Dean’s Corner

It is always a great pleasure to draft a note at the beginning of a new year that recognizes the tremendous progress of the Faculty over the previous year. As usual these pages reflect the growth and development of FHS and there is much to celebrate.

A year of transition with new faculty and staff leadership has gone well and we welcome the energy and ideas that our new team members bring. In particular, I would like to congratulate the group of faculty who achieved tenure and promotion to Associate Professor this year. In the space of two years we have gone from a Faculty where the majority of faculty members were untenured to a Faculty with the more normal distribution of a small minority of untenured faculty. This transition not only reflects the achievements of the individuals involved but is an important marker of the maturation of the Faculty and will lay the foundation for continuing excellence.

We also look forward to the new faculty recruitments currently underway in the areas of global health promotion, health ethics, health care systems, and biostatistics. But I would like to single out one contribution that is not always recognized for the important impact it has on the overall quality of our Faculty.

Every semester I receive a report reflecting students’ concerns with accessing the courses they need to complete their degrees. In previous years we have had a significant course access issue. In this past year, largely due to the efforts of the UGSC, undergraduate program staff, faculty who have agreed to adjust their teaching approach to try to accommodate more students, and with the leadership of Mark Lechner, we now have some of the best course access metrics of any Faculty at SFU. Not only does this translate into higher student satisfaction, but it has generated a significant budget increase for us this year which will allow us to strengthen our faculty and staff complements and mediate the overall workload of everyone in FHS.

So while we celebrate the remarkable achievements reflected in these pages, please also congratulate our colleagues whose work to improve the overall quality of our student experience sometimes goes unheralded.

Wishing everyone the best for 2015!

- John O’Neil

People News

FHS welcome the following:

- **Rehana Bacchus** – new FHS Graduate Program Manager (Aug. 25, 2014)
- **Joy Johnson** – new FHS Professor and SFU’s VP Research (Sept. 1, 2014)
- **Maya Gislason** – new FHS Assistant Professor of Health Equity (Sept. 1, 2014)
- **Halimah Basrael** - new FHS Coordinator, Communications and Marketing (Sept. 29, 2014)
- **Joanna Tong** – new FHS Director of Advancement (Nov. 7, 2014)
- **Paola Ardiles**, Adjunct Professor (Aug. 2014). Paola teaches Health Promotion in the Canadian Context and is providing practicum and supervision for students interested in exploring Health Promotion practice & research. Paola is an executive board member of the
People News

Public Health Association of B.C. and the Founder of Bridge for Health network focused on citizen engagement & social innovation

- **Bimal Chhetri** joined the Takaro climate change, water and health group. Bimal is a veterinarian and a PhD candidate from Univ. of Guelph. He’s working on a GI illness project w/ BCCDC funded by PHAC.

The **Centre for the Study of Gender Social Inequities and Mental Health** welcomes new research team members:

- **Sukhdeep Jassar**, Site Coordinator
- **Cindy Jiang**, Research Intervention Associate
- **Peter Hoong**, Research Intervention Associate
- **Deshpal Grewal**, Research Intervention Associate
- **Chi-Jen Hung**, Research Intervention Associate
- **Nimesh Patel**, Research Intervention Associate

The **Children’s Health Policy Centre** welcomes new research team members:

- **Caitlyn Andres**, Research Assistant, Children’s Mental Health Research Quarterly
- **Danielle Egan**, Research Assistant, BC Healthy Connections Project
- **Kristi Gozjolko**, Scientific Field Interviewer, BC Healthy Connections Project
- **Tracy Luong**, Research Administrative Assistant, BC Healthy Connections Project
- **Diane Salema**, Senior Research Assistant, BC Healthy Connections Project
- **Patricia Wallis**, Senior Research Assistant, BC Healthy Connections Project
- **Jordan Yeo**, Research Administrative Assistant, BC Healthy Connections Project

**Au revoir:**

- **Charlotte Lawson** joins the UBC Advancement team left FHS in Aug 2014.
- **Benedikt Fischer** will take up a Research Chair appointment in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto (Jan 1, 2015)

**Changes:**

- **Elliot Goldner** has been appointed Associate Dean Research for FHS as of Jan 1, 2015; he will replace Kelley Lee who has finished her 3-year term in this position.

