FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

The Fall term is coming to a close, and it has been a busy term for all of us. The teaching program has been particularly busy, with our large graduate and undergraduate student enrolments this year. Thanks to all of our faculty members and support staff who have contributed to the successful delivery of these programs. We had an external review of our graduate program earlier this year, with a number of recommendations made for improving and enhancing the program. As a follow-up to one of the program review recommendations, we brought in Dr. Kue Young, a former Head of CHS, in early October for an external review of the MPH program in particular, and he made some very pertinent observations and suggestions. Some of the graduate program review recommendations have already been acted upon, such as extending our graduate program admission deadline from November 30 to January 10, effective this year. The more substantive recommendations will be reviewed and discussed at a faculty retreat planned for the winter/spring of 2018.

A major restructuring of the Bachelor of Health Studies (BHSt) degree program, within the Interdisciplinary Health Program (IHP), has almost been completed, and after a lengthy review and modification process, Senate approval is expected in December. The new structure comprises three concentrations: Health Policy, Planning and Evaluation; Health Promotion and Education; and Family Health. Each student enrolled in the BHSt degree program must choose at least one of the concentrations, which consist of 18 credit hours from an approved list of concentration courses. The Family Health concentration was created in particular to ensure that those students who would previously have enrolled in the Family Social Sciences degree program would seamlessly be able to choose the Family Health concentration in the BHSt degree program, as the same courses and program requirements would apply. Once the new BHSt program structure is approved, we will be able to begin the process of merging the current Family Social Sciences program into the IHP. We expect that the restructured BHSt program, as well as the recently restructured companion Bachelor of Health Sciences program, will attract a large number of students, and provide a strong pathway for graduate studies in CHS and in other departments in the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences.

Many of you will have noticed that our weekly colloquium series has been particularly well attended this Fall, with the Betty Havens Room at times filled to overflowing. This has in large part been due to enhanced student attendance, attributable to many instructors providing course marks for students attending a given number of colloquia. This new system will be reviewed and evaluated, but it has been great to see such good attendance, at least by students. Thanks to Brenda Elias and Michelle Driedger for facilitating this innovation. Now any suggestions for improving faculty member attendance will be welcome!

As most of you know, I will be on administrative leave for the calendar year 2018, returning in 2019, so this will be my last newsletter until then. Sharon Bruce will be Acting Department Head in 2018, and Lisa Lix Acting Associate Department Head, and I'm sure that the transition will be smooth. Another important upcoming milestone is that Kathy Bell, who is the glue that has held the Department together for many years, will be retiring on January 31, 2018. We are in the process of recruiting a replacement, but Kathy will be sorely missed. Her knowledge of the Department, the College, the Faculty and the University, her effective and efficient work, her conscientious approach, her attention to detail, and her sunny disposition will be impossible to replace. My heartfelt thanks to Kathy for all of the support that she has provided to me over the past five plus years, and we all wish her a happy and healthy retirement, with her rapidly expanding extended family.

Hope to see many of you at the CHS holiday potluck on December 14 at 12:00 noon in the Betty Havens Room, and we will take that opportunity to formally say goodbye to Kathy. Have a fine holiday season and a great 2018.
Congratulations to Dr. Catherine Cook, Associate Professor, Community Health Sciences for being named one of Women’s Executive Network (WXN) 2017 Canada’s Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award winner in the “trailblazers and trendsetters” category.

Congratulations to Dr. Yoav Keynan as the winner of the 2017 Manitoba Medical Service Foundation (MMSF)/SBRC Richard Hoeschen Memorial Award.

Congratulations to Dr. Lisa Lix for Public Health Agency of Canada Award of Recognition for Service, September 2017.

Congratulations to Drs. Tracie Afifi and Salah Mahmud who were elected as members of the Royal Society of Canada’s (RSC) College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists, November 23, 2017.

