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# Community Medicine

# Research

## *focus*

## Faculty Receive National and International Recognition



**Dr. Sarah Knox**, Professor/Epidemiologist visited the Peoples Republic of China in April to serve as the Chair of the symposium on Methods and Applications in Systems Biology at the World DNA and Genome Day in Dalian, China. Dr. Knox also gave a presentation entitled “From ‘omics’ to complex disease: A systems biology approach to gene by environment interactions in cancer.” Dr. Knox was also selected as one of three American Epidemiologists to serve on the International Advisory Board of the New German National Cohort study, a longitudinal study of 200,000 men and women aged 20 – 60 years. This study will serve as a research platform for future epidemiologic population-based research in Germany and will make valuable contributions answering innovative research questions in the field of epidemiology, basic science, and their intersection; and to internationally cooperate with other large-scale prospective studies.



**Dr. Kimberly Horn’s** research on the effects of smoking cessation makes headlines across the United States and around the world. Dr. Horn’s research has been featured in the American Academy of Pediatrics, The New York Times, CBS News, Time Magazine, CNN and the International Business Times . What’s the best way to get teens to quit smoking? Dr. Horn states that “The main rationale for the study was driven by our high rates of smoking and our low levels of physical activity...and what we found is that those two behaviors go hand in hand... It seemed so logical to address these two together,” According to Dr. Horn “Exercise is known to mediate factors that often co-occur with smoking cessation, like increased stress levels, weight gain, withdrawal and cravings.”



**Dr. Michael Hendryx’s** research on the relationship between mountaintop-removal coal mining and birth defects has struck a nerve in West Virginia, around the nation, and internationally. The research team reviewed almost 2 million births in mountaintop-removal areas. This research has appeared in peer-reviewed publications and public discussions/debate that receive both national and international recognition, including hearings in the US House, comments and quotations from elected and appointed officials, National Public Radio, Public News Service, CNN, and many local and state news outlets in WV.

# Public Health Grand Rounds



The September Public Health Grand Rounds was a success. A special thanks to Colonel Michael Brumage, M.D., MPH is in order! In collaboration with the WVU Global Health

Program, WV Prevention Research Center, the WVU Injury Control Research Center, and the WV Collaborative Health Outcomes Research of Therapies and Services Center, Colonel Michael R. Brumage, M.D., M.P.H., Commander, Public Health Command Region-Pacific presented on his experience and the role of the military during the Tohoku Earthquake, Tsunami, and Fukushima Nuclear Crisis, March 2011. "Operation Tomodachi" exposed the public health consequences that arise during disasters. Dr. Brumage discussed the need for communications, especially risk communications to the community, and the cooperation of multiple agencies. He highlighted the need of many different experts including veterinarians during a catastrophe. During the crisis in Japan, new technologies to measure radiation and other various environmental hazards were utilized in order to provide the public with timely information demonstrating the importance of the military public health professionals in all arenas. This presentation can be viewed by visiting the Community Medicine Public Health Grand Rounds website or following this link: <http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/som/cmcd/ophp/grandRoundsWebcast.asp>.

Be sure to visit us on the web at  
<http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/som/cmcd/>

and

check out our new channel on you tube at  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWXBCJLhqps>

# The Emerging School of Public Health

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON THE STATUS OF THE  
EMERGING SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH!

Dr. Colenda announced in early August that Dr. Alan M. Ducatman, M.D., M.Sc., Chair of the department of Community Medicine, has been appointed as the interim founding dean for the Emerging School of Public Health. Dr. Ducatman is recognized nationally for his expertise on environmental hazards. He was recruited to WVU in 1992 to lead the University's Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health. He has chaired the Community Medicine program since 1996. An energetic clinician and researcher, he is the author of dozens of peer-reviewed scientific articles and book chapters, and has provided assistance to communities, government agencies, courts and others in the evaluation and assessment of health risks associated with environmental hazards and industrial operations.

## Faculty External Appointments

Alan Ducatman - Governor's Advisory Council on Substance Abuse

Matthew Gurka - Pediatrics Executive Editorial Board  
Oct. 1, 2011 through September 30, 2014

Sarah Knox - International Advisory Board to the German National Cohort Study

## RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN MORGANTOWN

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual West Virginia Rural Health Conference will be held at Lakeview Golf Resort and Spa beginning Wednesday, October 26, 2011 at 8:30 am and continuing through lunch on Friday, October 28, 2011. Each day will have featured speakers, exhibits and the event will include a masquerade ball. **Dr. Ann Chester** will be speaking on Thursday October 27, 2011 from 3:45 to 5:00 pm during Session R about "WV's Own Homegrown Pipeline of Health Care Providers (HSTA)". For more informations regarding this event visit the website at <http://wvruralhealthconference.org/Home/>.

