

**American Public Health Association
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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 T. Bella Dinh-Zarr with the MAKE ROADS SAFE organization for agreeing to distribute this electronic newsletter.

SECTION NEWS

Congratulations Linda!!

ICEHS's own Dr. Linda Degutis, associate professor of surgery (emergency medicine) at the Yale School of Medicine and associate professor of public health in the division of Environmental Health Sciences at the Yale School of Public Health, has been named President-elect of the American Public Health Association (APHA). She will begin her term at the 135th Annual Meeting in fall 2007.



Linda Degutis, DrPH

Linda served two terms as Chair of the Executive Board of the APHA and has been an active member of our Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section. She is the Director of the Yale Center for Public Health Preparedness, whose work focuses on educational strategies in the area of public health preparedness. Her current research activities focus on both clinical and policy interventions related to injury and substance abuse, as well as disaster preparedness. In addition, Dr. Degutis is the Research Director for the Section of Emergency Medicine and an associate clinical professor of nursing at Yale. She is a member of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control Acute Care Research Agenda Steering Committee, and serves on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Agency-Wide Research Guide Development Core Team as co-chair of the Community Preparedness workgroup.

~Erich Daub

Baker Awarded Inaugural SAVIR Champions Award

Susan P. Baker, MPH, professor of Health Policy and Management at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, received the Champions Award from the Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR). Baker was recognized as the inaugural recipient for successfully promoting the field of injury and violence prevention. The award was presented at the awards banquet of the Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section of the American Public Health Association on Nov. 7 in Boston, Mass.



Susan P. Baker, MPH

An epidemiologist specializing in injury prevention, Baker was the first director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy. Her research focuses on aviation safety, teenage drivers and investigations of motor vehicle occupant and pedestrian deaths among children and adults. She has also studied crashes of motorcycles and heavy trucks, carbon monoxide poisoning, drowning, childhood asphyxiation, house fires, falls in the elderly, homicide, suicide and fatal occupational injuries.

Baker is an ardent advocate of policy changes that will prevent injuries. Much of her teaching and research is designed to influence the legislators, administrators, media representatives and others whose decisions can determine the likelihood of injury for thousands of people.

In his award presentation, Hank Weiss, PhD, MPH, president-elect of SAVIR, said about Baker, “ Her accomplishments. . . stem from a career that encompasses four decades, bridges two centuries, includes 176 journal articles, four books, 22 monographs, 15 book chapters and numerous awards and leadership positions at key times and key places. It is a legacy that has touched and enriches us all.”

SAVIR, formerly the National Association of Injury Control Research Centers, is dedicated to promoting scholarly activity in injury control and addressing issues relevant to the prevention, acute care and rehabilitation of traumatic injury. The Champions Award recognizes individuals or institutions that have consistently shown, through their research, an intention and ability to significantly advance the field of injury and violence prevention.

~ Hank Weiss

ICEHS Student Paper Competition – Best Paper Award

The purpose of the Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section (ICEHS) Student Paper Competition Award, implemented in 1992, is to foster and reward quality research efforts among students involved in the field.

Applicants who have an abstract accepted for either oral or poster presentation, by the Scientific Program Chair, submit a completed manuscript, organized and presented according to a standard peer-reviewed journal format. Reviews for this competition are conducted by at least three national peer-reviewers in the injury field.

2006 AWARD WINNER:

Regional Rural Injury Study - II: Children's Behavioral Traits and Risk of Agricultural Injury

Kathleen Ferguson Carlson, MS, PhD¹, Susan G. Gerberich, PhD², Bruce H. Alexander, PhD², Ann S. Masten, PhD³, Timothy R. Church, PhD², Andrew D. Ryan, MS², Colleen M. Renier, BS⁴.

(¹Environmental Health Sciences, University of Minnesota; ²Regional Injury Prevention Research Center, Division of Environmental Health Sciences, University of Minnesota; ³Institute of Child Development, University of Minnesota; ⁴Division of Education and Research, St. Mary's/Duluth Clinic Health System.)



Pictured: Kathleen Ferguson Carlson, MS, PhD, Susan G. Gerberich, PhD (dissertation advisor), and Dr. Gordon Smith, Senior Research Scientist, Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety, Hopkinton, Massachusetts, presenting the award that has been sponsored by the research institute for the past three years.

