

**American Public Health Association
Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section
APHA ICEHS Electronic News
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Greetings from your new ICEHS Section Newsletter Editor John Lundell at the University of Iowa Injury Prevention Research Center. I am pleased to help share important information among the members of our section. Please send articles for future issues to me at john-lundell@uiowa.edu . Also thanks to Bella Dinh-Zarr and her colleagues at AAA for agreeing to distribute this electronic newsletter.

SECTION NEWS

Notes from the Chair

Hi everyone! Another year is coming to a close and so has my position as Chair of ICEHS. ICEHS is a great and important section and it has been an honor to be chair. This year has been a trial and test to professionals in the injury field and we have had to redefine and rethink terms and concepts relating to injury. In late December we saw the Asian earthquake and tsunami that devastated communities all over the world. And starting in late August we saw strings of horrendous hurricanes that swept the southern United States wreaking havoc on environmental, political and social levels. Drowning has taken on new meaning in these disasters. What used to be an individual incident in creeks and swimming pools now have become the numerous injuries and related problems that so many people face from flooding. And the flooding was predictable and, in the US arguably, largely preventable. The aftermath of the Hurricane, most dramatically shown with Katrina, demonstrates the need for stronger and more effective disaster preparedness and response. At the same time, we also need to concentrate on primary prevention, and environmental justice. What could and should have been done in the first place to save so many lives- a focus on global warming? On respecting wetlands? Not just saving those who died, but all the despair, injuries, separation..... And as always it is the poor, the people of color who were hit the hardest.

* * * * *

Internally in ICEHS, we have strengthened our section by adding new committees and leaders. Mira Grice and Kathleen Ferguson, both doctoral students at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, joined the ICEHS leadership last year as student liaisons. They have been working hard to launch the Networking Project to connect leaders in the ICEHS field to students and new people in the field. If you are interested in getting involved, stop by and talk to them at our sessions, booth, and receptions at the annual meeting or email ferg0114@umn.edu or gric0001@umn.edu. Additionally, the section welcomes new people getting involved. You can join our committees, help shape the program for next year and/or run for a leadership position in early spring 2006. We need your energy and welcome new ideas. I'm proud that the emphasis on new leadership is an issue I tried to nurture this year.

One impact of the Katrina Hurricane has been the location and time change of the APHA annual meeting. I look forward to meeting and reuniting with ICEHS members at the annual meeting and at the ICEHS events. It was great working with you all this year. Maria Anderson will take over as the next chair of ICEHS. As a current law student herself, she enters as a fresh face with continuing commitment to involve students and emerging leaders in the field. Like me, I'm sure she'll need everyone's support, commitment, and warmth,

Larry Cohen
Executive Director
Prevention Institute
265 29th Street
Oakland, Ca 94611
(510) 663-1280
larry@preventioninstitute.org

APHA Annual Meeting Program Committee Update

The annual meeting is finally upon us and we have many exciting speakers and sessions scheduled. This year we were able to secure three extra sessions for our program. ICEHS now has eighteen oral and ten poster sessions. You can download the ICEHS program from our website, <http://www.icehs.org>.

We would like to take this opportunity to spotlight a couple of the sessions. Join us on Monday from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm to learn about the latest in firearm injury research. This session, “Firearm Injury Research: From Research to Action,” features speakers from the CDC, the Philadelphia Gun and Alcohol Study, as well as Cease Fire Chicago. This year we have been able to partner with the International Health section to develop, “Injuries in International Communities,” on Monday from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm which features abstracts from both the ICEHS and IH sections. Finally, we were able to reorganize our program to create the session, “Preparing for and Responding to Disasters.” Among the participants featured in this session are Rick Hunt and Rick Waxweiler from the NCIPC, CDC, who will present on their division’s response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Specifically, they will discuss gathering information from hospitals in the impacted areas, dissemination of injury information to public and clinicians, and deployment of health care personnel.

There are a few more details you need to be aware of this year.

- All ICEHS business meetings, oral sessions, and poster sessions are in the convention center (PCC).
- APHA has shortened all poster sessions to one hour. Make sure you arrive to the poster sessions on time or you may not be able to see everything that you want.
- At the request of our section chair, the Monday morning New Members’ Breakfast will not begin until 7:00 am. This will give us all an extra half-hour of sleep. Thank You Larry.
- Due to the rescheduling of the conference there have been a few cancellations and rearrangements of presentations and posters. Some of these changes have occurred after the program went to press. Therefore, you should consult the schedule available at the ICEHS website and booth for the final timings and locations of all events, presentations, and posters.

