Welcome back to the Winter term, and I hope that you have all had the opportunity to re-charge during the Christmas and New Year’s break. Undergraduate (except UGME) and graduate courses have ended late this year because of the strike, but all Fall term courses were completed in January, and the Winter term is well underway, although it will last a bit longer than usual. The days are getting noticeably longer, and hopefully the worst of the winter has passed.

In spite of the financial challenges faced by Canadian universities these days, our Department has continued to do well and to grow, as evidenced by the five Canada Research Chair awards indicated below that have been awarded over the past year. At least one more CRC is expected in the coming months, so congratulations again to the recipients, and their productive research and teaching programs will benefit the Department, colleagues and students for many years to come. Congratulations also to the 12 CHS graduate students who have received major national and local awards and fellowships over the past year. These students were honoured at a University reception on the Fort Garry Campus on February 15, and the students and their awards reflect the strength of our graduate program. Speaking of which, the Graduate Studies Committee met recently to review applications for the 2017-18 academic year, and it looks as though there will be another large intake of PhD, MSc and MPH students. The Department has also been awarded six University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowships (UMGF) for the coming academic year, four for PhD students and two for MSc students, in addition to the fellowship support for which graduate students are eligible from Research Manitoba. Thanks to Verena Menec, supported by Theresa Kennedy and Pam Gordon, for their great work in managing the complex graduate program, and thanks for the great support provided by the graduate students themselves in managing the program, and in particular the graduate student council co-chairs over the past few years, Leigh McClarty, Claudyne Chevrier and Sheila Novek.

Finally, the Colloquium Series “Bold Ideas” has really taken off this year, with an exciting and full slate of colloquia booked for the remainder of the year. Thanks to Brenda Elias, supported by Shelly Goodacre and Pam Gordon, for taking this on and for elevating the series to a new level. Upcoming colloquia are listed at the end of this newsletter. Please continue to make every effort to attend on Fridays at noon in the Betty Havens Room.
The Department of Community Health Sciences welcomes new part-time faculty members effective November 1, 2016: Drs. Catherine Charette, Tammy Stuart Chester and Colette Raymond.

Congratulations to our Canada Research Chair awardees:
Dr. M. Pickles, Tier 2 (Mathematical modelling and global public health), approved with a projected start date March 1, 2017.
Dr. M. Urquia, Tier 2 (Applied public health), approved with a start date April 1, 2017
Dr. R. Lorway, SSHRC Tier 2 CRC (Global Intervention Politics and Social Transformation), approved with a start date December 1, 2016.
Dr. T. Boerma, Tier 1 (Population and global health), approved with a projected start date April 1, 2017.
Dr. K. Sibley, Tier 2 (Integrated knowledge translation in rehabilitation sciences), approved with a start date May 1, 2016.


Congratulations to Dr. Joseph Kaufert, who was nominated by David Northcott, Executive Director of Winnipeg Harvest, to be considered for the 2016 Human Rights Commitment Award of Manitoba for his ongoing work and advocacy related to food security. Dr. Kaufert was recognized with “Honourable Mention” for his respected work at the awards reception.

Kirsten Bourque (MSc student) has been awarded a L’Oreal Paris “Women of Worth” award on behalf of her volunteer work at Sunshine House. The L’Oreal Paris Women of Worth program promotes and honours inspiring Canadian women volunteers who have improved the lives of people and families in their community, their province or across Canada. Sunshine House nominated Kirsten, a longtime volunteer at their Street Feet Program. At Street Feet Kirsten provides foot care free-of-charge to street-involved individuals and people who live in the Sunshine House neighbourhood. The award includes a charitable donation of $10,000 to Sunshine House. Kirsten will travel to Toronto to receive the award on March 8 as part of International Women’s Day.

