FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

Welcome to the new academic year! Community Health Sciences is experiencing its largest incoming class of graduate students yet, with a total of 32 new students having confirmed acceptance for the coming Fall term (10 for the PhD program, 17 for the M.Sc. program, 4 for the MPH program and one for the Diploma program). We will also have a large incoming class of undergraduate students in the Bachelor of Human Ecology (Family Social Sciences), and the Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Studies programs, with a total of 80 students registered to start these programs in September. The number of new students registered for the Bachelor of Health Sciences program in particular is double that in recent years. Thanks to all of our faculty members and support staff for meeting the challenge of such large enrolments. And congratulations to the large number of MPH, M.Sc., BHecol (FSS), BHSc and BHSt students who have recently graduated, and are recognized elsewhere in this newsletter.

Dr. Verena Menec completed her three-year term as Director, Graduate Studies, on June 30, 2017, and has done outstanding work in that capacity. She presided over a significant expansion in graduate student enrollment, and has led the Graduate Studies Committee and the Department through a series of major changes in graduate program policies and procedures. Many of these changes have taken effect already, and others will be implemented in the near future, and they will enhance both the graduate program and the learning environment for students. During Verena’s term, new concentrations in biostatistics and clinical epidemiology have been developed, and she recently organized and presided over a major external review of the graduate program, that has just been completed. I am also pleased to welcome Dr. Michelle Driedger as the new Director of Graduate Studies, effective July 1, 2017. Michelle has taught graduate courses in qualitative methods and other areas for some time, and has supervised several M.Sc. and PhD students. Please join me in welcoming Michelle to this challenging position, and please extend to her your full cooperation and support.

Welcome also to new faculty members Dr. Audrey Swift and Ms. Tammy Taillieu, who started their appointments as Instructors in our undergraduate programs on July 1, 2017. Audrey and Tammy have several years of experience in undergraduate teaching, and will bring stability and considerable teaching expertise to our undergraduate teaching program. Dr. Kerstin Roger continues as Director, Undergraduate Studies, and we very much appreciate her work, as well as the great support provided by Alisa Claman, undergraduate academic advisor, and Shelly Goodacre, undergraduate program administrative assistant.

Since our last newsletter, two Canada Research Chairs have joined the Department, both with the Centre for Global Public Health: Dr. Mike Pickles, whose Tier II Chair is in Mathematical Modelling and Global Public Health; and Dr. Ties Boerma, whose Tier I Chair is in Population and Global Health. They will contribute substantially to the research and teaching enterprises of the CGPH and the Department as a whole.

Hope to see many of you at the September Council meeting and the potluck which follows, as well as at the various student orientations.
Congratulations to Dr. Judith Bartlett, former Associate Professor, Community Health Sciences, who has been named to the Order of Canada. Dr. Bartlett was recognized for establishing models of care tailored to Indigenous communities. She was Associate Director, Programs, for the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research in CHS from 2001-2005, and then its Co-Director from 2007-2008. From 2005 to 2012, Dr. Bartlett was Director of the Health and Wellness Department of the Manitoba Metis Federation. She became a GFT Associate Professor at the University of Manitoba in May 2004, and an adjunct scientist at the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy in 2009.

Dr. Bartlett has made enormous contributions to Community Health Sciences and to the University of Manitoba. In addition to having been a Co-director of MFN CAHR during its formative years, she has taught courses in First Nations, Metis and Inuit Health in the graduate program, supervised graduate students, and taught in undergraduate medical education. She has conducted important research and published numerous scientific articles, many in collaboration with colleagues at the Manitoba Metis Federation. In 2014, Dr. Bartlett was honoured by her international Indigenous colleagues to be asked to take the banner to host the 6th biennial International Network in Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development (INIHKD). She was also a recipient of a National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Health in 2003, and the YMCA-YWCA Women of Distinction Award in 2013, for education, training and mentorship.

