

Network

The newsletter for and about the students, faculty and staff of the GW School of Public Health and Health Services, 2300 Eye Street, NW, Ross 106, Washington, DC 20037.

Network is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing for SPHHS; send questions and articles to mcmlb@gwumc.edu; fax 202-994-8052.

Student Associations Offer Link, Networking Opportunities

PHSA

The Public Health Student Association (PHSA) serves public health students of all degree levels. Its mission is to provide SPHHS students with social, professional development and service opportunities that will foster a sense of community among students, expand their public health experiences and expose them to a variety of professional opportunities. PHSA hosts the “Get-to-Know-DC” social series—activities planned by the PHSA executive board that will enable students new to the DC area to learn, see and experience the great places in DC. PHSA recently participated in the Student AIDS March and will be involved with Public Health Week and International Night. PHSA will host an end-of-year reception and awards ceremony, May 18, Alumni House. Meetings and events are open to all students in the GW Medical Center interested in public health and there are no fees or applications to join. Questions or comments: phsa@gwu.edu.

PHSA is now seeking candidates for the 2005-2006 Executive Board. Students interested in running for one of the positions or who need more details should email phsa@gwu.edu or lacyf@gwu.edu. The deadline to declare candidacy is 5 p.m., Fri., March 11. Elections will be held March 22-23, 5-9 p.m., Levine Student Lounge. Winners will be announced at the **April 6** PHSA meeting.

- **March 10**—Get to Know DC Series-Dining Out for Life; email elaina@gwu.edu, if interested.
- **April 1**—Relay for Life; email elaina@gwu.edu if interesting in joining the PHSA team.
- **April 2**—International Dance Party, 9:30 p.m., Marvin Center.

HSMLSA

The George Washington University Health Services Management and Leadership Student Association (HSMLSA) is a student organization that functions like a professional association, offering networking activities and information about professional opportunities.

The HSMLSA advocates for HSML students through services and programs that enrich and expand students' academic, professional and personal development. It also organizes social experiences. The HSMLSA serves as a Student Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE).

Notable HSMLSA activities include the Executive-in-Residence and Student-Alumni Mentoring programs, which help to foster professional development and networking skills through interaction with HSML Alumni. In February, the HSMLSA sponsored two alumni to serve as Executives-in-Residence, as well as site visits to Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and Washington Hospital Center.

Mark Your Calendar

Sat., April 2, 6-9:30 p.m.—*SPHHS Multicultural Community Celebration* (formerly International Night) MPA Building, 805 21st Street, NW. Tickets \$1 (includes dinner), available in Ross 221 beginning March 14; tickets are limited, first-come, first-served. Performers, acts, hobby displays, fashion show models still needed. Contact Jim Miller at sphjwm@gwumc.edu.

A message from the dean

This issue of *Network* highlights two SPHHS student associations—vital links in the life of our School. Involvement is an ideal way to enrich your experience at SPHHS and to meet and interact with others who have similar interests. Our student associations assume leadership roles in the discussion of issues related to our profession; they are active in lobbying and awareness efforts, provide support to students and connect you with the school, community and other students. Associations are also an excellent introduction to networking—providing a vehicle to form relationships that can benefit you today as well as in the future. Because students are the lifeblood of the SPHHS, faculty and administrators call upon association representatives for input on existing programs and new directions. I encourage you to become involved and join the associations! Participation is one more way that you can connect to our school and our profession—one more way that YOU can help make *SPHHS the Capital Connection to a Healthier World*.

Dean Ruth J. Katz, JD, MPH



Did you know ...



The **WellFit** community fitness and wellness program will give *heart health* seminars beginning March 25 and running for three consecutive Fridays. Topics will include heart health exercise and dietary practices. For more details, gwellfit@gwu.edu



The **Writing Center** offers help to students with course papers, theses and dissertations, speeches, applications, admissions essays, scientific reports and more. It is FREE. Call 994-3765 to set an appointment. For more information, www.gwu.edu/~gwriter

Get In the Know

By signing up for the SPHHS Listserv, students will receive up-to-the-minute information on class schedules, workshops, seminars, job opportunities, internships and more. Send a request to be added to the Listserv along with your full name and gwu email to sphrak@gwumc.edu.

