

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Faculty Spotlight -
Mark Gebhart, MD
Page 2
- MPH Special Points
of Interest - Page 2
- Public Health in
Practice - Page 3
- Alumni Spotlight -
Page 3
- Culminating
Experience - Page 4
- Upcoming Events -
Page 4

MISSION

*To serve as a model
community-based
interdisciplinary
graduate education
program for the
present and future
public health pro-
fession's leadership
in Southwest Ohio
and beyond.*

VISION

*Public health and
health-related pro-
fessionals of south-
western Ohio will
have increased
knowledge, compe-
tencies, and skills.*

Wright Solutions

WSU Master of Public Health Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

WINTER 2007

From the Director



I am delighted to introduce our MPH newsletter. The program is now in its third year, with three graduations past, many successful careers advanced, and the public better served as a consequence. The original motivation for the program was to serve the public health community in southwest Ohio. We have started to achieve that by accepting 23 students from 12 health districts into the program. We have had an additional 48 students in the program. I consider this a great success – we're simultaneously educating established public health workers and educating others in health care related professions about public health.

In 2005 Oscar Boonshoft committed \$3 million to establish the Boonshoft Physician Leadership Development Program. As of this year, 13 students are concurrently earning their MD/MPH. The program is raising a new generation of physicians with complementary skills in both medicine and public health.

Our future plans are for continued growth. We will be moving into a new building this summer that doubles our current space. It will provide offices for the current faculty and those scheduled to be added to our programs. This growth will allow us to provide better educational programs and expanded class offerings. We have added a number of new courses this past year and will be adding more in the future. The new space will also make students, staff and faculty more comfortable. Additionally, we are planning to create a video-conferencing room in the new facility. This will allow us to add distance learning students and likewise faculty from distant sites.

The Wright State University MPH was founded in the Division of Health Systems Management. As many of you know, the Division was started just 7 years ago and included me and a support staff person at a one-half time effort. In May of 2006 we became the Center for Global Health Systems, Management, and Policy. There are now 11 faculty members, over 50 faculty affiliates, and 7 professional staff members actively involved with the work of the Center.

I am enthusiastic about the success of the MPH program, its faculty, students, the community faculty and our community partners who have made it a tremendous success. Together we will continue to see a future filled with growth and progress as we educate current and future policy makers, assess the conditions throughout our multiple communities and assure conditions in which the public can enjoy good health and quality of life years.

Richard J. Schuster, M.D., MMM
Oscar Boonshoft Chair, Boonshoft School of Medicine
Director, Master of Public Health Program
Director, Center for Global Health Systems, Management, and Policy

**WSU SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST**

DID YOU KNOW?

- **There are three concentrations:**
 - **Public Health Management**
 - **Health Education & Promotion**
 - **Emergency Preparedness**
- **Since the program began in Fall 2004 there have been 18 graduates!**
- **Students are admitted twice a year - Fall and Spring**
- **New faculty to the program since August 2006 include Ken Dahms, Dr. Erie Sase, and Dr. Ray Ten Eyck.**

If you have any questions regarding this newsletter, please contact Tiffani White at (937) 258-5541 or via e-mail at tiffani.white@wright.edu

Faculty Spotlight

Modular Emergency Medical System - A Surge Capacity Solution for West Central Ohio

By Mark E. Gebhart, M.D., FAAEM, CPM



Wright State University is in phase II of implementation of the West Central Ohio Modular Emergency Medical Systems (MEMS) project. Funded by the Ohio Department of Health, this \$5 million dollar investment has brought medical supplies, a training center, a logistics facility, and personnel necessary for implementation of this project.

Initial funding was received in March 2006 and phase I concluded August 31, 2006. Phase II will be completed in August 2007 and will allow the West Central Ohio homeland security region (region III) to have on hand needed medical supplies for 1,000 ambulatory and 1,000 non-ambulatory patients. Additionally, the supplies will be sufficient to handle these numbers for up to 72 hours without re-supply.

The MEMS project is composed of two distinctly different entities. First, the acute care center (ACC) is designed to be the surge facility for non-ambulatory patients. Currently, a site has been chosen for Montgomery County and talks are underway with Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association (GDAHA) member hospitals to locate sites in Clark, Darke, Miami, Greene, Shelby, and Preble counties. Secondly, the neighborhood emergency help center (NEHC) is designed to be a stand alone ambulatory care facility and comes complete with a resuscitation area. The NEHC could be directed wherever it is needed. This could be to a community, near or at a hospital, or to virtually any other site.

Wright State has also taken a lead role in the state and is currently in phase I of the same project in Southeastern Ohio (HS regions 7 and 8) and will soon be entering phase I in an additional region of Ohio. These additional areas have also been funded and the equipment and supplies will be assembled here in Dayton and distributed to the HS regions around the state.

For more information, contact Mark Gebhart, M.D. at mark.gebhart@wright.edu or (937) 775-1320.

**For more information on WSU's Master of Public Health Program visit our Web Site at:
<http://www.med.wright.edu/mph>**

Public Health in Practice by Ken Dahms, J.D.

All MPH students are required to do a practice placement in order to fulfill applied learning time toward degree completion. The purposes of the practice placement include providing students with applied learning experiences “beyond those that are part of their regularly scheduled work duties.” This has certainly been the case for MPH students Karen Levin and Sara Rue.

