

Centre for Health Promotion

Department of Public Health Sciences

CENTRE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION - INTERNATIONAL PROFILE

Along with the Centre for International Health, the Centre for Health Promotion has been recognized as a key player in the global health profile of the Department of Public Health Sciences and its new global health thrust at the Masters level.

INTERNATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION SYMPOSIUM

Marianne Kobus-Matthews and Suzanne Jackson co-chair the committee that is planning for an international mental health promotion symposium that will take place as a pre-conference event linked to the IUHPE Conference in June 2007. The Symposium is a follow-up to the International Mental Health Promotion Summer Institute that was held in summer 2005. It has received funding support from provincial and federal organizations and governments and will take advantage of the international speakers and participants coming to the conference. Through these efforts, Canada is taking a leadership role internationally in mental health promotion.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH PROMOTION UNIT

Coordinator: Fran Perkins

The International Health Promotion Unit serves as a focal point for international activities for the Centre. It is not a unit that sits alone. People visit from all around the world and request speakers to learn from the specific expertise the Centre brings to health promotion in all aspects of its work. The core work of the Centre is disseminated through education, capacity building and research.

EUROPE

CSIH - Youth for Health in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia

Suzanne Jackson, Fran Perkins, Harvey Skinner, Larry Hershfield, and Charlotte Lombardo are the Centre for Health Promotion's contribution to a team working on strengthening gender-sensitive youth friendly primary health care services and improving access to these services for youth in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia. This Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funded project is executed by the Canadian Society for International Health and began in the summer of 2006. Three missions have taken place to date by Fran and Suzanne. This project will be in the field for three years and will specifically focus on strengthening youth primary health policy, improving youth oriented programs and services, increasing access to primary care services by youth especially through health promotion activities, youth engagement, and reaching out to vulnerable populations.

CEIHPAL Exchange

The Centre for Health Promotion is one of three university-based centers in Canada who along with the Centre for Health Promotion Studies at University of Alberta and Centre for Community Health Promotion Research at University of Victoria have a partnership with three universities in Europe. The purpose of the partnership is to foster student exchanges, begin developing a common international health promotion curriculum, and build relationships. At this point, the Centre has hosted one student from Magdeburg, Germany and one from University of Brighton in the fall of 2006. Two U of T Masters students went to Europe in the summer of 2006 and the January to April 2007 term.

Ottawa Charter Commemorative Conference in Hanover, Germany

November 20 and 21, a conference was held in Hannover, Germany to review the progress of health promotion since the Ottawa Charter 20 years ago. Suzanne Jackson was invited to be a keynote speaker on "Evidence in Health Promotion" at this meeting.



Exchange Students from UK, Finland, and Germany with Dr. Jackson and the U of T Coordinator, Danielle Schirmer (November 2006)

Suzanne Jackson, Director
Centre for Health Promotion
suzanne.jackson@utoronto.ca

www.utoronto.ca/chp/

RUSSIA

Fran Perkins has just completed six years as one of two consultants that monitored and evaluated eight CIDA health related projects in Russia. Canadian expertise is well received because of the similarities in geography, regionalization and the Canadian participatory capacity building approach.

LATIN AMERICA

Economic Evaluation in Health Promotion

Although this project, funded by the Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta, has been underway since 2002, this year marked a breakthrough in conceptualizing the issue. The Guide (expected to be available in early 2007) has been rewritten for a health promotion professional and policy-maker audience. It describes the steps of an economic evaluation for single level health promotion interventions (example tobacco cessation campaign) and the special considerations required for multi-level more complex health promotion interventions, such as healthy settings projects. Ligia de Salazar at the Universidad de Valle, Alan Shiell at the University of Calgary and Suzanne Jackson have worked closely together on this version, with support from colleagues in the Pan-American Health Organization. The exciting part is that the Guide has identified new avenues for economic evaluation research that are being pursued by Alan Shiell's group, Social and Public Health Research Economics Group (at the University of Calgary). The next step will be training in the methods and issues specific to health promotion economic evaluation in Latin America and Canada.

Participatory Evaluation Resource Manual

With the Pan-American Health Organization and colleagues in Trinidad-Tobago, the Centre has been working on the English version of this resource manual to make it more community-friendly. The Manual will be available in 2007 and help healthy settings projects that want to use a participatory approach to evaluation.

Training in Chile re Mental Health Promotion & Media Advocacy

Suzanne Jackson and Andrea Stevens-Lavigne from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health developed a one-week mental health promotion course which was translated and co-taught in Chile by Maria Teresa Valenzuela at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago. Andrea and Suzanne conducted this course in Chile in January 2006 along with Nancy Dubois from THCU who presented a course in Media Advocacy the same week. Both courses were enthusiastically received by participants.



