On Thursday, September 18, 2014, CGH will be holding their 2nd Annual Benefit “Working for the World” at the National Museum of Mexican Art from 6pm-9pm.

Please check our website in coming weeks for ticket information.
The National Conference on Wilderness Medicine

Center for Global Health and UIC faculty Valerie Dobiesz, Stacie Geller and Tim Erickson presented at the 2nd Annual Global Health/Humanitarian Medicine Symposium in Santa Fe, NM on May 28, 2014. This event was co-sponsored by UIC and the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, and also featured speakers from Stanford University, Harvard University, and UCLA. The conference was well-attended by health care professionals from all over the country. CME funds raised at the symposium will support our GMED Students traveling abroad for their senior capstone projects.

Think Global, Act Local

The UIC Center for Global Health will be starting a Global Health Service Learning Program for undergraduate students in the UIC Honors College. The Program is designed as two sequential seminar courses. The fall seminar will be classroom-based, introducing core global health concepts including global burden of disease, social determinants of health, cultural competency and the intersection of global health and human rights, ethics, research, and the environment, among other topics, and will also develop student competencies in project planning and teamwork. The spring seminar will build upon the concepts learned in the first semester through implementation of a service learning project in conjunction with a local community organization. Students will apply global health concepts in local settings by working in teams with an organization to plan and implement a service learning project that addresses a health-related need identified by the community. Dr. Stacey Chamberlain is the Course Director and will be designing and implementing the course; if you have a suggestion for a community organization that may be interested in collaborating with this program, please contact her at staceymd@uic.edu.

Annual M3 Disaster Drill

Faculty from the Center for Global Health, led by Dr. Janet Lin, led the annual M3 Disaster Drill in June as part of the Essentials of Clinical Practice and Professionalism 1 course for medical students. This is a mandatory course for all COM students entering their M3 year which uses case-based scenarios to educate students on procedures and concerns in mass casualty natural and man-made disasters, along with fostering an understanding of potential biologic and chemical agents that may be used in terrorist attacks. Cases this year included an influenza outbreak, sarin poisoning, and an earthquake. Students participated in the mock exercise as both providers and patients in preparation for

GEOHub Program—Kyiv, Ukraine

On June 19 and 20, Dan Hryhorczuk and Marcia Edison from the Center for Global Health travelled to Kyiv, Ukraine for a meeting to plan the upcoming application to the Fogarty International Center to participate in the GEOHub Program. In addition to the representatives from UIC, the meeting was attended by consortium partners from Ukraine, Serbia, Poland, and—via the internet—Belarus and the United States.

The GEOHub program will fund 5 research hubs in low- or middle-income countries collaborating with US universities. UIC was one of 17 institutions awarded a planning grant in 2012 to develop a proposal; our lead Ukrainian partner is the Institute of Occupational Health in Kyiv.

A year ago in Kyiv, the planning committee determined that the focus of the collaboration would be on “Energy Security and Health Protection.” Ukraine is facing difficult choices regarding its future energy policy. The international research consortium would conduct research on the occupational and environmental health impacts of various energy options that would inform and guide energy policy in the region.

At the most recent meeting, Dr. Hryhorczuk presented an overview of the Hub and the application process, Dr. Edison presented an evaluation strategy, and researchers from the participating institutes and organizations presented research results and ideas for potential research projects.
MS Ramaiah University Visits UIC

Colleagues and leaders from MS Ramaiah University visited UIC in mid-June to establish collaborative projects in Acute Cardiovascular Care, Cancer Treatment, Wellness and Traditional Medicines, and in Pediatric Surgery and Neonatology initiatives. UIC Center for Global Health faculty Dr. Bellur Prabhakar hosted this team of esteemed visitors, including:

Dr. M.R. Jayaram  
Chairman, Gurukula Education Foundation (M)  
Chancellor, M.S. Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bangalore

Mr. B.N. Subramanya  
Chief Operating Officer  
Gurukula Education Foundation, Bangalore

Dr. D.C. Sundaresh  
Distinguished Professor  
M.S. Ramaiah College of Medicine  
Pro-Vice Chancellor, M.S. Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bangalore

Dr. D.V. Guruprasad  
Chief Executive  
Gurukula Education Foundation, Bangalore

Universities Meet to Consider Global Health Challenges

The Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) held its 5th annual meeting - Universities 2.0: Advancing Global Health in the Post-MDG Era -- on May 10-12, 2014 in Washington, DC. More than 1500 leaders, researchers, educators, government officials, advocates and students from over 50 countries participated in this meeting.

President Barack Obama opened the conference with a video message in which he stated that the US is committed to being a leader in global health and development. There were 9 keynote and plenary sessions, 55 panels, symposia, workshops and sessions, as well as over 500 poster presentations. This conference brings together many disciplines that can network and develop interdisciplinary approaches to address global health challenges, and provides universities with the opportunity to collaborate to focus on identifying innovative solutions to make the world a healthier place. The next CUGH meeting will be held March 26-28, 2015 in Boston, MA.

GMED Spotlight — Tsige Gebreslasse

On April 17th 2014, I received an award to be a Research Assistant Mentorship Program (RAMP) Scholar sponsored by HIV Trials Network at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. “The HIV Vaccine Trials Network, in collaboration with the National Institute of Mental Health and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, is investing in a young generation of HIV researchers by providing scholars with structured mentoring, project and salary funding, training, and professional development activities.”