We would like to extend a special thank you to all moderators and presenters and look forward to seeing everybody in Philadelphia.

The program committee,

Larry Cook, Stacey Knight, and Lisa Hyde

~Larry Cook

APHA 133rd Annual Meeting, December 11 - 14, Philadelphia, PA
Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section Condensed Schedule
 Business Meetings, Social Events, & Primary Scientific Sessions
Scientific Program Committee Co-Chairs: Larry J Cook, Stacey Knight, Lenora M Olson

Sunday, December 11, 2005			
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Section Leadership Meeting	PCC 111B	[251.0]
Monday, December 12, 2005			
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	ICEHS New Members' Breakfast and Business Meeting	PCC 108B	[306.0]
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Intimate Partner Violence	PCC 112A/B	[3031.0]
	<i>Moderator: Helen Straus</i>		
	Poisonings and Unintentional Injuries	PCC 202B	[3032.0]
	<i>Moderator: Lois Fingerhut</i>		
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Trends in Firearm Injuries and Violence	PCC 113A	[3113.0]
	<i>Moderator: David Hemenway</i>		
	Evaluation of Injury Surveillance Data	PCC 109B	[3114.0]
	<i>Moderator: Lee Annest</i>		
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Injury and Violence Prevention Programs Posters	PCC Halls A/B	[3149.0]
	Transportation and Other Unintentional Injuries Posters	PCC Halls A/B	[3150.0]
	Violence Studies Posters	PCC Halls A/B	[3151.0]
	Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence Posters	PCC Halls A/B	[3152.0]
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM	Injuries in International Communities	PCC 202A	[3195.1]
	<i>Moderator: Rebecca Spicer</i>		
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Annual Exploration of Injury Data Issues	PCC 108B	[3288.0]
	<i>Moderators: Elizabeth McLoughlin, Lee Annest, Lois Fingerhut</i>		
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Firearm Injury Research: From Research to Action	PCC 202B	[3371.2]
	<i>Moderator: Kathleen Carlson</i>		
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	ICEHS Social Hour	PCC 106B	[332.0]
Tuesday, December 13, 2005			
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Latebreaking Issues in ICEHS	PCC 202A	[4034.0]
	<i>Moderator: John Lundell</i>		
	Preparing for and Responding to Disasters	PCC 202B	[4035.0]
	<i>Moderator: Susan Avila</i>		

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Latebreaking Issues in ICEHS Posters	PCC Halls A/B	[4087.0]
	Emergency Health Services Research Posters	PCC Halls A/B	[4088.0]
	Injury Surveillance and Data Issues Posters	PCC Halls A/B	[4089.0]
	Disaster and Terrorism Preparedness Posters	PCC Halls A/B	[4090.0]
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Issues in Suicide Research	PCC 202B	[4232.0]
	<i>Moderator: Anara Guard</i>		
	Injury Prevention Program and Policy Evaluation	PCC 203A	[4233.0]
	<i>Moderators: Andy Lincoln</i>		
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	ICEHS Business Meeting	PCC 108B	[416.0]
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	ICEHS Awards Dinner @ Vietnam Palace, 222 North 11 th Street, (215) 592-9596		
Wednesday, December 14, 2005			
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Teenage Driver Safety	PCC 202A	[5050.0]
	<i>Moderator: Cathy Gotschall</i>		
	Research and Practice in Terrorism Preparedness	PCC 103C	[5051.0]
	<i>Moderator: Rick Bissell</i>		
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM	School Safety and Youth Violence	PCC 203A	[5114.0]
	<i>Moderator: Susan Gerberich</i>		
	Mental Health and Substance Abuse: Relationship with Injuries	PCC 203B	[5115.0]
	<i>Moderator: Lynn Fullerton-Gleason</i>		
	Latebreaking Issues in ICEHS II	PCC 106B	[5115.1]
	<i>Moderator: Charles Branas</i>		
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Current Pediatric Injury Research	PCC 203A	[5168.0]
	<i>Moderator: Billie Weiss</i>		
	Injury Surveillance and Prevention Programs in Diverse Communities	PCC 203B	[5169.0]
	<i>Moderator: Joyce Pressley</i>		

