

# Public Health Happenings

The official electronic newsletter of the  
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Programs in Public Health

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***“Public health is about change, about making things better. I hope that we will make forward thinking and leading change hallmarks of our profession. I sincerely hope that our next generation of public health professionals will be enabled to shape the future rather than just watching it unfold.”***

**Shiriki Kumanyika, PhD, MPH, President, American Public Health Association**  
(Source: “Vital Signs,” *The Nation’s Health*, April 2015, p.3)

In this issue:

- Reaccreditation Site Visit in November
- MPH Faculty in China
- Delta Omega Update
- Student Opportunities
- Employment Opportunities
- Book Review: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*
- Student, Alumni and Faculty News

## REACCREDITATION SITE VISIT IN NOV.



For the past year or two in particular, the MPH Program administration, faculty and advisory committee have been hard at work undertaking a thorough self-study of the program in

preparation for a an accreditation site visit by the Council for Education in Public Health (CEPH), the accrediting body for schools and programs of public health. Those schools and programs who meet the exacting “gold standard” for the study of public health are CEPH-accredited. The UConn MPH

## MPH FACULTY TEACH IN CHINA

Program has been fully accredited since October 1984.

The self-study each school or program must undertake periodically addresses the program's strengths and weaknesses in several domains:

- The overall program—Mission, Evaluation, Institutional Environmental, Organization and Administration, Governance, Financial Resources, Faculty and Other Resources, Diversity
- Instructional Programs
- Creation, Application and Advancement of Knowledge
- Faculty, Staff and Students

At UConn, this effort has involved an immense amount of time and effort, particularly on the part of the Program Director, David Gregorio; Program Coordinator, Morgan Spencer; and Program Staff, Barbara Case and Laurie McCarthy. The Program's Advisory Committee, comprised of faculty, alumni and students, as well as the Executive Committee, have also played important roles.

But all stakeholders—university administrators, faculty, alumni, students, community partners—have a role to play. Please review the self-study at and send any comments to Morgan Spencer at [mhspencer@uchc.edu](mailto:mhspencer@uchc.edu). You can view the self-study at: <http://www.commed.uchc.edu/education/mph/ceph.html>. The site visitors will be here on November 18-20. You can expect a recap of the visit in the next newsletter, and a report on the site visitors' comments once they are received.

Most of all, a big thanks to all who contributed to this monumental effort and to those who have agreed to participate in the site visit.

*Joan Segal, MA, MS*  
*Editor*



The University of Connecticut is a part of a global group of universities called Universitas 21 along with Fudan University in Shanghai, one of the leading universities in China. As a result of this university to university relationship, Drs. Stephen Schensul and Jean Schensul were invited in July, 2015 to teach a one-month summer course at Fudan. The class consisted of 21 medical, public health and social science students, with remarkably good English language skills. As in the International Health course Dr. Schensul teaches in the UConn MPH program, the students focused on a country and a health problem and, using SPSS, analyzed Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data from their selected countries. In addition, they met with University officials to discuss future exchanges and collaborations with UConn.

The course schedule involved teaching three days a week, allowing the Schensuls to travel to Beijing on a train that reached the speed of 193 miles per hour; to Suzhou, a city of gardens from several dynasties and to nearby Chongming Island in the Yangtze River. In Beijing they met with the head of the Department of Epidemiology at Peking Union Medical College and the head of a children's hospital--both colleagues of Dr. J. Schensul when she worked in China in the 1990s and each interested in further collaboration. *(The picture above depicts Dr. Schensul with his International Health students at Fudan University.)*

## DELTA OMEGA UPDATE

UConn's Beta Rho chapter of Delta Omega, the national honorary society for public health, held its annual meeting on October 27. The meeting was convened by President **Matthew Cook, MPH (2008), MBI**, the



current president, who presented the names of the new members inducted in 2015:

- *2015 Graduates:* **Anita Chandrasekaran, Christopher Steele, Ran Zhao**
- *Alumni:* **Kathryn Johnson, Jeffrey Shaw, Cyndi Billian Stern**
- *Faculty:* **Stephen Schensul, PhD**

New officers for 2016 include **Katherine Kuzmeskas, MPH (2012)**, President; **Colleen O'Connor, MPH (2011)**, Vice-President; and **Amir Mohammad, MD, MPH (2008)**, Secretary Treasurer.