~ Susan Gerberich

2006 Kick-off of Student Networking Project a Success

The ICEHS Student Networking Project was initiated this year at the APHA annual conference in November. Two students, who were both presenting their research at ICEHS sessions, took the opportunity to meet and network with Injury Control and Emergency Health Services leaders through this project. **Carrie Huisingh** is a recent graduate of the MPH program at Indiana University. She is currently training as an Applied Epidemiology Fellow through the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) and is stationed at the Massachusetts Department of Health. As she is working with data from the National Violent Death Reporting System and will be helping develop a surveillance database for fall-related injuries in Massachusetts, Carrie was introduced to **Lois Fingerhut**, from the Office of Analysis and Epidemiology at the National Center for Health Statistics. **Mien Chin (Sunny) Chen**, a doctoral candidate in Health Systems Management at Tulane University, is completing research on healthcare organization and emergency/disaster preparedness. Sunny met with **Karin Mack**, a behavioral scientist with the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Both students were able to spend notable time with these key leaders in our section, and were also introduced to many other ICEHS members over the course of the conference and section activities. Many thanks to Lois and Karin, for their time and their commitment to ICEHS student members.

The objective of the networking project is to introduce newer members of the field to established members, and to nurture their development and involvement in ICEHS section activities. We hope to further develop this program for next year's annual conference and would like to enlist more participants. If you would like to be involved, either as a "seasoned veteran" or as a student, please contact Kathleen Carlson at ferg0114@umn.edu.



Pictured: Participants in the networking project at the ICEHS Awards Dinner. From left to right: Lois Fingerhut with Carrie Huisingh; and Karin Mack with Sunny Chen.

~ Kathleen Carlson

Governing Council

We are thrilled to report that, apart from all of the other issues at Governing Council, we were privileged to vote for Linda for President-elect of APHA and that outweighed anything else that happened. The major initiative that we as a section need to focus on is developing, writing, and submitting policy

statements that are ready for review when the time comes. As a section, we need to decide whether we feel that we need to develop new policies to put forward on our own or work with another section on issues of mutual interest. Several of us did attend the policy statement discussions this year and we were able to have some language changes inserted and added, but our process did not allow the section or us an opportunity to review these ahead of time. We are working on developing a timeline and schedule, for this year so that we are better prepared to carry out the wishes and concerns of the section so that this coming year we will be prepared to put forward the policies that are relevant to our section members' interests and concerns. We are happy to receive suggestions from the membership about relevant policy changes that the section believes should be introduced.

~ Billie Weiss

Awards Committee Invites Member Involvement in the Awards Process: Call for Volunteers to Serve in Member-at-Large Committee Positions and Nominations for 2007 Award Recipients

The ICEHS Awards Committee for 2007 is being chaired by Joyce Pressley, Section Chairperson-elect. She is currently seeking volunteers/names of persons interested in serving as members-at-large on the committee as well as nominations for 2007 award recipients. The awards nomination procedure, nomination form, and past recipients can be found on the ICEHS website.

The ICEHS Section has authorized the following awards for recognition of individuals' outstanding contributions to injury control and emergency health services. Although not all awards may be awarded each year, nominations are currently being sought for all of the following awards.

International Distinguished Career: To recognize an individual, near the end of his/her career, for outstanding dedication and leadership in injury control and emergency health services internationally with contributions and achievements that have a significant and long term impact on the field.

Distinguished Career: To recognize an individual, near the end of his/her career, for outstanding dedication and leadership in injury control and emergency health services with contributions and achievements that have a significant and long term impact on the field.

Excellence in Science: To recognize an individual, at mid-career, for outstanding dedication and leadership in the science of injury control and emergency health services with contributions and achievements that have a significant and long term impact on the field.

Public Service: To recognize outstanding dedication and leadership in injury practice and advocacy with contributions and achievements which have had a significant and long-term impact on the field of injury control and emergency health services.

Nominations for the above awards should be made to Joyce Pressley by e-mail, fax, or U.S. mail to: Joyce Pressley, Ph.D, M.P.H., 722 West 168th Street, New York, NY 10032 E-mail jp376@columbia.edu Fax: (212) 342-0519 (Please accompany fax with an e-mail notification).

~Joyce Pressley

ICEHS Congratulates Billie Weiss

Billie Weiss was recently recognized with a Volunteer Award from the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women (LACAAW) at their Humanitarian Awards Gala hosted by actress Calista Flockhart. Billie was among five prestigious individuals and organizations honored at the 35th annual event. LACAAW is a non-profit, multicultural, volunteer organization whose mission is building healthy relationships, families and communities free from sexual, domestic and interpersonal violence. LACAAW has adopted several approaches in their work: education, prevention and intervention. Since 1971, they have served the Los Angeles community, empowering survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse. To learn more, please visit www.peaceoverviolence.org.