Dr. Deborah McPhail, Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences, Max Rady College of Medicine, was selected as one of the 40 finalists in the CBC Manitoba Future 40 (2017). Dr. McPhail was acknowledged for her scholarship dedicated to alleviating health inequalities, in particular those faced by people labeled obese and in LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Two-Spirit, Queer) communities. In addition, Dr. McPhail has extended the College of Medicine’s LGBTQ health curriculum by developing a number of innovative sessions for medical students in order to better serve the traditionally underserved LGBTQ community.

Dr. Xibiao Ye. Early Career Research Program Award. Supported by the Canadian Institute of Health Research-Institute of Cancer Research (CIHR-ICR), the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS), and Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR).

Congratulations to Amanda Woods and Dr. Melinda Fowler who celebrated their love through marriage on November 4, 2017.

Welcome to new support staff members:

Ms. Audrey Du, the new undergraduate program assistant, will be providing Shelly Goodacre with support across a variety of tasks. She will be working Monday to Thursday, 8:30 am – 1:30 pm and located in Room 316, Human Ecology Building.

Ms. Martha Ericastilla, the new Graduate Program and Resident Program Assistant. Martha is located in S111, and works with Dr. Michelle Driedger, Director of the Graduate Program; Dr. Brent Roussin, Director of the Public Health and Preventive Residency Program; and Dr. Bob Tate, Director of the MPH Program.

Ms. Naatasha Mohammad, the new coordinator of the Manitoba Training Program in Health Services Research. Naatasha works with Dr. Malcolm Doupe, Director of the Program, and is located in S113.

Dr. Deborah McPhail (far left and right) and past CBC Manitoba Future 40 finalist Dr. Meghan Azad (centre).

---

**GRADUATE PROGRAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Thesis Title</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Kiansky</td>
<td>Raising Potential: Exploring Parent-Child Interaction Levels among Families in the Abecedarian Program and its Effects on Language Development</td>
<td>Dr. J. Mignone, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. K. Duncan, Community Health Sciences; Dr. R. Santos, Community Health Sciences</td>
<td>FSS MSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karla Willows, BSc, MD, FRSC</td>
<td>Early Evidence of the Effectiveness of the Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Program Against Anogenital Warts in Manitoba, Canada: A Registry Cohort Study</td>
<td>Dr. Salah Mahmud (advisor); Dr. E. Kliewer, Community Health Sciences; Dr. Alon Altman, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Gynecologic Oncology, University of Manitoba</td>
<td>MSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Joanne Cooper, BA (Adv), MA</td>
<td>Positioning Priorities: Safety and Wellbeing Among First Nations and Metis Mothers in Winnipeg, MB</td>
<td>Dr. S. Michelle Driedger, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. Josée Lavoie, Community Health Sciences; Dr. Tuula Heinonen, Social Work; Dr. Heather Castleden, Department of Public Health Sciences, Queens University (external examiner)</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rae Spiwak</td>
<td>An examination of Mental Disorders Associated with Spousal Suicide Bereavement: A longitudinal Population- Based Study</td>
<td>Dr. Brenda Elias, Advisor, Community Health Sciences; Dr. Jitender Sareen, Psychiatry; Dr. James Bolton, Psychiatry; Dr. Mariette Chartier, Community Health Sciences; Dr. Laurence Katz, Psychiatry; Dr. Terrance Wade, Health Sciences, Brock University</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deepa Singal, BSc (Hons.)</td>
<td>The Manitoba Mothers and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Study: A Retrospective Population-Based Cohort Study Using Linked Administrative Data</td>
<td>Dr. M. Brownell, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. D. Chateau, Community Health Sciences; Dr. L. Roos, Community Health Sciences; Dr. A. Hanlon-Dearman, Pediatrics and Child Health; Dr. S. Lontaff, Pediatrics and Child Health; Dr. F. Elgar, Psychiatry, McGill University (external examiner)</td>
<td>MSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Souradet Y. Shaw</td>
<td>Complexity and the Intersection of Social and Sexual Structure, Ecological Niches and the Epidemic Potential of Sexually Transmitted and Bloodborne Infections: Empirical and Theoretical Observations</td>
<td>Dr. J. Blanchard, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. J. Wylie, Community Health Sciences; Dr. A. Gumel, Mathematics; Dr. J. Jennings, School of Medicine, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**BASKETBALL PROGRAMS**