**Special Note:** Adam Baus, PhD student, and Cecil Pollard, Research Assistant Professor will also be presenting.

# Institutional Review Board

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT IRB AND BRAAN!

In April 2010, WVU joined the Kualu (ku-wah-lee) Foundation as member of the Kualu Consortium, a group of universities, colleges, and businesses working together to develop software for higher education. The Kualu Coeus (KC) project is using the latest web technology, in combination with an MIT product known as Coeus, to build a comprehensive system to manage the complexities of research administration. As a partner in the Kualu Coeus project, WVU is contributing functional and technical resources as well as staff to develop research administration modules that will be used by the entire Kualu community. Over the next several years, WVU intends to implement three major KC modules: IRB, Pre Award, and Award Initiation.

With the initial IRB phase underway, the WVU Research Office and OIT are working together to replace the current electronic system known as BRAAN with a new KC IRB module. This new system will be put into place in January 2012. Investigators will continue to be able to create and manage IRB protocols; however, the KC IRB will be a stable and user-friendly system. The KC IRB system will operate in parallel with BRAAN for one year as protocols are manually transferred by the investigators to the new system through the new protocol and renewal application process. BRAAN will eventually become an archival system for historical data only.

The WVU community is encouraged to follow the status of this project and provide feedback. Please "Like" us on Facebook at WVU Kualu Coeus (KC) for weekly updates. Also we encourage the WVU IRB investigators to sign up for the WVU Office of Research Integrity and Compliance (ORIC) IRB listserv on the ORIC website at <http://oric.research.wvu.edu/>. For further information please contact us at [ResearchIT@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:ResearchIT@mail.wvu.edu) or 3-5967 in the Research Office Information Technology department.

## Presentations

**Innes, KE, Alshaarawy, O,** and Goins, T Diabetes and physical function in older American Indians. Oral presentation. Oregon Public Health Association, 67th Annual Meeting and Conference, Corvallis, OR, October 10 – 11.

**Baus A, & Pollard C,** "Building capacity to use disparate electronic medical records and clinical information systems for health outcomes research." Abstract accepted for oral presentation at the 139th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, October 29-November 2, 2011, Washington, DC.

Alexander, G.K., **Innes, K.E.,** Bourguignon, C., Bovbjerg, V.E., Kulbok, P., & Taylor, A.G. (2011) Health promotion in diabetes care: Exploring social environmental factors. Biennial convention of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Grapevine, TX (oral presentation), Oct 29 - Nov 2.

**Gurka M.,** Development of a childhood metabolic syndrome risk score for predicting adult disease" Poster presentation during the 139th APHA Annual Meeting (October 29 - November 2, 2011) in Washington, DC.

Goins, RT, **Innes, KE, Dong, L** Correlates of physical function in older American Indians. The Native Elder Care Study. Gerontological Society Annual Scientific Meeting, Nov 18-22, Boston, MA.

**Frisbee SJ,** and others 2011 Conference on Environmental Toxicity and Neurodevelopmental Disorders hosted by the Children's Institute of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University, Waterfront Place Hotel in Morgantown. For more information see [www.envirototoxicityandkids.com](http://www.envirototoxicityandkids.com). July 15 2011.

**Allen A, Werntz C,** August 25, 2011, Drs. On Call, West Virginia Public Television.

**Ducatman A,** Vargo, ML, et al, Ohio Valley Medical Center, The Health Perspective of Marcellus Shale Drilling hosted by Ohio County Medical Society, OVMC and the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, September 27, 2011, Wheeling, WV.

If you have comments or suggestions or would like to submit information for the newsletter, please contact Patricia McDade at [pmcdade@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:pmcdade@hsc.wvu.edu). Submissions for the next quarter must be received by Ms. McDade no later than January 6, 2012, in order to be included in the newsletter. Late submissions will be published in the next quarter's newsletter.

