From the Department Head

As the 2014-15 academic year draws to a close, we can reflect upon a great deal of accomplishment. Congratulations to the many PhD, MSc and MPH students who successfully completed their programmes over the past few months, and are noted elsewhere in this newsletter, and thanks to the many faculty members, support staff, and community members in Manitoba, elsewhere in Canada, and as far away as India, who contributed to their success. With the merging of the Department of Family Social Sciences and Community Health Sciences, it looks as though our graduate student intake for the 2015-16 academic year, especially MSc and PhD students, may be at an all-time high. This will create challenges for some of our larger-enrollment courses, but should represent a welcome increase in participation for other courses, and we can look forward with excitement to increased student activity around the Department.

We are currently in the midst of recruitment for several faculty positions. Two positions have arisen from a retirement and a departure of faculty members in Family Social Sciences last year; one is a new contingent position in MFN CAHR that is being supported by the Centre for Healthcare Innovation; and one is for a position at the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy, in relation to Pat Martens’ position. These recruitments are at various stages of development, and I will be able to update progress in the next newsletter.

Dr. Stephen Moses MD, MPH
Department Head

You are invited......

- BYP Summer Camp
- SWISH Basketball
From the Dept. Head, cont'd

As many of you are aware, our space issues have become increasingly challenging this year, but with help from the Faculty of Health Sciences, and determination from Paulette Collins, we are managing as best we can. The opening of the third and fourth floors of the Chown building to house the Centre of Healthcare Innovation is expected soon, and this will ease some of our space problems, as well as provide space closer to home for some of our newer faculty members. Unfortunately, our space on the third floor of the Medical Rehabilitation Building has recently been closed for renovation until probably the end of this year, so we have had to scramble again, and it is not clear when the first floor of the Chown building will re-open, so CAHE remains in improvised space. We have also been informed recently that the entire T block will be permanently decommissioned at the end of this year, which will require the relocation of the Northern Medical Unit, the Manitoba Follow-up Study, and other office space. We are continuing to work on these issues, so please bear with us over the coming months.

Finally, please note the information below on the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Scholarship programme. This is a very prestigious and competitive national training programme, that was successfully applied for by a novel collaboration of the MFN Centre for Aboriginal Health Research, the Centre for Aboriginal Health Education, the Centre for Global Public Health, and the Department of Medical Microbiology. It will provide research, training and educational opportunities for Canadian graduate students in various Commonwealth countries, and for graduate students from Kenya, India, Australia and New Zealand at the University of Manitoba. This is an exciting program, and will further enliven the environment around the Department.

Stephen Moses, MD, MPH
Head of the Department

We are very excited to announce a new health science training program where students will spend 3-4 months in the field learning and expanding their skills as community engaged researchers. This opportunity will be coordinated by the MFN - Centre for Aboriginal Health Research (Josée Lavoie, as the principal investigator), along with the Centre for Aboriginal Health Education, the Centre for Global Public Health, and the Department of Medical Microbiology.

The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Scholarship Program is a joint initiative between the Association of University and Colleges of Canada, the Rideau Hall Foundation and Community Foundations of Canada. The program will fund students to complete an internship/training opportunity in a Commonwealth country other than one of their citizenship. Various universities from across Canada will be facilitating diverse projects that will enable students to gain international training experience.

Over the next three years, the University of Manitoba along with our local partners at the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, the Manitoba Inuit Association and the Manitoba Metis Federation, as well as our international partners from Flinders University in Australia, Karnataka Health Promotion and Trust in India, Partners for Health and Development in Africa in Kenya, Victoria University of Wellington...
in New Zealand and Whakauae Research for Māori Health and Development in New Zealand, will create training opportunities for 75 students. Of these students, 38 will be Canadian or permanent Canadian resident graduate students, 19 Canadian or permanent Canadian resident undergraduate students/students in professional programs such as medicine or dentistry, and 18 graduate students from other Commonwealth countries.

One of our overarching goals of this prestigious scholarship program is to create a community of global inter-disciplinary and program-engaged scholars, who will become leaders in global and Indigenous health research. We look forward to welcoming students to this training program beginning in the fall of 2015.

Awards &
Announcements
The Department of Community Health Sciences and the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy (MCHP) is saddened to announce the passing of John Patrick Nicol. Pat began a 40 year career in Administrative Records Research with the Faculty of Administrative Studies and Medicine at the University of Manitoba, and most recently as Lead Systems Consultant and Data Acquisition Officer for the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy. It is impossible to say how much Pat's historical knowledge and deep understanding of the administrative data has contributed to the success of MCHP. His contributions and presence will be greatly missed by MCHP.

We also mourn the recent and sudden passing of Gemma Briggs, who graduated from Community Health Sciences with a Master of Science degree last year. After graduation, she worked in the Office of the Vice-President, University of Winnipeg, on research development. Gemma had many friends and colleagues in CHS.

