faculty

Dr. Shirikant Bangdiwala, research professor of biostatistics; Dr. Gerardo Heiss, Kenan Distinguished Professor of epidemiology; and Dr. Jay Kaufman, associate professor of epidemiology, were awarded the title of visiting professor by Dr. Giorgio Solimano, dean of the School of Public Health at the University of Chile at Santiago earlier this year. The titles recognize Bangdiwala, Heiss and Kaufman for their “relevant academic and scientific merits and permanent collaboration with the (University of Chile) faculty.”

January 2008 marks the tenth year of Bangdiwala’s collaboration with the School of Public Health at the University of Chile, as coordinator of the International Summer School Program. Other UNC faculty members who have been involved in the effort in addition to Bangdiwala, Heiss and Kaufman include Drs. Ed Davis, Gary Koch and Lisa LaVange (biostatistics).

Bangdiwala also was designated a 2008 visiting professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences by the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden.

Dr. Marcii Campbell, professor of nutrition, will direct and serve as principal investigator for the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center’s LIVESTRONG Survivorship Center of Excellence Network program, which addresses the needs of the growing number of cancer survivors in the United States. The network is an invitation-only collaborative partnership among the Lance Armstrong Foundation, National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers at leading institutions nationwide, and their community affiliates. Its mission is to harness the expertise of these centers and affiliates to accelerate progress in meeting the needs of cancer survivors. Lineberger is the eighth network member institution in the nation.

Dr. Rosalind Coleman, professor of nutrition in the School of Public Health and professor of pediatrics in the School of Medicine, was named one of the first fellows in the Working on Women in Science program, a campus-wide initiative to foster the advancement of women in science and medicine.

Dr. Giselle Corbie-Smith, associate professor of epidemiology in the Schools of Public Health and Medicine, and of social medicine and medicine in the School of Medicine, has been selected as one of the University’s first Faculty Engaged Scholars. The two-year program helps scholars connect their academic work with the needs of communities and apply their skills to make a difference.

The Carolina Women’s Leadership Council honored Dr. Jo Anne Eary, professor of health behavior and health education, with a 2008 Faculty Mentoring Award at the Council’s annual meeting in Chapel Hill, N.C., in February 2008. The accolade includes a $5,000 stipend. The award recognizes outstanding faculty who “go the extra mile” to guide, mentor and lead students and/or junior faculty. The 130-member Carolina Women’s Leadership Council is a nationwide network of women committed to supporting the University and students’ educational experiences.

Dr. Anita Farel, clinical professor and associate chair for graduate studies in the Department of Maternal and Child Health, has received the Delta Omega Award for Innovative Public Health Curriculum for her course, “Program Assessment in Maternal and Child Health.” Delta Omega is the honorary society for graduate studies in public health.

Farel made a presentation about the course at the Delta Omega annual business meeting and exhibited a poster on it at the American Public Health Association annual conference. Both events were held in Washington, D.C., in November 2007.

Dr. Thomas R. (Bob) Konrad, research professor of health policy and administration at the School of Public Health and of social medicine at the School of Medicine, was recognized in connection with WRA STEP UP, a program designed to promote career development and reduce turnover among nursing assistants in North Carolina’s nursing homes.

The program, a partnership between the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services and the University of North Carolina’s Institute on Aging (NCIOA), was selected as one of two finalists for the 2007 Rosalynn Carter Caregiving Award. The award recognizes leadership in implementing innovative and creative partnerships between community organizations and caregiving researchers.

Konrad is a senior research fellow at Cecil G. Shaps Center for Health Services Research.

Dr. Jonathan Kotch, professor of maternal and child health, received a 2007-2008 competitive Kenan research leave to conduct research in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he will help implement a comprehensive injury prevention plan for Scottish children and youth in spring 2008.

Kotch will collaborate with Children in Scotland, a national agency of more than 400 volunteers and nonprofit organizations working to protect the well-being of children and their families.

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Dr. Herbert B. Peterson, professor and chair in the Department of Maternal and Child Health at the School of Public Health and professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the School of Medicine, was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine (IOM). Established in 1970 by the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute serves as a national resource for independent, scientifically informed analysis and recommendations on human health issues.

Peterson is known nationally and internationally for his work in women’s reproductive health, epidemiology, health policy, and evidence-based decision-making. Prior to joining the School of Public Health faculty in 2004, he held various research and administrative positions over the course of 20 years with the World Health Organization, U.S. Public Health Service and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Sheila Leatherman, honorary Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE), has been named the first Gillings Visiting Professor at the UNC School of Public Health. The professorship is part of Carolina Public Health Solutions, a new initiative funded by Donna and Joan Gillings and dedicated to accelerating public health impact across North Carolina and around the world.