Talk about mental health promotion evaluation in Chile (January 2006 Chile)



Chile

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

WHO-Geneva Policy Coherence

The Centre was asked to prepare a background paper for a meeting of WHO Collaborating Centres in Singapore on policy coherence. The meeting was a follow-up to the Bangkok Conference on Health Promotion held in August 2005 and the policy coherence topic was the first action area in the Bangkok Charter - putting health on the global development agenda. After the meeting, the Centre submitted a proposal to WHO-Geneva to continue to work on this topic by doing a literature review and developing some practical tools for assessing whether there is policy coherence and how to do it. Giulia El Dardiry was hired as a student in the summer of 2006 to work on this literature review with the guidance of Carmen Connolly, Fran Perkins and Suzanne Jackson.

The policy coherence discussion was grounded in over or under-nutrition. The literature review was completed in the fall with additional help from Charlotte Lombardo who added specific case studies from Brazil and Bangladesh. The next steps are hosting a technical meeting and doing pilot testing of the tools developed.



Dr. Shumei Wang, visitor from Healthy City projects in Shanghai with Dr. Jackson and Larry Hershfield of the Health Communication Unit

WHO Collaborating Centre Redesignation

The Centre's designation as a WHO Collaborating Centre in Health Promotion will expire in February 2007. A re-application to continue the status was prepared and submitted in the Fall of 2006. Our WHO partners, the Pan-American Health Organization and WHO-Geneva have been pleased with our work and we anticipate the status will be renewed.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF HEALTH PROMOTION AND EDUCATION (IUHPE)

North American Regional Office (NARO)

The Canadian office of NARO/IUHPE is based at the Centre for Health Promotion.

Fran Perkins is a Regional Co-Director for NARO (Canada) and as such attends both NARO and IUHPE Board meetings. Suzanne Jackson is a Canadian trustee member of NARO.

NARO had three main goals for the 2005-06 year: first, to support the 2007 IUHPE conference in Vancouver; second to increase membership by taking advantage of the upcoming international conference; and third to encourage a diverse choice of candidates for the change over of both the NARO and IUHPE Boards in 2007. A successful panel session and regional meeting was held at the CPHA Conference in Vancouver in May 2006.

IUHPE Conference "Health Promotion Comes of Age: Research, Policy and Practice for the 21st Century" Vancouver, June 10-15, 2007

Canada will host the triennial IUHPE Health Promotion Conference in 2007.

The Centre is part of the planning process for this major health promotion event in several ways. 1) The Centre for Health Promotion (Suzanne Jackson) is a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Consortium for Health Promotion Research, which oversees the conference office, the planning and budget for the event. 2) Fran Perkins and Irv Rootman sit on the Steering Committee and local planning committee respectively for the event, and 3) Suzanne and Fran have been called upon to review abstracts.

IUHPE Book - "Renewing Our Commitment to the Ottawa Charter"

One of the books to be released at the conference in June 2007 will be a synthesis of the key factors that contribute to the success of health promotion based on reports from ten countries. Suzanne Jackson has been asked to be the lead author for a report from Canada for this book. She has set up an advisory committee, surveyed people across the country for health promotion highlights and political contexts from 1986 to 2006, hired Danielle Schirmer to work on this, and worked with Jane Farquharson and Barb Riley to write the section on heart health as an example of the bumpy road faced by health promotion in Canada over the last 20 years. The chapter will be finalized in February 2007.



Dr. Jackson with Dr. KC Tang of WHO-Geneva in Singapore (February 2006)



VISITORS AND EXCHANGES

Dr. Ana Maria Girotti Sperandio, Coordinator of Healthy Municipalities Network, Brazil attended the Health Promotion Summer School and visited the Centre in June.

Andelka Kotevic, Senior Nurse, and Dr. Dusanka Matijevic, Social Medicine Specialist, both at the Institute of Public Health, Belgrade, Serbia attended the Health Promotion Summer School in June.

Dra. Lucero Rodríguez Cabrera and Dra. Lorenza Mariscal, from Healthy Communities, Prevention and Promotion Secretariat, Mexico were at the Centre for a week in May.

Dr. Shumei Wang, Associate Professor, Funan University, Shanghai, China, visited for a week in June.

Eberhard Goepel from Germany visited in July from the CEIHPAL exchange.

Lucia Y. Izumi Nichiata, and Lislaine A. Fracolli (Brazil) visited the Centre in August while doing a short post-doctoral fellowship at UofT. Their interest lay in developments in the field of child health, community empowerment and HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Rae Walker, Associate Professor, School of Public Health, La Trobe University, Australia gave a seminar on "Trust Between Community Based Organizations" in September

Dr. Reza Shidfar, Iran is a visiting scholar doing research on Iranian immigrant health issues in Toronto from October 2006 to September 2007.

Thavaraj Subramaniam, Director, Institute for Health Promotion, Ministry of Health, Malaysia was at the Centre for a week in October.

Dr. Nasruddin Jaafar, Dept of Community Dentistry, University of Malaya, Malaysia, visited in October 2006

Dr. Abdul Fattah, epidemiologist with connections in Bangladesh and Japan was at the Centre from October 2005 to December 2006.

Old friends also dropped by the Centre in July to give updates about their activities: Jaime Sapag (Chile), Juliana de Paula (Brazil), and Consuelo Andrade (Mexico).

