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Dean’s Corner

As we start another academic year, we note that this Fall marks an important transition in leadership. SFU has a new President, which is both exciting and sad for FHS. Michael Stevenson, retiring after 10 years of exemplary service to this institution, has been both inspirational and rock steady in his support for this fledgling Faculty. His courage in committing significant scarce resources to the vision of a unique health Faculty at SFU is a legacy to be respected and honoured through our collective efforts in research, and in training a new generation of students who understand health is a matter of social justice. We are also excited by the ideas and vision of our new President, Andrew Petter, and anticipate a continued commitment to the ideal of the university as a tool for social engagement and development.

This year, we bid adieu to Michael Hayes, a foundational faculty member present at the conception of FHS and our primary midwife through the sometimes difficult gestational period of our early development. Michael has taken on similar responsibilities at the University of Victoria and we hope our ongoing relationship will contribute to a strengthened provincial platform in population and public health. Other founding members such as Arun Chockalingam and Steve Corber are also part of this transition. Arun, responsible for the early development of our global health profile, has moved to Washington, DC to take on a global responsibility for cardiovascular disease prevention research. Steve laid the foundation for our relationship with the public health community in BC and will retire later this year. New faculty will take on these leadership roles and put their unique stamp on our continued growth and development.

FHS continues to exceed expectations. We are now the “first and oldest internationally accredited Anglophone public health program in Canada”. Student demand for our undergraduate and graduate programs exceeds our delivery capacity and is among the heaviest at SFU. We continue to have unmatched success with salary awards and research funding in all areas of Faculty interest.

It is indeed a pleasure to be associated with such a dynamic and visionary group of faculty, staff and students who are committed to pushing the boundaries on scholarship, teaching and service. With new leadership at all levels, we will meet the internal and external challenges of the day with energy and passion and continue to forge a vision for a unique health Faculty on the international landscape.

People News

Welcome!
Since January, FHS has welcomed the following to FHS:

- New Illich/Merck Frosst Arthritis Chair, Dr. Charlie Goldsmith;
- New assistant professor Dr. Angela Kaida;
- Visiting faculty Dr. Kelley Lee, (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Dr. Anita Kothari (Univ. of Western Ontario))
- Dr. Kate Taiyran, LTA Senior Lecturer;
- Dr. Nienke Van Houten, LTA Lecturer;
- Dr. Akm Moniruzzaman as Statistician and Data Manager, Somers Lab;
- FHS alumni Max Goli, who joins the faculty’s academic advising unit
- Christy Lightowlers, who is the Lead, Spatial Data Unit, Population Data BC

Changes:

- Jen Barican, is now Research Coordinator for CHPC;
- Julian Somers Lab has relocated to Blusson Hall.

FHS bids “au revoir” to:
- Kate Bassil (June 30);
- Arun Chokalingam (April 10)
- Michael Hayes (June 30)
- Christine Joffres (Aug 31)
Kudos (Awards & Recognition)

FHS Faculty:

Hasanat Alamgir (adjunct) has accepted an associate professor position in University of Texas.

Michel Joffres on his appointment to the new Canadian task force on preventive health care. [http://www.canadiantaskforce.ca/](http://www.canadiantaskforce.ca/)

Marina Morrow on the launch of her new Centre for the Study of Gender, Social Inequities and Mental Health (CGSM), Thursday, June 17th, 7-9:30 pm, SFU Harbour Centre, 515 W Hastings, Room 1900. To find out more about the Centre’s activities, please visit the Centre’s website: [www.socialinequities.ca](http://www.socialinequities.ca)

Nadine Nakamura (adjunct) on being awarded a competitive one-year PDF from the CIHR-funded IMPART research training program focusing on intersections in mental health, addictions and gender.

Ralph Pantophlet on his CIHR New Investigator Award for the research program, “Sugar-coated designer immunogens to elicit HIV-1 neutralizing antibodies.” (2010-2015).