~ Larry Cook

ICEHS Booth Sign-up Schedule APHA 2005

Below is the sign-up sheet for booth duty. Please select a time that fits your schedule and e-mail it to me, Joyce Pressley, at jp376@columbia.edu. We need people for set-up and tear-down as well as staffing it during times when the exhibits are open. The schedule is set to change on the quarter hour to allow people time commute when leaving or getting to sessions that generally begin or end on the hour or half hour. The schedule will also be posted at the booth during exhibit set up and throughout the conference. For problems or issues after arrival, JPs cell is 646-644-3036. Don't miss out on your preferred time for booth duty. Sign up early!

~ Joyce Pressley

Booth Setup hours:
Sat 8 am-6 pm
Sun 8 am-2 pm

ICEHS Booth Sign-up Schedule APHA 2005

133rd Annual APHA Meeting (* indicates times staff should be present)

Exhibit hours:
Sun 2-7 pm
Mon-Tue 9:30 am-5:30 pm
Wed 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Date	Time	ICEHS Booth Staff	Notes
Sat, Dec 10	8:00 am - 6 pm		Time available for sign-up for booth setup
Sun, Dec 11	8:00 am - Noon	*	Sign-up for booth setup
	12:00 pm-2:00 pm	Exhibit Hall not open	Opening General Session
	2:00 pm-3:00 pm	*	Exhibit hall opens 2:00 pm (or end of general session) Exhibit hall opens
	3:00 pm-6:00 pm	*	ICEHS Leadership Business Meeting (3:00-6:00 pm)
	6:00 pm-7:00 pm	*	Exhibits close at 7 pm
Mon, Dec 12	6:30 am - 8:00 am	Exhibit Hall not open	ICEHS New Member Breakfast (6:30-8:00 am)

	9:15 am- 10:15 am	*	Exhibit hall opens at 9:30 am
	10:15 am - 12:15 pm	*	Exhibits open
	12:15 pm- 2:15 pm	*	Exhibits open
	2:15 pm - 4:15 pm	*	Exhibits open
	4:15 pm -5:30 pm	*	Exhibits open (ICEHS Social Hour 6:30-7:30 pm)
Tues, Dec 13	9:15 am- 10:15 am	*	Exhibit hall opens at 9:30 am Latebreaking Issues in ICEHS (8:30-10:00 am)
	10:15 am- 12:15 pm	*	Exhibits open
	12:15 am- 2:15 pm	Renee Johnson	Exhibits opens
	2:15 pm - 4:15 pm	*	Exhibits open
	4:15 pm - 6:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Open; ?Booth unstaffed 4:30-5:30 pm	ICEHS Business Meeting (4:30-6:00 pm)
Wed, Dec 14	8:15 am - 10:15 am	*	Exhibit hall opens at 8:30 am
	10:15 am- 12:30 pm	*	Meeting exhibit hall closes at 12:30 pm
	12:30 pm	*	Exhibit booth removal/labeling for shipping
	12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Exhibit Hall not open	Latebreaking Issues in ICEHS II (12:30-2.00 pm)

ICEHS AWARDS DINNER

The ICEHS Awards Dinner will be held immediately following the ICEHS Business Meeting Tuesday, December 13th at 7:00 at the Vietnam Palace Restaurant, 222 North 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, (215) 592-959.

Walking distance from the Philadelphia Convention Center!

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TO THE DINNER AT THE ICEHS BOOTH AT APHA

Cost: \$45.00 Non-students
\$20.00 Students

E-mail reservations to Cathy Gotschall at cathy.gotschall.nhtsa.dot.gov
Please specify number of tickets (regular price or student)
Please specify if you want a vegetarian dinner

DO NOT SEND MONEY -- PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT THE ICEHS BOOTH IN PHILLY OR AT ONE OF THE ICEHS BUSINESS MEETINGS.

