

www.sph.umd.edu

A newsletter for faculty, staff, alumni, colleagues, research partners, and friends of the University of Maryland School of Public Health.

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 DEAN'S MESSAGE
- 3 UMD, JHU PARTNER ON TRAINING CENTER
- 4 PUBLIC HEALTH IN PRACTICE
- 5 SPH LEADS PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT STUDY FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
- 6 RESEARCH NEWS
- 7 RESEARCH AWARDS
- 8 FACULTY & STAFF NEWS
- 10 TEACHING & LEARNING INITIATIVES
- 12 WELCOME NEW FACULTY
- 13 STUDENT NEWS
- 15 SPH RESEARCH CENTERS NEWS
- 18 DONOR RECOGNITION
- 18 PHOTO GALLERY

MAKING HEALTH CARE REFORM WORK:

School Leads Efforts to Create Affordable, User-Friendly Health Plans

With the passage of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, Congress approved health insurance reforms to be enacted over a period of more than four years. The implementation of these reforms is an ongoing process happening primarily at the state level. The School of Public Health is playing a leading role in Maryland's health care reform activities and emphasizing the need for changes that promote health equity and improve health literacy.

From participation in state task forces and advisory committees focused on improving health care quality, reducing costs, and eliminating health disparities, to research that informs public policy affecting families, rural communities, and Medicaid recipients, among others, faculty members at the School of Public Health are instrumental to the state's efforts to make Maryland a national leader in the delivery of affordable health care.

In each school newsletter, we'll be featuring specific examples of how the School of Public Health is at the forefront of initiatives to insure that health care reform will make a real difference in the lives of Marylanders. Our first story focuses on a topic that most people face with dread: choosing health insurance plans.

Continued next page...



Message from the Dean



So much has happened in the School since our last newsletter, that it is difficult to choose what to highlight this fall. I am very proud of the members of our school and all they've accomplished and continue to do. I can't recount them all, but this newsletter will highlight many of our recent accomplishments. I've chosen to focus on just a few major events that showcase our strengths and momentum in key areas of public health research and practice.

In June, our **Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy** launched a coalition building initiative called Health Literacy Maryland designed to enhance maternal and child health. In

October, the Center also played an important role in the state's first **Oral Health Summit** at which the state's policy agenda, the Maryland Oral Health Plan: 2011-2015, was released.

We hosted our **11th Annual Research Interaction Day** in September, bringing together more than 70 faculty and student research groups to present posters of their efforts, and for the first time 12 junior faculty gave oral presentations of their research. I want to congratulate Espen Spangenburg, Eva Chin, and Marian Moser-Jones for winning our first oral presentation awards. Moser-Jones is one of seven new faculty members we welcomed to the school this academic year. You can read about them all on page 12.

We co-sponsored four major events this fall: 1) **Maryland's 8th Annual Minority Health Disparities Conference**, at which one of the State's leaders in these efforts, the Honorable Shirley Nathan Pulliam, House of Delegates, District 10 was honored with the creation of the Pulliam Lecture, and kicked off by our own Dr. Stephen B. Thomas of the Maryland Center for Health Equity; 2) the **University of Maryland Fall Health IT Summit** to further our collaborations with university partners through the University of Maryland Center of Excellence in Health Information Technology Research, and partners in government, industry, clinical organizations and advocacy groups; 3) the **Conference on Risk Assessment and Evaluation of Predictions**, an international meeting led by Dr. Mei-Ling Lee, director of the Biostatistics and Risk Assessment Center. This was an international scientific forum for learning about the most recent advances and thinking on the subject of risk assessment, and served to build new collaborations among interdisciplinary researchers; and 4) We kicked off our **Public Health Grand Rounds** lecture series by hosting Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, who spoke about health care reform efforts in the state.

It's hard to overlook the wonderful showing our **Gymkana** troupe provided in reaching the semi-finals in America's Got Talent. Gymkana's mission is to inspire drug-free and healthy lifestyles through positive example. With children as the primary audience, the members of the Gymkana troupe demonstrate their commitment to making healthy choices through impressive gymnastic performances and mentorship.

Finally, I am proud to congratulate our Fall 2011 graduating class – our ninth graduating class of the Maryland School of Public Health, and the third since we became fully accredited.

Have a wonderful holiday season.

Bob Gold, Dean

MAKING HEALTH CARE REFORM WORK: Health Insurance Literacy Project Aims to Help Consumers Make Smart Choices

The University of Maryland School of Public Health, the Consumers Union, and the American Institutes for Research (AIR) have launched a new partnership to address the need for improved health insurance literacy in advance of the 2014 Affordable Care Act deadline for consumers to buy health insurance plans. Beginning that year, state-based insurance "exchanges" are supposed to provide consumers with transparent and affordable health insurance choices. Yet, who will ensure that these plans are clear and consumer-friendly?

"The ability to understand health insurance information and use it to make wise health and financial choices is a documented challenge for an estimated 180 million current plan consumers," explains Dr. Bonnie Braun, faculty scholar in the school's Horowitz Center for Health Literacy. "If the Supreme Court upholds the 2010 federal health care reform legislation, about 30 million more consumers will be purchasing health insurance in 2014. The public policy goals of reducing health care costs and increasing access to care cannot be reached if consumers can't understand health plan options."

Braun is co-leading this initiative with Lynn Quincy, senior health policy analyst for health care reform at Consumer's Union, and Kristin Carman, co-director for health policy and research at AIR. Together, they recruited several experts in health literacy, financial literacy, literacy measurement and health insurance to launch this national initiative at a November meeting hosted by the Consumers Union. They discussed the need to measure health insurance literacy as a step in developing consumer education programs and possibly additional public policy initiatives designed to create more

transparency in insurance policies.

In the past year, Quincy has led three consumer studies in eight states, including Maryland, to better understand how consumers shop for insurance. "We learned that consumers dread shopping for health insurance, doubt the value, are confused by terms, and have difficulty calculating a good value for their circumstances," Quincy says.

The state of Maryland has set the



If consumers can't understand health plan options, the goals of reducing health care costs and increasing access to care cannot be reached.

goal of being the leader in health care reform. Braun envisions that leadership including health insurance literacy. "A land-grant university like the University of Maryland has an obligation to help the public learn how to make decisions that fundamentally impact their well-being," Braun says. "If the Maryland exchange plans can be understood in consumer-tested terms, then perhaps consumers can make smart choices with confidence. And if we make smart choices, the state will be on its way to better health outcomes."

The health insurance literacy partnership will release a report early in 2012 about their next steps.

University of Maryland Partners with Johns Hopkins on Mid-Atlantic Public Health Training Center

The University of Maryland School of Public Health joins the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) this fall as a partner in its Mid-Atlantic Public Health Training Center (MAPHTC), a workforce development effort funded by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).



The four-year sub-contract will engage our School in broadening the efforts by the JHSPH and its other partners, the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services and the University of Maryland Baltimore, to develop and train the public health workforce in Maryland, Delaware and Washington, DC. This collaboration seeks to improve local, state and federal public health infrastructure in support of the Healthy People 2020 objectives. A core goal of the Center is to improve health and eliminate health disparities by appropriately preparing a diverse and culturally sensitive health professions workforce, which aligns with key School initiatives.

The Center activities will be led by Dr. Sandra Quinn, associate dean for public health initiatives, along with a staffer to be hired in early 2012 who will build relationships and coordinate trainings with public health departments, state cooperative extension programs, community health centers, and federal agencies. The School's expanded linkages throughout the region are expected to bring new opportunities for students to participate in internships with public health agencies. "Our inclusion in the training center enables us to build upon our rich array of partners with the state and federal government," says Dr. Quinn.

The new Public Health Grand Rounds lecture series, launched this fall with a visit from Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, Maryland's Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, is one of several planned activities of our UMD component of the MAPHTC. Dr. Georges Benjamin, executive director of the American Public Health Association, will give the next lecture on February 15, 2012.

More than 100 people attended the inaugural **Public Health Grand Rounds Lecture** with **Dr. Joshua Sharfstein (bottom left)**, Secretary of the Md. Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene.