Please note the following websites for further information on the UConn Chapter of Delta Omega:

Delta Omega Beta Rho website: <https://memberplanet.com/deltaomegabetaarho>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/deltaomegabetaarho>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/grps/Delta-Omega-Beta-Rho-8294697/about>

#### NBPHE 2015-16 TEST DATES

The National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) is pleased to announce the Certified in Public Health (CPH) testing dates for the remainder of 2015-16. Computer-based tests will be given on the following dates:

- February 1-29, 2016
- June 1-30, 2016
- October 1-31, 2016

Paper based tests are also available. See the NBPHE website for information on dates and locations: <https://www.nbphe.org>.

#### FREE SOFTWARE FOR UCONN STUDENTS

Deborah Paturzo, instructor of the MPH SAS elective, wants students to be aware that UConn provides students with a free yearly subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud, which includes Acrobat Pro XI as well as over a dozen other programs such as Photoshop. She reports that at minimum the Acrobat should be useful, if not some of the other programs. The value of an academic license for the

full creative cloud is at least \$360! To access go to <http://adobe.uconn.edu/install>. A netid is required to access. She also believes that there is access to free Microsoft office for students. If you have any questions, please contact her at [paturzo@uchc.edu](mailto:paturzo@uchc.edu).

#### CAREER DEVELOPMENT FORUM

### Cover Letters Resumes

The UConn Graduate School and the Office for Postdoctoral Affairs is sponsoring a Career Development Forum, "First Impressions: Crafting an Effective CV and Resume for American Employers," on **Thursday, November 5 at 1:00 p.m.** in EG-052. Kay Kimball Gruder, Career Consultant with the Graduate School in Storrs, will lead the forum. The forum is a great opportunity for MPH and PhD students who expect to enter the workforce in the next year or two, or who are interested in taking a new career direction.

#### APTR STUDENT CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Association of Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) invites abstracts describing student initiatives or research projects. Abstracts can include work in progress although completed works are preferred. Presentations can be global, country-specific or local and report on research projects, community/practicum projects, or teaching and service innovations. Abstracts that focus on student approaches to addressing health and social inequality and emerging topics such as gun violence, racism, climate change and environmental justice are encouraged.

Students do not need to be members of APTR to submit an abstract, but are responsible for registration and travel costs for the conference if their abstracts are selected. The conference will take place on March 13-15, 2016 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Details on student abstract submission are available at <http://www.teachingprevention.org/student-call-for-abstracts.html>. The student submission deadline is **December 4, 2015**.

## HEALTH POLICY FELLOWSHIP



A fellowship opportunity is available in the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's (ODPHP) Division of Health Care Quality within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), Office of the Secretary (OS), at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in Rockville, MD.

Under the guidance of a mentor, opportunities for the Fellow may include:

- Coordinating departmental efforts to enhance patient safety, including prevention of health care-associated infections and adverse drug events.
- Supporting and helping coordinate cross-federal efforts related to key patient safety topics, including active support of Partnership for Patients (PfP) and the new Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative.
- Assisting in the development of communication materials (articles, talking points, presentations) related to adverse drug events and other health care-associated conditions.

The appointment is for one year and may be renewed upon recommendation of HHS and subject to availability of funds. The Fellow will receive a monthly stipend depending on educational level and experience and must show proof of health insurance. He or she does not become an employee of HHS or the program administration, and no fringe benefits are provided.

Qualifications include a medical degree, PhD/D.Ph., MPH, or another degree in a closely-related field received within the last five years. Applicants with a Bachelor's degree received within the last five years are also encouraged to apply, provided they have relevant public health academic or work experience in addition to the degree. Preference will be given to candidates with experience working in a public health environment and experience in improving health care quality.

