



## FALL UPDATE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MCH AT GILLINGS

Greetings to all of our colleagues who serve as adjunct professors to the Department of Maternal and Child Health at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. We hope your fall has been pleasant and productive. Our students have been working hard this semester and are looking forward to the end of term and winter break! Now is the time the "First Years" are looking towards their summer practicum experiences and the "Second Years" are solidifying their 2<sup>nd</sup> readers for their master's papers. These are both terrific ways for you to become more involved in the department!

## Be A Practicum Preceptor!

Would you like to work with a student next summer? In summer practica, students spend 10 weeks working in applied settings to see Maternal and Child Health (MCH) in practice.



Ramsey and Carrie Aldrich, MCH Registrar, welcome MCH students

Both in the US and abroad, MCH students learn valuable skills about how the issues central to

maternal and child health are addressed in a variety of settings. As a practicum preceptor, you would oversee the work of the student, working from a contract delineating a scope of work and learning objectives. Our MCH students make significant contributions to their host institutions as well. Contact Jenn Cole [jmcole@email.unc.edu](mailto:jmcole@email.unc.edu) to make sure your organization is on the list!

## SPOTLIGHT: Sarah Verbiest



Each fall we aim to highlight the exciting work of our Adjunct Professors. This fall we introduce you to Dr. Sarah Verbiest, DrPH, MSW, MPH. Sarah, is the executive director at UNC's Center for Maternal & Infant Health, which

provides direct clinical services to high risk mothers. Her research focus includes postpartum health and wellness and preconception health. She serves as the director of the National Preconception Health and Health Care Initiative (PCHHC), a public-private partnership of over 70 organizations focused on improving the health of young women and men and any children they may choose to have. Sarah is also a clinical associate professor at the UNC

# Staying Connected

## With Adjunct Professors in Maternal & Child Health

November 2016

### IN THIS ISSUE

School of Social Work. Follow Sarah on Twitter: [@S\\_Verbiest](#) | Connect with her on LinkedIn.

## Be a 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Share your Expertise!

Second year Maternal and Child Health students take a deep dive into a topic area during their last semester through their Master's Papers. Many students engage in original data collection and research, while others use secondary data or other innovative methods to present their research, such as interactive web-based modules. Serving as a "Reader" means giving feedback and guidance to a student and is a way to link up your interests with a new, emerging colleague in the field. Since each Master's paper requires two readers, the MCH faculty could use your help and expertise in serving as a second reviewer. This entails reading a paper of between 25-45 pages with a fairly rapid turn-around (about a week), and giving feedback to the student. Readers usually read papers and give feedback 2-3 times between mid-February and early April.

If you would like to be a reader, please contact [Carrie\\_Aldrich@unc.edu](mailto:Carrie_Aldrich@unc.edu) with your interest and area of expertise. Good news: serving as a second reader on Master's papers fulfills the yearly service commitment to maintain your Adjunct status!

## Get involved this spring:

**Oral Comprehensive Exams:** These take place every spring in late April/Early May. Each exam takes 1 hour and requires an MCH Faculty and an Adjunct Professor. Students discuss answers to 2 questions and thus demonstrate their knowledge gained from the first year of their MPH studies. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet and engage with students on a deeper level regarding local and global MCH issues.

**Guest Lecture in a Maternal and Child Health Course:** MCH offers many different required core MCH material and elective courses and quite often feature Adjunct Faculty as guest speakers. If you would like to connect with a course, please contact the professor of record for a class or email [Carrie\\_Aldrich@unc.edu](mailto:Carrie_Aldrich@unc.edu) with your interest or specialty area.



**Let Maternal and Child Health Students work on a project for you!** MCH students taking Program Assessment (MCH 712) all work as consultants for the semester on a real-world project. As they learn, they make a contribution back to the hosting organization. If you would like to have a team of students working on a short-term project in your organization, please contact Dr. Dorothy Cilenti at [Cilenti@email.unc.edu](mailto:Cilenti@email.unc.edu)

## New Adjunct Partnership Process

The Maternal and Child Health Department has revised the policies governing Adjunct Appointments. You can receive a full copy of the policy by contacting Susan Charamut at [Susan.Charamut@unc.edu](mailto:Susan.Charamut@unc.edu). In brief, below are the major points of the policy.

### Adjunct Qualifications:

Adjunct faculty should hold a minimum of graduate preparation (master's degree), however, each case will be individually considered for merit. Many factors indicate eligibility for serving as an adjunct faculty member, including current or past work-related experience in the field, research interests, engagement with students, teaching, etc. All candidates should be individuals who will contribute in a meaningful way to the mission of the department. Candidates must be sponsored by a member of the Maternal and Child Health primary faculty. The faculty sponsor should work with the adjunct candidate to provide a list of service activities they are willing and able to perform. *If you would like to become more involved and are not sure of how, a great strategy is to reach out to the faculty member who sponsored you, or to Registrar, Carrie Aldrich, or to Adjunct Committee Chair, Claudia Fernandez.* Most adjunct terms of appointment will be 3 – 5 years, however, terms of differing length may be approved at the discretion of the committee and the tenured full professors.

### Expectations of the Adjunct Faculty Member:

Adjunct faculty are expected to work with faculty and/or students to fulfill the mission of the Department. **Adjunct faculty should have a minimum level of engaged service during their term,** which would constitute an average of one contribution per year during their previous term (examples of service include: sitting in judgement of oral comprehensive exams, serving as a second reader on master's papers, guest lecturing or teaching in Maternal and Child Health courses, overseeing student practica, mentoring students, publishing with our students, collaborating in funded research endeavors, or contributing in other less direct ways that help Maternal and Child Health at Gillings meet its goals). Adjunct faculty are responsible for tracking and reporting their service to the Department upon renewal of their appointment.

**Reappointment Policy:**

Reappointment is based on the adjunct faculty's contributions to the Department during their previous term. **Adjunct faculty should have a minimum level of engaged service during their term, which would constitute an average of one contribution per year during their previous term**

**Promotion Policy:** for Adjuncts who are at academic institutions, the department will grant a requested promotion to match the level in their own academic organization **when** they are meeting the minimum contribution expectation. Both criteria must be met prior to the promotion being granted. An academic adjunct requesting promotion should have a **minimum of 3 years of service to the Maternal and Child Health Department;** typically, their service will total 6 years at the current rank.



If you would like to be in a fall Adjunct highlight spotlight, please let us know! We would love to let the MCH faculty and Adjuncts know what's HAPPENING with you! Please contact [Claudia\\_Fernandez@unc.edu](mailto:Claudia_Fernandez@unc.edu)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Want to be MORE involved? Please contact Dr. Claudia Fernandez at [Claudia\\_Fernandez@unc.edu](mailto:Claudia_Fernandez@unc.edu)