Scott Venners on his CIHR New Investigator Award (funded under the Priority Announcement: In the Area of Reproduction and Child Health) for the research program on “Passive smoke during pregnancy and within-city disparities in intrauterine growth restriction? Linking molecular markers with population data in support of evidence-based policy.” (2010-2015)

To FHS Student Award Recipients:

- Faith Eiboff, (supervisor: J. Somers) CIHR Masters Award
- Kimberley Korf-Uzan, (supervisor: C. Miller) CIHR Master’s Award, “Healthy Eating and Nutrition of Aboriginal Children in Northern British Columbia: identifying the barriers and closing knowledge gaps related to the nutritional choices of school-age children living off-reserve”
- Lynnette Krebs, SFU FHS Dean’s Undergraduate Convocation Medal
- Lisa Lazarus, (supervisor: J. O’Neil) CIHR Master’s Award, “Examining the Relationship between Community-Based Empowerment Programs and ARV Treatment Adherence amongst Female Sex Workers in Mysore, India”
- Katherine Muldoon, (supervisor: R. Hogg) CIHR Masters Award, “Investigating the prevalence of unprotected sexual behaviour amongst sero-discordant couples in the The Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Prevention (HAARP) Study in Uganda.”
- Brynne Redford, SFU Dean of Graduate Studies Convocation Medal
- Kaylin Woods, (supervisor C. Janes) CIHR Masters Award “Evaluation of a public health training program on health system strengthening in Zambia.”

To FHS Alumni who have moved on to new challenges:

- James Lui was accepted to UBC medical school,
- Sundeep Mistry was accepted to medical school at Ross University School of Medicine,
- Tara Azimi was accepted to three different ophthalmology schools in Europe

FHS in the News

Calvert, J. “For Sale: Yukon’s Energy Resources” 2010-01-21 pm CKRW; 2010-01-22 pm CBC; 2010-01-22 pm CHON-FM

Fischer, B. “Nanaimo rethinks crack kits for addicts”, Globe and Mail, August 6, 2010

Goldner, E. “Students for Mental Wellness use YouTube to raise awareness of mental disorders”, Georgia Straight, May 25, 2010

Somers, J. Interview with Bill Good; Bill Good Show CKNW radio, June 22, 2010 and TheTyee.ca regarding Health of the Homeless Summit.

Teaching and Programs Update

The Centre for the Study of Gender, Social Inequities and Mental Health (CGSM) hosted and coordinated a Summer Institute, “Gender Equality and Mental Health (GEMH) Training,” led by Dr. Jennie Williams, Inequality Agenda, United Kingdom; June 22-25th at SFU Harbour Centre. It was attended by FHS students, Centre staff and community mental health practitioners.

Accreditation: In July 2010, FHS’ Masters of Public Health and undergraduate BA and BSc programs were accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). CEPH is the acknowledged global leader in setting international standards and the highest international designations by which to measure public health institutions and programs around the world. The Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University is proud to become Canada’s first internationally accredited Anglophone public health program.

Course Changes: Minor course changes to the Master of Public Health program were approved by senate at its meeting on July 12, including the number of credit hours increases by 1 unit. MPH master’s project students now complete 47 credit hours. Master’s thesis students now complete 50 credit hours.

Research Update

(in alphabetical order, by first FHS researcher listed:)

Brumme, Z and Brockman, M. “Vaccine antigen design through population-based studies of HIV-1.” Jim Gray Seed Grant, Microsoft Research, USD $100,000 (2010)


Calvert, J. (co-investigator) Work in a Warming World, SSHRC CURA (PI: Carla Lipsig Mumme, York University)


Fischer, B. and SHUPER, Paul A (co-Principal Investigators; Nakamura, Nadine M; REHM, Juergen T (co-Is). CIHR Catalyst Grant - Prevention and Treatment of Illicit Substance Use. “Developing and Pilot-testing a ‘Brief Intervention’ Module for High Frequency Cannabis Users among University Students”, $100,000 (2010-2011)


August 16, 2010 - The FHS On line admissions system will be in place for all MSC applicants who want admission in the Summer 2011.

November 1, 2010 - the new FHS On Line Admissions system will be in place for Fall 2011 entry applicants to the MPH, Diploma and MSc.

I. New Courses:

HSCI 485-3 - Senior Seminar in Mental Health: Children’s Mental Health Policy. Dr. Charlotte Waddell’s course will introduce students to the field of children’s mental health within the public and population health policy contexts.
Lee, F. Parkinson Society Canada New Investigator Award (Operating Grant) "Modulation of the DAT/DJ-1 interaction by oxidative stress", $45,000/yr (2010-2012)


Hogg, R., ANEMA, Aranka; MONTANER, Julio S; MOORE, David M; PALMER, Alexis; Parashar, Surita. CIHR Meetings, Planning and Dissemination Grant: Knowledge Translation Supplement, “Getting to the HAART of the matter: translating LISA findings into action,” $40,000 (2009-2010).


