



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

News

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE ■ UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ■ AUTUMN 2007

CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Our department's leadership in children's environmental health was recognized this fall with four national awards. Professor Elaine Faustman received a \$26 million, five-year grant as part of the new National Children's Study. The Northwest Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) won a Children's Environmental Health Excellence Award from the Environmental Protection Agency. And Professor Richard Fenske, who has done so much work on pesticide exposures in children, was honored with two major awards.

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NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY

Crossing the frontier for child health and development

A new study is being launched, but unlike other scientific studies, the participants have not yet been conceived. Neither have all the questions scientists will be poised to ask in the future.

The National Children's Study (NCS), now on the brink of implementation, is a first of its kind in the United States, tracking children's health from womb to adulthood. Departmental researchers will play a key role in this unprecedented undertaking by leading the Pacific Northwest Center, one of 22 study centers recently announced. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant to this center totals roughly \$26 million over five years.

NCS, which will track 100,000 children across the country from before birth to age 21, will be the largest long-term study of children's health and development ever conducted in the US. A study of this magnitude is necessary to begin unraveling the largely unknown means by which diseases unfold, said Elaine Faustman, director of the study center and professor in our

department. The study will also help tease apart the complex interplay between environmental factors and genetic influences that affect health.

"What we learn will help children and families across Washington and throughout the US and shape child health guidance, interventions, and policy for generations to come," Faustman said.

—continued on page 2

The new study will track children from before birth to adulthood



Suzanne Gleason

CHILDREN'S STUDY *—continued from page 1*

THE UW'S ROLE

The Pacific Northwest Center will manage data collection and recruitment of local participants and, with Public Health–Seattle & King County, will facilitate community involvement. The center will also collaborate with Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. UW and its collaborators will recruit participants for the project, starting in 2009. A later phase of the study will include Oregon Health Sciences University and Marion County, Oregon, communities as an additional study location in the Pacific Northwest.

Professor Tom Burbacher of our department and Shirley Beresford of the Department of Epidemiology are codirectors of the center, which will be housed in the UW School of Public Health and Community Medicine.

The UW is a national leader in child health research, with many established researchers and centers. For example, this new study will build on the successes of our department's current EPA/NIEHS funded Children's Environmental Health Risk Research Center that has followed children in agricultural communities for more than eight years through community-based research partnerships.

On the national level, NCS is led by a consortium of agencies, including the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

WHY STUDY CHILDREN'S HEALTH?

The major disorders and diseases affecting children today are markedly different from several generations ago. In the past, infectious diseases dominated, while today, children face mainly chronic conditions that researchers believe arise at the intersection of environmental exposure and genetic makeup.

NCS—initiated in response to the Children's Health Act of 2000—aims to reduce the public health burden of childhood chronic diseases and disorders. This burden includes not only pain and suffering, but also missed school days, health care expenses, and other costs to children, their families, and society at large.

Congress specified that the study must be longitudinal (long-term) in design and gauge not only chemical, biological, and physical exposures, but also psychosocial factors such as public policy. The study's hypotheses were designed around



Lisa Younglove

A newborn child reflects a complex mix of genetic and environmental factors

areas identified during the planning process: pregnancy outcomes, neurodevelopment and behavior, asthma, obesity and growth, injury, and reproductive development. Additionally, data gathered can be used to answer questions that arise in the future. Researchers will also be able to assess health disparities and differences in disease occurrence between groups of people.

RECRUITMENT AND SAMPLING

The study will be carried out in 105 study locations (counties or groups of counties) across the US. The probability-based approach used to select locations means that the study sample will reflect demographic and geographic diversity, and will represent a balance of rural and metropolitan areas.

The study will follow pregnant women and their partners, couples planning pregnancy, and women of childbearing age who are not planning pregnancy. The children of these participants will comprise the main focus of the NCS. Recruitment will occur primarily through household sampling, but also through prenatal care providers, hospitals, and birthing centers. During women's pregnancies, study researchers will collect information regarding diet, exposures, environment, and stress. From the first trimester of pregnancy through the child's 21st year of life, researchers will conduct at least 15 in-person visits, including home visits, visits in clinical settings, and one visit where the child is delivered.