~ Cathy Gotschall

UNITY INFORMATIONAL MEETING AT APHA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- WHAT:** UNITY Informational Meeting
- WHEN:** Monday December 12, 2005, 5:30-6:30PM
- WHERE:** APHA Annual Conference in Philadelphia, the Loews Hotel Room Congress A on the 4th floor
- WHY:** To introduce and discuss a new CDC-funded initiative to address urban youth violence
- WHO:** Civic and public health representatives of the nation's 45 largest cities

You are invited to join in UNITY: Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention on December 12, 2005 at the APHA national conference. Recently funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the goals of UNITY are to strengthen urban youth violence prevention by building support and momentum for sustainable public health approaches to youth violence.

UNITY will focus primarily on the nation's 45 largest cities.* The initiative will engage youth and city representatives, along with national-level violence prevention advocates and leaders as part of a National Consortium to shape strategy for urban youth violence prevention. UNITY will provide the tools, training, and technical assistance needed for cities to be most effective in

preventing youth violence. UNITY is an opportunity to learn and share, and to participate in a visionary collaborative effort to build a national movement for change that will help ensure the wellbeing of our nation's youth.

UNITY is guided by the partnership of Larry Cohen of Prevention Institute, Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith of the Harvard School of Public Health, and Billie Weiss of the University of California, Los Angeles Southern California Injury Prevention Research Center. Together, they have more than half a century of youth violence prevention experience and have mobilized numerous coalitions to significant violence prevention outcomes.

Please join us at the APHA annual conference in Philadelphia for an introduction to and discussion of UNITY. This meeting will be co-sponsored by the local team that collaborated on "*Blueprint for a Safer Philadelphia*". Philadelphia's Blueprint is a well-received community plan for preventing youth violence in that city. Representative Dwight Evans of the Pennsylvania General Assembly will be speaking, as well as Dr. Rodney Hammond, Director of Violence Prevention at the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the CDC.

We will be gathering on ***Monday December 12, 2005 from 5:30-6:30PM at the Philadelphia Loews Hotel, in room Congress A on the 4th floor.*** You do not need to be registered for the conference to attend this meeting.

If you are unable to meet with us in Philadelphia, there will be other opportunities to discuss how UNITY can complement and enhance your youth violence prevention efforts. We look forward to working with all of you.

For more information about UNITY please read the answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) below. You can also call or email Rachel Davis (rachel@preventioninstitute.org), or Patti Culross (patti@preventioninstitute.org) at Prevention Institute (510) 444-7738, or visit the Prevention Institute website at www.preventioninstitute.org.

*Please see the Prevention Institute website for the full list of UNITY cities.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT UNITY

What is the goal of UNITY?

UNITY is designed to strengthen urban youth violence prevention. By building national support and consensus, UNITY will develop sustainable public health approaches to preventing youth violence. UNITY will bring together young people, representatives of the nation's largest cities, and national violence prevention advocates and leaders, as part of a National Consortium to shape the U.S. strategy for urban youth violence prevention. UNITY will also provide tools, training, and technical assistance to help cities be more effective in preventing youth violence.

Why do we need UNITY?

Young people are severely impacted by violence and those who live in urban areas are disproportionately affected. For example, according to the 2003 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance, 14% of high school students in the District of Columbia felt too unsafe to go to school, 25% reported carrying a weapon, 16% were intentionally physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend, 12% reported being forced to have sex and 14% reported making a suicide plan.¹ Students in other large cities included in the survey also reported these behaviors in high numbers.

It is time to consider a new approach. To maximize existing resources and promote sustainability, we are proposing a paradigm shift – from programs to strategy. Most cities do not have a collaborative plan or any other clear strategy for addressing youth violence. We need to support our nation’s urban communities and leaders in enhancing and coordinating violence prevention efforts in our cities.

What is violence prevention?

We know that violence is preventable. Violence is a learned behavior that can be unlearned or not learned in the first place. Violence is a complex problem that requires participation from multiple sectors and stakeholders. Therefore, violence prevention involves comprehensive and multifaceted efforts to address the risk factors associated with violence, and builds on assets in youth, families, and communities.

Violence prevention is distinct from violence containment or suppression. Violence prevention contributes to empowerment, educational and economic progress, and improved life management skills while fostering communities in which young people can grow in dignity and safety. By focusing on prevention, institutions can be more inclusive and receptive in responding to community needs. Success in violence prevention requires investment in and commitment to leadership, planning, collaboration, and resources.

