The fall term will soon be coming to a close, and it has been another busy one. We again had a large intake of 21 graduate students in the 2019/20 academic year, including 10 master’s and 11 PhD students. Twenty-seven of our graduate students received student awards in 2019/20, with three holding more than one award, and with several potential additional awards pending. We now have over 100 graduate students in the department, and 19 students graduated over the past year.

With respect to undergraduate teaching on the Fort Garry Campus, the Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Studies programs continue to grow. Community Health Sciences (CHS) is largely responsible for the family health concentration in the Behest program, and enrollment in the Behest program in the 2019-2020 academic year is expected to be as high as 36, across all four years, including 26 new admissions. This compares with only 14 students enrolled in the program during the previous academic year (2018-2019), of which only eight were new admissions. The Behest program is increasing in popularity, as it largely takes over the content of the family social sciences program, and enrollment is expected to increase further with continuing promotion, and with a planned new articulation agreement with Red River College. The department’s population health longitudinal course in undergraduate medical education continues to thrive, as does our community engagement activities. In this newsletter, you will find reports on the Biomedical Youth Program (BYP), the BYP northern camp and the SWISH basketball program, components of our remarkable community engagement program.

In postgraduate medical education, our five-year residency program in public health and preventive medicine now has eight residents, and they will contribute to public health practice in Manitoba and elsewhere for years to come.

The department’s research activities have continued to expand. Of the four new Tier II Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) recently allocated to the department, candidates have been identified in the areas of program science and global public health (Sourest Shaw), health economics (Sarah Tougher), and analytic techniques in population data science and data curation (Elizabeth Wall-Wieder). Another CRC candidate, in artificial intelligence for complex health data, is expected to be identified by December 2019. If recruitment goes as planned, there will soon be close to 50 full-time faculty members in the department (along with over 120 part-time members), including four Tier I CRCs and eight Tier II CRCs. In addition, two faculty members hold new investigator awards, five hold CIHR Foundation grants and two hold CFI grants. Faculty members were awarded 61 new research grants and contracts in FY 2018/19, with total value over $55 million. This comprised more than one-quarter of all new grants and contracts held by the Max Rady College of Medicine. Cumulatively, there are now 156 grants and contracts managed by the department, with a total value of approximately $200 million.

As I have indicated previously, I will be stepping down as CHS department head as of December 31, 2019, although I will be retaining my faculty position on a reduced time basis after that time, and will continue supporting our global health programs and activities. As of the writing of this newsletter, the new department head has not yet been announced, but in any case, this will be my final “From the Department Head.” This is then an appropriate time to thank all of my colleagues, staff and friends in the department who have supported me enormously since I assumed the headship in September 2012. The list is long, but I would like to particularly single out the following individuals: the associate and acting heads of department over the past seven years, Sharon Bruce, Lisa Lix and Lawrence Elliott; the graduate program directors, Evelyn Forget, Verena Menec and Michelle Driedger; the UGME co-directors and instructors, Joss Reimer, Adrienne Morrow, Davinder Singh, Allen Kraut, Joel Kettner, Chelsea Jalloh and Gladys Stewart; the PGME directors, Brent Roussin and Davinder Singh; the undergraduate education program director, Kerstin Roger; Jamie Blanchard, Doris Kuzma and colleagues at the CGPH, who have put up with my less than optimal input and participation in our global health programs over the past seven plus years; Catherine Cook, Melanie McKinnon, Marcia Anderson and Josee Lavoie, who led the various components of the old Section of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Health, before it was transformed into the faculty-wide Ongomiizwin Indigenous Institute of Health and Healing; Alan Katz, the director of the Manitoba Center for Health Policy and Salah Mahmud, director of the vaccine and drug evaluation centre; Noralou Roos, who was the tireless chair of the department’s promotion and tenure mentoring committee for many years, and Evelyn Forget, who has taken over that mantle; the leadership of our community engagement and social accountability programs, particularly Ian Whetter, Anne Durcan, James Gilchrist, Francis Amara and Karen Cook; all of the department’s administrative staff, including those in administration and finance, UGME, PGME, graduate studies and undergraduate programs; and special shout-outs to Paulette Collins, our departmental administrator and business manager, and to Kathy Bell and Shannon Turczak, my executive assistants, who have gone well beyond the call of duty in establishing and maintaining a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, keeping the department well managed and up-to-date, and ensuring that nothing is left undone. Winter is coming, but the future is bright.
Dr. Patricia Kaufert, who died August 9, 2019, was all these, and so much more.