Kudos (Awards & Recognition)

**Awards and Recognition:**

- Lawrence McCandless was named a runner up for the Kenneth Rothman Epidemiology Prize, 2014, which is awarded by the prestigious journal, *Epidemiology*, the official journal of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology for best paper published in the journal over the year. This prize is selected by the editors and editorial board as outstanding in its originality, importance, clarity of thought, and excellence in writing. “Statin use and fracture risk: Can we quantify the healthy-user effect?” ([http://journals.lww.com/epidem/Abstract/2013/09000/Statin_Use_and_Fracture_Risk__Can_We_Quantify_the.16.aspx](http://journals.lww.com/epidem/Abstract/2013/09000/Statin_Use_and_Fracture_Risk__Can_We_Quantify_the.16.aspx)).

- In Sept 2014 - Dr. Elliot Goldner was awarded the prestigious **Alex Leighton Award in Psychiatric Epidemiology**, conferred jointly by the Canadian Academy of Psychiatric Epidemiology and the Canadian Psychiatric Association, which
recognizes an individual who has contributed significantly to advancing and diffusing Canadian psychiatric epidemiology through innovative studies, methods, teaching or transfer of knowledge.

- **Kelley Lee** has been elected as a Fellow in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences ([http://www.cahs-acss.ca/](http://www.cahs-acss.ca/)), Canada’s highest scientific honour in the field of medical/health research.
- The **Somers Research Group**’s 2014 paper (Currie et al, “Examining the relationship between health-related need and the receipt of care by participants experiencing homelessness and mental illness” in *BMC Health Services Research*). has been designated “Highly Accessed” at BMC.
- **John Calvert** was appointed to the editorial board of the Canadian Foreign Policy Journal in 2014.
- **Will Small** received the 2014 CIHR Institute and Institute of Infection and Immunity, *Bhagirath Singh Early Career Award in Infection and Immunity*.

**Trainee and Student Awards:**

- **Knight R** (Supervisor: **W Small**) received CIHR Institute and Institute of Population and Public Health Community Support Travel Award to attend the European Public Health Conference. $2,500.00
- **Chakrapani Balijepalli** has received a Mitacs Elevate Postdoctoral Fellowship (*supervisor: M. Joffres*; industry partner: Redwood Outcomes)
- **Nomthandazo Malambo** has received funding from the CIHR-funded Propel Centre (Univ of Waterloo) in Population Intervention for Chronic Disease Prevention (*supervisor: S. Erikson*)

**Other:**

Congratulations to **Brittany Bingham** (PhD Student, **Somers Research Group**) on the arrival of Sean Russell Bingham born July 11, 2014 9lbs 9oz.

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**Teaching and Education Programs Update**

**New courses:** HSCI 472: Health and the Built Environment (Spring 2015)

**Co-Op:** Fall 2014 we had **41 placements** with Spring 2015 placements currently at 35 with at least 5-7 more placements still in process. Highlights for Co-op:

- New doors continue to open with the Health Authorities with new placements in infection control with Fraser Health, Vancouver Island Health, Provincial Health and the newest with Interior Health
- All time high of 7 international placements this for Fall 2014: one student in Nepal, one in France, 2 in India, 3 in Korea
- Co-op student speaker and Destiny Reflection placement featured at Diwali this year. This placement continues to be funded by FHS and International Co-op. In Fall 2014, we once again have gained the India Mobility fund for Destiny and are very hopeful we will have it again for Fall 2015.

**Accreditation Renewal of FHS Public Health Programs 2015:** In 2010, the Faculty of Health Sciences’ Master of Public Health and undergraduate BA and BSc programs were accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), becoming Canada’s first internationally accredited Anglophone public health program.

We are now up for accreditation renewal which will provide FHS with many benefits: “Accreditation provides assurance that our programs are evaluated and judged to meet international standards established by the profession. It provides assurance that our graduates have essential jobs skills, and is an important indicator of our program’s quality. We also owe it to the graduates of our program that we maintain the value of their degree through accreditation renewal,” says John O’Neil, Dean.