What about cities not included in UNITY?

Initially, UNITY will focus primarily on the 45 largest cities in the country.² These cities represent the first step in building momentum for a national youth violence prevention movement. Successes through UNITY in these cities will then serve as models that can be used by everyone.

Who coordinates UNITY?

UNITY’s lead partners are Prevention Institute, the Harvard School of Public Health, and the UCLA Southern California Injury Prevention Research Center. UNITY is a CDC funded project. The National Consortium includes national organizations such as: the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Public Health Association, the National Crime Prevention Council, Forum for Youth Investment, Institute for Community Peace, Kaiser Permanente, the National Association of County and City Health Officials, the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, PREVENT, the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association, and Wells Fargo. The Consortium also includes local and state health departments, school districts, elected officials, law enforcement, foundations, universities, state coalitions, and community-based organizations.

- 1 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Surveillance Summaries*, May 21, 2004. MMWR 2004:53 (No. SS-2). Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbs/index.htm>
- 2 Please see www.preventioninstitute.org for a full list of UNITY cities.

For more information about UNITY, please visit the Prevention Institute website, www.preventioninstitute.org.

Development of this program is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

~ Lissette Flores



Dear Colleagues:

The Center for Injury Research and Control at the University of Pittsburgh is pleased to announce our **Online Webinar Series 2005: Injury Control Research Grand Rounds**. These **FREE**, monthly online live Webinars aim to present timely and high-quality injury control research addressing a spectrum of research topics for both intentional and unintentional injuries. The final seminar of this series is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13th, 2005 and is entitled:

**“TURNING POINT: RETHINKING VIOLENCE ~
AN EVALUATION of PROGRAM EFFICACY
in REDUCING ADOLESCENT VIOLENT CRIME RECIDIVISM”**

Presented by

Kamela K. Scott, PhD

Department of Surgery
University of Florida at Jacksonville Health Science Center
Jacksonville, FL

And

Joseph J. Tepas, III, MD

Professor, Surgery and Pediatrics
University of Florida College of Medicine
Jacksonville, FL

Tuesday, December 13th, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

EDT is 4 hours behind Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)

Please follow this URL for further information:

<http://www.circl.pitt.edu/home/webinars/scotttepas.mht>

Note: Recordings of previous seminars in this series can be played from the Past Seminar Page:
http://www.circl.pitt.edu/home/past_seminars.htm

~ Karen Zuri / Hank Weiss

Updated Data Files at the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research

The data files at the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan have been updated to include 2003 data for The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS)-All Injury Program data and the CDC Firearm Injury Surveillance Study (using NEISS).

The NEISS All Injury Program data (2000-2003) provide national estimates of nonfatal injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments. The NEISS Firearm Injury Surveillance Study data (1993-2003) provide national estimates of nonfatal firearm and BB/pellet gun-related injuries.

To access the data files, go to ICPSR at www.icpsr.umich.edu.

Users can access the complete list of data files and documentation by entering "NEISS" as the search term, selecting "in all fields", and clicking on the submit button located on the ICPSR homepage.

We hope you find these data sets useful in your injury research activities.

For questions or comments, please contact J. Lee Annett, Ph.D., Director, Office of Statistics and Programming, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4770 Buford Hwy (MS-K59), Atlanta, GA 30341, 770-488-4804, 770-488-1665 (fax) lannest@cdc.gov

~Sandra Bonzo

The Archivist's Attic: Antidepressants, Adolescent Suicides and the Role of the Injury Control Researcher and Practitioner: New Partnerships for Downsizing Economies?

Zalsman G, Mann JJ. The neurobiology of suicide in adolescents: An emerging field of research. *Int J Adolesc Med Health* 2005;17(3):195-6, and other professional journal publications over some half century have suggested links between suicides and endogenous and external drugs levels. With today's downsizing of resources, some need for more innovative (see Members' Only – MSS and Leadership Quadrants Figures) injury prevention partnerships and alliances (e.g. with NIH and mental health organizations) may be possible at the nexus of biochemistry and injury epi. and practice.

