DFMPHS Faculty Awarded
$1.37 Million, Five-Year Grant

Drs. Juliann Binienda (PI), Margit Chadwell, Kim Campbell-Voytal and Denise White-Perkins (co-I’s), Director of the Henry Ford Health System Institute on Multicultural Health, have been awarded a $1.37 million, five-year grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services to integrate population health into medical school training. This grant will be used in WSU’s School of Medicine to increase medical students’ knowledge about population health issues and reduce health disparities. The grant will also fund scholarships for some medical students to pursue an MPH degree during medical school.

Grants of this magnitude are very competitive so it is important to recognize the hard work and dedication by these individuals in securing this grant. In addition, the proposed projects funded by this grant embody our department’s vision, mission and core values to the highest degree.

For more information about this grant, go to the Wayne State School of Medicine Prognosis E-News, search “Bridges for Equity” to read the July 25, 2012 article.

DFMPHS Faculty Receive WSU SoM Faculty Awards

The Department of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences would like to recognize and congratulate the following faculty for receiving Wayne State University School of Medicine 2012 Awards at this year’s Awards Ceremony hosted by Dean Valerie Parisi and Vice Dean Roberta Sonnino on October 18.

Congratulations to each of you!!

Todd Lucas, PhD
College Teaching Award

William Murdoch, MD
College Teaching Award

Judith Arnetz PhD, MPH, PT
Research Excellence Award—Clinical Departments, Associate Professor

James Meza, MD
Excellence in Clinical Science Training

Juliann Binienda, PhD
Kim Campbell-Voytal, PhD

Tweet from Chair,
John M. Boltri, MD, FAAFP

I continue to be amazed by our department’s accomplishments and you will see why when you read on. Thanks to all who make the DFMPHS a success!

Look

Find this issue’s hidden word. When you find the word, send an email to jmagdale@med.wayne.edu with the article title and line where you found the word. You will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a $20 Subway gift card.

translationary

Mission Statement

We are committed to improving the health, well-being, and environment of individuals, families, and communities by advancing the science and practice of family medicine and public health through innovation and excellence in research and education.
The Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences is pleased to welcome Drs. Hendriks, Otremba and Ghosh.

Dr. Erin Hendriks is a clinical educator in the WSU / Crittenton Family Medicine Residency Program in Rochester. She completed her Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from The University of Michigan in 2003, and graduated with high distinction from Wayne State University School of Medicine in 2008. She completed her residency in Family Medicine at Beth Israel Medical Center in Manhattan, New York in 2011, and completed a one year fellowship in Reproductive Health and Advocacy at Beth Israel in New York. She received multiple awards and honors including Alpha Omega Alpha Society membership at Wayne State University, the Einstein College of Medicine Teaching Award at Beth Israel Medical Center, and the Janet M. Glasgow Memorial Achievement Citation from the American Medical Women’s Association.

Dr. John Otremba also joined the WSU / Crittenton Family Medicine Residency Program in Rochester as a clinical educator. Dr. Otremba completed his Bachelors of Health Sciences at Wayne State University in 2003 and Doctor of Pharmacy at Wayne State University in 2005 where he was on the Dean’s List and received The Presidential Scholarship. Dr. Otremba completed his Doctor of Medicine from Wayne State University School of Medicine in 2009 where he received the Board of Governor’s scholarship and graduated with honors. He completed his residency in Family Medicine at The Toledo Hospital in Toledo, Ohio where he was chief resident. He is unique as a Doctor of Pharmacy as well as a medical doctor; he brings a distinctive skill set to WSU.

Dr. Samiran Ghosh joins us as an Assistant Professor. Previously Dr. Ghosh taught at the State University of New York – Stony Brook. He received his undergraduate degree in 1997 and an MS in computer science in 2002. Dr. Ghosh was awarded a PhD in statistics from the University of Connecticut in 2006. His graduate training was centered on statistics in both medical and industrial research. He has a strong mathematical background in addition to his statistics training. He is a biostatistician focused on survival analysis, quality of life assessment, linear models, and psychological and health services. His broad training and experience has allowed him to contribute to statistics, particularly in the areas of statistical computing, machine learning and high dimensional data analysis involving collaborative research. His education, expertise and experience will serve us well. His expertise will be shared between the DFMPHS and the Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics.

Congratulations to Kim Campbell-Voytal, PhD, RN on being awarded a fellowship in the Grant Generating Project at Virginia Commonwealth University Department of Family Medicine.
**Bengt Arnetz Appointed Deputy Director of The Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (IEHS)**

Bengt B. Arnetz, MD, PhD, has been appointed the Deputy Director of Wayne State University’s Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (IEHS). IEHS is a University-wide translationary center focusing on addressing complex environmental health challenges, including epidemiology and geographic distribution of pollutants. The center is especially concerned with health effects on vulnerable populations.

