

Need to change your benefits?

Harvard open enrollment is Oct. 27-Nov. 9

OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 9, 2011

2012 Benefits Open Enrollment

Open enrollment, the annual period when Harvard employees can make changes to their benefit plans, begins Oct. 27. This year, faculty and staff will find a few important changes to their health care offerings, including a new vision care plan, free preventive health services, and increases in emergency room and office visit co-payments.

Employees have until Nov. 9 to make and review changes to their medical and dental coverage or open a flexible spending account, in which money can be set aside on a pretax basis to cover certain health or dependent-care costs.

Visit [HARVie](#) for more information or to make changes, which will be effective Jan. 1, 2012. Read [Harvard Gazette](#) article about this year's benefits changes.

Submit ideas, questions for upcoming HSPH Town Hall

Nov. 9, 2:30-3:30 PM
Kresge Cafeteria

The HSPH community is invited to hear Dean Julio Frenk and HSPH's new Executive Dean for Administration Michael Kan discuss the School's finances and efforts underway to better equip the School for the financial challenges it faces by improving efficiencies and diversifying revenue sources. Share your ideas and questions at this informational session.

You may submit questions anonymously in advance [online](#) (pin protected) or bring your questions to the session.

Symposium honors 60-year legacy of HSPH's Melvin First

Family, colleagues, and former students traveled from across the world to celebrate the life and career of HSPH Prof. *Emeritus* Melvin W. First at a memorial symposium on September 30,

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Relaxation and financial education



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Nov. 2
8:00 AM-1:15 PM

[Saving for college](#)

Nov. 9
12:00-1:30 PM
HMS TMEC, Room 126

Event highlights



2011. First passed away on June 11 at age 96. First led the HSPH program in air cleaning and ventilation for nearly 40 years and was recognized internationally for his research and field applications of air filter theory, operation, and maintenance, and of nuclear air cleaning systems. For the past two decades, he was deeply involved with international air disinfection research aimed at controlling pathogens such as drug-resistant tuberculosis and influenza. [Read more](#)

[14th Annual John B. Little Symposium](#)
Stress Responses in Radiobiology, DNA Repair and Aging

Oct. 28, 2011
1:00-5:30 PM
Kresge G1

Rosenthal's promotion to professor celebrated at HSPH symposium



Health economics may not be the most glamorous specialty in public health, Dean for Academic Affairs David Hunter told an HSPH audience gathered to celebrate health economist [Meredith B. Rosenthal's](#) promotion to full professor, but work such as Rosenthal's that addresses health care costs, quality, and affordability meets a major global need. At an October 11, 2011 symposium in Rosenthal's honor, Hunter joined [Arnold Epstein](#), chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, and Harvard Medical School Prof. [Richard Frank](#) in praising Rosenthal as a research, policy translation, and teaching "triple threat" who works on important problems that make a real difference in people's lives. [Read more](#)

REFORMING THE 2012 FARM BILL: Subsidies, Food Assistance and America's Health



[Watch video](#) of Oct. 20 webcast and read [Harvard Gazette](#) article.

Exposure to chemical in plastics before birth linked to behavioral, emotional difficulties in young girls



Exposure in the womb to bisphenol A (BPA)--a chemical used to make plastic containers and other consumer goods--is associated with behavioral problems in young girls, according to a study led by HSPH researchers and colleagues. BPA is found in many consumer products, including canned food linings, polycarbonate plastics, dental sealants, and some receipts made from thermal paper. Most people living in industrialized nations are exposed to BPA. BPA has been shown to interfere with normal development in animals and has been linked with cardiovascular disease and diabetes in people. [Read more](#)

Research news



[Hairdressers, barbers could play role in detecting skin cancer](#) (*HealthDay, NPR*)

[UN Population Fund director says population growth demands response](#) (*Harvard Gazette*)

[Mother's trans fat consumption linked to baby's size](#) (*Reuters*)

Around the School



[Harvard TREC Center, NCI-funded research center focused on relationship between obesity and cancer, launches new website](#)