# Recently Submitted Grant Applications

<i>PI and Co -I's</i>	<i>Agency</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Total Request</i>
<b>PI Lesley Cottrell, Co-I's Gurka K, Rauscher K, Coben J, Dino G, Murphy E, Fitch C.</b>	Department of Health and Human Services	National Center on Health	\$ 11,938,877.00
<b>PI Stephanie Frisbee</b>	American Heart Association	An Epidemiologic Study of Age and Gender differences in obesity-related metabolic correlates in a cohort of 12000 children	\$ 308,000.00
<b>PI Cecil Pollard</b>	WV Bureau of Public Health	Cardiovascular Program	\$ 151,224.00
<b>PI Ravindra Bhardwaj, Co-I Jain A,</b>	American Heart Association	Assessing Cardiovascular risk and subclinical markers of atherosclerosis in miners	\$ 59,037.00
<b>PI Stephanie Frisbee</b>	American Heart Association-Great Rivers Affiliate	An Epidemiologic Study of Age and Gender differences in obesity-related metabolic correlates in a cohort of 12000 children	\$ 132,000.00
<b>PI Kelly Gurka</b>	The Rectors and Visitors of the University of Virginia	Prenatal Education Video Study	\$ 39,100.00
<b>PI Ann Chester</b>	NIH-NCRR	West Virginia HSTA Students Design Public Health Clinical Trials	\$ 99,989.00
<b>PI Cecil Pollard, Co-I Baus, A</b>	WV DHHR/BPH	Asthma Education and Prevention	\$ 22,771.00
<b>PI Ann Chester</b>	NIH	CAIRN Learning Paradigm: A Community Intervention for Obesity in Adolescents and Adults	\$ 1,221,281.00
<b>PI Scot Remick, Co-I's - Horn K, Gibson L, Dower J.</b>	NIH-NCI	Cancer and Tobacco Control Training and Research Across the Lifespan in Kenya	\$ 1,324,697.00
<b>PI Kimberly Rauscher</b>	NIH/Temple	Texting and musculoskeletal Symptoms in Teenagers and Young Adults.	\$ 28,545.00
<b>PI Stephanie Frost, Co-I Thomas Bias</b>	WVDHHR/BPH	Evaluation of the SHAP?WV CONNECT Program	\$ 161,007.00
<b>PI Stephanie Frost</b>	WVDHHR/BPH	Communities Putting Prevention to Work Supplement Year 2	\$ 173,935.00

## NIH Offers Student Loan Assistance

### Participants in the NIH Loan Repayment Programs Receive Up to \$35,000 Annually to Help Repay Student Loans

Application Deadline is November 15, 2011

The 2012 application cycle for the National Institutes of Health's Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) is now open, so start your application online at <http://www.lrp.nih.gov>. The LRPs repay the outstanding student loans of researchers who are or will be conducting nonprofit biomedical or behavioral research. Opportunities are available in five research areas – clinical, pediatric, health disparities, contraception and infertility and clinical research for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. **Applications will be accepted until 8:00 p.m. Eastern time on November 15, 2011.**

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants must possess a doctoral-level degree (with the exception of the contraception and infertility research LRP); be a U.S. citizen, national or permanent resident; devote 20 hours or more per week to conducting qualified research funded by a domestic nonprofit, university or government entity; and have qualified educational loan debt equal to or exceeding 20 percent of their institutional base salary.

**AWARDS:** Each year, nearly 1,600 research scientists benefit from the more than \$70 million NIH invests in their careers through the extramural LRPs. Approximately 40 percent of new applications and 70 percent of renewal applications are funded.

**APPLICATION TIPS:** For guidance on the application process and NIH Institute and Center (IC) research priorities, potential applicants should watch this [webinar](#), review [Tips for Completing a Competitive Application](#) and contact an [IC LRP liaison](#).