Basketball Manitoba President's Award for Community Development
Karen Cook, Community Engagement and Dennis Bayomi, CHI/CHS received the President's Award for Community Development at the Annual Basketball Manitoba Awards Ceremony on April 15th. This new award recognizes individuals or groups who support the sport of basketball at the community level. Karen and Dennis were recognized for their work with Basketballs for Inner-City Kids, a program which provides basketballs to graduating grade 6 students from 15 inner-city schools and northern First Nations communities; and the Summer Weekend Inner-City Supervised Hoops (SWISH), an outdoor basketball drop-in program. Together these programs reach approximately 800 youth each summer! Congratulations to Karen and Dennis!

Manitoba Health Student Research Forum (MHSRF, June 6, 2017) and Canadian Student Health Research Day Awardees (June 7, 2016)
Davinder Singh, MHSRF Dean of Medicine Award (Masters Poster)
Rae Spiwak, MHSRF Manitoba Health Services Commission Award (Phd Poster), Manitoba Health Services Commission Major Dissertation Award, Canadian Institutes of Health Research National Student Award (Honorable Mention)
Deepa Singal, MHSRF Dean of Medicine Award (PhD Poster), Major Health Sciences Centre Children's Hospital Research Dissertation Award, Canadian Institutes of Health Research National Student Award (Silver)
Elizabeth Wall-Wieler, MHSRF Poster Award (Honorable Mention)

CHS Bold Student Poster Competition from the 2017 Manitoba Health Student Research Forum
In this inaugural year, we challenged our students to tell us about their bold research ideas, approaches and findings. Sixteen CHS students successfully participated and showcased their research for the benefit of family, community, population and public health. Of these, nine students received awards, and a number of our students received awards and acknowledgements at the Manitoba and Canadian competitions hosted by the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Health Sciences. Congratulations to all our students for taking that bold step to showcase their research and for carving out a place for community health sciences in health research.

Drs. Brenda Elias and Robert Tate, CHS Bold Student Poster Competition Organizers

Front Row: Jessica Erynne Sjoblom (Masters 2nd Place, Best Bold Poster), Elizabeth Wall-Wieler (Best Quantitative Poster), Cara Brown (PhD 2nd Place), Aynslie Hinds (PhD 3rd Place), Dhiwya Attawar (PhD 1st Place, Best Proposal Poster), Xuan Chen (Masters 1st Place, Best Conceptually Framed Poster).

Back Row: Deepa Singal (Best Results Based Poster), Nicole Herpai (Best Mixed Methods Poster), Thomas Steur (Masters 2nd Place, Best Qualitative Poster).

Congratulations to:
- Dr. Marshall Pitz, promoted to Associate Professor, Departments of Community Health Sciences, Internal Medicine, and Human Anatomy and Cell Science, March 30, 2017.
- Dr. Linda Larcombe, promoted to Associate Professor, Departments of Community Health Sciences, Internal Medicine and Medical Microbiology, March 30, 2017.
- Dr. Eric Bohm, promoted to Professor, Departments of Community Health Sciences, Internal Medicine and Medical Microbiology, March 30, 2017.
- Dr. Sara Goulet, promoted to Assistant Professor, Departments of Community Health Sciences and Family Medicine, March 30, 2017.
- Dr. Colleen Metge, promoted to Associate Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, March 30, 2017.
Congratulations to PhD student Chelsea Jalloh, co-chair of Sunshine House, winner of Fast Pitch, a Dragon’s Den-like competition for nonprofits. Fast Pitch is run by the Winnipeg Foundation to help coach the city’s charitable sector. The winner walks away with $10,000 for their charity. The competition-winning pitch was for Sunshine House to convert an old garage into a greenhouse. “We would like to use the produce we grow to supplement the nutritional value to the meals we serve our participants and also sell the produce to local restaurants so we can reinvest the profits to make the program sustainable.” Jalloh said.

Congratulations to Deepa Singal, recipient of The Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation 2017 McNaught-Taillon Emerging Leader Bursary.

