



Alumni News

Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida

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WINTER 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Alumni Spotlight: Linda Lacombe-Williams	2
FPHA Update	4
Alumni Spotlight: Mike Napier	5
Valedictorian Address	6
Alumni Accomplishments	7
FCPHP Trainings	8

“12 Sharp” Graduation Ceremony

On July 28, 2008 “12 Sharp” scholars completed their year-long program and received their certificates at the graduation ceremony. The graduation ceremony included an address by Dr. Michael Reid, class co-salutatorians Bryan Schell and Tim Mitchell, and class valedictorian Sherrilene Classen. State Surgeon General Dr. Ana Viamonte Ros delivered the graduation address. In attendance were Class 13 scholars, family members, friends, and alumni.



The graduation ceremony followed the scholars' final project presentations. PHLIF staff, Class 13 scholars, family and friends listened as Class 12 presented the findings of their year-long project activities.

This graduation event was held in conjunction with the Florida Public Health Association Annual Educational Conference at the Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate.

Class 13 Scholars Begin Their Journey

The 13th Class of PHLIF scholars met for the first time on Sunday, July 27 at the Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate. The 3 day event began with a program orientation session including an address by Program Co-Director Dr. Michael Reid and a review of the course material and expectations by Dr. Danielle Landis, Co-Director. The scholars' schedule was intensive, productive and diverse.

On Monday, they spent a full day session with Dr. Charles Martin exploring personality type and the impact of personality on leadership. The new class spent Tuesday attending the project presentations and graduation ceremony of their immediate predecessors, Class 12 “12 Sharp.”

Class 13 scholars left their orientation session with reading assignments and a personal vision exercise to complete in preparation for their next session to be held October 12–17, 2008 at the Dayspring Conference Center in Ellenton. This session, titled “Foundations of Leadership,” will include workshops on: concepts of leadership; creating a personal and an organizational vision; and conflict resolution and negotiation skills. Scholars will also participate in an intensive, hands-on teambuilding session, working in groups to accomplish challenges related to communication, teamwork, and problem-solving.

During this powerful week-long schedule of events, scholars will also have the opportunity to get to know each other better, discuss ideas for their projects, and take some time for reflection in this natural, rustic retreat setting.

*The older I get
the less I listen to
what people say
and the more
I look at what
they do.*

Andrew Carnegie

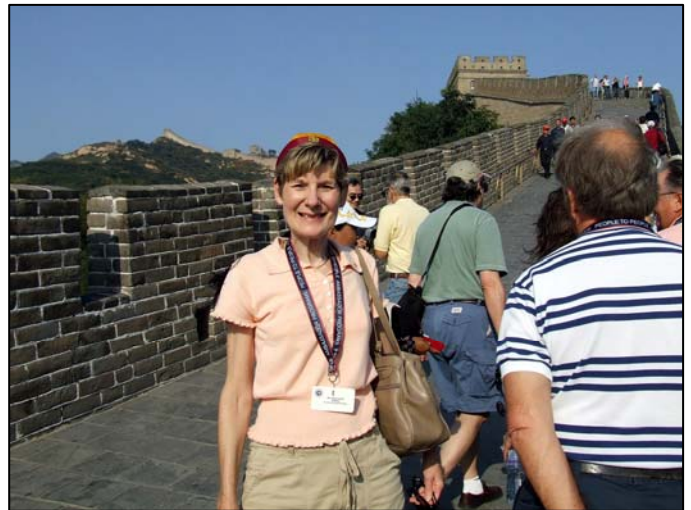


Alumna Shares China Experience

Community Health Nursing Delegation to the People's Republic of China
 September 17, 2006-September 29, 2006
 Article for the Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida Alumni Newsletter
 August 31, 2008
 Linda Lacombe-Williams

In September, 2006 I traveled to Beijing, Xi'an, and Kunming, China as part of the People to People Ambassador Program, Community Health Nursing Delegation to the People's Republic of China. Our delegation was the first delegation of Public Health Nurses through the People to People Ambassador Program. Members came from all over the United States. Our common denominators were that we were public health nurses and that we were members of Sigma Theta Tau International Society. When I was in Beijing in 2006, the country was bustling with activities in preparation for the Olympics.

