



Spring



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The Future of Aging

Ever since humans first pondered their own mortality, they've been looking for ways to live longer. This quest has been quite successful, with Americans today living on average 25 years longer than their counterparts at the turn of the twentieth century. But what do those extra years mean if they can't be enjoyed? If chronic disease has crippled the body to the point where walking, driving, or living independently are no longer possible?

Until fairly recently, aging was considered a process of inevitable decline. However, research shows that much of the deterioration that comes with aging is a matter of lifestyle, not genetics. By preventing the chronic conditions associated with aging, such as cardiac disease, hypertension, and diabetes, it is possible to extend the period of optimal functioning long into middle age and even into old age.

Several College of Public Health researchers are engaged in projects that address aspects of aging. Neal Kohatsu, associate professor of epidemiology and director of the Preventive Intervention Center, evaluates strategies and interventions that prevent chronic illnesses associated with old age.

"There's nothing magical about it," Kohatsu said. "A lifetime of healthy living will optimize your chances of living a long, active life. But you have to start thinking about it when you're young.

"It's like this," Kohatsu said, drawing a graph with two lines. One line runs straight across the top of the graph, then drops off precipitously; the other line rolls gently downward across the graph. "You want your life to follow the straight line at the top, not the sloping hill." The straight line represents health and vitality up to the very end with little decline in functioning over the years, while the sloping hill represents aging as a series of physical challenges resulting in disability and death.

Living longer is not only a personal concern but a public health concern as well. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2000, there were 35 million adults aged 65 and older in the United States – approximately 12 percent of the total population. By 2030, the population of older adults will rise to 70 million, more than 20 percent of the total population. Take into consideration that the average 75-year-old has three chronic conditions and uses five prescription drugs, according to the Merck Institute of Aging and Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and it's clear the nation faces a host of difficult social, financial, and policy issues in the very near future.

Continued on page 3

UI COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH MISSION STATEMENT

TO PROMOTE HEALTH AND PREVENT INJURY AND ILLNESS THROUGH COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING, EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH, INNOVATION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT, AND DEVOTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE.





dean's column

"Cultural competency" and "listening" were the themes of two College of Public Health diversity meetings this year. The Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board visited the college to discuss training, research collaboration, and public health outreach. Members of the Board and participating faculty all concluded that there were many opportunities to address cultural competency and greatly expand collaboration, already begun with a joint NIH Native American Research Center for Health application earlier in the year. The college's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Week Lecture was given by Robert Smith, director of the College Access Program at the University of Northern Iowa. He engaged students and faculty in a lively dialog that stressed the importance of listening and career role models.

Diversity programs at the college have been greatly strengthened this year through the recruitment of Joe Coulter as our new Associate Dean for Diversity. As an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and building on years of experience in working with minority groups and federal agencies, he has effectively engaged tribal health leaders in the Aberdeen Area of Iowa, Nebraska and the Dakotas—the region already identified by the college for public health capacity building through our Institute for Public Health Practice. It is now clear that joint research, bi-directional training, and outreach activities in the form of technical assistance and conferences will be products of this collaboration.

The college's diversity goals have been further advanced this academic year by the recruitment of four new minority faculty—Jingzhen (Ginger) Yang in the Department of Community and Behavioral Health, and Hyonggin An, Ying Zhang and Gideon Zamba in the Department of Biostatistics. While these recruitments moved the college closer to its goal for minority faculty (14.5% by FY08), faculty diversity remains a strategic plan indicator not yet met (currently 12%). The college is still striving to achieve its goal for recruitment of minority students—12% for FY08.

The college is working on two fronts to continue to meet diversity challenges. First, in consultation with our Board of Advisors, the Graduate College, and the Provost, we are striving to develop adequate funding to attract well-qualified minority graduate students. Second, under the leadership of Associate Dean Coulter, the college is working with other UI health science colleges to develop a Certificate in Health Disparities that will be available to undergraduate, graduate and professional students alike in the next academic year. All of these efforts will help the college to be more culturally competent and more engaged in social justice, one of our core values.