We would like to thank Abigail Byle for her dedication and commitment as Program Coordinator of the Manitoba Training Program in Health Services Research. Abigail worked with MTP since 2015, and has been instrumental in this program’s growth and development. We wish Abigail great success in her new role as Copyright Specialist with Extended Education at the University of Manitoba.

We are happy to announce that Danielle Lafleur has joined the team working on Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME) for the Department of Community Health Sciences. Danielle’s position as a UGME office assistant will work closely with Course Coordinator, Chelsea Jalloh, and Course Directors, Drs. Adrienne Morrow and Joss Reimer, to provide support to the Population and Public Health components of the undergraduate medical education program. Danielle recently completed her advanced B.A. in Linguistics at the University of Manitoba, and is actively involved in the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program at St. Boniface Hospital. Danielle looks forward to working with CHS Faculty, staff, and undergraduate medical students in this new role. Welcome, Danielle! Congratulations to Dr. Shayne Taback, Associate Professor, Departments of Community Health Sciences, Pediatrics and Child Health; Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences. Graduated from Royal Roads University, Faculty of Management, Graduate Certificate Program in Executive Coaching. June 30, 2017.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

M.Sc. Grads:
Kirsten Bourque, RN, BA, BA. “Managing Chronic Kidney Disease in Northern Manitoba: An Innovative Model of Care Using Telehealth and a Northern Based Nurse Clinician”. Committee: Dr. S. Bruce, Community Health Sciences (co-advisor); Dr. J. Zacharias, Community Health Sciences (co-advisor); Dr. A. Katz, Community Health Sciences; Ms. J. Schneider, Renal Program, Health Sciences Centre

David Dawe. “The Effect of Statin Use on the Incidence of Prostate Cancer: A Population-Based Nested Case-Control Study”. Committee: Dr. S. Mahmud, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. P. Czaykowski, Community Health Sciences; Dr. D. Jassal, Internal Medicine, University of Manitoba

Thomas Steur. “Difference-makers in human affective distress: Perspectives on causation and recovery gained from qualitative inquiry into lived experience”. Committee: Dr. S. Bruce, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. J. Mignone, Community Health Sciences; Dr. L. Leclair, College of Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Manitoba

MPH Grads:
Amanda Henry. “Exploring the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority’s role in Supporting Client Access to Income and Benefits to Promote Health”. Field Placement Supervisors: Hannah Moffatt and Sande Harlos, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. Committee: Drs. R. Tate, J Kettner; L. Elliott; B. Roussin, Community Health Sciences.

Sabella Yussuf-Homenauth. “To Explore and Understand the Role of the National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases as a Knowledge Broker and Partner in Canada’s Response Against Antimicrobial Resistance. Field Placement Supervisors: Margaret Haworth-Brockman, NCCID. Drs. R. Tate, L. Elliott; B. Roussin, Community Health Sciences.

FSS M.Sc. Grads:
Brittany Sieradzki. “Addressing the Need to Better Educate and Train Long Term Care Staff who Provide Direct Care to Residents with Dementia”. Committee: Dr. K. Roger, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. S. Shooshtari, Community Health Sciences; Dr. V. Menec, Community Health Sciences.

Manitoba Training Program for Health Services Research
The Manitoba Training Program has finished a very busy year with an especially diverse group of students from outside CHS, including Nursing, Disability Studies, Sociology, and Social Work. These students are finishing the academic year with placements at Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living and with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.

In addition to the usual student activities, the Manitoba Training Program also underwent an external Review in March, with reviewers interviewing stakeholders and decision makers from MHSAL and the WRHA, faculty at the University of Manitoba, and MTP students. The Director of MTP, Dr Malcolm Doupe, in partnership with MCHP, MHSAL, and Research Manitoba, has been awarded a CIHR grant for a postdoctoral fellow who will be working at MCHP and the University and also at MHSAL starting September 2017.