Congratulations to the following CHS graduate students, recipients of major awards and fellowships in the Faculty of Graduate Studies, who were honoured at a reception on February 15, 2017:
Jamie Gillies- Podgorecki, CIHR-CGSM, Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master’s
Murdock Leeies, CIHR-CGSM
Elizabeth Sachs, CIHR-CGSM
Lisa Lazarus, CIHR-CGSD, Canada Graduate Scholarship -Doctoral
Dhiwya Attawar, David G. Fish Memorial Scholarship
Lisa Lazarus, David G. Fish Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations to Sabella Yussuf-Homenauth and Ravi Homenauth on the safe arrival of Aurora Simran Homenauth. She was born at St. Boniface Hospital at 10:21 P.M Monday, November 14th. Sabella and Ravi are both U of M alumni; Sabella is currently an MPH Student in Community Health Sciences and Ravi is an Internal Medicine Resident of the Max Rady College of Medicine at University of Manitoba.

Congratulations to the recipients of the Christine Egan Scholarship: Melynda Ehaloak, Mavis Eli and Nubiya Enuraq.

Congratulations to Alexander Villafranca, PhD student, who was recently accepted into the ethics teachers training program of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This is a five day course and only 30 applicants are accepted from across the world for this course. Alex will be attending the April course that is being hosted in Surabaya, Indonesia. Applicants are selected on the basis of merit, as assessed by their previous accomplishments and an admission essay.
GRADUATE PROGRAM

MSc
Pamela Skrabek. “Examining the Pathway to Diagnosis and Treatment of Lymphoma in Manitoba: Patient and System Factors Resulting in Delay”. Committee: Dr. B. Elias, Community Health Sciences (co-advisor); Dr. D. Turner, Community Health Sciences (co-advisor); Dr. A. Demers, Community Health Sciences; Dr. M. Seftel, Head, Section of Haematology/Oncology, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Manitoba

Diploma in Population Health
Ann Loewen. Advisor: Dr. V. Menec, Community Health Sciences

FSS MSc Grads
Adrien Sala. “Information and Communication Technology Use and Practices of Survival by Homeless Youth in Winnipeg”. Committee: Dr. Javier Mignone (advisor), Community Health Sciences; Dr. Kerstin Roger, Community Health Sciences; Dr. Bob Travica, I.H. Asper School of Business.

Marko Gjuric. “A Case Study Evaluation of Winnipeg’s Child Advocacy Centre, Snowflake Place for Children and Youth”. Committee: Dr. Javier Mignone (advisor), Community Health Sciences; Dr. Karen Duncan, Community Health Sciences; Dr. Lawrence Deane, Social Work.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM GRADUATES

Bachelor of Human Ecology (Family Social Sciences), February 2017
Funmilola Mercy Ali
Samantha Alleina Delos Reyes
Carly Nicole Gemmell - with distinction
Emma Bea Mercer
Jessica Nicole Naumik
Samantha Joan Olea
Hayley Brook-Lynn Yarish

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Canu
The after school program for students in grades 7-9 is now in its fourth year at the Bannatyne campus. The thirteen-week program provides health science workshops to 70 students from local junior high schools. Close to 100 Canu volunteers are recruited from all colleges within the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences and are as diverse a group as the youth who participate. This year’s coordinator is Everett Vun, a second year med student. The program will wrap up in February and a celebration for participants, volunteers, schools and families will be held in March.

Service Learning
The new service learning curriculum began this fall for all incoming med students. Community engagement staff worked with community partners to find placements for all 110 Med 1s. Med students will work on various health equity projects with agencies for their first two years of med school. Some of the projects include literacy with Winnipeg School Division, food security with Winnipeg Harvest and education with the Pathways to Education program.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Engagement supported the following events in December:
Dufferin School winter celebration
Freighthouse Community Centre Christmas party
Lighting up the Avenue – Selkirk Avenue annual celebration

UPCOMING EVENTS

5th Annual Bannatyne Staff vs Students Basketball fundraiser – March 15, 2017. The game will take place from 5:30-7:30 pm in the Joe Doupe Gymnasium.

Pledges can be directed to karen.cook@umanitoba.ca or dennis.bayomi@umanitoba.ca. All proceeds support inner city basketball programs for 500+ youth.

