

Around the School

News & Notices of the Harvard School of Public Health

May 15, 1998

Bike & Walk to Work Day

National Bike to Work Day is May 19, a date which falls in the middle of Boston Bike Week. Locally, the Medical/Academic/Scientific Community Organization (MASCO) is encouraging Longwood Campus commuters to bike or walk to work on this day. "Self-propelled" commuting has direct fitness benefits for the walker or bicyclist and benefits all commuters by reducing traffic congestion and smog.

MASCO is sponsoring a commuter gathering on May 19 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. in the Galleria Food Court, 400 Brookline Avenue, where information will be available on alternative commuting possibilities, bicycling and walking routes, and on MASCO's CommuteWork's Commute Fit incentive program. For more information, contact Laura Merrick at 632-2796.

Around the School Summer Publication Schedule

The Commencement issue of *Around the School* will be available on June 3. Following this issue, publication will be interrupted until the Summer Session for Public Health Studies has begun in July, with the next newsletter available on July 10. *Around the School* will be published weekly throughout the Summer Session.

For information on deadlines for calendar submissions, see page 4.



Links Between Violence Reduction and Drug Policy Subject of Panel

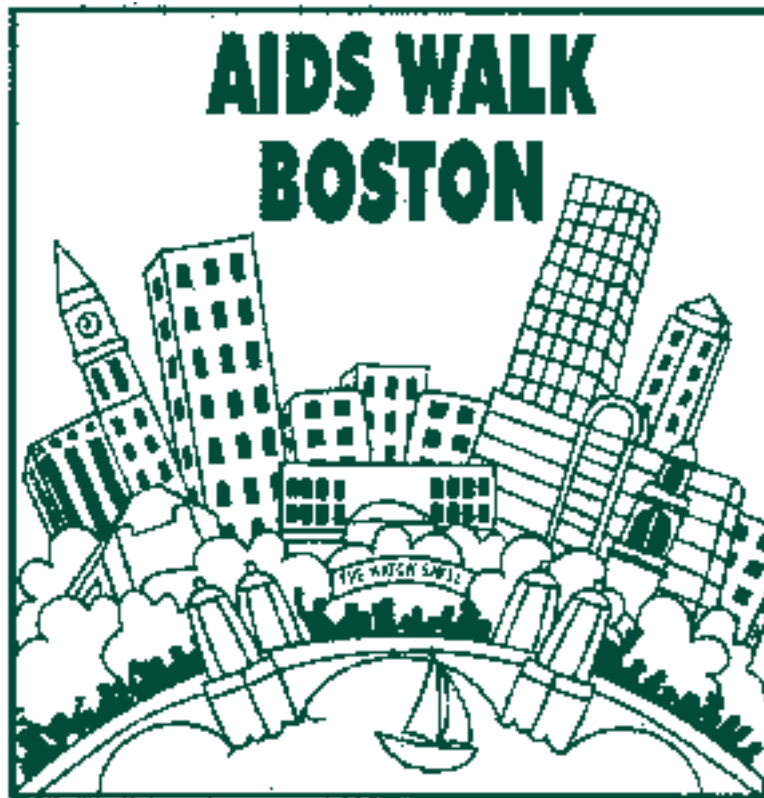
On May 11, the Violence Prevention Working Group sponsored a panel discussion on the relationships between drug policy and violence prevention. The panelists included Philip Heymann, professor, Harvard Law School; George Lundberg, editor, *Journal of the American Medical Association*; Mark Kleiman, professor, Department of Policy Studies, University of California, Los Angeles; Harry Levine, Queens College; Jeffrey Fagan, professor, Division of Sociomedical Sciences, Columbia University School of Public Health; and David Lewis, professor of alcohol and addiction studies, Brown University.

Each panelist presented his perspective of the relationship between drug policy and violence, and drew

attention to the need for further research to disentangle causation from correlation. All of the speakers agreed that alcohol, although legally obtainable, plays an important role in interpersonal violence, especially partner abuse, and that alcohol should be explicitly addressed in any drug policy seeking to reduce harm.

Despite disagreements about particulars, the panelists also agreed that current US drug policy is not doing enough to prevent drug-related violence and may, in fact, be contributing to the problem. Speakers expressed the hope that the prejudice, fear, and ignorance that have characterized drug policy thus far can be replaced by scientifically sound public health approaches to violence prevention.

Participants in the panel on violence prevention and drug policy, from left: George Lundberg, Jeffrey Fagan, Mark Kleiman, David Lewis, Harry Levine, and Philip Heymann.



Harvard Teams Up for AIDS Pledge Walk

Everyone in the HSPH community is invited to join the school's team in participating in the twelfth annual AIDS Walk on Sunday, June 7. This 10-kilometer event is the largest AIDS fundraiser in New England, providing funds to help support the AIDS Action Committee and 23 other organizations that provide services to people with HIV.

