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Spring 2008

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GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR - *New challenges for global health determinants and the need for a Global Summit for Peace and Food Safety*

Dear colleagues, friends, members of the IH Section - We are all aware that health is best achieved by economic development of the global community and its nations. As international/global health professionals, we should be aware of the new challenges and critical situations of economic crises and the political unrest in many parts of the world causing mass mortalities, morbidities and sufferings:

- The price of oil increased about four times in the last five years, causing real suffering of economies of the least developed and developing countries that is directly reflected on health and health care. During the same period, oil production is increased an average of 2 percent a year and consumption by 2.5 percent a year. This means there must be other reasons than supply-demand. Domestically, we are consuming about 30 percent of the world's oil and producing about 10 percent, but at the same time we own about 50 percent of the oil industry. This means that we are part of the problem and certainly can be a major part of the solution.
- The world is facing unusual escalating costs of wheat, corn, and rice, causing severe stress in meeting basic food needs in many countries, with an estimated 100 million who are facing hunger, and causing large waves of community suffering, violence, and demonstrations that are causing political unrest in many countries. The oil shortage will compound this problem since these crops are used to produce oil alternatives.
- The first Millennium Development Goal (MDG), eradication of severe poverty and hunger, seems to be deteriorating in Sub-Saharan Africa. We passed the mid-point of the pre-determined 2015 MDG's that are unlikely to be met in many parts of the world. The MDG's did not refer to peace or active settlements on wars and political unrest that is waxing and waning in many parts of the world, especially the African continent and the Middle East
- Developed countries pledged 0.7 percent of their gross domestic product (GDP) for development assistance to developing countries. With the exception of the Scandinavian countries, industrial countries on average reached 0.37 percent contribution of national gross income for development assistance, while the United States reached 0.22 percent. Sadly, this contribution decreased globally by 5 percent a year in the last three years, while military expenditure increased by the same amount every year, killing more thousands of victims and displacing more millions every year.

These challenges of health determinants add to our existing challenges of emerging and re-emerging diseases, human resources shortages, health systems' deficiencies, environmental degradation, and many others challenges. This doubles our obligations for working with the global community as well as our political leaders to advocate and contribute for better health, economic development and preservation of human rights.

Our classical efforts for improving health and combating disease are going in vain if armed conflicts continue to prevail and hunger is rapidly attacking poor communities. Reactive problem solving and short-term remedial actions are not going to work. Only collective global action is the ultimate solution. The global community needs to know how its leaders can explain these serious events of skyrocketing prices of oil and food shortage, why weapons and arms are freely available in the same territories that are facing starvation, and how nations will act collectively under the UN to solve these threats. Such acts can reflect a human face of globalization.

Real solutions need to be considered such as:

- Control of arms production and sales, including global taxation of arms' sales to finance the UN agencies of peacekeeping and those handling complex emergencies.
- Research on energy alternatives to combat the escalating cost of natural oil.
- Research on horizontal and vertical increase of agricultural yield of grains.
- Fulfilling the promises of development assistance to the least developed countries.
- How to convert the MDG's from a wishful dream to reality, after adding peacekeeping atop the list of goals.

THIS IS A CALL FOR THE UN TO ORGANIZE THIS SUMMIT. IS IT POSSIBLE?
LET THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE ADVOCATES AND PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS JOIN US
FOR THIS CALL.

--Samir N. Banoob, MD, DM, DPH, PhD, Chair, IH Section, E-mail: sbanoob@aol.com

FROM THE EDITOR

It is a great pleasure to present the Spring Issue of the IH Section Newsletter. As with previous issues, it has been a great challenge to get IH Section members' submissions, which was further accentuated due to my current post station in Barbados.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of the Newsletter and that you consider authoring or co-authoring future pieces for inclusion in our next issues. I do encourage you to write about your innovative ideas and especially about your international/global health experiences, which will certainly enrich us all both at the professional and personal levels.

The IH Section Newsletter can be, and must be, a great platform to present our experiences tackling international and global health issues, as well as to present innovative ideas to better the health and quality of life worldwide. As such, I encourage you to allow some of your precious time, to share your experiences and innovative ideas through this important channel of communication.

The IH Section Newsletter is published twice a year. The deadline for the Fall Issue is July 15 and for the Spring Issue is April 15. Submissions should not exceed 400 words and should be presented as Verdana, Font Size 10. You are invited and strongly encouraged to submit material for inclusion in the next issues of the Newsletter.

A special note of gratitude is extended to all members who provided the material for this issue of the Newsletter. Most submissions were included as presented, except for minor editing. Opinions, views and information published represent the authors and not necessarily APHA or the IH Section.

Finally, as I will be moving back to Washington, D.C., at the end of July 2008, kindly note my new E-mail address: ippolitoshepherdj@yahoo.com and telephone number: (202) 363-2369. Back in D.C., I hope to reactivate my participation in the IH Section conference call and meetings.
--Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PhD, E-mail (new): ippolitoshepherdj@yahoo.com

HOW CAN WE FACILITATE PARTICIPATION OF OUR OVERSEAS COLLEAGUES IN THE ANNUAL MEETING?

As you know, the APHA Annual Meeting usually attracts well over 12,000 participants, and there are over 2,000 sessions for attendees to participate in. Several international members, particularly from developing nations, have found the meetings overwhelming. For many, this may be the first time they are visiting the United States and/or attending an Annual Meeting. Differences due to place, time and culture are often accentuated. Some find it difficult to navigate through the various options (such as concurrent scientific sessions in different sites) and make effective use of their time at the Annual Meeting. Others, including newcomers, may feel a sense of isolation at times, as the lone representative from their homeland.

At the Mid-year Meeting of our Section on May 29, 2008 in Washington, D.C., there was overwhelming support that members based in the United States should make the transition smoother for our colleagues from overseas who come to attend the Annual Meeting in San Diego, in October. The Global Health APHA Connections Committee has agreed to coordinate the efforts of our members in the United States to facilitate the participation of overseas members at the upcoming Annual Meeting. Several ideas have been shared, and they are presented here.

I. Before the Annual Meeting

1. Form a Welcome Group to greet and help our overseas colleagues.
2. Identify who the overseas colleagues are prior to the conference. Through e-mail, establish contact with them. Provide them salient information such as the date, time and venue of IH Section events (including Reception, Business Meetings and Luncheon) and invite them to attend.
3. Send information about the IH Section Booth (location in the Exhibit Hall, hours of operation, etc.).
4. Provide a handout with information (date, time and venue) about all Scientific Sessions sponsored/co-sponsored by the IH Section.
5. Offer information about transportation (including local transportation and APHA arranged buses), so that they can get from one venue to another without losing time.
6. Develop a Web-linked database wherein overseas colleagues can provide their contact information and members in the United States who wish to help them can add their own contact information.

II. During the Annual Meeting

1. Develop a buddy program whereby overseas colleagues are welcomed by seasoned conference attendees on the opening day; establish contact, and offer assistance, as needed.
2. Pair up overseas colleagues interested in APHA units other than the IH Section (i.e., other Sections/SPIGs/Caucuses/Forums) with members from appropriate APHA units. This can be done through the existing liaisons from other units to IH Section.
3. Share a room with an overseas colleague to subsidize the cost of lodging.
4. Greet and informally meet with the overseas visitors when our Section members happen to see them at various places/events
5. Arrange for overseas members to meet with U.S. members who are from the same country/region.
6. Apprise them about the IH Section and inform them about the new opportunity (to have membership in additional Sections).
7. Allocate special time during IH Section Business Meetings to help overseas members become more familiarized with the IH Section work.

III. Beyond the Annual Meeting

1. Continue networking between members in the United States and overseas that results in opportunities for collaborative research, presentations and publications in the future.

IV. Current and Future Considerations (suggestions provided with the understanding that several of these may be accomplished only in the future)

1. Request APHA to have a reduced registration fee for colleagues coming from developing nations.
2. Locate and obtain funding from donors who can underwrite the cost of travel (including airfare), lodging, and registration and membership fee for colleagues from developing nations.
3. Request APHA to have a Newcomer (first time attendee) Session/Reception that offers information and an opportunity for networking. Such events are hosted by NCURA (National Council of University Research Administrators) and SOPHE (Society for Public Health Education).
4. Organize special scientific sessions and solicit abstracts for those sessions exclusively from colleagues from developing nations.
5. Find and provide funding to subsidize participation in IH Section events (e.g., IH Luncheon).

6. Recognize the contributions of members from overseas.
7. Extend the above services to overseas students who are studying in the United States.
8. Offer several of the services to U.S. students who are attending the Annual Meeting.

If you have additional ideas to share and/or are willing to help with this new initiative of our Section, please contact Gopal Sankaran: gsankaran@wcupa.edu, co-chair, Global Health APHA Connections Committee.

-- Gopal Sankaran: gsankaran@wcupa.edu

DOES APHA HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

If you are not sure that APHA has your e-mail address on record, send an e-mail to membership.mail@APHA.org identifying yourself and asking to be on the list so we can send you information through APHA's broadcast e-mail facility. You will also receive information about the IH Section Newsletter via e-mail.

