



### CGHSR Activity Update July 1 to December 31, 2016

#### **New CGHSR Executive Director**

CGHSR is thrilled to announce the appointment of our new Executive Director following the retirement of Debra Olson in June 2016 and a formal search process involving representatives of all six AHC schools/colleges and GPS Alliance. Shailey Prasad, Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, Medical School, accepted the position in December. Dr. Prasad has a long-standing history of leadership and engagement in global health and with CGHSR specifically, including co-chairing CGHSR's Global Health Leadership Council, serving as U of M Director/Principal Investigator of the Fogarty Global Health Fellowship grant, and serving as lead faculty for CGHSR's "Global Health, Globalization, and Leadership" course held in Mysore, India. Dr. Prasad will officially assume the Executive Director role at .6 FTE as of April 1, 2017.

#### **AHC Uganda Hub**

##### **Uganda Research Training (URTC) Collaborative**

Funding was approved by Dr. Brooks Jackson in September 2016 to pilot the [URTC](#), a new research training program. The program will pair AHC students with Makerere University students to develop and implement research studies under the mentorship of both U of M and Makerere faculty. Student recruitment began in November and teams were notified of their acceptance at the end of December. Joshua Rhein, Assistant Professor in U of M Infectious Diseases and International Medicine, Medical School became URTC lead faculty as part of his new role as Research and Training Director of the AHC Uganda Hub on December 1. Dr. Rhein is based in Kampala and well-positioned to guide the program in collaboration with colleagues at Makerere University and elsewhere in Uganda, the Minnesota-Uganda Partnerships Group, and CGHSR.

CGHSR staff are working with faculty to build online resources and workshops to ensure student teams meet targeted timelines to complete their studies and report their findings in a manuscript.

The program has garnered strong support and input from faculty members and mentors from both institutions, as evidenced by the sizable number of faculty who agreed to participate as mentors. CGHSR is working closely with UMF to raise funds to sustain the program in future years.

##### **AHC Global Health Seed Grants: Research in Uganda**

Planning is underway for the second round of AHC [Global Health Seed Grants](#) in Uganda with an anticipated RFP announcement in early 2017.

##### **MUJHU Space Expansion**

In July 2016, the Uganda Hub began renovating space adjacent to the existing offices and workspace to create a new conference room, a faculty office space, and a training room that will accommodate up to 30 participants.

##### **MN-Uganda Partnership Group (MUP) Meeting**

A [MUP](#) meeting was conducted on November 7, 2016.

## **Uganda Hub Visits**

The Operations Manager facilitated visits by U of M faculty and students who are planning new research collaborations or educational exchanges. Visitors included three faculty, five fellows, and one student.

## **Faculty Travel Awards**

Three Travel Awards were awarded to AHC faculty to travel to Uganda. See Research below for details.

## **AHC Thailand Hub**

Announced by CGHSR in May 2016, the [Thailand Hub](#) has garnered considerable interest from colleagues at the U of M in and outside of the AHC, as well as academic and other partners in Thailand. The Minnesota-Thailand Interest Group met in October and has added new members from the AHC. CGHSR received multiple applications from AHC faculty for travel to Thailand in response to the new CGHSR faculty travel awards RFP (see Research below for details). The three awards given will help facilitate the growth of new AHC collaborations in Thailand as part of the Hub. Additional investment in Hub infrastructure (including staffing and space) is pending.

## **China**

### **Guangxi CDC Delegation Visit**

In August, a delegation from Guangxi Center for Disease Prevention and Control (Guangxi CDC) visited the U of M at the invitation of Dr. Brooks Jackson. The delegation met with 17 U of M faculty members, College of Veterinary Medicine Dean Trevor Ames, School of Public Health Dean John Finnegan, and the China Center. At the conclusion of the visit, the U of M AHC committed to fund seed grants in order to advance joint collaboration.

### **AHC Global Health Seed Grants: Research in Guangxi, China**

In August, CGHSR and Guangxi CDC announced a request for proposal for new research projects based in Guangxi Autonomous Region, China. The goals of these [seed grants](#) are to seed new research studies by U of M faculty from the health sciences and to support new partnerships between U of M faculty and Guangxi CDC researchers. In September, four proposals were selected for funding:

- "Novel therapeutic treatment of hepatitis B virus infection", co-PIs: Louis Mansky (Institute for Molecular Virology, Medical School, School of Dentistry) and Zhongliao Fang (Guangxi CDC).
- "Differential miRNA profiles between HCC cases and controls, among individuals infected with HBV with BCP double mutations", co-PIs: Guisheng Song (Medical School) and Zhongliao Fang (Guangxi CDC).
- "Secondhand smoke exposure and carcinogen uptake in elementary school children in Nanning, Guangxi", co-PIs: Irina Stepanov (School of Public Health) and Wenkui Geng (Guangxi Health and Family Planning Commission).
- "Secondhand smoke exposure and carcinogen uptake in elementary school children in Nanning, Guangxi", co-PIs: Fang Yu (School of Nursing) and Zhaoyong Huang (Guangxi CDC).