# Grant Awards July through September 2011

Principal Investigator	Title	Agency	Start Date	End Date	Total Award
<b>PI Rachel Abraham</b>	Changing the Face of Medicine -(Public Health Traineeship)	HRSA	7/1/2011	6/30/2012	\$ 2,468.00
<b>PI Michael McCawley</b>	Support of Air Sampling for Gas Drilling Operations (Activity NO. 4.640.920.003)	URS Corporation	1/1/2011	11/14/2011	\$ 20,000.00
<b>PI Cecil Pollard, Co-I Baus, A</b>	Cardiovascular Health Program	WV BPH	7/1/2011	6/30/2012	\$151,224.00
<b>PI Jeffrey Coben, Co-I's Gurka M, Rockett I, Motao Z, Matthew Gurka</b>	WVU Injury Control Research Center Development of a Childhood Metabolic Syndrome Risk Score Predicting Adult Disease	DHHS/CDC NIH/ NIDDK	8/1/2011 7/1/2011	7/31/2012 6/30/2012	\$900,616.00 \$ 95,159.00
<b>PI Christopher Martin, Co-I's Wertz C, Guffey S, Nimbarte A</b>	Appalachian Training Program in Occupational Health and Safety	DHHS/CDC/NIOSH	7/1/2011	6/30/2012	\$291,821.00
<b>Stephanie Frisbee</b>	Associations between Non-8-Carbon Chain Perfluororalkyl Acids and Serum Lipid, Liver, and Kidney Parameters in Children	NIHG/NIEHS	8/1/2011	7/31/2012	\$181,294.00
<b>Kimberly Horn</b>	A Community- based ZT Program: Completing the Model of MLDA Enforcement	Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation	7/1/2010	6/30/2012	\$141,827.00
<b>Kimberly Rauscher</b>	Factors Affecting Teachers Adoption of Youth at Work Talking Safety Curriculum	US DHHS/NIOSH	9/1/2011	8/31/2012	\$ 59,833.00
<b>PI Michael Hendryx, Co-I's, Beane J, Gurka M, Luo J, Huebner K, Conley J, Persily C</b>	West Virginia Rural Health Center	DHHS/HRSA	9/1/2011	8/31/2012	\$659,962.00
<b>PI Motao Zhu, Co-I Coben J.</b>	Does Graduated Drive Licensing Produce Safer Teenage Drivers	USDHHS/CDC	9/1/2011	8/31/2012	\$167,150.00
<b>PI Lesley Cottrell, Co-I's Ducatman B, Ducatman A, Piedimonte G, Vernon MW, Morgan L, Arbogast J, Gibson L,</b>	National Children's Study	University of Pittsburgh	9/28/2007	9/27/2012	\$434,754.00
<b>Stephanie Frost</b>	WV Zamzee Study	Hopelab, Foundation	08/15/11	06/30/12	\$30,000.00
<b>Stephanie Frost</b>	Production of Child Nutrition Year 2 Executive Summary	WV Dept. of Education	07/1/11	06/30/12	\$17,171.00

## Grant Notes....

### Changes to the NIH Application Guidelines

Changes are effective as of 07/25/11. Revised Adobe B Series General, Fellowship, and SBIR/STTR Application Guidelines: The guidelines on submission of PHS 398 and SF 424 applications and documentations have changed to include the following: General & SBIR/STTR Application Guides have been updated for the transition to modified Adobe B2 form series. Updates to Guides include emphasis regarding the prohibition of the use of the Appendix to circumvent page limits; removal of all references to the error correction window; clarification of the meaning of on-time submission; clarification regarding the use of the Co-PD/PI role; addition of the Federal Financial Report (FFR or SF-425/SF-425A) requirement; update of NIH contact information; allowability of additional attachments to the R&R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form; requirement to maintain registration in the Central Contractor Registry Database (CCR); updated references to current NIH Guide Notices; updated guidance regarding the application viewing window and correcting errors; additional instructions for the PHS 398 Research Training Program Plan Component; updated Table of Page limits; broken web links have been fixed and typographical errors have been corrected. For more information visit [www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov).