When I arrived in Beijing, I was amazed at the pollution in the air, the vast amount of cars, the enormous amount of people smoking, the rise of pollution from industrial smoke stacks, the overweight elderly, and yet, the happiness and cheer exhibited by the residents. In our first briefing, our tour guide advised us on the history of China and the population. The history of China, she stressed, is sometimes difficult for Americans to comprehend as it is over 5000 years old. There were 1.3 billion people in China in September 2006, with 13 million living in Beijing. The one birth policy or Family Planning Policy is in existence. General information included that smoking is a sign of friendship, always carry a tissue, especially for use in the public toilets, and do not criticize the Chinese. The most eye opening statement was that we were not allowed to ask about three topics: SARS, Avian Influenza, HIV/AIDS. That was an introduction to the still existing lack of rights that occurs there.



Health related places visited in Beijing were the Zao Ying North Community Healthcare Service Center, Fuxing Hospital and the Yuetan Community Health Center, Number One Community Health Station. The Community Health Centers were run by physicians and the nurses obeyed the physicians' orders. The majority of Community Health Centers provide medical care, health care, health education, disease prevention, rehabilitation, family planning and other services to residents of the districts. Education is the center of health care, not treatment. No prenatal care is given in the centers but the prenatal data is given, which includes weight, height, blood pressure, and medical history. Interestingly enough, teen pregnancy is a non issue there. It was stressed to the delegation that schools provide information to teens on risk reduction measures. Community health nurses activities include health education (based on government approved programs, including hypertension and diabetes), immunizations, family planning, smoking cessation education, nutrition education with the Chinese version of their food pyramid, monitor blood pressure, dispense medication, and provide follow up education and care for diabetic patients.

The large hospitals were associated with universities and were modern for tertiary level of care. The Community Health Centers were for secondary level of care and the outlying clinics provided the primary level of care. The hospitals also included the option of patients using the Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and acupuncture.

Xi'an is located south west of Beijing. The Xijing Hospital of the Fourth Military University is modern and technologically advanced with 200 beds. The hospital and clinic services range from highly technical (heart, liver, and kidney transplant) to Traditional Chinese Medicine. The health related focus on "balance" is central to the health beliefs of the Chinese people. I presented my updated version of the "Prenatal Care Education Initiative", which had been my PHLIF Class Project, to the military and civilian nurses in attendance. It was a challenge to present while waiting every few sentences for the translation into Chinese. The nurses asked many questions related to the type of prenatal care we provide

in the United States and didn't really seem to understand what or why we provided so much. We then visited the Da Ming Gong Township Hospital, a small 60 bed hospital with much less technology and service to poorer population, farmers and rural villagers.

Our last city was Kunming, south west of Xi'an, four hours north of Vietnam. We attended the First Affiliated Hospital of Kunming University of Medical Sciences. It provides about one million outpatient visits a year and has about 1500 beds in the hospital. The hospital serves a teaching and research mission with twelve departments, including cardiovascular, neuro, psychiatry, emergency, pediatrics, and obstetrics. In Kunming, during one of the sessions at The First Affiliated Hospital of Kunming University of Medical Sciences, a Chinese nurse asked the American delegation how to handle the sensitive situation of dealing with the families of the HIV/AIDS clients who choose not to inform their families of their diagnosis. An immediate hush came upon the room. The Head Nurse quickly had a conference with the Chinese nurses and then rephrased the question to ask how the American delegation of nurses would deal with communicable diseases.

The major public health problems facing the Chinese people are the effects of smoking; rapid changes in demographics with an expanding elderly population; changes in the leading causes of morbidity and mortality-from infectious diseases to malignant neoplasm and cardiovascular disease; air pollution; crowded housing; no universal access to health care; and the denial of diseases like SARS, Avian Influenza, and HIV/AIDS. The one message that the Chinese nurses wanted brought back to the United States is that of "balance" as central to the health beliefs of the Chinese people.