James A. Merchant, Dean

College Hosts Tribal Health Board Visitors



Pictured (left to right) are Francine Romero, CPH Dean James Merchant, Christine Rinki, Carole Anne Heart, Sayaka Kanade, and CPH Associate Dean for Diversity Joe Coulter.

In December 2004, leaders and staff of the Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board (AATCHB) visited the College of Public Health to discuss expanding partnerships to promote tribal health research, education, and training. The AATCHB provides the American Indian people of the Aberdeen area (Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota) with a formal representative means of communication and participation with the Aberdeen Area Indian Health Service and other health agencies and organizations on health matters.

There are a number of priority health concerns in tribal communities, according to Francine Romero, director of the Northern Plains Tribal Epidemiology Center. "Based on strategic input from tribal communities, leadership, and the Indian Health Service, the main areas of concentration are maternal and child health, emergency medical services, insufficient funding, alcohol and substance abuse, mental health issues, and chronic diseases, including diabetes, heart disease, and cancer," said Romero.

Collaboration with colleges and universities that have expertise, resources, and personnel in public health can help the AATCHB to address these health problems in a more systematic way, Romero noted.

In addition to Romero, the visitors included Carole Anne Heart, AATCHB executive director; Sayaka Kanade, academic liaison; and Christine Rinki, epidemiologist. Joe Coulter, the college's associate dean for diversity and professor of community and behavioral health, organized and led the group's visit.

"The main goal of the meeting is to learn more about each other," said Heart. "I've learned a lot about what is available here at the College of Public Health, and the college can learn about our population of people, how we're structured, and impor-

tant cultural issues. Cultural competency is a key word for us. No matter how good a program may be, if there is a lack of understanding about the culture you're serving, the program won't work—people won't be attracted to it, they won't feel it's directed toward them."

The college is already working with AATCHB on a grant from the National Institutes of Health/Indian Health Service-supported Native American Research Centers for Health to conduct health research and training in the Aberdeen area. Other collaborative opportunities discussed at the December meeting included a proposed Asthma Education Conference for tribal health personnel, distance learning for tribal health education, Quitline Iowa and smoking cessation, and programs in the Prairielands Addiction Technology Transfer Center. Another topic discussed was student recruitment.

"We would like to see a pipeline where tribal community college students get excited about health sciences, do a local internship, then go on to a larger university such as The University of Iowa to obtain their master's degrees in public health, epidemiology, or another area," said Heart. "It's exciting that we now have a lot of Native American health science professionals who are role models for our young people. I think that's the greatest thing, that students can see real examples and think 'I can do that.'"

Coulter added that the college looked forward to expanding its partnership opportunities with the AATCHB. "As the only accredited college of public health in the Aberdeen area, we have the educational and research resources to support the board's goals to improve the health of the 18 tribal communities comprising the Aberdeen area," he said.

“How Iowa addresses the needs of its older population may well serve as a model in meeting the national aging challenge.”

Robert Wallace



Continued from page 1

Iowa, with its high percentage of the “oldest-old” and elderly persons living in rural areas, will face the challenges of an aging population sooner than most other states. Iowa ranks second in the nation in the percentage of adults over the age of 85, and fourth in the percentage of residents aged 65 and older.

“Because of the high proportion of older adults in the state, Iowa represents, to a great degree, the future of the nation,” said Robert Wallace, professor of epidemiology and internal medicine, the Irene Ensminger Stecher Cancer Professor, and co-director of the UI Center on Aging. “How Iowa addresses the needs of its older population may well serve as a model in meeting the national aging challenge.”

Public policy will also greatly shape the future of aging in Iowa. Brian Kaskie, assistant professor of health management and policy, is part of a state planning committee that has been examining ways

to manage financial strain by using home- or community-based facilities for long-term care rather than nursing homes.