Fighting Childhood Obesity through Improved Nutrition & Food Access

Stephanie Grutzmacher, extension family specialist and faculty research associate in family science, was invited to participate in the state's first Summit on Childhood Obesity, organized by the University of Maryland, Baltimore and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Grutzmacher discussed her research on low-income families' strategies for coping with food insecurity as part of a panel focused on the variety of ways family involvement affects healthy behaviors beginning in early childhood. Grutzmacher is involved in several statewide initiatives to address nutrition literacy, food security, and nutrition assistance and education for low-income populations, who are generally at higher risk for obesity and other chronic diseases.

With the Maryland Food Supplement Nutrition Education, she is leading a program to assess the nutrition knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviors of Maryland families eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. She is also evaluating a targeted nutrition and physical activity text message program for low-income parents and developing a curriculum for parents and child care providers to teach "responsive feeding" of preschool-aged children. In partnership with Maryland's Department of Education, she leads a program that is training elementary school cafeteria workers and administrators in low-cost approaches to get kids to eat more fruits and vegetables. Grutzmacher also mentors the university's Gemstone undergraduate research team, "Team Food Deserts," which is conducting a multi-year project examining the availability of healthy, affordable foods in Prince George's County.

Building Aging-Friendly Communities

The Department of Health Services Administration's Center on Aging was named a member of the Innovations in Aging Services Advisory Council, under Maryland Senate Bill 822, which established the Maryland Communities for a Lifetime Act. The Maryland Department of Aging is the lead state agency for this new legislation that aims to develop "aging friendly" communities throughout the state. This effort is part of a national trend to increase opportunities for elders to age in their homes and communities versus institutional settings. Lori Simon-Rusinowitz, associate professor in health services administration, is leading various research-based initiatives within this national effort to address demographic and economic imperatives to offer high quality, cost-effective services for elders, and honor the strong preferences of people to remain active in their communities at all stages of their lives.

Training a "Culturally Competent" Healthcare Workforce

Olivia Carter-Pokras, associate professor of epidemiology and biostatistics, and Bonnie Braun, professor of family science, are developing an integrated cultural competency and health literacy teaching resource guide, in partnership with the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities. The primer is being created in response to legislation introduced by Maryland Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam and passed by the Maryland General Assembly in 2008 and 2009 recommending cultural competency education and training for health professionals. The resource guide provides tools to help health professionals assess a patient's health literacy level and strategies to overcome low health literacy in the clinical setting. It also engages health professionals in discussions of real world

scenarios that demonstrate the relationship between health and race, ethnicity, and culture and encourage them to explore their own biases and create culturally-sensitive models for patient/client assessment and care.

Promoting Oral Health

The School of Public Health, in partnership with the Maryland Dental Action Coalition (MDAC) and the Santa Fe Group held Maryland's first Oral Health Summit in October. The event celebrated the state's many successes in oral health that have occurred since the tragic death of 12-year old Deamonte Driver in 2007, who lost his life to a tooth infection that spread to his brain. The program also recognized Maryland oral health heroes and focused on developing a policy agenda for the implementation of the first Maryland Oral Health Plan 2011-2015. The plan addresses three key areas in oral health: access to oral health care, oral disease and injury prevention, and oral health literacy and education.

Alice Horowitz, research associate professor with the Hershel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy, is chairing the committee developing the model for oral health literacy and education for the state. Dushanka Kleinman, associate dean for research, chaired the planning committee for the summit. Since 2007, the state has increased access to care for children by 28 percent, and increased the number of dental providers participating in the Maryland Medicaid Program by 41 percent. The Pew Center on the States, a division of the Pew Charitable Trusts, has also ranked Maryland as the top state in the nation for meeting the dental needs of children, based on eight key benchmarks.

School Leads Public Health Impact Study to Inform Design of New Healthcare System

The School of Public Health (SPH) is playing a leading role in assessing the potential public health impact of a new health care system. A team of faculty experts, led by Professor Dushanka Kleinman, the school's associate dean for research, is providing the scientific leadership needed to conduct the Public Health Impact Study of Prince George's County, which will begin in early 2012. It is one of a series of assessments laying the groundwork for the creation of the county's new health care system, which will include

a new regional medical center, as well as a comprehensive outpatient care network providing community-based access to high quality, cost-effective care.

This fall, Prince George's County, the State of Maryland, the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS), the University System of Maryland (USM) and Dimensions Health Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to launch an initiative to strategically and comprehensively

assess the health needs of county residents and to meet these needs by developing an effective, efficient, and financially viable healthcare delivery system. The school was asked to conduct the impact study to provide input into its design.

"WE ARE INTERESTED IN BUILDING ON THE COUNTY'S EXISTING ASSETS AND LEARNING FROM THE EXPERIENCES OF ITS RESIDENTS..."

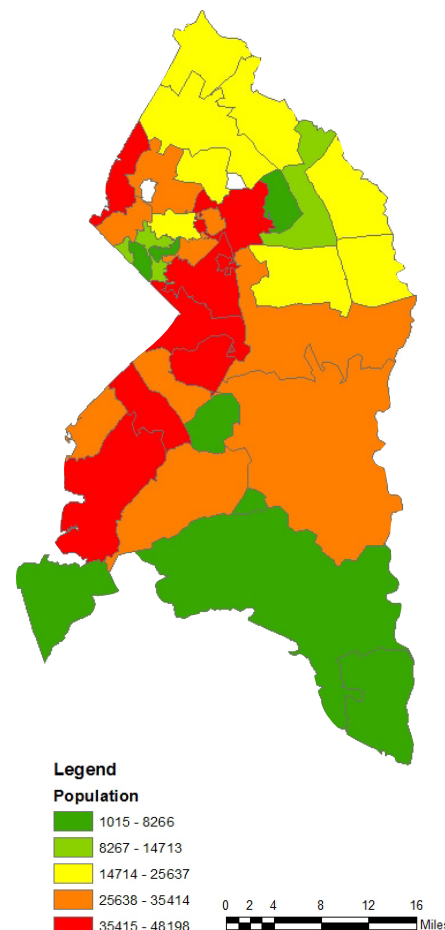
— Associate Dean Dushanka V. Kleinman

"We are interested in building on the county's existing assets and learning from the experiences of its residents as we conduct this assessment," said Dr. Kleinman. In addition the study team will be gathering insights from community leaders and health professionals, conducting detailed analyses of existing health and health workforce data and community resources, developing an econometric model to assess impact on hospital readmissions and emergency department use and looking at strategies used by other health care systems to successfully improve health outcomes.

Findings from the Public Health Impact Study should be available in Spring 2012.



Map of Prince George's County
Population Density



Public Health Impact Study Participating Faculty Members

LINDA ALDOORY, director, Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
BRAD BOEKELOO, director, University of Maryland Prevention Research Center
RADA DAGHER, assistant professor, Health Services Administration (HSA)
ROBERT S. GOLD, dean, School of Public Health
ALICE M. HOROWITZ, research assoc. professor, Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
DUSHANKA V. KLEINMAN, associate dean for research, SPH
MEI-LING TING LEE, chair, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
KAROLINE MORTENSEN, assistant professor, HSA
WESLEY H. QUEEN, coordinator, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute on Public Policy, HSA
SANDRA CROUSE QUINN, associate dean for public health initiatives, SPH
ELLIOT A. SEGAL, professor of the practice, HSA
LORI SIMON-RUSINOWITZ, associate professor, HSA
STEPHEN B. THOMAS, director, Maryland Center for Health Equity
MIN QI WANG, professor, Department of Behavioral and Community Health
LAURA WILSON, associate dean for academic affairs and chair, HSA

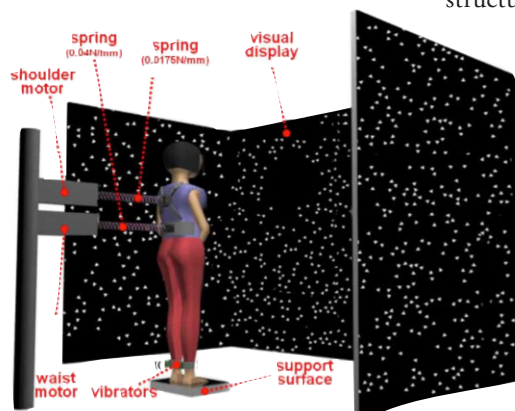


Poultry Farms that Go Organic Have Fewer Drug-Resistant Bacteria

Research by Amy Sapkota, assistant professor in the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health, showed that poultry farms that adopt organic practices and cease using antibiotics have significantly lower levels of drug-resistant enterococci bacteria that can potentially spread to humans. The study, published in *Environmental Health Perspectives* (online August 10, 2011), is the first to demonstrate lower levels of drug-resistant bacteria on newly organic farms in the United States and suggests that removing antibiotic use from large-scale poultry farms can result in immediate and significant reductions in antibiotic resistance for some bacteria. Sapkota continues research on the impact of the use of antibiotics in conventional animal food production and is studying how the removal of antibiotics impacts levels of other bacterial pathogens, including salmonella and *E.coli*.

