Welcome!

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The School of Public Health and Health Sciences invites you to our homecoming weekend celebration!
Saturday, October 16, 2010
Join your fellow students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends! The day’s activities will include:
♦ Fun run/walk  ♦ Mingle with fellow students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends
♦ Attend our anniversary celebration  ♦ Join the departmental ceremonies
♦ Attend the UMass BBQ and root for your team at the UMass football game!

Schedule of Orientation Activities

AUGUST 30 – SEPTEMBER 4: Fall 2010 International Students’ Orientation – The International Programs Office (IPO) orientation is mandatory for all international students new to the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Please visit the IPO website at www.ipo.umass.edu for a complete schedule of orientation activities.

SEPTEMBER 3: New Students’ Orientation - The September 3rd orientation is a one day program offered only to students who cannot attend an orientation session in June or July. During orientation you will take care of the business of becoming a member of the UMass Amherst community including: learning about university academic requirements, taking placement tests, meeting with an academic advisor, getting your UCard (student ID), and touring your new campus.

Orientation will start at 9:00 AM in the Campus Center.

SEPTEMBER 3: The Department of Communication Disorders is hosting an orientation for new GRADUATE STUDENTS from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Room 101 of the Communication Disorders building.

SEPTEMBER 7: The Department of Public Health is hosting an orientation for new GRADUATE STUDENTS from 12:00 – 1:00 PM in the Campus Center Reading Room.
Internship and Workforce Development Fair
September 30, 2010
10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Student Union Ballroom
FREE! Open to the public and all Graduate and Undergraduate students.

Discover new opportunities for your career.

Meet professionals and other peers as you network.

Learn about the fields of Public Health and Health Sciences.

For more information please contact Lynn Koerbel at 413-545-2523 or visit www.umass.edu/sphhs
Richard (Rick) Peltier, assistant professor, joins the Environmental Health Sciences Division in the Department of Public Health. Dr. Peltier is an alumnus of the University of Massachusetts Amherst (BS Biology, 1997). He completed his MPH in Environmental Health at Columbia University. In 2007, Dr. Peltier finished his PhD in Atmospheric Chemistry at Georgia Tech where his research focused on applying engineering and chemistry principles to the development and deployment of novel aerosol measurement instruments. His work investigates why exposure to some chemical components of aerosol can be hazardous, yet exposures to other types of aerosol have no significant health effect. He continues these interests in Amherst, where he will be starting a study looking at which components of diesel exhaust are associated with markers of cardiovascular disease.

J. Richard Pilsner, assistant professor, joins the Environmental Health Sciences Division in the Department of Public Health. Dr. Pilsner received his MPH and PhD degrees in Environmental Health Sciences from Columbia University. Most recently, Dr. Pilsner served as a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society (RWJHS) Research Fellow at the University of Michigan, where he continued his investigation of the role of prenatal environmental exposures on epigenetic processes. Dr. Pilsner’s primary research focuses on the Early Life Exposures in Mexico to Environmental Toxics (ELEMENT) study, a multidisciplinary birth cohort study with the mission of investigating the influence of environmental toxicant exposures on the development and future health of the fetus. Dr. Pilsner will be teaching environmental/molecular epidemiology in the spring.

Tobin Silver, lecturer, joins the Department of Kinesiology. He received his Master’s degree in sport biomechanics from Barry University and a PhD in Health and Kinesiology from Purdue University (Pending December 2010). Dr. Silver’s research goal is to better understand how the human postural system works to maintain balance. He conducts research that examines both static and dynamic human balance, throughout the aging process, while recovering from trips and slips, in sport, as well as in pathological physiological subjects. This fall, he will be teaching Anatomy and Physiology 1, Exercise Testing and Programming, and Writing Seminar in Kinesiology. Dr. Silver will also serve as the Director of the Body Shop Fitness Center.

Sarah Witkowski, assistant professor, joined the Department of Kinesiology in January 2010. She received her PhD in Exercise Physiology from the University of Maryland. She leads the Molecular and Cardiovascular Physiology Laboratory, which investigates novel factors influencing cardiovascular adaptations to activity and inactivity in health, disease, and aging. Her recent work involves the mechanisms by which physical activity influences circulating angiogenic cells (CACs) known to contribute to the maintenance, regeneration, and repair of cardiovascular-related tissues. Dr. Witkowski will be teaching Human Anatomy and Physiology and Current Topics in Cardiovascular Physiology this fall.

Ezra Wood, research assistant professor, joins the Environmental Health Sciences Division in the Department of Public Health. Dr. Wood received his Ph.D. in Atmospheric Chemistry from the University of California at Berkeley. For his Ph.D. he worked on the development of novel instrumentation for the detection of nitrogen oxides. After receiving his Ph.D., Dr. Wood worked as a research scientist at Aerodyne Research Lab in Billerica, MA, where his research involved various aspects of air pollution research, including quantification of pollutant emissions from aircraft, on-road vehicles, and petrochemical flares; air quality in Mexico City, Mexico, and Houston; the mechanisms of ozone and particulate matter formation; exposure of soldiers to pollutants released from munitions; characterization of near-roadway pollutant gradients; and development of new analytical techniques for the detection for several air pollutants. Dr. Wood’s research at UMass will focus on studies of both indoor and outdoor air pollution using new analytical instrumentation.
Practicum Presentations
During the summer, many of our MPH graduate students completed their practica. Some worked at local health departments; others completed internships at Novgorod State University in Novgorod Russia; while still others worked at local hospitals, health centers and other universities. During the month of October, these students will be discussing their experiences as part of the Practicum Presentations. Stay tuned as more information becomes available.