The school's team is being coordinated by Kelly Wells from the Department of Nutrition and Alex Huff from the Harvard AIDS Institute. Wells and Huff urge all members of the Harvard community to walk or pledge financial support for a walker. In addition, the university's Office of Government, Community, and Public Affairs will sponsor Harvard students, staff,

faculty, and alumni at a rate of 50 cents per kilometer. To receive sponsorship, Harvard affiliates must call 495-4955; the money will be sent directly to the AIDS Action Committee following the walk. To facilitate tallying all Harvard donations, pledge sheets should bear the HSPH team number 1071.

The route begins at the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade of the Charles River, with registration opening at 9:00 a.m. The route follows a path through Brookline and Cambridge, returning to the Hatch Shell where there will be food and entertainment for the walkers.

HSPH participants are encouraged to meet and begin the walk together. For more information about the AIDS Walk or to get the specifics of the HSPH gathering point, contact Wells by telephone at 432-1333 or via Email at kwells@sph.harvard.edu.

Exams and Defenses

Marjorie McCullough will take her oral examination for a doctoral degree in the Department of Nutrition on May 18 at 2:00 p.m. in SPH II-317. Major field: nutrition; minor fields: epidemiology and biostatistics. John Orav will chair the examination committee.

Constance Bacon will take her oral examination for a doctoral degree in the Department of Health and Social Behavior on May 19 at 10:00 a.m. in Kresge 315. Major field: social determinants of health; minor fields: outcomes research and applied biostatistics. Marcia Testa will chair the examination committee.

Chung-Yeh Deng will take his oral examination for a doctoral degree in the Department of Population and International Health on May 20 at 3:00 p.m. in SPH I-1104a. Major field: international health policy; minor fields: political economy and quantitative methods. Winnie Yip will chair the examination committee.

Dan Gebow, doctoral student in the Department of Cancer Cell Biology, will present his thesis, "Factors Affecting Deletion Mutagenesis in Human Cells," on May 20 at 2:00 p.m. in Snyder Auditorium.

Saidi Hussein Kapiga, doctoral student in the Department of Population and International Health, will present his thesis, "Predictors of HIV Seroconversion, CD4+ T-Lymphocytes Count and Cervical Dysplasia Among Women in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania," on May 22 at 10:00 a.m. in SPH I-1112.



The Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers (HUCTW) is celebrating its tenth birthday this month with a university-wide rally on May 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge.

Annette Sachs Robertson, doctoral student in the Department of Epidemiology, will present her thesis, "Risk Factors for Endometrial Cancer in the Nurses' Health Study I," on May 22 at 2:00 p.m. in Kresge 904.

Calendar Monday, May 18

"Planning a Healthy Future for Massachusetts Children"

Speaker: Scott Harshbarger, attorney general, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Sponsor: Harvard Center for Children's Health, Children's Health Policy Forum
FXB G-13, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

"Impact of Vitamin A and β -Carotene Supplementation of Women in Reducing Pregnancy-Related Mortality: A Randomized Double-Masked Community Trial in Nepal"

Speaker: Keith West, professor, Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health

Sponsor: Department of Nutrition
FXB G-13, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

"A Lifecourse Approach to Health Inequalities and Chronic Disease Epidemiology"

Speaker: George Davey Smith, professor of clinical epidemiology, Faculty of Public Health Medicine, University of Bristol

Sponsor: Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies
FXB G-10, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

"The Epidemiology of Hypertension"

Speaker: Theodore Mountokalakis, professor of medicine, University of Athens

Sponsor: Department of Epidemiology
Kresge 904, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 19

"Effect of IL-1 β on β -adrenergic Responsiveness of Human Airway Smooth Muscle Cells"

Speaker: Johanne Laporte, research fellow, Department of Environmental Health

Sponsor: Department of Environmental Health, Physiology Program
SPH I-1301, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

"The National VA Surgical Quality Improvement Program"

Speaker: Jennifer Daly, assistant professor, HMS; associate director, Health Services Research and Development, West Roxbury VA Medical Center

Sponsor: Center for Quality of Care Research and Education
Kresge G-2, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

"The Sticky Business of Antihypertensive Adherence"

Speaker: Peter Choo, Channing Laboratory

Sponsor: Channing Laboratory, Epidemiology of Chronic Disease Seminar
FXB G-12, 12:30 p.m.