I feel that the opportunity to provide information to the Chinese nurses and to receive information on Chinese medicine, nursing, the history of China, the culture of China and the vigorous modern culture provided a broad interaction between the Chinese and the American nurses. Many of the leadership skills I learned during the PHLIF training, including creating and sharing a vision, team development, communication and media effectiveness, and coalition building were enhanced during the delegation to China. I feel as though I contributed, through my presentation on Prenatal Care Education Initiative, to my organizational vision statement for the Hillsborough County Health Department as "achieving world wide excellence in community wellness through partnering, assessment, policy development, and quality assurance." My personal vision, created during my time with the Leadership Institute, of the "joyful pursuit of goals which lead to the further development of my personal, professional, and spiritual being while sharing my life with others" was also furthered with the delegation to China.

Thanks to the Leadership Institute for helping me to develop the courage to attempt such a trip in the first place.

Public Health Leadership
Institute of Florida
University of South Florida
College of Public Health

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We like keeping in touch with you!
In order to do so, we need to have the most
accurate contact information in our records.

Download the "**Alumni Profile Form**"
from our website. Complete the form and
email it to Kirsten Miller at
kmiller@health.usf.edu.

Florida Public Health Association



FPHA Officers 2008—2009

President: Frank Meyers
 President-Elect: Douglas Holt
 1st Vice President: Robin Wright (PHLIF Class 8)
 2nd Vice President: Belinda Johnson-Cornett
 Secretary: Lori Jordahl
 Treasurer: Deanna AmRhein (PHLIF Class 12)
 Members at Large: Lea Heberlein-Larson (PHLIF Class 4)
 Laura Guyer
 Shannon Jacobs

Immediate Past President: Mike Napier (PHLIF Class 7)

For more information about FPHA and highlights from the Annual Educational Conference, please visit www.fpha.org.

Healthy Stories Hits AMAZON.COM

From the FPHA Fall 2008 Newsletter—<http://www.fpha.org/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/fall08.pdf>

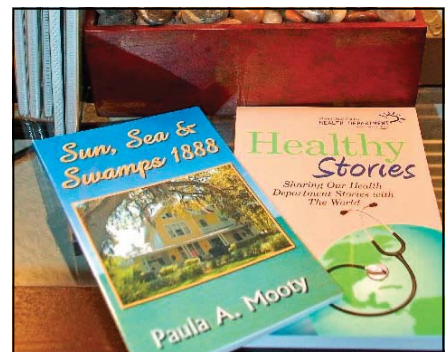
“Healthy Stories, Sharing Our Health Stories With The World”, from the Miami-Dade Health Department” is a fascinating compilation of stories written by those who have had the experience of providing Public Health to those in our care. These stories are compelling and powerful vignettes meant to both enlighten and inspire. This volume is written in both English and Spanish in one book.

“Sun, Sea & Swamps 1888” by **Paula Mooty** (PHLIF Class 4) is a historical, fiction novelette set in the Fernandina/Jacksonville area in 1888. The story centers on a family living in the shipping port of Fernandina on Amelia Island, Florida; how they save their little community and the city of Jacksonville from the dreaded Yellow Fever epidemic and the development of the Florida Public Health system in place today. This story is told through the eyes of a 14 year old girl, Magnolia Zenobia Downing.



Both of the books are now available on www.Amazon.com.

Please send YOUR Healthy Stories to tracie_dickerson@doh.state.fl.us or mort_laitner@doh.state.fl.us . for the 3rd in the series of Healthy Stories.



Alumni Spotlight: Mike Napier

National Recognition for Seminole County Healthcare System Model.

Seminole County Health Department Administrator, **Mike Napier** (PHLIF Class 7), and East Central Florida Health Council Executive Director, Karen van Caulil, presented "Access to Care-Defining a Healthy Seminole County" at the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) – NACCHO Conference in Sacramento, CA on September 11th. Selected from among hundreds of session proposals, their presentation detailed Seminole's MAPP process and the resulting strategic plan that led to sustainable financial support for a volunteer-driven, acute primary care clinic and development of a secondary care referral system that includes pharmacy, dental and mental health services.