“Some people living in nursing homes could receive appropriate care to meet their needs through home- or community-based care,” Kaskie said. “This type of care costs less than a nursing home, which can run anywhere between \$2,000 and \$5,000 a month.”

The state planning committee, supported by the National Governors Association, is partially responsible for initiating a program called the Consumer Choice, Support, and Education Program. “This program will assess the long-term care needs of older Iowans and inform older adults of the range of services available to meet those needs,” Kaskie said.

For individuals and society as a whole, maintaining a high quality of life throughout the life cycle means confronting new challenges. For Kohatsu, the epidemic of

obesity looms as the great unknown.

“With nearly 70 percent of the U.S. population either overweight or obese, it’s scary to think of the future impact of obesity on chronic disease,” he said.

For Wallace, cutbacks in social programs threaten to take the gold out of the Golden Years. “What if a person can’t afford insurance, and there is no Medicare or Medicaid? Older workers may be staying in the workforce long past their intended retirement age just to keep their insurance benefits.”

Whatever the challenges may be, one thing is certain—living a long life is not a solitary pursuit; an end in itself. “At the turn of the twenty-first century, aging is a complex process that addresses a broad range of issues—physical, psychological, social, ethical, legal, and economic,” Wallace said. “How we handle these issues individually and as a society will determine the quality of aging in years to come.”



CPH Faculty Council Established

A recently established faculty council in the College of Public Health will facilitate broad faculty involvement in collegiate governance and provide a forum for discussion of issues that reach across the college.

In fall 2004, the College of Public Health Faculty Council began meeting to address college-wide issues as well as departmental issues that have substantial effects on other departments or on the college as a whole. The council, which will convene at least twice each semester, is made up of tenured, non-tenured, and clinical track faculty members representing each of the college's six academic units (see council members in accompanying box).

"The faculty council is evidence of the on-going maturation of the College of Public Health," said Council President Linda Snetselaar, associate professor of epidemiology and University of Iowa Endowed Chair of Preventive Nutrition Education.

"In its beginning months the council has demonstrated the ability of faculty to have an academic voice while sharing goals, values, and understanding with the dean and the administration. The dedication of the faculty and staff in our college is truly a credit to the institution."

Senior members of the faculty council constitute a Faculty Promotion and Tenure Committee, which independently reviews and makes recommendations to the College of Public Health dean on faculty promotion and tenure decisions. Previously, the collegiate Executive Committee made recommendations on faculty promotion and tenure.

Other standing committees of the council include the Curriculum Committee, the Master of Public Health Steering Committee, and the Distance Learning and Continuing Education Committee.

The faculty council was formed in part due to the recommendations of a faculty task force led by Peter Nathan, professor of community and behavioral health, during academic year 2003-2004. The task force, appointed by Dean James A. Merchant, reviewed governing structures in 11 other CEPH-accredited schools of public health and assessed the current committee structure within the college.

"In its beginning months the council has demonstrated the ability of faculty to have an academic voice while sharing goals, values, and understanding with the dean and the administration."

Linda Snetselaar, Council President

Faculty council members and the length of their terms are listed below by primary departmental affiliation:

Community and Behavioral Health

- Associate Professor Nancy Thompson, 1 year
- Assistant Professor Faryle Nothwehr, 2 years
- Associate Professor Anne Helene Skinstad, 3 years

Biostatistics

- Assistant Professor Brian Smith, 1 year
- Associate Professor Bridget Zimmerman, 2 years
- Associate Professor Jane Pendergast, 3 years

Epidemiology

- Associate Professor Neal Kohatsu, 1 year
- Professor Gregory Gray, 2 years
- Associate Professor Linda Snetselaar, 3 years