From her English roots as a Leyland born near Liverpool, to her days as a professor in CHS, via Ghana and the United States, Pat Kaufert left her wonderful mark.

Since 1968, much of her work was done with Joe, whom she met in Ghana. She and her daughter, Helen, travelled there after Pat enrolled in the University of Birmingham’s Centre of West African Studies in 1966. She taught at the university in Legon and did doctoral research on migration, health and local development in the town of Tsito in Ghana. That thesis work is still cited today.

The trio arrived in Winnipeg in 1976. Pat helped develop the department of social and preventive medicine as a post-doctoral fellow. By 1994, she was a full professor.

Pat was a leader in research and advocacy in the field of women’s health. Her focus ranged from midwifery, menopause and childbirth, to health screening, ethics and women’s use of health care services. She shared her knowledge beyond the university, and learned much from women outside it. Activities with Indigenous communities included work with the Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada on the implications of restoring traditional culture of birthing through women’s own narratives. Often her articles astutely challenged a societal construct or dogma with multiple layers of evidence – always a good strategy.

Pat considered the process of graduate education very important. With Joe, she developed and directed the department’s PhD and MSc programs and introduced feminist issues into the undergraduate medical curriculum. Her mentorship of graduate students and colleagues in critical thinking and writing was renowned for its positive impact on individuals and institutions. Through Pat’s support, many others sought out intellectual and anthropological challenges and tackled them effectively because, “answers matter to people and communities.” She listened and then taught gently and delighted in the successes of her students. She was a master of research design and fostered interdisciplinary collaboration.

Pat also worked internationally, with the World Health Organization to develop the policy on women’s health in mid-life and served on the UK Wellcome Trust Advisory Board on Social Science and Ethics. Her contributions in a 2005 grant application, she suggested, “there are other forms of knowledge dissemination, such as serving as an expert member on policy related committees, writing policy reports, or making presentations to policy makers or women’s organizations on the existing state of research knowledge on menopause, or midwifery or genetic testing.”

The August 19 memorial celebration of Patricia Kaufert’s life drew university colleagues and staff, friends of Helen’s and Joe’s, friends with whom she shared meals (many of which she cooked), and people whose lives she affected. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation in Pat’s name to the Stephen Lewis Foundation to support the “Grandmothers’ Campaign Fund” (stephenlewisfoundation.org).

ANNOUNCEMENTS/AWARDS

Patricia Alice Kaufert, 1935 – 2019


Melynda Minilgak is a recipient of the Dr. Christine Egan Memorial Scholarship. Upon her visit to New York City in August, she wrote, “I had the honour of visiting the 9/11 memorial; and what made my visit so special was visiting Dr. Christine Egan’s memorial. I couldn’t help but feel emotional after having the honour of accepting three of her scholarships throughout nursing school.”

Congratulations to Dr. Alan Katz, he has been elected as president-elect of the Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR).

Dr. Mani Brownell received the Geoffrey C. Robinson Award from the Canadian Pediatric Society, recognizing outstanding contributions to child and youth health through research in the field of population health or health services research. (Awarded June 6, 2019 at the annual conference of the Canadian Pediatric Society, Toronto, ON).

Dr. Karen Duncan began serving her term as president of the American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI) following a one-year term as president-elect. ACCI is an international organization of researchers, educators and related professionals dedicated to enhancing consumer and family economic well-being.

Congratulations to Dr. Audrey Swift, she is the successful candidate of an instructor II position in the Interdisciplinary Health Program (IHP). Audrey has been a sessional instructor in the Interdisciplinary Health Program since 2007. Since then, she has taught several IHP courses, as well as a number of family social sciences.

