On Wednesday April 5th at noon, Dr. Devon Hinton will deliver the 8th Annual World Health Day Symposium on "Trauma, Culture and Complex PTSD: Cambodian Genocide Survivors."

Devon Hinton, MD, PhD, is an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine. He is a board-certified psychiatrist and an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. After receiving his M.D., Dr. Hinton completed his medical internship and his residency in psychiatry at Harvard Medical School (Longwood program). He also has a Ph.D. in Medical Anthropology from Harvard University.

Dr. Hinton’s major clinical and research interests include the culturally sensitive assessment and treatment of PTSD and panic disorder in traumatized refugee and ethnic minority populations. He is fluent in several languages, including Cambodian and Spanish. He has served as a principal investigator on numerous studies examining the phenomenology and treatment of PTSD, panic attacks, and panic disorder in Southeast Asian (Cambodian, Laotian, Vietnamese) and Latino populations.

Dr. Hinton is a member of the DSM-V Cultural Study subgroup and an advisor to the Anxiety, OC, Posttraumatic, and Dissociative Disorders Work Group of DSM–V (American Psychiatric Association). He is the author of over 130 articles and over 30 chapters, and is the co-editor of four volumes, including Culture and PTSD: Trauma in Global and Historical Perspective (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015).

Dr. Hinton’s lecture will describe how culture profoundly shapes the experiencing of trauma. The talk will illustrate how severe trauma results in an array of symptoms that are then interpreted in terms of the local conceptions of the mind, body, and the spiritual. He will focus on Cambodian examples. Cambodian refugees are survivors of the Khmer Rouge genocide (1975-1979), one of the worst of the last century, during which ¼ of the population perished. As will be shown, cultural syndromes—such as “khyâl attack,” which is one of the cultural concepts of distress in DSM-5—profoundly pattern the interpretation of anxiety symptoms, including how patients go about treating those symptoms and the interpersonal course of symptoms. As other examples, dreams are interpreted according to spiritual beliefs, and symptoms like orthostatic panic are a key part of the local trauma ontology. A model of how somatic symptoms and distress more generally are generated among trauma victims is presented, a model that guides our culturally adapted CBT for trauma victims.
American Society of BMT (ASBMT) Poster Presenters

Dr. Calixto Hernandez Cruz (in the photo) from Hermanos Ameijeiras Hospital in Havana, Cuba, and Dr. Damiano Rondelli presented a poster at the meeting of the American Society of Blood & Marrow Transplant (ASBMT) held in Orlando, FL, on February 22-26. The collaboration between UIC CGH and Dr. Hernandez Cruz in Cuba started last spring when our Cuban colleague spent two months at UIC to train in new protocols for bone marrow transplantation (BMT). Drs. Hernandez Cruz and Rondelli also started a research collaboration to analyze the data from a 30-year experience of BMT in patients with acute leukemia in Cuba. The results of the research were presented at the meeting. The ASBMT meeting also provided an opportunity for Dr. Rondelli to discuss future global health projects with other collaborators of the UIC #GlobalBMT project, such as Dr. Hernandez Cruz from Cuba and two doctors from Ramaiah University (Drs. Santoh Kumar and Sumathi), Bangalore, India.

CGH Hosting Fulbright Scholar

During the 2016/2017 academic year, the University of Illinois at Chicago Center for Global Health is hosting a Fulbright scholar, Mr. Oleksandr Zvinchuk, a research scientist from Department of Medical and Social Problems of Family Health at the Institute of Pediatrics, Obstetrics, and Gynecology of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine. Oleksandr is one of approximately one thousand international faculty and professionals chosen to visit the US through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program in 2016-2017. The program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

Mr. Zvinchuk is working with UIC CGH on several projects, including:

- Analysis of data from the Family and Children of Ukraine birth cohort study to determine early childhood predictors of risky behavior in adolescence. These data analyses are underway and shows remarkable results, especially regarding the importance of a father during the first 3 years of life. We are also exploring whether certain leisure activities in adolescence (e.g. engaging in sports, tourism/travel) are protective against risky behaviors.
- Participating in joint analyses with other European birth cohorts on cross-national comparisons of maternal and childhood health and behaviors
- Conducting an analysis of previously collected data (by Mr. Zvinchuk and our team) on risk factors for non-compliance with treatment for Multiple-Drug-Resistant TB in Kyiv oblast, Ukraine.

The projects are performed at the CGH under coordination of Dr. Daniel Hryhorczuk, Director of Environmental Global Health.

On March 8-11, 2017 Mr. Zvinchuk has attended Fulbright Enrichment Seminar Building a Sustainable Future: Innovative approaches for the environment and our oceans in Los Angeles, CA. This seminar tackled environmental issues both on how they affect our urban environments and our oceans. Thoughtful environmental planning is of paramount importance in the LA region. Los Angeles County and its 88 cities is the most populous county in the US nation and faces a daunting challenge as it moves towards becoming an environmentally sustainable region. For this seminar, 87 scholars from 52 countries were engaged with local environmental leaders in the LA area and learned about what the city and community is doing to fight pollution and plan for an uncertain climate future.