HEALTH-PROMOTING UNIVERSITIES

The Third Conference on *Health-Promoting Universities (HPU): Formative and Multiplying Spaces* followed two previous international events in this area of work: (1) the II Conference on HPU, conducted in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada in 2005; and (2) the I Meeting on HPU, carried out in Santiago, Chile in 2003. In addition, this international event follows many national meetings carried out in several countries in the Americas, including in Chile and in Mexico.

The third HPU Conference included plenary keynote addresses; plenary technical presentations; parallel scientific presentations by thematic areas; workshops; and poster technical presentations. In addition, cultural events enriched the event. All presentations were well received. Of major importance were the achievements of this meeting, including: (1) the creation of the Iberoamerican Network of Health-Promoting Universities, taking into account the earlier proposal for the creation of the Latin American Network of HPU, as proposed during the second meeting in Edmonton; (2) the proposal and acceptance to conduct the IV Meeting of HPU and the First Meeting of the Iberoamerican Network of Health-Promoting Universities in the Universidad Publica de Navarra, Spain in the fall of 2009; (3) the formation of a Working Group to explore collaborative activities between and among universities and to explore funding opportunities for these iberoamerican alliances; and (4) the signing of a declaration for the strengthening of HPU and the Iberoamerican Network of HPU.



IH Section Members are encouraged to participate in the IV Meeting of HPU and of the Network of HPU, which will strengthen interregional collaboration for the development of Health-Promoting Universities and the development of alliances/exchanges between and among universities throughout the world. For further information, please contact Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd at ippolitoshepherdj@yahoo.com.

--Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PhD, E-mail: ippolitoshepherdj@yahoo.com

STATISTICIANS AND INTERNATIONAL HEALTH

Exciting things are happening for someone like myself – a 30-year member of the IH Section, and a statistician. Let me share. From my perspective, work in international health suffers from a lack of statistical competence. For example, an evaluation of some health effort - say one having the goal of achieving 80 percent child measles vaccination coverage – may proceed in international health as follows. In statistical terms, a null hypothesis is posed that the achieved vaccination coverage in the community is 80 percent and a sample of 19 children is drawn. Now if as few as 13 of the 19 are found vaccinated, it is correctly concluded that there is no statistical reason to reject the null hypothesis and thereby accept the hypothesis that the vaccination team has failed since there is at least a 10 percent chance that they have not. But with a 10 percent chance that they have not failed there is a 90 percent chance that they have failed. The statistical error here is to accept a null hypothesis. Stanley Lemeshow and colleagues are preparing a paper

on this. Dr. Lemeshow is a highly respected statistician, and dean of the College of Public Health, OSU. Hopefully I will have copies of the paper to share in San Diego. And the American Statistical Association (ASA) is getting in on the act, with at least two sessions relating to international public health – “Statisticians: Speaking Out and Reaching Out on Global Health,” and “Statistics Can Help Reduce Child Mortality.” The later is sponsored by the Social Statistics Section and is co-sponsored by eight other ASA Sections and Committees, showing the present widespread interest on the part of statisticians in international health.

--David J. Fitch, PhD, Instituto de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales, Universidad Rafael Landívar, Guatemala

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF CARICOM

The Twelfth Special Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM): Building a Region Fit for Children was carried out in Georgetown, Guyana on 17 -19 March, 2008. The Hon. Peter Martinez, Belize minister of human development and social transformation, chaired the meeting. Attendance included dignitaries and official delegations from the Caribbean countries, as well as representatives from institutions and national and international organizations. The opening ceremony address was delivered by Prof. Nigel Harris, vice chancellor of the University of the West Indies. The welcome and overview presentations were delivered by CARICOM and UNICEF representatives. The meeting included the participation of children and youth, who presented innovative ways on issues affecting them, using media and information and communication technologies. A closed session of a meeting of CARICOM Ministers was carried out the morning of the last day of the event resulting in *The Georgetown Declaration on Building a Region Fit for Children for the Survival, Development, Protection dignity, and Participation of Children Within the Caribbean Community.*

--Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PhD, E-mail: ippolitoshepherdj@yahoo.com

CALL FOR AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Recognize our finest in international health through the IH Section Awards

Each year, the International Health Section of APHA recognizes outstanding contributions of its members through its *Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in International Health*, its *Mid-Career Award in International Health* and the *Gordon-Wyon Award for Community-Oriented Public Health, Epidemiology and Practice*.

The Lifetime Achievement Award in International Health was created by the IH Section to honor the visionaries and leaders in APHA who have shaped the direction of International Health. The evaluation criteria for the Lifetime Achievement Award include:

- Quality/creativity/innovativeness of the individual's contributions to the field of international health.
- The individual's contributions to the development of APHA or the International Health Section.
- Application of the individual's work to service delivery (as opposed to primarily theoretical value).
- The individual's contributions as a leader/visionary/role model.
- The volunteerism/sacrifice associated with the individual's contributions.
- Membership in APHA (preferably with primary affiliation with the International Health Section), a State affiliate, or a national public health association that is a member of the World Federation of Public Health Associations. No self-nominations are allowed.

Prior winners of the *IH Lifetime Achievement Award* are: Richard Morrow, Michael Latham, William Foege, Clarence Pearson, Stanley Foster, Joe Wray, Carl Taylor, Milton Roemer, Warren and

Gretchen Berggren, John Wyon, Derrick Jelliffe, Tim Baker, Cicely Williams, Bud Prince, Veronica Elliott, Moya Freymann, Jeanne Newman and Jack Bryant.

The *Mid-Career Award in International Health* is intended to recognize outstanding young professionals in the IH Section. The evaluation criteria for the Mid-Career Award are:

- The individual must have committed herself/himself to the promotion and development of primary health care in a cross-cultural setting over a period of 5-15 years [Primary health care is meant here to encompass a broad array of public health issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention and environmental health].
- The individual must have demonstrated creativity in expanding the concepts pertinent to the practice of public health with an international focus.
- Membership in APHA (preferably primary affiliation with the IH Section), a State affiliate, or a national public health association that is a member of the World Federation of Public Health Associations.
- No self-nominations allowed.

Prior winners of the *Mid-Career Award in International Health* are: Clyde "Lanny" Smith, Theresa Shaver, Tim Holtz, Kate Macintyre, Sarah Shannon, Adnan Hyder, Stephen Gloyd, Luis Tam, Marty Makinen, Colleen Conroy, Mary Ann Mercer, Irwin Shorr, Walter K. Patrick and Dory Storms.

The *Gordon-Wyon Award for Community-Oriented Public Health, Epidemiology and Practice* is intended to reward outstanding achievement in community-oriented public health epidemiology and practice. This award was established in 2006 by the IH Section. It is administered by the Community Based Primary Health Care Working Group. John Gordon and John Wyon were pioneers in this field, so encouraging and recognizing others in this field is one important way of honoring their memory. The evaluation criteria for the *Wyon Award for Community-Oriented Public Health, Epidemiology and Practice* are:

- Must have had a central role in an outstanding achievement in community-oriented public health and practice.
- Must have demonstrated creativity in expanding the concepts pertinent to the practice of community-oriented public health with an international focus.
- Must have membership in APHA or one of its affiliates (either a State affiliate or a national public health association that is a member of the World Federation of Public Health Associations). The candidate must be nominated by someone other than the candidate.

Winners of the initial *Award* (2006) were Warren and Gretchen Berggren.

Award nominations should include a letter explaining why the individual nominated should receive the award and the curriculum vitae of the nominee. Nominations should be submitted by e-mail to the Awards Committee, Paul Freeman at freeman.p.a@att.net and Padmini (Mini) Murthy at minimurthy@aol.com.

Mentor of the Year Award

The Mentor of the Year Award is given annually to a mentor who has contributed unselfishly to the growth and development of a mentee. Members of the APHA Student Assembly nominate their own mentor and provide a statement detailing why their mentor is deserving of this award. Past Mentor of the Year Award recipients are:

2005 - Sherry Weingart

2003 - Nicholas Oliver

2002 - Ray Martin

2001 - Joseph S. Gladstone
2000 - Joanna Cohen
1999 - Kelli A. Komro

--Gopal Sankaran, E-mail: gsankaran@wcupa.edu

REPORTS FROM MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES

ACTION BOARD

The Action Board currently has four formal Committees – Advocacy and Resolutions, Information and Communication, Organization and Management, and Policy.

Since the October APHA meeting we have had three conference calls to discuss our activities and also had our mid-year meeting in Washington, D.C. on May 12-13. A few of the activities that the Action Board Committee has accomplished include:

Candidate questions - The Action Board has developed candidate questions for the 2008 elections: <http://www.apha.org/NR/rdonlyres/B7E2870D-E6DE-4C33-ADF2-75839A854A3A/0/candidatequestionsltrhead.pdf> and <http://www.apha.org/advocacy/tips/> We are free to edit them and use them at candidate forums, meetings and to share them with other members. We can also put them on our Web Site and in our Newsletter.

Committee work - Members of the Action and Communication Committees will present our joint plan to increase advocacy by APHA Members at the JPC and ISC meeting in June. Committee Members are working on a plan to get more members from APHA and affiliates in calling and visiting Members of Congress as well as using CapWiz. Look for more information about this plan at the APHA Annual Meeting in October.

Advocacy Committee Members discussed panel members for a session at the Annual Meeting on advocacy success stories. It's possible that we'll have an IH Section Advocacy Committee member on this panel, but are waiting for feedback from Don Hoppert at APHA.

