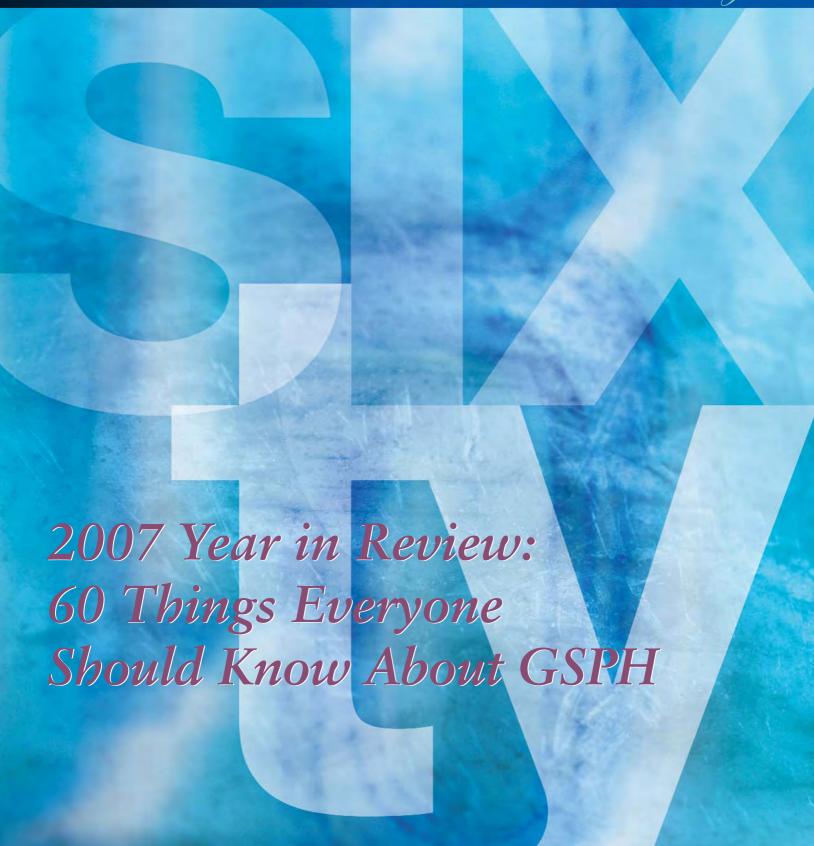
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

PublicHealth WINTER 2008



Winter 2008



Students: Legacy Laureate Luncheon

Faculty Research: National Children's Study



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A Message from the Dean Donald S. Burke, MD

This issue of *PublicHealth Quarterly* looks back at the year that was in 2007 at the Graduate School of Public Health. Because 2008 marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of GSPH, we bring you 60 gems from this past year — metaphorical candles on the school's birthday cake, if you will. Join with me in offering hearty congratulations to everyone involved with these achievements, realizing that they represent only a glimpse of what we can accomplish.

"Because 2008 marks
the 60th anniversary of
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Our future is bright. I believe that the next few years will bring unprecedented awareness of the value of public health, both here in the USA and around the world. Although our planet faces challenges that Paul Mellon never dreamed of when he and the A.W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust endowed our school 60 years ago, I am encouraged by the intense interest in prevention and health promotion in the presidential contests, and by the increasing interest in "smart power" in the international arenas. GSPH is poised to take the lead on many fronts, both in our traditional areas of strength such as women's health, and at the new frontiers, such as computational modeling. To open this compendium of bright spots from the past year, I will point out a few items that apply to the school as a whole. Then inside you'll find "brag points" that cover every aspect of the school. These delights are dished out, bite-sized, so you can enjoy them at your leisure, one or two at a time. But if you are so inclined, go ahead and devour them all at once!

Don

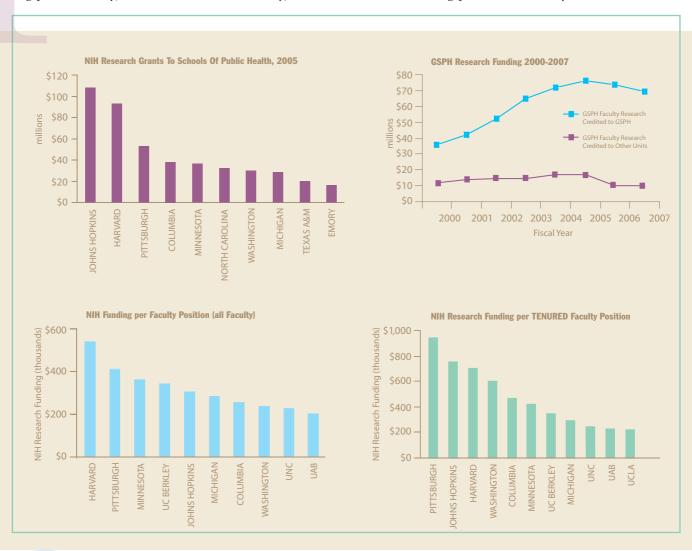
Donald S. Burke, MD Dean, Graduate School of Public Health University of Pittsburgh

Dean's Message

School Wide Kudos

GSPH Research Funding

GSPH continues to rank highest among state-related schools of public health in terms of research funding from the National Institutes of Health, trailing only Johns Hopkins and Harvard in total NIH research funding. In fiscal year 2005, the latest year for which figures are available, GSPH scientists were awarded nearly \$52.5 million in research grants. However, the average amount of money per grant award puts GSPH at the top, with an average award of \$740,000 per research grant compared to \$661,000 for Harvard and \$674,000 for Johns Hopkins. In addition, when you consider research funding per all faculty, GSPH ranks second. Finally, GSPH ranks first in funding per *tenured* faculty.





CEPH Reaccreditation

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) awarded GSPH accreditation for a seven-year term, extending to July 1, 2014. CEPH is an independent agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit schools of public health. Accreditation

attests to the quality of GSPH's educational programs and our ability to prepare students for entry into the public health professions. Schools seeking CEPH accreditation are evaluated on 10 criteria. GSPH met all 10 and was commended on two—instructional programs and service.

New Mission/Vision/Values Statement

As part of our strategic planning process, we revised our mission, vision, and values statements. This collaborative process resulted in the following:

Preamble

Established in 1948 to address the environmental and occupational health needs of our industrial region, the Graduate School of Public Health builds on its long and storied history of educating public health leaders, engaging in public health service and research, and translating research into public health practices and policies to improve the health of populations regionally, nationally, and globally.