DOM Global Medicine Elective—Dominican Republic

The 2017 Global Medicine Elective of the Department of Medicine was held in the Dominican Republic (DR) from February 12-23. The elective is one of the most popular educational activities of the internal medicine residency, and is a component of the Dominican Republic Project, an exchange program started in 2004 by Dr. Max Brito of the Division of Infectious Diseases. This exchange program host trainees from the Dominican Republic at UIC for clinical and scholarly rotations and facilitates educational opportunities for UIC trainees and faculty in the DR. To date, 143 UIC residents and students have traveled to the DR for clinical and/or scholarly work and more than 30 Dominican students, residents and young physicians have visited UIC. For the past two years, GMED students have participated in this elective. This year, two seniors, Patrick Lanter and Bing Li, traveled with Dr. Brito to the DR.

The objectives of the Global Medicine Elective are to expose UIC trainees to the practice of medicine in a resource-constrained setting and to provide clinical experience in tropical medicine. Trainees participate in daily morning rounds with Dominican faculty and housestaff at local hospitals and rural clinics, and attend lectures and case discussions in the afternoons. The elective includes a visit to the Dominican Tropical Medicine Institute where trainees receive hands-on instruction on peripheral smears and other diagnostic techniques for arboviral diseases. They also learn to recognize disease vectors in the laboratory.
Heart Rescue India Annual Meeting

Heart Rescue India faculty met in March in Bangalore, on the campus of MS Ramaiah Medical Center. The agenda for the week included meetings with local task forces, presentations by working groups, implementation of a Resuscitation Academy, and a visit from the Health Minister of the state of Karnataka.

In addition to the Center for Global Health faculty [Bellur Prabhakar, Terry VandenHoek, Marcia Edison, Rhea Begeman, Teri Campbell, Jon Hafner, Kelly Walsh, and Elizabeth Simons. The MS Ramaiah team was led, as always, by Dr. Aruna Chala Ramesh. Representatives from HRI partners University of Arizona, RTI, and the Medtronic Foundation also participated.

During the week-long visit, the HRI team worked with task forces to establish plans for upcoming activities in the areas of communications, data collection, hub-and-spoke processes, ongoing educational undertakings, and school group programs.

Certainly the most engaging and successful effort was the Resuscitation Academy, at which over 170 participants were trained over 3 days; included in the Academy were health care workers, first responders including Civil Defence volunteers, ambulance personnel from the 108 system, and students from MS Ramaiah International Medical College.

In addition, former CGH Director Tim Erickson and Head of UIC Emergency Medicine Terry Vanden Hoek reported on progress being made to establish a “Poison Control Center” in Bangalore.

Global Health and Well Being Seed Grant Program

The Chancellor’s Global Excellence Task Force and the College of Medicine’s Center for Global Health established an annual seed grant program designed to foster new trans-disciplinary and mixed and multiple methods research in global health and well-being at UIC. In particular, these grants are intended to encourage new hypothesis driven pilot research with a substantial likelihood of gaining external funding or that can be completed with a limited budget and lead to publications.

This year, four proposals were each awarded $15,000:

1. Damiano Rondelli (Hematology/Oncology): Barriers to Treatment of Malignancies in an LMIC; This study aims to identify what barriers may limit the treatment of patients with acute blood cancers in need of hospital-based chemotherapy and their families in Kathmandu (Nepal) and to develop new strategies addressing some of these barriers through the collaboration of patients, families, health care providers, and social/religious counselors.
2. Samuel Dorevitch (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): Evaluation of a Solar-Powered Drinking Water Disinfection Device in Kisumu, Kenya; This study will deploy a solar powered disinfection unit in 10 homes in the Kisumu area in order to characterize usage, user perceptions, and water quality impacts.
3. Gelila Goba (Obstetrics & Gynecology): Ethiopia Cervical Cancer Screening Evaluation and Cost-Analysis Study; This study aims to identify the most effective method for cervical cancer screening in Ethiopia based on evaluation of the national screening program and cost-analysis of alternative screening approaches.
4. Molly Doane (Anthropology): Cultivating Wellbeing: The Cultural and Ecological Significance of Urban Gardens in Chicago; This study will investigate the role of urban garden in promoting a sense of health and wellbeing of low-income, refugee, and new immigrant communities in Chicago; and in the overall health of their wider environment.

Prior awardees have gone on to successfully publish their findings and receive grants for further study.

Otology Fellowship Training Program—Addis Ababa Ethiopia

New collaboration between St. Paul’s Hospital and Millennium Medical College – Addis Ababa Ethiopia and UI Health Otolaryngology—Head Neck & Surgery

The first Otology Fellowship training program in Ethiopia began in January 2017. The program is based at St. Paul’s Hospital and Millennium Medical College and was organized by Dr. Miriam Redleaf (UIH) and Dr. Es-Hak Bedri (Honorary faculty at St. Paul’s and UIH). The four Fellows will spend 2 years concentrating on performing and teaching ear surgery, and teaching courses in temporal bone dissection, endoscopic ear surgery and neurotology. The goal is to have each Fellow return to his/her respective University to supervise medical students and ENT residents starting January 2019.