Step Out Walk to Fight Diabetes
Where: Look Park, Northampton, MA
When: Sunday, September 26, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Undergraduate and graduate students in the UMass School of Public Health and Health Sciences are walking and raising funds for the American Diabetes Association’s signature fundraising walk, Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes. Join our team, form your own, register as an individual, or sponsor a walker! To join our team, go to: http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR/StepOut/ConnecticutSMassArea?team_id=487941&pg=team&fr_id=7220.

Communication Disorders
The National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) is an association for students interested in the study of communication disorders. The UMASS chapter was established to provide undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to interact with each other, exchange ideas, and learn more about the fields of speech-language pathology and audiology. Please visit us on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10372592460.

Graduate Society of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
The Graduate Society of Epidemiology and Biostatistics (GSEB) is open to all graduate students interested in epidemiology and biostatistics. The GSEB was created to facilitate the interaction between members of our community. For news and announcements, look for our monthly newsletter, the EpiBio Portal, or our blog (http://epibiportal.blogspot.com/), or contact us at epibiportal@gmail.com.

Kinesiology Club
The Kinesiology Club is open to any students interested in Kinesiology. We attend the NEACSM Fall Conference, invite numerous guest speakers, hold information sessions, and organize fundraising events. The Kinesiology Club will have its first general meeting on September 16, in Totman 153 from 6:00-7:30pm. Any student who is interested in joining is welcome. Send questions to Courtney Chaulk (President) at cchaulk@student.umass.edu or join our Facebook Group "UMass Kinesiology Club" for updates.

Nutrition Club
The UMass Nutrition Association (UMNA) is an organization created to represent nutrition majors on campus. Through UMNA, undergraduate and graduate nutrition students develop programs to explore the nutrition profession, provide community service, and increase social connections. Our programs include guest speakers, raising funds for hunger prevention services, creating a newsletter, and developing a website. For more information, contact our faculty advisor Srimathi Kannan at skannan@nutrition.umass.edu.

Public Health Club
If you like to help the community by increasing awareness of public health initiatives, then the Public Health Club is the club for you! We have a myriad of leadership opportunities, philanthropic events and guest speakers! For updates and information, please visit our Facebook page: http://www.facebook.com/pages/UMASS-Public-Health-Club/167496154506.
Fall 2010 Calendar

- September 7: First day of classes
- September 20: Last day to add/drop with no record
- September 30: SPHHS Internship & Workforce Development Fair
- October 11: Holiday (Columbus Day)
- October 12: Monday schedule
- October 16: SPHHS Homecoming Celebration
- October 18: Last day to Drop with a “DR”—Graduate
- October 21: Mid-semester, Last day to Drop with a “W”
- November 10: Thursday schedule
- November 11: Holiday (Veteran’s Day)
- November 12: Registration begins for Spring 2011
- November 25: Holiday (Thanksgiving)
- December 10: Last day of classes
- December 11: Reading period begins
- December 13: Final examination period begins
- December 18: Last day of final exams
- December 20: Snow day for final exams, semester ends
- December 27: Final grades due

Resources for International Students

The International Programs Office works with international students throughout their academic careers. It provides services in the areas of initial immigration documents, orientation, immigration and advising, coordination of services with all other units on campus, as well as ongoing advising and counseling on a one-on-one basis. It also provides ongoing social and cultural programming for all international undergraduate and graduate students, scholars, researchers and their families. For more information on the IPO office and its services, please visit the IPO website at www.ipo.umass.edu.

Social Security representatives will visit the UMass campus on September 22 and 23 (8:30am to 1:30pm in Classroom 2 of Newman Center) to accept Social Security applications from international students. These are the ONLY times they will be here for the Fall semester, so students who need a Social Security Card should be sure to put this on their calendars and check out the IPO website for details!

www.ipo.umass.edu.

Resources for New & Returning Students

There are many excellent study-abroad programs for SPHHS students (go to www.ipo.umass.edu). Those students who are interested in studying abroad should review the website, and then visit our Education Abroad Advising Center (455 Hills South), which is open 10 AM to 4 PM, Monday through Friday.

The Financial Aid Services website offers lots of information on grants, scholarships, tuition waivers, loans and work-study opportunities. To learn more, please visit http://www.umass.edu/umfa/aidtypes/.

The Writing Center is a place where students, faculty, and staff at the university can work with a knowledgeable tutor on their writing. Tutors meet individually with writers in 45-minute consultations. A writing tutor will ask questions, offer advice, and generally respond as an interested reader. The Writing Center is located in the northwest corner of the W.E.B. DuBois Library's Learning Commons. For more information, visit http://www.umass.edu/writingcenter/.

RefWorks is a powerful tool that manages your citations and creates bibliographies using various citation styles. Learn how to save precious time and energy at a RefWorks workshop. For more information, email refworks@library.umass.edu or visit their website at http://guides.library.umass.edu/refworksatumass.

Planning a career in Public Health and the Health Sciences? The SPHHS Career Opportunities web page is your source for job listings and information. Please visit us at: http://www.umass.edu/sphhs/CareerandJobOpportunities.htm.