# Publications

- Bua-Iam P, **Bias TK**. Impacts of West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services on Consumers with Significant Disabilities: Realistic Return-on-Investment Models for State-Federal VR Programs. *Journal of Rehabilitation* 2011;77(3):25-30.
- Bua-Iam P, **Bias TK**. Estimating Worklife Return on Investment of WVDRS Youth and Older Consumers with Significant Disabilities. *Journal of Rehabilitation Administration* 2011;35(1):17-25.
- Blosnich, J., & Horn, K.** Associations of discrimination and violence with smoking among young adults: Within-group differences by gender and sexual orientation. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*.
- Chester A, Dooley E.** West Virginia University's Health Sciences and Technology Academy, *Journal of Higher Education. Outreach and Engagement*, Vol. 15, Number 3, p 87 (2011).
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- Gurka MJ**, Edwards LJ, and Muller KE. Avoiding bias in mixed model inference for fixed effects. *Statistics in Medicine* 2011, 30: 2696-2707.
- Walker SE, Smolkin ME, O'Leary LL, Cluett SB, Norwood VF, DeBoer MD, **Gurka MJ**. Predictors of retention and BMI loss or stabilization in obese children enrolled in a weight loss intervention. *Obesity Research and Clinical Practice* (in press).
- Riggs JE, **Hobbs GR**. Infant Homicide and Accidental Death in the United States, 1940-2005: Ethics and Epidemiological Classification. *J Med Ethics*, V37(7) (Jul) pp 445-448.
- Sultan SZ, Pitzer JE, Boquoi T, **Hobbs G**, Miller MR, Motaleb MD. Analysis of the HD-GYP Domain Cyclic-di-GMP Phosphodiesterase Reveals a Role in Motility and Enzoitic Life Cycle of *Borrelia burgdorferi*. *Infection and Immunity* 2011 V79(8) (Aug) pp. 3273-3283.
- Boyce BM, Lindsey BA, Clovis NB, Smith ES, **Hobbs GR**, Hubbard DF, Emery SE, Barnett JB Li B. Additive Effects of Exogenous IL-12 Supplementation and Antibiotic Treatment in Infection Prophylaxis. *J Orthop Res*, Epub 2011 Aug 3 DOI:doi10.1002/jor.21520
- Ghoreshi M, Evans CF, DeFilippi CR, **Hobbs G**, Young CA, Griffith BP, Gammie JS, "Pulmonary Hypertension Adversely Affects Short- and Long-term Survival After Mitral Regurgitation: Implications for Timing of Surgery", *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 2011 Sept 29 Epub ahead of print
- Hendryx M**, Fedorko E. The relationship between toxics release inventory discharges and mortality rates in rural and urban areas of the United States. *Journal of Rural Health*, 2011, 27, 358-366.
- Hendryx M**, Wolfe L, **Luo J**, Webb, B. Self-reported cancer rates in two rural areas of West Virginia with and without mountaintop coal mining. *Journal of Community Health*, epub ahead of print 07-24-11, doi:10.1007/s10900-011-9448-5.
- Horn, K., Dino, G., Branstetter, S., Noerachanto, N., Zhang, J., Jarrett, T., & Taylor, M.** Quit and Fit: Exploring the Effects of Physical Activity on Teen Smoking Cessation. *Pediatrics*. 2011 Sep 19. [Epub ahead of print].
- Innes KE, Ducatman AM, Luster MI, Shankar A.** Association of Osteoarthritis With Serum Levels of the Environmental Contaminants Perfluorooctanoate and Perfluorooctane Sulfonate in a Large Appalachian Population. *Am J Epidemiol*. 2011 Jun 27.
- Innes, KE, Selfe, TK, and Agarwal, P.** Restless Legs Syndrome and conditions associated with metabolic dysregulation sympathoadrenal dysfunction, and cardiovascular disease risk: A systematic review. *Sleep Medicine Reviews* Epub ahead of print: doi: 10.1016/j.sleep.2010.12.018 NIHMS289600.
- Innes, KE, Ducatman, AM, Luster, MI, Shankar, A.** Association of self-reported osteoarthritis to serum perfluorooctanoate (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) levels in a large Appalachian population with elevated exposure to PFOA. *American Journal of Epidemiology* 174(4): 440-450. DOI: 10.1093/aje/kwr107 PMID: 21709135.
- Innes, KE, Selfe, TK, and Agarwal, P.** Prevalence of Restless Legs Syndrome in North American and Western European Populations: A systematic review. *Sleep Medicine*. 12 (7): 623-634. Epub ahead of print: doi:10.1016/j.sleep.2010.12.018 PMID: 21752711
- Wright, P, **Innes, K\***, Alton, John, Owens, Justine, and Bovbjerg, V. (2011) Relationship between Qigong practice and upper respiratory illness in elite swimmers. *American Journal of Chinese Medicine*, 39(3), 461-475.
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- Innes, KE, Selfe, TK,** Alexander, GK, and Taylor, AG.(2011) A new educational film control for use in studies of active mind-body therapies: Acceptability and Feasibility. *JACM*. 17(5):453-458.