To obtain further information and to apply, go to <http://orise.orau.gov/science-education/internships-scholarships->

[fellowships/description.aspx?JobId=18639](http://orise.orau.gov/science-education/internships-scholarships-fellowships/description.aspx?JobId=18639). If you have questions, send an email to [HHSrpp@orau.org](mailto:HHSrpp@orau.org). Please include the reference code for this opportunity (**DHHS-ODPHP-2015-0119**) in your email.

## CDC INFORMATICS FELLOWSHIP

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers a 2-year postgraduate competency-based training program in public health informatics—the systematic application of knowledge about systems that capture, manage, analyze and use information to improve population health. Fellows receive training in both informatics and public health, are assigned to teams involved in CDC information systems projects, provide technical assistance to state and local health departments and international agencies, and are given the opportunity to lead one or more major projects during their fellowship.

Additional information regarding the Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/PHIFP/> or by emailing [PHIFP@cdc.gov](mailto:PHIFP@cdc.gov). Apply now through November 29, 2015.

## PRACTICUM/FIELD EXPERIENCE

Regional Hospice and Home Care, located in Danbury, CT, has been providing caring end-of-life services to the community since 1985. The agency is seeking one or two practicum students, or students looking for field experience, who will be responsible for helping develop evaluation tools (e.g., surveys and questionnaires) and provide administrative support to the volunteer department. Primary duties and responsibilities will include:

- Under the direct supervision of the Volunteer Coordinator, assist with all aspects of designing evaluation tools for use in the volunteer department and help to analyze data collected using the evaluation tools.
- Conduct relevant library searches and reviews.
- Assist with administrative duties such as logging volunteer hours, creating reports, and analyzing simple data.
- Actively support volunteer recruitment and retention.

- Assist with coordinating new volunteer trainings and processing paperwork for new volunteers.
- Perform other department/agency tasks as needed. Minimum

The organization is looking for students with the following qualifications:

- 1-2 years of experience in public health/community-based/healthcare research and/or practice
- Extensive experience with Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Interest in end-of-life care, the hospice philosophy, and learning more about volunteer management
- Familiarity with development of evidence-based questionnaires and program evaluations (coursework completed at a minimum; direct experience preferred)

The following Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities are also required:

- Excellent organizational, computer, and problem-solving skills
- Strong personal initiative, attention to detail, and ability to work independently required
- Ability to work toward a deadline and adhere to a time schedule
- FLEXIBILITY and willingness to multi-task according to shifting priorities and department/agency needs
- Knowledge of survey/questionnaire development; experience preferred
- Ability to develop positive relationships with staff and volunteers
- Willingness to interact with hospice volunteers, patients, and families, as needed
- Sense of humor

The student(s) will be asked to commit to work a minimum of 10-15 hours per week for a minimum of four months. Start and end dates are flexible, but the sooner, the better. This is an unpaid practice experience.

All interested applicants should submit a cover letter explaining why they are interested in this opportunity and what they hope to gain from it, along with their resume,

to [lordeira@regionalhospicect.org](mailto:lordeira@regionalhospicect.org), with the subject line: PRACTICUM APPLICATION. Applicants will be considered on a rolling basis and are encouraged to apply early. For More Information, please contact: Laura Shulman Cordeira, MPH, Volunteer Coordinator, 203-702-9558, [lordeira@regionalhospicect.org](mailto:lordeira@regionalhospicect.org). Students should also discuss this with the MPH Program's Practice Coordinator, Amanda Durante, at [durante@uchc.edu](mailto:durante@uchc.edu).

#### SPRING/SUMMER 16 INTERNSHIP

The CT Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Network expects to have an internship opportunity in Spring/Summer 2016 for an MPH student to work with the Migrant Farm Worker Clinic/CT AHEC. We will have further information this winter, but if you are interested contact Amanda Durante ([durante@uchc.edu](mailto:durante@uchc.edu)) or Joan Segal ([segal@uchc.edu](mailto:segal@uchc.edu)).