Lear, S. CIHR Partnerships for Health System Improvement, “Utilization of an interactive Internet-based platform for managing chronic diseases at a distance,” $349,967 (2010-2013)

Lear, S. CIHR “Using the Internet for Self-management and Monitoring Patients with Heart Failure at a Distance,” $478,539 (2010-2014).


Muse SV, Pond SLK, Poon AFY (adjunct). Delport W. HyPhy: Molecular Evolutionary Analysis. NIH R01, $250,000 per year (2010-2014).

Scott, J. NSERC RTI Biocontainment Cabinet to support flowcytometry and sorting of infectious cells

Snyder, J. and Crooks, V. CIHR Meetings, Planning and Dissemination: Ethics. “Ethical Issues in Medical Tourism” $14,975 (2009-2010)

Ogilvie, G. (PI), Steinberg, Coombs, D; Gilbert, MP; Krajden, M; Rekart, ML; Steinberg, MH. A Systematic Review of Window Periods for Current HIV Tests. CIHR Knowledge Synthesis Grant, $97,902 (2010-11)

Takaro, T. Assessment of Beryllium Disease Risk in Pre-selected BC Industries. Worksafe BC, $294,268.76

Takaro, T. Preparing BC for Climate Migration: An Uncertain Climate for Migration and Settlement, Climate Justice Community-University Research Alliance Project (SSHRC), $43,000 (2010-2012).

Takaro, T. Water Quality and Quantity and Human Health: Risk in a changing climate in British Columbia, Climate Change Research Impacts Consortium (2010-2012)

New FHS Publications


11. Kiani Sh, Bayanzadeh M, Tavallaee M, Hogg R. Iran’s population is greying, are we ready?. Archives of Iranian Medicine (accepted March 2010)


13. Miller, C. “Food Insecurity and Sexual Risk in an HIV Endemic Community in Uganda” in AIDS and Behavior was recently featured on MDLinx.com. MDLinx is the world’s most up to date index of articles that matter in the daily lives of physicians and other healthcare professionals: http://www.mdlinx.com/internalmdlinx/news-article.cfm/3129014


New FHS Publications (cont.)

“Confronting structural violence in sex work: lessons from a community-led HIV prevention project in Mysore, India.” AIDS Care (forthcoming) Vol. 00, No. 0, Month 2010, 1-6

16. Irving, M.B., Craig, L., Menendez, A., van Houten, N.E., Montero, M. and Scott, J.K. 2010 “Exploring Peptide Mimics for the Production of Antibodies Against Discontinuous Protein Epitopes.” Molecular Immunology 47(5): 1137-1148. L. Craig is now an Asst. Prof in MBB; she contributed work to this project as a grad student in my lab, and did much of the paper’s structural analysis more recently as a colleague. N van Houten is now a postdoc with Masa.

17. van Houten, N.E., Henry, K. A., Smith, G. P. and Scott, J.K. “Engineering Filamentous Phage as a Carrier to Focus Antibody Responses against a Peptide.” In press, Vaccine. [Ref JVAC-D-09-01137]


FHS in the Community


Janes, C. “Addressing Health Inequities: An Agenda for 21st Century Global Health.” Action on Health Disparities: Global & Local Symposium, April 21, 2010 Univ Texas Southwestern Medical Center Dallas, Texas.

Lanphear, B. presented at the US Senate Hearing to review research on autism’s environmental causes, August 3, 2010.

Morrow, M presented on the Centre for the Study of Gender, Social Inequities and Mental Health(CGSM) at the Forensic Mental Health Research Group (FMHRG), February 3, 2010 at SFU.

Morrow, M presented on the CGSM at Woman Abuse Response Program, “Building Bridges” Symposium May 31, 2010 at BC Women’s Hospital.


Snyder, J. “Exploiting Resources without Exploiting Stakeholders.” (Co-Presented with Craig Janes) Presented at the International Association for Business and Society Annual Meeting, March 26, 2010, Banff, AB.


Waddell, C. “Advancing population health in Canada: What children’s mental health can teach us.” Invited presentation, SFU Canada Research Chairs Seminar Series, SFU, April 8, 2010, Burnaby, BC.


Waddell, C. “Children’s mental health in Canada: Policy and services challenges.” Invited keynote talk, Research on Mental Health Services for Children and Youth Consensus Workshop, Canadian Institutes for Health Research, Institute for Human Development and Child and Youth Health, June 2, 2010, Montreal, QC.