New Insights into Human Balance Could Help Parkinson's Patients and the Elderly

Research by John Jeka, professor in the Department of Kinesiology, provides new information about how the nervous system works to stabilize the body during standing and walking, and offers a new method to decipher the underlying causes of balance problems. The study, published in the *Journal of Neuroscience* (October 17, 2011), was the first to successfully isolate components of the body's balance control system without removing them entirely, and offers great promise to improve treatments for the elderly, those with Parkinson's disease, and others suffering from neurological diseases that affect balance. Jeka and his team, which includes neuroscientists, bioengineers, mathematicians and physical therapists, devised a way to break into the nervous system's control loop by simultaneously perturbing the body's sensory systems. "By using multiple perturbations at the same time, we can essentially open up the postural control feedback loop," Jeka explains. Future studies are being planned with Parkinson's patients in conjunction with the Parkinson's and Movement Disorders Center of Maryland, based in Elkridge.



Breaking into the Control Loop: Participants in Jeka's study were put in a space surrounded by three walls with a projected virtual visual scene. Belts attached to a motor were placed around each participant's waist and shoulders to gently jiggle their legs and trunk.

Non-Alcoholic Energy Drinks May Pose 'High' Health Risks

Research by Amelia Arria, director of the Center on Young Adult Health and Development, and professor of family science, on the possible health and safety effects of alcoholic energy drinks led state and federal officials to ban premixed alcoholic energy drinks in late 2010. In a commentary in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* in January 2011, Arria and Wake Forest's Mary Claire O'Brien, MD, suggested that even highly-caffeinated energy drinks containing no alcohol pose a significant threat to individuals and public health because they are often consumed along with alcoholic beverages, can spur over-consumption and amplify the dangers of getting drunk. They recommended immediate consumer action, patient education by health providers, voluntary disclosures by manufacturers and new federal labeling requirements to mitigate the risk. They also urged more research to understand how caffeine's neuropharmacologic effects might play a role in the propensity for addiction. Arria's NIH-funded College Life Study is examining the long term effects of a broad range of health-related behaviors of college students including illicit drug use, problematic drinking, nonmedical use of prescription drugs, nutritional habits, physical activity, health care utilization, and involvement in high-risk behaviors, such as drunk driving, risky sex, and violence.

Study Finds Hispanics Were Higher Risk for 2009's H1N1 Flu, Urges Sick Leave Policies

Research led by Sandra Crouse Quinn, senior associate director of the Maryland Center for Health Equity and associate dean, showed that Hispanics were at higher risk for H1N1 flu during the 2009 pandemic. By surveying a nationally representative sample of 2,079 adults in January 2010, the research team discovered that incidence of influenza-like illness was strongly associated with workplace policies, such as lack of access to sick leave, and structural factors, such as having more children and crowding in the household. Even after controlling for income and education, the researchers found that Hispanic ethnicity was related to a greater risk of influenza-like illness attributable to these social determinants. Quinn and colleagues urge federal sick leave mandates to minimize health disparities during flu pandemics.

Research Awards

Professor **Donald Milton**, director of the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health (MIAEH), received \$1.4 million as part of a \$10.8 million Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant to the University of Nottingham, UK for a collaborative project to study modes of influenza transmission. His research team will study 200 flu-infected UMD college students using a new technology he developed which can characterize the infectious respiratory droplets shed by a sick person.

Robin Puett, associate professor in the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health, received \$2 million from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to study the effects of ambient air pollution exposures on inflammation and sub-clinical cardiovascular disease among children and youth with type 1 diabetes in a geographically, racially, and ethnically diverse cohort. Understanding the role of these environmental pollutants in this susceptible population has the potential to impact treatment approaches and behavioral recommendations.

Stacey Daughters, assistant professor of behavioral and community health, received \$412,500 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) for an R21 two-year grant to study the neural correlates of distress tolerance among cocaine users and healthy controls using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). The study will examine whether specific brain circuits are associated with the ability to regulate emotion and how this relates to the likelihood of developing drug dependence. Daughters also has a five-year \$1.8 million R01 grant from the NIDA to study “Depression Treatment for Urban Low Income Minority Substance Users.”

Pam Clark, professor of behavioral and community health, received \$405,000 for a two-year R21 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to study the impact of electronic nicotine delivery systems (known as electronic cigarettes) on smoking cessation.

Cheryl Holt, associate professor of behavioral and community health, received \$3.1 million from the National Cancer Institute to help African-American churches launch her evidence-based intervention programs to promote early detection of breast, prostate, and colorectal cancers in



The Word of Health: Cheryl Holt's work with health ministries in African-American churches has attracted \$5 million in grants from the American Cancer Society and the National Cancer Institute.

Prince George's County. Holt's projects were the focus of a Fall 2011 *Terp* magazine article, “Words of Life: Researcher Spreads the Gospel of Cancer Prevention.” Visit champhealth.org for details on her community-based projects.

James Hagberg, professor, and co-investigator **Espen Spangenburg**, assistant professor, both in kinesiology, received a \$373,700 grant from the National Institutes of Health for the project, “Translational Studies of Endothelial Progenitor Cells as a Novel Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factor.” The study explores the role

that exercise training plays in lowering cardiovascular disease risk by reducing the presence of these endothelial progenitor cells which can differentiate into cells that line the blood vessels.

Espen Spangenburg, assistant professor of kinesiology, received a \$360,658 grant from the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases to study “The Role of BRCA1 in the Regulation of Lipid Metabolism in Skeletal Muscle” which will investigate the physiological consequences of the loss of ovarian hormones associated with menopause on women's health. With co-investigator Rosemary Schuh of the University of Maryland, Baltimore Spangenburg will use the information to create new interventions. Spangenburg also received an NIH grant (via Johns Hopkins University) to investigate the role of estrogens in the regulation of lipid metabolism and glucose handling and to develop interventions that help maintain the endocrine function of the ovaries for women going through treatment for estrogen positive cancers or the onset of menopause.

Karoline Mortensen, assistant professor of Health Services Administration, is co-principal investigator on an R21 grant funded by the NIH-National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to examine the effects of changes in Medicaid physician fees and copayments on access, use and costs of preventive care. The research findings have direct implications for predicting the various effects that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will have on Medicaid enrollees. This study is conducted with Adam Atherly at the Colorado School of Public Health.

Faculty&StaffNews



Linda Aldoory, endowed chair and director of the Horowitz Center for Health Literacy, was invited to participate in a special panel, Science in Our Lives, as part of the university's launch

of the Future of Information Alliance (FIA). The FIA will explore, in a broadly interdisciplinary way, the potential of information to inspire innovation and change lives. Aldoory shared case studies of effective health campaigns and insights about the power of information technology to address health disparities.

Elaine Anderson, professor and chair of the Department of Family Science, became the president of the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) Executive Board on November 18.

Anderson will lead NCFR in its mission to foster dialogue among family professionals for the benefit of understanding and strengthening families. **Leigh Leslie**, associate professor of family science, also assumed an elected position as conference program chair of the 2012 NCFR annual conference in Phoenix, Ariz.



LEIGH LESLIE & ELAINE ANDERSON

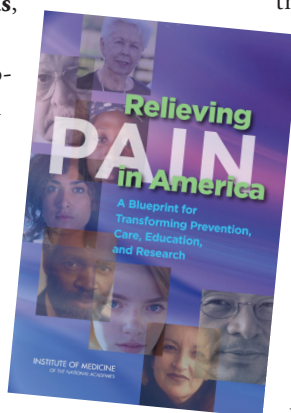
Bonnie Braun, professor of family science, is co-author of two new book chapters in *Rural Families and Work: Context and Problems* (Bauer and Dolan, 2011). Braun's chapters arose out of more than 10 years of research with her "Rural Families Speak" team on a multi-state study of the lives of rural, low-income, Appalachian mothers. Braun also penned a drama, "Livin' on Life's Byways: Rural Mothers Speak,"

based on the research study. Braun was recognized for her leadership as the first director of the Horowitz Center for Health Literacy at a special reception in December.