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- Kelley GA, Kelley KS**, Roberts S, and Haskell W, Efficacy of aerobic exercise and a prudent diet for improving selected lipids and lipoproteins in adults: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. *BMC Medicine* 2011, 9:74 <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1741-7015/9/74>.
- Hartley T, Shankar, A.** Fekedulegn D, Violanti JM., Andrew ME, Knox S, and Burchfiel C, Metabolic Syndrome and Carotid Intima Media Thickness in Urban Police Officers  
*JOEM* \_ Volume 53, Number 5, May 2011
- Luo J, Hendryx M, Ducatman A.** Association between Six Environmental Chemicals and Lung Cancer Incidence in the United States. *J Environ Public Health* 2011, Epub 2011 Jul 10
- Luo J, Hendryx M.** Environmental carcinogen releases and lung cancer mortality in rural-urban areas of the United States. *Journal of Rural Health*, 2011, 27, 342-349.
- Luo J., Horn. K.,** Ockene J.K., Simon M.S., Stefanick M.L., Tong E., Margolis K.L. Interaction between smoking and obesity and the risk of developing breast cancer among postmenopausal women: the Women's Health Initiative Observational Study, *American Journal of Epidemiology*. Epub August 29 2011 doi: 10.1093/aje/kwr192
- McCawley M,** Gasner Gary, Christie Ian, Gottesman Tal, Dalton James; Apparatus and Method for Delivery of an Aerosol; United States Patent McCawley et al; Date of Patent Aug. 2, 2011; US 7,988,641 B2.
- Stapleton P, Minarchick V, **McCawley M,** Knuckles T, Nurkiewicz T. Xenobiotic Particle Exposure and Microvascular Endpoints: A Call to Arms. September 22, 2011, John Wiley and Sons Ltd, *Microcirculation*, MICC,14, 1-17.
- McCawley M,** The Feasibility of studying the Health Implications of Surface Beryllium Contamination: A Review of Eight Industries, *Journal of ASTM International*, Vol. 8 No. 10, paper id JAI103487.
- Kapusta ND , Tran U, **Rockett IRH,** De Leo D, Naylor, Niederkrotenthaler T, Voracek M, Etzersdorfer E, Sonneck G. Declining Autopsy Rates and Suicide Misclassification A Cross-national Analysis of 35 Countries. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. Published online June 6, 2011. doi:10.1001/archgenpsychiatry.2011.66.
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- Shankar A,** Sun L, Klein BEK, Lee K, Muntner PF, Nieto J, Tsai M, Cruickshanks K, Schubert C, Brazy P, Coresh J and Klein R. Markers of inflammation predict the long-term risk of developing chronic kidney disease: a population-based cohort study <http://www.kidney-international.org> & 2011 International Society of Nephrology, pages 1-8.
- Vishnu A, Shankar A,** and Kalidindi S. Examination of the Association between Insufficient Sleep and Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes by Race/Ethnicity *International Journal of Endocrinology* Volume 2011, Article ID 789358, 8 pages doi:10.1155/2011/78935.
- Rockett, I.R.H.,** Kapusta, N.D., **Bhandari, R.** Suicide Misclassification in an International Context: Revisitation and Update. *Suicidology Online* 2011; 2:48-61.
- Sabanayagam C, Shankar A,** Somasundaram S. Serum Vitamin D Level and Prehypertension among Subjects Free of Hypertension. *Kidney and Blood Press Res.* 2011 Sep 21;35(2):106-113. [Epub ahead of print].
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- Shankar A, Xiao J, Ducatman A.** Perfluoroalkyl Chemicals and Chronic Kidney Disease in US Adults. *Am J Epidemiol*. 2011 Aug 26. [Epub ahead of print].
- Shankar A, Teppala S.** Relationship between Urinary Bisphenol A Levels and Diabetes Mellitus. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*. 2011 Sep 28. [Epub ahead of print].
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# Student Spotlight

## Publications

**Baus A**, Hendryx M, Pollard C. Identifying Patients with Hypertension: A Case for Auditing Electronic Medical Record Data. (Accepted for Publication 7/21/2011). Perspectives in Health Information Management Association.

Rockett, I.R.H., Kapusta, N.D., **Bhandari, R.** Suicide Misclassification in an International Context: Revisitation and Update. Suicidology Online 2011; 2:48-61.

**Vishnu A**, Shankar A, Kalidindi S, Examination of the Association between Insufficient Sleep and Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes by Race/Ethnicity, Hindawi Publishing Corporation International Journal of Endocrinology Volume 2011, Article ID 789358, 8 pages doi:10.1155/2011/789358

**Blosnich, J.**, & Horn, K. Associations of discrimination and violence with smoking among young adults: Within-group differences by gender and sexual orientation. Nicotine & Tobacco Research.