★ Student, Staff and Faculty Spotlight ...

- Todd Miller, PhD, has joined the full-time faculty in exercise science.
- Hilda Canes, MPH student in EOH, was a contributor to a recent EPA report on the proposed mercury standard. The findings of the report questioned the scientific process behind the standard; the report, requested by the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, was issued Feb. 3. The report is available at www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2005/20050203-2005-P-00003.pdf
- Kathleen Dagher, MHSA student, was selected as a Richard Thorpe Fellow with the American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA). She will work with college and university health administration programs and state licensing boards to determine the needed components for excellence in long-term care training programs.
- Emily Hyland, MHSA graduate student, won second place in the prestigious Hill Rom Essay Competition. She will present her paper, *Transparency in Healthcare: Improving Stakeholder Relationships through Disclosure*, at the American College of Healthcare Executives Congress in Chicago in March.
- *Outreach on Wheels: Transforming Health and Literacy Outreach*, authored by Stacey Downey, Professor Karyn Pomerantz (Dept of PCH) and Melva Abdullah, was published in the fall 2004 *Literacy Harvest*. It is available at www.lacnyc.org/resources/publications/harvest/HarvestFall04.pdf.
- Professors Sara Rosenbaum, Anne R. Markus and Colleen Sonosky (Dept of HPol) recently published a major new analysis of state pediatric coverage under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), to appear in the latest issue of the *Journal of Health and Biomedical Law* of Suffolk University Law School. Contact Anne Markus, amarkus@gwu.edu, for information or copies of the article.
- Associate Dean Josef Reum (Dept of HSML) will facilitate a meeting for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in cooperation with the National Quality Forum and other stakeholders (NCQA, JCAHO AHQR) March 16-18 to develop nursing measures in the field of pain management. Sixty participants from around the country will be brought to Princeton to set the research and implementation agenda for these measures.
- Prof. Joel Teitelbaum (Dept of HPol) recently presented at the National Academy of Social Insurance's 17th Annual Conference, "Medicare Modernization in a Polarized Environment." Teitelbaum's presentation was part of a panel discussion concerning "Medicare's Leading Role in Addressing Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities."

📢 Coming Up!

- **March 21**—6 p.m., GW Hospital Auditorium; Mark McClellan, MD, PhD, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, will be speaking as part of the Department of Health Policy's "Life in Health Policy" Series. Contact Lee Repasch, lrepasch@gwu.edu, 530-2338, for further information.
- **March 28**—Lorien Abroms, faculty, Department of Prevention and Community Health, will present a continuing education workshop on health literacy for area public health workers. This is an event of the MidAtlantic Public Health Training Center, cosponsored by the DC Department of Health, the Metro Washington Public Health Association and SOPHE.
- **April 4**—SPHHS will host three afternoon sessions focusing on National Public Health Week's theme of *Empowering Americans to Live Stronger, Longer*. The sessions are: Enhancing Diet and Physical Activity to Prevent Osteoporosis and Other Chronic Conditions; Aging, Media, and Mental Health: Positive Media Messages on Aging; and The Top 10 Things You Need to Know About the Upcoming Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit. The sessions will be interactive and informative for seniors, their families, their healthcare and social service providers, and the public health community. More details to follow.
- **April 5**—The Metro Washington Public Health Association, with support from the MidAtlantic Public Health Training Center, hosts its annual meeting, *Social Injustice and the Effects on Health Disparities*, at Howard University. For information, kpomeran@gwu.edu. More details to follow.
- **April 22**—10th Annual Research Day, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; keynotes at 9:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.; student presentations 11 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.; poster presentations 12:30 p.m.; awards ceremony, 5:30 p.m. More details to follow.

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