



**The Association of Teachers of Maternal and Child Health**  
*Providing Leadership in Maternal and Child Health Education, Research, and Service*

## Message from the President

**Russell S. Kirby, PhD, MS, FACE**



ATMCH continues to work in fulfilling our mission to improve the teaching of maternal and child health in graduate programs across the United States. Initiatives this year include an ATMCH strategic planning process to better focus our efforts, partnering with the Bureau of Health Professions to explore collaborative

opportunities between MCH programs and Public Health Training Centers, and a project examining employment patterns of recent MCH doctoral graduates. Our Student Committee has a dynamic leadership that is exploring ways to make our organization more vital to student members.

Continuing our experiment from last year, we will hold our spring meeting on March 31 as a webinar, and I hope you will all participate! As always, I welcome any comments or suggestions for new projects and initiatives and ideas for improving our organization.

Think Spring – its March Madness!

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### **ATMCH Mid-Year Membership Meeting** (via webinar)

**Wednesday, March 31, 2010**  
**2:00-3:30 p.m. (Eastern)**

#### **Register at:**

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/130766082>

*(Registration is free, but required.)*

*This year's webinar will include a special presentation on an MCHB project on the effects of interdisciplinary training for MCH professionals, as well as updates on several ATMCH activities!*

## ATMCH Student-Led Initiative

Dr. Alice Richman, co-chair of the ATMCH Membership Committee, is heading up an ATMCH student-led initiative that will center on the development of a MCH mentorship program. The hope is that this program will allow MCH faculty and students to connect and develop a supportive relationship where knowledge, skills, and experiences are shared. We envision a structured mentorship program with clearly outlined expectations, which we hope will yield a rewarding experience for all parties.



We had our first planning meeting in early March 2010 to discuss initiative ideas. We will hold meetings every few months to keep the project moving forward. The following planning committee members were on the call (listed here in no particular order): Ashley Martin, Natalie Hernandez, Lorie Chesnut, Melissa Mercado-Crespo, Lianne Estefan, Qing Li, Erica Anstey, Maggie Holland, and Russ Kirby.

If you would like to become involved in this initiative either on the planning committee or as a mentor, please contact Alice Richman at [arichman@email.unc.edu](mailto:arichman@email.unc.edu).

### Interested in joining an ATMCH Committee?

ATMCH has three standing committees:

- Education;
- Membership; and
- Research.

The committees are always looking for dedicated and energized members to help carry out ATMCH's mission and provide services and support to the membership through these venues.

If you would like to join a committee, or have an idea for a project or initiative, please email your interest to [khowe@asph.org](mailto:khowe@asph.org).

## MCH Awards

### Nadine Peacock Receives 2009 Lacey Award

Nadine Peacock, associate professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) School of Public Health, was the winner of ATMCH's 2009 Loretta P. Lacey Maternal and Child Health Academic Leadership Award. Nadine was recognized at a luncheon held on November 9, 2009 during APHA's Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA. ATMCH gives the Lacey Award annually to recognize leadership in MCH education, research, policy development, and/or advocacy.

Her career has included extensive research on many aspects of women's health including women's reproductive health and minority health issues. She has been with UIC School of Public Health in the Community Health Sciences Division since 1996 and has twice been selected by the University for honors related to teaching excellence. See more information in the press release [here](#).



### Bernard Guyer Receives Awards for Lifetime Achievement in MCH Epidemiology, Distinguished Leadership

Bernard Guyer, MD MPH, Zanvyl Krieger Professor of Children's Health, Department of Population Family and Reproductive Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, received the 2009 Zena Stein and Mervyn Susser Award for Lifetime Achievement in Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology from the National Coalition for Excellence in MCH Epidemiology, 2009.

Bernard also received the David Rall Medal, for distinguished leadership as a chair of a study committee from the Institute of Medicine, 2009.



## MCH Resources

### Training Materials on MCH

**The National Sudden and Unexpected Infant/Child Death and Pregnancy Loss Resource Center** at Georgetown University has produced a **Training Toolkit**

(<http://www.sidscenter.org/trainingtoolkit.html>) that lists training modules and other training resources focusing on reducing the risk of sudden infant death syndrome, culturally competent services, first responders, and other topics. The Resource Center also provides a Multimedia Resources Online page (<http://www.sidscenter.org/multimedia.html>) that features podcasts, Power Point presentations, Webcasts, and videos. Many additional resources for professionals and for consumers are available on the Resource Center site (<http://www.sidscenter.org/index.html>).