GSPH Mission

The mission of the Graduate School of Public Health is to provide leadership in health promotion, disease prevention and the elimination of health disparities in populations. Through integrated programs of excellence in education, research, and service, we generate new knowledge to drive effective public health practice and policy, and improve the management of health systems.

GSPH Vision

Global leadership in creating and translating knowledge to enhance the public's health.

GSPH Values

As public health professionals, our research, teaching, and service rest on core values and commitments. Chief among these is a shared commitment to improved health for all. Next is our dedication to excellence in all facets of our work, recognizing that improving the health of the public rests on the generation and application of the best scientific evidence and pushing the frontiers of research.

Our contributions to improving the public's health rest on the significant role each public health discipline plays. Our multidisciplinary approach is essential to addressing health challenges in a global society. We engage partners—local, regional, state, national, and global—in our efforts to improve public health.

Social justice is also a core value of public health. We are committed to diversity in its broadest sense, pledging to create an inclusive and respectful environment that welcomes all students, faculty, and staff, and that celebrates diversity of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, class, and religion. From our diverse backgrounds comes a rich array of perspectives and experiences that strengthen our learning environment.

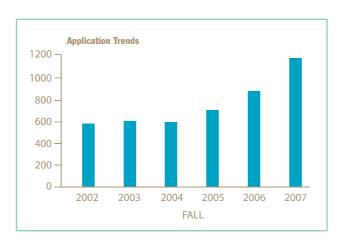
To create the best possible learning environment for our students, we are dedicated to our continuous development as educators, to using a variety of pedagogical approaches, and to staying on the cutting edge in use of effective, new teaching technologies.

Finally, we affirm our commitment to the Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health (http://www.apha.org/NR/rdonlyres/1CED3CEA-287E-4185-9CBD-BD405FC60856/0/ethicsbrochure.pdf). We adhere to the highest ethical standards in the conduct of all components of our mission. We acknowledge that improving health for all requires that public health professionals secure and maintain the trust of our communities.

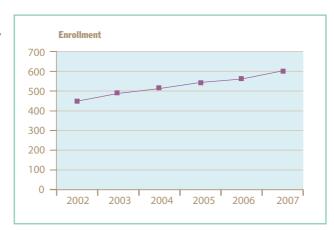
Dean's Message

Steady Growth

Applications and admissions continue to rise. Enrollment for fall 2007 is 601 primary students and 41 secondary students. In fall 2006, we had 557 primary students.



Primary Enrollment, Fall 2002 – Fall 2007





New GSPH Web Site

December saw the launch of the new GSPH Web site. While the address remains the same (www.publichealth.pitt.edu), the look is completely different and easier to navigate. The redesign of the Web site is only one of a number of initiatives to improve the public face of the school.



Board of Visitors

In late November, GSPH hosted the first meeting of our reconstituted Board of Visitors. These public health, business, and civic leaders improve the quality of the school by providing candid, comprehensive, and informed reaction to GSPH educational objectives and programs and by providing advice in GSPH's strategic planning efforts. Its meetings provide a forum for the school to demonstrate its accountability to external constituencies. The board of visitors may have significant influence on institutional advancement, not only for direct assistance in fund-raising, but also by providing an opportunity to communicate to a broader audience and, therefore, to create a base of support for the school's and the University's public relations efforts.

Members of the GSPH board of visitors are appointed by the chancellor, in consultation with the senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and the GSPH dean. The board is drawn from top experts in public health, corporate and civic leaders, and alumni, with diversity of membership a priority. All University boards include members of the University of Pittsburgh board of trustees and are chaired by a trustee.

Lee B. Foster II

Chairman of the Board of Visitors Commonwealth Trustee, University of Pittsburgh Chairman of the Board, L.B. Foster Company

Thomas Detre, MD

Emeritus Distinguished Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences, University of Pittsburgh



Members of the GSPH Board of Visitors at its first meeting on November 30, front row from left: Becky Surma, Bill Green, Shelly Onorato, Tom Detre, Jo Haas, Karen Feinstein. Back row from left: Bruce Dixon, David Hunter, Lee Foster, Don Burke, Ian Rawson, Eric Mann

Bruce Dixon, MD

Director, Allegheny County Health Department

Karen Feinstein, PhD

President, Jewish Healthcare Foundation of Pittsburgh

William Green, MD

GSPH Alumnus Emeritus Professor, Orthopedic Surgery

Joanna Haas

Henry Buhl Jr. Director, Carnegie Science Center

David Hunter, MPH

GSPH Alumnus Principal, H&G Advisors Inc.

William Kassling

Chairman, Wabtec Corporation

Adel Mahmoud, MD, PhD

Former CEO Merck Vaccines Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton

Eric Mann

President & CEO, YMCA of Pittsburgh

Jeffrey Morby

Chairman/Managing Director, Amarna Corporation, LLC

Shelly Onorato, MHA

GSPH Alumna KidsVoice Spokesperson

Diane Peterson, MPH

GSPH Alumna President & CEO, D. Peterson and Associates

Ian Rawson, PhD

GSPH Alumnus Board Chair, Hôpital Albert Schwitzer, Haiti

The Honorable James Roddey

Emeritus Trustee, University of Pittsburgh Former Chief Executive, Allegheny County

Elizabeth Surma, MPH

GSPH Alumna Vice Chair, Baptist Homes

William Trueheart, EdD

Special Trustee, University of Pittsburgh

The Honorable Mary Jo White

Commonwealth Trustee, University of Pittsburgh Pennsylvania State Senator, 21st District

Students

Dean's Day

GSPH's annual Dean's Day Research Competition was established in 1999 by Dean Herbert Rosenkranz. The event allows students to submit projects in experimental or laboratory research; studies that employ either qualitative or quantitative methodology; community-based programs, interventions or program evaluations; or policy analyses or policy interventions. Dean's Day 2008 will take place on Friday, March 7. Thirty students will be selected to present their projects, 20 via posters and 10 via oral presentations. Here are some photos from Dean's Day 2007:







From left: Bill Green, student Darmendra Ramcharran, student Jennifer Middleton, Dorothy Green, Dean Don Burke. The Greens established the William T. Green Jr. Award in Public Health Studies. Ramcharran and Middleton were the first two recipients.

World AIDS Day



GHSA president Genevieve Barrow and vice president Howie Lim

Legacy Laureate Luncheon

In October, the University of Pittsburgh named eight Legacy Laureates, alumni recognized for their outstanding personal and professional accomplishments. GSPH alumnus Thomas Priselac, president and CEO of Cedars-Sinai Health System in Los Angeles, was one of the 2007 laureates. To honor him, GSPH invited Priselac to speak to the school's student organization representatives about leadership and success. The informal luncheon gave the students the opportunity to ask questions and gain insight from a very successful and important leader.