Environmental samples—such as air, water, food, dust, and soil—will be collected at home visits, and researchers will also collect information via telephone and mail-in questionnaires. Biological samples will include hair, urine, blood, saliva, and nail clippings, as well as cord blood and placental tissue

collected at the time of delivery. Mothers will provide breast milk samples, and biological fathers who accept invitations to participate will provide semen samples. In addition, the study will include a pre-pregnancy cohort of women determined to be at high probability of pregnancy. Biological and environmental samples will also be collected from these women.

THE FUTURE

Because the study will follow the children from before birth to adulthood, findings may not only shed light on the root causes of many childhood and adult diseases, but may provide new preventions, cures, and treatments that could benefit all Americans. Researchers anticipate that study results will inform child health and environmental policy for the next century. According to the projected timeline, the first results will become available in 2010.

The data will provide an unparalleled resource and will yield an invaluable database to help researchers address current hypotheses—and even formulate ones we cannot dream of today—about child health and development.

—Alison Scherer and Elaine Faustman

FOR FURTHER READING

<http://nationalchildrensstudy.gov>



Jennifer Gill

A toddler explores his environment

Study questions

The study examines many questions, unlike previous single-focus studies. Examples are:

- Can very early exposure to some allergens actually help children remain asthma-free?
- How do genes and the environment interact to promote or prevent violent behavior in teenagers?
- Are lack of exercise and poor diet the only reasons why many children are overweight?
- Do infections affect developmental progress, asthma, obesity, and heart disease?
- How do city and neighborhood planning and construction encourage or discourage injuries?

Benefits to communities

- Contributes to the health and well being of generations of children in participating communities and across the country
- Brings the latest technology to participating communities
- Shares findings with the public, including schools, churches, community centers, and the media

How to get involved

- To learn about study progress and provide feedback, join the Study Assembly. Visit: http://www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov/get_involved/stay_informed/join/
- Assembly members receive e-mail updates.

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

PEHSU wins national award

The Northwest Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) received the Environmental Protection Agency's Children's Environmental Health Excellence Award this fall for its leadership in protecting children from environmental health risks. Catherine Karr (director), Nancy Beaudet, Rebecca Birdsong, and Sheela Sathyanarayana accepted the award on behalf of the Northwest PEHSU.

The award aims to increase awareness and stimulate activity by recognizing efforts that protect children from environmental health risks at the local, regional, national, and international level. The University of Washington PEHSU is one of ten winners of this national award.

The unit, located in our Occupational and Environmental Medicine Clinic at Harborview, provides professional advice to the health care community and parents on environmental agents of concern, such as lead, mercury, and pesticides. It also offers a wide variety of training opportunities for public health professionals and communities.

"It's organizations like the Northwest PEHSU and the partnerships created by them that provide meaningful education to the public and health care professionals about harmful environmental exposures," said Elin Miller, EPA Region 10 Administrator.

FOR FURTHER READING

<http://depts.washington.edu/pehsu>

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/ochp/ochpweb.nsf/content/chm07.htm>



UW Libraries Special Collections

HISTORY: CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

A century ago, 23 prominent Seattle women donated \$20 each to launch a children's hospital that would provide health care at no cost.

In 1908, the Children's Orthopedic Hospital Association opened Fresh Air House on top of Queen Anne Hill at 114 Crockett Street. Despite its laudable mission, it was met with opposition by neighbors who were concerned about contagion. Organizers met with neighbors and, in 1911, a proper three-story, 40-bed brick building was completed next to the house.

In 1953, Children's Orthopedic moved to Sand Point Way and, in 1997, was renamed Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center.

In 1974, the hospital formalized its connection with research facilities at the UW Medical Center, and has since become the primary teaching and research facility for UW pediatric medicine.

It serves the single largest geographic region of any children's hospital in the US: Washington, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho, and consistently ranks as one of the best children's hospitals in the country.

—Collen Marquist

Fundraising for Children's Orthopedic Hospital, 1912

BRIDGING ENVIRONMENTAL & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Fenske wins two national awards

Professor Richard Fenske was recently honored for his contributions to both the environmental and occupational health sciences. Fenske, who is our department's associate chair and director of the Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health (PNASH) center, was recognized by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the International Society of Exposure Analysis (ISEA) for his contributions to the assessment and mitigation of human exposure to chemical hazards.