Health Management and Policy

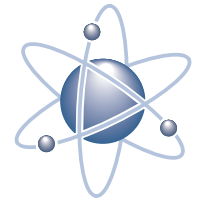
- Professor Mary Gilchrist, 1 year
- Professor Barry Greene, 2 years
- Professor Robert Ohsfeldt, 3 years

Occupational and Environmental Health

- Professor Larry Robertson, 1 year
- Associate Professor David Osterberg, 2 years
- Associate Professor R. William Field, 3 years

Program in Public Health Genetics

- Assistant Professor Kai Wang, 1 year
- Professor Trudy Burns, 2 years
- Assistant Professor Andrew George, 3 years



College of Public Health Team Advocates for Iowa Nuclear Workers

Laurence Fuortes, professor of occupational and environmental health, was nearly as relieved as former nuclear weapons workers at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant (IAAP) when a federal review board determined in February of this year that the workers should be compensated for cancers arising from radiation exposure on the job. Since 2000, Fuortes and the staff of the Burlington Atomic Energy Commission Plant-Former Worker Program in the College of Public Health have come to know the former workers at the plant in Middletown, Iowa, made countless trips to southeast Iowa to provide medical screenings and hold public meetings, and testified before government officials considering the workers' health claims.

After nearly 50 years of secrecy, followed by nearly five years of bureaucratic stalemate, the former workers have seen some progress this year toward a compensation settlement. In February, the federal panel recommended that employees who spent at least a year on the nuclear weapons production line of the IAAP from March 1949 to 1974 should be compensated \$150,000 if they developed any one of 22 specified cancers. The recommendation to establish the so-called "special exposure cohort" remains under consideration.

The role of the Cold War-era facility in building the nation's nuclear arsenal and the health problems of former workers at the plant were first brought to public attention in 1997 when a former guard at the plant wrote a letter relating the story to Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin. Since then, the workers' case has been championed by Harkin, as well as Sen. Charles Grassley, Rep. Jim Leach, and former U.S. Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson.

While they wait for the compensation issue to be resolved, Fuortes and his staff continue to advise and assist the former nuclear workers at IAAP. Meanwhile, a separate research project to study the health of the plant's non-nuclear workforce recently began, under the direction of Fuortes and R. William Field, associate professor of occupational and environmental health and epidemiology.

National Public Health Week Marked with Long-Term Care Forum

As part of National Public Health Week, the College of Public Health co-sponsored a "Forum on Long-Term Care in Iowa" at the Capitol building in Des Moines. The forum highlighted Iowa's aging demographics and the complex issues surrounding the long-term care issue.

Sens. Maggie Tinsman (R-Davenport) and Amanda Ragan (D-Mason City) along with Reps. Dave Heaton (R-Mt. Pleasant) and Ro Foege (D-Mt. Vernon) provided updates on the status of long-term care legislation under consideration in the General Assembly. Additional perspectives on the aging-related challenges facing Iowa were presented by Robert Wallace, professor of epidemiology and co-director of the UI Center on Aging, and Brian Kaskie, assistant professor of health management and policy and associate director for public policy with the Center on Aging.

Other co-sponsors of the event were Des Moines University and Des Moines Area Community College. The complete agenda and a fact sheet developed for the forum may be found at: www.public-health.uiowa.edu/newsletter/agendafacts.pdf.

They're Really Out There: Faculty Match Expertise to Iowans' Concerns

Funding from Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa will help support a College of Public Health-based initiative that for the past four years has delivered public health educational programming to residents in all corners of the state of Iowa.

The Educational Outreach Program (EOP) series, presented in partnership with the UI Alumni Association and local community organizations statewide, matches the expertise of public health faculty members with specific community interests and concerns. Previous programs have addressed topics such as birth defects, cancer, flu and other infectious diseases, obesity, sustainable agriculture, and water quality.

Seven programs are being planned for the 2005 series. Topics and presenters have been scheduled for six of the programs and are listed below.

