



In This Issue:

Page One:

Director's Message
Friends of Penn APHA Mixer

Page Two:

CPHI Fellow Profile: Karin Rhodes
CPHI Annual Forum
Community-Driven Research Day

Page Three:

MPH Student Profile
CPHI in the News

Page Four:

MPH Program News
2012 Winter Institute

The CPHI and MPH program

have new websites! Visit us at www.cphi.upenn.edu to let us know what you think of our new look!

**Monday,
October 31st**

6:30 - 8:00pm

*Renaissance Washington DC,
Meeting Room 18,
999 Ninth Street NW*

Attending the APHA
Conference?

**Come join the Penn public
health community for an
evening of food, drink, and
networking opportunities!**

**Also, visit our website for a
compendium of Penn pre-
sentrers at APHA:
www.cphi.upenn.edu**



Director's Message Marjorie Bowman

I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful Fall season! I would like to start out by welcoming the incoming Penn MPH class and welcoming back those continuing in the degree program. The MPH Program is an integral part of the CPHI and we are excited to continue to support this important program. We are proud to say that we recently hosted a team sent by the Council on Education in Public Health (CEPH) for a site visit linked to the normal re-accreditation process in which all accredited programs in public health take part. Thank you to everyone who organized and/or provided input during this site visit.

This semester, the CPHI continues to enrich the public health environment at Penn through our seminar series, "Apps, Tweets and Bytes: Public Health in the Digital Age," our annual Forum focused on games and health, and our interdisciplinary pilot grant program. CPHI is also administering public health-focused programming in the community that not only works to improve health and quality of life of residents in the area, but also engages students in rich learning experiences that strengthen public health practice. Information about all of these programs, as well as about the Penn presence that will be full force at the Annual APHA conference in Washington, is included in the pages that follow. Please read on and enjoy!



CPHI Fellow Profile

Karin Rhodes



Karin Rhodes, CPHI Senior Fellow

Karin Rhodes, MD, MS is an Assistant Professor and Director of Health Care Policy Research in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Penn. She has been a Senior Fellow with the CPHI since 2009. Her research focuses on use of the acute health care setting for screening and intervention with intimate partner violence (IPV) and

other psychosocial health risks. She is also involved in investigating the quality of emergency services, access to follow up care and the intersection between acute care and the mental health, social services, and criminal justice systems. In 2011, two studies led by Dr. Rhodes with public health significance were highlighted widely.

Of the article, "Intimate Partner Violence Identification and Response: Time for a Change in Strategy," published in the Journal of General Internal Medicine in March, Rhodes stated, "Our work shows that the majority of police-identified intimate partner violence victims

frequently use the emergency department for health care, but they are unlikely to be identified or receive any intervention in that setting. Current screening practices for intimate partner violence victims are ineffective and policy-driven interventions for identified victims are, at best, erratically implemented."

In addition to studying IPV identification and response, Dr. Rhodes also focuses her research on healthcare access. In an article published in The New England Journal of Medicine in June, Rhodes' team showed that researchers posing as mothers of children insured by Illinois' Medicaid-Children's Health Insurance Program were turned away from doctor's offices 65.6% of the time, compared with only 10% of the time if they claimed to have Blue Cross and Blue Shield. "We found disturbing disparities in specialty physicians' willingness to provide outpatient care for children with public insurance -- even those with urgent and severe health problems."

As a result of her important public health-focused research, and her mentorship of students in carrying out this research agenda, Dr. Rhodes will be awarded the 2011 Student Assembly Public Health Mentorship Award at the 2011 American Public Health Association meeting, being held October 29th to November 2nd, 2011 in Washington DC.

The Impact of Games and Play on Health

December 1, 2011 | 9am - 2pm
Amado Recital Hall, 3401 Spruce Street

Featuring a keynote presentation by **Paul Tarini** (Senior Program Officer, Pioneer Portfolio, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation), panel discussions, and more!

Visit www.cphi.upenn.edu for more information and to RSVP



Featuring posters and research questions by community groups.

Friday, November 11th

9:00am to 1:00pm

Temple University - Main Campus, Mitten Hall, 1913 North Broad St.

To register to attend:

<http://phillyviolenceprevention.org/research-day/>

Katie Maeve Murphy

Katie Maeve Murphy joined the MPH program as a dual-degree student in Fall 2011, and is the first recipient of a Peace Corps Paul D. Coverdell Fellowship for Penn's MPH program. As a second-year PhD student in Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Development at the School of Education, Katie is interested in holistic interventions to improve developmental, educational, and health outcomes for children in low-income and impoverished settings. Katie's recent work has

focused on early childhood development, and she spent the summer of 2011 traveling to India and Thailand as a SUPER Research Fellow for Save the Children to document best practices in programs targeting young children in marginalized settings. Over the past year, Katie has become involved in the Puentes de Salud afterschool tutoring program for Latino children in South Philadelphia, serving as the Educational Advisor. Before coming to Penn in 2010, Katie worked for four years at the Earth Institute at Columbia University on several education-related initiatives and was the Deputy Director of the Master's in Development Practice Secretariat, working with university partners around the world to launch cross-disciplinary training programs for practitioners in the field of sustainable development. Prior to working at the Earth Institute, Katie was the Education Manager for the International Rescue Committee in Chad, working with Darfurian refugees to build and improve educational and recreational programs for children and youth in Northeastern Chad. Katie was also a health, sanitation, and education volunteer with the Peace Corps in El Salvador, where she lived in a rural community for 2 years working in education, health and income generation. While serving as a Peace Corps volunteer, Katie was also president of Gender and Development (GAD) for El Salvador, leading the development of national youth leadership workshops and teacher trainings on gender, self-esteem and HIV/AIDS. Katie has a M.Ed. in International Education Policy from Harvard and a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University.