**The Maternal and Child Health Library at Georgetown University** has a series of knowledge paths (<http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/index.html>) that provide a broad overview of 21 key MCH topics, with links to recent documents and lead organizations for each topic. Knowledge paths serve as an introduction to the topic and

can be used to locate the latest information on each topic by accessing the links provided in the paths. Topics of the most recent knowledge paths include oral health, diabetes, physical activity, the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Training (EPSDT) Services program, and children and youth with special health care needs.

In addition, the **MCH Library** collaborates with other centers at Georgetown University to produce distance learning curricula (<http://www.mchlibrary.info/distance.html>) on such topics as well-child care, healthy mental development, EPSDT, cultural competence, teaching assistive technology, and oral health. These curricula are available nationwide at no charge.

Additional information and database searching are available at the MCH Library's home page at <http://www.mchlibrary.info>.

## Online MPH in Maternal and Child Health at the University of Minnesota

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Program in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota has an online MPH program for professionals who want to attain leadership roles in MCH or related fields. This program includes the same competencies that our regular, on-campus program includes, and is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health. The program focuses on social justice and ensuring the health of vulnerable populations. Students will gain expertise in developing evidence-based advocacy, rigorous public health assessment, accessible and appropriate health education, and effective and innovative programs and policies that promote the health and well being of women, children, adolescents, and families.

**The coursework:** The online curriculum was developed for professionals who are comfortable with self-learning. Web-based courses were designed to facilitate adult learners in enhancing, or developing, their expertise in MCH content and public health practice. Students also participate in a minimum of 1-2 short (1-week) courses on cutting edge issues that are held every spring on the Twin Cities campus (i.e., the student is required to make one trip to the Twin Cities during the program). The on-campus courses provide an intensive training experience and an opportunity to network with other students, faculty, and public health professionals. Every student will be assigned to a faculty advisor who will guide the student's academic choices, field experience, and final written MPH project.

**Tuition:** Minnesota in-state tuition, regardless of state or country of residence.

**Eligibility:** Individuals with an advanced degree (e.g., MD, MSW, MSN, MS, PhD) OR individuals without an advanced degree who have 3 or more years of work experience in MCH or a related field.

**For more information:** We admit students 3 times/year. Please contact Kathryn Schwartz at [schw139@umn.edu](mailto:schw139@umn.edu) or (612) 626-8802. Website: <http://www.sph.umn.edu/programs/mch>.

For general information about the University of Minnesota's MCH program, visit [www.epi.umn.edu/mch](http://www.epi.umn.edu/mch).

## Certificate in Maternal and Child Health Leadership



The UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health Department of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) is now offering an online graduate education Certificate in MCH Leadership. This certificate is designed to provide practitioners with core knowledge, skills and competencies for promoting the health of the MCH population in domestic and global settings. Major emphasis is placed on critically evaluating population-based solutions to complex health problems in MCH – with maternal and child health being defined in the broadest sense to include physical, political, economic, cultural, and psychosocial factors. The three-course, 10-credit hour program of study is intended to build field leadership in addressing health disparities in MCH and in defining a population-based vision for improving health and well-being of women, children, youth and their families.

Two of the Certificate courses focus on critical thinking about the determinants of well-being of the MCH population. The third course focuses on Public Health and MCH leadership. While specifically designed for distance education students and delivery via the Internet, certificate courses are equivalent to those available to residential master's degree students in the School's Department of MCH. Certificate students will be able to register, access course materials, interact with faculty, and successfully complete this program with only one 3 1/2-day visit to the campus for an on-site orientation and leadership intensive workshop. All other course work can be completed via the Internet.

To learn more and to obtain an application, visit [http://sph.unc.edu/mch/mch\\_leadership\\_certificate\\_overview\\_12092\\_9866.html](http://sph.unc.edu/mch/mch_leadership_certificate_overview_12092_9866.html).

The Department plans to offer an online master's degree program in MCH beginning in 2011. All credits from completing the three online courses offered through the Certificate program can be applied to the degree program. Please watch the Department's website for more information about the degree program. Prospective applicants are encouraged to review the application process and structure of the residential master's degree program in MCH as the online MPH and MSPH degree programs will be equivalent.