#### DIRECTOR OF HEALTH POSITION

North Center Health District Health Department has an opening for the position of Director of Health. The Director of Health serves as the Chief Executive Officer and is responsible for the overall administration of the Department and supervision of its personnel in carrying out the mandates of federal, state and local law, including the Connecticut Public Health Code and District Sanitary Code. Applicants **MUST HAVE** a **Master's of Public Health Degree** in order to qualify for this position.

All inquiries relating to this position should be addressed to Diane Wheelock, Chair, North Central District Health Department, c/o Town of Vernon, 14 Park Place, Third Floor, Vernon, CT 06066, 860-870-3601, [dwheelock@vernon-ct.gov](mailto:dwheelock@vernon-ct.gov). To apply, submit a resume, cover letter, and a minimum of three work-related references and any associated materials to the above address. Please note that **all responses must complete to qualify and documents must arrive in one packet.**

#### HEALTH EDUCATION JOB OPENING

The Naugatuck Valley Health District is seeking a full-time Health Educator to work in a local health department serving six municipalities. The position will encompass a range of local public health activities in the areas of community health, disease

prevention and control. This position reports to the Assistant Director for Community Health.

This is a professional public health position with responsibility for assisting the development and implementation of public health education activities within the Naugatuck Valley region. The work involves a wide array of preventative health and health promotion activities aimed at improving the health and well-being of all residents by encouraging individuals and communities to adopt healthy behaviors, policies, and environments.

The ideal candidate will have:

- A Bachelor of Science in Public Health or related field; RN licensure and/or equivalent amount of related experience and training may be substituted.
- Experience in community public health settings, grant writing, excellent verbal and writing communication skills.
- A valid Connecticut driver's license

To apply, submit a cover letter and resume to Naugatuck Valley Health District, 98 Bank Street, Seymour, CT 06483 or email as an attachment to [clindholm@nvhd.org](mailto:clindholm@nvhd.org). The deadline is **12:00 PM on Thursday, November 13, 2015**. However, the position will remain open until a suitable candidate is identified.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: HEALTH EQUITY**  
Health Equity Solutions (HES), a newly formed organization committed to transformative, practical changes that enable greater health equity for all residents of Connecticut, is currently seeking its Founding Executive Director to serve as its chief architect of growth and impact. Health Equity Solutions is the only organization in Connecticut whose sole focus is to address health equity using advocacy and policy. The Executive Director will be the only leader in the state with this as his or her primary charge.

Health Equity Solutions' purpose is to catalyze systemic public policy changes that advance and sustain health equity in Connecticut through a non-partisan, collaborative, results-oriented approach. To accomplish this, HES will work to shape and influence laws, policies and regulations; monitor the implementation of legislation and regulation; conduct policy analysis and research to educate and inform; engage diverse partners; convene

public forums and implement campaigns; engage in communications, messaging, and media advocacy; and actively participate on related coalitions and committees.

The ideal candidate will possess many of the following professional and personal abilities, attributes, and experiences:

- An understanding of and unwavering commitment to improving health outcomes and equity; a sound knowledge of multicultural healthcare and public health issues.
- Experience with various advocacy strategies and in-depth knowledge of the state legislative process. Demonstrated ability to analyze public policy proposals, including drafting legislative language, commenting on regulations, requesting enforcement of existing laws, advocating for or against executive orders, and influencing administrative decisions on policy and program implementation.
- Enthusiasm, focus, drive, and a good sense of humor, all of which are required to launch a highly successful, results-oriented start up.
- Effective facilitative leadership skills developed through a minimum of five years of executive-level experience in the policy-making legislative arenas, non-profit, advocacy or academia, combined with the ability to lead in a manner that embodies respect, teamwork, and collaboration from a diverse group of constituents.
- A strategic and comprehensive approach to planning and decision-making with the ability to back assertions with evidence while balancing multiple tasks and demands simultaneously.
- Ability to lead programs and initiatives balancing compassion with a practical, strategic business sense; demonstrated budget development experience and proven ability to interpret, forecast, and manage financial statements.
- A successful background in capacity building and network building with multicultural community-based organizations. A demonstrated ability to work cross-culturally with a diverse range of healthcare related and community-based organizations and individuals including for profit, academic, government, and nonprofit entities.

