state, national or international level. Possible methods for advocacy include letter writing, calls, visits, protests, petitions and testifying before a legislative body. Other methods include letters to the editor, guest opinion pieces in the local paper, or any other contact with the media.

If you've taken the time to complete our survey via e-mail, that's great! If you'd still like to send us your input, then take a look at the questions below and e-mail your responses to Lori Williams at "mailto:lori@nualumni.com" or lori@nualumni.com. Anything you have to share with us would be more than welcome. Also, if you're interested in becoming an active member of the Action Committee, please e-mail Heather Britt at "mailto:britt@epi.umn.edu" or britt@epi.umn.edu. Thanks!

#### **SURVEY**

Please send your name and your school affiliation.

- 1. Are you currently a member of the Public Health Student Caucus?
- 2. What do you think are the biggest issues facing public health in the next four years? (List 3.)
- 3. a. What issues do you think the PHSC Action Committee should be taking action on?

...continued on page 7

#### **CAUCUS BRIEFS**

4.

#### Action Committee ... continued from page 6

<u>Pro</u>	ofessional Issues Public awareness and support for public health Lack of public health infrastructure			public testimony, went to a rally or protest, organized a rally or protest)
	Lack of public health frainingLack of available public health training(and public health professionals)Competing interests (Disease treatment versus)	5.	a.	Are you interested in participating in future advocacy efforts?
	disease prevention) _Ethics/ Human subjects protection in public health research		b.	In what capacity? (Examples: participating in an awareness cam paign, organizing an awareness campaign, be a member of a coalition, write a letter to the editor
<u>Pu</u>	blic Health Problems _Domestic violence/ Child abuse and neglect _Mental health _Nutrition obesity/ eating disorders, food			or an opinion piece, write a policy statement, give public testimony, go to a rally or protest, organize a rally or protest)
	choices _Teenage Pregnancy _STDs	6.	a.	Are there any advocacy methods that you would like to learn about?
_	_Youth use of drugs and alcohol _Uninsured (or health insurance in general) _Gun violence/ gun control _ Tobacco settlement expenditures _Smoking cessation services _Racial and ethnic disparities (the public health needs of a diverse population) _Environmental issues and environmental justice			b. Which methods?  (Examples: how to track bills in Congress, how to track bills in your state, how the government works, how to participate in an awareness campaign, how to organize an awareness campaign, how to be a member of a coalition, how to write a letter to the editor or an opinion piece, how to write a policy statement, how to give public testi mony, how to go to a rally or protest, how to organize a rally or protest)
a.	Have you ever been involved in any advocacy efforts?	7.		Are you interested in being active in the Action Committee?
b.	In what capacity? (Examples: participated in an awareness campaign, organized an awareness campaign, was a member of a coalition, wrote a letter to the editor or an opinion piece, wrote a policy statement, gave		b.	If yes, at what level of commitment would you prefer?  Receiving action alerts Participating in an awareness network Being an awareness campaign leader, Researching issues for PHSC Writing about issues for PHSC Help to develop training materials Web searching for advocacy links, I don't know what I want to do, but I want to help!

#### **SPECIALTY SECTION NEWS**

#### The Green Corner—Environmental Health Advocacy at Work

By: Neal Rosenblatt and Heidi Klein

In the February edition of *News & Views* (Volume 5, Number 1), Dr. Angela Michalide, urged public health students to become more active in public health advocacy. Further, she described the professional obligation we, as (burgeoning) public health professionals, have to "provide essential data, best practice examples, and expert opinion to public policy makers to assist them in making the right decisions to improve the health of the public." The environmental movement, urges us to "think globally, act locally." We encourage you to hear that call and join the Environment Section in our exciting policy work.

