

# Network

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## 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.

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## HSML Hosts Roundtable, Gibbs Oration, Mock Interviews November 16-18

HSML alumni return to the GW campus November 16 for their annual fall meeting. The annual CEO Roundtable targets “Career Positioning: Proactively Managing Your Professional Development” on Nov. 16 from 6-8 p.m. at the Marvin Center, Continental Ballroom.

November 17 includes lectures by Dr. Kurt Darr, MHSA graduate Lauren Morton, and the Distinguished Alumni Lecture from Peter Fine, MHSA '77, FACHE, president/CEO of Banner Health. Fine also is a recipient of the GW Distinguished Alumni Award. Keynoting the 1 p.m. 14th annual Gibbs Oration on November 17 is author and CEO Quint Studer. He will speak about “Creating a Culture of Operational Excellence.”

Students will receive hands-on practice with their interviewing skills and a resumé critique on November 18 from 9 a.m. until noon at Ross Hall. For information on any of the events, call 202-467-2288.

## Briefly

THE FORUM FOR Collaborative HIV Research welcomed Kaiser Permanente and VIRxSYS Corporation as supporting members of the executive committee—Michael Horberg (director, HIV/AIDS Policy, Quality Improvement and research chair, Kaiser) and Franck Lamiale (director, Immunology Department, VIRxSYS). The Forum also received two grant awards—one from the CDC to facilitate the more rapid development of HIV diagnostic tests and laboratory monitoring tests and one from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to facilitate the more rapid development of HIV monitoring technologies.

THE OCTOBER-DECEMBER issue of *Journal of Ambulatory Care Management* features articles authored and co-authored by HealthPol faculty, including Peter Shin, Sara Wilensky, Ann Zuvekas, the 2004 Geiger Gibson Distinguished Visitor in Health Policy James W. Hunt Jr., and Sara Rosenbaum, who also authored an introduction for the issue. Wilensky and Zuvekas served as issue editors along with Bonnie Lefkowitz, consultant, and Michelle Proser of the National Association of Community Health Centers.

## Welling Professor Heymann Targets Health Threats Beyond the Borders

THE THIRD ANNUAL SPHHS Convocation at the Jack Morton Auditorium marked the official start to the academic year and highlighted GW Welling Professor Dr. David Heymann. It was standing room only for the public health students who gathered just days after the official start of classes and amid the public health chaos in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Keynoting the Convocation was Dr. David L. Heymann, a GW Welling Professor whose distinguished career has focused on creating new mechanisms to help the international community address threats from new and emerging diseases. His talk, “Dilemmas in Public Health: From Smallpox Eradication to Polio, SARS and Avian Influenza,” looked at emerging infectious diseases. As representative of the director general for Polio Eradication at the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr. Heymann leads the campaign to rid the world of polio. He described for students the resurgence of polio in Africa after one country discouraged vaccination. He also charted the course of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and said that SARS is a clear example that “there is no way to seal ourselves off from disease.” As executive director of WHO’s Communicable Disease Cluster, he led the public health response to SARS.

Dr. Heymann finished his keynote by discussing the new public health threat, Avian Flu, and how its emergence, along with the ever-looming possibility of a flu pandemic, posed new challenges for the public health work force. “No population is immune from the spread of infectious diseases because diseases know no borders.”

### Greenberg Recognized for Public Service

ALAN E. GREENBERG, MD, MPH, chair, EpiBio, was selected for the Meritorious Service Medal, one of the highest awards presented by the U.S. Public Health Service. Dr. Greenberg was cited for his outstanding career leadership for HIV epidemiology spanning 20 years of service at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Dr. Greenberg also received career service recognition for his vision and leadership of the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention at the CDC.

## Coming events ...

• EOH is co-sponsoring, together with International Resource Group Ltd., a symposium, "Avian Influenza: Affects on Fragile, Developing Countries" on Nov. 15 in the Marvin Center. The symposium is designed to address the preparations required to assess and mitigate possible socioeconomic and environmental impacts of a potential human influenza pandemic.

• APHA Annual Meeting, December 10-14, Philadelphia. Discounted registration fees will be accepted until November 4. Visit [www.apha.org](http://www.apha.org)

## IRB Meetings Set

The Office of Human Research holds monthly meetings where participants can obtain current information about human research policies and procedures, and also ask questions directly of IRB staff. Meetings are held 9-10 a.m., GW Hospital, 6113.