The four Committees Reports of the Action Board are presented below.

—Donna Barry, E-mail: djbarry@earthlink.net

1. ADVOCACY

Chair: Amy Hagopian, hagopian@u.washington.edu

Co-Chair: Leonard Rubenstein, LRubenstein@phrusa.org

Members

Donna Barry: dbarry@pih.org

Edna Jonas: edna.jonas@verizon.net

Elvira Beracochea: elvira@midego.com

Martin Gittleman: gitem01@med.nyu.edu

Mary Anne Mercer: mamercer@u.washington.edu

Meredith Fort: meredithfort@yahoo.com

Miriam Labbok: labbok@email.unc.edu

Sarah Shannon: sarahs@hesperian.org

Wendy Johnson: wjohns@u.washington.edu

APHA IH Section Advocacy Committee agenda/goals 2007-2008		
#	Goal	Lead advocate

1	Ensure USA International aid policy advances humanitarian public health priorities and health as a human right as its primary motivators	Wendy Johnson
2	Raise awareness of the issues associated with aid effectiveness and policy approaches to strengthening health systems in low-income countries	Elvira Beracochea
3	Build health workforce capacity in low-income countries	Amy Hagopian
4	Advance maternal and child health, especially by improving child survival and decreasing maternal mortality	Miriam Labbok Donna Barry
5	Encourage USA and other donors to address issues of low-income country food aid and food security	Donna Barry
6	Seek opportunities to demonstrate APHA International Health Section solidarity with health workers facing threats	Leonard Rubenstein
7	Promote universal coverage in USA, and sustain public health systems abroad	Meredith Fort

2008 Activities:

Goal #1: Humanitarian and HumanRights Focus for USA Aid

1. Morgan Taylor continued to represent the Committee in DC-area coalitions, including Global Health Council, to help increase the funds in the PEPFAR reauthorization, and add language about strengthening health systems as a whole by training more health workers. We signed on to letters encouraging these aspects of reauthorization.
2. We monitor the *USAID Partner Vetting* proposal. The program is currently limited to a pilot for Gaza and West Bank. USAID still is considering PVS but it has not been submitted to the Administrator for approval. We are tracking it at http://www.usaid.gov/policy/egov/pia_pvs.html

Goal #2: Aid Effectiveness and Health System Strengthening

3. Several Section Members have developed a Code of Conduct for NGOs working in International Health to ensure health system strengthening. It was presented at the Global Health Council in a press conference at 3 p.m. on May 29. See www.ngocodeofconduct.org for the full language and the signatories.
4. Elvira Beracochea has organized another scientific session on aid effectiveness for the 2008 APHA Annual Conference. We have other sessions on health work force and elements of the code of conduct.
5. Meredith Fort wrote an APHA resolution on health system strengthening for 2008 Governing Council consideration, and it has received a provisional approval to forward it to the governing council from the JPC. A meeting was held with Chuck Treser of the JPC on May 21. Several members advocated for the passage of the Jubilee Act for Responsible Lending and Expanded Debt Cancellation. It has passed the House and now awaits mark-up in the Senate which will likely happen in May or June 2008.

Goal #3: Work Force Issues

6. Amy Hagopian and Wendy Johnson attended the Global Health Workforce Alliance meeting in Kampala, Uganda, in March 2008. We held a session there on the NGOs code of conduct.
7. The Africa Health Capacity Investment Act: S805 and HR3812, seems to be dormant, but elements of it have been rolled into the PEPFAR Reauthorization Act. Several members have been working on trying to add stronger language to train new health professionals and advocating for additional appropriations outside PEPFAR to strengthen the health work forces in Africa.

Goal #4: Maternal and Child Health

8. Miriam Labbok worked with the Maternal and Child Health and the Food & Nutrition Sections to leverage the effectiveness of the APHA position paper that we passed in 2007.
9. Henry Perry continues to represent APHA on the Steering Committee for the U.S. Coalition for Child Survival (USCCS). APHA staff has worked with the USCCS to promote the Global Child Survival Act (HR 2266 and S 1418). The House Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health held a very successful hearing on March 13, 2008. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved the Senate version of this in February 2008. The strategy now is to seek more Republic co-sponsors of the legislation before putting it on the agenda for a vote in the full chambers of the House and Senate. Most insiders are optimistic of its passage, but this may not occur until the fall.

Goal #5: Food Security

10. We worked with Partners in Health to write op-eds and letters to the editor on food security. This issue is rising in prominence and will likely be a central feature of next year’s action plan and scientific sessions.
11. Donna Barry was invited by APHA to appear on a panel in Washington, D.C. (4/29/08) on “Assessing the Current Food Crisis,” along with Ken Crossley of the World Food Program and Jeffrey Borns of Office of Food for Peace (USAID).
12. We had suggested working with the Food and Nutrition Section on a resolution related to the international aid components of the Farm Bill, but that did not happen.

Goal #6: Health Worker Solidarity

13. Leonard Rubenstein drafted language for separate letters on the situation in Zimbabwe, which were signed by WFPHA and APHA.
14. We drafted a letter urging a U.S. boycott of the Olympic games opening ceremonies in protest of China’s support for the Khartoum government oppressing the people of Darfur (known as the Capuano Resolution), but negotiations are still ongoing with APHA about whether this letter will move forward. In the meantime, we are watching the treatment of health workers in China as the Olympics approach.

Goal #7: Universal Coverage Through Public Systems in the United States and Abroad

15. We support APHA’s universal coverage agenda, while defending the public and universal nature of health systems abroad as they are threatened by privatization schemes promoted by international monetary and banking systems that hold the debt of low-income countries.

The goals for the APHA International Health Advocacy Committee for 2007-2008 included:

#	Goal	Responsible
1	Select qualified, matched candidates for the routine 2008 elections	Mary Anne Mercer, Team
2	Address the gap in secretarial coverage due to early retirement of a previous secretary with interim election	Mary Anne Mercer
3	Address the gap in coverage for the Governing Council due to early resignation of a member last year with interim election	Mary Anne Mercer

Activities carried out in 2008

Goal #1: Select qualified, well matched candidates for the 2008 elections

- Sent out a mass e-mail to the Section asking for people who wish to run for office.
- Committee members solicited persons they think would be good candidates.
- Slate of candidates drawn up (see below).
- APHA sent out the routine notice that the election opened May 16.

Goal #2: Address 2007 gap in coverage for Secretary-elect

- Solicited one well-qualified candidate.
- Notified APHA of candidates, wrote Zoomerang blurb for election announcement.
- APHA sent out the election notice in January 2008.
- Secretary-elect elected: Carol Dabbs.

Goal #3: Address 2007 gap in coverage for Governing Councilor

- Solicited two candidates for a one-year term.
- Notified APHA of candidates, wrote Zoomerang blurb for election announcement.
- APHA sent out the election notice in January 2008..
- Governing Councilor elected: Len Rubenstein.

Current candidates for Section offices

Chair-elect: Eckhard Kleinau; Malcolm Bryant

Section Council: Victoria Reyes; Elizabeth Álvarez; Lisa Pawloski; Padmini Murthy

Governing Council: Leonard Rubenstein; Maggie Huff-Rouselle; Michael Taliercio; Gopal Sankaran; James Pfeiffer; Meredith Fort; Elvira Beracochea

The Nominations Committee Chair submitted a nominee for the new APHA Sidel-Levy Peace Award.

Internal APHA organizational and communication issues:

- Post our advocacy agenda on our Web Page.
- Use the Listserv for IH Section to inform members of opportunities to advocate for our issues.
- Sponsor more scientific sessions on our issues for 2008.
- Leverage the effectiveness of resolutions after they are passed.
- Work collaboratively with APHA staff.
- Work with APHA's Action Board (our representative is Donna Barry) to pursue joint advocacy issues.

Note from our APHA Policy/Lobbyist Liaison

There's a lot of support for passing PEPFAR before the recess, especially because President Bush wants credit for the reauthorization. I would also note that most of our efforts regarding PEPFAR have been surrounding the health worker issue. I encourage you in the Mid-year Report to think of goals going into 2009 and a new administration. I also encourage you to speak with Donna Barry about what came out of the Action Board meetings on how members could/should try to influence the health debate going on in this country to ensure that Global Health is not left off the table. This summer, APHA will be conducting a campaign to mobilize members to visit their legislators while they are in their home districts and attend town hall meetings to make public health a priority. The summer is an opportunity for IH Section members across the country to bring up global health issues with their members of congress and candidates running for office.
--Amy Hagopian, PhD, E-mail: hagopian@u.washington.edu

2. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

Chair and Web Site Manager, Eckhard Kleinau, E-mail: ekleinau@masimax.com

Co-Chair and Newsletter Editor: Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, E-mail: ippolitoshepherdj@yahoo.com

Activities carried out:

1. Invited members of the IH Section to send in their expertise/interest areas to facilitate connecting with members from IH Section and other APHA Sections/Units.