## Presentations

**Baus, A.**, White, E., **Pollard, C.**, Wood, W., Summerfield, B. (2011). Primary Care/Public Health Partnerships to Improve Chronic Disease Quality of Care Outcomes. Abstract accepted for oral presentation at the West Virginia Rural Health Conference, October 26-28, 2011, Morgantown, WV.

**Agarwal P.** Excess Healthcare Expenditures Associated with Depression in Individuals with Arthritis, Poster accepted for presentation at the 139th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, October 29-November 2, 2011, Washington, DC

## POTENTIAL FUNDING

**Swiger Fellowships Application Due Date: February 18, 2012.** The Arlen G. and Louise Stone Swiger Fellowship is designed to recruit highly competitive doctoral candidates to WVU. The stipend for this fellowship is \$22,000 for twelve months; the award requires some teaching or other academic service obligation. Selection is competitive on the basis of academic merit. Applications should be made early in the year preceding the year of anticipated enrollment in a doctoral program. Inquiries should be directed to the graduate program of choice or the Office of Graduate Education & Life.

**The Provost Graduate Fellowship Program Application Due Date: February 24, 2012.** To attract high-quality graduate students and to foster their success early in their graduate programs, the Office of Graduate Education & Life provides fellowships to recruit tomorrow's academic and professional leaders to West Virginia University. The University Graduate Fellowship Program provides incoming students to the university with first-year fellowships of \$16,000 to allow them to focus on establishing their research, scholarship, or creative endeavors. Units will provide subsequent support provided the candidates are making acceptable academic progress. Fellowships are awarded to incoming Ph.D. or other terminal degree-seeking students based on academic merit. Inquiries should be directed to the graduate or professional program of choice or to the Office of Graduate Education & Life.

**The Graduate Enrichment Fellowship Program Application Due Date: February 24, 2012** Recognizing the importance of diversity across the university community and curriculum, the Office of Graduate Education & Life provides the Enrichment Fellowship Program to foster diversity at West Virginia University. The University Graduate Enrichment Fellowship Program provides incoming students to the university with first-year fellowships of \$16,000 to allow them to focus on establishing their research, scholarship, or creative endeavors. Units will provide subsequent support provided the candidates are making acceptable academic progress. Fellowships are awarded to incoming Ph.D. or other terminal degree-seeking students based on academic merit and potential contribution to broadening the diversity of the university community and curriculum. For this program, "broadening diversity" refers to contributions of candidates to the cultural, ethnic, academic, or artistic diversification of the WVU community.

**The Dissertation Fellowship Program Application Due Date: Spring Awards –November 4, 2011; Fall Awards –April 1, 2012.** Support during the development of the written dissertation is critical to the timely completion of students' graduate programs of study. The Dissertation Fellowship Program provides selected students with fellowship support of \$5,000 during the last semester of their programs of study to allow them focused time to complete the writing of their dissertation. These one-semester fellowships are awarded to Ph.D. or other terminal degree-seeking students in the last semester of their program based on academic merit and demonstrated progress in their research, scholarship, or creative activities.

2010 -2011

## Student Accomplishments

A recent request by HSC administration led to review of what students had achieved collectively over the past year. Our students created 32 publications with their mentors, had 19 presentations at national meetings and received 2 grant awards.

### Other select newsworthy accomplishments include:

**John Blosnich** did training at the Fenway Summer Institute to advance the study of LGBT populations. John is one of only 16 trainees participating in this very competitive four-week program.

**Srinivas Teppala's** study on insulin-like growth factor and its role in glucose homeostasis/diabetes was featured on MDLinx.

**Mousumi Banikya-Leaseburg** has received a Judy Mossburg grant from the Department of Women's Studies, to assist her travel to Honduras for a project germane to women's reproductive health.

MPH student **Hari Salana** began a three year residency position in the WVU Department of Family Medicine.

**John Blosnich**, received an NIH (NIDA) R36 grant award! Mr. Blosnich is the first Public Health Sciences PhD student to procure a federal R36 dissertation grant.

**Joe Putila** and **Adam Martin's** poster "What's Health Got to Do With It? Assessing Student Competency" was chosen as Best Student Poster at the 2011 AAHPERD conference.

**Adam Martin**, received a Mossberg Award to assist with a research project on men and HPV and available vaccines.