Legacy Laureate Tom Priselac greets students before the luncheon.



From left, Beaufort Longest, PhD, professor of Health Policy and Management; honoree Tom Priselac; GSPH Alumni Society president Anne-Elizabeth McGeary; and student Christy Lawson



Students Keon Gilbert, Christy Lawson, and Emilie Delestienne

Diane Peterson (MPH '75), FACHE,



president of
D. Peterson and
Associates in
Houston, was
named the
recipient of
one of two
American
College of
Healthcare

Executives (ACHE) 2007 Gold Medal Awards. The Gold Medal Award is ACHE's highest honor bestowed on outstanding leaders who, through a career of service, have made significant contributions to the healthcare field. The purpose of this award is to identify fellows of ACHE who best exemplify leadership at the organizational, local, state/provincial, and national levels. The Gold Medal Award recognizes individuals who go beyond the confines of their own organization to continually contribute to the improvement of healthcare services and community health.

Thomas Priselac (MPH '75), presi-



dent and CEO of Cedars-Sinai Health System in Los Angeles, is chairman-elect of the American Hospital Association and was

featured on the cover of the October 2007 issue of that organization's magazine, Hospitals & Health Networks. Priselac is also serving as the Executive in Residence for GSPH's Department of Health Policy and Management and was named a Legacy Laureate of the University in October 2007, the highest honor that the University bestows on its alumni.

Diego Chaves-Gnecco, MD, (MPH '00), was named one of 2007's 40 Under 40 by *Pittsburgh* magazine and

the Pittsburgh Urban Magnet Project (PUMP). Each year, the 40 Under 40 program recognizes 40 people under the age of 40 who are committed to shaping the Pittsburgh region and making it a better place for everyone. Over the past nine years, honorees have ranged from corporate CEOs to nonprofit volunteers.

Neyal Ammary (MPH '03) and Jamie Rayman (MPH '06) have been selected for the prestigious U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Emerging Leaders Program (ELP). The ELP is designed to recruit high-potential employees and provide fast track development highlighting leadership and business skills through experiential learning and training. This program is one of the recruitment tools used by HHS to hire exceptional interns with a variety of backgrounds for the effective analysis and execution of HHS programs.

Ami Patel (PhD '05) and **Rashida Dorsey** (PhD '06) have been





selected for the prestigious **Epidemic** Intelligence Service (EIS) in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The EIS was established in 1951 following the start of the Korean War as an early warning system against biological warfare and man-made epidemics. The program, composed of med-

ical doctors, researchers, and scientists who serve in 2-year assignments, today has expanded into a surveillance and response unit for all types of epidemics, including chronic disease and injuries.

Over the past 50 years, EIS officers have played pivotal roles in combating the root causes of major epidemics. The EIS played a key role in the global eradication of smallpox by sending officers to the farthest reaches of the world; restored public confidence in the first polio vaccine after a defective vaccine led to panic; and discovered how the AIDS virus was transmitted. More recently, EIS officers have documented the obesity epidemic in the United States, helped states reduce tobacco use, and studied whether disease outbreaks were a result of bioterrorism. Many of the nation's medical and public health leaders, including CDC directors and deans of the country's top schools of public health, are EIS alumni.

2007 Distinguished Alumni Awardees

Recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award are GSPH graduates who have made a significant contribution to the field of public health, to GSPH, or to both.

Agnes Bouldin (DrPH '88), FACHE



is a professor and program director at the University of Maryland University College. She graduated from

GSPH in 1988 with a doctor of public health degree in health services administration. She was a scholarship student with the U.S. Navy Medical Service Corps while working toward her degree. Bouldin concentrated on health policy analysis and served as a fellow in the GSPH Health Policy Institute.

Anthony Lubiniecki (ScD '72) is vice president of technology transfer and project planning within pharmaceutical development at Centocor R&D, Inc., a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson. He has been active in shaping regulatory policy by serving as a Pharmaceutical

Research and Manufacturers of



America representative to the International Conferences on Harmonization (ICH) expert working groups on specifications

(Q6B), active pharmaceutical ingredients (Q7A), genetic stability (Q5C), and viral safety (Q5A), as well as the rapporteur for cell substrates (Q5D) and comparability (Q5E). He is presently working with ICH quality groups to determine future long term strategy.

Dietrich Stephan (PhD '96) serves as the deputy director of



discovery research and the director of the neurogenomics division at the Translational Genomics Research

Institute, a non-profit research center focused on utilizing advances in genomics toward the development of early diagnostics and targeted therapies in the treatment of neurological disorders. Stephan's current research activities focus on the identification of the heritable genetic factors underlying devastating disorders such as schizophrenia, autism, bipolar disorder, ALS, Parkinson's disease, depression, and others.

2007 Margaret F. Gloninger Service Award Recipients

The Margaret F. Gloninger Service Award was established in honor of the late Margaret Fitzgerald Gloninger (MSHyg '66), GSPH graduate and former faculty member in maternal and child health. This award is presented annually to a GSPH alumnus who has made a significant contribution to GSPH or to the community through volunteer service.

Laura Rosato, (PhD '90), is the



global product regulatory stewardship and occupational health risk assessment leader for Honeywell. She

is responsible for providing support for the product stewardship issues related to toxicology, industrial hygiene, and safety for new product development and manufacturing issues on a global basis. She has had a broad variety of positions in academic, industrial, and community environments.

Rosato received a BS in biochemistry in 1981 and an MS in biochemistry in 1985 from the University of Pittsburgh. In 1990, she received a PhD in industrial toxicology from GSPH, specializing in inhalation toxicology and industrial hygiene. She has extensive experience executing safety testing programs to support the product development of industrial chemicals and consumer products and managed the toxicology/product safety program for a multi-billion-dollar corporation.

Charles Vargo (MHA '84) is a 1984



graduate of GSPH's health administration program and is also a Duquesne University School of

Business and Administration alumnus. He is executive director of the Washington Physician Hospital Organization, Inc., a partnership of The Washington Hospital and 225 primary care and specialist physicians. Previously, he was associated with the Pittsburgh Mercy Health System for 15 years, where he held various positions including vice president of medical-professional services.