2. Invited Chairs and Co-Chairs of all APHA Sections, SPIGs, Caucuses, and Forums to appoint a liaison to the IH Section.
3. Developed and shared an IH Section Membership Expertise Directory (to be updated on a regular basis).
4. Developed and shared a list of liaisons from other APHA Units to IH section (to be updated on a regular basis).
5. Held regular bi-monthly conference calls and stayed connected through regular e-mail communication (ongoing).
6. Connected with the Student Assembly leadership to attract students to the IH Section.
7. Facilitated leadership from Food and Nutrition (Global Food Crisis Session) and Epidemiology (Global Immunization Session) to connect with Omar Khan, program chair, for possible IH co-sponsorship for these sessions at the 2008 APHA Annual Meeting
8. Nurtured international collaboration and alliances to strengthen the IH Section Newsletters.
9. Periodically, requested submissions for the Spring Issue of the IH Section Newsletter (ongoing).
10. Compiled, selected, and edited all submissions for the Spring Issue of the IH Section Newsletter, and finalized and published Newsletter.

--Eckhard Kleinau, ekleinau@masimax.com

--Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, ippolitoshepherdj@yahoo.com

3. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

Chair: Carol Dabbs, dabbscj@state.gov

Co-Chair: Elvira Beracochea, elvira@midego.com

Secretary: Amy Hagopian, hagopian@u.washington.edu

Goals 2007-2008

Get the committee organized:

-*Mid-Year Meeting* - Arrange for food and room set-up.

-*Annual Meeting* - Organize Saturday night dinner.

-*Section Business Meetings* - Arrange room set-up.

-*Section Luncheon* - Assist the luncheon speaker; assist APHA convention manager w/menu and room selection; arrange for decorations; assist Section Chair to invite individuals to head table; arrange for publicity and photographs; reserve a table for VIPs (Award winners, Section Leadership).

-*Section Awards event:* Same as for luncheon, in concert with Awards Committee .

-*Section Booth:* Organize and arrange staffing.

-*Raise funds for Section enrichment budget:* Identify point person (Carol Dabbs must refuse self due to employment); obtain information regarding donation procedures.

-*Prepare Committee Reports for Mid-Year and Annual Meetings.*

Activities Completed toward Goals

--*Core Committee members identified.*

--*Mid-Year Meeting:* Food selected, ordered, paid for (to be reimbursed); room set-up identified to hotel; alternate contact for hotel at meeting identified (Beracochea).

--*Fundraising:* Discussion of who can help; information about how to make donations obtained from Taylor.

Activities June-October 2008

--*Fundraising:* Estimate total donations needed; solicit donations and provide assistance with process.

Finally, we would welcome volunteers to work with us for the rest of the year, especially those residing in/near San Diego or familiar with the city and its resources.

-- Carol Dabbs, dabbscj@state.gov

4. POLICY

APHA Policy Review: New policies - As part of the Action Board's policy work, the IH Section (Amy Hagopian and Donna Barry) reviewed the new APHA proposed policies for consideration at the 2008 Annual Meeting and submitted our comments to the Action Board Policy Team. These comments will be shared with all Governing Councilors before the October 2008 meeting so that they can be used for our voting.

At the Mid-Year Meeting, the Action Board Policy Committee Members stressed that if a Section did not send in many comments on the new policies, but had many comments at the October meetings, their October commentary would be taken less seriously. We should remember this for future years and try to increase the number of IH Section members submitting comments. It would be especially helpful for more Governing Councilors to review these policies and submit written comments.

Archived policies - Comments on archived policies were also solicited from all IH Section members. Only four members have participated in this process. We will submit comments on Water and Violence. Hopefully, next year more members will participate in this process. Although we only submitted comments on two subjects this year, I do think that we were well represented as a Section when compared to many other Sections. However, it would be great to have more members participating.

ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

Chair: Omar Khan, okhan.jhsph@jhu.edu

Co-Chair: Mike Bailey, mbailey@jhucpp.org

Program email: ih.apha@gmail.com

Committee Members: Samir Banoob; Carlos Castillo-Salgado; Elvira Beracochea; Malcolm Bryant; Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd; Dory Storms

Activities since November 2008

- Setting up initial program/call for papers.
- Review of papers (460 received).
- Arranging into invited and received categories for papers & posters.
- Room requests/special requests.
- Categories finalized.

Next steps

- APHA to download program.
- A couple of invited sessions are being populated.
- We will need moderators and as usual will call on our leadership and program committee to pitch in.

Overall

- Looks like a balanced and scientifically strong program.
- We have aimed for high international representation.
- We received lots of 'invited panel' requests from our Section leadership and we regretfully could not accommodate each and every one - however we have tried to strike a good balance while between the 'invited' papers and the highly ranked submitted, i.e. not invited, ones

--Omar Khan, Chair, E-mail: okhan.jhsph@jhu.edu

--Mike Bailey, Co-Chair, E-mail: mbailey@jhucpp.org

AWARDS

Chair: Paul Freeman, freeman.p.a@att.net

Co-chair: Padmini (Mini) Murthy, minimurthy@aol.com

Members: H. Azzam T Baker, G. Berggren, E. Coates, M. Forzley, T. Lippeveld, M. Labbok, N. Pielemeier, W. Reinke, G. Sankaram, R. Schneider, L. Smith, C. Swezy

Objective for 2008

To make the work of our Committee more systematic, representative, and transparent. To do this, we plan to develop systematic processes for soliciting nominations for awards, voting on nominations for awards, and finalizing and announcing of award recipients.

Progress by May 2008

This year I am pleased to report that all members of the Committee actively took part in voting on the suitability of the nominees for our Awards. The nomination and voting processes proceeded smoothly. There was one nominee for the Lifetime Achievement Award, two for the Mid-Career Award and two for Section Distinguished Service awards. Allen Jones was also posthumously nominated for a Special Award Honoring His Contribution to International Health. The Awards recipients are:

--*Life-Time Achievement Award in International Health:* Samir Banoob

--*Mid-Career Award in International Health:* Gopal Sankaran

--*Distinguished Section Service Awards:* Ray Martin and Rose Schneider

--*Special Award Honoring His Contribution to International Health:* Allen Jones

--*The Gordon-Wyon Award for Community-Oriented Public Health, Epidemiology, and Practice, awarded by the CBPHC Working Group:* Bette Gebrian

Future plans

To give all the above awards at the Section Annual Awards Ceremony at the APHA Annual Meeting in October 2008, along with the Student Award, which will be decided just before the October meeting.

COMMUNITY-BASED PRIMARY CARE

Chair: Paul Freeman, freeman.p.a@att.net

Co-Chair: Malcolm Bryant, malcolmbryant@comcast.net

Past Chair: Henry Perry

Secretary: Connie Gates

List Server Administrator: K. Chitnis

Members: I. Aitken, R. Martin, L. Altobelli, J. Capps, A. Hershberger, S. Hoar, E. Kleinau, S. Lamstein, R. Mataya, J. Mouch, E. Peca, S. Ruiz (We also have many additional members through our Listserv)

Objectives for 2008

1. To complete and disseminate the results of our research: The Effectiveness of Community-Based Primary Health Care in Improving Child Health: A Review of the Evidence and Findings from the Field.
2. To improve our promotion of CBPHC.
3. To administer the APHA IH Section Award Program, sponsored by the Colgate-Palmolive Company for the third year, to the highest standards. Under this program, grants for community-based field research are awarded to young faculty and students at schools of public health for behavioral hygiene promotion and Global Health.
4. To administer the Gordon-Wyon Award for Community-Oriented Public Health, Epidemiology, and Practice.

Progress as of May 2008

1. The Effectiveness of Community-Based Primary Health Care in Improving Child Health: A Review of the Evidence - A meeting of the Expert Committee guiding our research took place at UNICEF headquarters in New York, March 27-28. The meeting was attended by 25 people, including members of our Expert Committee from around the world, senior representatives of WHO, USAID, and UNICEF, including Executive Director Anne Venneman, and the members of our Task Force. Findings from the second draft of the review were examined and recommendations developed covering the evidence for the effectiveness of CBPHC interventions for child health and the factors that need to be addressed in order to successfully implement these interventions. A Viewpoint article is currently being prepared for the *Lancet* covering the findings of this meeting. The review is ongoing. The second progress draft of the review document is available on our Section Web Site. We invite your comments, which can be emailed to Henry Perry or to me.
2. Promotion of CBPHC is being followed through our presentations at this Global Health Council meeting, the Christian Connections for International Health meeting preceding this Conference, through our Listserv and Web Site and planning of our Pre-APHA Annual Conference meeting later this year. Our resources for CBPHC collection are being maintained by Connie Gates.
3. This year there were 15 proposals submitted from around the world that qualified for the APHA - IH Section Award Program, sponsored by the Colgate-Palmolive Company. The general standard of the proposals submitted was high. Each proposal was examined and rated independently by five reviewers. Three grants of \$10,000 each were awarded to applicants who will be doing their research in Kenya, Tanzania, and El Salvador.
4. This year the Gordon-Wyon Award for Community-Oriented Public Health, Epidemiology and Practice will be awarded to Bette Gebrian.

Plans for the remainder of 2008

1. To finish our review well before the end of 2008. At this stage we are receiving ongoing feedback from the attendees at the above March meeting and anyone else wanting to contribute. Options for publishing the review document, hopefully in book and electronic form, are currently being pursued with our donors.
2. Planning is already progressing toward our pre-APHA Annual Meeting workshop. This year Project Concern is working with us. The themes of the workshop will be the finalized findings of our review and facilitatory methods to implement CBPHC programs. This year we plan to put aside the last hours of the workshop for discussion, networking and consultation -- by young professionals with regards to working in the CBPHC.
3. The Gordon-Wyon Award will be presented at the IH Section's Annual Award evening.

