



Newsletter

Department of Public Health, School of Public Health and Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts, November 3, 2008

Headlines

American Public Health Association 136th Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, October 25-29th

The APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition is the oldest and largest gathering of public health professionals in the world attracting more than 13,000.

SPHHS had its annual exhibit at the APHA in San Diego this October. There was a great deal of interest from potential students. We also held our annual Alumni and Friends reception that was very well-attended by many alumni, including many from the online MPH program. There was great food, good conversation, a SPHHS T-shirt raffle, and welcoming remarks from both Interim Dean Cohen and incoming Dean Aelion.

Professors That Presented At The APHA

Dr. William Bartosch, Assistant Professor in the Health Policy and Management program, presented at a panel organized by the Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs section that addressed Systems and Policy Issues: Where We Are, Where We're Going.

Dr. Daniel Gerber, Senior Lecturer in the Community Health Education program, presented on **"New and Better Ways to Teach Public Health."** He has framed his problem-based teaching approach with the learning theories of Malcolm Knowles and David Kolb. He will demonstrate how using these theories he has successfully taught problem-based learning to current and future public health professionals.

Dr. Katherine Reeves, Assistant Professor in the Epidemiology program, presented a poster as part of the Delta Omega Poster Session. My presentation was titled, **"Longitudinal Association of Anthropometry with Mammographic Breast Density."** A manuscript on this work is currently in press at the International Journal of Cancer.

Dr. Rosa Rodriguez-Monguio, Assistant Professor in the Health Policy and Management Program, presented a paper focused on the analysis of Orphan Drug (OD) designations and approvals, and on the patent and exclusivity time OD's approved by the U.S. FDA between 1983 and 2007.

Wednesday, Nov 12th

IS a Tuesday Schedule

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Friday, November
14th at 2:30

Bio/Epi, Practicum
Seminar

Spring 09 Registration
begins

Wednesday, Nov 5th

Open House for
Prospective
Students
Friday, December 5th,
10am-Noon

Campus Center,
Room 903

12th Annual Research
Day

March 26th



Faculty News—Grants & Misc.

- **Rongheng Lin**, Assistant Professor in the Biostatistics program, has received \$45,000 grant from UMASS Center for AIDS Research in Worcester. Dr. Lin and Dr. Mohan Somasandaran from UMASS Medical campus will use the one-year developmental grant to develop statistical methods that can spot mutation locations in HIV-1 env sequence that are associated with the transmission selection in mother-to-child-transmission.
- **Community Health Education** is in the process of hiring a tenure track Assistant Professor to replace Dr. Torres who left in August to accept the directorship at Mauricio Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy at UMass Boston.
- **Dr. Dan Gerber** was invited to join a panel at the Association of American college and Universities Conference called, Engaging Science, Advancing Learning: General Education, Majors and the New Global Century on November 8th, 2008, Providence, Rhode Island. The panel called, “The Educated Citizen and Public Health” discussed the initiative for the integration of public health perspectives within a comprehensive liberal education framework. This initiative simultaneously aims to fulfill the Institute of Medicine’s recommendation that “all undergraduates should have access to education in public health.” An understanding of public health is a critical component of good citizenship and a prerequisite for taking responsibility for building healthy societies. Dr. Gerber presented the school’s new undergraduate degree in public health.
- **Dr. David Buchanan** was the keynote speaker at the American Health Care Conference in Ontario CA, last week giving a talk titled, “Contrasting Visions of Justice Underlying American Health Care Debates”