We believe that APHA has the potential to fundamentally change our global policy dialogue on public health issues, and that it is our

responsibility the Environinform and positions on environment Therefore, we ing hard to exlogue about tal compo-

The environmental movement, urges us to "think globally, act locally."

as members of ment Section to shape APHA's issues related to and health. have been workpand the diathe environmennents of disease

and to promote prevention. In 1999, we identified four (4) priority areas for policy development: (1) healthy schools; (2) public health protections for drinking water and pesticides; (3) persistent organic pollutants and the precautionary principle; and (4) reduce children's exposure to mercury.

Due to the extraordinary work of our members, this year the Environment Section had almost unprecedented success in the policy arena. Building upon the Section's Strategic Plan, we were able to gain organizational adoption of the following resolutions:

- 200008: Affirming the Importance of Regulating Pesticide Exposures to Protect Public Health
- 200009: Support for International Action to Eliminate Persistent Organic Pollutants
- 200010: Creating Healthier School Facilities
- 200011: The Precautionary Principle and Children's Health
- 200012: Reducing the Rising Asthma Rates
- 200013: Maximizing Public Health Protection with Integrated Vector Control
- 200014: Protecting OSHA's Jurisdiction over Home Work places
- 200015: Drinking Water Quality and Public Health (Position Paper)

Our work continues now in ensuring that the recommendations, actions, and policies contained in these resolutions are implemented.

For example, Claire Barnett of the Healthy Schools Network, has worked with APHA staff to convene a coalition of public health partners who have captured the ears of members of Congress and the Administration. Joel Tickner, of the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, and Polly Hoppin, of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/U.S. EPA New England, have teamed to publish articles on the precautionary principle and

Dr. Angela Michalide, urged public health students to become more active in public health advocacy.

[February edition of *News & Views* (Volume 5, Number 1)]

children's environmental health. Together with other advocates, these members will be working to make sure that our policies do not remain on paper only.

We encourage students to contact us, if you would like to participate in our on-going advocacy work. In addition, we will be offering educational and scientific sessions at the fall APHA annual meeting on the majority of these issues and hope you will attend. The annual conference is a great way to get up to speed on the issue and connect with others.

In the meantime, "think globally, act locally" and be in touch.

Neal Rosenblatt Environment Section Liaison Public Health School Liaison "mailto:neal.rosenblatt@louisville.edu" neal.rosenblatt@louisville.edu or telephone #: 502/567-7818

Heidi Klein Environment Section Membership Chair "mailto:heidimklein@hotmail.com"

The ingredients of health and long life, are great temperance, open air, easy labor, and little care. ... Sir Philip Sidney

#### Occupational Health and Safety Section

#### Workers Can Have the Safe, Sustainable and Secure Job Lot

By: Rory O'Neill

Throughout the industrial world old, polluting industries are dying. Consumer boycotts, toxics reduction policies, media campaigns, informed and active consumers and victims' organisations and legal worries are putting pressure on the environmentally unfriendly to close up shop.

In early December 2000, the climate change summit in The Hague agreeing a package of measures to stem global warming - with costly tional, traditionally-polluting industries. A few days later a United Na-

Global environment agreements will impact on employment. It's a handled, it can have tragic consequences.

A November 2000 anti-pollution order from the Indian Supreme Court sure of over 100,000 industrial units in the capital Delhi, one of the ies. Three people died in riots following moves to implement the order.

Worldwide, unions are having to adapt to rapid changes driven by pressures for a greener world.

The asbestos industry is in retreat, the greatest industrial killer in across Europe and under attack worldwide. The market for CFCs (chlo-

big chemical industry employer but also major "greenhouse gases", has all but disappeared as a result of the "Montreal Protocol", an international phase-out agreement.

International pollution controls would certainly curtail coal use, and that means an uncertain future for union jobs in the mining industry. Chemical controls will affect jobs in that sector. Toxins and the jobs of those working them have never been under greater threat.