Date	Presenter(s)	Topic	Location
April 6	Shelly Campo, assistant professor of community and behavioral health; Mary Ann Abrams, consultant, Iowa Health Systems	Tools for Healthy Living: The ABC's of Health Literacy	Creston
April 20	Jennifer Robinson, associate professor of epidemiology	Diabetes: Current Developments in Prevention and Treatment	West Burlington
May 11	Linda Snetselaar, associate professor of epidemiology; Neal Kohatsu, associate professor of epidemiology	Weighty Matters: How Obesity, Nutrition, Exercise, and Aging Influence Health	Independence
September 14	James Torner, professor and head of epidemiology	Sports-related Head and Neck Injury in Children	Des Moines
October (date to be announced)	Gregory Gray, professor of epidemiology	Avian Influenza	Council Bluffs
November 9	Linda Snetselaar, associate professor of epidemiology	Childhood Obesity	Davenport

Additional dates, presenters, topics, and locations for the remainder of the fall 2005 series will be announced. More information about the series can be found at <http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/outreach/eops/>.



Dealing with Differences

On February 1, the College of Public Health sponsored a lecture by Robert Smith, director of the College Access Program at the University of Northern Iowa, to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Week. In his talk "Dealing with Differences," Smith, a former wide receiver for the Iowa Hawkeyes, engaged a crowd of students and faculty with personal stories and pointed questions about how to deal with people whose race and/or ethnic background is different from their own.

"What can we do now to improve race relations?" Smith asked the audience. "It all starts with listening. We may not agree with each other, but we must at least listen and try to understand those who are different from us." He also emphasized the importance of learning about issues affecting other ethnic groups.

In response to an audience question about how to attract minority children to the health field, Smith recommended letting kids know at a young age that the health field is an option for them. "The young have the impression that few things are available to them. If all they see are black athletes, they don't know they can also go into the health field or other professions. We must show them that all careers are possible."

Nominate a Health Hero

Do you know an exceptional health leader who deserves recognition for his or her work? Nominations are now being accepted for the fifth annual Richard and Barbara Hansen Leadership Award and Distinguished Lectureship. The award honors individuals who have made distinguished contributions to the health field and have demonstrated outstanding leadership. Past recipients include U.S. Senator Tom Harkin (2001), University of Michigan professor Kenneth Warner (2002), University of Minnesota professor Michael Osterholm (2003), and University of Wisconsin professor Michael Fiore (2004).

Award criteria and nomination forms are available on the College of Public Health web site (www.public-health.uiowa.edu/hansen-award/). Completed forms should be mailed to Kathryn Andrews, Dean's Office, University of Iowa College of Public Health, E220H GH, 200 Hawkins Drive, Iowa City, IA 52242 and postmarked no later than May 31, 2005. Questions may be directed to Kathryn Andrews at (319) 384-8416 or kathryn-andrews@uiowa.edu. The award and \$10,000 prize will be presented in the fall.



Clyde Berry



Caroline Carney Doebbeling



John W. Colloton



Richard Knapp



Greg Kullman



Samuel Levey



Motomi Mori



Frederick Toca

College Names Eight Outstanding Alumni Award Recipients

The College of Public Health proudly announces the recipients of the 2005 Outstanding Alumni Awards. The awards will be presented at the college's annual honors dinner on May 13, 2005. Various departmental and collegiate events involving the recipients will be held during the day.

"We are pleased to recognize and honor these exceptional graduates of our college," said Lawrence Prybil, associate dean for external relations and chair of the college's Alumni Relations Council.