On December 15, 2014, the preliminary draft of our self-study document was submitted to CEPH. This document (about 280 pages, plus numerous appendices) provides a comprehensive study of our strengths, weaknesses and future plans for the Public Health Programs in the faculty.
Teaching and Education Programs Update (cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

The four chapters of the document have been posted to the FHS website for your review and comment here. Comments may be provided to fhscred@sfu.ca. You also have the opportunity to submit written comments directly to the Council on Education for Public Health, 1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 220, Silver Spring, MD 201910.

Please contact Kate Carty, Public Health Program Coordinator at kate_carty@sfu.ca if you have any questions about the accreditation process.

Research Update


12. Wright K, Zhao S, Goldsmith CH, Kherani RB. Do inflammatory arthritis patients receiving group music therapy improve pain compared to music listening over 6 week using a randomised control trial? “One good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain.” Vancouver Coastal Health Research Challenge in conjunction with Mary Pack Arthritis Program, $ 5,000 (2014-2015).

14. **Scott Lear** is Theme leader on Knowledge Translation for the successful SFU/ UToronto application for a new National Centre of Excellence (AGE-WELL) designed to promote healthy aging. Under the leadership of Andrew Sexsmith in Gerontology and administered at IRMACS, this new NCE will receive approximately $25million over five years. Lear’s focus will be to test the application of telehealth solutions to support elderly people in their homes.


20. **Somers J.** Determinants of health and safety: using population-level data and a life course framework to examine risk, resilience, and pathways to health among offenders with mental illness. SFU VPR CIHR Bridging Grant, $40,000 (2014-2015).


22. Sims-Gould, J (PI), McKay H (PI), **Winters M** (co-I, with 4 others). Shape the Path: Targeting the Health and Mobility of Older Men through Key Community Partnerships, CIHR Team Grant: Boys’ and Men’s Health: Institute of Gender and Health, $1,476,709 (2014-2019).


**New FHS Publications**


7. **Martin E, Carlson JM, Le AQ, Chopera DR, McGovern R, Rahaman MA, Ng C, Jensen H, Kelleher AD, Markowitz M, Allen TM, Mil-


(Continued on page 7)


35. Fang ML, Malcoe LH (FHS Adjunct), Sixsmith J, Wong LYM, Callender M. Exploring traditional end-of-life beliefs, values, expectations, and practices among Chinese women living in England: Informing culturally safe care. Palliative and Supportive Care, published online in FirstView 27 October 2014.


58. Snyder J, Adams K, Crooks VA, Whitehurst DGT, Vallee J. “I knew what was going to happen if I did nothing. And so I was going to do something”: Faith, hope, and trust in Canadian multiple sclerosis patients’ decisions to seek experimental treatment abroad. BMC Health Services Research 2014; 14: 455.


(Continued on page 9)


**FHS Trainee Publications and Presentations**


4. **McNeil R** (FHS postdoc; supervisor: **W. Small**). The impact of regulatory changes to British Columbia’s provincial methadone program. Presentation to the British Columbia Association of People on Methadone (BCAPOM), Vancouver, BC, August 2014.

5. **Ti L, McNeil R**. Advancing hospital-based harm reduction approaches to promote health equity. Oral presentation. 10th

**FHS in the Community**


5. **Gislason, M**. “Climate Change and Public Health – Moving from Concern to Action”. presentation for the Faculty of Health Sciences Research Seminar Series. 20 November 2014.

6. **Gislason M**. “EcoHealth Call to Action on Climate Change: Connecting people and place for positive change”. Invited presentation for the Ecohealth in Action Webalogue Series. 15 October 2014 [http://ecohealthkta.net/webalogues/]
7. Gislason M. “Creative Approaches to Nurturing Passion and Divergent Thinking among Graduate Students Researching Ecosystems, Society and Health: CoPEH-Canada Ecohealth Field Schools” poster presented at the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference, Quebec City, Canada, 22-25 October 2014.


9. Gislason M. The Place of Critical Theory, Social Justice and Qualitative Methodologies in Ecohealth, symposia at the 5th Biennial Conference of the International Association for Ecology and Health, Montreal, Canada, August 12, 2014

10. Gislason M. International Discussion Forum: “Ecohealth and Climate Change: Connections for Health” Margot Parkes, Maya Gislason, at the 5th Biennial Conference of the International Association for Ecology and Health, Montreal, Canada, August 12, 2014


25. Lear SA. Using Low-Cost Technology to Support Patients with Chronic Diseases. Presentation at Griffith University, Queensland and The Australian e-Health Research Centre, Brisbane, Australia, November 2014.