Since 1993, he has served on the board of global links, a Pittsburgh-based organization with a unique dual humanitarian and environmental mission. global links collects discarded medical supplies from healthcare facilities and manufacturers' surplus and recycles them to healthcare institutions in the developing world. global links closely matches its aid to the articulated needs of the recipient to ensure maximum impact on healthcare delivery and on capacity building. Since 1989, global links has donated over \$129 million worth of goods to more than 20 countries.

GSPH Alumni Society Executive Committee

Members of the Alumni Society executive committee are elected at the annual meeting. The members for year 2007-08 were elected on June 26, 2007.

Anne McGeary, MHA '85 President

If you are interesting in becoming more active in the alumni society, please contact McGeary at annemcgry@aol.com

Kristi Riccio, MPH '02
Vice President
Chad Rittle, MPH '03
Immediate Past President
Thomas Brindock, MPH '04
Secretary/Treasurer
Diego Chaves-Gnecco, MD, MPH '00
Member-at-Large
Lucas Musewe, DrPH '02

Mark Your Calendar

Member-at-Large

The annual GSPH alumni dinner will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2008, at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association in Oakland. Convocation will be on Sunday, April 27, at 5 p.m. in the Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland. Look for your invitation to arrive soon.

Faculty Research



GSPH has been selected as a study center in the National Children's Study to assess the effects of environmental and genetic factors on child and human health in the United States. The study center will manage local participant recruitment and data collection in the largest study of child and human health ever conducted in the United States. GSPH is one of 22 new study centers of the National Children's Study, a collaborative effort between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (including the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Roberta B. Ness, MD, MPH, chair of the Department of Epidemiology at GSPH, is the principal investigator of the Pittsburgh study center. The National Children's Study eventually will follow a representative sample of 100,000 children from before birth to age 21, seeking information to prevent and treat some of the nation's most pressing health problems, including autism, birth defects, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity. The Pittsburgh study locations will focus on communities in Westmoreland County, Pa., and Marion County, W.Va.

Direct-to-Consumer Drug Advertising

Julie Donohue, assistant professor of health policy and management, and her colleagues published a study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in August 2007 on pharmaceutical industry spending on and FDA regulation of direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription drugs. This controversial form of pharmaceutical promotion has important effects on public health and health care spending. Donohue found that spending on direct-to-consumer

^ Julie Donohue

advertising
has continued to increase in recent years despite criticism of the practice in the wake of safety-

related market withdrawals of heavily advertised drugs (e.g. Vioxx). In addition, the article reports that most drugs that are advertised to consumers initiate ad campaigns shortly after being approved by the FDA and that FDA monitoring of drug ads has weakened in recent years. This article generated substantial interest among the press. Donohue conducted more than a dozen radio, newspaper, and magazine interviews and stories were aired/printed in approximately 50 news outlets including Yahoo News, Business Week, the International Herald Tribune, and ABC News Radio among others.

Outstanding New Environmental Scientist

We recently learned that Cheryl Fattman, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, has been named an Outstanding New Environmental Scientist by the National Institute of Environmental Health Science. Fattman's research focuses on silicosis, a respiratory disease brought on by inhalation of silica particles. These multi-year awards were specifically designed to help establish the careers of talented young scientists who have not yet received their first RO1 grants. The program is only in its second year of funding and has made awards to only 15 scientists nationwide, but two of them have been from GSPH's Department of Environmental and Occupational Health. In its first year, the program granted an award to Patricia Opresko, PhD, also an assistant professor in EOH.

Statistical Collaboration Across Disciplines

Last year, the Department of Biostatistics had primary responsibility for the statistical—and often data processing—components of research that totals more than \$120 million in National Institutes of Health funding. Major collaborations exist with the Department of Psychiatry, the Department of Medicine, the Department of Radiology, the Department of Critical Care Medicine, and the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

International Training

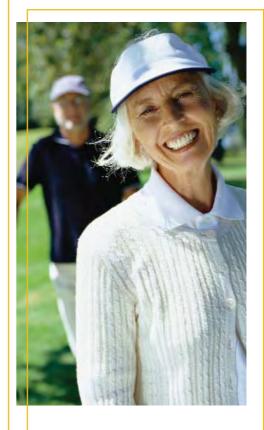
In January 2007, faculty from the Department of Human Genetics—Daniel Weeks, PhD; Eleanor Feingold, PhD; Michael Barmada, PhD; Betsy Gettig, MS; and Lisa Parker, PhD—taught a workshop titled "Genetic Epidemiological Methods for Dissection of Complex Human Traits" in Kolkata, India, sponsored by the NIH/Fogarty India-U.S. Research Training Program in Genetics. Attended by students from throughout India, this workshop provided training in statistical methodologies for the analyses of data on complex traits and disorders, as well as in research ethics in human genetics.

A Single Molecule Gives Clues to Many Disease Processes

Scientists in the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology discovered that DC-SIGN, a molecule that normally acts in antigen presentation and cell trafficking, is the major receptor for Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus, and could therefore serve as a new target for therapeutic drugs against Kaposi's sarcoma. Researchers also discovered that B lymphocytes express DC-SIGN and use this in a new pathway of transmission of HIV-1 to T cells, where the virus undergoes enhanced replication, implicating this process in the pathogenesis and persistence of HIV-1 infection.

Tool to Measure Alzheimer's Therapies

A measure designed by Steven M. Albert, PhD, MSPH, MA, professor of behavioral and community health sciences, called the Activity and Affect Indicators of Quality of Life (AAIQOL), was translated into 11 languages for use in a European Alzheimer's disease therapeutic trial. It went through a rigorous back translation process undertaken by the MAPI Institute (Lyon, France). The measure is now available for use in Austria, Belgium (French, Dutch), Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, UK (English), and the United States (English, Spanish).



Faculty Honors

Donald S. Burke, MD, dean of GSPH and University of Pittsburgh associate vice chancellor for global health, has been named an Ambassador in Research!America's Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research. Burke is now one of 50 of the nation's foremost global health experts who have joined forces to increase awareness about the critical need for greater U.S. public and private investment in research to improve global health. The society, named for The Honorable Paul G. Rogers, a former Florida congressman and renowned champion for research to improve health, was established in 2006 by Research! America with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. In its first two years, the Society's Advisory Council—which includes three Nobel Laureates—selected 50 of the nation's leading scientist advocates to serve as ambassadors.



Bernard Goldstein,

MD, professor of environmental and occupational health, chairs the board of directors of the National Board

of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE), established in September 2005 as an independent organization to ensure that students and graduates from schools and programs of public health accredited by the Council on Education of Public Health (CEPH) have mastered the knowledge and skills relevant to contemporary public health. The board developed a voluntary credentialing exam for graduates who earn masters or doctoral degrees from the 37 public health schools and 65 programs

accredited by the Council on Education of Public Health (CEPH). The first exam will be given in August 2008.