Apart from administrative duties, Dr. Arnetz will be responsible for linking environmental epidemiology and public health to IEHS’s strong foundation in basic sciences. Under the direction of Dr. Melissa Runge-Morris, MD, IEHS works closely with the Department of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences and Dr. Arnetz on a range of projects. One of these projects is NIEHS P30 proposal entitled “CURES-Center for Urban Responses to Environmental Stressors.” The purpose is to establish a unique center for studies of health effects from complex urban chemical and non-chemical exposures.

We are very pleased that Bengt accepted this position that will further bring DFMPHS and IEHS closer together in addressing challenging public health issues related to urban living and vulnerable populations.

**MPH Student Receives Grant For Health Care Worker Study**

Dr. Yinka Warritay (MPH Student) and Dr. Mark Upfal (Corporate Medical Director, The Detroit Medical Center Occupational Health Services) have received a $7,000 grant to study health care workers’ (HCW) perception, acceptance of a Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) diagnosis and initiation of Isoniazid (INH) therapy. The grant from Oxford Immuno- tec will be used to research factors affecting this diagnosis which include: testing procedures (Tuberculin Skin Test vs. T-SPOT®.TB), history of BCG vaccination, knowledge gaps in the understanding of LTBI, concerns about the duration of treatment and possible side effects. There is evidence to suggest that these factors may differ in demographic groups, most notably when comparing U.S. born and foreign-born individuals. This project has attracted the attention of the Michigan Department of Health due to the significance of TB screening and may serve as a pilot study for future projects. Recognition and thank you also goes to Dr. Joe Fortuna (CEO of PRISM), The Michigan Department of Health, and Dr. Judith Arnetz for their contributions.

**Post-editorial comments:**

The DFMPHS Newsletter editors would like to recognize Lisa Blackwell for her efforts in planning and coordinating many of the events for the Third- and Fourth-Year students which resulted in recognition as a recipient of the 2012 Program of Excellence (PoE) Award mentioned in our July issue.

**Acronym Soup**

ACGME—Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

**We’re on the Web!**

www.med.wayne.edu/fam
Iraq's Hassan al Kazzaz, M.D., general director of Public Health and assistant to the Iraqi Minister of Health, arrived in Michigan on September 9 for exploratory meetings with several faculty members in various departments, organized by Occupational and Environmental Health Professor Hikmet Jamil, M.D., Ph.D., to discuss initial steps to open the first college of Public Health in Iraq.

The visit is part of an effort to secure a grant that would help establish the college and other research, educational and clinical collaborations between Iraq and WSU. Dr. al Kazzaz chose WSU as a partner to build a newly constructed school because of the university’s reputation and Dr. Jamil’s ongoing relationship with the Middle East medical community.

Dr. Jamil is a native of Iraq who came to the U.S. and WSU in 1997. He founded the Iraqi Society of Occupational Health and Safety in 1992. He is recognized for his efforts to increase awareness and understanding of the role of occupational health and safety in Iraq during the last three decades. He has served as a consultant to the Iraqi Ministries of Information and Cultural Affairs, Health, Labor and Industry.

During his visit to WSU, Dr. al Kazzaz toured the School of Medicine, observing its infrastructure, best practices and the possibility of setting up intensive training courses here for Iraqi medical professionals. The goal is to establish an Iraq-based public health that directly collaborates with the WSU School of Medicine to train medical staff and aspiring physicians from the Middle East in specialties such as Family Medicine, Public Health, Occupational Health and Anesthesiology.

Dr. al Kazzaz met with WSU faculty members and staff throughout the week, including School of Medicine Dean Valerie M. Parisi, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.; WSU Associate Vice President of Educational Outreach and International Programs Ahmad Ezzeddine, Ph.D.; WSU Department of Anesthesiology Professor and Chair Douglas Bacon, M.D.; and the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences leadership team and its directors, including Professor and Chair John Boltri, M.D., F.A.A.F.P., and members of the Master of Public Health program’s leadership team.

The new college of Public Health would be the training ground for an independent health care system, taking the responsibility away from overburdened government hospitals by teaching Iraqi residents about matters such as privatization, private practice, general medical and health care administration, and the contract use of outside vendors.

“This is long-term work,” Dr. Jamil added. “We want to put together budgets and steps. The agreement is, before the end of this year, to have a plan, and beginning in 2013, take the first steps to implement the project and train the (Iraqi) staff,” he said.

We will provide updates in our department newsletters as significant milestones are achieved.

Pictured L to R: Dr. John Boltri, Chair, DFMPHS; Dr. Hassan al Kazzaz, Iraq General Director of Public Health; Dr. Valerie Parisi, WSU SOM Dean; Dr. Hikmet Jamil, Occupational and Environmental Health Professor; Dr. Ahmed Ezzeddine, WSU Associate VP, Educational Outreach and International Programs; and Dr. Bengt Arnetz, DFMPHS Vice Chair for International Affairs.

Dr. Kazzaz presents the School of Medicine with a token of appreciation, on behalf of the Iraqi Ministry of Health, for the Department’s commitment to improving the health of Iraqis.

Dr. Kazzaz meets with MPH Program faculty.