HVTN awarded me nearly $20,000 to complete a research project on “Preferences of HIV Prevention Methods in High Risk Cape Town South African communities.” The main purpose of this study is to assess Cape Town communities’ (such as Philippi, Delft, Mitchells Plain, and Khayelitsha) preference of HIV prevention methods among those recommended by the CDC and WHO. Based on the results of this study, understanding of communities’ knowledge and consideration of different prevention methods will be achieved, which I hope will contribute to reducing new infections by informing strategic education and implementation interventions. The study will also assess what is considered to be a significant barrier in reducing HIV infection—the communities’ understanding of the nature of HIV and individuals’ knowledge about available options to prevent new infection. This study investigates the knowledge and preference for prevention methods among the communities reached by Tutu Tester mobile testing in Cape Town. The Tutu mobile clinic performs general health screening and HIV testing these communities with high burden of HIV infection (~9% of population), providing a unique opportunity to collect data on prevention methods.

My mentors Dr. Linda-Gail Bekker at the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation and Dr. Richard Novak at the University of Illinois College of Medicine are world renowned physicians and researchers in HIV/AIDS, and it is has been an honor to be mentored and guided by them and their team and to work on this project during my short break from medical school.
Dr Mona Khanna presented in Sydney, Australia, at the International Rotary Convention on being a humanitarian worker in line with the Rotary motto "Service above Self."

Sae-Rom Chae, MD, MPH, participated in a global health research elective on male circumcision with the Perinatal HIV Research Unit in Johannesburg, South Africa, in addition to a clinical rotation with the Tshepong-Klerksdorp Hospital Departments of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics from Oct. 18-Nov. 13, 2013.

Dr Chae also traveled to Guaymate, Dominican Republic, from Feb. 19-Mar. 3, 2014 with a team from the UIC Departments of Internal Medicine-Pediatrics, Family Medicine, and Internal Medicine as part of the Global Community Health Track to work through Peace Care to conduct quality improvement training among local hospital staff.

Don Zeigler, PhD, was involved with two projects as a member of the Public Health Working Group of the Eurasia Foundation’s US-Russia Social Expertise Exchange. He was selected Senior Practitioner Fellow by the Foundation and, with two junior fellows, one of whom was Vadim Gershteyn (UIC MPH), and spent almost 2 months in February and March conducting site visits related to migrant health in Moscow, Kazan, Ekaterinburg and Irkutsk. Moreover, Zeigler arranged for UIC to host three Russian fellows who also participated in a US-Russia migrant health roundtable on March 14 at UIC that was co-chaired by Dr. Stevan Weine. Secondly, Zeigler presented at an international conference on "Psychiatry & Addiction Medicine in the 21st Century" in St. Petersburg, Russia on June 10, 2014. He spoke on promoting screening and counseling for high risk drinking in primary care and hospital settings in Russia and the US.

Mark Rasenick as recently invited to the annual meeting of the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology. I spoke on Evidence-Based Biomedical Science—the crisis in veracity and reproducibility. Also, this editorial was published today in Science and Diplomacy.

Maarten Bosland (Dept. Pathology) went to Ghana in January-February to try out teaching pathology top medical students and medical technology trainees at the University for Development Studies in Tamale, which went very well. Subsequently, he went to the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi to discuss potential collaboration between their developing School of Veterinary Medicine and the University of Illinois’ College of Veterinary and to prepare a visit by a young dentist, Dr. Nana Tuffuor Gyimah, to the UIC College of Dentistry in February, hosted by Dr. Richard Monahan; this visit was very successful. Finally, videoconferencing of training sessions of UIC pathology residents to the Komfo Anyoke Teaching Hospital in Kumasi was tested and is now operational to assist training of pathology residents in Ghana. Finally, pathologist Dr. Solomon Quayson of the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra was visited to discuss potential collaborations on prostate cancer research.

“Pioneering spirit should continue, not to conquer the planet or space...but rather to improve the quality of life.”

~ Bertrand Piccard ~

**CGH Network Meeting Presenters**

**April 2014—World Health Day**

Eli Y. Adashi, —"The President’s Global Health Initiative: A Requiem?"

John T. Wulu,—"Importance of Protecting our Planet’s Biodiversity Through Global Health Programs"

**May 2014**

Janet Lin, "Improving Healthcare Access & Delivery in Uganda through mHealth"

**June 2014**

Mi Ja Kim—"Rwanda Human Resources for Health Program and Its Significance to Global Health"

**July 2014**

Trevonne Thompson—"Addressing Paraquat Poisoning in Fiji and the South Pacific"

**“Where in the World…?”**

Dr Mona Khanna presented in Sydney, Australia, at the International Rotary Convention on being a humanitarian worker in line with the Rotary motto "Service above Self."

Recently, as all international eyes were focused on Brazil, host of this summer's 2014 FIFA World Cup Soccer Tournament, we were captivated while watching perennial favorites such as Brazil, Argentina, Spain and Germany matching their seemingly superior skills against underdog teams from Cameroon, Cote D’Ivoire, Costa Rica and Honduras.

The thrill of competition and national pride as well as the love of sport make these special times, which, like the Olympic games, occur once every four years. Yet despite this athletic phenomenon bringing less familiar nations together on the same field, we should be reminded of the world’s widening economic and health disparities gap, as well as many social injustices that require much more of our time, energy, passion and concerted international intervention.

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