Goldstein was also chosen as the first chair of the new Interest Group on Environmental Health and Toxicology formed by the Institute of Medicine (IOM). The IOM uses interest groups to provide an opportunity for members to interact across disciplines, enrich their understanding of pertinent scientific and policy topics, and contribute to the work of the institute.

Ronald LaPorte (PhD '76), professor of epidemiology, was appointed by



Dean Burke to lead the school's multidisciplinary master of public health (MMPH) program. LaPorte was trained as a cognitive psy-

chologist before taking postdoctoral training in epidemiology. He has been on the faculty in GSPH's Department of Epidemiology since 1981, during which time he has published 513 articles and has completed research in diabetes, injuries, and many other areas. He is the director for disease monitoring and telecommunications at the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre at Pitt and was the principal investigator for the WHO multinational project for childhood diabetes.

He was the first recipient of the Distinguished Teacher Award at the University of Pittsburgh and winner of the Lilienfeld award from the American Public Health Association for lifetime achievements in education. He is most proud of his former students, which include a dean, a chancellor, four center directors, and chairpersons around the world. He believes that "the best mentor is one whose students surpass him". His primary efforts now are in the area global education in prevention with the establishment of the Supercourse (www.pitt.edu/~super1).

Judith Lave, PhD, professor of health economics and chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, was reappointed to the Board of Health Services of the Institute of Medicine.

Sati Mazumdar, PhD, professor of biostatistics, was selected as a fellow of the American Statistical Association, the nation's preeminent professional statistical society. Mazumdar was honored in recognition of her outstanding professional contributions to and leadership in the field of statistical science.



At the annual meeting of the American College of Epidemiology (ACE) in September, Roberta
Ness, MD,

MPH, was announced as the group's president-elect for 2007-08. Ness is professor of epidemiology, medicine, and obstetrics/gynecology at Pitt; chair of the Department of Epidemiology at GSPH; director of GSPH's Women's Health Program; and director of cancer epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. Ness has been at the forefront of women's health research, being one of the first

to propose the research paradigm now termed "gender-based biology."

Wesley Rohrer, PhD, assistant professor and assistant chair of health management education, chaired the health policy and management subcommittee of the NBPHE Study Guide Working Group that is preparing the NBPHE Public Health Credential Study Guide. NBPHE is the group that is developing the MPH credentialing exam.

Joseph J. Schwerha, MD, MPH, professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational



Health, is the co-author of a recent report issued by the Institute of Medicine (IOM). Training Physicians for Public Health

Careers was created by a committee of pre-eminent public health professionals and physicians. Schwerha was the only member of the committee to have an appointment in a school of public health, lending credibility to the training provided to physicians by the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health.

The report is a result of a U.S. Congressional mandate to the IOM. Concerned about a lack of well-trained physicians, IOM launched a study to determine what knowledge and skills are needed by public health physicians, the number of programs needed to maintain an adequate supply of physicians trained for public health careers, and how these programs can be funded.

Ronald D. Stall, PhD, was appointed



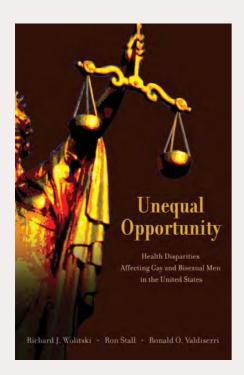
chair of the
Department of
Behavioral and
Community
Health Sciences.
Stall is an internationally recognized scholar
and pioneer in

the field of identifying HIV/AIDS risk behavior. He has established several key areas for HIV prevention through his recognition of the issue of relapse in HIV risk behaviors, the influence of substance abuse on sexual risk behavior, AIDS risk behaviors among older Americans, and the syndemics of drug use, depression, violence, and childhood sexual abuse, among other topics.

Stall joined the GSPH faculty in 2005, during which time he assumed the directorship of GSPH's Multidisciplinary Master of Public Health (MMPH) program, served as a professor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, and was appointed an assistant dean of GSPH.

The Society for Risk Analysis awarded Felicia Wu, PhD, assistant professor of environmental and occupational health, the highly prestigious 2007 Chauncey Starr Award, which each year honors the individual aged 40 or under who has made the most exceptional contributions to the field of risk analysis. Wu specializes in the use of risk and economic analysis in environmental health and policy. One of her main research areas is indoor air quality.

Books by Faculty



Unequal Opportunity:

Health Disparities Affecting Gay and Bisexual Men in the United States

Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences chair Ronald Stall, PhD, MPH, co-edited a book published by Oxford University Press on health disparities among American gay men, the first volume to do so in this emerging field of study. (Wolitski, R., Stall, R., and Valdiserri, R., Unequal Opportunity: Health Disparities Affecting Gay and Bisexual Men in the United States, Oxford University Press: Oxford, UK, 2007.)

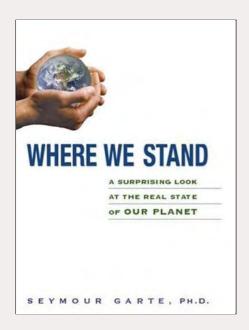
Gay and bisexual men have often been invisible in health disparities research. As a result, the specific needs and experiences of gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM) are often neglected in public health efforts to improve the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged groups. Most public health students, academicians, and practitioners recognize the association between racial/ethnic minority status and the disproportionate burden of preventable disease in the United States. Much less attention has been directed, however, toward health disparities that affect gay and bisexual men. These disparities affect the lives of an estimated 5.3-7.4 million American men, and are an important concern for public health.

Until very recently, the relative invisibility of this group and a paucity of empirical data have hampered attempts to identify health disparities experienced by gay and bisexual men. This book reviews and synthesizes evidence of health disparities among gay and bisexual men, identifies individual and community factors that contribute to these disparities, and articulates strategies for public health efforts to eliminate disparities. To date, these disparities have been largely discussed in isolation in the research literature in a manner that does not permit a comprehensive examination of these problems, their underlying causes, and potential solutions. Thus, a primary emphasis of the book is to document health disparities among gay and bisexual men while also describing public health solutions to these challenges.