For the 2017-2018 year, MTP would like to welcome the following students from CHS to the program: Megan Campbell (M.Sc.), Leah Crockett (PhD), Isabel Garces Davila (PhD), Justin Dyck (M.Sc.), Sanjida Newaz (M.Sc.), Michael Paille (M.Sc.), Shannon Struck (M.Sc.), and Jennifer White (PhD).

New Research Grant:
Canadian Institute for Health Research
HSPI Training Modernization Start-up Grant
A Modernized Training Program: using evident to inform policy change
Principal Applicants: Doupe, Malcolm; Moses, Stephen; Katz, Alan; (University of Manitoba)
Principal Knowledge User: Cox, Jean (MHSAL)
Amount: $99,867 Term: 09/2017 – 11/2018
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

BASKETBALL PROGRAMS

5th Annual Students vs Staff Basketball Fundraiser
The annual student vs staff basketball game was held on Wednesday, March 15 in the Joe Doupe gymnasium. Dr. Ira Ripstein threw the ceremonial jump ball to get the game started. The final score was 77-52, with the students holding onto the championship trophy for another year! While pledges officially closed on April 15, ongoing donations can be made to our Donor Relations office at any time, 2nd floor Brodie, or online at Donate to Staff vs Students Basketball Event to Support Inner-City Programs. To date we have raised $2,275.00. Thank you to the following players who came out to support Basketball for Inner-City Kids and our Supervised Weekend Inner-City Supervised Hoops (SWISH) programs:

Staff Team
Coach – Dr. Barb Shay, (Rehab Sciences, PT)
Faisal Atakora (CHRIM)
Dennis Bayomi (CHS/CHI)
Abele Bekele (Brodie Gym/Active Living)
Dr. Grace Frankel (Pharmacy)
Eric Garcia (Internal Med)
Henry Huang (CHRIM)
Hal Loewen (NM Library)
Leonard Macwilliam (MCHIP)
Justin Pablo (Brodie Gym/Active Living)
Dr. Katinka Stecina (Physiology)
Dave Weller (Dentistry, IT)
Dr. Sandra Webber (Rehab Sci, PT)
Andrew Nguyen (Rehab Sci)
Spares: Dr. Duane Funk (Anesthesiology) and Dr. Michael Isaac (CHS)

Student Team
Gabriel Luo, Pharmacy
Jonathan Chingcuangco, Pharmacy
Yousef Zeid, Pharmacy
Michael Hillhouse, Pharmacy
Matthew Kochan, Medicine
Navjeet Sidhu, Dentistry
Craig Roberts, Pharmacy
Danielle Degagne, Grad Studies
Filip Dujcik, RT
Arnay Sud, Pharmacy
Amir Ali, Medicine

BASKETBALL PROGRAMS

Basketballs for Inner-City Kids
612 basketballs were distributed in June to graduating grade 6 students from 15 community schools and one school at Opaskwayak Cree Nation. The basketballs provide kids an opportunity to stay active over the summer and maintain effective campus-community relationships with schools and administrators. Thank you to all volunteers who helped inflate and deliver basketballs.

SWISH underway July 8 – August 19
Once again, Parking Lot E is transformed into an outdoor basketball venue over the summer. This popular drop-in program started on July 8 and will wrap-up on August 19th. Stay tuned for pictures and final reporting in next newsletter!

BIOMEDICAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

47th Annual Winnipeg School Division Science Fair, April 5, 2017
The annual WSD Science Fair convened at Bannatyne campus on April 5th, with over 500 students participating. This included just over 300 projects from grade 4-12 levels. Approximately 150 judges were tasked with identifying top winners in each category. The winners of the University of Manitoba Science Innovator Awards were:

Elementary: Coby Samphir, Brock Corydon – “Spice Hacks”
Intermediate: Izzy Marquez and Lidia Imbrogno, Grant Park High School – “Does Bacteria Rupture when it comes in contact with the wing of an insect?”
Senior (Tie): YaWen Huang, Grant Park High School – “Secreted Amyloid Precursor Protein Alpha as a Therapeutic for Diabetic Encephalopathy”

Jacob Harvey, Grant Park High School – “Resistance to Contamination under Various Carbon Substrates”

Three students also represented Manitoba at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Regina in May 2017. In addition to YaWen Huang and Jacob Harvey above, Alayna Smith, Ecole River Heights attended for her project “Advantages.” Congratulations to all participants!

