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Dean’s Corner

In academic life we really enjoy two “New Year” celebrations – at the beginning of the academic year and again with everyone else at the new calendar year. And from a cultural perspective, I think it is important that we take advantage of these opportunities to recognize and reflect on past successes and renew commitments to the future.

This will be an exciting and important year for FHS. Having survived a year of constraint relatively unscathed, we will likely see a number of new faces arrive over the next year. Many of our faculty have been successful with grants and contracts and the activity associated with these successes will bring new energy. We are at or near full capacity with our student enrollments and our undergraduate and graduate programs are in the fine tuning phase of development. We are also undertaking important new initiatives to consider the potential and merits of expanded programming in medical education through the Surrey campus. It has taken nearly a decade for FHS to develop from an “idea” to our current status as an important contributor to population health in BC and globally, and the next decade will witness similar dynamic changes in our role and responsibilities.

Perhaps we have reached a more stable “steady-state” stage of development, but the excitement of advancing and implementing a vision for a different kind of academic presence in the pursuit of improvements in population health should continue to motivate and energize us.

Best wishes to everyone for the new year and the new decade!

People News

Welcome!

Since September 2009, FHS has welcomed the following to FHS:

- Dr. Takako Niikura, (Assistant Professor)
- Margaret Van Soest, (Education Programs Assistant)
- Mr. Tristan Markle, (Research Assistant to Dr. Z. Brumme in the HIV Molecular Epidemiology lab)
- A number of FHS members welcomed new additions to their families, including:
  - IT manager Darrin Grund’s son Sebastian;
  - Assistant Professor Gratien Prefontaine’s son, Peyton;
  - Assistant Professor Lawrence McCandless’ second son, James;
  - Assistant Professor (on leave) Kate Bassil’s son, Liam.

FHS bids “Au revoir” to the following:

- Chandikka Thayver, former FHS Education Programs Assistant, has left us to go to the Philippines to participate in relief work. We all wish her the best of luck!
FHS professor Dr. Benedikt Fischer has been re-appointed to the CIHR Institute Advisory Board, Institute for Neurosciences, Mental Health Addictions (INMHA) for a 3-year term (starting Sept 2009).

FHS assistant professor Dr. Rochelle Tucker inspired her HSCI 130 class and SFU faculty to surpass their goal of fundraising $15,000 for the Steven Lewis Foundation’s program “Dare to do something for HIV/AIDS and Africa”. To date, they have collectively raised $22,000.

FHS assistant professor Ralph Pantophlet was officially appointed to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Virology (Jan 2009-2011) (JVI). His recent publication, “The HIV-1 envelope spike of primary viruses can suppress antibody access to variable regions” was also selected by the JVI editorial board for inclusion in “Spotlight,” a feature in JVI that highlights research articles of significant interest from the current issue.

FHS Adjunct professor Dr. Gloria Gutman was inducted as a Fellow by the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences in September 2009.

The following FHS Students have received CIHR Masters Awards:
- Rebecca Mador (Fall 2009 cohort)
- Emily Jenkins (Fall 2008 cohort)

FHS Undergraduate program coordinator Bratislav Mladenovic successfully completed his Master’s degree in Imaginative Education (Fall 2009). He has also been accepted into an EdD program on Educational Leadership in the Faculty of Education at SFU.

Teaching and Program News

New Graduate Courses Approved by SGSC (as of November 2009):
- HSCI 865 Colloquium in Immunology and Infectious Diseases (new course)
- HSCI 866-3 Host-Microbe Interactions (new course)
- HSCI 868-1 Globalization and Infectious Diseases (new course)
- HSCI 899-3 Special topics in infectious diseases (new course)
- MSc requirements – add additional seminar for total of 2
- MPH-Global Health concentration – change of electives from 2 to 3.

Courses Removed/Deleted:
- From the MPH program: GLOH-540-4
- From the MPH – Global Health concentration:
  - HSCI 821-3 (Introduction to global health);
  - HSCI 822-3 (Globalization and health) title changes
- From the MSc program - HSCI 888-6 (thesis completion)

Teaching Laboratories
This January, the Faculty of Health Sciences launches three new laboratory courses in Blusson Hall Rm1 1750 focusing on human health and disease:

- HSCI440 – Dr. Frank Lee’s course will examine the changes associated with cells undergoing neurodegeneration and cancer progression.
- HSCI441 – Dr. Masa Niikura’s course is designed around the various methods used to assess and characterize insect and animal viruses and their effects on hosts.
- HSCI443 – Dr. Tim Beischlag’s course will examine the impact of several compounds found in cigarette smoke on cellular behaviour and survival.
- HSCI442 – Dr. Ralph Pantophlet’s course will be offered next academic year will complete FHS’ undergraduate lab offer-
Teaching and Programs Update (cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

ings. These four courses were developed with Senior Lecturer, Dr. Mark S. Lechner, and are specialized opportunities for upper division students to put the cell to society motif in practice.