At the American Public Health
Association annual meeting in
Washington, DC, in November, Stall
joined his fellow editors in a scientific
session about topics covered in the
book. Stall presented a developmental
model that links the effects of key
stressors experienced by many MSM
with negative health outcomes. In
addition, he outlined future directions
for research and prevention of health
disparities among MSM.



books by

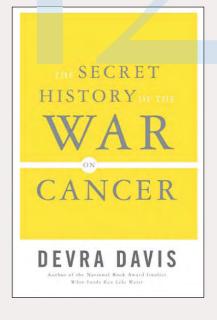


About the book, Dr. Garte writes the following: "When it comes to environmental pollution, longevity, infant mortality, diet and nutrition, conservation of species, and many other human health and welfare issues, the human population is doing great. 'How can this be true?' you ask. 'Is this guy an apologist for the right wing, industrial, polluting, corporate pillagers of the Earth?' Actually I'm not. I'm a professor at GSPH and have been an active participant in environmental and public health related research and practice for 30 years."

Where We Stand:

A Surprising Look at the Real State of our Planet

GSPH Visiting Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health Seymour Garte, PhD, published Where We Stand: A Surprising Look at the Real State of the Planet. Written for the general public and containing historical, philosophical, political, and scientific treatments of the global progress that has been made in the environment, public health, and quality of life for humanity, the book has a uniquely positive and hopeful viewpoint, in a sea of depressing and frightening literature in the field.



The Secret History of the War on Cancer

In early October, GSPH Epidemiology Professor Devra Davis, PhD, MPH, released a new book positing that the war on cancer was first run by leaders of industries that made cancer-causing products and sometimes also profited from drugs and technologies for finding and treating the disease. Filled with compelling personalities and neverbefore-revealed information, *The Secret History of the War on Cancer* shows how we began fighting the wrong war with the wrong weapons against the wrong enemies—a legacy that persists to this day.

The book discusses the major public health efforts diverted and distorted for private gain that is about to be reclaimed. The recent launch of green efforts in health care and other businesses provides a vital new public health front that gets rid of known and suspected cancer-causing materials and promotes safer choices.

Centers

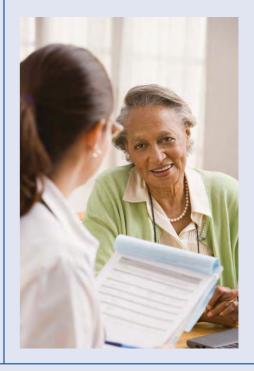


for Minority Health

To reach out to people who might not otherwise have routine access to health care providers, the Center for Minority Health (CMH) presented the sixth annual "Take a Health Professional to the People Day" on Thursday, September 20, at ten local barbershops and beauty salons. Teams of volunteer physicians, nurses, public health educators, dentists, and pharmacists from the University's Schools of the Health Sciences and Duquesne University School of Nursing, as well as health advocates from across the city, traveled to the East End, Hill District, and Oakland neighborhoods as part of CMH's novel community outreach effort to build trust and provide potentially life-saving information and health screenings needed to promote health and prevent disease in the African-American community.

In other CMH news, the center was awarded a five-year, \$4.8 million grant to establish a Research Center of Excellence in Minority Health Disparities by the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The new multi-year grant positions CMH as a national center of excellence in translating evidence-based research into community-based interventions designed to prevent disease and promote health in Pittsburgh's African-American community.

"This NIH funding will help our efforts to improve the translation of scientific findings into interventions that contribute to the elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities," said Stephen B. Thomas, PhD, CMH director and the grant's principal investigator. The Research Center of Excellence in Minority Health Disparities will embed rigorous scientific research within The Healthy Black Family Project."



Center for Public Health Practice

The following centers and projects are based in the Center for Public Health Practice:

The Center for Public Health
Preparedness developed the
Pennsylvania Public Health Law Bench
Book in cooperation with the
Administrative Office of Pennsylvania
Courts to help Pennsylvania Courts
address the unprecedented challenges
of an age of political unrest, global
travel, and emerging biological threats.
The bench book provides Pennsylvania
judges with the critical information
they need when presented with public
health cases.

Between June and August 2007, the Pennsylvania Preparedness Leadership Institute trained 51 public health, emergency management, emergency medical, hospital, and public safety preparedness professionals in preparedness leadership. These 1,692 hours of training, with the required team projects, will help improve the commonwealth's Regional Counter-Terrorism Task Force's ability to prepare for and respond to an emergency or disaster.

From March 2006 to March 2007 (the HRSA reporting cycle), CPHP's Pennsylvania & Ohio Public Health Training Center (POPHTC) reached 1,390 public health professionals through a total of 44 trainings utilizing Web casts, phone conferences, and "live" (classroom or conference) venues. Regarding a subcontract to CPHP from the Allegheny County Department of Health (ACHD), Jo Ann Glad, RN, MPH, epidemiology manager, Environmental Capacity Building Project, ACHD, said, "The value of this partnership [with POPHTC] cannot be overstated. POPHTC trainings helped link program staff to other disciplines both

inside and outside the agency and to develop new approaches to dealing with day-to-day public health activities. In addition, POPHTC has been useful in problem solving extramural activities for our grant and agency, conference finance and planning, material support, printing, disseminating best practices, and supporting projects at the local level. Without this partnership these activities might otherwise have not been realized."

The Pittsburgh Influenza Prevention Project (PIPP), funded by a two-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is evaluating the effectiveness of non-pharmaceutical interventions against outbreaks of influenza in schools and homes. PIPP has been working closely with the Pittsburgh Public Schools and other partners to develop influenza prevention systems. Among the educational activities undertaken to inform children about ways to avoid getting the flu was a poster project called Whack the Flu. Here are a few of the student-drawn posters from Dilworth Traditional Academy:





The non-partisan Pennsylvania Medicaid Policy Center (PMPC) released its Faces of the Pennsylvania Medicaid Program report in March. The report is an easy-to-understand and comprehensive look at the structure and reach of the Medicaid program in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. With rising health care costs increasing Medicaid's role in Pennsylvania's health care landscape, this report makes the intricacies of the Medicaid program more accessible to stakeholders and policymakers by providing relevant data, graphs and charts, and cutting through the lavers of complex legislative language.

"Millions of people rely on Medicaid across the nation. In Pennsylvania alone, about 15 percent of the population is enrolled in this health care program," said Judith R. Lave, PhD, PMPC director and chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management. "Not only will this report, and the work of the PMPC going forward, ensure policymakers and stakeholders are more informed as they debate critical issues about this program's future, but it also will help regular Pennsylvanians gain a greater understanding of Medicaid's scope and breadth."