Research projects began in October/November and are being supported by the Research Program Coordinator for implementation and administration.

### **China-ASEAN Health Cooperation Forum Presentation**

In October, Dr. Brooks Jackson attended the China-ASEAN Health Cooperation Forum in Nanning to give a presentation and to meet with the Guangxi co-PIs selected for the seed grants with U of M AHC faculty members.

### **U of M Health Collaboration with China Event**

CGHSR and the U of M China Center co-sponsored a networking lunch for AHC colleagues engaged in China activity. The goals were to share and exchange collaborative activities, challenges and opportunities, and upcoming plans. Participants represented all 6 AHC schools/colleges, GPS Alliance, the Food Protection and Defense Institute, the U of M Foundation, and the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank. CGHSR and Brooks Jackson

presented CGHSR's China activities and plans, and three of the four projects with Guangxi CDC shared their updates. This event built on the CGHSR and China Center collaboration begun in early 2016, which we anticipate continuing to expand.

## Research

### CGHSR Faculty Travel Awards

To encourage and facilitate new global health research collaborations by AHC faculty in the Uganda and Thailand Hubs, CGHSR announced its first RFP for [travel awards](#) in Fall 2016. Priorities included proposals with an interdisciplinary component, favoring applicants who had: 1) never traveled to the country of application for related work purposes but had 2) cultivated preliminary relationships, 3) demonstrated impact of proposed activities and connection to long-term goals, and 4) required travel in order to realize their goals. Twelve applications were submitted, and six were awarded for travel in 2017.

#### *Thailand Faculty Travel Awards*

- Mustafa al'Absi, Professor of Biobehavioral Health and Family Medicine, Medical School-Duluth
- Gavin Bart, Associate Professor of Medicine, Medical School
- Carolyn Porta, Associate Professor, Population Health & Systems Cooperative, School of Nursing

#### *Uganda Faculty Travel Awards*

- Alan R. Lifson, Professor, Division of Epidemiology and Community Health, School of Public Health
- Melissa Saftner, Clinical Associate Professor, Child Family Health Co-Op, School of Nursing-Duluth/Twin Cities
- Srinand Sreevatsan, Professor, Veterinary and Population Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine

[Read more about the projects](#) being pursued by the recipients.

### International Researcher Series

This [seminar series](#) highlights best practices in planning and implementing global health research studies. On December 1, 2016, a session titled "Introduction to IRB for International Research" was conducted by Courtney Jarboe, Education and Outreach Specialist for the U of M Human Research Protection Program (HRPP).

## Student Programs & Opportunities

### Global Local Course

CGHSR partnered with the organization SocMed to offer the course "[Global Health in a Local Context](#): An experiential course on the social determinants, community engagement, and social action in Minnesota." The Fall semester course immersed students in the study of health equity, the social determinants of health, global health in a local setting, and community-based health initiatives. Lead faculty is Michael Westerhaus, Assistant Professor, Medical School; Adjunct Professor in the School of Public Health. Twenty-eight students completed the course. Six U of M students took the course for 3 PubH credits, 14 learners were community members from a variety of health professions, and the remaining 8 were U of M students who chose not to earn academic credits. Supplemental funding for this course was granted by the African Studies Initiative (ASI) and was used to support community faculty, site visits, and guest lecturers. CGHSR and Dr. Westerhaus successfully partnered with a diverse group of organizations and individuals who served as community faculty, host sites, and guest lecturers. CGHSR staff and Dr. Westerhaus expect to offer the course again in fall 2017 following extensive assessment of the pilot course content, model, teaching, and impact.

## India Programs

### *Mysore*

The "[India: Global Health, Globalization, and Leadership Course](#)" was offered for the second time from Dec 26, 2016 to Jan 15, 2017. The course again was facilitated in partnership between CGHSR with lead faculty Shailey Prasad, faculty in Family Medicine, and the organization Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM) in Mysore, India. Six students participated, including two MPH students, one dual MPH/MPP, one Medical Student, one Law Student, and one PhD Student from the College of Education and Human Development. A School of Public Health Professor also attended as a learner with a minor teaching role. Also available on a rolling basis is the Global Health Placement, a four-week project opportunity related to public health, health care delivery, and/or other community activities. We intend to continue to offer both programs in 2017-18.