"It is unusual and a very pleasant surprise to win major awards in two disciplines, but it is a testimony to the interdisciplinary nature of the research in our department," Fenske said. "I share these awards with the exceptional students and staff who have worked with me over the years."

NIOSH AWARD

In September, Fenske received the 2006 NIOSH Director's Award for Scientific Achievement in Occupational Safety and Health for his work with florescent tracers, a novel technique for assessing skin exposure to hazardous chemicals among agricultural workers.

Fenske developed the florescent tracer technique for his doctoral dissertation and has been refining the measurement method since then. His team at PNASH applied the technique to a train-the-trainer educational program.

The center has published a pesticide safety training manual, using the fluorescent tracer method (available in English and Spanish at <http://depts.washington.edu/pnash/>).

"When my colleagues and I first used the fluorescent tracer technique for our pesticide exposure research in the early 1980s, we quickly came to appreciate its potential as a training tool," said Fenske. "Seeing the fluorescent tracer glowing on their skin and clothes made an immediate impact on the pesticide handlers in our studies and provided them with a better understanding of how contamination had occurred."

"We are pleased to recognize Dr. Fenske's leadership in this groundbreaking research with important practical applications," said Dr. John Howard, NIOSH director. "It is particularly noteworthy that this technique offers a powerful tool for practitioners in reducing the risk of occupational illnesses among Hispanic workers."

*Rich Fenske
with NIOSH
award*



ISEA AWARD

In October, ISEA presented Fenske with its 2007 Jerome J. Wesolowski Award for "sustained and outstanding contributions to the knowledge and practice of human exposure assessment."

Fenske's plenary speech at the 17th Annual ISEA Conference was titled, "For Good Measure: Origins and Prospects of Exposure Science." Because occupational exposures are often higher than environmental ones, many of the measuring techniques were pioneered by industrial hygienists in the workplace, and then adapted for environmental exposures. In his address to ISEA, Fenske called for a reframing of exposure science to merge occupational and community exposure approaches. The Industrial Hygiene program in our department recently changed its name to Exposure Sciences to acknowledge this trend.

Fenske and his colleagues at the PNASH Center pioneered measurements for children's exposure to pesticides. Their methods for measuring organophosphate pesticides in house dust and pesticide metabolites in the urine of children have been used by other laboratories and have been a model for researchers at University of California, Berkeley; Oregon Health and Sciences University; Wake Forest University; Rutgers University; and NIOSH.

Chensheng (Alex) Lu, a former postdoctoral fellow in Fenske's lab, nominated him for the honor. Lu is now an assistant professor in Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health.

—Christina Bowles of NIOSH and Marsha Rule of UW contributed to this story

FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

What do heat stroke, particulate air pollution, and infectious diseases have in common? They are all related, either as cause or effect, to global climate change.

Two of our faculty are part of a state working group that aims to assess the health impacts of climate change. Several of our department's graduate students and faculty are also participating in the Focus the Nation campaign, through which the University of Washington is sponsoring a symposium on campus.

This campaign involves faculty, students, and staff at more than a thousand colleges, universities, and high schools in the United States in an interdisciplinary discussion centered around the theme of "Global Warming Solutions for America."

Focus the Nation will culminate in a network of one-day symposia held simultaneously on campuses across the country. The UW event will run from 10 am to 5 pm Jan. 31 in the Husky Union Building (HUB), followed at 7 pm by a town hall discussion in Kane Hall with political leaders, including Mayor Greg Nickels, Congressman Jay Inslee, state Rep. Fred Jarrett, and King County Executive Ron Sims, moderated by Steve Scher (KUOW), and introduced by UW President Mark Emmert.

Our department is one of several on campus financially underwriting the event and planning an exhibit. A dozen graduate students are creating the DEOHS display, which will include posters that define environmental and occupational health, make the connection to climate change and health effects, and focus on individual and community actions that can help reduce the rate of climate change.

Professor Jane Koenig, who researches particulate air pollution, is assisting the student-led initiative. She is concerned that increased temperature will increase ground-level air pollutants and result in greater numbers of air pollutant-induced illnesses and deaths.

Meanwhile, Professor Richard Fenske and Adjunct Assistant Professor Catherine Karr are part of UW's Climate Change and Human Health Impact Team (CHIT). This collaboration grew out of the Governor's Climate Challenge (Executive Order 70-02) and the Legislature's House Bill 1303, plus efforts by the state Department of Health.

