

School's 29th Annual Minority Health Conference attracts record turnout

MORE THAN 600 STUDENTS, EDUCATORS and health professionals from across the nation attended the 29th Annual Minority Health Conference on Feb. 29, 2008, at the William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education. Another 1,000 people participated in the event via satellite downlink and webcast, making it the largest minority health conference in the history of the event.

"I see this as a testament to the priority that has been placed on minority health and issues impacting people of color," says Janelle Armstrong-Brown, a doctoral student in health behavior and health education

Che Smith, UNC-Chapel Hill biostatistics doctoral student, and Afabwaje (Afa) Jatau, master's student in health behavior and health education at UNC-Chapel Hill, volunteer at the Minority Student Caucus exhibit at the UNC School of Public Health's Annual Minority Health Conference, held Feb. 29, 2008. The event attracted more than 600 students, educators and health professionals from across the nation. Another 1,000 people participated via satellite downlink and webcast.

who co-chaired the conference with Eboni Taylor, a PhD student in epidemiology. "We look forward to another successful year and for success many years to come."

The conference's 10th Annual William T. Small Jr. Keynote Lecture was given by Dr. Nancy Krieger, professor of society, human development, and health at the Harvard





School of Public Health (HSPH). Her lecture, titled “The Science and Epidemiology of Racism and Health in the United States:



Dr. Nancy Kreiger

an Ecosocial Perspective,” addressed how racial inequalities in social conditions become biologically embodied over lifetimes and across generations, creating racial and ethnic health inequities. Krieger is

associate director of the Harvard Center for Society and Health and co-director of the HSPH Interdisciplinary Concentration on Women, Gender and Health.

This year’s conference was made possible by a lead gift from Bodil and George Gellman. Mr. Gellman is a 1969 graduate of UNC’s Department of Economics. This gift is the largest single contribution from individual donors in the 29-year history of the conference.

For more information on the conference, visit www.minority.unc.edu/sph/minconf/2008. ■