FHS welcomes (back) the following sessional instructors for the 2010 Spring Semester:

" Dr. Kate Tairyan: HSCI 160, HSCI 486
" Dr. Michal Fedeles: HSCI 303
" Dr. Andrea Nicki: Two sections of HSCI 319W
" Dr. Brian Thomas: One section of HSCI 319W

Research Update

(in alphabetical order, by first FHS researcher listed)


Chockalingam, A; Lear, S; Yusuf, S. Canada-India Cardiovascular Health Conference 2010. CIHR MPD. $20,000 (2010-11).


Miller, C. Supporting a coordinated response to HIV prevention among adolescents in South Africa. CIHR Meetings, Planning and Dissemination Grant (MPD) $23,625 (2010-11).

Morrow, M. Development of a Research Agenda Exploring Social Inequities in Mental Health Recovery. CIHR MPD Grant. $20,000 (2010-11).

Morrow, M; Hankivsky, O (co-PIs); Moretti, M; Spitzer, D. Canada and US Health Research Group: Developing a Collaborative Research Program in Gender, Sex and Health, CIHR MPD Grant $15,000 (2010-11).

Nepomnaschy, P. Women’s Health Research Network Seed Funds. $5,000 (2010-11).


Samra, J; Bilsker, D; Gilbert, M; Goldner, E. An Integrated Approach To Improving Workplace Mental Healthcare In Canada. Mental Health Commission of Canada (contract). $150,000 (2009-2011).

Scott, Jamie; Harrigan, RP; Brumme, Z; Hogg, R; Poon, A. Prophylactic HIV Vaccines for Social Networks of Injection Drug Users. CIHR LOI – Emerging Team Grant. $10,000 (2009-2010).

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Editor: C. Kalaw

Blusson Hall, Rm 11300
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6
Phone: 778-782-7037
Fax: 778-782-5927
E-mail: ckalaw@sfu.ca
New FHS Publications


**FHS Adjunct Faculty:**

Peer Reviewed


**Art. No.: CD006955. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD006955.pub2.**


**Nakamura, N., Mausbach, B.T., Ulibarri, M.D., Semple, S.J., & Patterson, T.L.** Methamphetamine use, attitudes about condoms, and sexual risk behavior among HIV-positive men who have sex with men. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*.


**Non-peer-reviewed:**

Canadian Institute for Health Information. *Health Care in Canada 2009: A Decade in Review* (Ottawa, Ont.: CIHI, 2009, [www.cihi.ca](http://www.cihi.ca)). (author: S. Lewis)

**FHS in the News**

**Julian Somers** - Mental Health Commission begins 5-year project to help homeless Canadians – covered by the Canadian Press (November 23, 2009)

**Michel Joffres** received front-page coverage in the *Burnaby Now* newspaper, in regard to sodium intake.
**FHS in the Community**

**Brumme, Z.** “Fitness consequences of HIV immune escape”, invited seminar speaker, University of Washington Dept of Microbiology, November 24, 2009

**Brumme Z.** “HIV adaptation to immune selection”, invited symposium speaker, American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI) annual meeting, November 3, 2009

**Brumme Z.** “HIV evolution, immune selection and viral fitness, invited symposium speaker, Mexican National Institute of Respiratory Diseases, October 10, 2009


**Snyder, J.** “Health Care on Holiday: Deciding on Ethical Medical Tourism.” Presented at the Fourth International Conference on Applied Ethics, Sapporo, Japan, November 15, 2009.


**Waddell, C.** (2009). Case-focused clinical panel “How would you help this child?” Invited panel presentation, Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Toronto, ON.


FHS faculty **John O’Neil** and **Julian Somers** were part of the Surrey Firefighters Lectureship in Mental Health and Addiction Research and Reception on October 29th. Dr. Sam Tsemberis was the inaugural speaker.

(Above L-R) At the Oct. 29th event, FHS Dean O’Neil, Sherrold Haddad (Flag Chevrolet), Sam Tsemberis, Marion Haddad (Flag Chevrolet), Larry Thomas (Surrey Firefighters), Julian Somers.