GLOBAL HEALTH APHA CONNECTIONS

Charge

Responsible for strengthening relations, partnership, and coordination with APHA Sections and Committees in the field of Global/International Health, namely, MCH, Population and Family Planning, HIV/AIDS, International Human Rights Committee, and Trade and Health Forum, and organizing communication and choosing liaison members with other Sections.

Goal

Assist members within the who are interested in International/Global Health to come together to network, collaborate on programs, conduct joint research and training, and advocate for policies and funding pertaining to International/Global Health.

Purpose

The IH Section is interested in developing collaborative relationship with other Sections, SPIGs, Caucuses, and Forums in the APHA. The purpose is to have active exchange of ideas and

strategies between the IH Section and other Sections/Units in APHA. This would facilitate joint activities such as development of resolutions pertaining to Global Health issues, joint plenary sessions at the Annual Meeting, co-hosting social hours at the Annual Meeting, and encouraging secondary IH Section membership for members who are interested in and/or working on International/Global Health issues.

Such collaboration would also help to coordinate our Association's activities and maximize its limited resources to identify and prioritize Global Health issues of concern to the Association, and to advocate for initiating and improving the USA policy and interventions in Global Health and humanitarian issues.

Action Plan 2008

Action Plan available at the IH Section Web Site:

<http://www.apha.org/membersgroups/sections/aphasections/intlhealth/committees/ghconnections.htm>

Objectives

1. Increase the number of liaisons from the IH Section to other Sections of APHA.
2. Increase liaisons from other Sections/Units of APHA to the IH Section.
3. Facilitate communication between all members of the GH APHA Connections Committee.
4. Provide networking opportunities for members of the IH Section and other Sections/Units within APHA.
5. Provide networking opportunities for members of the IH Section and other Sections/Units within APHA.
6. Increase the membership of the IH Section.
7. Increase the joint advocacy efforts of the IH Section in formulation of policies related to International/Global health.

Actions Taken – See Report of the Information and Communication Committee.

--Gopal Sankaran, MD, DrPH: gsankaran@wcupa.edu

--Michele Forzley: mforzley@comcast.net

GLOBAL HEALTH EXTERNAL CONNECTIONS

Chair: Padmini (Mini) Murthy, MD, MPH, MS, CHES, minimurthy@aol.com

Co-Chair: Hala Azzam, PhD, MPH, hazzam@epi.umaryland.edu

Purpose

To reach out to agencies and organizations specialized in International and Global Health to build partnership, collaboration, and advocacy in this field, between these organizations and APHA/IH Section. Priority will be given to UN agencies in the field of health (WHO, PAHO/WHO, WB, UNICEF, UNDP), U.S. government agencies (USAD, CDC, DHHS, EPA), foundations (Global Health Council), and International Health NGOs.

Mini Murthy and Hala Azzam assumed the leadership position of the Committee in February 2008. Since then we have been working to build up liaison with other APHA committees such as the Global Health Connections Committee of APHA. We have also been working to reach out to other NGOs and academic institutions to work toward developing core competencies for the global health curricula in universities and work force.

Activities carried out February-May 2008

1. March 2008 - Mini Murthy and Hala Azzam started working on a Plan of Action for 2008-2009 to build up a frame work for greater partnerships.

2. April 2008 - Mini Murthy was invited to Brigham Young University in Utah. Members of faculty at the MPH program at BYU are interested in becoming active members of the Committee.
3. April 2008 Hala Azzam connected the Global Health campus-wide student organization at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) with Samir Banoob, who was subsequently invited by the students to talk about global health career opportunities and represent the IH Section of APHA. Dr. Banoob chaired a panel session with more than 50 attendees, mostly students but also faculty from various disciplines at UMB.
4. Hala Azzam has sent APHA seminar announcements to students and faculty on campus.
5. May 2008, Hala Azzam attended a Fogarty International Center/NIH meeting regarding Global Health Resource Centers where grantee members were talking about the need to do advocacy for Global Health and Hala mentioned the Global Health External Connections Committee at APHA/IH Section and suggested coordination with both APHA IH and the GHC. This was part of an informal conversation and Hala will pursue the coordination based on the next steps taken by that group.
6. May 2008 – Mini Murthy organized a Global Health Educators meeting at the New York Medical College School of Public Health on May 7, 2008. The meeting had faculty members of the various academic institutions in New York area participate in an active discussion on developing a set of global health core competencies with regard to educational curricula and the practice of public health the Global Health educators in the New York area are interested in working with the APHA External Affairs Committee.
7. May 2008 - Mini Murthy and Hala Azzam sent an e-mail to the members of the Committee with a draft of the Plan of Action for the upcoming year for feedback and suggestions.
8. We will be working to set up a schedule for members of the Committee to have a teleconference before the end of summer 2008.

GLOBAL HEALTH STRATEGIES

Chair: Miriam Labbok, labbok@unc.edu

A draft survey has been developed based on inputs from the Committee, Morgan, and other Committee chairs. It will be shared in draft and then sent to IH Section members. We hope to have feedback for the Annual Meeting on a wide variety of issues.

- Miriam Labbok, labbok@unc.edu

MEMBERSHIP

Chair: Rose Schneider, rschneider@jhu.edu

Co-Chair: Alison Gernand, agernand@jhsph.edu

Member: Curtiss Swezy

The IH Section Membership Committee is responsible for the active recruitment for our Section. Committee members encourage IH Section members to recruit new members from their universities, organizations, and associations involved in international and global health. The Committee also works with overall APHA Membership Committee to expand membership.

Activities

Developed letters to encourage members to renew their membership if they had recently discontinued membership; developed letter and communicated to new members of the Section to encourage their active participation in the Section; personally responded to e-mails and phone communications from interested candidates or members of the Section, answered their questions about the Section and also referred them to the membership liaison at APHA, Yvonne Kazim, who has also actively supported new members.

Promoted interaction with other Sections within APHA and with other organizations to increase communication and interaction on policy and actions such as developing "Grasstop Health

Leadership Committees" in sites around the United States. We have exchanged selected lists of interested members to further the development of cadres interested in pursuing specific international issues.

From June through October 2008, our Committee plans to encourage schools of public health in the West Coast area to promote membership among their students and faculty linked with the APHA San Diego meeting and its environmental health theme.

Continue to actively engage leaders in international health organizations to encourage members of their staff to join the IH Section - Actively recruit at the IH Section booth at the Annual Meeting.

Work to clarify the benefits of membership on the IH Section Web Site and other venues.

--Rose Schneider, RoseSDC@aol.com

PHARMACEUTICALS

Chair: Maggie Huff-Rousselle, mhuffrousselle@ssds.net

Vice-Chair: Annette De Mattos, ademattos@ssds.net

Objectives for 2008

The APHA Pharmaceuticals Interest/Working (Rx I/W) Group has moved beyond the boundaries of the International Health, and it is now impossible to say who in the group is an IH Section member and how many have signed up from other APHA Sections. We added over 40 people to Rx I/W list from a single APHA session in 2007, which brings the total membership of the list to between 150 and 200. The traffic on the list is still reasonably light, which makes it manageable for all, but it has gradually been picking up. As is typical, most Rx I/W members are passive and only a few are actively engaged in discussions. Articles and news stories are forwarded to the entire list, and more and more of these are coming from the Rx I/W membership for general circulation. We circulated a list of all the APHA sessions that had something to do with pharmaceuticals to the Rx I/W group list before the last conference, and will do the same this year. Members were reminded of the impending deadline for abstract submissions.

There is also discussion among some members of the possibility of publishing something on pharmaceuticals that comes out of the Rx I/W group. However, our current primary purpose is to exchange and discuss information, keeping members informed of new developments and ongoing areas of interest.

Activities January–May 2008

Ongoing efforts have resulted in an active exchange of information among members in the beginning of 2008. Members of the Working Group were reminded of the deadline for 2008 abstract submissions. Members of the Rx Working group submitted eight abstracts for the October 2008 conference in San Diego coming out of different Sections (we are crossing Section boundaries!). With four papers accepted this will make a panel session tentatively titled *Public Interests & the Pharmaceutical Industry: A Changing World??*

Activities June–October 2008

Three of the papers submitted on a panel last year should become a special issue of the IJHPM next year. We have a December deadline for the articles. Several members of the Rx Working Group have discussed interest in writing something on the latest TB drug issue for circulation, and possibly an APHA blog (not yet started). So, suggestions for experts who would write this up are welcome. We will prepare and circulate a list of all the APHA sessions that have something to do with pharmaceuticals to the Rx I/W group list before the October 2008 Annual Meeting. We will

also work to compile the list of some 150+ members of the working group to be included on the APHA IH Web Site.

--Maggie Huff-Rousselle, mhuffrousselle@ssds.net

--Annette De Mattos, ademattos@ssds.net

TRADE AND HEALTH LIAISON

Chair: Mary Anne Mercer, mamercer@u.washington.edu

The APHA Executive Board approved the *Forum on Trade and Health* in the spring of 2007, based on what was formerly a *Working Group*. The Forum is a new category within APHA, and is defined as a "membership unit composed of APHA members who are working together on a specific issue that is important to public health, crosses disciplinary and Section or SPIG boundaries, requires expertise that may reside in more than one Section or SPIG, and supports APHA's mission." Sections that have supported the Forum to date include Occupational Health and Safety, Medical Care, International Health, Public Health Nursing, Environmental Health, and Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs, as well as several affiliates.