With the FDA's recent decision warning the public that certain antidepressants can lead adolescents to suicide ideation and to suicide, two flashpoints seem of importance to us in injury control. The first is the ongoing issue of any science sacrificed for politics (which I will not expand upon here), (see e.g. Fireman B, Simon GE, et al. Suicide risk in bipolar disorder during treatment with lithium and divalproex. *JAMA*.2003;290:1467-1473 and Baldessarini RJ and also Tondo, L. Suicide Risk and Treatments for Patients with Bipolar Disorder. editorial. *Op cite*, 1517-1519, FDA Advisory June 2005). The second, the archival relationships of serotonin regulating prescriptions to violence or injury. (see: Fisher L. Traditional public health injury control does not apply to violence. *Injury Prevention*. 1999;5:13-14.) and potential injury epi, research and practice. *For now, any epi studies of adolescent injury and death should include questions on what Rx, other drugs or diet of the involved persons.*

Archival Review and Assessment of Serotonin and Injury Relationships

Serotonin, naturally found in the human brain and spinal cord, in low amounts can lead to depression while the direct link to violence or injury is debatable. In 1985, I prepared a controversial “white paper”, an initial proposal for my biochemical research, to consider screening of selective high risk adolescents for abnormal levels of bioamines associated with injury. The paper, submitted as part of my updating knowledge at Biochemistry 540, State University of NY at Albany, Graduate School of Public Health, if not just as for some seventy five archival references on prevention of suicides and biochemistry (for an update on this topic see: Reducing Suicide. SK Goldsmith. et al. Committee on Pathophysiology & Prevention of Adolescent Suicides. A National Imperative. Institute of Medicine of the National Academies.2002, 238ff), but also for a timely learning about possible ‘**newer**’ **human factors** associated with injury causes.

Here is my paper’s abstract (due to space, please contact me for information on the limited availability of my complete copyrighted archive, MSS):

For over a century, scientists have related bioamine pathways to changes in moods, depression, violence and certain injuries. My Medlar search of serotonin and injury literature (circa 1950-1980) reviewed the history, nature and metabolism of serotonin and the etiology associated with adolescent suicides and other injuries. I propose consideration of biological screening using specimen and blood collection protocols already clinically used in the identification of inborn metabolic diseases. I briefly discuss promises and controversial practical limits (screening sensitivity and selectivity and ethical implications, daily variations of in vivo levels substrates) affecting reliability and suitability of any screening procedure) Injury control investigators should explore partnerships with biomedical researchers (e.g. at NIH, NIMH and mental health research centers) and suicide prevention epidemiologists on the possible interactions between biologic substrates, personality variables and the environment of the adolescent injury.

Goodnight, Good Luck (do see that new movie on being an objective leader, at all costs!) - and great injury control leadership innovations in today’s downsizing environments!

Les Fisher M.P.H.

Safety / Management Consultant

(Archivist , American Public Health Association, ICEHS Section (see my injury PXHX commentaries www.icehs.org)

97 Union Avenue South, Delmar NY, 12054 ,USA; 518-439-0326

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~ Les Fisher

PHAI LAUNCHES INTERNET RESOURCE FOR MOTOR VEHICLE HAZARD RESEARCH

A unique new Internet resource for researchers, students, consumers and policymakers concerned with motor vehicle crashes and crash injuries was launched today by the Boston-based Public Health Advocacy Institute, a research affiliate of Northeastern University School of Law.

AutoHazardsInfo (www.autohazardsinfo.org <<http://www.autohazardsinfo.org/>>) is the website of PHAI’s Motor Vehicle Hazards Archives Project, made possible by a grant from the Santos Family

Foundation (<http://fdncenter.org/grantmaker/santos/>). It offers a range of historical and current information about efforts to reduce the human harm caused by highway crashes.

“Our aim is to provide access for the public to a growing number of key source documents that put motor vehicle hazard control into its historical perspective. We are currently working with more than 10,000 documents in dozens of categories of vehicle hazard, and will annotate and post more than a thousand of them within the year,” said Ben Kelley, the project’s director. “We are excited that our first offerings include nearly 2,000 pages of archived materials on vehicle rollover problems as well as two full-length books that are essential reading for those interested in the history of motor vehicle crash injury causes and countermeasures.”

He noted that motor vehicle crash injury prevention is a prime example of public health needs that require legal interventions in the legislative, regulatory and judicial arenas. Increasing the effectiveness of efforts by the world of law to help achieve public health goals is a principal mission of the Public Health Advocacy Institute.