Congratulations to the following members on receiving University of Manitoba Anniversary Awards:

5 years: Mariette Chartier, Chantal Edwards, Ava Halpin, Chelsea Jalloh, Robert Lorway, Sharon Macdonald, Chelsey McDougall, Mark Smith, Amanda Woods

10 years: Dennis Bayomy, Theresa Daniuk, Heather Prior, Ken Turner

15 years: James Blanchard, Don Erickson, Patricia Martens (in memory)

25 years: Charles Burchill, Amanda Penzick, Ann Vandersteen

30 years: Michael Moffatt, Carol Sigurdson

40 years: Noralou Roos

Congratulations to the following CHS members, who were recently promoted, effective March 30, 2015:

• Dr. Francis Amara, promotion to Professor
• Dr. Piotr Czaykowski, promotion to Associate Professor
• Dr. Brenda Elias, promotion to Associate Professor
• Dr. Bunmi Fatoye, promotion to Assistant Professor
• Dr. Allan Garland, promotion to Professor
• Dr. Robert Lorway, promotion to Associate Professor
• Dr. Ruth Ann Marrie, promotion to Professor
• Dr. Jocelyn Reimer, promotion to Assistant Professor
• Dr. Harmander Singh, promotion to Associate Professor
• Dr. Carolyn Snider, promotion to Associate Professor
• Dr. Navdeep Tangri, promotion to Associate Professor
Awards & Announcements, cont'd

Tracie Affi. 2014 Rh Award for Outstanding Contributions to Scholarship and Research in the Health Sciences category at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg Rh Institute Foundation ($12,000).

Karen Duncan has been elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the American Council on Consumer Interests.

Ms. Laura Thompson has been working as an epidemiologist with Médecins Sans Frontières in South Sudan from January to April, mostly working on malnutrition, infectious diseases, and planning a vaccination campaign.


Chelsea Jalloh who is working as the undergraduate coordinator for the College of Medicine was one of this years recipients of the U of M Emerging Leaders Award. Chelsea is currently a PhD student in the Faculty of Education focusing on examining literacy as a social determinant of health. Congratulations Chelsea!

Student News
Congratulations to Andrea Bombak (PhD, February 2015) who won one of the University of Manitoba Distinguished Dissertation Awards and has been nominated for the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS) Distinguished Dissertation Awards. Andrea successfully defended her dissertation, “Obese individuals’ perceptions of health and obesity and the lived experience of weight loss, gain, or maintenance over time”, on October 31, 2014. Andrea’s committee was Sharon Bruce (advisor), Deborah McPhail and Lawrence Elliott (internal UM committee members), Moss Norman (external UM committee member) and Natalie Beausoleil (external member, Memorial University). Andrea has accepted a post-doctoral position with Dr. Heather Hanson at the University of Calgary beginning June 2015.
Community Engagement

CanU - REACH:
Wrap-up for the Canu-REACH (Canu) program was held on February 12th and attended by FHS student volunteers, Canu staff, teachers, community and families of participants. FHS students spoke of their time volunteering with the grade 7 participants from local junior high schools, indicating their enthusiasm for sharing their experiences as students in health sciences. Thank you to Roger Berrington, Executive Director of Canu and his staff and all volunteers for making this first FHS session a success!

Reading Week, February 23-27, 2015:
This year, the Faculty of Health Sciences partnered with four K-6 schools in the area – Wellington, Pinkham, Dufferin and Victoria Albert – in celebration of “I Love to Read” month. Guest readers from FHS, including Dean Postl, staff and students from various colleges helped celebrate literacy in this year’s theme, “Literacy is a Human Right.” Thank you to the following readers who supported children’s literacy:

- Dr. Brian Postl, Dean, College of Medicine, Dean & Vice-Provost, Health Sciences
- Dr. Barbara Shay, Associate Professor and Department Head, Physical Therapy
- Paulette Collins, Community Health Sciences
- Uliana Kovaltchouk, Med 1 student
- Dr. Anita Ens, Department of Medical Education, College of Medicine
- Dr. Virginia Fraser, Faculty Lead, PGME
- Amanda Penzick, Centre for Aboriginal Health Education, Community Health Sciences
- Chelsea Jalloh, Community Health Sciences
- Taylor McVann, Pharmacy student
- Dr. James Gilchrist, Professor, Oral Biology, College of Medicine and Director, BYP Program
- Janice Linton, Neil John Maclean Library
- Mark Smith, Manitoba Centre for Health Policy
- Liz Keeper, Dentistry student
- Jihyun Han, Dentistry student
- Deborah Young, Executive Lead, Indigenous Achievement
- Brenda Tate, community volunteer
- Sara Matyas, Med 1 student
Community Engagement, cont’d

3rd Annual Staff vs Students Basketball Fundraiser:

The 3rd annual staff vs students fundraiser was held on March 25th in the Joe Doupe gymnasium, with Dr. Postl tossing the ceremonial jump ball. Dr. Heather Dean coached the staff team to an impressive win over the students by a score of 46-38 – way to go FHS staff and Coach Dean!! Thank you to our Bison basketball alumni for providing refereeing and scorekeeping duties. Special thank you to all who donated to this worthwhile fundraiser to support inner city basketball. While a final total hasn’t been determined, an estimated amount of close to $3,000.00 was raised. Now that’s team spirit!!