The interests and concerns of Forum members show that trade impacts and intersects with health in a variety of ways. Topics addressed included the impact of Free Trade Agreements (FTA) on access to medicines and intellectual property rules, tobacco control policies, the migration of health care professionals, corporate social responsibility, occupational health and safety, and the role of states, localities and public health advocates in trade policy making. Some of the important trade and health issues that the Forum discussed during the past year include:

- New FTAs with Peru, Colombia and Korea.
- CAFTA - Costa Rica ratified the agreement, after opponents narrowly lost a referendum that was widely criticized after government officials were found to be conducting a 'fear and smear' campaign.
- IP and Access to Medicine Issues - These have been controversial issues within the negotiation of the Korean, Malaysian and Thailand FTAs.
- Public Health Representatives appointed to two USTR committees;
 - Tine Hanson on ITAC 3 (Chemicals, Pharma, Health/Science Products).
 - Michele Forzeley on ITAC 15 (IP).
- Fast Track Authorization.
- More recently, concern with import of toxic consumer goods.

The Forum is planning sessions and other activities for this year's Annual Meeting in San Diego. The 2008 Annual Meeting theme *Public Health without Borders* is especially relevant to the Forum's work. Of particular interest to IH Section members are two planned field trips from San Diego to sites in Tijuana, Mexico, to look at issues related to environmental justice and worker health and safety. Those trips will take place on the Saturday afternoon that marks the beginning of the meeting, and will be announced shortly to Section members. In addition, the group will work on policy and advocacy to help protect public health worldwide.

The Forum holds a quarterly teleconference call that includes an informational presentation as well as discussion of business. The Forum welcomes new participants from any section. Forum officers for 2008 are: Susanna Bohme, Chair; Bill Wiist, Program Planner; Garrett Brown and Ellen Shaffer, co-call coordinators. We welcome recruits to serve as Secretary! *E-mail* susanna.bohme@gmail.com for more information or to be added to the Forum's mailing list.
-- Mary Anne Mercer, mamercer@u.washington.edu

MINUTES IH SECTION MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE CALLS

Mid-Year Meeting - Thursday, May 29, Omni Shoreham, Washington, D.C.

Presiding: Miriam Labbok,

Minutes: Amy Hagopian

Attendees

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Hala Azzam | 15. Eckhard Kleinau | 29. Curtiss Swezy |
| 2. Donna Barry | 16. Miriam Labbok | 30. Morgan Taylor |
| 3. Bob Benjamin | 17. Rick Lathrop | 31. Charles Teller |
| 4. Elvira Beracochea | 18. Ray Martin | 32. David Thompson |
| 5. Tia Beritashuili | 19. Russell Morgan | 33. Margaret Udahogora |
| 6. David Blankenship | 20. Marjorie Muecke | 34. Pennington Whiteside |
| 7. Bart Burkhalter | 21. Karen Nielsen | 35. Juliet Zavon |
| 8. Evelyn Cherow | 22. Ronald Ondoxi | 36. Others that may have missed signing in (Jean Capps, Scott B, Dave J, Mark S, Todd Lawrence, Leanne R, Rachel Hampton). |
| 9. Akram Eltom | 23. Jirair Ratevosian | |
| 10. Paul Freeman | 24. Gopal Sankaran | |
| 11. Amy Hagopian | 25. Rose Schneider | |
| 12. Tom Hall | 26. Sarah Shannon | |
| 13. Vina HuLamm | 27. Jim Stansbury | |
| 14. Wendy Johnson | 28. Chad Swanson | |

Miriam Labbok welcomed everyone to the Mid-Year Meeting and explained that the IH Section of APHA meets every year at the Global Health Council. We will have our Annual Meeting in San Diego, Oct. 26-29, 2008. Details at <http://www.apha.org/meetings>. We did introductions of everyone in the room.

PEPFAR Reauthorization - Jirair Ratevosian, with Physicians for Human Rights, brought us up to date on PEPFAR reauthorization legislation. The House version passed a couple of months ago. The Senate version of the bill (which is not as comprehensive) passed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, but the leadership has not brought it to the floor. Six years ago, PEPFAR totaled \$15 billion; This time around, it is likely to be \$50 billion (if approved by appropriations).

The bill is stalled in the Senate because of competing interests. Seven are leading an effort to direct funds away from anything that looks like family planning. Senator Reid is the target for political pressure now, and it is important this happen within the next couple of weeks.

Section members were urged to mobilize people to influence their Senators. Senator Durbin especially, as a Senate leader, needs to hear from us now. Every Senator is a target, though, because they all have a role in agitating for this to come forward. *MoveOn.org* is circulating a petition. Failing to pass PEPFAR would be a terrible set-back. Jirair told the group that this version is much richer (both in money and content) than the last version.

Jean Capps reported that she recently participated in an evaluation of the Nigeria PEPFAR program, and has concluded that the content of the bill needs to shift from *emergency* (the E in the PEPFAR title) to health systems building.

Bart asked about what is in the bill for health systems strengthening, and whether we're just re-directing resources from other health programs. Jirair noted that the House version has good provisions for training health professionals. Also, the Conference Committee can beef it up. Nine billion dollars of the \$50 billion will be directed to TB and malaria. Good child survival appropriations happened this year already.

Elvira Beracochea moved that the Section ask APHA to use CAPWIZ to urge members to write Senators to support swift passage of PEPFAR reauthorization; reauthorization should include

proper monitoring and evaluation, and be based on evidence-based best practices. The Advocacy Committee (Jean and Donna, especially) will work with staff to draft the letter. Motion passed.

Food Shortage and Skyrocketing Prices - Donna Barry was asked to talk about how the IH Section is mobilizing on the international food issue (rising prices internationally, shortages). Members should use their voices to generate op-eds and letters to the editors. Look for opportunities to respond to articles. The message is to increase long-term investments in agricultural development, and to stop undermining developing countries' capacity to produce their own food by flooding markets with cheap American food products highly subsidized by our Farm Bill.

Juliet Zavon told us how governments are strategizing to direct their subsidy policies and storage stocks to avoid population uprisings. Miriam asked her to write up a paragraph on this and we'll post it on the Web. She'll work with Donna.

Rick Lathrop is an expert in this area, too. Volunteers in the Global Service Corps are increasingly interested in the food security program. Jean helped us understand there is new thinking on treating childhood diarrhea to avoid stunting. Hala Azzam has worked on multi-disciplinary teams to address this issue — we do not use enough multi-disciplinary approaches. Charles Teller said next week is International Children's Day, and the trends in stunting are not good. Stunting is the result of a complex set of problems (health, water), not just food.

Eckhard Kleinau said it is important to tie food security to good governance issues. For example, biofuels are a major policy problem. We could work with the Environment and MCH Sections of APHA on this.

Rose Schneider suggested we could aim our energy to work with GHC on these issues. Can we also leverage APHA to be more active on these issues? Rose recommended that we link with GHC and APHA to leverage their lobbying power.

Sarah Shannon moved that we form a Working Group to address advocacy on food security, nutrition, and agriculture issues and establish links with other sections in APHA and the GHC. Seconded by Elvira. Three volunteers will serve to start. Motion passed.

Miriam Labbok pointed out the work of the Section committees and working groups on pharmaceuticals, primary health care, breastfeeding, etc.

NGO Code of Conduct - Amy Hagopian pointed out that the NGO Code of Conduct press conference will take place this afternoon at 3 p.m. See Web Site, www.ngocodeofconduct.org.

Report from our APHA staff - Morgan Taylor told us about a seminar series that APHA is sponsoring on various advocacy issues. There was one on food recently (Donna represented our Section), and on June 18 there will be one on climate change. This is a new effort by APHA to reach out and educate members and others. We can add new sessions throughout the course of the year — just recommend a topic.

Breastfeeding resolution passed 2007 - Miriam noted that the breastfeeding position paper adopted by APHA last year has become important internationally, and has been picked up by other organizations. The U.S. Breastfeeding Committee has used it, as has UNICEF.

Darfur letter - Jirair asked about the Section's efforts to ask APHA to sign a letter urging a U.S. boycott of Olympic Game opening ceremonies as a protest of China's arming Sudan against Darfur. The WFPHA has agreed to issue a letter, but it is stalled in APHA. Once the WFPHA signs a letter, however, APHA can sign on to a letter of support of WFPHA, sort of backdoor support.

Climate change - Jean represented APHA at the Earth Institute Consultation on Climate Change and Public Health; there were not many public health people there, so it was important that Jean participated. NOAA and other science folks were there. The Earth Institute is seeking guidance on how to bring these disciplines together. Contact Jean if you want to get involved.

Karen Nielsen urged us to be involved with the Earth Institute, as it uses a holistic approach to policy development. The May issue of *Scientific American* addresses the food crisis. The *Lancet* is also interested.

Welcoming international attendance at the Annual Meeting - Gopal reported on an effort to increase APHA's welcoming activities for international attendees at our Annual Meetings. We can provide ways to help and support new folks who are braving the barriers to attend APHA meetings. See his comments on the Listserv and asking people for ideas. Wendy asked that others organize with Gopal to work on this. Miriam noted that this is something we used to do, and need to reinvent.