The website’s contents, which will be updated frequently, include the following:

Collections: A core project of the Motor Vehicle Hazards Archives Project (MVHAP) is the acquisition and organization of historical materials documenting policies and actions of government, industry, public health professionals and advocacy groups that have advanced or retarded the control of motor vehicle hazards and injuries. Nearly 2,000 pages of documents and a 1980 crash test video, now available in the “Collections” section of www.AutoHazardsInfo.org, describe unsuccessful attempts to impose regulatory limits on the rollover propensity of SUVs and other passenger vehicles. More material, addressing both rollover and roof crush issues, will be added in coming weeks.

Current Developments: Highlights of recent and breaking news of regulatory, legislative, judicial and other developments concerned with motor vehicle hazard control, updated regularly.

Noteworthy Documents: Articles, books, treatises, opinions, statutes and other materials foundational to the motor vehicle hazard control movement. Current offerings include two important full-length books: /Styling vs. Safety: The American Automobile Industry and the Development of Automotive Safety, 1900-1966, /by Joel Eastman, which documents a pattern and lineage of industry behavior that resulted in much needless death and injury on the highways, and /Crash Injuries: The Integrated Medical Aspects of Automobile Injuries and Deaths/, by Jacob Kuwolski, MD, one of the first systematic, comprehensive analyses and guidebooks on the pathology of crash injuries and the contribution of motor vehicle design to those injuries. Both books are out of print.

Bibliography: Books on motor vehicle crash injury control and related public health subjects that are essential reading for researchers and others wanting to learn more about the field.

QuickLinks: Links to key advocacy, government, research and industry websites that provide useful auto hazard-auto safety information, with brief explanations of each.

Your Vehicle: Guidelines and links for making motor vehicle purchase decisions that minimize vehicle-hazard risks. Ratings for 2005 vehicles from /The Car Book,/ published by Jack Gillis in cooperation with the Center for Auto Safety, are provided in a searchable format.

~ Leon Robertson / Larry Cohen

Request for Your Input

Jake Pauls requests input from ICEHS, Environment Section and other APHA members regarding recommendations for building code and safety standard revisions, plus other responses, based on post-9/11 studies of World Trade Center (WTC) collapse and related occupant behavior/evacuation issues.

Serving as APHA's principal representative on ten National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and International Code Council (ICC) committees I need to take into account the volunteered views of interested APHA members and sections. Currently, with the release of 43 final National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) reports (totaling nearly 10,000 pages in length)—complete with 30 comprehensive, complex recommendations for changes in tall building design, construction, operation, safety procedures, education programs, and emergency responder procedures—there is an unusual flurry of policy and technical activity within many organizations, most prominently NFPA and ICC plus the US Congress via the House Science Committee. Our responses to this unprecedented opportunity to influence building safety will affect the future safety of tall buildings and, to some extent, the reputation of APHA and the public health community generally within the building codes and standards community as well as among concerned consumers who have pushed very hard, within Congress and NIST, for a national response to what happened on 9/11.

Some of the key building-related issues, of most relevance to public health professionals, will be outlined in an oral presentation (#121782) titled, "Human factors research and implementation developments on high-rise building safety" in Session #4035.0, Preparing for and Responding to Disasters, Tuesday, December 13, 2005 at 8:30 AM at the PCC, 202B.

All reports of the NIST study, plus voluminous additional information (such as numerous presentations by NIST staff and others, NIST/NCSTA Committee records, press releases, etc.) is available at NIST's WTC website (<http://wtc.nist.gov>). For a relatively brief introduction to the study and recommendations, download the 11-page NISTNCSTAR1-Executive Summary, available as a pdf file (as are all documents on the website). Among relatively controversial recommendations is one calling for all buildings to be prepared for total evacuation (although other more selective evacuation strategies will also be facilitated by design, construction and operational measures).

Never before has there been such a call for reconsideration of many measures employed for safety of tall buildings as well as the resultant responses in organizations responsible for the many aspects of safety of buildings. APHA should be included among organizations involved with these post-9/11 responses as well as proactive responses to our changing public security situation, especially in light of the special status given to APHA as a represented organization on the newly formed, ten-member, policy oriented NFPA High-Rise Building Safety Advisory Committee. Please share your concerns and suggestions with me during the APHA conference and otherwise.