As research professor of health policy and administration at the School, Leatherman evaluates and analyzes health care systems around the globe and, in conducting her research, often serves as visiting professor or visiting scholar at other universities and institutions. The Gillings Visiting Professorship will provide the means for her to focus a portion of UNC’s public health research on microcredit and its impact on global health.

Dr. Sandra Martin, professor and associate chair for research in the Department of Maternal and Child Health, was named associate dean for research at the UNC School of Public Health. An epidemiologist by training, Martin joined the School of Public Health faculty in 2008.

Dr. Joel Ostrow is the founding director of the Carolina Women’s Leadership Council and is a co-founder of the Gillings Institute on Aging (NCIOA). He received the NCIOA’s Stanley J. Gollub Award in 1985. The award recognizes a lifetime of service to North Carolina’s aged and LTCI beneficiaries and the profession. The council’s 10th anniversary celebration was held in April 2008.

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UNC School of Public Health
AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

September 2007 – April 2008

For more information on these and many other faculty, student, alumni and staff awards, honors and recognitions, visit www.sph.unc.edu/school/recognitions.

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Celebrating friends who make a World of Difference

In Czech, it’s Děkuji. In Mandarin, it’s Xie Xie. In Turkish, it’s Teşekkür ederim. In English, it’s Thank You.

Dr. Anna Maria Siega-Riz, associate professor of environmental sciences and engineering, received the Society of Toxicology’s Achievement Award at the Society’s 47th annual meeting on March 16, 2008, in Seattle. Rusyn received his doctorate at UNC in 2000 and worked as a postdoctoral fellow before joining the faculty in 2002.

Dr. Anna Maria Siega-Riz, associate professor in the departments of epidemiology and nutrition, was the recipient of the March of Dimes’ 2007 Agnes Higgins Award.

The annual award recognizes distinguished achievement in research, education or clinical services in the field of maternal-fetal nutrition. Awarders receive a $3,000 prize and the invitation to lecture at the American Public Health Association’s annual meeting, which, last year, was held in November in Washington, D.C. Siega-Riz’s lecture topic at the meeting was “Maternal Obesity: The Number One Problem Facing Prenatal Care Providers in the New Millennium.”

Eleven students from the UNC School of Public Health were recognized with 2008 Impact Awards from the UNC Graduate School. The awards honor graduate students whose research provides special benefits to the citizens of North Carolina. Awarders also serve as graduate student ambassadors, talking to community groups throughout the state about their work. Winners from the School of Public Health are Jaanne Boone and AlexSMith, medical student and 2007 master’s degree graduate in nutrition; Anthony Fleg, medical student and 2007 master’s degree graduate from the Public Health Leadership Program and Patrick Carlson Smith, medical student and 2008 master’s degree graduate from the same department; Erin Fraher and John Staley, doctoral students in health policy and administration; Morgan Jones, 2007 master’s degree graduate from the Department of Health Policy and Administration; and Amy Kalkbrenner, Sandra McCoy, Lynne Sampson and Elizabeth Torrone, doctoral students in epidemiology.

In honor of Milton J. Rosenau, who earned her masters in public health in 2008 on a scholarship and already has set up a scholarship of her own to honor her late brother. (See inside back cover.)

The dinner is our opportunity to say ‘thank you’ in a special way to our most generous friends,” says Peggy Dean Glenn, associate dean for external affairs. “We hope more and more people will join us for this fun evening. The dinner honors all endowment donors and members of the Cornerstone and Rosenau Societies.”

The Rosenau Society, named in honor of Milton J. Rosenau, the School’s first dean, comprises donors who annually give $1,000 or more, providing current funds to be used where they are needed most. President’s Circle members ($5,000-$25,000), Chancellors’ Circle ($2,000-$4,999) and Dean’s Circle ($1,000-$1,999) are honored members of the society.

The Cornerstone Society recognizes donors who have named rooms or other spaces within the School’s building complex.

To join the Rosenau Society, or make a donation of any amount to the School of Public Health, please see www.sph.unc.edu/giving, or contact the School’s Office of External Affairs at (919) 966-0198.

“All of our friends make a world of difference in our ability to anticipate public health needs and accelerate public health solutions,” Glenn says.