Faces of the Pennsylvania Medicaid Program provides key national and state data on Medicaid compiled from multiple sources, including the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. It also includes a county-by-county look at the number and type of people covered as well as quotes from some of those people describing their experiences with Medicaid.

Development

Everyone at GSPH would like to extend a warm thank you to the people and organizations named on the following pages, each of whom made a contribution to GSPH in fiscal year 2007 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007). Philanthropists like these are vital to our ability to enhance our educational, research, and practice opportunities and compete for the best and brightest students and faculty.

We would like to add your name to this list next year, so consider making a contribution to GSPH today. It's as easy as calling 412-624-5639 or visiting www.giveto.pitt.edu.

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Adrienne & Milton Porter Charitable Foundation Alzheimer's Association American Cancer Society, Inc. American Diabetes Association American Heart Association American Physiological Society Antiques of Shadyside Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir, PC Bentz Law Firm PC Brandywine Health Foundation Brothers Brothers Foundation Buchanan Ingersoll Rooney, PC Caterpillar Foundation Centers for Healthy Hearts & Souls The Children's Institute ComMHAity Care Behavioral Health Organization Cystic Fibrosis Foundation DSF Charitable Foundation Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC The Ellison Medical Foundation **Entergy Corporation** ExxonMobil Foundation The Foster Charitable Trust Gateway Health Plan, Inc. **GE** Foundation Gidas-Thompson's Flowers GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Gullifty's Restaurant Vira I. Heinz Endowment Heritage Valley Health System, Inc. Highmark Caring Foundation Howard Heinz Endowment Human Frontier Science Program Organization Jewish Healthcare Foundation of Pittsburgh Johnson & Johnson Kevin J. Mossier Foundation Maggie & Stella's Cards and Gifts Markel Schafer & Goldman Matis Baum Rizza O'Connor McGolf McIntyre, Hartye, & Schmitt The Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh Meyer, Darragh, Buckler, Bebenek & Eck Mon Valley Education Consortium NAIMAThe National Society of Genetic Counselors Needlepoint & Counter Point North Penn ComMHAity Health Foundation Ophthalmic Research Associates,

Incorporated

Pew Charitable Trusts

The Pfizer Foundation, Inc.

Owl Cleaners

Student Award Established in 2007

Upon the retirement of Russell Rule Rycheck (MPH '59, DrPH '65), a group of his friends, family, and colleagues established the Russell Rule Rycheck Award for a Promising Public Health Student in his honor. Through a competitive process, MPH students apply for the Rycheck Award for expenses such as travel to a public health conference, membership in a professional organization, textbooks, courses scientific writing, or special research projects. Dr. Rycheck has been part of the Department of Epidemiology for 42 years, first as a student, then as a faculty member.

Pietragallo, Bosick & Gordon LLP Pittsburgh Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Pittsburgh Associates The Pittsburgh Foundation Pittsburgh Pirates POISE Foundation Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation The Procter & Gamble Fund Quest Diagnostics Incorporated The Roy A. Hunt Foundation Staff of The William Jeanes Memorial Library Strategy One, Inc. Thomson Rhodes & Cowie UGI Corporation United Way of Allegheny County UPMC Presbyterian Hospital VA Cooperative Studies Program Venture Outdoors Veralight, Inc. William Jeanes Memorial Library Board of Directors Windham Winery World Federalist Association WPAHS Corporate/Hospital Finance

Events



Convocation

Helene D. Gayle, MD, MPH, president and CEO of CARE USA, was the speaker at the 2007 GSPH convocation on April 28, 2007. She delivered a passionate address on global public health. With programs in some 70 countries, CARE helps people in poor communities expand the control they have over their own lives to advance positive, enduring social change.

Public Health Policy: Smoking

Clearing the Smoke in Pennsylvania: A Call to Action for the Graduate School of Public Health was held on April 20, 2007. This day of presentations led to the formation of the Reduce Smoking and Exposure to Tobacco (ReSET) Center at the University of Pittsburgh



in June 2007. The mission of the ReSET Center is to reduce tobacco exposure regionally, nationally, and globally through research and education. The ReSET Center is chaired by GSPH Dean Donald S. Burke, MD, and is co-chaired by Steven Shapiro, MD, chairman of the Department of Medicine at the University and Ronald B. Herberman, MD, founding director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. The executive director of ReSET is Stephanie R. Land, PhD, research assistant professor of biostatistics at GSPH.

In December, ReSET accepted applications from Pitt students and faculty for pilot grants in tobacco research and control. The funding is for pilot or small projects that are not likely to be funded by existing extramural programs. The ReSET Pilot Program provides seed money, on a short-term basis, to support research activities which represent a first step towards the pursuit of more comprehensive funding opportunities.

An Evening of Casual Elegance

To support the further development and sustainability of The Healthy Black Family Project (HBFP), the Center for Minority Health initiated a \$1 million fundraising campaign with a gala event on October 6, 2007. The DSF Charitable Foundation, under a challenge grant, will provide a 150 percent match for every dollar raised for the HBFP. The HBFP is an innovative community-based



^ The Center for Minority Health hosted An Evening of Casual Elegance to kick off a fundraising campaign for its Healthy Black Family Project. CMH was awarded a challenge grant from the DSF Charitable Foundation, which pledged a \$1.50 match for every dollar raised, up to \$1 million, for a total possible grant from DSF of \$1.5 million.

health promotion and disease prevention intervention designed to reduce and prevent diabetes and hypertension in Pittsburgh's African-American community. Interventions include physical activity, nutrition education, smoking cessation, stress management, and self-management of chronic disease. To date, more than 6,000 people have enrolled in the program.



^ From left: William Strickland, president and CEO of Manchester Bidwell Corporation, Nicholas Beldecos, executive director of the DSF Charitable Foundation, GSPH Dean Donald Burke, and Stephen B. Thomas, director of the Center for Minority Health

Lecture

The Department of Human Genetics hosted the 4th Annual C.C. Li Memorial Lecture on April 27, 2007. Dr. Newton E. Morton, senior professorial fellow in human genetics, University of Southampton, presented the lecture, "The Two Faces of Population Genetics."



C.C. Li Memorial The Jay L. Foster Memorial **Lectures on Alzheimer's Disease**

The family of the late Jay L. Foster established this memorial lecture series

^ Lon S. Schneider, MD

family members, caregivers, and others who are faced with the daily struggle of dealing

to educate

with Alzheimer's disease. From their own experience, they learned that knowledge about the illness is an important factor in coping with its effects on family and friends, especially the pain of watching a loved one decline.