**Basketball for Inner-City Kids (BBICK)** – With fundraising dollars from the Annual Students vs Staff basketball game in the spring, the department was able to purchase approximately 600 basketballs! Thank you to all who made donations! Volunteers delivered basketballs to graduating Grade 6 students from sixteen community schools. This year we also provided students at Opaskwayak Cree Nation with basketballs during our annual northern Biomedical Youth camp in July.

**Summer Weekend Inner-City Supervised Hoops (SWISH)** – This year the SWISH program ran from July 8 – August 19 with a record number of youth from the area attending. Our final day on August 19 hosted a record 63 youth! Thank you to all SWISH staff, volunteers and partnering community agencies. Thank you also to our program partners: Basketball Manitoba, City of Winnipeg, Youth Agencies Alliance, Physical Plant, Parking and Security services at Bannatyne.

**BIOMEDICAL YOUTH PROGRAM**

From July 17-21, over 100 camp participants from Grades 5-12 participated in the annual BYP camp at Bannatyne. Fifteen students from northern Manitoba also attended the camp as part of their ACCESS Program careers in health week. Students came from Garden Lake, Cross Lake, Thompson, Flin Flon and various other First Nations and northern communities. Over fifty volunteers make this week-long camp possible – thank you to all!

Karen Cook and students from the Max Rady College of Medicine and College of Rehabilitation Sciences travelled to Opaskwayak Cree Nation from July 24-28 to offer the BYP camp to First Nations youth from 13-15 years. The youth enjoyed many of the hands-on activities facilitated by RFHS student volunteers. While at OCN, we also participated in the “Mad About Science” camp hosted by the Town of The Pas. Students facilitated sessions during the morning to a young group of participants, ages 5-9 years. During our week there, RFHS students also participated in daily job shadowing at the RHA in The Pas. All conveyed how valuable the experience was!
MINI-U
This year Community Engagement sponsored the Hamidi brothers from Syria to attend Mini-U camp at Fort Garry. Salih, Yahya, Yusef and Ibrahim all indicated they enjoyed the activities during the camp, such as dodge ball and wall climbing. A full article appeared in UM Today and can be read at http://news.umanitoba.ca/speaking-the-language-of-fun/

ORIENTATION WEEK ACTIVITIES
On September 15, 480 incoming Rady Faculty of Health Sciences students visited various agencies in the community to learn about services/programs and available service learning and volunteering opportunities.

Community Engagement staff worked with the Office of Interprofessional Collaboration to coordinate these activities, including a debrief session at the end of the day.

MAX RADY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE – SERVICE LEARNING
As of October 2017, there are now 220 med students completing community-based service learning as part of their Population Health course. Students are completing their hours at approximately 25 different inner-city agencies such as Child and Family Services, Boys & Girls Club, Spence Neighbourhood Association, House of Peace, Bear Clan and many others. Students remain with the same agency for their first two years of med school. Community Engagement staff worked with UGME to coordinate placements.

CANU PROGRAM
The CanU Program started again on Thursday, October 26 and runs for thirteen weeks. Participants from the local community will meet at Bannatyne each Thursday and participate in various health science activities led by student volunteers from all colleges in the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences. The Bannatyne program has grown since it started in 2014 and now hosts close to 80 Grade 7-9 participants! Thank you to all for contributing to the success of the program.