Karen served her practice placement as a Red Cross Volunteer, helping victims of Hurricane Katrina. After receiving medical volunteer training with the Dayton Chapter of the Red Cross, Karen spent from November

10—22, 2005 as a Red Cross volunteer in Miami, Florida. Due to her superior computer skills, Karen served mainly in an administrative capacity in support of caseworkers in the Miami area, but she also did some actual casework with the Katrina victims. She met a lot of interesting and dedicated people during this time and brought home some inspiring stories of people helping others during a crisis.

In February 2007, Sara will do her practice placement during a two-week medical mission to Africa. The first week will be spent in Mozambique providing primary health care

services in the bush of Africa through rural clinics. The second week will be spent in Swaziland, working on a variety of public health topics in a local hospital.

Karen and Sara provide excellent examples of exciting and creative ways of fulfilling the practice placement requirement.

To discuss your practice placement project or to volunteer to be a practice placement site, please contact Ken Dahms, J.D. at (937) 258-5555 or ken.dahms@wright.edu.

Alumni Spotlight by Denisha Garland, MPH

Road of Life is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating youth about tobacco, fitness, and nutrition to raise a healthier generation of children with a significantly lower risk of cancer and other diseases of excess. As the Director of Program Development, I am responsible for designing a health education curriculum, conducting a scientific evaluation, assisting the Outreach Coordinator in developing highly effective collaborations, and supervising the scientific advisory committee. The Road of Life health education curriculum focuses on nutrition, physical activity, general health, and tobacco use prevention and includes lessons that span across other core academic content areas in mathematics, language arts, social studies, and science. Additionally, the Road of Life evaluation determines the effectiveness of the program by analyzing the knowledge, belief, and behavior

changes of elementary school children. It is our hope at Road of Life that the health education curriculum will help to positively influence healthy lifestyle modifications and that these healthy lifestyle changes captured by the evaluation will aid in keeping children happy, safe, and healthy.

While attending Wright State University, my biggest accomplishments included completing the practice placement and culminating experience, supervised by Bill Bines and Dr. Marietta Langlois. My experiences during the practice placement at the Cincinnati Health Department not only equipped me with the knowledge to design a health education program but it also allowed me to develop personal skills to form collaborations with other organizations and recruit volunteers. Furthermore, my culminating experience

helped me discover the joy of creating an independent project. The process improved my data collection skills and deepened my understanding of how to interpret the data and communicating that information through written and oral means. Although each experience had its challenges, I truly believe that without the training and education learned in each environment, I would not be successful in my position today. The Master of Public Health program at Wright State University is outstanding and my accomplishments in health promotion and education are due to the hard work and unparalleled professionalism of the instructors, staff, and administrators of the program.

Culminating Experience Projects

by Ray Ten Eyck, M.D., MPH

Congratulations to the three most recent graduates of our MPH Program. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, Liliana Cote, Alison Aldrich and Carole Huddleston all completed their culminating experience projects and provided important results to the Dayton Public Health community during the 2006 Fall Quarter. Working with clients at Elizabeth's New Life Center in Dayton, Dr. Cote completed a project entitled "Retrospective Comparative Analysis of the Socio-demographic Characteristics of Pregnant Abortion-minded Clients versus Pregnant Non-abortion-minded Clients in a Crisis Pregnancy

Center in the Dayton, Ohio Area". She presented her project in November to a combined group of staff from Elizabeth's New Life Center, fellow students and MPH faculty. Ms. Aldrich completed her project entitled "Household Preparedness for Pandemic Influenza in Families with Preschool-aged Children" and presented her project at the November Research Team Meeting of the Center for Global Health Systems, Management, and Policy. Ms. Huddleston completed her project entitled "Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Substance Use Disorder: Prevalence and Treatment Outcomes" and pre-

sented her results to members of the Dayton Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board.

We are proud of each of our new graduates and join with them in expressing profound gratitude to their guidance committee members.

For more info about the MPH Culminating Experience Project, please contact Ray Ten Eyck, M.D. at (937) 258-5555 or raymond.teneyck@wright.edu.

Upcoming Events.....

WSU MPH Council on Education for Public Health Accreditation Site Visit
February 5-6, 2007; Contact Nancy Terwoord at (937) 258-5555 for more information.

Eating Ourselves Sick: The Health and Economic Challenges to Obesity
7th Annual Center for Global Health Systems, Management, and Policy Conference
February 21, 2007 at Sinclair Ponitz Center, Dayton, OH - 8:00 a.m.-3:45 p.m.
Contact Pam Mondini at (937) 258-5555 for more information or visit <http://www.med.wright.edu/hsm> and click on "Upcoming Conferences"

Center Alumni Mixer

Following 7th Annual Center for Global Health Systems, Management, and Policy Conference
February 21, 2007 at Sinclair Ponitz Center, Dayton, OH - 3:45-5:30 p.m.
For graduates from the Health Care Management Certificate Program, Master of Public Health Program, and associated faculty. Contact Lori Metivier at (937) 258-5543 for more information.

Ohio Public Health Association (OPHA) Conference

May 14-16, 2007 at the Marriott North in Columbus, OH
Contact Petra Weaver at (937) 258-5547 for more information.

Deadline for Fall MPH Admissions is May 31, 2007

Contact Petra Weaver at (937) 258-5547 for more information.