Karr, director of our Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU), is leading the air quality section of the study, reviewing existing data and data gaps to characterize the potential effects of climate change scenarios on the state's air quality and its effect on cardiopulmonary health.

Fenske is cochairing the heat/thermal stress study with Roger Rosenblatt, UW Family Medicine. Fenske heads the Pacific Northwest Agriculture Safety and Health (PNASH) center, which is concerned with heat-related illnesses among farmworkers and others who work outdoors.

Other CHIT areas are infectious disease, headed by Ann Marie Kimball, professor of Epidemiology, and J. Elizabeth Jackson, doctoral student in Family Medicine and Sociology; extreme weather events, headed by Rosenblatt; and social disruption, stress, and economic disparities, headed by Jackson.

FOR FURTHER READING

<http://depts.washington.edu/uwfocus/>

Wind generation is seen as an alternative to fossil fuels



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CONTINUING EDUCATION & EVENTS

To confirm this schedule or find more information about these courses, call 206-543-1069 or visit the Continuing Education website at <http://depts.washington.edu/ehce>. Courses are in Seattle unless noted.

NORTHWEST CENTER FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

- Jan 14, 15, 16, 17 Annual hazardous waste refreshers
- Jan 18* Annual hazardous waste refreshers (*Olympia*)
- Feb 7 Puget Sound Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM) Grand Rounds: Managing sleep to sustain performance
- Feb 27 Accident & incident investigation
- Mar 13 Puget Sound OEM Grand Rounds: Employer-based health promotion programs—What works and why
- Apr 17 Puget Sound OEM Grand Rounds: Precarious employment—Health and safety for day laborers and other contingent workers
- Apr 30 Safe patient handling: Implementing best practices under the Washington state law

* Please note the date change for the Olympia session



Rick Gilason

Participants in a Northwest Center for Occupational Health & Safety course

PACIFIC NORTHWEST OSHA EDUCATION CENTER

Not for OSHA rules only! All classes offer the appropriate training that meets WISHA, OR-OSHA, or Alaska state standards, as appropriate.

- Jan 7-10** OSHA 510: Standards for the construction industry
- Jan 8-10 OSHA 2264: Permit-required confined space entry (*Portland*)
- Jan 14-17 OSHA 2015: Hazardous materials (*Boise*)
- Jan 15-17 OSHA 3010: Excavation, trenching, and soil mechanics (*Portland*)
- Jan 22-24 OSHA 3095: Electrical standards
- Jan 28-31 OSHA 501: Trainer course in standards for general industry
- Jan 28-31 OSHA 6000: Collateral duty for other federal agencies (*Portland*)
- Feb 5-7 OSHA 2225: Respiratory protection
- Feb 11-14 OSHA 2045: Machinery and machine guarding standards (*Portland*)
- Feb 11-14 OSHA 5600: Disaster site worker train-the-trainer
- Feb 12-14 OSHA 2264: Permit-required confined space entry (*Anchorage*)
- Feb 19-21 OSHA 3110: Arrest systems (*Portland*)
- Feb 19-21 OSHA 2250: Principles of ergonomics
- Feb 25-28 OSHA 500: Trainer course in standards for the construction industry
- Mar 3-5 OSHA 502: Update for construction industry outreach trainers
- Mar 3-5 OSHA 510: OSHA standards for the construction industry (*Portland*)
- Mar 5-7 OSHA 503: Update for general industry outreach trainers
- Mar 11-13 Supervisory safety and health duties
- Mar 17-20 OSHA 521: OSHA Guide to industrial hygiene
- Mar 24-27 OSHA 511: Standards for general industry (*Portland*)
- Mar 31-Apr 3 OSHA 500: Trainer course for construction industry (*Portland*)

** Seattle course is full; please call 206-685-3089 to be placed on a waiting list



CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Departmental researchers or alumni are in bold-faced type

International Biomass Smoke Health Effects Conference

August 21–22, 2007, University of Montana

Allen R. Evaluating the exposure and health impacts of a woodstove changeout program in British Columbia

Sheppard L. Estimation of health effects: Roles of exposure variation and study design

Simpson C. Application of woodsmoke exposure biomarkers

Simpson C. Biomarkers of exposure

Vedal S. Observational evidence on biomass smoke health effects

6th World Congress on Alternatives & Animal Use in the Life Sciences (WC6)

August 21–25, 2007, Tokyo, Japan

Yu X. *In vitro* 3-D sertoli cell/gonocyte co-culture model in screen male reproductive toxicants

Xiaozhong Yu's paper won the WC6 Young Scientist Award. He is director of laboratory research & public health translation at the UW Institute of Risk Assessment & Risk Communication.