Peace Corps Fellowship recipient Katie Maeve Murphy. Right: Katie visiting a school in Potou, Millennium Village in Senegal

In the News

Study led by MPH Director Jennifer Pinto-Martin linking low birth weight and autism discussed on CNN and other sites

A new study led by Jennifer Pinto-Martin, PhD, MPH in the journal *Pediatrics* suggests that babies who are unusually small at birth have a higher-than-average risk of developing an autism spectrum disorder later in life. This is the first study of the prevalence of autism spectrum disorders in a prospectively followed low birth weight population using validated diagnostic instruments. Read more about the study's findings here: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/10/17/health/low-birth-weight-autism>

Matthew McHugh, CPHI Senior Fellow, named one of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Nurse Faculty Scholars

Matthew D. McHugh, PhD, JD, MPH, RN, CRNP, an assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing and a CPHI Senior Fellow, has won a competitive grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to study the relationship between where people

live, where they receive hospital care, and the outcomes of that care. McHugh is one of just twelve nurse educators from around the country to receive the three-year \$350,000 Nurse Faculty Scholar award this year. It is given to junior faculty who show outstanding promise as future leaders in academic nursing. The grant period began in September.

Gala True, CPHI Senior Fellow, publishes study on integrity of community-based research

Gala True, PhD is the lead qualitative researcher on a new study published in the *Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics*. The study uses qualitative interviews with community research workers and traditional research assistants to understand the context and consequences of misbehaviors that pose a threat to research ethics and data integrity. Dr. True and her team, including principal investigator Leslie Alexander, PhD, suggest best practices for investigators to promote an environment that supports research integrity in research projects that employ community research workers.

MPH program open house

The MPH Prospective Student Open House Information Session will be held Monday, November 28th, from 5:00-7:00pm in BRB 251. Prospective students are invited to come out and meet MPH faculty, Administrators and current students, learn about the program and have their questions answered. Please RSVP to: kakelly@mail.med.upenn.edu

Welcome to our new students!

The MPH Program extends a warm welcome to twenty-seven new students in the incoming class. Eight are dual degree students and two have joined the Global Health track.

CEPH re-accreditation

Our re-accreditation site visit went very well thanks in part to all the MPH students and Alumni who agreed to meet with the site visitors from the Council on Education in Public Health. Your feedback is important to us.

APHA meeting

The American Public Health Association meeting is just around the corner! If you attend please don't miss presentations by MPH program students and graduates John Wierzbowski, Amna Rizvi, Melissa Frank, and Giovanna Imbesi. Also, we invite you to attend the Friends of Penn mixer on Monday, October 31st at 6:30pm. A full compendium of Penn presenters at APHA is available at: www.cphi.upenn.edu/2011APHACompndium.shtml

CPH exam

A reminder that the Certified in Public Health exam dates are February 3-27, 2012. To register for the CPH exam, or for more information, visit the NBPHE website at www.publichealthexam.org

Capstone presentations

All students and faculty are invited to attend the Capstone Presentations on December 12th, from 2:00-5:00pm in Weigle Information Commons located on the first floor of the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center. David Beckmann, Merlin Chowkwanyan and Hillary Nelson are presenting. If you would like to attend, RSVP by contacting Karen Kelly at kakelly@mail.med.upenn.edu

PPHS Philly Cares Day

Nishika Vidanage, Co-director of The Penn Public Health Society, the student government group of the MPH Program, organized twelve MPH students to participate in Philly Cares Day. The students painted the teen lounge at the United Communities of Southeast Philadelphia center on Saturday, October 22nd. Kudos to the students for giving their day to community service.



Center for Public Health Initiatives
2012 WINTER INSTITUTE
Qualitative & Mixed Methods Research
in collaboration with:



January 9-11, 2012
UPenn Campus
General Registration: \$850; Student Rate: \$450

Register today for the CPHI's three-day comprehensive institute on Qualitative & Mixed Methods Research. Workshops, facilitated by a number of well-known UPenn Faculty, will focus on the following skills:

- * one-on-one interviewing
- * field notes
- * focus groups
- * IRB issues unique to qual. research
- * participant observation
- * use & application of NVivo software

Who should attend?

- Public Health Researchers, Promotion Managers & Administrators
- Graduate Students
- Beginning to Intermediate NVivo Users

For More Information or to Register:
www.cphi.upenn.edu/2012winterinstitute.shtml



Center for Public Health Initiatives
IDEAS • SCIENCE • ACTION

www.cphi.upenn.edu | 215.746.3467 | cphi@pobox.upenn.edu

CPHI Staff:		Steering Committee:
Marjorie Bowman Faculty Director		David Asch Robert J. (Skip) Collins Karen Glanz Shiriki Kumanyika Richard Schultz Gary Smith Susan Sorenson Brian Strom
Wendy Voet Managing Director	Original Design by:	
Lauren Hallden-Abberton Program Coordinator	Martin Smith Graphic Design	

Follow us on Twitter (CPHIatUPenn) or become a fan on Facebook!