44. Somers Research Group developed and completed a Knowledge Translation website to disseminate findings from the Vancouver At Home project: http://www.sfu.ca/somersresearchgroup/vancouver-at-home/v-h---knowledge-translation-project.html


57. Takaro TK. Lead organizer for SFU teach-in, Issues at the frontline of climate change. Day long education event about Burnaby

58. **Takaro TK.** Intervenor for two community organizations, Burnaby Residents Opposed to Kinder-Morgan Expansion (Broke) and North Shore Opposed to Pipeline Expansion (NOPE) in TransMountain Pipeline application to expand the Burnaby pipeline.


Joffres M. Interviews about the new Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care Prostate Cancer Screening Recommendations

- CKNW: http://www.cknw.com/2014/10/27/53406/;
- AM370: http://www.am730.ca/syn/112/53406/53406;

Kaida A and Carter A. Women living with HIV aim to break glass ceiling:

- Forecast: Journal of the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS. Published Nov 2014;
- Talk Show Guests on CFAX Radio (1070 FM) with Ian Jessop. Broadcasted Dec 1 2013 1:30-2:00pm


Lee K on “Ebola and WHO’s response”:

- Maclean’s, 20 October 2014
- The Straits Times, 20 October 2014
- ABC News (Associated Press), 3 November 2014
- South China Morning Post, 4 November 2014.


Morrow M on BC Human Rights Commission and mental health in Policy Note, rabble.ca, December 16th, 2014

Palmer K (FHS adjunct) on Activity-Based Funding for Hospitals:

- PLOS ONE study
- U of T press release/U of T Faculty of Medicine (Oct 27, 2014)
- SFU news (Oct 27, 2014)/ SFU FHS website (Nov 3, 3014)
- Medical Express. (Oct 27, 2014)
- Bloomberg Businessweek (Oct 27, 2014)
- CDM press release (Oct 28, 2014)
- Vancouver Sun (Oct 28, 2014)
- Vancouver Observer (Oct 28, 2014)
- Doctors of BC NewsFlash (Oct 28, 2014)
- CIPHER (Oct 28, 2014)
- Exchange Magazine. (Oct 29, 2014)
- Canadian Association of Community Health Centres Press Release (Oct 29, 2014)
- McMaster Faculty of Health Sciences (Oct 29, 2014)
• McMaster Health Forum
• Canadian Healthcare News
• CBC (Oct 31, 2014)
• ipolitics Health Weekly: Activity-based funding for hospitals has it’s problems for patients. (Oct 31, 2014)
• CKNW Newstalk 980 Sean Leslie Show, Interview, Nov 1, 2014
• Canadian Doctors for Medicare November 12, 2014 Newsletter
• CAHSPR Nov 19, 2014
• Nov 18, 2014 Newsletter Observatoire International de la santé et des services sociaux
• CIHR IHSPR Policy Rounds Dec 10 2014
• Nov/Dec 2014 IHSPR Newsletter
• Op-Ed IRIS Institut de recherche et d’informations socio-économiques December 10, 2014
• Canadian Doctors for Medicare, E-Round # 44, December 2014
• Huffington Post, Dec 18. 2014
• London Free Press, Dec 20, 2014
• Waterloo Region Record, Dec 22, 2014

Julian Somers on the Downtown Community Courts and Prolific Offenders Management Program

• TheTyee.ca, 3 Oct 2014 - http://thetyee.ca/News/2014/10/03/Vancouver-Seattle-War-on-Drugs/


Takaro T on Climate Migration

• Georgia Straight Op-ed, “Time for BC to start preparing for climate migration: A question of justice”
• The Province
• Vancouver Sun
• Victoria Times Colonist
• Regina Leader Post.
• Toronto Star
• Metro and 24 Hours
• News1130, CFAK, Kootenay Morning (radio),
• Vancouver Observer,
• Sun News

Winters M on BikeMaps

• CKNW: The Sean Leslie Show, October 25, 2014
• Global TV: http://at.sfu.ca/famSKW, October 27, 2014

Winters M on Road safety – cycling and pedestrian crashes.

• The Province: http://at.sfu.ca/TzWDat, September 5, 2014.