Housing Solutions for Indigenous Youth Aging out of Care in Winnipeg is a one-year community-based solutions lab funded through the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation ($156K) as part of the National Housing Strategy and supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

In partnership with Aboriginal Youth Opportunities, HTFC Planning & Design, Nigaanii Wabiski Mikanak Ogichidaa, Dr. Andrew Hatala and Darrien Morton, CHS, Shift Collaborative, and Fearless R2W, our housing solutions lab will address the challenge of housing insecurity and homelessness that Indigenous youth in care in Winnipeg face when they age out of Manitoba’s child welfare system at age 18. The 2018 Winnipeg Street Census reported that 51.5% of people experiencing homelessness had been in the care of child welfare at some point with the majority self-identifying as Indigenous. Among them, 62.4% of respondents experienced homelessness within one year of leaving care signaling inadequate transition housing supports. Many young people and stakeholders have identified pivotal points in the experience of a youth in care – a point at which they face a high probability of entering into a cycle of poverty, poor health and homelessness.
Our project leverages the processes and methodologies of Indigenous knowledges and social innovation labs to collaboratively explore the specific needs of Indigenous youth in Winnipeg who have grown up in care and are at the point where institutional supports are removed. We will approach this challenge from different perspectives and worldviews, including those of people who:

- are or were in the system (youth in care or aging out of care)
- are working “in” the system (child welfare workers, service providers, administrators, policymakers, etc.)
- are working “around” the system (e.g. advocates, families, community organizers, housing professionals, etc.)

As Kakeka Thundersky who is a youth researcher and youth aging out of care describes, “I am beyond excited to be a part of this project because I know firsthand how inconsistent and challenging navigating the systems are before and after you even head out. I am very happy the project uses Indigenous youth voices that know from experience what’s not working, and what is.”

Through this process, we aim to build bridges of empathy and provide advocates, service providers and policymakers with a more complete picture of the challenge. The solutions that are co-created, prototyped and rapidly tested will be scaled up by decision makers to close service gaps and further reduce the number of Indigenous young people facing housing insecurity once they age out of Manitoba’s child welfare system.

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We are pleased to announce that Dr. Sandor Demeter has recently joined CHS as a GFT member, having transferred from the department of radiology. Sandor has been a part time nil-salaried member of CHS since 2002. His career includes a decade working in public health and almost two decades in clinical nuclear medicine.

Laura Thompson, CHS graduate student in the Centre for Global Public Health received a full scholarship to attend the International Union Against Sexually Transmitted Infections, July 2019, Vancouver, Canada.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SWISH
The Summer Weekend Inner-City Supervised Hoops (SWISH) took place from July 6 – August 17 in Parking Lot E. The program recorded an average of 30 youth per Saturday with almost 200 youth overall attending for the seven-week program. SWISH is now in its eighth year and we are beginning to see previous youth participants moving up either as junior SWISH staff and/or as university level basketball players.

Two such participants are Brittanie Parisien, now playing with the Bisons, and Binh Nguyen, who in addition to continuing as a SWISH staff member, also plays for the Canadian Mennonite University’s basketball team. An article about Brittanie and Binh’s experience with SWISH over the years appeared in a recent edition of UM Today - link to story is below.

https://news.umanitoba.ca/swish-participants-now-university-basketball-players/

BIOMEDICAL YOUTH PROGRAM
The Biomedical Youth Program (BYP) camp took place at Bannatyne campus from July 15-19, 2019. This was by far the largest camp in the past five years with an enrollment of approximately 160 grade 5-12 students, including 12 students from northern and remote communities such as Cross Lake, Grand Rapids and Thompson to name a few. The northern student contingent is made possible through a long-standing partnership with BYP, ACCESS programs at Fort Garry, Shared Health, Frontier School Division and Ongomizwin Health Institute.

Dr. James Gilchrist, BYP camp director and a dedicated group of camp volunteers received positive feedback for an outstanding schedule of high quality and innovative hands-on activities for participants. Dr. Gilchrist and his team of volunteers worked diligently to ensure all volunteers and coordinators were well prepared and supported throughout the planning and implementation of the camp. For our university student volunteers, an application for Co-curricular Record (CCR) is underway so credit for contributions to the camp is recognized and recorded appropriately. The intention moving forward is to create a more robust organizational structure supported by a highly engaged student body. Assembling a strong team of likeminded students involved in the planning and operation of BYP activities is in keeping with the Mission of “Youth Inspiring Youth”.