This year's recipients of the College of Public Health's Outstanding Alumni Award are:

- **Clyde Berry**, Flat Rock, N.C., professor emeritus, Department of Occupational and Environmental Health, The University of Iowa. Berry earned a Ph.D. in Industrial Hygiene in 1941.
- **Caroline Carney Doebbeling**, associate professor, Department of Psychiatry and Internal Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Ind. She earned an M.D. from the College of Medicine in 1992 and an M.S. from the Department of Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health in 1999.
- **John W. Colloton**, director emeritus, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa. Colloton earned an M.A. in Hospital and Health Administration in 1957.
- **Richard Knapp**, executive vice president, Association of American Medical Colleges, Washington, D.C. Knapp earned an M.A. in Hospital and Health Administration in 1965 and a Ph.D. in Hospital and Health Administration in 1968.
- **Greg Kullman**, senior research industrial hygienist, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Morgantown, W. Va. Kullman earned a Ph.D. in Occupational and Environmental Health in 1995.
- **Samuel Levey**, professor, Department of Health Management and Policy, College of Public Health, The University of Iowa. Levey earned an M.A. in Hospital and Health Administration in 1959 and a Ph.D. in Hospital and Health Administration in 1961.
- **Motomi Mori**, associate professor, Cancer Institute, Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, Ore. Mori earned a Ph.D. in Biostatistics in 1989.
- **Frederick Toca**, president, Atlantic Environmental Incorporated, Dover, N. J. Toca earned a Ph.D. in Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health in 1972.

College of Public Health Outstanding Alumni Awards honor "up-and-coming" graduates as well as distinguished alumni who have been in the field more than ten years. The awards recognize alumni for outstanding accomplishments, exceptional promise for future success, and strong interest in and commitment to the college's mission, vision, and goals. Several alumni are recognized each year.

Nominations for the 2006 Outstanding Alumni Awards are now cordially invited from all faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the college. The selection criteria, process and timeline, and nomination forms are available online at www.public-health.uiowa.edu/alumni/awards/ or by contacting the college's Director of Alumni and Community Relations at (319) 384-5485. Nomination packets must be postmarked no later than December 1, 2005.

IT'S BEEN CALLED THE INTERNET AGE, the paperless society, and, increasingly, the wireless world—all ways of acknowledging that electronic communications are critically important and growing more so all the time.

Like most organizations, The University of Iowa utilizes a variety of new media to communicate with alumni and other constituents. Websites, electronic newsletters, and listservs are now standard equipment in the communications toolkit. The growing use of new media is driven in part by economics—electronic communications eliminate the printing and postage costs of traditional mailings—but it's also quick and easy, so even late-breaking information can be transmitted rapidly.

Recognizing that new media is an important part of the overall communications mix, the College of Public Health is joining with other UI units to increase the number of alumni e-mail addresses.

At present, the college has e-mail addresses for about 47 percent of its approximately 1,600-member alumni body. That's pretty good, but we'd like to do even better.

Alumni can help the college build a more complete database of e-mail addresses and improve its communications by completing and returning the postage-paid reply card in this issue of *wellspring*. Or, just send an e-mail to e-relations@mail.public-health.uiowa.edu.

We won't bombard you with spam, but we'll alert you to important university and collegiate news and invite you to participate in upcoming programs and activities. It's a great way to stay in touch.

Here are some simple electronic ways to stay in touch with The University of Iowa:

- Bookmark The University of Iowa homepage, www.uiowa.edu
- Bookmark the College of Public Health homepage, www.public-health.uiowa.edu
- Subscribe to @IOWA, a monthly e-mail summary of UI news and information, at www.iowalum.com/at Iowa/
- Subscribe to the UI News Digest, a daily summary of UI news. Send an e-mail to listserv@list.uiowa.edu. In the body of the message, write "subscribe ui-news."

Many CPH faculty and staff have received awards that signify their leadership in the fields that make up public health. Among those honored in recent months are:

Lar Fuortes, professor of occupational and environmental health, was named the recipient of the inaugural College of Public Health Board of Advisors Award for Faculty Achievement in Community Engagement. This award, given for the first time in 2005, acknowledges Fuortes as a faculty leader for community service.