- A track record and/or illustrated capability in nonprofit fundraising with a commitment to maintaining current funders and the skills and relationships necessary to cultivate new donors.
- The ability to be a team builder who is participatory and inclusive in style when appropriate, as well as a decision-maker, able to successfully implement strategic priorities; a willingness to roll up one's sleeves to accomplish any task.
- Exceptional oral, written, listening, and interpersonal communications skills; desire and demonstrated ability to work with and be advised by others including community partners, organization leaders, state and local agencies, as well as newly cultivated HES stakeholders.
- Advanced degree in Law, Management, Public Administration, Public Health, Health Policy or Administration, Social Work, Family Policy or a related field.

This search is being conducted with assistance from Alison Falk and Tamitha McKinnis of Nonprofit Professionals Advisory Group. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Please send nominations and/or applications including cover letter describing your interest and qualifications, your resume (in Word format), salary history, and where you learned of the position to: [HES-ED@nonprofitprofessionals.com](mailto:HES-ED@nonprofitprofessionals.com).

**TOBACCO TREATMENT COORDINATOR**  
The Tobacco Treatment Coordinator (TTC) will be the lead change agent for tobacco cessation services at Midwestern Connecticut Council of Alcoholism (MCCA) in Danbury, CT. The first component of this position will require managing and expanding the current tobacco cessation program for MCCA at nine locations. The second component will involve implementing a health systems change with identified Partners and will require a strong outreach and training element. The goal of health systems change is to provide tobacco users the opportunity at health care office visits access to tobacco cessation treatment. The ideal candidate will be energetic, detail oriented, a natural teacher, outgoing, and passionate about improving the lives of others.

Applicants should have the following education and experience:

- Specialized or advanced degree in public health, human services, social work, counseling, behavioral health, or related field.
- Trained in tobacco cessation and SBIRT preferred.
- Experience in engaging, working with and training medical and clinical personnel.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills: able to prepare reports, presentations, correspondence, articles and other materials.
- Proficient in Excel, MS Word, Outlook and PowerPoint.

Applicants should also be sensitive to the diverse cultural needs of the service population and have the ability to deliver cessation services to underinsured and uninsured clients; have solid presentation and interpersonal skills and the ability to conduct training, meetings, and represent MCCA as needed and appropriate; have the ability to manage multiple priorities and meet Department of Public Health and program deadlines; be committed to maintenance of confidentiality and integrity; and be detail oriented and process driven, with a strong ability to multi-task. To apply for the position, email resume to Terry Budlong, Director of Prevention Services, at [TBudlong@mccaonline.com](mailto:TBudlong@mccaonline.com). This position will be based at 2 Hospital Ave., Danbury, CT.

**DIRECTOR, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**  
BHCare in North Haven, CT is seeking a Director to lead and manage the organization's Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services. The director is responsible for the development, management, supervision, and delivery of appropriate and accessible client services for the domestic violence program. All services are provided while empowering survivors with respect to their safety and their right to self-determination.

Responsibilities include:

- Lead and manage the delivery of services supporting domestic violence.
- Manage budgeting and monitoring of funds distribution.
- Supervise managerial, professional and direct care support staff.

- Develop and implement strategic and tactical planning.
- Write reports, grants and other technical documents.
- Obtain grants successfully from funding sources.
- Deliver professional communications to public audiences.
- Collaborate and participate in public relations events.

The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Human Services or other related fields (Master's degree highly preferred).
- A minimum of five years of progressively responsible experience working with adults and children in the human services field.
- Experience managing domestic violence services highly preferred.
- Demonstrated excellence in organizational management with the ability to coach and manage staff.

To obtain further information or apply for this full-time position, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your web browser:

[https://www.appone.com/MainInfoReq.asp?R\\_ID=1133677](https://www.appone.com/MainInfoReq.asp?R_ID=1133677).