For the first five years of its existence, the annual Foster Lectures—one for the lay community and one for the scientific and medical communities—were delivered on the same day by the same speaker. For the first time in 2007, the two lectures were separated, with the community lecture in the spring or summer and the scientific lecture in the fall. In addition, the Foster family generously agreed to fund the series for an additional five years.

The community lecture was delivered on July 17 by Mary Guerriero Austrom, PhD, the Wesley P. Martin Professor of Alzheimer Disease Education in the Department of Psychiatry, Indiana University School

of Medicine, and the director of the Education Core at the Indiana Alzheimer's Disease Center. Her lecture, titled "Caring and Coping: Issues in Late-Stage Alzheimer's Disease," focused on strategies for caregivers.

The scientific lecture, "Do Anti-Dementia Drugs Really Work? Effectiveness of Cholinesterase Inhibitors, Memantine, and Antipsychotics," was presented by Lon S. Schneider, MD, professor of psychiatry and neurology at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine and professor of gerontology at the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology on November 12.





Attendees at the scientific lecture, top. and the community lecture, above.

Events

The John C. Cutler Global Health Lecture

Willard Cates Jr., MD, MPH, president of research for Family Health International, a leading nonprofit international public health organization that manages research and field activities in more than 70 countries, gave the fourth annual Cutler Lecture on November 27. The lecture, titled "Sexual Health and Personal Choices: John Cutler's Quiet Legacy," explored the transition of family planning as a public health field to the broader context of reproductive health, including STD and HIV. It examined the role of contraceptive choice and population growth in today's world and presented a vision for a broader approach, and paid tribute to the many contributions to the field by John Cutler and others at the University of Pittsburgh.



^ Members of the Cutler Lecture Committee, front row from left: Elise Cutler, Maggie McDonald, Lois Michels. Back row from left: Michael Dalmat, speaker Ward Cates, Stuart Strall, Don Burke.



Provost's Inaugural Lecture for the UPMC-Jonas Salk Chair in Global Health

GSPH Dean Donald S. Burke's lecture, "Horizons of Responsibility—and Opportunity—in Global Health," marked his official installation as the first holder of the UPMC-Jonas Salk Chair in Global Health. The lecture took place on December 18 in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium and was





attended by nearly 200 people, including Chancellor Mark Nordenberg, Provost James Maher, Senior Vice Chancellor Arthur Levine, and Peter Salk, the eldest son of Jonas Salk.

Dean Burke reviewed his career in global health and presented a "score-card" indicating whether various of his major undertakings met their stated objectives, improved health in the host countries where he worked, and improved health here in the United States.

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Top photo: From left: Peter Salk, Jane Burke, Don Burke, Ruth Levine, Arthur Levine, Loren Roth, and Tom Detre.

Bottom photo: Members of Dean Burke's family helped him celebrate after the lecture. From left: Brother-in-law Robert Brownson, sister Ginny Brownson, Dean Burke, wife Jane Burke, son-in-law Sean Kerstetter, and daughter Jessica Burke.

APHA/ASPH Reception

GSPH Dean
Don Burke
chats with
alumna
Marlene Lugg,
DrPH,
at the GSPH
reception at the
American Public
Health
Association
annual
meeting in
Washington, DC



The reception brings together GSPH alumni, faculty, students, and staff. The next APHA Annual Meeting will take place in San Diego October 25-29, 2008.



ACHE Reception



GSPH alumnae Diane Howard, PhD, (left) and Diane Peterson, MPH, enjoy the alumni reception at the American College of Healthcare Executives meeting in New Orleans.

Mark Your Calendar

The GSPH Alumni Reception at the American College of Healthcare Executives Congress on Healthcare Leadership will take place on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. Join faculty and alumni for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Skyway 265.

The next C.C. Li Memorial Lecture will take place on Friday, April 4, 2008, noon – 1:00 p.m., A115 Crabtree. The speaker will be Robert C. Elston, PhD, director of the Division of Genetic Epidemiology at Case Western Reserve University.

Convocation 2008 will take place on Sunday, April 27.

The next Foster Community Lecture will be held on Friday, May 16, 2008, at 1 p.m. at Rodef Shalom Congregation in Pittsburgh. The speaker is Lisa P. Gwyther, MSW, associate clinical professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University Medical Center. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Didyou know...

All lectures mentioned on this page can be viewed online for free at www.publichealth.pitt.edu/ lecturearchive.

Mark Your Calendar

Dean's Day

Friday, March 7, 2008, GSPH Community Common

GSPH's annual showcase of student research and practice projects will culminate in an awards presentation. For more information, visit www.publichealth.pitt.edu and click on Events.

American College of Healthcare Executives Alumni Reception

Tuesday, March 11, 2008, Hyatt Regency, Chicago

In conjunction with the ACHE annual meeting. Meeting registration is not required for reception attendance. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.publichealth.pitt.edu/ACHE2008.

University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Winter Academy

Saturday, March 15, 2008, Phoenix

Dean Burke will be making a presentation on global health. For more information, visit www.winteracademy.pitt.edu.

Smoke-Free South Side Celebration

Wednesday, March 19, 2008, 4-6:30 p.m., Club Café, 56 South 12th Street

Sponsored by the Reduce Smoking and Exposure to Tobacco (ReSET) Center, this unique event will combine information on tobacco control with a tasting of locally brewed beer. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. To sign up, visit www.publichealth.pitt.edu and click on Events.

C.C. Li Memorial Lecture

Friday, April 4, 2008, noon – 1 p.m., A115 Crabtree Hal The speaker will be Robert C. Elston, PhD, director, Division of Genetic Epidemiology, Case Western Reserve University.

National Public Health Week

April 7-11, 2008

The theme is Climate Change: Our Health in the Balance

Anne C. Sonis Lecture

Thursday, April 17, 2008, noon – 1 p.m., Room S120 SBTWR; reception, 1 – 2:30 p.m., S100A BST

Karen Davis, PhD, president of the Commonwealth Fund, will present a lecture titled, "Health Care: Solutions Without Borders." For more information, visit www.crhc.pitt.edu.

Alumni Dinner

Saturday, April 26, 2008, 4 p.m. Pittsburgh Athletic Association

Join us for this festive celebration which will include the presentation of alumni awards and welcoming our graduates as the newest members of the GSPH Alumni Association.

GSPH Convocation

Sunday, April 27, 2008, 5 p.m., Carnegie Music Hall



Graduate School of Public Health A600 Crabtree Hall 130 DeSoto Street Pittsburgh, PA 15261 NONPROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PITTSBURGH, PA PERMIT NO. 511