



DLSPH Bulletin

Volume 1, No1, May 2013



Dr. Hu, Director

Dear DLSPH Community,

On April 8, the School Council of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health voted unanimously to endorse the Proposal to transform the DLSPH into a Faculty. On April 29, the School Council of the Faculty of Medicine voted unanimously to make the same endorsement—thereby clearing the way for DLSPH to become the first new Faculty in the University of Toronto in 15 years.

This is a historic moment. As reviewed in the Proposal (<http://www.dlsp.utoronto.ca/sites/default/files/media/docs/NewInit/DLSPH%20New%20Faculty%20Proposal.pdf>) and the associated Strategic Visioning Planning document (<http://www.dlsp.utoronto.ca/sites/default/files/media/docs/NewInit/StrategicVisioningPlaningDoc.pdf>) now available on the web, Faculty status was envisioned during the discussions that led to the establishment of the DLSPH in 2008. It was understood then that almost every leading School of Public Health in both the United States and Canada was structured as a freestanding Faculty and that the DLSPH would require comparable status to optimize the School's ability to compete for the best faculty, students, research funding and influence, both in Canada and globally. Faculty status will better position the DLSPH to reach its full potential to generate the discoveries and train the next generation of graduates needed to address the enormously complex and interconnected challenges facing the health of populations locally and globally in the 21st century. In leaving the Faculty of Medicine, the proposed Faculty recognizes that it will face challenges and be assuming significant new responsibility. Our faculty members, students and staff nevertheless are convinced that the DLSPH now has the level of maturity and the faculty reputation, research and education profile necessary to take its rightful place amongst other freestanding Schools of Public Health. Moreover, becoming a Faculty will enable DLSPH to become a full partner with the Faculties of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Dentistry and other partnering units around the University and elsewhere to pursue the many initiatives that represent enormous opportunities for the School's future as well as the future of public health.

The journey is not quite done—we still have several steps to go through in relation to University governance—but our target date remains July 1, 2013, just a few weeks away.

Please join us, through your challenges and our through our many Programs, Divisions, and affiliated Centers and Institutes. Now is a great time for the Dalla Lana School of Public Health and your future.

Howard Hu, M.D., M.P.H., Sc.D.

Director and Professor of Public Health Sciences & Medicine

What's New

- [Dr. Barbara Yaffe talks about Toronto Unvaccinated Report](#)
- [Mens Beliefs and Intentions Towards Treatment as Prevention](#)
- [Lyme Disease Risk increased by Climate Change](#)
- [DLSPH Professor Jha one of four UofT faculty participating in Harvard/MIT massive open on-line course initiative](#)
- [Professor James Scott Interviewed on CBC about the Legionnaires outbreak last summer in Quebec City](#)
- [Professor Gary Sibbald has won a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal](#)
- [Team led by Professor Kue Young received \\$2.5 Million CIHR award to conduct research on transforming circumpolar health systems](#)
- [Study by Paul Demers and colleagues reveals highest impact carcinogens in the Canadian environment and associated gaps in knowledge](#)
- [Professor Scott and colleagues investigate factors affecting the bacterial "microbiome" in the infant gut](#)
- [DLSPH faculty contribute to new book on global health ethics](#)
- [DLSPH Student Honoured as Global Change Maker](#)

You Should Know

- Special student issue of Women's Health and Urban Life edited by Professor Gillian Einstein and Professor Anne-Emanuelle Birn is now online. It features students from the Collaborative Graduate Program in Women's Health http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~womenshealth/womenshealth/Blog/Entries/2013/5/1_Vol_12_Issue_1_2013_Content.html
- Professor Harry Shannon, from the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University, is spending the last part of his sabbatical with the Global Health Division. Harry is looking at how to evaluate humanitarian aid. He recently published a paper on using GPS and satellite images to take a sample in difficult settings, such as low income countries or refugee camps, and has a CIHR grant to conduct simulations to compare different sampling methods. Harry also chairs the Methodology Working Group for the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging. He is keen to meet others (students, staff or faculty) interested in any of these topics, and can be reached at shannonh@mcmaster.ca
- Professor Patrick Loisel's, Occupational and Environmental Health DLSPH, new book *Handbook of Work Disability, Prevention and Management* is now available. Increasingly, work disability is being understood as a public health issue and work disability prevention is gaining strength as an aspect of occupational health. The Handbook of Work Disability overviews this emerging field in accessible and practical fashion. For more info: contact Sandra.Knol