"Signal-Transduction Events Induced by Integrin Adhesion Receptors"

Speaker: Joan Brugge, professor of Cell Biology, HMS

Sponsor: Division of Biological Sciences, Distinguished Lecture
Kresge G-2, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

"HIV Prevention in India: Studying Sex and Health"

Speaker: Helen Lambert, Department of Public Health and Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Sponsor: Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies
9 Bow Street, Cambridge, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 20

"GIDEON—A Computer Program for Diagnosis, Simulation, and Informatics in Emerging Diseases"

Speaker: Stephen Berger, Tel Aviv University School of Medicine; Sourasky Medical Center

Sponsor: Department of Population and International Health, New Diseases Seminar
SPH I-1112, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

"Transcriptional Control of T-Helper-Cell Development"

Speaker: Laurie Glimcher, professor, Department of Immunology and Infectious Diseases

Sponsors: HMS Committee on Immunology, Genetics Institute Building D2, Amphitheater, 200 Longwood Avenue, HMS, 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 21

"Exploring the Linkages Between Child-Mortality Changes and Fertility Changes in Zimbabwe"

Speaker: Ken Hill, Department of Population Dynamics, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
Sponsor: Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies
9 Bow Street, Cambridge, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Advisors to foreign students and scholars from the Harvard International Office will hold office hours at HSPH on May 21 and 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Kresge G-10. Drop by or call 432-0488 to schedule an appointment. Please remember to bring your passport and other visa documents.

The Countway Library of Medicine offers free classes in the use of its electronic resources. Demonstrations on the use of Medline via Telnet will be given on May 18 at 12:00 p.m. and on May 26 at 11:00 a.m.; a presentation on Hollis will be given on May 19 at 12:00 p.m.; and a program on using Medline via the Web will be given on May 29 at 10:00 a.m. All classes meet in the Knowledge Lab on level L-1. Call 432-2134 to register.

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An orientation session for recently hired non-exempt staff will be held from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. on June 2 in MEC-L008, 260 Longwood Avenue, HMS. The program includes an overview of Harvard's organizational structure and mission, benefits, retirement plans, facilities, programs, and services. Benefits Office consultants will be on hand to answer questions.

Calendar Cont'd.

Special Calendar Deadlines

The next issue of *Around the School* will be distributed on June 3. Thereafter, publishing will be interrupted until July 10, after the summer session has begun. Deadlines for calendar submissions: for events occurring June 4 through July 12, submit listings to Ethan Cohen, Kresge 1005, by noon on Thursday, May 28 for inclusion in the June 3 issue. For events occurring July 12 through July 19, submit listings by noon on Monday, July 6. Listings may be transmitted via Email (ecohen@sph.harvard.edu).



Around the School can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/ats/>.

Friday, May 22

"Authorship Issues"

Speaker: Jerome Kassirer, editor-in-chief, *New England Journal of Medicine*

Sponsor: Human Subjects Committee

FXB G-12, 12:30-1:30 p.m.



Mouna Haraoui

"The Effect of the Environment on Health in Lebanon"

Speaker: Mouna Haraoui, first lady of Lebanon, president, Chronic Care Center, Beirut

Sponsor: Department of Environmental Health, Program for Population Genetics

FXB G-12, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 26

"Vascular Smooth-Muscle-Cell-Derived Nitric Oxide Synthase and Hemoxygenase: Their Roles in the Pathophysiology of Endotoxic Shock"

Speaker: Mark Perrella, assistant professor, Division of Biological Sciences

Sponsor: Department of Environmental Health, Physiology Program SPH I-1301, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

"Diet and Melanoma"

Speaker: Julia Hsu, doctoral student, Department of Nutrition

Sponsor: Channing Laboratory, Epidemiology of Chronic Disease Seminar

Fifth floor conference room, Channing Laboratory, 181 Longwood Avenue, 12:30 p.m.

"Loss of Genomic Integrity in Preneoplastic Cells"

Speaker: Thea Tlsty, Department of Pathology, University of California, San Diego

Sponsor: Division of Biological Sciences, Distinguished Lecture FXB G-13, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27

"So You Think You Might Want to Adopt a Child"

Speaker: Joan Clark, executive director, Open Door Society

Sponsor: Harvard Medical Center Office of Work and Family Tosteson MEC, Room 426, HMS, 12:00-1:15 p.m.

Friday, May 29

HSPH Awards Dinner

Reception: 6:00 p.m.; dinner and awards: 7:00 p.m.; dancing and musical entertainment: 10:00 p.m.

Sponsors: Office of the Dean and Office for Students Harvard Club of Boston, 374 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston (Tickets are \$15 for students and \$30 for faculty and staff. RSVP to the Office of the Dean by May 22. Call 432-1025 for more information.)

Tuesday, June 2

"Signal-Transduction Pathways in Metal-Induced Pulmonary Inflammation"

Speaker: Joseph Paulauskis, assistant professor, Department of Environmental Health

Sponsor: Department of Environmental Health, Physiology Program SPH I-1301, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 3

"Is Evidence-Based Medicine the Definitive Solution for Preventive and Clinical Decision-Making?"

Speaker: Albert Jovell, head, Research and Academic Unit, Agencia d'Avalucio de Tecnologia Medica Servei Catala de la Salut, Barcelona

Sponsor: Department of Epidemiology, Pharmacoepidemiology Seminar

Kresge 904, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

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