Winnipeg School Division Science Fair – April 5, 2017
NEW RESEARCH GRANTS


Dr. Kathryn Sibley. Manitoba Medical Services Foundation (MMSF) 2016 Competition. Operating Grant, $32,500. Implementing Core Outcome Sets in Fall Prevention and Balance Research and Practice: Understanding Past Experiences to Plan for the Future.


Tarasuk V, Urquia M, Roth D. The implications of household food insecurity for maternal and infant health. The implications of household food insecurity for maternal and infant health. Centre for Child Nutrition and Health, University of Toronto. 02/2017-01/2020: $250,000.

Torabi M. Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Advancing complex models in small area estimation and spatial statistics. $135,000 (2016-2021).

Vanigaratne S & Dennis C-L (Co-Principal Applicants); Co-Applicants: Sekhar K (Community Partner), Urquia ML, Ray JG, Pulver A, Brar A. Son-biased sex ratios in the Indian community – a dialogue and pilot education intervention to make progress on gender equity. Women’s College Hospital, Toronto, Women’s Xchange 15K Challenge. 02/2017-01/2018: $15,000.

NEW PUBLICATIONS


http://dx.doi.org/10.1891/1052-3073.27.2.277


REPORTS, BOOKS, CHAPTERS


PRESENTATIONS

New Presentations


Kelly C. Qualitative: Sampling, data collection, data quality, and data recording, presented as part of the graduate course Methods and Concepts in Community Health Sciences. October 4, 2016.


Torabi M. Recent developments in small area estimation. 13th Iranian Statistical Conference, Kerman, Iran. August, 2016

Torabi M. Hierarchical multivariate mixture generalized linear models for the analysis of spatial data: An application to disease mapping. Department of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada. March, 2016


Torabi M. Presented one-day workshop entitled “Small Area Estimation”, Yazd University, Iran. August, 2016


PUBLIC SERVICE


Jan 20: Natalie Riediger and co-presenters Chigbo Anyaduba, Austina Ribanar, Agape Karagi, CHS. The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Program: Experiential Learning and Expanding International Networks in Global land Indigenous Health.

Jan 27: Mariette Chartier, MCHP, CHS. Is it Time to Invest in a Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy?

Jan 31: Maureen Dobbin, Scientific Director and Susan Snelling, Senior Knowledge Translation Specialist at the National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools. Evidence-Informed Public Health: Resources and Research from the National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools.

Feb 3: Meghan Azad, CHS. Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHAD): Research Results and Opportunities in two Manitoba Cohorts.

Feb 10: Geoffrey Liu, University of Toronto. Precision Oncology: Are We Ignoring Toxicity at our Peril?

Feb 17: Anthony Huynh, CHS. Incipient Masculinities: An Ethnographic Exploration of Adolescent Schoolboys’ Perceptions of Gender Relations in Northern Karnataka, India.

UPCOMING COLLOQUIUM/BOLD IDEAS: (subject to change)
March 3, 2017: Depeng Jiang, CHS
March 10, 2017: Derek Kornelsen, CHS
March 17, 2017: Chris Green, Lawrence Elliott, Debbie Nowicki, Carolyn Perhuk, Megan Jakilazek, CHS/WRHA
March 24, 2017: Tara Stewart, CHS
March 31, 2017: Kelly Russell, CHS
April 7, 2017: Marcia Anderson DeCoteau, CHS
April 21, 2017: Robert Schrot, CHS
April 28, 2017: Maya Jeyaraman, CHS

UPCOMING DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETINGS:
March 7, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
May 3, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
September 7, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
November 3, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
January 8, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
March 6, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
May 9, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
September 6, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
November 2, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

UPCOMING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
April 4, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
June 7, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
October 5, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
December 1, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
February 5, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
April 3, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
June 6, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
October 4, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
December 7, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Dec 2: Claudio Rigatto, CHS, Seven Oaks Hospital. Towards Home Management of Advanced Chronic Disease.

Dec 9: Andrew Hatala, CHS. Killing Chickens and Cutting Skin: On the Moral Hinterland Between Indigenous Knowledge(s) and Biomedicine.

Dec 16: Al Artaman, CHS, CancerCare MB. Epidemiological Education: Future Prospects.