Synergy with GHC - Rose Schneider, as chair of Membership, is working to increase synergy between GHC and the IH Section. Todd is our new liaison (Leanne is leaving). Unfortunately, after Todd dropped in at the beginning of this meeting, he disappeared.

Announcements - Paul Freeman said the Community-Based Primary Care Working Group will meet tomorrow at 12:00 on the Birdcage walk (assemble 11:30 in the Ambassador Ballroom).

Rose, of the Membership Committee, said she will be tapping leaders in the Section to speak with their organizations and colleagues about joining the APHA-IH Section. The Student Committee will be working with faculty at the universities to encourage students to join. Student membership fees remain a barrier to growth.

The Information and Communication Committee met yesterday to talk about use of technology to expand the influence and networks within the Section. Eckhard urged us to log on to the Web Site to join the blog. Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd is seeking items for the Spring Issue of the IH Section Newsletter by this weekend.

Miriam, of the Strategies Committee, said she'll be working with Morgan on a survey of the membership.

Donna said the Action Board is reviewing older APHA policies for archiving purposes. Of the 1,700 members of the Section, two members helped Donna with this review (thanks!). Look for your opportunity next year! These reviews are actually quite fun.

Donna said the Action Board also must review proposed new policies. Since Governing Councilors have to vote on them anyway, let's get them read and reviewed well in advance of the Annual Meeting. Showing up with complaints in October is a little late!

Section elections are under way! Look for your e-mail ballot.

The Global Health APHA Connections Committee has the Web url on its handout. More members sought! Let's work more effectively with other Sections!

Miriam pointed out the large number of folks in the room who link to both GHC (as board members or former presidents) and our Section. She also took time to meet with those in the room who were not APHA members, to get feedback on how this meeting seemed to them.

Everyone was encouraged to sign up for the Section Listserv to engage in regular discussion of issues and get notice of conference calls. To sign up, write to Meg-Ann Whitney at megannw@u.washington.edu; she'll send you an invitation from Google Groups.

Important follow up items - The Section asked APHA to use CAPWIZ to urge members to write Senators to support swift passage of PEPFAR reauthorization; reauthorization should include proper monitoring and evaluation, and be based on evidence-based best practices. The Advocacy Committee (Jean and Donna, especially) will work with staff to draft the letter.

Miriam Labbok asked Juliet Zavon to write a paragraph for our Web page on how governments are strategizing to direct their subsidy policies and storage stocks to avoid population uprisings.

Sarah Shannon organized a working group to address advocacy on food security, nutrition, and agriculture issues, with the intent of establishing links with other sections in APHA and the Global Health Council. Sarah is at sarahs@hesperian.org

We should forward our Darfur letter to the WFPFA so it can move ahead, and then APHA can follow. Morgan was asked to follow up.

Contact Jean Capps if you want to get involved in climate change policy with the Earth Institute: jcapps@erols.com

Gopal is working on making the Annual Meeting friendlier for international visitors: gsankaran@wcupa.edu

This is the last weekend to send news items to Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd for the Fall Issue of the IH Newsletter: ippolitj@cpc.paho.org and after July 2008: ippolitoshepherdj@yahoo.com

Read the proposed policies for APHA Governing Council consideration in October. Send your comments to Donna Barry (Action Board) dbarry@pih.org and Malcolm Bryant: malcolmbryant@comcast.net, Governing Council whip. Do it now, while we can still influence the content! <http://www.apha.org/advocacy/policy/2008ProposedPolicies.htm> (You'll need your membership log-in)

Proposed Policies topics 2008

A: Health Disparities

1. Protecting the Health of Migrant and Immigrant Workers
2. Need for Screening for Developmental Disabilities of the Lower Extremities
3. Call for Education and Research into Vitamin D Deficiency/Insufficiency

B: Environmental Health

1. Using *Green Carts* to Increase Access to Healthy Foods in Low-Income Urban Areas
2. Equal Protection for Workers Exposed to Toxics
3. Reducing Youth Exposure to Smoking in the Movies
4. Calling for a Global Ban on Lead Use in Residential Indoor and Outdoor Paints, Children's Products, and All Nonessential Uses in Consumer Products

C: Access to Care

1. The Need for State Legislation Protecting and Enhancing Women's Ability to Obtain Safe, Legal Abortion Services Without Delay or Government Interference
2. Neonatal and Adult Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention
3. Opposition to Prophylactic Removal of Third Molars (Wisdom Teeth)

D: Public Health Science and Infrastructure

1. Patients' Rights to Self-Determination at the End of Life
2. Community Water Fluoridation
3. Promoting Interprofessional Education and Patient Care
4. Strengthening Health Systems in Developing Countries

No much progress was made with GHC. Rose will follow up.

Editor Note: The Reports presented by all Committees are presented in a separate section of the Newsletter

--Amy Hagopian, PhD, E-mail: hagopian@u.washington.edu

Minutes IH Section Leadership Conference Call – Wednesday, March 26, 2008

Participants

Laura Altobelli	Carol Dabbs	Mary Anne Mercer
Hala Azzam	Annette DeMattos	Padmini (Mini) Murthy
Mike Bailey	Amy Hagopian (took minutes)	Len Rubenstein
Samir Banoob	Omar Khan	Sarah Shannon
Elvira Beracochea	Gopal Kinner	Morgan Taylor
Malcolm Bryant	Eckhard Kleinau	Joe Valadez
Helene Carabin	Vina HuLamm	
Carlos Castillo-Salgado	Ray Martin	

Samir welcomed everyone and appreciated everyone's hard work and dynamic activity. He noted that we have visibility within APHA and are participating in inter-Section coordination.

Mary Anne reported that we have a secretary-elect (Carol Dabbs), and have candidates for two Section Council positions, four Governing Council positions and chair. We have two candidates for all positions but one. Should be an election in April; we hope there will be a clear announcement on how to vote. Eckhard asked for information for the Web Site.

Amy reported that APHA has extended the deadline for APHA Executive Board and chair-elect positions to March 31 (although it's a soft deadline). Mary Anne noted that candidates from our Section are at a disadvantage unless they have extensive domestic experience because the affiliates are a large voting bloc. Len Rubenstein would be a good candidate next year, after he serves a year on Governing Council.

Omar and Mike reported for Program Committee. We had quite a few papers this year (425); reviews are under way (three days left). Many people have done them so far (there were 1,200 assignments, three reviews for each abstract); 50 percent are waiting for the last minute. Some reviews could be re-assigned. Rough program schedule is done; we have discussed the business meetings at some length. Most of the invited sessions are in already. Samir thanked the team. It is nice to see so many submissions for a year that we are not in Washington, D.C.

Mini reported for the Awards Committee. Paul invited new members to join the Committee (Gopal, Curtiss, Michelle, Rose, William, Hala, Mini). We have two awards that have no nominations -- Mid-Career and Gordon Wyan award, April 13 is the final deadline. Mary Anne also asked for input about the Levy/Sidel Peace Award, which can only be given to an individual. We agreed that either Gil Burnham or Les Roberts would be great. This was delegated to Mary Anne.

Eckhard reported for the Information and Communications Committee. The Web Site is updated and lovely. It is a great tool for ongoing communication. Eckhard would like more contributions,

especially updating Committee Chairs. Home page should include events of interest to our membership. The blog is a great opportunity, and people should contribute to it. Meg-Ann (who works with Mary Anne) is trained to help with the Web Site so she can update items in addition to Eckhard.

Deadline for the Spring Issue of the IH Section Newsletter is May 16. Send e-mail submissions to Josefa at jppolitj@cpc.paho.org. We do not have space for advertising. Product sales are not peer-reviewed and are not news items.

Sharon Rudy has resigned from the Student Committee. Helene has volunteered to offer leadership, and will look for a co-chair. Ray Martin will help her think about how to help young professionals with job-seeking, which he works on for Christian Connections for International Health. Amy has some ideas on how to organize student recruitment from each of the University MPH programs. Gopal will help with outreach to the student assembly. Sarah said she will help in the Bay area, with connections to Tom Hall. Does APHA still have a mentorship committee (Morgan will find out)?

The Advocacy Committee is active on a variety of issues, including Congressional action on the PEPFAR re-authorization, maternal mortality, and health work force issues. We had a presence at the First International Global Health Workforce Conference in Kampala. Carol reported that the UN Association is having an international health careers night, which Carol learned about from the APHA notice to the IH Section. She will participate on behalf of USAID.

Carol is getting the Administration Committee organized. First big task is the Mid-Year Meeting. Carol will work with Elvira and Betsy Basan to organize and plan for fundraising for the meeting.

Donna submitted a report via e-mail on the Action Board. Donna is hoping for more comments on the proposed APHA policies/resolutions by Friday, March 28. Amy did this; has anyone else? The question Samir submitted for questions for APHA candidates will be submitted this week.

Malcolm and Paul are talking about the Annual Meeting for the Community Primary Care Group. The next round of the Colgate grants are being announced soon. There is a lot of activity on revisiting the need for primary care internationally. The theme for Global Health Council is Community Health. The 30th anniversary of Alma Ata is getting attention. Sarah noted there is an Alma Ata caucus at the GHC. Carlos was part of the Primary Health Care Working group at PAHO; the *Position Paper* has been completed.