MANITOBA RESEARCH DATA CENTRE
The Manitoba RDC is a place for faculty and students to access confidential Statistics Canada microdata, located at both the Bannatyne Campus (390 Brodie) and the Fort Garry Campus (228 Helen Glass). You can contact Ian Clara at the Manitoba RDC by email at manitoba.rdc@umanitoba.ca for any questions that you may have or to find out how to access the data. Below is a summary of some of the newest data that is available to researchers:

(1) Call for Proposals – Longitudinal Immigration Database
The Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) combines linked administrative immigration and tax data files for persons who obtained permanent resident status since 1980 and filed at least one tax return since 1982, followed longitudinally. The data are combined from administrative files through exact matching record linkage techniques. The IMDB brings together immigration from IRCC, taxation data from the Canada Revenue Agency (Annual Income Estimates for Census Families and Individuals –T1 Family files), and the date of death from Statistics Canada’s Amalgamated Mortality Database (AMDB). It is a comprehensive source of data on the socio-economic outcomes of the immigrant tax filer population in Canada. The IMDB provides detailed and reliable information on the labour market behaviour of different categories of immigrants over a period that is long enough to assess the impact of characteristics at admission, such as education and knowledge of French or English. The database also provides information on pre-admission work or study experience in Canada, provincial mobility and family composition. Proposals are due December 22, 2017, and you can contact the Manitoba RDC for more information.

(2) Call for Proposals – Extended Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada
The Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC), an immigration panel survey, and tax data information from the Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) have been combined to provide an extended analytical file (LSIC-IMDB). Topics covered in the survey include language proficiency, housing, education, foreign credential recognition, employment, health, values and attitudes, the development and use of social networks, income, and perceptions of settlement in Canada. Latest additional socio-economic outcomes are then provided from tax filing information. The target population for the LSIC survey consists of immigrants who meet all of the following criteria: arrived in Canada between October 1, 2000 and September 30, 2001; were age 15 years or older at the time of landing; landed from abroad, must have applied through a Canadian Mission Abroad. Refugees claiming asylum from within Canada are also excluded from the scope of the survey. To be linked to the IMDB, the respondent will have filed at least one tax return since 1982. Proposals are due December 22, 2017, and you can contact the Manitoba RDC for more information.

(3) Canadian Community Health Survey 2000-2011 linked to the Discharge Abstracts Database 1999-2012
These datasets allow researchers to link the Discharge Abstracts Database to a given Canadian Community Health Survey year. For an example, researchers can refer to this Health Reports article on nutritional risk and hospitalization.

(4) Graduate Fellowship Awards
Every year, the Manitoba RDC offers up to 5 awards of $5000 to graduate students who are using Statistics Canada data at the Manitoba RDC for a part or all of their thesis/dissertation. The call for applications generally goes out in February, and students can apply for the award before they have access to the RDC. Students interested in the award can contact the Manitoba RDC at manitoba.rdc@umanitoba.ca for more information.

(5) Post-Doctoral Opportunity with Statistics Canada
The Statistics Canada Post-Doctoral Fellowship provides recent PhD graduates with the unique opportunity to conduct high quality research at one of the world’s leading statistical agencies. The research conducted at Statistics Canada advances knowledge on emerging issues related to Canadian society and informs Canada’s policies and programs. For more information (e.g., pay scale, duties, requirements) you may contact Ian Clara at the Manitoba RDC (manitoba.rdc@umanitoba.ca) – the closing date for applications is November 29, 2017.

NEW RESEARCH GRANTS


Salah Mahmud. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Tier II Canada Research Chair (CRC), in Pharmaco-Epidemiology and Vaccine Evaluation. $500,000, 2017/11 – 2022/10.


Vanessa Poliquin. The R. Samuel McLaughlin / MMSF Research & Education Fellowship Award in Medicine – $42,317 (MMSF $12,500 \ McLaughlin Fund $12,500 \ Dean's Fellowship Fund $17,317) – Award Term: July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.


Urquia ML (PA) et al: 2017 – 2022. $1,086,322. Foundation Grant; Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) “Addressing gender-based health inequities among immigrants to Canada”.

Tarasuk V (PA) and Urquia ML (Co-PA): 2017 – 2020. $504,900. Project Grant, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR): “Maternal and infant health in association with household food insecurity”

Tarasuk V (PA) and Urquia ML (Co-PA): 2017 – 2020. $250,000. University of Toronto - Centre for Child Nutrition and Health: “The implications of household food insecurity for maternal and infant health”.