#### P/T TOBACCO PREVENTION SPECIALIST



The Substance Abuse Action Council (SAAC) of Community Mental Health Affiliates in New Britain is looking for a part-time Tobacco Prevention Specialist to provide critical program

support and coordination for SAAC's tobacco prevention program. This is a grant-funded position (20 hours/week), with grant funding expected for two years. The Tobacco Prevention Specialist will coordinate the tobacco prevention program including community mobilization, youth and young adult advocacy, anti-tobacco community media campaign, tobacco merchant education, training, changes in intake and treatment processes, and provision of tobacco cessation services.

Requirements for the position include:

- Bachelor's degree, with a Master's degree in public health, health education, nonprofit

services, or relevant field preferred.

- Experience with Microsoft Office products including Word, Outlook and Access; and social media programs, including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.
- Knowledge of program development, promotion, marketing, education, and media communications in a health education program, and familiarity with Photovoice concepts.
- Knowledge of local communities, leaders and dynamics.
- Strong group facilitation and training skills.
- Excellent communication skills, with ability to express ideas clearly and objectively orally and in writing.
- Ability to relate to and motivate diverse members of the community
- Self-starter with strong organizational and planning skills.
- Passion for public health and tobacco prevention.
- Knowledge of evidence-based practices in tobacco prevention.
- Knowledge of the role that public policy plays in public health.

Preferably, applicants also should have experience developing and implementing evidence-based community-level interventions to prevent tobacco use, experience conducting training or workshops, and experience working with youth (middle school to high school ages) and young adults.

For further information contact Robert S. Rudewicz, Director, Substance Abuse Action Council, Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc., 270 John Downey Drive, New Britain, CT 06051, 860-826-1358 x1632 (phone), 860-229-6575 (fax), [rrudewicz@cmhacc.org](mailto:rrudewicz@cmhacc.org) (email).

CLINICAL DEPARTMENT COORDINATORS Hartford HealthCare (HHC), a company with more than 18,000 employees and over \$2 billion in net revenue, is seeking talented professionals for a new position with multiple openings based out of the executive offices of its System Support Office located at One State Street in Hartford. The Department Coordinators provide project and administrative support to the HHC executive leaders in their respective functional area. Functional areas include Human Resources; Strategy & Marketing;



Quality & Safety; Integrated Care Partners; Operational Excellence & Integration; and Finance. These positions provide an excellent opportunity for recent MPH graduates looking to build a career in healthcare administration. It is expected that incumbents remain in the position for 18-24 months before rotating into a new role within their functional area or the broader organization.

Responsibilities of the Clinical Department Coordinator include:

- Understand needs of Executives to provide efficient and effective support and develop standards and processes to accomplish work
- Support project work across the function, including compilation of departmental calendars and high-level dashboards, and cross-functional projects as assigned
- Perform research and data analysis
- Take minutes/notes and handle follow-up for departmental meetings and Board committee/subcommittee meetings
- Draft communications and agendas
- Prepare and design PowerPoint presentations, Excel spreadsheets and reports for presentations and other reports
- Monitor functional area budget
- Support other committee board preparation and follow-up in collaboration with governance assistant. Monitor board committee governance cycle and plan and organize work to meet deliverable timeframes.
- Participate in process improvement initiatives and support daily management system for department
- Identify IT and audiovisual needs and coordinate daily needs
- Cooperate with Administrative Services Manager and team in the performance of administrative/clerical support functions affecting Department

Qualifications are:

- Bachelor's degree (Master's preferred)
- Advanced proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook) and other tools and applications to support efficiencies
- Technology proficient – video conferencing, web-based presentations, SharePoint,

inter/intranet knowledge repositories and content management

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Critical thinking skills

Apply online

at: [https://hccareers.taleo.net/careersection/hhc\\_ext/jobdetail.ftl?job=15003525&lang=en](https://hccareers.taleo.net/careersection/hhc_ext/jobdetail.ftl?job=15003525&lang=en).