Gopal is working on a questionnaire to go out next week to identify IH Section member individual areas of interest. Then he is sending out a comprehensive list of all the contact information to each of the other sections and SPIGS. There is a meeting on Sunday, Oct. 26, 11 to 12, at the Annual Meeting.

Hala and Mini reported for External Connections. They are working with other large NGOs with a focus on MDGs. There will be a Committee Meeting soon, as Mini and Hala just took over last month after Kyle resigned as Chair of this Committee. They are trying to understand where our Section strengths and connects are so they can network better with other groups.

Annette reported there were eight abstracts submitted on pharmaceuticals for this year's conference from the Pharmaceuticals Interest/Working Group. The abstract submissions crossed section boundaries, and some came from Medical Care, which might be willing to share or give the IH Section one of their slots. The editor of the *International Journal of Health Planning and Management* has agreed to publish the three papers from last year's conference panel on Industry, Politics and Public Health. We would like to have someone with expertise on TB drugs

write up a brief communication that we can circulate on the latest controversy about TB drugs. This would go out to the 200 members of the pharmaceuticals interest/working group, and hopefully go onto a new blog.

--Amy Hagopian, hagopian@u.washington.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Great tool to talk about public health! See: <http://www.thisispublichealth.org/index.html>

--Tricia Todd, MPH, Assistant Director, Health Careers Center, University of Minnesota

2. Fast access to connect with the 2008 leadership of Units within APHA. See:

--Section Chairs: <http://www.apha.org/membergroups/sections/sectionchairs/>

--SPIG Leadership: <http://www.apha.org/membergroups/primary/2008spigroster.htm>

--Caucus Leadership: <http://www.apha.org/membergroups/caucuses/groupscaucuses.htm>

--Forum Leadership: <http://www.apha.org/membergroups/forums/>

--APHA Student Assembly: <http://www.apha.org/membergroups/students/>

--Gopal Sankaran, gsankaran@wcupa.edu

SHOWCASE YOUR WORK AT THE IH SECTION BOOTH

Every year the IH Section has a booth at the APHA Annual Meeting. For the last three years, we have also showcased the work of the Section's members. We always have very good contributions and excellent feedback on the display.

You are invited to again to share a year's worth of peer-reviewed papers, books, other publications and innovative perspective papers at the International Health Section Booth at the upcoming APHA Annual Meeting in San Diego. Any paper that has been published with the last three years is admissible for showcase at the IH booth.

Our goal is to make the booth a dynamic venue for the Section. We appreciate your involvement and hope you enjoy the booth!

MEMBERSHIP IN THE IH SECTION

The most important benefits to membership include:

- networking and interaction with colleagues;
- keeping abreast of public health issues worldwide; and
- mobilizing around important issues to have more influence as a group on advocacy and policy.

You are encouraged to look at the IH Section Web Site at <http://www.apha-ih.org>, which will give you an overview of the IH Section. There are many activities the Section needs help with. You are encouraged to find a Committee that you are interested in and contact the chair. You can also attend the bi-annual business meetings at the GHC Annual Conference and the APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition. Everybody is welcome to these meetings — just show up and you will have the opportunity to talk with the leadership. Students are especially invited to participate.

THE IH SECTION WEB SITE

On the IH Section Web Site, www.apha-ih.org, you will find previous IH Section Newsletters and other material on various subjects. The Section is seeking more volunteers to work on improving the Web Site and enhancing its utility for members and the public by adding new material. If interested, contact the IH Section Chair Samir N. Banoob at sbanoob@aol.com.

WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN THE IH SECTION?

A number of IH Section members, some new and some continuing, want to know how they can “get involved” with the Section. Since much of our organizing work originates during the Annual Meeting, attendance at that meeting is a good first step in further engagement with the Section.

Serving as a member or chair of a standing Committee is one specific way to have input into IH Section activities. Committee chairs are formally appointed by the Section Chair in consultation with the Section Council, and Committee members are selected by the Section Chair and Committee chair. Members are encouraged to volunteer their availability for positions of interest, as most years several Committees are in need of members and/or chairs. The best way to investigate these possibilities is to attend the business meetings at the Annual Meeting, and contact the Section Chair about your interests. You can also contact the chair of standing Committees and let him/her know that you would like to volunteer to work on that Committee.

The Section Officer positions, in contrast, are elected each year in a Section-wide ballot. Officers include the Section Chair, Secretary, Section Council members, and Governing Council members. Service on the Section Council is a good way for new members to find out how the Section works, while the other positions, including Governing Council, are generally held by members who have been involved for some time in other capacities. The APHA elections are held around May of each year. If you are interested in running for office, please contact Nominations Chair Mary Anne Mercer at mamercer@u.washington.edu

EXPERIENCES FROM THE FIELD

Global Perspectives in Education, Environment, and Health - An Experiential Visit to People’s Republic of China

Twelve undergraduate students from West Chester University (WCU) and Holy Family University (HFU) visited the People’s Republic of China (PRC) from May 12- 24 under the guidance of Professors Wei Wei Cai (Elementary Education), Gopal Sankaran (Public Health), and Charles Shorten (Environmental Health) from WCU. In Beijing, at Capital Normal University (CNU), Dr. Shorten presented an invited lecture on the importance of water management.



Photo Caption: Professors Wei Wei Cai, Charles Shorten and Gopal Sankaran (all in second row) with faculty and students from West Chester University, Holy Family University and Capital Normal University in front of the College of International Education building at Capital Normal University, Beijing)

Thereafter, the 12 students met with students from CNU in a group discussion, facilitated by WCU faculty members, and discussed a variety of topics including cultural practices, college life, co-curricular activities, career tracks and entertainment! Everyone enjoyed this valuable learning experience.



Photo Caption: Students from Capital Normal University, West Chester University, and Holy Family University enjoyed exchanging viewpoints at a group discussion at Capital Normal University, Beijing.

In Beijing, the group also visited a middle-school and participated in group activities with students in English and arts classes. The visit to a hospital and a research center (affiliated with Peking Union Medical College) allowed the group to learn about and experience traditional Chinese medicine techniques such as acupuncture, cupping, and massage and the health care system in PRC. Additional visit to a large waste water management plant highlighted the rapid strides PRC is making in this area. The visiting group was treated to a traditional Peking duck dinner by the China University Alumni Association.

During their visit to the cities of Xian and Yichang (on the banks Yangtze River), the group met with students and faculty from China Three Gorges University. Cultural trips for the group included visits to The Great Wall, Forbidden City, and Summer Palace in Beijing, Terracotta Warriors Museum and Provincial Chinese Museum in Xian, and The Three Gorges Dam in Yichang. Before leaving, the group made a contribution to the China Earthquake Relief Fund. This excellent cross-cultural learning experience was best summed up in the words of one student, "I learned that people may be different, but their kindness has no language barrier."

--Gopal Sankaran, MD, DrPH, Professor, Health Sciences, West Chester University, E-mail: gsankaran@wcupa.edu

-- Wei Wei Cai, Professor, Education, West Chester University
--Charles Shorten, Professor, Environmental Health, West Chester University

IH SECTION LEADERSHIP - SECTION OFFICERS AND COUNCILORS

(as of June 2008)

Section Officers

Chair: Samir N. Banoob, MD, DM, DPH, PhD (2006-2008), sbanoob@aol.com

Immediate Past Chair: Joe Valadez (2004-2006)

Secretary: Elvira Beracochea, MD, MPH (2005-2008), elvirabala@cox.net

Section Councilors

Carol Dabbs, MPH (2005-2008) cdabbs@usaid.gov

Theo Lippeved, MD, MPH, (2005-2008), tlippeveld@jsi.com

Wendy Johnson (2008-2010)

David Olufemi Adesanya (2008-2010)

Governing Councilors

Laura Altobelli (2008-2009)

Malcolm Bryant (2008-2009) mbryant@msh.org

Carlos Castillo-Salgado (2008-2009)

Committees and Working Groups*

- **Action Board**

- Advocacy and Resolutions** - Chair: Amy Hagopian; Co-Chair: Leonard Rubenstein

- Information and Communication** - Chair: Eckhard Kleinau; Co-chair: Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd

- Newsletter Editor:** Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd

- Web-Site designer/postings:** Eckhard Kleinau

- Organization and Management** - Chair: Carol Dabbs; Co-Chair: Elvira Beracochea

- Policy** -

- **Annual Meeting Program** - Chair: Omar Khan; Co-Chair: Mike Bailey

- **Awards** - Chair: Paul freeman; Co-Chair: Padmini (Mini) Murthy

- **Community-Based Primary Health Care** - Chair: Paul freeman; Co-Chair: Malcolm Bryant

- **Global Health APHA Connections** - Chair: Gopal Sankaran; Co-Chair: Michele Forzley

- **Global Health External Connections** - Chair: Padmini (Mini) Murthy; Co-Chair: Hala Azzam

- **Global Health Strategies** - Chair: Miriam Labbok

- **Membership** - Chair: Rose Schneider; Co-Chair: Alison Gernand

- **Pharmaceuticals** - Chair: Maggie Huff-Rousselle; Co-Chair: Annette De Mattos

- **Trade and Health Liaison** – Chair: Mary Ann Mercer, PhD

*Appointed by the Chair