Elizabeth (Betty) Brown, instructor of kinesiology, was honored as the MVP (Most Valuable Professor) by the Maryland Men's Soccer team at a special halftime ceremony in recognition of her longstanding support for the team's student-athletes.

Mia Smith Bynum, associate professor of family science, received the University of Maryland Ronald E. McNair Mentor of the Year Award (2011-12). Dr. Smith Bynum was nominated by her mentee and McNair Scholar, Dara Winley, for the superior mentorship she provided during the six-week-long McNair Summer Research Institute.

Olivia Carter-Pokras, associate professor of epidemiology and biostatistics, contributed expertise to a recent Institute of Medicine (IOM) consensus report, "Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education, and Research." Carter-Pokras is a member of the IOM Committee on Advancing Pain Research, Care, and Education. The group concluded that at least 116 million adult Americans experience chronic pain each year, costing the nation between \$560 and \$635 billion annually. The committee's report says that much of this pain is preventable or could be better managed and called for coordinated national efforts to transform how we understand and approach pain management and prevention.



Eva Chin, assistant professor of kinesiology, received a 2011 UMCP-UMB Seed Grant for a study of "The Role of Skeletal Muscle Glycoproteins in Insulin Resistance in Type 2 Diabetes." She will work with University of Maryland Baltimore's Andy Goldberg, MD, on this human muscle proteomics project.

Norman Epstein, professor of family science, was recognized as a pioneer of family therapy by the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Family Therapy (AAMFT) for his formative influence in cognitive behavioral therapy. The Family Therapy Genogram, AAMFT's historical family tree of "the most influential leaders in the couples and family therapy field," lists Dr. Epstein's research and implementation of Cognitive and Behavioral Couple and Family Therapies as a major contribution to this treatment modality and to the field of marriage and family therapy in the 1990s.

Michael Friedman, research assistant professor in kinesiology, co-authored a working paper with Dennis Coates, professor of economics at UMBC, about the impact of the 2011 Grand Prix race on Baltimore's economy. They concluded that the economic impact was vastly smaller than the projections by the event's promoter, Baltimore Racing Development, and Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake. After analyzing data collected through surveys with race attendees during the Labor Day weekend event, Friedman and Coates estimate that the race generated about \$25 million in economic activity—far below the \$70 million promised by event promoters—and that most of that money would have been spent in and around Baltimore anyway for tourism related to the holiday weekend. Their analysis was widely covered by the news media. Three School of Public Health faculty

Faculty&StaffNews cont.

members received scholarship awards from the Graduate School. Kinesiology Assistant Professors **Shannon Jette** and **J. Carson Smith** received Research and Scholarship Awards for Summer 2012. **Kevin Roy**, associate professor of family science, received a Semester Research and Scholarship Award for 2012-2013. These awards are designed to support faculty research and encourage the involvement of a graduate student or students in the funded project in a mentoring relationship.

Bradley Hatfield, chair of the Department of Kinesiology, was invited to be this year's Pease Family Scholar at the Iowa State University's Department of Kinesiology and gave a special lecture on the positive effect of physical activity on the aging brain, including the prevention of Alzheimer's disease. Hatfield also presented a lecture on "Physical Activity, Health, and Neuropsychological Behavior: Connecting Basic Research with Important Social Issues" at the 2011 National Academy of Kinesiology Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Xin He, assistant professor, and **Mei-Ling Ting Lee**, professor of epidemiology and biostatistics, received funding from the Center of Excellence in Health IT Research Seed Grant Program for their study "Investigating Disparity of Bone Health by Integrating Bone Mineral Density Data." The project team also includes Marc C. Hochberg, MD, MPH, who heads the



Jenny Roche Hodgson (center), with **Agatha Johnson** (left) from the Parent Advisory Council and **Brian Watkins** (right), director of the Office of Parent and Family Affairs.



Gold Named President of the Society for Public Health Education

Robert S. Gold, dean of the School of Public Health, was installed as president of the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) at the organization's annual meeting on October 30, 2011. Dean Gold's career in public health began as a health educator, so it is fitting that he now leads SOPHE, an independent professional association for health education professionals and students throughout the United States and 25 international countries. For more than 60 years, SOPHE has promoted healthy behaviors, healthy communities, and healthy environments through its membership, its network of local chapters, and its numerous partnerships with other organizations.

Pictured (l to r): Wilma M. Robinson, assistant secretary for planning and evaluation, Office of Health Policy, US Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS); Dan Perales, professor, San Jose State University, and SOPHE's immediate past president; Kathleen Sebelius, secretary, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services; Bob Gold, professor and dean, SOPHE President; Elaine Auld, chief executive officer, SOPHE

Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology in the Department of Medicine at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Jenny Roche Hodgson, undergraduate program director and advisor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health, received the 2011 Outstanding Academic Advisor Award and a \$1000 prize from the Maryland Parents Association. Hodgson was nominated by undergraduate student and advisee Carolina Andrade de Aguiar. Hodgson advises majors, facilitates new and transfer student orientation programs, and works with UMD students interested in changing their major to community health.

Sandra Hofferth, professor of family science and director of the Maryland Population Research Center, was recognized by the *Journal of Marriage and Family* as one of

its most cited authors over the past 10 years.

Dushanka Kleinman, associate dean for research and professor of epidemiology and biostatistics, was honored with the Callahan Memorial Award from the Ohio Dental Association, a recognition presented to a person whose hard work, dedication and genius have improved the level of the oral health of the public. Kleinman's research has included epidemiologic studies of dental, oral and craniofacial diseases, oral cancer and HIV-related conditions.

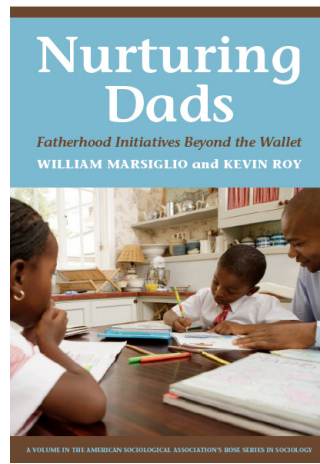
Sunmin Lee, assistant professor of epidemiology and biostatistics, received the Outstanding Poster Presentation Award at the 2011 Cancer Health Disparities Program Meeting sponsored by the National Cancer Institute for the poster "What is Lacking in Patient-Physician Communication: from Asian American Cancer Survivors' and

Oncologists' Perspectives." Lu Chen and Lynn Scully (epidemiology and biostatistics students) were co-authors.

Catherine Maybury, faculty research assistant with the Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy, received the 2011 Anthony Westwater Jong Memorial Community Dental Health Post-professional Award on October 31. She was recognized for her outstanding community-based research project in oral health, "Survey of Maryland Dentists' Knowledge, Opinions and Practices about Oral Cancer Prevention and Early Detection."

Kevin Roy, associate professor of family science, was selected as a 2011-2012 Lilly Fellow by the Center for Teaching Excellence and the Office of Undergraduate Studies. Roy will provide guidance in the implementation of the Scholarship in Practice category of the new general education program and participate in the University of Maryland's 2012 Innovations in Teach-

ing Conference, and the Lilly-DC meeting on Teaching and Learning. Roy also co-authored the forthcoming book *Nurturing Dads: Fatherhood Initiatives Beyond the Wallet*, with William Marsiglio (published by Russell Sage Foundation, NY, due out January 2012).



Brit Saksvig, research assistant professor in epidemiology and biostatistics, and Denise Lynch, principal of Bradbury Heights Elementary School, have been awarded

a UMD-PRC Seed Money grant for the study "Mobilizing Elementary School Parent Networks for Obesity Prevention." The study will investigate the feasibility of an approach to engage parents in school-based obesity prevention interventions using social network and formative assessment methods to identify parent networks and explore how parents can be motivated to activate their networks for environmental

change.