PART-TIME PROGRAM COORDINATOR Eastern AHEC (Area Health Education Center), located in New London, CT, has an opening for a Program Coordinator. The coordinator will provide supervision and support within Eastern AHEC's pipeline programs, Youth Health Service Corps and Collegiate Health Service Corps and Inter-professional Education. The position requires local and some state travel, possibly occasional attendance at national meetings, and willingness to work evenings and weekends. The preferred educational requirement is a BS in a health-related area or a BA degree. Work experience, requirements are:

- a minimum of one or two years of supervisory experience;
- ability to work independently, use initiative and sound judgment within established guidelines and creative ways to solve problems;
- knowledge of report writing and application preparation;
- use of common office databases including Microsoft Office.

Applicants must also have coordination and organizational skills; writing skills to produce narrative reports and grant summaries; verbal communications skills including the ability to provide constructive feedback and guidance to students of all ages; and ability to work independently and take initiative. The position is part-time, 20 hours/week. For further information and application instructions, contact Lorraine Gruber, Executive Assistant, EAHEC, 165 State St., Suite 313, New London, CT 06320, 860-465-8281, [gruber@easternctahec.org](mailto:gruber@easternctahec.org).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES: FAMILIES USA Families USA, located in Washington, DC, is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to the achievement of high-quality, affordable health care for all Americans. The

organization currently has several full-time openings for the following positions:

- Communications Director
- Deputy Executive Director
- Policy Analyst, Health System Transformation
- Salesforce Administrator
- Senior Health Action Associate
- Senior Policy Analyst, Health System Transformation

For details on these and other positions, go to <http://familiesusa.org/about/careers>.

#### US ARMY RESERVE OPPORTUNITY



The U.S. Army Reserve is recruiting officers with public health experience currently serving in the Army Reserve and Army National Guard. They would serve in Civil Affairs units as a part of

Special Operations Forces. The Institute for Military Support to Governance needs public health experts to transfer to AOC 38G, the new Military Government Specialist area of concentration in the Civil Affairs career branch.

The Army is not looking for anyone with general public health experience. They want experts who can advise foreign governments at the provincial, regional and/or national levels. The Army anticipates short-term, 30- to 90-day missions to build sustainable capacity within the Ministries of Health of allies.

The immediate need is to find public health experts currently within the ranks of the Army. A future option may be to hire civilian public health professionals to augment the soldiers in uniform.

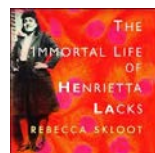
Anyone currently serving in the Army who is interested should contact 1LT John McElligott, MPH, CPH, at [john.mcelligott@soc.mil](mailto:john.mcelligott@soc.mil).

#### FEDERAL JOBS INFO

Join the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Talent Acquisition Division webinar to learn secrets about finding and applying for jobs with the federal government. The webinar will take

place on November 17, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. ET. Click on [Join](#) to register.

#### BOOK REVIEW



Over the years, one of the things we have prided ourselves on as a program is the attention we give in the curriculum to public health law and bioethics. One of the most interesting and more current books I have read in this area is the #1 New York Times Bestseller, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot. *The Immortal Life* was chosen as a best book of 2010 by more than 60 media outlets and as one of the 100 Books to Read in a Lifetime by [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com). The book explores bioethical issues, including informed consent, through the story of Henrietta Lacks, whose HeLa cells became the first and most commonly used human cell line and which have generated breakthroughs in cell biology, drug discovery, and understanding of human disease.

The book also tells a story of the collision between ethics, race, and medicine; of scientific discovery; and of a daughter consumed with questions about the mother she never knew. The story of Henrietta Lacks is central to emerging issues on the ethics of genomics and personalized medicine. Who owns our cells? What is the responsible use of genetic information? How can our genetic privacy be safeguarded in an era of personalized genomics? Together, Rebecca Skloot and the Lacks family provide an important contemporary story on the use of human cells in biological research and the numerous ethical issues that are raised by the story of Henrietta Lacks.