Dr. Alene Meshesha and Dr. Nebiat Teferi, Fellows in the program, have performed the first two cochlear implants ever in Ethiopia. Both implants were performed without any intraoperative or postoperative complications and activations on January 23, 2017. In another notable advance, the four Otology Fellows also have performed the first endoscopic ear surgeries in Ethiopia, using a video monitor and an endoscopic telescope to see the middle ear with greater detail than with a microscope.

Dr. Nebiat Tefere, implant surgeon (left) and his patient Hulud Bahnu (right) with the patients parents,
The range of global health projects around the world led by members of the UIC Center for Global Health (UIC-CGH) focuses on innovation in education, research and service, with the aim of reducing health inequities and seeking solutions for a variety of global health problems. The projects pursued by our team of global health leaders represents many medical specialties, leveraging their expertise to help resolve complex global health issues. Currently, we have ongoing education and research programs in more than 16 countries, which are related to Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Environmental Toxicology, Global Mental Health, Global Cancer, Acute Cardiovascular Care, Maternal-Fetal Health and Alternative-Integrative Medicine.

The current projects include reducing mental illness resulting from migration in Kosovo and Tajikistan lead by Dr. Stevan Weine; Bone marrow transplantation programs in India, Nepal and Chicago to treat patients suffering from cancer and genetic disorders such as sickle cell anemia, Thalassemia and congenital dyserythropoietic anemia lead by Dr. Damiano Rondelli; Energy security and health in Ukraine lead by Dr. Daniel Hryhorczuk; Capacity building projects for disaster risk reduction in Haiti by Dr. Janet Lin; early cancer screening in Senegal by Dr. Andrew Dykens and enhanced clinical experience in Uganda by Dr. Stacey Chamberlain; HIV and ZIKA prevention in Dominical Republic by Dr. Max Brito; Heart Rescue projects supported by Medtronic Philanthropy in Illinois and India to reduce mortality associated with cardiac arrest lead by Dr. Terry Vanden Hoek, Bellur S. Prabhakar, Marcia Edison, Rhea Begeman and Teri Campbell. Additionally, these projects are providing extraordinary opportunities for our medical students who are on special track to pursue education and training in Global Medicine (GMED).

None of these projects be possible if not for the deep commitment to improve global health and the diverse expertise of the UIC-CGH members. I am very proud of the work that is being carried out by the UIC-CGH and remain very confident that it is very well positioned to continue to make a positive impact on vulnerable populations around the world.

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“We need to give each other the space to grow, to be ourselves, to exercise our diversity. We need to give each other space so that we may both give and receive such beautiful things as ideas, openness, dignity, joy, healing, and inclusion.” ~ Max de Pree~

CGH Network Meeting Presenters

January 2017
Stevan Weine and Teresa Cordova—The Chancellors Global Health and Well Being Seed Grant Program Updates

February 2017
Binay Shah—Palliative care in resource poor countries—Binaytara Foundation’s Experience

March 2017
Andrew Trotter—Advocacy for Access to Hepatitis C Treatment in Nepal: A Model for Community-based Treatment with Directly Acting Agents

GMED Spotlight—David Lee

I am a fourth-year medical student in the GMED program at the University of Illinois-Chicago. The UIC Center for Global Health has been incredibly influential in my medical education and I am tremendously grateful for having the opportunity to be a “GMEDer”. The Center has been pivotal in crafting a global health educational experience that has allowed me to supplant a traditional medical curriculum with a transformative global health perspective. Even early in my preclinical years, I got the opportunity to rotate as a student in Lima, Peru in the Emergency Room at the Hospital Nacional Cayetano Heredia Hospital and learn about the differences in national health systems. In the same summer, I was connected with a UIC CGH partner for whom I was able to assist with the establishment of a GEOHealth hub in monitoring rural environmental health hazards in the Alto Mayo region in the Peruvian Amazon.

During my clinical years, I took a leave to work on an immigrant health study with the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL). HCHS/SOL is a cohort population study housed in our Institute for Minority Health that works with 3 other sites (Miami, Bronx, and San Diego) aimed to examine cardiovascular diseases and risk factors in self-identified Hispanic individuals.

At the moment, I am completing the Epidemiology Elective Program (EEP) at the Centers for Disease Control in the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID) in Atlanta, Georgia. It’s been a great hands-on experience working with CDC epidemiologists in analyzing federal outbreak and surveillance data to detect and address emerging public health issues. I’ve been able to work on characterizing the demographics and patterns in Yersinia Enterocolitica outbreaks in the US, analyzing follow-up Salmonella Typhi isolates for emerging antibiotic resistance with the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System team.

In June, I will begin my internal medicine residency at the Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), a Harvard-affiliated primary care program, and I can say confidently I will be a better resident for having the lessons and perspectives that GMED has afforded me. There is much work to be done in global health and I am proud to be part of a graduating GMED class who isn’t intimidated in addressing the health disparity challenges that face us in our world today.