Assistant Professor **Jaе Shim** and Professor **Ben Hurley**, both in kinesiology, received a grant from the Maryland Industrial Partnerships and Leadership Health LLC for their project "Translation of Kinesiology in Preventive Medicine," which aims to reduce the burden of chronic disease through the development of an electronic personalized evidence-based exercise prescription program.

Sacoby Wilson, assistant professor with the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health, participated in the symposium, "A Tribute to King's Dream: Environmental Justice and Environmentalism in the 21st Century," at Howard University in August. Sponsored by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (of which Wilson is a member), the symposium coincided with the dedication of the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial. He spoke about King's legacy as it relates to struggles for environmental justice.

Teaching&LearningInitiatives

Military Families Internship Launches this Spring

The Department of Family Science will launch the new Military Families Internship program in Spring 2012. Under the direction of Professor Sally Koblinsky and Undergraduate Coordinator Zainab Okolo, students will serve in organizations across the state that support the health and well-being of military service members, veterans and their families. The internship will provide a unique opportunity to receive training to help military members and their families deal with deployments, re-entry to civilian life, access to services and benefits, and related challenges.



"When men and women serve our country, their families also serve," said Koblinsky, professor of family science. "The stress of multiple deployments has created emotional, health, parenting and other challenges

for military families. Prevention and intervention services that address the strengths and needs of the military population are so critical, and this internship will prepare future public health professionals to work in this area."

Twenty students from the Departments of Family Science and Behavioral and Community Health will participate in the first class, and others are already on a waitlist for Fall 2012. To be eligible, students must complete courses in family science and health and human service delivery, as well as an online Military OneSource course on military culture and military life.

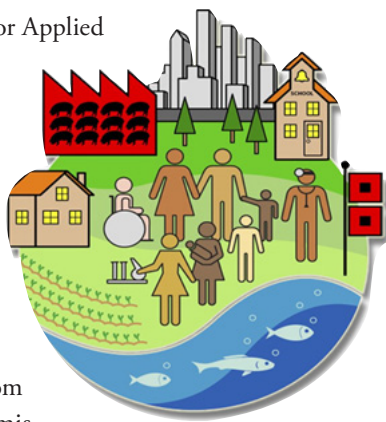
Teaching&LearningInitiatives continued

Kinesiology's Oliveira Develops "Blended Learning" Course

Marcio Oliveira, research assistant professor and assistant chair in kinesiology, was selected to participate in a new campus initiative to develop innovative "blended learning" opportunities for students. With funding from the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost, he will redesign and implement blended learning strategies into KNES 370: Motor Development. The course will involve a combination of face-to-face and online interactions, built on a rich collaboration environment that includes a variety of information sources including multimedia data, social technologies, simulations, and visualizations for individual and collaborative learning and for team projects. He will also participate in a corps of Blended Learning Faculty Fellows, who will serve as the initial resource and catalyst for technology-based instructional innovations on campus.

MIAEH Offers Toxicology & Environmental Health Doctoral Program in Fall 2012

The Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health is the new co-sponsor of the doctoral program in toxicology and environmental health track within the University of Maryland System-Wide Graduate Program in Toxicology and is accepting applications from students for Fall 2012 admission. Students who enroll will receive their degree through the University of Maryland, College Park, but have access to resources and participating faculty members from several participating University System of Maryland campuses. Students will master an essential core of knowledge in toxicology and environmental and occupational health, epidemiology and biostatistics.



tics. Elective courses and rotations with faculty field studies and laboratories will offer students the background and tools needed to specialize within the broad area of environmental public health. Students will pursue dissertation research in a range of areas of faculty expertise including: environmental justice; molecular epidemiology; environmental impacts on risks for infectious disease; and health effects of air and water pollution, the built environment and climate change.

Kinesiology Offers New Phys Ed Master's Certification

The Department of Kinesiology launched the Master's Certification Program in Physical Education this fall. It offers a master's degree with specialist teaching certification in physical education and is designed to be completed within 13 months of graduating with an undergraduate degree in kinesiology. It is designed for students who wish to teach physical education, coach K-12 students or work in a variety of afterschool/community programs.

Study Global Health in Northern India

Lis Maring, faculty research associate in family science, Mili Duggal, maternal and child health doctoral student, and Heather Stone, MPH graduate student (epidemiology and biostatistics) and course creator, led a three-credit study abroad course in Global Health and Development in Manali, India in Summer 2011, along with Judy Stone, MD, a physician specializing in infectious diseases. The leadership team guided 14 undergraduate students through a learning experience in Northern India where they had the opportunity to experience firsthand the health and development issues facing resource-constrained communities, including the impact of widespread tuberculosis infections. Participants were challenged to engage in cross-cultural dialogue, and to think critically about solutions to health and development challenges. Maring and Duggal will lead the course again in Summer 2012. The program is relevant for students in the biomedical sciences, allied health professions, social sciences, and public health and is also applicable to students interested in cross-cultural contexts and international studies.



Kelly Protzko, a senior kinesiology major, takes a girl's pulse in the remote Himalayan Jibhi village.

New Faculty



Department of Family Science



Assistant Professor Marion Moser-Jones studies the history of American health policy and human services delivery, the science and social context of disasters, and science policy and communication. Her research has explored how natural disasters, such as hurricanes, have had a disproportional impact on black and poor communities.

Moser-Jones comes to UMD from the faculty of the Virginia Commonwealth University.

Department of Kinesiology



Assistant Professor Carson Smith studies how exercise and physical activity affect brain function and mental health. He is exploring how exercise could delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease and protect against age-related cognitive decline. He also examines how exercise may alter emotions and cognitive function among patients with anxiety and/or mood disorders. Smith comes to

UMD from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Assistant Professor Shannon Jette studies socio-cultural influences on physical activity, health, and the female body. She is examining exercise and nutrition advice given to pregnant women and exploring how women of differing socio-cultural backgrounds understand and experience health, physical activity and pregnancy weight gain. She comes to UMD from Concordia University's Simone de Beauvoir Institute.



Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy



Associate Professor Linda Aldoory is the Endowed Chair and Director of the Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy. Her research focuses on health campaigns and their effects on diverse audiences and risk communication targeted at women and adolescents. She is the former director of the university's Center for Communication, Health and Risk.

MD Institute for Applied Environmental Health



Assistant Professor Paul Turner studies the role of fungal toxins (mycotoxins, or molds) in the development of chronic disease. He is studying how the aflatoxin mold, present in up to 25 percent of the world's food supply, is involved in liver cancer risk and contributes to growth faltering, immune suppression, and childhood morbidity and

mortality in developing countries. Turner is developing interventions to restrict exposure to vulnerable groups, and working to understand the impact of climate change on levels of toxin exposure. He comes to UMD from the Molecular Epidemiology Unit, University of Leeds, UK.



Assistant Professor Robin Puett studies the relationship between ambient air pollution exposures and chronic disease (i.e., cardiovascular disease and diabetes) and mortality. Her research examines additional health outcomes (e.g., cognitive impacts and breast cancer), the biological pathways involved, and important potential modifiers of these relationships, such as diet

and physical activity. She addresses health disparities associated with neighborhood and built environment factors that influence physical activity, obesity, and chronic diseases. Puett comes to UMD from the faculty of the University of South Carolina.



Assistant Professor Sacoby Wilson's research focuses on environmental justice, environmental health, environmental health disparities, built environment, community-driven research, and spatio-temporal exposure assessment. He has worked extensively with community-based organizations in Michigan, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Wilson is chair

of the national green initiative of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and sits on the board of the Community-Campus Partnerships for Health. He comes to UMD from the faculty of the University of South Carolina.

StudentNews

Family Science doctoral student **Amanda Berger** received the 2011 University of Maryland Graduate Student Distinguished Service Award. The recognition celebrates graduate students who have made outstanding contributions to the university community in the areas of scholarship, leadership, involvement, and service. Amanda is a Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) Lilly Fellow and past recipient of CTE's Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award. She has been active in family science as president of the Maryland Council on Family Relations and campus-wide by serving on the University Senate and numerous committees, including the Provost's Academic Planning Advisory Committee. Amanda successfully defended her dissertation, "Longitudinal Effects of Mother-Daughter Relationships on Young Women's Sexual Risk-Taking Behaviors," and will graduate this spring.