Make Roads Safe and UN Global Road Safety Week 2007

As public health professionals, we're all dedicated to saving lives and preventing injuries through research, programs, education, and advocacy. **≡ MAKE ROADS SAFE** And, like our colleagues who combat infectious diseases, we know that injuries do not respect borders. One area that has gained increased attention globally is traffic injury prevention. Traffic injuries result in 1.2 million deaths and 50 million injuries annually. The WHO predicts these deaths will double by the year 2020, with poor countries most affected. According to the 2006 Transportation Research Board Special Report 287 *Improving Road Safety in Developing Countries*, crashes are also the leading cause of death for American travelers.

Global Road Safety Week occurs April 23-29, 2007, with participation by WHO, NHTSA, CDC, and others. By promoting injury prevention research and activities during that week, you will help bring attention to the global issue. Make Roads Safe will be providing information and materials online to assist your efforts.

Make Roads Safe is a campaign to make road safety a global priority by raising awareness, encouraging investment, and putting traffic injury prevention on the G8 and UN agendas. When road safety is a priority, there will be more support for injury prevention research and the implementation of research results. Make Roads Safe's supporters include universities, advocacy organizations, and highway safety offices. We are proud that the ICEHS Section has recently joined as a supporter. What does supporting Make Roads Safe mean? It means being listed publicly on the www.makeroadssafe.org website and committing to promoting global road safety in some way (through research, programs, education, or advocacy) during UN Global Road Safety Week and beyond. To add your organization to the effort, please contact T. Bella Dinh-Zarr, PhD, MPH, Make Roads Safe Director, North America, at dinhzarr@dinhzarr.org or 202-701-5656.

~T. Bella Dinh-Zarr

New Electronic Injury Surveillance Systems Data Available

The CDC Firearm Injury Surveillance Study data from 1993 through 2004 and the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System All Injury Program data for 2000-2004 are now available from the University of Michigan's ICPSR. These are public use data files that you can access free for your injury research. These files are accompanied with documentation, codebooks, and format libraries.

The Firearm Injury Surveillance Study, 1993-2004 [United States] (4595) is up on the web. Users can access the data at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/> searching by the title, and study number or the keyword "NEISS."

Users can also access the NEISS AIP 2004 (4598) data at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/> searching by the title, and study number or the keyword "NEISS."

ICPSR now produces SAS transport (XPORT) file, SPSS portable file, and Stata system file in addition to the ASCII data file with setup files for the above three software packages.

J. Lee Annest, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Statistics and Programming
NCIPC, CDC
Phone 770-488-4804
FAX 770-488-1665

~ Lee Annest

Fall, 2006 issue of the *Midwest Injury Control* newsletter available



The University of Iowa Injury Prevention Research Center recently published the Fall, 2006 issue of their **Midwest Injury Control** newsletter. This issue addresses teen driving along with injury prevention highlights from around Region 7. A PDF of the newsletter can be viewed on the Center's website: www.public-health.uiowa.edu/iprc/

To receive future newsletter issues in hardcopy email john-lundell@uiowa.edu .

~ John Lundell

New Books

Injury and Violence Prevention

Behavioral Science Theories, Methods, and Applications
By Andrea Carlson Gielen, David A. Sleet, and Ralph J. DiClemente

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Injury and Violence Prevention: Behavioral Science Theories, Methods, and Applications is a cutting-edge volume that provides a comprehensive understanding of injury and violence prevention. This detailed resource draws on the breadth and depth of many scientific disciplines and public health practice experiences. Written by internationally renowned experts in the field, *Injury and Violence Prevention* emphasizes the specific theories, methods, and applications that make behavioral science approaches relevant and central to reducing injury-related harm. The book covers a wide range of topics, including the most frequently used behavior change theories and models and shows how they have been—or could be—applied to injury problems, the most commonly used research methods for understanding and influencing behavior change, behavior change issues for specific injury topic areas, and a variety of cross-cutting issues important to the field.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Andrea Carlson Gielen, Sc.D., Sc.M, is professor and director, Center for Injury Research and Policy, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University.

David A. Sleet, Ph.D., F.A.A.H.B., is associate director for science, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia.

Ralph J. DiClemente, Ph.D., is Charles Howard Candler Professor, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University.