For more visit <http://www.dlsp.utoronto.ca/new>

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr. Laurent Briollais, Dr. Pia Kontos, Dr. Rayjean Hung, and Dr. Shelley Deeks on their academic promotion to the rank of Associate Professor.

Congratulations to Dr. David Fisman, Dr. Janet Raboud, and Dr. Peggy McDonough, on their academic promotion to the rank of Full Professor

Dr. Prabhat Jha, professor of Epidemiology DLSPH and head of the Centre for Global Health Research at St. Michael's Hospital, has been appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada, one of the country's highest civilian honours. His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, presided over an Order of Canada investiture ceremony at Rideau Hall, on Friday, May 3, 2013. The Governor General, who is chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order, bestowed the honour on 25 Members, 18 Officers and 1 Companion. His Excellency presents the OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF CANADA insignia to Prabhat Jha, O.C. <http://www.dlsp.utoronto.ca/page/dr-prabhat-jha-presented-officer-order-canada-insignia>



Dr. Izzeldin Abuellaish, professor of Global Health DLSPH, Palestinian physician and internationally recognized human rights and inspirational peace activist appointed Order of Ontario <http://www.dlsp.utoronto.ca/page/dr-izzeldin-abuellaish-appointed-order-ontario>



Dr. Lisa Forman, professor of Global Health DLSPH, receives Connaught New Researcher Award 2012/2013 for a research project to develop the minimum core duties of rich and poor countries under the right to health towards essential health needs globally. This research is part of Dr. Forman's collaboration on a multinational European Commission research project to develop rights-based goals for the post-2015 health development agenda, and to advise the Commission in its participation in this process.

Collaborative Program in Global Health members Shaun Cleaver and Kristy Hackett have received \$50,000 Weston Fellowships to support their international research. A huge achievement! Congratulations! <http://boundless.utoronto.ca/campaign-updates/inaugural-weston-fellows-announced/>

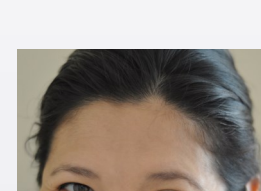
Joining Efforts for an Enlightening 4th Annual Cross-STIHR Research Training Day

The 15 U of T-based Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) funded Strategic Training Initiative in Health Research (STIHR) programs joined efforts for a 4th consecutive successful Annual Cross-STIHR Research Training Day on April 23, 2013. Full story ([link](#))

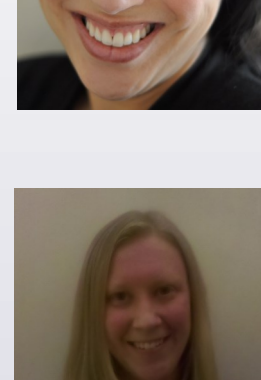


CIHR STAGE (Strategic Training for Advanced Genetic Epidemiology) trainees Drs. Linda Hiraki and Melissa Miller receive highly competitive Canadian and international awards for their research in genetic epidemiology

Dr. Linda Hiraki has been recognized with a CIHR Fellowship and a Career Enhancement Award for her research project "Identification of Genetic Variants Associated With Renal Function in Type 1 Diabetes." These distinctions include a three-year salary award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and a non-salary award from the Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program. Linda will be joining CIHR STAGE in June 2013 from Harvard University to pursue postdoctoral training under the primary supervision of CIHR STAGE mentor Dr. Andrew Paterson at The Hospital for Sick Children.