Jake Pauls, CPE
APHA representative on ten NFPA and ICC committees

Jake Pauls Consulting Services in Building Use and Safety
12507 Winexburg Manor Drive, Suite 201
Silver Spring, Maryland 20906-3442
Tel. 301-933-5275; Fax 301-933-5541;
Mobile 301-706-8830; E-mail: bldguse@aol.com

~ Jake Pauls

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRAINING FELLOWSHIPS IN OCCUPATIONAL INJURY EPIDEMIOLOGY! THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

The University of Iowa, College of Public Health, has full tuition/stipend supported-fellowships in Occupational Injury Prevention. The program is offered by the University's Heartland Center for Occupational Health and Safety, a NIOSH-funded Education and Research Center. Training activities will be closely coordinated with the Injury Prevention Research Center. Recipients will receive a stipend and tuition and will have excellent opportunities to be trained in cutting-edge occupational injury research. Recipients must apply and be admitted to the UI College of Public Health in the Departments of Epidemiology or Occupational and Environmental Health. Students applying for doctoral training are eligible for fellowship grants.

The UI College of Public Health, established in 1998, is a new and growing program with wonderful opportunities for students. This is one of the few training programs in injury control, and a new opportunity to be trained in an important and emerging field.

For more information, please contact Dr. Corinne Peek-Asa at (319) 335-4895 or corinne-peek-asa@uiowa.edu.

~ Corinne Peek-Asa

Research Coordinator – TraumaLink Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Job Summary: Provide research coordination activities for a major study within TraumaLink, the pediatric injury prevention center at CHOP. Within the project scope of work, participates in organizing and facilitating the day-to-day activities and long term goals and objectives of the project.

Job Specific Responsibility / Standards:

1. Coordinates aspects of the day-to-day activities of the Youthful Driver research project according to the project scope of work and timeline.
 - Coordinates start up activities for the planned new initiative to include assembling all investigators and other research team members to review timeline and project objectives.
 - Updates sponsor's key personnel regarding project status, deliverables, etc.
 - Acts independently in troubleshooting problems arising regarding day-to-day activities.
2. Initiates and maintains effective relationships with the project investigator(s), research team members and collaborators, and the project sponsor.
 - Ensures that investigator(s) are kept up to date on all relevant activities within the research study.

- Facilitates/coordinates team meetings, conference calls, etc., to include preparation of agenda, minutes, handouts, summaries, etc. Keeps project participants on task.
 - Maintains regular contact with project sponsor's team members, coordinating activities between the two organizations.
 - Communicates with project vendors and service providers as needed.
3. Performs specific research duties according to project protocol.
- Compiles bibliographies, conducts library searches and other investigative processes for the preparation of manuscripts, abstracts, etc. Prepares or contributes to first draft as appropriate.
 - Prepares, submits and/or follows up on all regulatory, compliance and/ or grants preparation activities.
 - Attends all external meetings related to project including planned expert panel committee meetings, project updates at sponsor's location, and other meetings as required. Takes minutes and/ or coordinates transcription and dissemination of meeting summaries.
 - Coordinates with sponsor expert panel meetings including, but not limited to, meeting logistics and materials, preparing honoraria requests, ordering meeting supplies, etc.
 - Manages the project budget.
 - Maintains project timeline and updates accordingly.
 - Tracks activities of outside agencies, groups, service providers subcontracting with the program.
 - Assists researchers with conducting in-depth interviews, school-based surveys and other survey instruments as needed. Maintains effective relationship, on behalf of investigators and sponsors, with approved vendors conducting specific scopes of work. First line contact with all key participants in study. Meets with vendors as needed.
4. No more than 10% effort providing research assistance to other project areas as needed.

Minimum Qualifications

Bachelor's degree (master's preferred) in a related discipline.

0-2 years experience performing research related tasks, including coordination of research project activities.

If interested please contact: Karen D. Matthews
 Administrative Director - TraumaLink
 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
 3535 Market Street, 10th Fl.
 Philadelphia, PA 19104
 215 590-6873 - Voice
 215 590-5425 - Fax
 E-mail Address: matthewska@email.chop.edu

~ Gwendolyn Whitley