Upcoming
BYP summer camps
Final SWISH reporting

NEW RESEARCH GRANTS

Azad M: 03/2017-02/2018. $75,000 Non-nutritive sweetener consumption during pregnancy: impact on infant gut microbiome and metabolism in the CHILD cohort. Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Operating Grant: Analyses of existing Canadian cohorts and databases. Principal Applicant (co-PA: Marie-Claire Arrieta-Mendez, University of Calgary)


Principal Applicant: Pourang Irani (University of Manitoba). Co-applicants: Lisa Lix (University of Manitoba), Elizabeth Borycki (University of Victoria), Andre Kushniruk (University of Victoria), Alex Thomo (University of Victoria), George Tzanetakis (University of Victoria), Karen Kobayashi (University of Victoria), Pingzhao Hu (University of Manitoba), Gary van Domselaar (University of Manitoba), Jason Leboe-McGowan (University of Manitoba), Julian Areni (University of Manitoba). Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. CREATE program in visualization and automated disease analytics. Amount: $1,650,000 Term: 04/2017 – 03/2023


Principal Applicant: Lisa Lix. Co-applicants: Elif Acar (Department of Statistics), Mahmoud Torabi (Department of Community Health Sciences), Mohammad Jafari Jozani (Department of Statistics), Pingzhao Hu (Department of Department of Biochemistry and Medical Genetics). Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute. Manitoba Statistical and Health Sciences (MB-SAHS) Collaborating Centre. Amount: $10,000. Term: 03/2017 – 03/2018

Principal Applicants: Lisa Lix, William D. Leslie (University of Manitoba) Co-applicants: Shuman Yang (Jilin University), Leslie L. Roos (University of Manitoba), Sumit Majumdar (University of Alberta), Suzanne Morin
A randomized trial to determine the impact of a digestion-resistant starch composition on the gut microbiome in older and mid-age adults. Clin Nutr (Epub).


Lix LM. Supporting patient-oriented research in Manitoba and Canada. CANRAD Network Meeting, Ottawa, ON, February 9, 2017.


Lix LM. Using electronic medical records and administrative health data to track obesity in the population: how good are the data? Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba Grand Rounds, March 2, 2017.


Sanguins J. Metis in Manitoba: Overview and challenges: Pan-American Health Organization Exchange on Ethnicity and Health, December 5, 2016, Washington, DC.


Nathan Nickel was elected to the Executive Council for the International Society for Research in Human Milk and Lactation in April 2017.

Media Interviews:
Meghan Azad
05/2017 Babies who are breastfed longer are less likely to wheeze-CTV News
05/2017 More breastfeeding, less wheezing: Year-long study finds breastfed babies reap rewards – CBC News
04/2017 ‘Like’ or ‘dislike’? Instagram Users’ Attitudes Towards Breastfeeding – University of Alberta
02/2017 Researching Chronic Disease (TMPLR Study)– CTV Morning Live

Workshops Taught

UPCOMING DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETINGS:
Thursday, September 14, 2017 | 535 BMSB* | 10:00 a.m.
Followed by Back-to-School Pot-Luck Luncheon, R060
Friday, November 3, 2017 CANCELLED – to be rescheduled
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 | R060 (tentative) | 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, November 2, 2018 | 535 BMSB* | 10:00 a.m.

UPCOMING EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS:
Wednesday, June 7, 2017 | A474 Chown | 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, October 5, 2017 | A474 Chown | 10:00 a.m.
Friday, December 1, 2017 | A474 Chown | 10:00 a.m.
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