Winnipeg School Division 45th Annual Science Fair:

Wednesday, April 15th was a busy day at our Brodie Centre with over 400 Grade 4-6 students participating in this year’s science fair. Over 100 volunteers providing judging duties for close to 250 exhibits. This marked the fourth year that Bannatyne hosted this event. Thank you to all who participated! To read more on this year’s event, go to http://news.umanitoba.ca/winnipeg-schools-science-fair-takes-over-bannatyne-campus/.

Upcoming

• BYP Summer Camp
• SWISH Basketball

Graduate Program

PhD, MSc and MPH Graduates:

Doctor of Philosophy graduate:

Salme E. Lavigne. “Effects of Power Toothbrushing on Oral Inflammation, Caregiver Adherence, and System Inflammation in a Sample of Nursing Home Residents”. Committee: Dr. M. Doupe, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. S. Mahmud, Community Health Sciences; Dr. L. Elliott, Community Health Sciences; Dr. A. Iacopino, Dentistry; External Examiner: Dr. Walter P. Wodchis, Institute of Health Policy Management & Evaluation, University of Toronto

Upcoming Executive Committee Meetings

June 10, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
October 15, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
December 11, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
Brenda Comaskey. “Maternal Mood and Anxiety Disorders and Child School Readiness: A Manitoba Population-Based Study”. Committee: Dr. N. Roos, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. M. Brownnell, Community Health Sciences; Dr. D. Chateau, Community Health Sciences; Dr. M. Enns, Psychiatry; Dr. C. Ruth, Pediatrics and Child Health; External Examiner: Dr. J. Jenkins, Applied Physiology and Human Development, University of Toronto

Master of Science graduates:

Sneha Abraham. “Transitions between care settings towards the end of life in older homecare clients in Manitoba”. Committee: Dr. V. Menec, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. M. Doupe, Community Health Sciences; Dr. G. Thompson, Nursing

Elizabeth Wall-Wieler. “Predictors of Employment and Income Assistant Usage in Early Adulthood Across Type and Income Quintile”. Committee: Dr. L. Roos, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. D Chateau, Community Health Sciences; Dr. L. Rosella, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

Andrea Katryn Blanchard. “A Community-based Qualitative Study to Explore the Experience and Understandings of Intimate Partner Violence among Female Sex Workers and their Intimate Partners in Karnataka, India”. Committee: Dr. S. Bruce, Community Health Sciences (advisor); Dr. R. Lorway, Community Health Sciences; Dr. J. Mignone, Community Health Sciences; Dr. L. Dean, Social Work

Master of Public Health graduates:

Mary Bertone. “Oral Health in Long-Term Care: Improving the Quality of Life for Older Adults”, Field placement supervisor: Ondina Love, CEO, Canadian Dental Hygienists Association; Ann Wright, Director of Dental Hygiene Practice, Canadian Dental Hygienists Association; Paula Benbow, Manager of Health Policy, Canadian Dental Hygienists Association; Committee: Dr. J. Kettner(advisor); Dr. L. Elliott, Community Health Sciences; Dr. B. Roussin, Community Health Sciences

Jody Persaud. “Towards Flourishing: An Evaluation of Mental Health Promotion Training for Public Health Professionals in Manitoba”. Field placement supervisor: Mariette Chartier, Research Scientist, Principle Investigator, Manitoba Centre for Health Policy, University of Manitoba; Additional supervisor and mentor: Jennifer Volk, Senior Policy and Evaluation Analyst, Healthy Child Manitoba, Policy Development, Research and Evaluation; Marion Cooper, Manager of Mental Health Promotion, Co-Investigator, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority; Farzana Quddus, Research Coordinator, Health Child Manitoba; Committee: Dr. J. Kettner(advisor); Dr. L. Elliott(advisor); Dr. B. Roussin, Community Health Sciences

Upcoming Department Council Meetings

- May 13, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
- September 10, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
  *Followed by Back to School Pot-Luck Luncheon
- November 13, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
New Research Grants