Michael Renner of the US-think tank Worldwatch Institute and author of a new report on green jobs says: "Job loss due to environmental regulations have been extremely limited - less than one-tenth of one per cent of layoffs in the United States."

came within a whisker of implications for traditions Environment sensitive issue; mis-

would have led to the cloworld's most polluted cit-

legal, consumer or other

history all but banned rofluorocarbons), once a

#### Don't blame the environment!

Sounds gloomy. In fact, there are far more telling pressures on jobs, with automation, productivity drives and short-sighted management top of the list. Boardroom pay packets are based on this year's profits and happy shareholders; that means the primary boardroom obsession is with cutting costs, not pollution.

Michael Renner of the US-think tank Worldwatch Institute and author of a new report on green jobs says: "Job loss due to environmental regulations have been extremely limited - less than one-tenth of one per cent of layoffs in the United States."

His report observes that while the US coal industry increased production by 32 per cent from 1980 to 1999, employment fell by 66 per cent. And as the European Union's chemical industry upped production by 25 per cent in the years 1990 to 1998, jobs declined by 14 per cent. The impact of environmental controls on employment was miniscule by comparison.

The asbestos industry too started shedding jobs while its productivity Most people want a job; down the road to oblivion began because it was inherently unsustainable; nomical compensation tally made companies almost uninsurable. Regulabody count. In 2000, Owens-Corning became the latest asbestos multinapensation liabilities through bankruptcy.

Renner argues that unions should resist "greenmail" - the employer on the hazards or your job will go. Instead unions should do what they've and better jobs and better conditions.

most don't want pollution. Not possible? Unions have a plan to create safe, productive and environmentallyfriendly jobs.

at least was healthy. Its journey so many people died the astrotors couldn't ignore the spiralling tional hoping to evade its com-

threat that you should keep quiet always done best, press for more

#### Jobs saved, safe jobs

The challenge for unions is to protect lives, livelihoods and communities. Unemployment is just about the only thing worse for you that an arduous, soul-destroying, polluted job.

"The idea of sustainability can be likened to a three-legged stool, reflecting the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainability, says Reg Green, health, safety and environment officer with the international chemical, energy and mineworkers' federation

"Businesses have long sought to compete by economising on the use of labour," he says. "To build a sustainable economy, we need to economise on the use of energy and resources instead."

Worldwatch Institute's Michael Renner notes that more enlightened policies are key. "Jobs are more likely to be at risk where environmental standards are low and where innovation in favour of cleaner technologies is lagging," he says.

"Our research shows that a huge potential to create jobs outside the extractive industries, jobs that do not depend on processing enormous one-way flows of raw materials and turning natural resources into mountains of waste. The challenge to society is to provide a just transition for workers who will lose jobs in industries like fossil fuels and mining."

This switch will not always be easy. Governments vying for internal investment are engaged in an international ugly contest, at best putting a break on environmental and safety improvements, at worse rolling back or turn a blind eye to hard fought-for controls.

Volume 5, Number 2 News & Views Page 9

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

PHSC: How can I get involved?

PHSC is run for students by students, so there are always plenty of opportunities to get involved in PHSC as an active member, a program participant, or an enthusiastic leader! PHSC is divided into a number of Committees and Sub-Committees that run the many initiatives PHSC is able to provide its members. Although the Chairs for each Committee are appointed at the beginning of every year by the Officers of PHSC, there are opportunities throughout the year to participate as a member of a particular Committee. We encourage you to check out our website, http:// www.phsc.org/committees.html, to learn more about the thirteen different Committees of PHSC. This column, to appear regularly in the newsletter, will highlight different volunteer opportunities that are available in PHSC. If you are interested in participating in one of the ways highlighted below, or just want more information, please contact the current President, Melissa Stigler (stigler@epi.umn.edu). Remember, volunteering your time in this way can be a terrific way to develop your leadership and networking skills, gain experience (which will always look good on that resume!), and get more actively involved in APHA. These positions only require a few hours per month. PHSC is currently looking for the following volunteers:

- 1. Campus liaisons. Campus liaisons are a great way to represent PHSC at your school or program of public health! Campus liaisons help PHSC out in three ways, 1) by leading recruitment drives for PHSC and APHA; 2) by disseminating information about PHSC programs and initiatives, including information about our National Mentoring Program in Public Health; and 3) by helping guide PHSC as to how we can better serve the students of public health. PHSC will gladly provide any training, or materials, liaisons might need. Liaisons at all 28 accredited schools of public health are particularly needed, though liaisons at the other programs in public health are always welcome, too! PHSC is trying to establish, and then sustain, partnerships with schools and programs in public health nationwide in this way. If you are interested in being a campus liaison, contact Caryn Etkin (cetkin1@uic.edu)).
- 2. **Committee members.** There are fourteen different Committees of PHSC, each of which is responsible for a particular initiative or program run by the

Caucus. These include activities like our National Mentoring Program in Public Health, our advocacy efforts, our fundraising campaigns, our program plan for the Annual Meeting, and our initiatives to help facilitate access to public health-related job, intern ship, award, and scholarship opportunities worldwide. The Chairs of these different Committees can always use an extra hand. Consider getting involved as a member of a Committee that oversees a particular PHSC activity you might be interested in. For more information, check out our website at <a href="http://www.phsc.org/committees.html">http://www.phsc.org/committees.html</a> or contact the appropriate Chair(s) listed in this edition of <a href="https://www.phsc.org/committees.html">News & Views</a>.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION

#### UNC—School of Public Health Certificate in Core Public Health Concepts

As the practice of public health changes, so the education of public health practitioners needs to change. Since the 1988 Institute of Medicine report on the Future of Public Health there has been a consistent demand for focused efforts that address the infrastructure and core services of public health. To address this need and fill the gap in educational programs available to practitioners, the University of North Carolina has developed a Certificate in Core Public Health Concepts.

The Certificate in Core Public Health Concepts is 12-credit hour program of study. The content is the same as the core content taught in UNC's masters of public health programs. All courses have been specially designed and developed for delivery via the Internet. Students will be able to register, receive materials, interact with faculty, order books and successfully complete this program without travelling to the campus. A connection to the Internet is all that is required!

Credits can be transferred into a MPH program, depending on individual program requirements. To learn more about curriculum, costs and technical requirements, click on "Visitors" at <a href="http://sph.unc.edu/nciph/certificate">http://sph.unc.edu/nciph/certificate</a>. The Application Deadline for Fall 2001 admission is July 1, 2001.

#### COMMUNITY HEALTH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

About the Community Health Scholars Program

#### **Need - Purpose - Rationale**

The Community Health Scholars Program (CHSP) is a post-doctoral fellowship program designed to meet the growing needs of schools of public health for faculty with community competency. By supporting this program, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation continues to focus on the development of knowledge, skills and values in community-based approaches to public health. The CHSP builds on the Foundations's Initiatives: Community Based Public Health, Turning Point: Collaborating for a New Century of Public Health, and Community Voices: Health Care for the Underserved. The CHSP post-doctoral program enables scholars to develop and enhance their skills in working with communities and engaging in community-based research at institutions where these skills are present.

#### Award

12 months fellowship award of \$40,000, including fringe benefits research fund of \$10,000 per Scholar each Scholar based at one of three training sites women and other underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply

#### **Training Sites**

Each Scholar will engage in community-based research and a variety of educational experiences with faculty and community partners possessing expertise in community-based public health. Each site has faculty and community resources with expertise in community-based research and teaching, and each has a variety of long-term community partnerships & projects which can provide the setting for Scholars' research projects.

