

Network

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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.

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Dr. Sherry Selected as Chair for Global Health

SPHHS Dean Ruth J. Katz, JD, MPH, has appointed Jim Sherry, MD, PhD, as professor and chair of the Department of Global Health. Dr. Sherry joins the faculty after a distinguished career in global health policy in both the not-for-profit and government sectors. He will arrive on campus June 1.

Dr. Sherry has served at the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) as senior advisor to the executive director and as director of programme development and coordination. At UNICEF, he served as chief of health, chief of health promotion, and senior advisor for programme strategy.

Most recently, Dr. Sherry was vice president for policy, research and advocacy at the Global Health Council here in Washington, DC. In this capacity, Dr. Sherry was responsible for establishing the Council's new Division of Policy, Research and Advocacy. Earlier in his career, Dr. Sherry also served as chief of staff to Congressman Sander Levin (D-MI), a leader within the U.S. House of Representatives on global health issues.

"With this background, Dr. Sherry brings a wealth of expertise and experience to SPHHS and to its Department of Global Health," said Dean Katz. "He also brings a vision and sense of determination to help build the Department—and, indeed, global health activities throughout the Medical Center—into one of the very best among the nation's schools of public health."

Wanted: Artists, Crafters, Models, Dancers, Fashionistas, Musicians, Volunteers The SPHHS Annual Multicultural Celebration

March 3, 2006 • 6 p.m. • Marvin Center

SPHHS students, faculty and staff are invited to share their "hidden" talents, hobbies and/or time to help produce the annual Multicultural Celebration, featuring food, entertainment, exhibits and more.

If interested, contact Jim Miller at 202-994-5407 or sphjwm@gwumc.edu.

January 20 Abstract Deadline Fast Approaching 10 Tips for Successful Abstracts

GWUMC's 11th Annual Research Day on March 31 is approaching along with the January 20 deadline for abstracts. Three public health students or recent alumni will be chosen to give oral presentations based on their abstracts, while other students whose abstracts are accepted will make poster presentations. Following are 10 tips for writing concise, enticing abstracts:

1. Your abstract should convey what you set out to learn, how you did it, what you found and why it's important.
2. Follow the requested format, which is designed to help you organize the content in tip #1. For example, Research Day abstracts must include Objectives, Methods, Results and Conclusions. Headings improve readability.
3. Step back from all the details. Focus on the most important aspects of the study—the "pearls."
4. Your abstract should be self-contained, that is, it should contain the key information that a reader needs to know about your study.
5. Consider the questions that newspaper editors ask: Does your abstract answer the questions: who? what? where? when? why? how?
6. Present concrete results consistent with the type of research. Quantitative research demands numeric associations; qualitative research findings may be described in a variety of ways.
7. Consider your audience. What will get people's attention? This tip applies for the title as well as the abstract.
8. Define any abbreviations that you use in the abstract.
9. Be extremely clear and concise. Observe word limits.
10. Review your abstract to see whether it answers the questions in tip #1. Have other people read your abstract; ask them to answer the questions in tip #1.

Visit www.gwu.edu/~research/researchday.htm for instructions and to download the abstract form. Submit abstracts to Ellen Gee by 5 p.m. on January 20.



Welcome New Students!!

- Best wishes for success to the new students joining SPHHS at orientation on January 12 in GW's Ross Hall.

Save the Date ...

- March 31, 2006, 11th Annual GW Research Day, Poster Presentations at the Continental Ballroom in the Marvin Center; keynote and student speakers featured in Ross Hall, Room 101.

Did you know ...

- SPHHS debuted its new Web site this month. Check out www.gwumc.edu/sphhs for the latest information.
- Inclement weather information and the status of GW Medical Center can be accessed by clicking on the **Status** button at www.gwumc.edu. University information is available at 202-994-5050.



Brian Biles, MD, MPH, associate professor of Health Policy, and **Nora Super**, senior research associate of the Center for Health Services Research and Policy in the Department of Health Policy, recently published a report for the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation titled "Displaced by Hurricane Katrina: Issues and Options for Medicare Beneficiaries."

Jerry Danoff, PhD, PT, associate professor of Exercise Science, co-authored the article "In-vivo Microanalytical Technique for Measuring the Local Biochemical Milieu of Human Skeletal Muscle" in the *Journal of Applied Physiology*.

Dr. H. Jack Geiger, for whom the **Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health Policy** is named, was selected to receive the first annual 21st Century Equity Award from The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). It is one of six awards from the HHS Office of Minority Health to recognize contributions of those who have made a difference to the health of racial and ethnic minority populations and to the elimination of health disparities.

Tee Guidotti, MD, MPH, DABT, chair of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, assumed office as president of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis.

Jeffrey Levi, PhD, associate professor of Health Policy, spoke at a December meeting hosted by the Hastings Center on the "Ethical Challenges in Preparing for an Avian Flu Pandemic."

David Michaels, PhD, MPH, research professor of Environmental and Occupational Health, will receive the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science Scientific Freedom and Responsibility Award in February 2006.

Josef Reum, PhD, MPA, associate professor of Health Services Management and Leadership, facilitated the implementation meeting of the Prescription for Health grantees in Scottsdale, Ariz. The program, sponsored by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in partnership with AHRQ, targets leading health risk behaviors related to physical activity, unhealthy diet, tobacco use and risky use of alcohol.

Vickie Sears, RN, a senior research scientist in the Department of Health Policy and member of the AHRQ/VA Patient Safety Improvement Corps team from the District of Columbia, received the 2005 DC Hospital Association Patient Safety Award.

Nora Super, senior research associate at the Center for Health Services Research and Policy in the Department of Health Policy, testified at a House Subcommittee on Health hearing titled, "Medicare Physician Payment: How to Build a More Efficient Payment System."

Grants Continue to Fund Research, Offer New Opportunities to Faculty, Students

Department of Prevention and Community Health

The Center for Health and Health Care in Schools in the Department of Prevention and Community Health recently received a four-year grant totaling \$2.5 million to support a multi-site initiative to address the mental health needs of diverse children and youth. The initiative, headed by **Dr. Julia Lear**, research professor of Prevention and Community Health, also will include immigrant and refugee children.

Dr. Mark Edberg, associate professor in the Department of Prevention and Community Health, together with the Council of Latino Agencies and Latin American Youth Center, was recently awarded a four-year, \$2.4 million research grant to develop, implement and evaluate a community-based youth violence prevention program in Langley Park, Maryland. This Washington, DC suburb has a substantial Central American/Latino population. "Youth and gang violence has increased substantially in recent years in Langley Park," says Dr. Edberg, "as well as in several other suburban areas around Washington, DC. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) awarded the funds as part of a program to develop and test violence prevention strategies that will address community needs."

Forum for Collaborative HIV Research

The Forum for Collaborative HIV Research in the Department of Prevention and Community Health was recently awarded \$405,428 in support of the Forum's project on the Development of Laboratory Technology for HIV Treatment Monitoring in the Resource-Limited Setting. The Centers of Disease Control/Global AIDS Program also awarded \$94,000 in support of the Forum's new project on Infant HIV Diagnosis and Monitoring of Pediatric Treatment in the Resource Limited Setting. **Ben Cheng**, deputy director of the Forum, is the principal investigator; **Dr. Veronica Miller**, director of the Forum and associate research professor of Prevention and Community Health, is co-principal investigator.

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