Canadian Institutes of Health Research ePRISM: Electronic Patient-Centred Research and Innovations In Multimorbidity, A CIHR SPOR Chronic Disease Team
Applicants: Richard Birtwhistle, Queen's University (PI); Amanda Terry, Western University, Lisa Lix, University of Manitoba, Sabrina Wong, University of British Columbia.
Amount: $49,993
Term: 04/01/2015 to 03/31/2016

Research Manitoba
The Manitoba personalized lifestyle research (TMPLR) program
Applicants: Peter Jones (PI), Meghan Azad, Lisa Lix, Peter Eck, Navdeep Tangri, Sharon Bruce, Heather Blewett, Todd Duhamel, Diana McMillan, Ehsan Khafipour, Semone Myrie, Amir Ravandi, Jared Carlberg
Amount: $954,390
Term: 04/2015 to 03/2019

Research Manitoba
Risk based triage and access to nephrology care
Applicants: Navdeep Tangri (PI); Paul Komenda; Lisa Lix, Tom Fogg
Amount: $200,000
Term: 01/2015 – 12/2016

Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Travel Award for Fields Institute Thematic Program on Statistical Inference, Learning, and Models for Big Data: Workshop on Big Data, Casual Inference, and Health Policy
Applicants: Lisa Lix
Amount: $2,500
Term: 12/2014 – 04/2015

New Publications


Nickel NC. Look before you leap: Can we draw casual conclusions from breastfeeding research? *Journal of Human Lactation* 2015 Feb 19; Epub ahead of print.


Presentations


Brownell M. The educational outcomes of children in care in Manitoba. Briefing to the Healthy Child Committee of Cabinet, Manitoba Legislature; March 16, 2015; Winnipeg, MB.

Brownell M. The educational outcomes of children in care in Manitoba. Briefing to Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors; March 16, 2015; Winnipeg, MB.


Brownell M. Educational outcomes of children in care in Manitoba. Presented at: Evidence to Action: Third Annual Knowledge Exchange Between MCHP & Manitoba Government; March 5, 2015; Winnipeg, MB. (keynote presentation).

Brownell M. How are Manitoba's children doing? Presented at: Frontier School Division 37th Annual School Committee Conference; February 13, 2015; Winnipeg, MB. (invited)

Brownell M. PATHS Equity for Children: a program of research into what works to reduce the gap for Manitoba's children. Presented at: Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba, Research Rounds; February 12, 2015; Winnipeg, MB. (invited).
Brownell M. Educational outcomes for Manitoba children. Presented at: United Way of Winnipeg, Education and Neighbourhood Impact Councils meeting; January 19, 2015; Winnipeg, MB.


Heaman M, Kingston D, Brownell M, Helewa M, Derksen S, McGowan KL. Predictors of prenatal and postpartum psychological distress: A population-based study in Manitoba. Poster presentation at: Canadian National Perinatal Research Meeting; February 24, 2015; Montebello, QC.


**Lix LM.** Chronic disease research and surveillance: The power of big databases, the challenges of data quality. Fields Institute, University of Toronto, January 21, 2015.


**Roos NP.** Improving Canada’s (dismal) international ranking in child well-being. Presented at: Pediatric Grand Rounds, University of Manitoba; March 12, 2015; Winnipeg, MB.

**Shooshtari S, Jokinnen N, Udell LA.** Panel presentation on New Initiatives in Dementia Care for People with an Intellectual Disability at the Alzheimer’s Society of Manitoba Dementia Care conference in Winnipeg on March 10, 2015.
Feb 27: Comprehensive Health Assessments for Adults with Intellectual Disability (ID) in Manitoba. Dr. Shahin Shooshtari, Associate Professor, CHS, & Sneha Abraham, Masters Student, CHS

March 6: Geographical Variation and Factors Associated with Colorectal Cancer in Manitoba. Dr. Harminder Singh, Associate Professor, CHS, Dr. Mahmoud Torabi, Associate Professor, CHS & Dr. Rashid Ahmed, Assistant Professor, CHS

March 13: Undergraduate Students. BSc (Med) and MED II Summer Research Program Student Presentations.
• Fasting Triglycerides as a Predictor of Incident Diabetes, Insulin Resistance, and Beta Cell Function in a First Nation Population. Kirsten Clark.

April 10: Research in Progress. What Can Studying Health Care Utilization in MS Tell Us? Dr. Ruth Ann Marrie, Professor, CHS

April 17: Developmental Origins of Asthma and Obesity: Evidence from Manitoba Birth Cohorts and Opportunities for Translational Research. Dr. Meghan Azad, Assistant Professor, CHS

April 24: Rapid Evidence Synthesis for Healthcare Decision Making. Dr. Ahmed Abou-Setta, Assistant Professor, CHS

May 7: Antibacterial Drug Therapy in Intensive Care – Are Elderly Treated Differently? First Results from a German ICU’s Database. Dr. Verena Schneider-Lindner, Assistant Professor, CHS