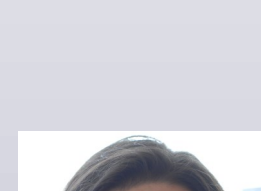
Dr. Melissa Miller is the recipient of a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship for her research project "Predicting the Risk of Cystic Fibrosis-Related Diabetes from Birth." The honour, granted by the US-based Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics, Inc., a non-profit affiliate of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, includes a two-year salary award. Melissa came from University of Colorado Denver and Colorado School of Public Health to begin CIHR STAGE postdoctoral training in March 2012. She is under the primary supervision of CIHR STAGE mentor Dr. Lisa Strug at The Hospital for Sick Children.



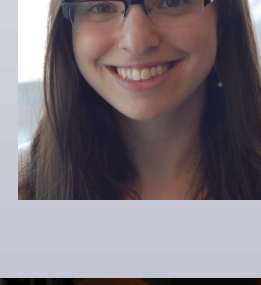
Congratulations Linda and Melissa! www.stage.utoronto.ca

Other distinctions and awards for DLSPH trainees in genetic epidemiology

Nora Zwingerman received a Registration Award from the Canadian Bioinformatics Workshop to attend a two-day course in "Exploratory Data Analysis of Biological Data using R." Nora is a second-year PhD student in the DLSPH Division of Epidemiology, under the supervision of CIHR STAGE co-director and DLSPH faculty Dr. France Gagnon.



Dr. Martin Ladouceur - CIHR STAGE trainee recruited in November 2012 - brings CIHR Fellowship to the University of Toronto DLSPH. In April 2013, Martin was authorized to transfer funding for his "CIHR Fellowship - Priority Announcement - Longitudinal Study" at McGill University to his new CIHR STAGE research project at the University of Toronto DLSPH under the primary supervision of CIHR STAGE mentor and DLSPH faculty Dr. France Gagnon. In February 2013, in the context of an existing collaboration between Dr. Gagnon's Lab and the Lab of Dr. David Tréguët at the *Institut National de la Recherche Médicale* (INSERM), Martin initiated a seven-month CIHR STAGE-funded internship in Paris to develop novel statistical models to characterize genome-wide DNA methylation patterns in multigenerational families".



Congratulations Nora and Martin!

Happenings

- **May 8th:** FitzGerald Seminar Series Event Dr. Joe Schwarz will be talking on "Pseudoscience in Medicine." More details and registration for this event can be found on the following link: <http://fitzgeraldmay8.eventbrite.com/#> The Director of the FitzGerald Seminar Series is Dr. David Fisman, an Associate Professor at the DLSPH. <http://www.dlsp.utoronto.ca/page/fitzgerald-seminars>
- **May 8th:** Challenges to Enforcing Canada's International Human Rights Obligations at Home <http://www.ghd-si.utoronto.ca/events/event/challenges-to-enforcing-canadas-international-human-rights-obligations-at-home/>
- **May 9th:** Well Living House inaugural fundraiser: "Investing in Our Future" Join us for an exciting evening of visual art, live music, Aboriginal-inspired cuisine and a private, pre-release viewing of the documentary, "For Seven Generations: Visioning for a Toronto Aboriginal Birth Centre." <http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/crich/events/well-living-house-inaugural-fundraiser-investing-in-our-future/>
- **May 10th:** On Governance of Non-Communicable Diseases: Presenter: Julia Kulik, Senior Researcher, Global Health Diplomacy Program, Munk School of Global Affairs <http://www.dlsp.utoronto.ca/event/governance-non-communicable-diseases>
- **May 21th:** The Division of Biostatistics at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health (DLSPH) is pleased to host the "SORA-BN-TABA Workshop and the DLSPH Biostatistics Research Day" (W-BRD) on Tuesday, May 21st, 2013. The event is intended to bring together the regional and local statistical communities who are interested in biostatistics and other applied areas of statistics, and represents a joint effort between DLSPH and the following organizations: SORA (The Southern Ontario Regional Association of SSC & The Southern Ontario Chapter of the ASA), BN (The Buffalo-Niagara Chapter of the ASA), and TABA (The Applied Biostatistics Association). <http://wlu.biostatistics.utoronto.ca/SORA-BN-TABA/WBRD2013/Default.htm>

For more event listings, please visit <http://www.dlsp.utoronto.ca/events/month>