NEW PUBLICATIONS


PRESENTATIONS


Afifi, T.O. Invited Speaker at the Clinical and Translational Research Institute Life course symposium on Childhood Adversity, Adverse Childhood Experiences: Consequences across the life course, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California, United States, May 17, 2017.

Afifi, T.O. Data sources, data availability, and data gaps in field of adverse childhood experiences (ACES). Invited speaker and panel discussant at the World Health Organization (WHO), Violence Prevention Alliance (VPA) and Prevention of Violence across the Lifespan (PreVAIL) meeting, Ottawa, ON, Canada, October 18, 2017.


Chateau D. Cohort restriction methods to address confounding in pharmacoepidemiology. Invited speaker at the Canadian Association for Population Therapeutics annual conference, Toronto, ON, October 24, 2017.


Leslie WD, Majumdar S, Lix L, Seeman E, Morin S. Bone mineral density in the osteopenic or normal range is a disincentive to treatment of women at high fracture risk: Throwing out the baby, the bathwater and bathtub. The American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, September 8-11, 2017.


Mahmud, SM. (2017). The role of Real World Evidence for effective vaccination strategy. GCC Pharmacoeconomic Forum, Dubai, United Arab Emirates


Christiaan Righolt, Geng Zhang, Salah Mahmud. (2017). CLL incidence, Metformin and statins. CLL Cluster Meeting, Winnipeg, Canada


Shooshtari, S. From local to global: A decade of research on intellectual and developmental disabilities. Talk presented at the Department of Community Health Sciences Bold Ideas Colloquium Series, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, November 24, 2017


Willows K, Righolt C, Kliewer E, Mahmud SM. (2017). Trends in the Incidence of Anogenital Warts (AGW) in Manitoba, Canada, before and after the Introduction of the Quadrivalent HPV (QHPV) Vaccine. 33rd International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology and Therapeutic Risk Management (ICPE 2017), Montreal, Canada


PUBLIC SERVICE


Sandor Demeter

- Federal Commissioner appointment to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). One year appointment as a part time permanent member, commencing February 17, 2017.
- International Commission on Radiation Protection (ICRP) – Committee 3 (Medicine) member- Second term 2017 - 2021

COLOQUIUM SERIES


September 29, 2017: Queen Elizabeth Scholars: Celebrating Student Success. Natalie Riediger, Assistant Professor, Community Health Sciences and QES Students - Valdine Flaming, Andrew Samuel and Linet Cherono.


October 20, 2017: Change Without Fear: Supporting Health Care Changes with Evidence & Facilitation. Colleen Metge, Associate Professor, Community Health Sciences.


November 3, 2017: Addressing Gender-Based Health Inequities Among Immigrants to Canada. Marcelo Urquia, Assistant Professor, Community Health Sciences.

November 10, 2017: Ontario’s Basic Income Experiment. Evelyn Forget, Professor, Community Health Sciences.

November 17, 2017: New Findings in Suicide Prevention: Shifting the Focus From Prediction to Treatment. Dr. James Bolton, Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Community Health Sciences.

November 24, 2017: From Local to Global: A Decade of Research on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Shahin Shooshtari, Associate Professor, Community Health Sciences.

UPCOMING DEPARTMENT COUNCIL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Department Council Meetings

Monday, January 8, 2018 | 535 BMSB* | 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, March 6, 2018 | 535 BMSB* | 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, May 9, 2018 | 535 BMSB* | 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, September 6, 2018 | RO60 (tentative) | 10:00 a.m.
Friday, November 2, 2018 | 535 BMSB* | 10:00 a.m.

Executive Committee Meetings

Monday, February 5, 2018 | A474 Chown | 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, April 3, 2018 | 403 Brodie | 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, June 6, 2018 | A474 Chown | 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, October 4, 2018 | A474 Chown | 10:00 a.m.
Friday, December 7, 2018 | A474 Chown | 10:00 a.m.

*Video-linked to 200B Human Ecology Building