Pacific Northwest Society of Toxicology

September 14, 2007, Seattle, WA

Cai B. MAP kinase mediates apoptosis through activation of FOXO3a and induction of Bim transcription

Cai B, Mohar I. Gender and glutamate cysteine ligase modifier subunit as modulators of acetaminophen-induced liver damage in mice: Further evidence for the “oxidative phase” hypothesis

Poulton E-J. Identification of residues important in ligand specific activation of the Pregnane X-Receptor (PXR)

Governor's Conference on Health and Safety

September 26–27, 2007, Tacoma, WA

Gleason R. Near misses and root causes: The basics of accident prevention

Gleason R. Accident and injury costs for small businesses

Jauquet J, Hanford F, Silverstein M. Providing for the aging workforce

Short Course: Safety and health training: What's new, what works, what's needed? (sponsored by our Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety).

Darren Linker, manager of our School to Work program, organized a day of activities for high school students, highlighted by a personal protective equipment (PPE) fashion show.

EPA Protecting the Pesticide Workforce

October 2–4, 2007, Arlington, VA

Galvin K. NIOSH pesticide interventions project

Keifer M. Cholinesterase monitoring in Washington state

Marcy Harrington and Helen Murphy staffed a PNASH center display.

Washington State Public Health Association

October 8–10, 2007, Yakima, WA

Treser C. Effectiveness of the Clallam County household hazardous waste campaign 1999–2005

Senior Lecturer **Chuck Treser** received the 2007 John P. Nordin Outstanding Sanitarian Award (see page 10).

19th International Conference on Epidemiology in Occupational Health

October 9–12, 2007, Banff, Canada

Neitzel R. Subjective estimation of occupational noise exposure

International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics

October 9–12, 2007, Sendai, Japan

Kavanaugh TJ. Modulating GSH synthesis using glutamate cysteine ligase

Associate Professor **Evan Gallagher** and PhD student **Isaac Mohar** also attended.

International Society of Exposure Analysis

October 14–18, 2007, Research Triangle Park, NC

Adar SD, Spziro A, Davies H, Allen RW. Predicting spatial variation in community noise levels

Allen RW, Mallach G, Davies H, **Cohen M**, **Kaufman J**, **Adar SD**. The relationship between traffic generated air pollution and noise in two US cities

Bradley AE, **Cardenas A**, **Curl C**, Schoof R. Developing and utilizing questionnaire data in building an exposure model for lead

Fenske R, **Keifer MC**. Community considerations with human subjects research

Fenske R, **Tolbert L**, **Galvin K**, **Winters M**, **Yost MG**. Pesticide drift in rural agricultural communities

Kissel JC. Biomarker interpretation: Use of biomarker data to inform modeling of dermal exposure

Meschke JS. Assessment of microbial exposures from water: Appropriate strategies for risk-based protection for public health (Symposium chairman)

Meschke JS, **Kissel JC**. Marine/estuarine water quality and assessment of risk from shellfish

Professor **Richard Fenske** delivered the opening plenary address, "For good measure: Origins and prospects of exposure science." Fenske is this year's winner of Jerome J. Wesolowski Award (see page 5).

Northwest Occupational Health Conference October 17-19, 2007, Seaside, Oregon

Carter S. Welding processes and exposure assessment

Ceballos D. Isocyanate surface sampling in the Puget Sound collision repair industry

Daniell B. Noise exposure and hearing loss prevention after twenty years of regulations: Lessons learned and implications for other workplace hazards

Runnion V. Recognition, evaluation, and control of composite exposures: Basics for safety professionals

Spielholz P, Edwards S. The TIRES Project: Assessing needs and developing solutions for reducing injuries in the trucking industry

Research Industrial Hygienist **Venetia Runnion** received the Distinguished Industrial Hygienist Award for 2007 (see page 10).