In 2006, community partners came together to find ways to increase access to health care for approximately 56,000 uninsured/underinsured Seminole County residents. Together, a plan was developed and implemented to address those needs by community leaders. One of the first components of the project provided additional parking at the local federally funded community health center so that a new provider could be hired and more patients could be seen. This one time expense allowed an additional 6500 medical visits to be provided at the center.

In 2007, local churches lead by Holy Cross Lutheran Church and Shepherd's Hope, an organization that sets up free clinics through faith based organizations by eliciting both medical and non-medical volunteers to run clinics, opened a free clinic in Longwood at the Sharing Center. Through partnerships with the hospitals, local doctor's offices, county government, and 500 volunteers a clinic was developed that is open 4 nights a week providing free medical care to those that cannot afford it. This clinic, in its first 18 months, has provided nearly 5000 patients visit and continues to see an increased number of patients. The Health Council and Shepherd's Hope have obtained limited grant funding that provides for support functions such as a health navigator and a compassionate drug program coordinator. The health navigator assists uninsured Seminole County residents with accessing needed primary and some specialty medical care and the compassionate drug program staff secures free medications for the uninsured.

"Improving the quality of life for the uninsured by organizing community partners to provide medical care to those who really need it has been rewarding for everyone involved" said **Mike Napier**.

These partnerships have allowed Seminole County to improve care to the uninsured/underinsured, keeping them out of the local emergency rooms. This partnership was recognized as an emerging best practice by NACCHO.

Volunteer reporters are still needed!

We still need class representatives to lead the effort in collecting and organizing information, updates, and exciting news from alumni for each newsletter edition.

Special thanks to those who have already volunteered:

Class 7: "007: License to Lead" - Anita Sallas (anita_sallas@doh.state.fl.us)

Class 8: "Gr8 Expectations" - Linda Bailey (linda_bailey@doh.state.fl.us)

Class 10: "A Decade of Class" - Mary von Mohr (mary_vonmohr@doh.state.fl.us)

If you are a member of one of these classes, please contact your class reporter with topics, information, or updates for the next newsletter.

If you did not receive the email or are interested in being the representative for your class, please contact Kirsten Miller at kmiller@health.usf.edu.

Class 12 Valedictorian Address

Valedictory address presented by Sherrilene Classen:

Distinguished Guests; Families and Friends; Scholars of Class 13; My Fellow Classmates -

We are here today to honor the past, to celebrate the present, and to look with zest toward the future. It is a privilege and my prerogative to address all of you. Indeed, as Dr. M. Scott Peck has said in his book *The Road Less Travelled*, “*The magic of special occasions is vital in building significance into collective life*”. Especially since moments like these, “*Moments of ecstasy are the parentheses that mark life’s major passages*”. So...we are delighted that you are here to share this special occasion with us.

It is hard to believe that it was only one year ago that we, scholars of class 12, were sitting in a similar room in Tampa, mostly strangers to one another, and somewhat intimidated by the graduating class—Class 11. This has been an incredible year full of amazing opportunities. Let’s reflect on some of those—Year of Getting to know...Building relationships...Investing time...Being entertained...Discovering.

We have lost Kevin along the way as he found a new job, but were also blessed with a new little addition—the youngest scholar of Class 12. It was a year of expanding our minds...becoming leaders... We have laughed, played, participated, reflected, conversed, cared, shared, and reasoned. We became friends, and a close knit community, developing our own culture, and all of the shared events culminated into our group identity NOW signified by our logo and motto: **12 SHARP: Changing the world one day at a time.**

Let’s reflect on our logo for a while:

From Numerology we learn that 12 literally means: “*turning the wheel from the heavens to answer the call for restoring the cosmic order of things*”. And then we have “SHARP” which is certainly a play on the bright, talented and zealous group of people that you are, but as an INTJ, intrigued by symbolism, I wonder if SHARP can also be seen as an acronym that signifies our leadership characteristics.