**Nov. 10, Human Research: Ethics, The Informed Consent Process, Double-blinded and Placebo Controlled study designs** presented by Rob Conley, MD (former IRB Chair; Maryland Psychiatric Research Center, UMB) Audience: research coordinators, research investigators, faculty.

**Dec. 8, OHR-IRB Webpage and Blackboard Training**, Audience: research coordinators, research investigators, faculty, student researchers and student advisors.

Watch for information on the January IRB meeting targeted to students.

## ★ Kudos

**David Hartley**, MPH student, Epi/Bio, was featured in a recent *Nature* article regarding his decision to return to school with the support of an NIH K25 award, to combine his expertise in physics with new training in public health research.

**Matt Wingle**, ExSci graduate student, and **Jerome Danoff, PhD**, will present "Post-Workout Feeling States Related to Background Musical Selection" at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine Conference November 11 and 12. About 35 students from ExSci will attend the conference.

**Fifteen students in PubH 229** (Information Sources for Environmental and Occupational Health) researched specific EOH issues for two local health departments and a labor union based in New York City. The three teams presented their results Oct. 24 to representatives of the DC Department of Health, the Fairfax County Health Department and UniteHere! The teams developed recommendations on upgrading a county-wide onsite sewage maintenance program, improving communications with communities affected by toxic spills and addressing ergonomic hazards to housekeepers in hotels undergoing amenity upgrades.

**Victor Barbiero, PhD**, joins the Department of Global Health as MPH program director. He recently retired from USAID where he was chief of the Implementation Support Division in the Office of HIV/AIDS.

**Brian Biles, MD, MPH**, HealthPol, was quoted in a recent *Newsweek* about "Time to Cram for Medicare."

**Warren Greenberg, PhD**, HealthPol, penned a letter to the editor published in *The New York Times* responding to the editorial, "Medicine's Sticker Shock."

**Margaret Greene, PhD**, Global Health, was elected chair of the APHA's Population, Family Planning and Reproductive Health section.

**Jeffrey Levi, PhD**, HealthPol, spoke at the *Treatment & Management of HIV Infection in the U.S.* conference on "What's Coming Down the Pike? Preparing for Federal and State Policy Changes That Stand to Affect You and Your Patients."

**Edward Maibach, PhD, MPH**, joins the Department of Prevention and Community Health where he is spearheading an expansion of the School's public health communication activities.

**Thomas Merrick, PhD**, Global Health, recently represented the UN Population Fund on a task force examining poverty reduction for the UN Millennium Project.

**Fitzhugh Mullan, MD**, Murdock Head Professor of Medicine and Health Policy, will participate in the *TIME* magazine Global Health Summit in New York City. He also published the results of his study "The Metrics of the Physician Brain Drain" in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, October 27.

**Elaine Murphy, PhD**, served as co-evaluator of the Population Reference Bureau's Gates Foundation-supported project "Reaching Policymakers in Developing Countries with Actionable Health Information." She also served as chair of the Willows Foundation, an NGO offering health information and services to poor women in Turkey.

**Lee Repasch, MA**, Center for Health Services Research and Policy, recently presented at the National Association of Community Health Centers Annual Convention & Community Health Institute about "A Look Inside the Health Center Collaboratives and Their Implications for Medicaid Reform." It was based on a forthcoming publication by the Kaiser Family Foundation on the Health Disparities Collaborative Initiative authored by Sara Rosenbaum, Repasch, Peter Shin, and Sarah St. John, MPH candidate.

**Richard Riegelman, MD, PhD**, presented "Education for Practicing Prevention: The Clinical Prevention and Population Health Curriculum Framework" at the 3rd Prevention Summit sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**Peter Shin, PhD, MPH**, HealthPol, presented the "Utility of the Uniform Data System as a Research Tool" at the New York Academy of Medicine's roundtable on "Enabling Services at Health Centers." Shin also presented the report "Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers: Health Insurance Coverage and Access to Care" (co-authored by Sara Rosenbaum) at the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Technical Assistance Center Forum.

**The Department of Prevention and Community Health** received funding to sponsor professional development workshops for the public health workforce in 2006 as part of the MidAtlantic Public Health Training Center.

**Ensuring Solutions to Alcohol Problems** has released its "Alcohol Treatment Return on Investment Calculator" available online at [www.alcoholcostcalculator.org/roi/](http://www.alcoholcostcalculator.org/roi/). Ensuring Solutions is funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts.

**Partners for Health Information 6** was funded by the National Library of Medicine's AIDS Community Information Outreach Program to teach online HIV prevention and treatment information to those using DC community health centers.