Handbook of Injury and Violence Prevention (Hardcover)

by Lynda Doll, Sandra Bonzo, James Mercy and David Sleet

~ David Sleet

Youth Violence Grant Opportunity**Maximizing Protective Factors for Youth Violence (U49) (CE07-003)**

This funding announcement can be accessed at

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppId=11352&mode=VIEW>

The purpose of the announcement is to solicit (U49) research applications to conduct secondary analyses of existing data to identify potentially modifiable protective factors for youth violence. This research will inform the development of youth violence prevention programs and policies by identifying promising protective factors that reduce the likelihood of violence in the lives of young people.

Approximately \$400,000 is expected to be available and up to two awards will be funded.

Funding level will not exceed \$200,000 (including both direct and indirect costs) per year.

Project period is up to two (2) years and the award mechanism is a U49 cooperative agreement.

Key Dates

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: January 26, 2007

Application Submission Receipt Date: February 28, 2007

Earliest Anticipated Start Date: September 15, 2007

For more information or questions, please contact the following individuals:

Rebecca Leeb, PhD; Project Officer

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Telephone: (770) 488-1156

FAX: (770) 488-4349

Email: rleeb@cdc.gov

~ David Sleet

Archivist's Attic

The 'ostrich syndrome' should not focus on the much aligned ostrich that appears to have its 'head in the sand'; but, in fact, is only self-defending itself from detection from predators. That ostrich is actually acting as a decoy, appearing to be a protective mount. Historically, that syndrome of blaming the ostrich head in the sand instead of our chosen mounds of leadership perceptions and actions, may repeat?

In its 1940-1950 heyday, one of those ironies of public health 'Ostrich syndrome history', the later discredited 'accident prevention school', focused only on the perception of the day that the "accident prone" psychological problem victim and society, only, were the cause of injury; nothing could be done on diverse imminent risky environments nor vector - consumer products. Archival studies showed vague, normative, weakly-designed, non-reproducible discussion and findings. (Weinerman ER. Accident proneness: a critique. *PHR*. 1949;**39**:1527ff. see also: Fisher, L. Editorial: Dissent - traditional public health injury control does not apply to violence. *Injury Prevention* 1999;**5**: 13-14; Fisher L. Review of national strategy for suicide prevention: Goals and objectives for action. US Dept of Health and Human Services. Rockville MD. 2000. *Injury Prevention* 2002; **8**: 171).

Today, human and societal data and related human factors leadership tools have much improved and are promising for effective national urban and suburban and rural school safety; however, these alone are recognized as not the full collaborative injury control system. (From just one recent book: Gielen, A C, Sleet DA, and Di Clemente RJ. *Injury and Violence Prevention. Behavioral Science Theories, Methods, and Applications*. Jossey -Bass 2006. See chapters 16-17 especially.)

On October 10, 2006, the White House Conference On School Safety (see www.whitehouse.gov) focus was to empower communities to keep our children safe. The session promoted that: "Recently, America experienced tragic school shootings in Colorado, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania, and threats of violence locked down or closed schools in many other States. In response, President Bush asked Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and Education Secretary Margaret Spellings to convene a meeting of leading experts and stakeholders to discuss how Federal, State, and local governments can work together with schools, communities, and families to help ensure our schools are safe places for students to learn. The conference took place at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. "

The Conference commendably brought together - an admittedly first start - experts, law enforcement officials, schools, communities, and families to highlight best practices for making schools safe; share lessons learned from prior incidents of school violence; and resources and experts on how to make schools safer and help communities and families recover from school tragedies." But, federal public health nor injury control program experts did not seem to be at that collaborative table (I am not in the direct 'loop' of what will take place)!

Only during three questions at the open "q and a" was anything close to the public health, injury control mentioned: One unidentified 19 year old in the audience, equated the common thread of school violence with guns availability, and that even conference day an assault weapon was brought to a school. He was not fully rebuked by the panelists' prism not to regulate societal responsibility. This young man effectively responded that 911 requires some government controls. One panelist viewed guns in schools

as isolated incidents; another person in the audience pointed out that the conference excluded the unique urban school violence issues.

Another public health question from the audience on the FDA's decision on antidepressants medication prescriptions (see archivist's attic www.icehs.newsletter, Nov 2005): "One Columbine assailant on antidepressants had probably needed, but did not receive, even closer professional monitoring for aggression, violence and suicidal attempts." A panelist responded that the other Columbine killer was not on drugs.