Short Course: It's not your father's workplace: Promoting wellness in the changing workplace and diverse workforce (sponsored by our Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety)

Society of Risk Analysis Annual Meeting December 9-12, 2007, San Antonio, Texas

Faustman EM, **Yu X**, **Griffith WC**. Toxicogenomics: Realizing the promise

Faustman EM, **Griffith WC**. Toxicodynamic considerations in PBPK models

Griffith WC, **Ramaprasad J**, **Faustman EM**. Simulating the effects of polymorphisms and abundance of CYP-450 enzymes in metabolism of chlorpyrifos

Vigoren EM, **Griffith WC**, **Krogstad FTO**, Coronado GD, Thompson B, **Faustman EM**. Formal uncertainty analysis in the interpretation of organophosphate pesticide metabolite concentrations

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY LECTURE



Professor Noah Seixas will be giving Winter Quarter's Distinguished Faculty Lecture for the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, titled *Occupational exposure assessment and the*

evolution of work organization. It will be Feb. 26, from 3:30-5:00 pm in the Health Sciences Building, Room T-625. Refreshments will follow.



PEOPLE & PLACES

Venetia Runnion of the Field Research and Consultation Group is this year's Distinguished Industrial Hygienist from the Pacific Northwest section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association. Before joining our department, Runnion was director of industrial hygiene for the Seattle and Portland offices of Clayton Group Services, where she mentored dozens of beginning professionals. She is the eighth winner of this award from our department. **Mike Morgan** received the award in 1999, **Janice Camp** in 2003, and **Rick Gleason** in 2005. Before that, **Tony Horstman**, **Lee Monteith**, **Dick Hibbard**, and **Pete Breyse** all received it.

Research Scientist **Tim Gould** has been appointed to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's Advisory Council as an at-large member. He has worked for our Northwest Center for Particulate Air Pollution and Health and the Northlake controlled exposure lab.

UW School of Public Health and Community Medicine presented its first Community Service Award for Community Partners to **Ofelio Borges** and **Flor Servin**. They are pesticide educators from the Washington State Department of Agriculture and partners of our Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center.

Professor **John Kissel** is part of a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) grant with Professor Gerald Kasting of the University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy. The Kissel lab will be developing a theoretical description of chemical decontamination of skin in the context of a larger project that describes dermal absorption using first principles and laboratory data.

Associate Professor **Matthew Kiefer's** *El Proyecto Bienestar* (well-being project) received a Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) award from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is under consideration for a communications award from the Robert W. Johnson Foundation.

Professor **David Eaton** received a Puget Sound Partners for Global Health Pilot Grant. Eaton represented the UW Office of Research at the Western Association of Librarians annual meeting in September to discuss the role of university libraries in fostering policies that encourage open access

to the results of federally funded research. In September, he participated in a conference on international policy implications of dioxin at Michigan State University. He also participated in the External Science Advisory Board of the University of Montana Center for Environmental Health Sciences.

Eaton, Terry Kavanagh, and **Azure Skye** attended the annual meeting of NIEHS center directors in Corvallis, Oregon, in October. In November, their Center for Ecogenetics and Environmental Health held its 13th annual faculty retreat at the South Campus Center, followed by CEEH's external science advisory board's annual meeting. Former DEOHS faculty member **Curt Omiecinski** attended as a board member.

Hugh McLoone of Microsoft, a 1990 Master of Science graduate in Industrial Hygiene, won the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society's 2007 User Centered Design Award for the Microsoft Natural Ergonomic Keyboard 4000. Associate Professor **Peter Johnson** participated on the research that developed this product.

Lecturer **Rick Gleason** made presentations on occupational safety and health to the annual Pulp and Paper Safety Conference, Portland, Oregon; the Land Surveyors Annual Conference, Seattle; and the Timber Operators Council (TOC) regional meeting, Tigard, Oregon. He also made a presentation on "Taking safety home" to the Puget Sound Safety Summit in Seattle.

Research Associate Professor **Sally Liu** has been active on both sides of the Atlantic. This fall she presented preliminary results from her School Bus Exposure and Health Assessment Study to the Tahoma School Board, in Maple Valley, Washington. She has been working on a long-term air pollution exposure assessment that is part of SAPALDIA, an epidemiologic study of respiratory diseases and allergies in the adult Swiss population. She made a presentation in September to the Swiss Expert Commission for Air Hygiene in Basel, Switzerland, and two presentations in June at the Institute for Medical Informatics, Biometry and Epidemiology at the University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany.