Fuortes has directed and been part of numerous projects with major community service components, including programs focused on pesticide toxicology, traumatic head and spinal cord injury, and his current leadership of the Burlington Atomic Energy Commission Plant–Former Worker Program (see related story on page 4).

In addition, he has been an active member of many community-based organizations, such as the Iowa City Free Medical Clinic, the Iowa City Crisis Center and Foodbank, the Johnson County Coalition Against Tobacco Addiction Among Youth, and the Salvation Army. The nomination for Fuortes noted:

“His dedication to social justice is as important in his professional life as it is in his personal life.”



Kim Gordon, program associate in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health, has been

elected to the Board of Directors for the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses.

Neal Kohatsu, associate professor of epidemiology, was appointed by the Governor of Iowa to the Iowa Food Policy Council. In addition, Kohatsu became the president of the American College of Preventive Medicine at the association’s annual meeting in February 2005.

Patrick O’Shaughnessy, associate professor of occupational and environmental health, has been appointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene*.

Associate Professor of Biostatistics

Jane Pendergast was voted president-elect of the International Biometric Society’s Eastern North American Region.

Thomas Peters, assistant professor of occupational and environmental health, received the 2004 Bernard G. Greenberg Award for Excellence in Doctoral Research by the University of North Carolina School of Public Health for his dissertation, “Particle deposition in industrial duct bends.”

James Torner, professor and head of epidemiology, was selected as an Academic Leadership Program fellow by the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, an academic consortium of twelve major teaching and research universities in the Midwest.

Several individuals from the College of Public Health received fall 2004 Improving Our Workplace Awards (IOWA). The award recognizes individual and team efforts by University of Iowa staff and faculty who have made significant contributions to their workplace. College of Public Health awardees include:

- **Tom Cook**, professor of occupational and environmental health and director of the Center for International Rural and Environmental Health, for his role in



connecting the Oakdale Campus with the rest of the UI community and the world through PolyCom, v-class, and Elluminate technology.

- **Kristin Johnson, Laura McCormick, Marek Mikulski, Christina Nichols, Howard Nicholson, Phyllis Scheeler,** and **Kristina Venzke** from the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health, for their work on the Burlington Atomic Energy Commission Plant–Former Worker Program.

- **Julianna Kennedy** from the Department of Epidemiology/Iowa Cancer Registry, for her efforts to develop and implement ways of recognizing individuals in the Iowa Cancer Registry for their contributions.



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Director of Communications
Daniel McMillan
daniel-mcmillan@uiowa.edu

Associate Editor
Debra Venzke
debra-venzke@uiowa.edu

Associate Editor
Kate Gleeson
kate-gleeson@uiowa.edu

Designer
Patti O'Neill
patti-oneill@uiowa.edu

Correspondence, including requests to be added to or removed from the mailing list, should be directed to:

Daniel McMillan
Director of Communications
College of Public Health
4261 Westlawn
Iowa City, IA 52242

Visit our web site at
www.public-health.uiowa.edu



UI College of
Public Health

alumni snapshot



Jeremiah Garza, MA, MPH, CHES
2002 MPH alum, Community and Behavioral Health

Milford E. Barnes Award recipient in Community and Behavioral Health

Undergraduate Major: Psychology

Current Employment: Health Educator, Los Angeles County
Public Health Services, Los Angeles, CA

E-mail: Jgarza@ladhs.org or jeremiah.garza@gmail.com

“The Department of Community and Behavioral Health provided enough guidance to shape my professional growth while allowing enough flexibility to develop my personal passions. The most important thing CBH did for me was help me to believe in myself and believe that my passions were important. I’ll never forget when CBH went to bat for me to allow me to attend an American Public Health Association conference. Though I was not presenting, I understood the financial support to mean that CBH had a strong interest in encouraging my professional growth.”



The University of Iowa prohibits discrimination in employment, educational programs, and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preference. The University also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to University facilities. For additional information contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, (319) 335-0705. 51766/4-05



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