The Gamma Zeta chapter of Delta Omega, the honorary society for graduate students in public health, held its first meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2011. President **Rachel Rosenberg Goldstein** (Ph.D. student epidemiology/Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health) and President-Elect **Davi Mazala** (Ph.D.

student, kinesiology) were elected to serve during the chapter's first full year at this meeting.

Kinesiology graduate students **Shikha Prashad** and **Quinjian Chen** were selected as CTE International Teaching Fellows for 2011-2012. This program pairs international graduate teaching assistants with faculty mentors to assist them in their professionalization as teachers and future faculty.

Kinesiology doctoral student **Matt Miller** (advisor: Dr. Bradley Hatfield) and Family Science doctoral student **Katie Hrapczynski** (advisor: Leigh Leslie) were selected to be 2011-2012 Graduate Lilly Fellows. The CTE-Lilly Graduate Teaching Fellow program is co-sponsored and funded by the Graduate School to support the professional development of graduate students. The program is modeled after the very successful CTE-Lilly Fellows program for faculty that has been in existence for nearly two decades.

Couple and family therapy masters' students **BreAnna Davis** and **John Hart** received 2011 Marriage and Family Therapy Minority Fellowships from the American Association for Marriage and

Family Therapy. Awardees are selected based on their promise in and commitment to a career in marriage and family therapy and family therapy education, research or practice.

Health Services Administration doctoral student **Kathleen Ruben** was awarded a fellowship from Grantmakers in Aging (GIA), an organization representing philanthropic giving in the field of aging. It selects a small group of fellows identified as future leaders in the field of aging research. Kathy attended the GIA Annual Meeting in October, and gave a presentation entitled "Identifying the Training Needs of Family Decision-Making Partners of People with Dementia in a Participant-Directed Program." Her fellowship project is a joint effort between the University of Maryland and Boston College.

Kinesiology doctoral students **Katie Jackson**, **Sohit Karol**, **Ronald Mower**, **Hyuk Oh**, **Alessandro Presacco**, and **Bartlett Russell** received 2011 Summer Research Fellowships from the Graduate School. These fellowships provide support to outstanding mid-career doctoral students in the period before, during, or after achievement of candidacy. Awards are intended to

Celebrating Our 2011-2012 Merrill Presidential Scholars and Mentors

Undergraduate Kinesiology students **Christopher Day** and **Kelly Protzko** and Family Science student **Nkemka Anyiwo** were named 2011-2012 Merrill Presidential Scholars. The Merrill Presidential Scholars Program honors the University of Maryland's most successful seniors and their designated university faculty and K-12 teachers for their mentorship. Day honored his high school principal, David Steinberg, and kinesiology Instructor **Susan Kogut**. Protzko honored her high school science teacher, Craig McLeod, and kinesiology Associate Professor **Stephen Roth**. Anyiwo honored Otis Harris, her teacher and director of the Kings and Queens program at Martin Luther King Middle School in Beltsville, Md., and **Kim Nickerson**, assistant dean of diversity for the School of Public Health and the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences.

Pictured (l to r): Susan Kogut, Christopher Day, Otis Harris, Nkemka Anyiwo, Kim Nickerson, Stephen Roth, Kelly Protzko, Craig McLeod





Iron Woman Wohlers Leads Double Life as Researcher and World Class Athlete

Kinesiology doctoral student Lindsay Wohlers (M.S. '09), competed in her fourth Ironman World Championship race in October 2011, finishing tenth in her age group in the triathlon which takes the world's top athletes through a grueling course in Kona, Hawaii. Wohlers works in the lab of Assistant Professor Espen Spangenburg, studying the link between the hormonal changes associated with menopause, hysterectomy and some breast cancer treatments and women's risk of developing diabetes and heart disease. She trains about 22 hours each week, often sneaking in a run, ride or swim while lab experiments are running. She will complete her doctorate this spring.

StudentNews continued

enable students to prepare for or complete a key benchmark in their program's requirements. Summer Research Fellowships carry stipends of \$5,000.

Kinesiology doctoral student **Ronald Mower**, who is in the physical cultural studies program (advisor: David Andrews) received the Dr. James W. Longest Memorial Award for Social Science Research, which supports research with potential benefits for small and/or disadvantaged communities.

Kinesiology doctoral students **Brian Baum** and **Sohit Karol** received Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowships. These one-semester awards support outstanding doctoral students who are in the final stages of writing their dissertation.

Veronica Kwok, an undergraduate double major in community health and psychology, was recognized with

the College Park Scholars Outstanding Citizenship Award at their annual Citation Awards Ceremony. The award honored her involvement in the International Studies College Park Scholars Model United Nations and College Park Scholars Ambassadors programs. Kwok mentored newly admitted scholars and was a student leader for Scholars Service days. She is a Resident Assistant in Centreville Hall, which is involved in the Scholars program.

Kinesiology undergraduate research assistant **Andrea Tian** (pictured right), who works in the Neuromechanics Lab, was awarded a Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) undergraduate research fellowship and a Maryland Summer Scholars fellowship.



School of Public Health graduate students **Allison Lilly** (MPH student, environmental health sciences), **Lauren Messina** (Ph.D. student, family science), and **Rachel Rosenberg Goldstein** (Ph.D. student, epidemiology and environmental health sciences) are among the leadership team for the university's Public Health Garden (PHG), a student teaching and community garden demonstrating sustainable agriculture and environmental best practices in support of public, environmental and community health. Among their first year accomplishments, the PHG team finished construction of the ADA-accessible upper terrace which will allow staff and visitors to enjoy the garden and hosted several activities and workshops including "How to Build a Salad Table," Gardening 101, yoga in the garden, and a Harvest Festival on World Food Day. The hard work of PHG staff and volunteers in cultivating the garden paid off in a bounty of produce throughout the year. Visit their blog and see what they harvested at <http://publichealthgarden.blogspot.com/>.

Maryland Center for Health Equity

The Maryland Center for Health Equity (M-CHE) celebrated its one-year anniversary at the University of Maryland School of Public Health in November with an open house attended by more than 100 guests. The event was hosted by Director Stephen B. Thomas and attended by friends, colleagues, and several university and state leaders, including Bob Gold, SPH dean; Patrick O'Shea, UMD Vice President for Research; Brodie Remington, UMD Vice President for University Relations; Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, Maryland state delegate; William Coleman, scientific director for the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities; and Renee Cohen, representative for Senator Ben Cardin.

Over the course of its first year, M-CHE has played a leadership role in several conferences and events focused on health disparities and public health, and continued to build relationships with local and national partners with whom it is working to eliminate health disparities and achieve health equity for all Marylanders.

Some highlights of M-CHE's work over the past year include:

- 24 journal articles published in 2010-2011
- Thomas and Quinn presented research from their **Building Trust between Minorities and Researchers** project at the FDA Conference *Dialogues on Diversifying Clinical Trials: Successful Strategies for Engaging Women and Minorities*
- At **Maryland's Eighth Annual Health Disparities Conference**, co-sponsored by the school, Thomas delivered the inaugural address of the Shirley Nathan-Pulliam Health Equity Lecture Series
- At the National Cancer Institute's **Health Disparities Interest Group**, Thomas led the seminar Less Talk, More Action.
- Dr. Thomas co-hosted the campus-wide UMD First Year Book discussion on medical ethics and *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*
- **Developed two curricula** for the Building Trust between Minorities and Researchers project, one for community members, one for researchers, due out Spring 2012
- Hosted the monthly **Collegium of Scholars**, which provides a forum for meaningful discussions about the complexities and impact of race, racism, ethnicity, gender, class, and discrimination on health and wellness.



The M-CHE Celebrates its One-Year Anniversary (from left to right): Associate Directors Mary A. Garza and James Butler III, Center Coordinator Marquita D. Cobb, Scientific Writer Erica Casper, Project Director Susan Passmore, Director Stephen B. Thomas, Associate Director Craig S. Fryer, Post-Doctoral Fellow Natasha Brown, and Senior Associate Director Sandra C. Quinn (behind Natasha).



The Maryland Center for Health Equity (M-CHE), in partnership with the University Library System, University of Pittsburgh, is sponsoring the Minority Health and Health Equity Archive, an electronic repository of materials in the fields of minority health and health disparities research and policy.