On September 24, the UConn Institute for Systems Genomics sponsored a visit by author Rebecca Skloot and the Lacks Family to the University of Connecticut. In her talk Ms. Skloot spoke about how her obsession with Henrietta Lacks was rooted in an offhand remark by her biology instructor in a community college class and the years it took to gain the confidence of the Lacks family. If you have an interest in bioethical issues, or just simply want a "good read," here is something to think about during the December-January intercession!

## STUDENT NEWS

**Manik Ahuja, PhD** Candidate in Public Health, presented a paper, "Gender disparities in musculoskeletal symptoms and tasks performed among custodians," on November 2 at the Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association in Chicago. Co-authors include faculty members Jennifer Garza, ScD and Jennifer Cavallari, ScD, Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.



**Salman Alzayani, MD, MSc**, a student in the Doctoral Program in Public Health, successfully defended his dissertation, "Effect of Cultural Background and Training on Stigmatized Attitudes among Healthcare Professionals: A Randomized Study of Medical Students' Attitude and Behaviors toward Alcohol Dependent Individuals in the Middle East," on September 16. Tom Babor, PhD, Chair of the Department of Community Medicine and Health Care, is his major advisor.



## ALUMNI NEWS

**Christopher Heneghan, MPH (2015)** has accepted a new position as Department Coordinator of Planning and Marketing at Hartford Healthcare.

**Roberto Henry, MPH (2014)** has just completed his first year in the position of Public Health Associate (PHAP) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

**Carlos Rivera, MSW, MBA, MPH (2007)** was named Chief Executive Office of Samaritan Center in Austin, Texas. The center provides individual, family, group and peer-based counseling; integrative medicine and psychiatric services that are accessible and affordable for all, especially vulnerable populations such as uninsured or under-insured, low-income families, veterans and service members struggling with the emotional wounds of war. Before joining Samaritan Center in May 2015, Carlos was Director of Health and Human Services for the City of Austin and Travis County from 2011-2015, and before that held the same position in the City of Hartford. He is currently completing his PhD in Public Health from the University of Illinois.

**Galo Rodriguez, MPH (2000)** is one of three community leaders being recognized for their vision, skill, and courage in serving the Greater Hartford population. On October 14 he received the Polaris award from Leadership Greater Hartford (LGH) in recognition of his being a "North Star that lights and guides the way for others to follow." The award was presented at LGH's annual awards event, which took place at Pratt & Whitney Stadium at Rentschler Field.

Galo Rodriguez arrived in the United States 27 years ago from Columbia, South America, where he had earned the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree from the Universidad de Cartagena in 1981. After working for Catholic Charities for several years, he joined the Village for Families and Children, where he is currently President and CEO. The Village was one of the first agencies in the country to provide homes for neglected children. Today, the Village provides a full range of behavioral health treatment for children and youth, foster care and adoption, and community support services for children and their families in the Greater Hartford region. In presenting the Polaris award to Galo Rodriguez, LGH noted that the child and family service agency he leads "provides new hope and opportunities for some of our most traumatized children." (Source: "Three Community Leaders To Receive Polaris Award," Hartford Courant, October 11, 2015, p. H6.)

**Baker Salisbury, MSW, MPH (1997)** has been named interim Director of Health and Human Services for the City of Hartford. Before his retirement last spring, Baker was Director of Health for the Ledge Light Health District.

**David Skoczulek, MPH (2009)** is running for Town Council in Tolland. His local governmental experience includes service as a Commissioner on the Tolland Planning and Zoning Commission. He has also served as Chairman of the Board for the North Central District Health Department and currently he is President of the North Central Area Agency on Aging (NCAAA) Board of Directors. He has also been a Corporator of Eastern Connecticut Health Network (ECHN).

## FACULTY NEWS

**Julie Robison, PhD**, Associate Professor in the Center on Aging at UConn Health and co-instructor of an MPH elective on aging, is lead author of a paper, "Connecticut's 'Money Follows The Person'"

Yields Positive Results For Transitioning People  
Out Of Institutions,” which appeared in the October  
2015 issue of *Health Affairs*.

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