### *Bangalore*

Together with Ben Capistrant, Assistant Professor in the School of Public Health, and Arvind Kasthuri from St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences in Bangalore, India, CGHSR launched the "[India: Applied Research in Urban and Rural Health](#)", a student placement opportunity in and around Bangalore, India. Two School of Public Health students spent 4 weeks between July 11 and August 5 engaged in both an individualized research project with St. John's faculty and hands-on practice activities with a cohort of St. John's students in rural and urban settings.

## Global Health Student Advisory Board (GHSAB)

[GHSAB](#) launched its 2016-17 year, with two student co-chairs (Sarah Thompson, School of Public Health and Amy Tran, College of Pharmacy) previously identified in spring 2016. CGHSR received 30 applications to fill seats on the board. CGHSR and co-chairs identified a secretary and filled 16 school representative seats, ensuring equal representation from all six AHC colleges and schools. GHSAB met twice during fall 2016 and identified areas and topics of focus. GHSAB held their first bi-monthly "Global Health Happy Hour" to facilitate informal interprofessional conversations on global health topics. The November 2016 topic was "Zika Virus" with an estimated attendance of 30 students.

## Fogarty Global Health Fellowships

In August 2016, the U of M submitted a competitive renewal of the [Fogarty Global Health Fellowships](#) application with Northern Pacific Global Health Consortium (NPGH) partners from the University of Washington, University of Michigan, and the University of Hawaii. The NPGH consortium solicited applications from eligible US trainees and trainees from partner countries, and the deadline for submission was initially December 1, 2016 (subsequently extended through January 2017).

## Global Health Institute Thailand Scholarships

Two \$2,000 travel scholarship were granted for learners (a Veterinary Public Health/Preventive Medicine Resident and a Medical student) to attend the [Global Health Institute Thailand](#) (GHIT) occurring at Chiang Mai University in February, 2017.

## Events

### Global Health Day

On November 15, CGHSR hosted [Global Health Day](#). The event featured Keynote Speaker Cecily Banura, PhD, MS, Senior Lecturer at Child Health and Development Centre, Makerere University College of Health Sciences. Dr. Banura was invited as the keynote in part because of her role as a new research collaborator with U of M faculty member Nicole Basta (School of Public Health) on their study funded by the AHC Global Health Seed Grants. She delivered the talk, "Cancer and human papillomavirus: Tackling the sexually transmitted epidemic in Uganda."

The event was moderated by Paul R. Bohjanen, Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases and International Medicine with a video address from MN-Uganda Partnership Co-Chairs David Meya and Innocent

Rwego of the U of M Academic Health Center Uganda Hub. Panelists contributed to the discussion and responded to questions from the audience. Panelists included Susan Craddock, Interim Director, Center for Bioethics, and Professor, Institute for Global Studies, Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies; and Nicole Basta, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health.

Global Health Day also featured a poster competition for AHC students in which seventeen students presented their work.

### **Global Health Case Competition**

#### *University of Minnesota Global Health Case Competition*

Teams have been formed for the 4th annual [Global Health Case Competition](#), which will be held on-campus January 28, 2017 and offers a unique opportunity for interdisciplinary teams of graduate/professional and undergraduate students to collaboratively analyze a real-world global health challenge. There are 79 students and 14 coaches representing all six AHC Schools and 7 other schools/colleges competing on 14 teams. A case has been selected, and a judging panel has been recruited based on the content of the case.

#### *One Health Workforce Case Competition*

CGHSR provided technical assistance to One Health Workforce (OHW)/One Health Central and East Africa (OHCEA) faculty as they launched their first case competition in Africa with multidisciplinary students clubs in Rwanda on December 19. CGHSR provided tools used by CGHSR for the U of M Global Health Case Competition and served as a resource for OHW. Carolyn Porta, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, who served as the coach of the 2016 winning team from the U of M Competition, recruited 5 of the 6 members of her former team to collaboratively create the case "A multidisciplinary approach of responding, treating, and controlling disease outbreak: a case of Ebola in Rwanda." Two members of that team traveled with Dr. Porta to assist on-site. More competitions are being planned in Kenya and perhaps Ethiopia. This dissemination to OHW represents desirable, valued translation and capacity-building to other partners and another region globally - a major success.

### **AHC Orientation for Global Experiences**

CGHSR compiles and [hosts a list of online resources](#) pertaining to health sciences students preparing for global experiences. A series of short workshops were held for students planning for global health experiences abroad as well as faculty and coordinators who advise students:

- "Your Global Experience: Getting it Right", October 17, 2016, facilitated by Tricia Todd, Assistant Director, Health Careers Center
- "Personal Health and Safety", December 5, 2016, facilitated by Cindy Howard, Co-Director, Global Medical Education and Research program (GMER) and Director, Division of Global Pediatrics; and Kevin Dostal Dauer, Director, International Health, Safety, & Compliance