BYP NORTHERN CAMP
Two first year med students and one University of Manitoba science undergraduate student travelled to Opaskwayak Cree Nation from July 22-25 to deliver high-quality and interactive sessions for grades 7-12 high school youth. Participants had the opportunity to dissect pig hearts, learn how to properly use a stethoscope, participate in an intubation simulation and play games related to the periodic table. Some participants showed a keen interest in the health careers and were fully engaged in all activities. They asked thoughtful and important questions for University of Manitoba students and the camp in many ways was a learning experience for both university and high school students. A story appeared in a recent edition of UM Today: https://news.umanitoba.ca/camp-exposes-northern-youth-to-health-sciences/

FAMILY SOCIAL SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Dr. Kerstin Roger, director; Shelly Goodacre, Program Coordinator; Audrey Du, program assistant; Alisa Claman, academic advisor; Karen Holmes, academic advisor

COURSE DELIVERY
Summer Term 2019
From May 6, 2019 to August 9, 2019, Family Social Sciences delivered 17 FMLY courses to a total of 629 students. In keeping with the University of Manitoba’s strategic plan to provide students with flexible learning opportunities, eight of these courses were delivered online, reaching 332 of the 629 students.
Fall Term 2019
From September 8, 2019 to December 8, 2019, Family Social Sciences is delivering 18 FMLY courses to a total of 1,311 students. While using the best of online learning technologies available, and providing students with flexible learning opportunities, in keeping with the University of Manitoba’s Strategic Plan (2015-2020), four of these courses were delivered online, reaching 448 of the 1,311 students.

FIELD PLACEMENT COURSE
For 2019/2020, 19 students (10 FSS and eight IHP) have been placed at 15 community organizations. For over 30 years, the Family Social Sciences Field Placement course (FMLY 4300) has been an integral part of the Family Social Sciences Program. This six credit-hour course requires students to complete 120 hours of supervised work in a professional setting, providing an opportunity for students to apply knowledge in a professional setting. Students are placed at a wide range of sites including frontline activities, research activities, program delivery, and program development and evaluation. This valuable learning opportunity would not be possible without the ongoing relationships and collaborations with our community partners. On April 9, 2019 a year-end meeting and celebration was attended by community partners, students and faculty at Fort Garry campus.

AWARDS
The Betty Morton Christian Scholarship in the amount of $3,975 was awarded to a third-year family social sciences student.

GRADUATION
Congratulations to 17 students who graduated from the family social sciences program in May 2019.

NEW RESEARCH GRANTS


Kelly C. Co-Recipient (with Katie Aubrecht, St. Francis Xavier and Carla Rice, University of Guelph). Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Publication Grant, Awards to Scholarly Publications Program, Book: The Aging-Disability Nexus: $8,000.00.


NEW PUBLICATIONS


REPORTS, BOOKS, CHAPTERS

REPORTS:


BOOKS:

BOOK CHAPTERS:
Afifi TO. (2019). Expanding the definition of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). In G.J.G Asmundson and TO. Afifi (Eds), Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs): Using Evidence to Advance Research, Practice, Policy and Prevention, Elsevier.

Afifi TO, Asmundson GJG. (2019). Current knowledge and future directions for the ACEs field. In G.J.G Asmundson and Afifi TO (Eds), Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs): Using Evidence to Advance Research, Practice, Policy and Prevention, Elsevier.

EDITORIALS:

CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS:
Hamm NC, Lix LM. Improving chronic disease incidence surveillance methods by developing and applying dynamic classification models to administrative health data. Canadian Society of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Ottawa, ON, May 13-15, 2019.


Kelly C. Dansereau L, Aubrecht K, Grenier A, Williams A. From disabled activists to older people and their families: Understanding the role of directly-funded home care in Canada 4th Transforming Care Conference. Copenhagen, Denmark, June 24-26, 2019.


**PUBLIC SERVICE**

**MEDIA ARTICLES AND NEWS**

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| September 27 | A106 Chown | Celebrating Bold Ideas CHS Students  
• Self-rated Frailty, Resilience, and Mortality of Old Men (Sachs)  
• Trying to do a Survey in the WRHA: Stories from the Front Line (Lerner)  
• Beyond the Biomedical: an Ethnographic Study of a Community-driven PrEP Intervention Among a Sex Worker Collective in South India (Lazarus) | Elizabeth Sachs, MSc (CHS)  
Jordyn Lerner, MPH (CHS)  
Lisa Lazarus, PhD (CHS) | |