SYNERGY

HUMOR

ARTICULATE IN MAKING NEEDS KNOWN

RESONSIBLE CONDUCT

PROACTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS

BUT—we have become who we are hardly due to our own making. We must acknowledge, recognize, and celebrate:

- PHLIF Faculty and Staff
- Distinguished Guests
- Families and Friends
- Class 13

PHLIF Faculty and Staff

You have challenged us to listen with intent, to ask without excuse and to act with courage; yet to stay balanced and to have fun. You have taught us that decisions based on a clear vision become, when acted upon, habits of the heart that move us with increasing force forward toward our called destinies. From you we take Synergy and Humor and Articulation.

Distinguished Guests

You inspire is to connect with the wisdom of the ages and then with the wisdom of our hearts. Through you we are reassured that we are NOT a function of the status quo, but that we are change agents who will act in the world of public health, LIKE YOU, to make a positive contribution. From you we take Responsibility and Proactiveness.

Families and Friends

You have loved us unconditionally for who we are. It is because of your unwavering support that we find our strength and security to take the next steps. Your hugs, kisses and acts of kindness give us the safe context from which we can act. From you we take the courage to restore the cosmic order of things—the courage to change the world one day at a time.

Scholars of Class 13

You have a wonderful opportunity ahead of you to explore your capacities, build your competencies and grow into your own identity—From us you take the certainty that you are an extension of those who came before you and that you too will find your passion, fulfill your destinies, and become who you are meant to be.

Finally my Fellow Scholars and Friends

We have come from different paths to learn, to explore, to experience, to grow
And we will return to different paths to inspire, to empower, to improve and to change
Let us do so collectively from the identity that unites
Let us go as 12 Sharp: Changing the world one day at a time!

Modeling the Way—Alumni Accomplishments

Beverly Butler (PHLIF Class 12) - Awarded a grant through the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL). "It will enable us to expand my PHLIF project with additional teaching aids and equipment. Needless to say, we are pleased and excited to be able to add these enhancements to our vision. "The funds will be used by the Pensacola Laboratory to purchase materials to be used in the development of their Public Health Laboratory Training Program for university Clinical Laboratory Students who will begin rotating through the Pensacola Laboratory in January 2009. Among the materials to be purchased are a teaching microscope with laptop computer, materials for assembling training manuals, and a reversible chalkboard/dry erase board to be used in lecture sessions.

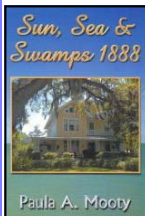
Maria Calcaterra (PHLIF Class 11) - Accepted the position of Medical Technologist II in the Microbiology Department at University Community Hospital. Ms. Calcaterra's new contact information: mcalcaterra@mail.uch.org.

Jennifer Hill (PHLIF Class 11) - Received a Certificate of Commendation from the Davis Productivity Award.

Robert Hood (PHLIF Class 10) - The FDOH IRB has worked through an interagency agreement with USF IRB - it would allow USF IRB to recognize FDOH IRB approval as adequate to conduct research. Dr. Hood said this will alleviate the need to go through both IRBs to conduct research that spans across the institutions.



Kelli Maw (PHLIF Class 11) - Appointed by Governor Charlie Crist to the statewide Diabetes Advisory Council. Dr. Maw, the medical executive director with Hernando County Health Department, was appointed for a term beginning September 2, 2008, and ending July 1, 2011.



Paula Moory (PHLIF Class 4) - Published "Sun, Sea, and Swamps—1888" in July 2008 (www.amazon.com). This book is a historical fiction which takes place in Fernandina Beach and Jacksonville during the 1888 yellow fever epidemic... the beginning of Public Health in Florida.

Augie Rigual (PHLIF Class 12) - The CAFÉ (support group for postpartum Hispanic mothers) has been so well accepted at the Winnie Palmer Hospital, that it will now be offered twice a week instead of once a week. It has been reaching mothers in other counties where Health Departments and hospitals from other counties are referring mothers to it. It has been a great success, but mostly it has helped so many people to reach their goals with their babies.