I praise the 19 year old who cited guns (as the common vehicle, not the cause alone, to these school and other serious injury caused by lethal kinetic energy) and to the mother whose son, a suicide victim, was on an antidepressant.

Much, of course, today has to be unknown about school injury prevention, like the ole accident prevention days, there were few nascent empirical evidence-based, proven statements. Public Health Injury Control, however, should be a key player even with few answers from its disciples of surveillance, epidemiology, prevention, emergency care, bio-mechanics and rehabilitation. However, it does have the correct historical sound leadership questions to ask, to test research, assess policy options, help or implement evidence-based or promising diverse community-based programs and assurances - for schools and other more extensive injury environments. Injury surveillance and prevention know from its data that school homicides seem to be more common at the first semester of school year while suicides are mostly in Spring or more scattered in the year which can aid programmatic evaluations (Temporal variations in school-associated student homicide and suicide counts. (United States. 1992-1999. MMWR. Aug 10, 2001. **50**:657-660); Injury Control can cite national and state morbidity and mortality related data; mega studies can show effective secondary prevention for school aggression (Ivers R. Cochrane Corner. School-based programs for prevention of violence: do they work? Injury Prevention 2006;**12**:351) and that guns stored in homes are major risks for suburban and rural suicides (Miller M, Azrael D, Hepburn L, Hemenway D, et al. The association between changes in household firearms ownership and rates of suicides in the United States, 1981-2002. Injury Prevention 2006;**12**:178-182); that guns used in most schools are probably more from homes or close friends (Source of firearms used by students in school associated violent death. United States. 1992-1999. MMWR .March 7, 2003. **52**:169-171). New promising research traces purchased ammunition to illegal guns which now require the buyer a shorter review by government, (Tita GE, Braga AA, Ridgeway G, Pierce GL. The criminal purchase of firearm ammunition. Injury Prevention 2006; **12**:308-311); it advocates some effective limits on gun access, (Ajdacic-Gross V, Killias M, Hepps U, et al. Changing times: A longitudinal analysis of international firearm suicide data. .Amer J Pub Health. 2006;**96**:1752-1756); and many, many other citations in scholarly studies and new books in our field.

Maybe next time, public health and injury control leadership systems will be at these and other national tables. (By the way: How did the 19 year old eloquently lead; who was his mentor? I am sure some associate did leadership leveraging home work and applied: Heifetz, RA and Linsky M. Leadership on the line. Staying Alive Through the Dangers of Leading. Boston: Harvard Business Press; 2002).

By the way, the Conference's published resource list did offer an old Surgeon General Report on Violence. I am sure as the effort develops we will see many others from our field.

I hope in this and many future challenges we will learn more about those public health injury control leaders who daily take their head out of the sand and open our eyes and leverage our systems. And kudos to our local urban and suburban police and school officials for their fine environmental work on the challenging special needs, especially of the urban environment.

The IC historian is lucky if he gets the past right; one can not predict our future!

~ Les Fisher

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Injury Epidemiologist Office of Injury Prevention, Florida Department of Health

Please visit our site:

(<http://jobs.myflorida.com/viewjob.html?refnode=441615>)

to profile, indicate your interest in this position or others, or refer your friends to opportunities with State of Florida.

Interested individuals can call or email for additional information.

Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, M.S.

Manager, Office of Injury Prevention

Florida Department of Health

E-Mail Lisa_VanderWerf-Hourigan@doh.state.fl.us

Mailing Address: 4052 Bald Cypress Way Bin # C15 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1735

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Phone (850) 245-4444 ext. 2776 Fax (850) 414-6470

~ Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan

Prevention Institute is looking to hire

Prevention Institute (Oakland, CA) is looking for someone to join our growing team who is committed to improving health and reducing disparities through a focus on prevention. One position will include a focus on violence prevention (local and national) and responsibility for: leadership, oversight, supervision, and implementation of projects; advancing practice and policy; and responsibilities within the organization. (There's another with more of a chronic disease emphasis.)

The Institute's approach is interdisciplinary in nature, addressing health and social issues such as violence prevention, injury prevention, traffic safety, and nutrition and physical activity promotion. The Institute is particularly committed to reducing disparities in health and safety. We are open to hiring at a range of experience levels, though we're particularly interested in someone with an extensive background.

Please check our website www.preventioninstitute.org to learn more about the positions, our work and our approach. And please help us spread the word.

~ Larry Cohen