The archive is a free resource to the public, academic scholars, and health science researchers interested in racial and ethnic health disparities and advancing health equity for all people. In addition to facilitating the rapid dissemination of peer-reviewed journal articles, it serves as a collection site for a variety of materials, including historical documents, government resources, teaching tools, commentaries, and images. The archive has a goal to be the primary repository for all materials related to minority health. A special collection of images and documents related to the Tuskegee Syphilis Study (1932-1972) is among the archive's unique contents. Visitors can submit content for inclusion in the archive by becoming a registered user. Visit the archive through the M-CHE website, healthequity.umd.edu, or directly at health-equity.pitt.edu.

University of Maryland Prevention Research Center

The UMD Prevention Research Center (PRC) and the Seat Pleasant-University of Maryland Health Partnership (Co-chaired by Sharon Desmond, associate professor of behavioral and community health; and Chikezie Maduka, community resident and member of the PRC Community Advisory Committee) received “Unsung Hero” awards from the National Community-Based Organization Network (NCBON) in October at a special reception in Seat Pleasant, Md. coinciding with the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting. The NCBON originated out of APHA’s Community-Based Public Health caucus and works to link community-based organizations with universities and agencies invested in promoting community health. The annual awards recognize and celebrate the “incredible, yet often unheralded, public health work of community leaders.” The School of Public Health co-sponsored the event, along with the Mayor’s Office of the City of Seat Pleasant, the Metropolitan Washington Public Health Association, Community-Based Health Caucus, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission



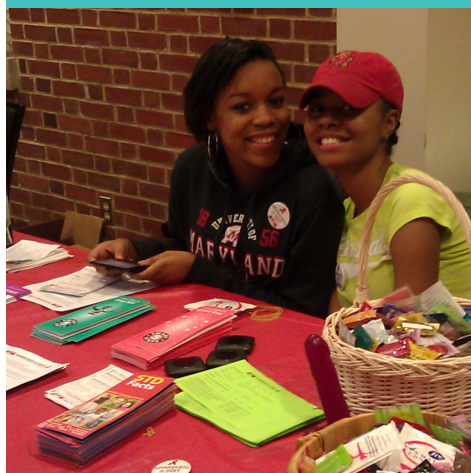
Celebrating Unsung Community Heroes: Chikezie Maduka, co-chair, Seat Pleasant University of Maryland Health Partnership; Ella Green-Morton, coordinator, National Community Based Organization Network (NCBON); Alan Richmond, president of NCBON; Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards, representing the 4th District of Maryland (Seat Pleasant is part of the 4th district); and Mayor Eugene W. Grant, Seat Pleasant, Md.

Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George’s County. The NCBON presented Unsung Hero awards to 12 other UMD-PRC partners during the annual reception.

Among other accomplishments this year, Brad Boekeloo, director of the UMD-PRC and professor of behavioral and community health (BCH), and BCH doctoral students Tanya Geiger and Denise Bellows, presented research findings to the state of Maryland’s Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration. More than 50 stakeholders from the state health department, local health departments, and community-based

organizations with an interest in prevention for people living with HIV attended the meeting to hear Boekeloo and his team present findings on HIV prevention in clinical settings and organizational leadership in HIV prevention.

PRC Coordinates “HallowScreen” 2011 and World Aids Day Events



Students staff an information table for World Aids Day

Denise Bellows, doctoral student and faculty research assistant at the UMD-PRC, coordinated “HallowScreen 2011” with students from the UMD-PRC Sexual Health Education and Prevention student group and the Sexually Transmitted Infections Community Coalition (STICC). Seventeen students were trained to do community outreach timed with Halloween week and to collaborate with organizations in Maryland, Washington, D.C. and Virginia to raise awareness about HIV and HIV screening services available in the community. The students promoted the event through the news media and materials that were distributed through 14 organizations at 23 locations in the metropolitan area. For the week timed with World AIDS Day, this group partnered with the University Health Center’s Sexual Health and Reproductive Education (SHARE) program for outreach activities including condom demonstrations, distribution of condoms and educational materials, and promotion of STD/HIV screening. The UMD-PRC also brought members of Heart to Hand, a Prince George’s County-based non-profit focused on HIV prevention and intervention services, and the Children’s National Medical Center to campus for events on World AIDS Day.

Center for Health Literacy

This fall, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley declared October "Health Literacy Month" and issued a proclamation recognizing the role of the Hershel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy in working to ensure that Maryland residents can access, understand, and use health information to make informed decisions that will maintain or improve their health. The center's many research initiatives include a health communications campaign designed to prevent HIV/AIDS in Prince George's county, a project in partnership with the UMD Prevention Research Center; a project focused on improving health outcomes in rural, low-income communities through targeted messages to mothers on topics including oral health, nutrition, and physical activity; and several initiatives focused on improving dental health in Maryland and making the state a leader in access to oral health care, in prevention of oral disease and injury, and in oral health literacy and education.

Under the leadership of Linda Aldoory, who became the center's endowed chair and director this past summer, the center hosted several events that brought health literacy leaders to campus to discuss new directions in the field, presented research at national conferences, and strengthened relationships with key partners, including the Office of Minority Health, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, Inc., and RTI International, a research institute with expertise in health communication and social marketing that has developed a health literacy skills instrument.

In her presentation at the center's fall colloquium, Rima Rudd, visiting health literacy senior scholar, described the limitations of the scholarly beginnings of health literacy, including characteristics such as audacity, defining health literacy too narrowly, and a lack of theory. She described how the field has more recently embraced broader definitions of health literacy, and widened its research scope to include interactive, technological and critical health literacy, and perspectives that incorporate empowerment theory and consumer participation. Following Dr. Rudd's talk, the center hosted a reception in honor of Bonnie Braun's work as director of the center from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011. Braun played a leading role in launching Health Literacy Maryland this year.

The center also launched their new website this fall and has developed health literacy resources including an annotated bibliography of all research, websites, reports and literature related to health literacy since 2003, a searchable database of health literacy partners, organizations, and other stakeholders including government officials and staff, and a searchable database of national and local conferences, health fairs and events related to health literacy. Visit www.healthliteracy.umd.edu for more.



A Decree from Governor O'Malley (top): Alice Horowitz, Linda Aldoory, and Bonnie Braun show Governor O'Malley's proclamation recognizing Health Literacy Month (October) and the critical role that the Horowitz Center for Health Literacy plays in promoting better health in Maryland.

Recognizing a Pioneer (bottom): At the Center's Fall Colloquium, former director Bonnie Braun was honored for her work leading the center from July 2009- June 2011. Pictured (l to r): Dushanka Kleinman, Linda Aldoory, Bob Gold, Bonnie Braun, Alice Horowitz, and Elaine Anderson.

School of Public Health Donors

Many thanks to the generous donors who supported the School of Public Health in 2011.

\$10,000 - \$99,999

Glazer, Lowell
Russel, F.
Reinlieb, Roger & Anne
Russel, Steve

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Friedgen, Gloria & Ralph
Ross, D. & Bettina
Woods, Edward

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Horowitz, Alice
Humphrey, Frances
Krieger, Morton
Ostrove, Linda
Petratis, Karel
Quinn, Sandra C. and
Thomas, Stephen B.
Tso, Margaret

\$500 - \$999

Bretting, Michael
Clark, Jane
Garson, Thomas & Nancy
Gold, Robert & Barbara
Hatfield, Bradley
Phillips, Sally
Richardson, Nancy
Vert, Richard
Wagner, Daniel
Wolfowitz, Paul
Wrenn, Jerry

\$250 - \$499

Greer Springfield, Vanessa
Hagberg, James
Laffey, Mark
Quinn, Sandra C.
Tyler, Robert
Walton, Julie
Woodbury, Sherri

\$100 - \$249

Ahearn, Mary
Ali, Shazia
Allan, William
Anderson, Janet
Atwood, Janice
Baramki, Christina
Beaudet, Suzanne
Bradley, Richard
Brown-Bellamy, Jude
Caporaletti, Michael
Chung, Ho
Dombroski, Joan
Fazzio, Justin
Fulmer, Kristin
Gallagher, Nancy
Gems, Gerald
Geronimo, Anne
Goebeler, Robert
Green, John
Griffith, Gretchyn
Hanley, Elizabeth
Hayward, Craig
Hoskins, Lindsey
Kivlighan, Mary
Kleinman, Dushanka
Mail, Patricia & Peggy
Mateik, Deborah
Miller, Richard
Moser, John
Nerad, Nancy
Page, Christine
Parzow, Lisa
Patton, Douglas
Pearce, Timothy
Pelmoater, Stephanie
Ragland, Annette
Reinlieb, Anne
Roth, Stephen
Scaffa, Marjorie
Seipp, Marilyn
Stratton, Anne
Thrift, Signe