#### **Further Information**

For further information on the Program or to request an application (deadline for receipt: 11/9/01), please contact the National Program Office at:

Community Health Scholars Program
National Program Office
University of Michigan
School of Public Health
109 Observatory St., M4142 SPH II
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2029
Attn: Saundra Bailey
voice: 734-647-3065

fax: 734-936-0927 email: chsp@umich.edu

#### **Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program (CPFP)**

#### **Program Information**

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is accepting applications for the Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program (CPFP). The purpose of this program is to train individuals from a multiplicity of health science disciplines in the field of cancer prevention and control. The program provides:

Master of Public Health degree NCI Summer Curriculum in Cancer Prevention Mentored research at the NCI Brief field assignments at other institutions

Fellows will be accepted for up to five years of training, beginning July 1, 2002. Benefits include relocation and travel expenses, paid federal holidays, and health insurance.

## Applications are due September 1, 2001 for entry into the program the on July 1, 2002.

Research opportunities include chemoprevention, clinical epidemiology, diet, nutrition and other lifestyle factor-studies, evidence-based decisionmaking, intervention studies, outcomes research, special populations, screening and early detection (including genetic and other biomarkers), smoking cessation, social and behavioral research, statistical and epidemiological methodology, and translational research.

#### **Eligibility**

M.D., D.D.S., or D.O. from a U.S., territorial, or Canadian Medical School. Foreign medical graduates must have current USMLE or ECFMG certification and appropriate experience.

#### OR

Ph.D. or other doctoral degree in a related discipline (epidemiology, biostatistics, or the biomedical, nutritional, public health or behavioral sciences). Foreign education must be comparable to that received in accredited U.S., territorial, or Canadian institutions.

#### **PLUS**

Must be a citizen or resident alien of the United States eligible for citizenship within four years.

#### How to Apply

To receive an application catalog, access http://dcp.nci.nih.gov/pob/fellowship/catalog.html or contact:

Douglas L. Weed, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D.
Director, Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program
National Cancer Institute
Executive Plaza South, Suite T-41
6120 Executive Blvd MSC 7105
Bethesda, MD 20892-7105

#### **Further inquiries:**

Program Coordinator Phone: (301) 496-8640 FAX: (301) 402-4863

E-mail: nciopogeneral@mail.nih.gov

Alan M. Jette, PhD, Fellowship Director Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, Boston University 635 Commonwealth Ave.

Boston, MA 02215 Phone: 617-353-2704

## **NCI Summer Curriculum in Cancer Prevention**

#### The Faculty

The faculty consists of approximately 80 experts from the National Institutes of Health and from academic institutions.

#### **Dates/Times/Location**

The Principles and Practice of Cancer Prevention and Control Course will be held from July 5 - August 3, 2001 in Rockville, Maryland. Registration is expected to begin April 15, 2001.

#### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

The Molecular Prevention Course will be held August 6-10, 2001 in Rockville, Maryland. Registration is expected to begin April 15, 2001.

Lectures are scheduled Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 10:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Occasionally, lecture times will vary.

#### **Eligibility**

Both courses are open to physicians, scientists, and other health care professionals who have an interest in cancer prevention and control. Individuals from cancer centers, universities, health departments, industry, and the Federal government from across the United States and from all five continents have previously attended.

There is no cost for either of these courses. Room, board, and transportation expenses are the responsibility of the participant. The NCI Office of International Affairs (OIA) has a limited amount of funding for international attendees. Please contact the OIA at 301-496-4761, to determine if you qualify for funding.

#### Registration

For registration forms or further information, contact:

Program Coordinator
NCI Summer Curriculum in Cancer Prevention
Executive Plaza South, Suite T-41
6120 Executive Plaza, MSC 7105
Bethesda, MD 20892-7105
Phone: 301-496-8640

Fax: 301-402-4863 E-mail: nciopogeneral@mail.nih.gov

#### CAREER CORNER

#### **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

## Mailman School of Public Health Division of Health Policy and Management

The Division of Health Policy and Management of the Mailman School of Public Health seeks applicants for a tenure-track senior faculty or junior faculty position in Health Care Quality, beginning in Fall 2001. We seek a scholar with an MD with board certification and an MPH, Ms, and/or PhD, ScD, DrPH, in a related discipline who would initiate research in health care quality or outcomes with emphasis on public health or prevention. The ideal candidate would have prior research experience and could participate in interdisciplinary research. The position entails teaching graduate students at the School of Public Health. Columbia University is an AA/EO employer. Women and people of color are encouraged to apply.