Senior Lecturer **Chuck Treser** received the 2007 John P. Nordin Outstanding Sanitarian Award, presented by the



Mary Levin

INTERNATIONAL FORUM

Professor David Eaton, who is also an associate vice provost in the UW Office of Research, along with Executive Vice Provost Ana Mari Cauce, represented the UW at the fourth international Science and Technology and Society Forum in Kyoto, Japan, in October.

This forum brought together about 600 invited leaders from industry, academia, and government to discuss how new advances in science and technology will impact global society. Of particular relevance to our department was a session that emphasized the importance of understanding the human health and environmental consequences of nanotechnology.

VIETNAM CONFERENCE

Our department is cosponsoring the Third International Scientific Conference on Occupational and Environmental Health in Hanoi, Vietnam, Oct. 21–23. The theme is Occupational and Environmental Health: Challenges in Rapidly Industrializing Countries. Abstracts are due March 15. The call for abstracts can be downloaded at <http://depts.washington.edu/cchrwe/>.

Sponsors are the Vietnam National Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health; Vietnam Association of Occupational Health; Vietnam Ministry of Health; Vietnam Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs; and our Collaborative Center for Healthy Work and Environment (formerly International Scholars in Occupational and Environmental Health).

Washington State Environmental Health Association conference in Yakima. Associate Professor Emeritus **Jack Hatlen** presented the award to Treser. The award recognizes outstanding service to the environmental health profession, as well as a willingness to go above and beyond what is expected.

Also at the WSPHA conference, **Treser** presented the Cind M. Treser Memorial Student Scholarships, named for his late wife, to **Abebe Aberra** and **Any-Thu Le**, both of our undergraduate Environmental Health program.

Treser also attended the 71st National Environmental Health Association conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and the CDC Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute in St. Louis, Missouri.

GRADUATE STUDENTS AND ALUMNI

Laura McLaughlin (MS 2006, Environmental Health) is back at UW after a year of international travel. She spent a year in Finland on a Valle fellowship, and then presented her results at a conference at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Her travels to Finland, Siberia, the Gobi Desert, China, and India are recorded on her blog, <http://www.nomadicalaura.blogspot.com>.

Jennifer Crowe (MPH, 2005, Environmental and Occupational Health) works at the National University in Costa Rica and is organizing two international conferences in June, on epidemiology in occupational health and neurobehavioral methods and effects. For information, visit <http://www.epicob-neuroeb2008.com/>.

Janessa Graves, an MPH student in our Environmental & Occupational Health program, manages an early childhood caries prevention project in the Pacific Islands for the UW's Dental Public Health Sciences, www.pieccpp.org. Before coming to the UW, she was a Peace Corps volunteer in the South Pacific, http://depts.washington.edu/envhlth/student_bio/graves.php.



Mary Levin

*left top: Venetia Runnion
left: Ofelio Borges, Pat Wahl (dean of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine), Flor Servin*

ANNIVERSARY PARTY

60
years of
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Our department invites you to help celebrate its 60th anniversary on March 6, at the UW Club (formerly the Faculty Club). Join us at 6:00 pm for dinner-sized appetizers, cash bar, and fun conversation with long-time alumni, faculty, colleagues, and friends.

The event marks the enrollment of the first five undergraduates in a new major, then called "sanitary science." Jack Hatlen, associate professor emeritus, was among the five.

The event is also a fundraiser for the Jack Hatlen Scholarship Fund for outstanding undergraduates.

To RSVP or to donate, go to <http://depts.washington.edu/ehug/anniversary.php>. You can also contact James Meadows, undergraduate program manager, at 206-616-4177 or ehug@u.washington.edu.

THE FINE PRINT

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Environmental Health News is published three times a year by the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences at the University of Washington. Inquiries should be addressed to *Environmental Health News*, Box 357234, Seattle, WA 98195-7234; Phone: 206-685-6737; E-mail: kjball@u.washington.edu.

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© 2007, ISSN number 1548-1875

Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences,
University of Washington.

Printed by University of
Washington Publications
Services on recycled paper
with vegetable-based inks.



University of Washington
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