Trescot, Mary Ellen
Umbarger, Lloyd
Waldron, Lou Ann
Walker, Courtney
Werlinich, Carol

Up to \$99

Al-Ahmary, Judy
Anderson, Connie
Baron, Rebecca
Berger, Mitchell
Berman, Lewis & Sharon
Breckenridge, Barbara
Brody, Khin
Burke, Rebecca
Bush, Margaret
Carr, Kathryn
Clary, Regina
Cohen, Sammi
Collins, Susan
Davis, Lorraine
Deon, Denise
Devaney, Barbara
Diamond, Alan & Carol
Doucet, Lisa
DuVall, Douglas
Duvall, John
Edelson, Susanne & Eric
Edwards, Steven
Eng, Shannon
Englund, Emily Sue
Fedorov, Veronika
Ferguson, Sean
Fleshman, Charles
Fruman, Marni
Gallagher, Neil & Suzie
Garbrick, Karen
Gerber, Stephen & Lorraine
Guidorizzi, Maria
Hale, Janet
Herzstein, Joseph
Hexter, Joseph & Pamela
Hill, Richard

Islam, Jokena
Jarboe-Costello, Joanne
Joseph, Sammy
Kenworthy, William
Kikola, Amanda
Klem, Robert and Donna
Kristensen, Sandra
Kundu, Prasun
Leclaire, Pauline
Longanecker, Gerald
MacDonald, Donna
Mancebo, Alexandra
Marsh, Russell
Martin, Barbara
May, Raymond
McKenzie, Jennifer
Meyers, Joseph
Miller, Harris and Carolyn
Miller, Patricia
Mitchell, John
Mnatzakanian, Peter
Molino-Wolff, Paula
Moore, Allison
Murdock, Meg
Nelson, Judd
Patterson, Christopher
Pellegrino, Anthony
Peters, Zachary
Peterson, Franklin & Linda
Pi-Alvarez, Angela
Pitts, Christine
Pohland, Robert & Kimberly
Pribyl, Amanda
Propst, Sandra Jo
Quinnette, Karen
Reburn, Nancy
Reid, Betty
Reulet, Cheri
Rubin, Jodi
Schindler, Toni
Sebastian, Polly
Senterfit, Catherine
Sherry, Leslie

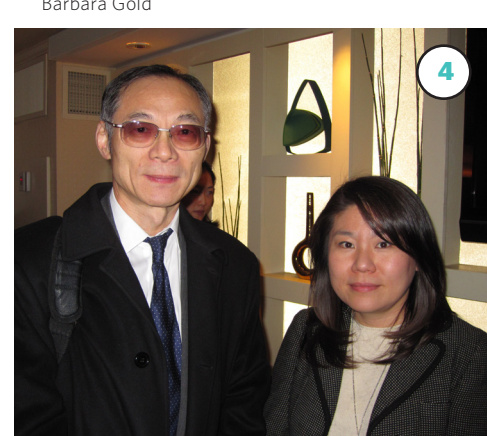
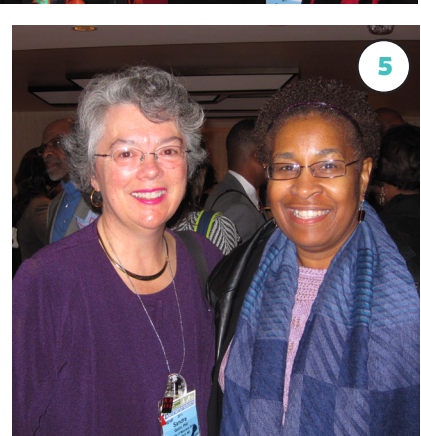
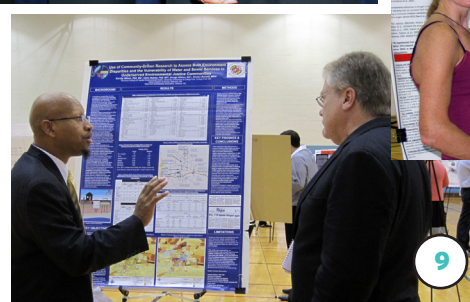
Shultz, Barry
Siegel, Willa and David
Silberman, Rebecca
Skerpon, Joseph
Slonaker, John
Smith, Catherine
Smith, Joel
Snider, Deborah
Snyder, Shirley
Staver, Mark
Stegman-Corey, Alice
Stein, Cheryl
Stork, Peter
Su, Bertina
Sushner, Neil and Sherrie
Sweeney, Sean
Taylor, Shantrez
Toppin, William
Trice, Don and Jeanne
Vanlandingham, Rachel
Waldman, Robert
Waldron, E.
Waldron, Eileen
Waldron, Ellen
Wentworth, Nancy
Werlinich, Kathy
Wiedel, Gary
Williams, Patricia
Wilson, Judith
Winick, Emily
Wright, Rayni
Yeck, Joseph and Catherine

The Jerry P. Wrenn Scholarship Golf Scramble, August 2011, raised scholarship funds for SPH students:

(left) Father Rob Thomas, Matt Johnson, Jerry Wrenn, Gloria Friedgen, SPH alumni coordinator and luncheon sponsor, Kyle Johnson; (center) Jerry and Betty Wrenn; (right) Pat Clancy, David Ramirez, Kelly Woods, Bob Gold, Jerry Wrenn, and Ed Woods IV of TerpSys, presenting sponsor



SPH PhotoGallery



Photos this page, clockwise from top left:

1 - MD Minority Health Disparities Conference: Renee Cohen, from Sen. Cardin's office; Nichelle Scholtz, from Sen. Mikulski's office; Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, secretary of the Md. Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene; Robert Gold, SPH dean; Maryland Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, who was honored with the establishment of the Shirley Nathan-Pulliam Health Equity Lecture Series; Carlessia Hussein, director, Md. Office on Minority Health & Health Disparities, DHMH; and Stephen B. Thomas, director, MD Center for Health Equity

2 - 11th Annual SPH Research Interaction Day

3 - A student (l) discusses research with Laura Wilson (c) and Dushanka Kleinman (r)

4-8: Annual Reception at the APHA Meeting

4 - MinQi Wang and Sunmin Lee

5 - Sandra C. Quinn and Marcia Scott

6 - Larry W. Green, Patricia (Pat) D. Mail, Judith M. Ottoson, Barbara and Bob Gold

7 - Bob Gold, Stephanie Grutzmacher, Sara Ruiz, Lauren Messina

8 - Bob Gold with Kemnique Ramnath and Amber Sims

9 - Sacoby Wilson and Brad Hatfield at Research Interaction Day

10 - Craig Fryer, Leigh Willis, and Damian Thomas

11 - Blakely Pomietto, Veronica Jones, and Barbara Gold



The **School of Public Health's GYM KANA** troupe made headlines with their showing on America's Got Talent this year. Members of this student acrobatics group, act as "ambassadors of healthy living" to young people and model healthy behaviors by pledging to remain drug, alcohol, and tobacco free. This fall, the troupe has more than 80 members and new routines with a higher performance value than ever before. Check out the *TerpVision* video "America Loves Gymkana" which chronicles their success, mission, and outreach efforts.



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

2242 SPH Building
College Park, MD 20742
Return Service Requested

ARE YOU AN SPH ALUMNUS?

The University of Maryland School of Public Health Alumni Board is looking for new members to help with planning and working at our alumni and SPH events. Upcoming events include the Dean's Scholars Dinner (4/5/12), SPH Mind and Body Games (4/12/12), Maryland Day (4/28/12), the Jerry P. Wrenn Scholarship Golf Scramble and Homecoming. If interested, please contact contact Ginelle Jurlano at gjurlano@gmail.com.

SPH.UMD.EDU



facebook.com/UMD.SPH



[@UMDPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/UMDPublicHealth)