Please forward cover letter, current vita, one research paper, and three letters of recommendations to:

Professor Sheila Gorman Chair, Search Committee Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health Division of Health Policy and Management 600 West 168th Street, Room 612 New York, NY 10032 Title Research Scientist 3 (Epidemiology) Salary/Salary Grade \$57,102 - \$69,955 (Grade 25) Negotiating Unit Professional, Scientific and Technical Services/05

Location Bureau of Communicable Disease Control Arthropod-borne Disease Program Western Regional Office, Buffalo, NY 14202

#### **Minimum Qualifications:**

Bachelor's degree and four (4) years of professional research experience in epidemiology, entomology, zoonoses, or vector-borne disease ecology; or a master's degree and three (3) years of such experience; or a doctorate in the appropriate field and one (1) year of such experience.

#### **Preferred Qualifications:**

Experience in epidemiology, entomology, zoonoses, and/or vector-bornedisease ecology research and study design; analysis using epizootic and epidemiological principles and methodologies; and with statistical software, relational databases, and graphical software packages. Experience in supervising research staff conducting specimen collection, testing and analysis. Experience with vector surveillance, pest control, and viral diagnostic laboratory techniques. Strong oral and written communication skills are preferred.

#### **Responsibilities**:

Under the lead of the Director of the Arthropod-borne Disease Program, the Research Scientist 3 (Epidemiology) will be responsible for all phases of the complete research process of vector-borne diseases including problem definition, planning, execution, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of findings. Results will be published in peer-reviewed journals, internal reports, technical manuals and in oral presentations. As the staff member of the ABDP in the Western Region, the incumbent will conduct in-service training programs on pest management and review applications for State aid for mosquito and tick surveillance and control. The incumbent will work collaboratively with federal, state, and public health agencies to review water management policies, and to provide technical guidance, training, and oversight for insect and human surveil-

lance programs. The incumbent will establish a GIS database for local health unit control operations. Also, this research scientist will maintain an academic relationship with the State College at Buffalo, and the State University of New York at Buffalo Medical School by teaching and mentoring students.

#### **Conditions of Employment:**

Permanent, full-time, non-competitive appointment. Travel is required.

Applicants must demonstrate the ability to travel to areas that may not be served by public transportation. Since exposure to infectious materials or medical risks may be involved with this position the candidate who accepts appointment may be required to wear protective equipment and/or undergo pre-employment and periodic medical monitoring.

#### **Application Procedure:**

Submit resume to Human Resources Management Group, RS3/JC, Room 2276, Corning Tower Building, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12237-0012, or by email to: b0010L@health.state.ny.us with a subject line no later than June 8, 2001

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. WOMEN, MINORITIES AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

The preservation of health is a duty. Few seem conscious that there is such a thing as physical morality.
... Herbert Spencer

#### **CAREER CORNER**

#### JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY—School of Allied Health Sciences Faculty Positions

The School of Allied Health Sciences has several tenure-track faculty positions in the Department of Healthcare Administration and the Department of Public Health. Tenure-track, 9- to 12-month faculty appointments are available for all positions at academic rank commensurate with individual qualifications. The school offers competitive salaries, excellent fringe benefits, and funded summer teaching or research opportunities.

#### HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION PROFESSOR / ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

The Department of Healthcare Administration invites applications from experienced, senior-level specialists in health care administration to lead efforts in developing a new master's degree program in health care administration (MHCA). Qualified candidates must have a doctorate in health care administration or related field, demonstrated program leadership, a scholarly research record, and successful experience in extramural funding and ACEHSA accreditation.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH FACULTY (6 Positions Available)

The Department of Public Health is projected to become Mississippi's first school of public health. Applicants from pratice-based CEPH experienced academicians are invited to apply for the following six position openings: Department Coordinator and Professor or Associate Professor each for: Health Policy and Management, Biostatistics, Health Promotion and Education, and Environmental/Occupational Health, Associate Professor, and Assistant Professor in Health Policy and Management. Each position requires a relevant doctoral degreee and a degree in public health, e.g., MPH, including research and extramural funding record appropriate to the applicant's level of academic career development.

The Search Committee will review applications on receipt and schedule interviews with selected candidates throughout Spring 2001. Interested candidates should send: (1) application letter, (2) curriculum vitae, (3) all university official transcripts, and (4) four professional references authorized for contact to:

Search Committee Chair
School of Allied Health Sciences
Jackson State University
Jackson Medical Mall
350 West Woodrow Wilson Drive, Suite 301
Jackson, MS 39213

#### **Project Administration Specialist**

RTI's Statistics Research Division is seeking to fill the position of Project Administration Specialist I/II/III. The qualified candidate will have a Masters in Public Health or equivalent degree/experience. Should have experience/skills (include any special physical requirements;i.e., lifting, travel). Experience in public health, well-organized project manager, skilled communicator, proficient in MS Office products, ability to work in a team environment. Strong organizational skills. Effective communicator, oral and written. Duties include willingness to travel internationally, making site visits. Project Support, client interaction, report contribution, participate in all aspects of project activities. (JK)

For more information about RTI, please see our website at www.rti.org, resumes can be mailed to:

Research Triangle Institute Office of Human Resources Post Office Box 12194 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

#### Analyst 3/Res. Analyst 1

RTI's Center for Health Services, Economics, and Policy Research is seeking to fill the position of Analyst 3/Research Analyst 1. The qualified candidate will have a Masters in epidemiology, sociology, public health, psychology. Two to three years experience. Substantive knowledge in alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse or health services research is a plus. Strong substantive and analytical skills; excellent oral and written communication skills; attention to detail; self-starter; ability to produce quality work under stringent deadlines; some travel. Will assist in instrument develop and data collection activities; perform statistical analysis using SAS and SUDAAN; write proposals and reports; serves as project manager. (JK)

Education: Masters Degree Experience: 2 years Location: RTP, NC

Company RTI offers innovative research and development and a full spectrum of multidisciplinary services in technology, environment, public policy, survey and statistics, and health and pharmaceuticals. For more information about RTI, please see our website at *www.rti.org*, resumes can be mailed to:

Research Triangle Institute Office of Human Resources Post Office Box 12194 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

#### Join the Public Health Student Caucus!

The Student Caucus is the only international organization that represents and serves all students in public health and related disciplines. Current members come form over 100 different colleges and universities as well as from seven different countries. There are many, many benefits of Student Caucus membership. One of the best ways to find out about them all is to browse through the Members Section of the website at *www.phsc.org*.

The only membership requirements is that you must be a member of the American Public Health Association. If you are already an APHA member, you can join the Caucus using our on-line Membership Form. If your browser cannot handle forms, you can e-mail your name, e-mail address, phone, and school to the Membership Chairperson.

Dues for new and renewing members are \$5. No one will be denied membership if you cannot afford it. If this is the case, contact the President of PHSC. Whether you join on-line or on paper, please make your check payable to "Public Health Student Caucus" and mail it to:

Public Health Student Caucus 3010 Hennepin Avenue S, #573 Minneapolis, MN 55408-2614

If you are not an APHA member, why don't you join? There are many benefits of APHA membership including subscriptions to The Nation's Health and the American Journal of Public Health, a discount on the Annual Meeting registration fee, access to the APHA Career Mart at the Annual Meeting, and many more great programs.

APHA annual student dues are only \$50 per year! You can get more information about joining APHA by looking at their website: www.apha.org, or by calling (202) 789-5600.