Cindy Whetsell (PHLIF Class 12) - Presented with the "Merck Vaccination Service Award" during National Immunization Awareness Month. It reads "in recognition of your commitment to improving public health through vaccination". Cindy is the only person in the state of Florida to receive this national award. This is the first time this award has been



given to anyone. In honor of the award Merck has made a charitable donation to the CDC Foundation. Cindy has been working in the Immunization Program at the Health Department for approximately 15 of 23 years I have worked in Public Health. "During that time I have worked with all of the vaccine representatives from the companies that manufacture vaccine. They play an important role in our immunization coalitions and also keep us up to date on the changes and additions to the vaccines. One of the vaccine representatives worked with me on my [PHLIF] project. We developed a partnership that allowed me to go into the physicians' offices and talk to them about the importance of Florida Shots. During that time, this specific representative got to know me and saw my passion for immunizations. He was the person who nominated me for this award!"

Trainings currently scheduled for Fall/Winter

	November 2008	December 2008	January 2009	February 2009
BFAST^{plus}SN	Duval, Columbia, Martin, Miami-Dade		Madison, Leon	Broward
CFAST			Madison, Bay	Martin, Broward
RFAST	Duval, Columbia, Martin, Miami-Dade		Leon, Bay	Broward
FIRST			Polk, Hillsborough, Escambia, Leon	
IFIRST				Miami-Dade
IFIRST2		Okaloosa, Madison	Suwannee	

Dates and locations subject to change. For more information about the training schedule or other programs offered by the FCPHP, please contact us at fcphpinfo@health.usf.edu or visit http://www.fcphp.usf.edu/courses_calendar.htm.

Training courses for the 2008 - 2009 program year include:

Disaster Behavioral Health First Aid Services Training for Special Needs Shelter Staff (BFAST^{plus}SN)

This 4 hour course provides public health workers and other professionals with the necessary awareness, knowledge, and skill to effectively recognize and respond to the initial behavioral health needs of special populations in disaster.

Disaster Behavioral Health First Aid Specialist Training with Children (CFAST)

This 4 hour course provides public health workers and other professionals with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively recognize and respond to the initial behavioral health needs of children and adolescent disaster survivors.

Disaster Behavioral Health First Aid Specialist Training for Responders (RFAST)

The goal of this 4 hour course is to help Florida Department of Health staff and their community partners prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of critical incident stress and related disorders associated with disaster work.

Basic Epidemiology

This online program aims to develop the awareness and knowledge of public health workers who may be deployed on Field Epidemiology Strike Teams in order to assist in disease investigations during surge capacity. Successful completion of this course is required prior to registering for IFIRST and IFIRST2 courses.

Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training (FIRST)

This one-day course was developed to help public health staff who may be called upon during a surge capacity event, develop the abilities needed to assist in epidemiology investigations at times when staff capacity is overburdened.

Intermediate Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training (IFIRST & IFIRST2)

These courses aim to develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities of public health workers who may be deployed on Field Epidemiology Strike Teams in order to assist in disease investigations during surge capacity. IFIRST specifically addresses GI illnesses of unknown etiology and avian influenza. IFIRST2 addresses anthrax and plague.

Assuring Cultural Competence in Disaster Response

This online course aims to prepare public health professionals for their functional roles in disaster response by offering culturally competent disaster interventions to survivors, witnesses, and responders of bioterrorism and other major public health threats and disasters.

FAST Foundations

This online course is intended to provide training in the foundational knowledge necessary to effectively deliver Psychological First Aid to children, adolescents, adults, and families in the immediate aftermath of disaster. This course serves as a recommended primer training to on-site, instructor-led, skills-based Disaster Behavioral Health First Aid Specialist Training (FAST) programs.

Understanding Compassion Fatigue

This online course aims to help public health workers and other professionals combat the potential adverse psychological effects of performing their functional roles and professional responsibilities in bioterrorism preparedness, response and recovery.

Full program descriptions, course objectives, and registration information available on our website: www.fcphp.usf.edu.