## MCH Events

### Past Events:

#### **Berkeley MCH Program Hosts Continuing Education Conference on Maternal Mental Health Over the Life Course**

On March 15, 2010, the University of California (UC), Berkeley School of Public Health MCH Program with support from a Knowledge to Practice Grant from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and in collaboration with the California Dept. of Public Health MCAH program and the California Dept. of Mental Health held the **2010 Bright Beginnings Conference on Maternal Mental Health Over the Life Course** at the California Endowment Center for Healthy Communities in Los Angeles California. This one-day, multi-disciplinary conference provided participants an opportunity to learn about the Life Course model with respect to maternal mental health and its application in the delivery of services. The conference brought together public health practitioners from around the state with a special focus on Southern California.

Several themes from the conference emerged over the course of the day. One salient issue was the provision of adequate services to women and families in the current fiscal climate. Presenters and participants provided concrete examples of innovative strategies to address budget shortfalls as well as overlooked opportunities for funding. Another key theme was bringing new participants to the table, such as pediatricians and midwives. Moving beyond the "usual suspects" of perinatal mental health may increase opportunities for screening and treatment. Lastly, because of the multi-disciplinary nature of the conference, attendees were able to learn about different models of care across the continuum of a woman's life. In all, the 2010 conference provided practical knowledge and networking opportunities to increase provider capacity and forge partnerships between the primary care and mental health systems.

### **Save the Date!**

In recognition of the program's rich history, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau is planning a special Federal/State Maternal and Child Health Partnership Meeting this year to celebrate the **75th Anniversary of Title V of the Social Security Act**.

Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2010

Location: Washington Hilton, Washington, DC

For more information, see <http://mchb.hrsa.gov/> (details to follow).

### Upcoming Events:

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual MCH Leadership Retreat July 19-21, 2010 Hyatt McDonald's Lodge, Oak Brook, IL 60523**

In July 2010, the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) School of Public Health (SPH) will offer the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual MCH leadership retreat called **Leadership, Legacy, and Community: A Retreat to Advance Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Scholarship and Practice**.

*Leadership, Legacy, and Community* is an exciting professional development retreat that takes place in a beautiful Chicago retreat center. It is designed for intergenerational, interdisciplinary MCH practitioners and academics including individuals associated with the MCHB-funded training programs (SPHs, LENDs, LEAHs, PPCs, Nutrition) who have a strong desire to work together and create innovative programs to address MCH issues.

This retreat is designed and attended by MCH professionals across the generations. An interesting synergy happens when individuals across the generations come together to explore ways to improve the health of women, children, and families and our attendees are excited to return each year.

Content is based on the workforce needs of MCH professionals identified through informal conversations, planning meetings, and national surveys and supports individuals in the development of the MCH Leadership Competencies 3.0. Participants engage in unique and cutting-edge leadership development sessions as well as sessions designed to explore the implementation of new paradigms including the life course model, social determinants of health, and health-equity. Conference organizers are particularly excited about having "Immunity to Change" author Dr. Robert Kegan, PhD, to explore both individual and systems-level change efforts. The retreat also includes unique sessions designed to develop a strong workforce community-of-practice.

Participants will have ample opportunity for self-reflection, with the hope that you will return to work rejuvenated, re-energized, and motivated to engage in innovative work that will support your current efforts to improve the health and well-being of the women, children, and families in your communities.

Register Online:  
<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=788900>

Website:  
[http://www.uic.edu/sph/mch/mch\\_leadership\\_conference.htm](http://www.uic.edu/sph/mch/mch_leadership_conference.htm)

Contact: Jaime Klaus at (312) 996-0724 or [jaimkl@uic.edu](mailto:jaimkl@uic.edu)

**ATMCH**

**1101 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW**

**Suite 910**

**Washington, DC 20005**

**Phone: (202) 296-1099**

**Website: [www.atmch.org](http://www.atmch.org)**

**Email: [khowe@asph.org](mailto:khowe@asph.org)**

## Don't forget to take advantage of your membership benefits!

In addition to being able to participate in ATMCH activities and initiatives, access ATMCH resources, and collaborate and network with other academic MCH leaders, ATMCH members are entitled to benefits such as discounted subscriptions to the *MCH Journal*, *Public Health Reports*, *Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic, and Neonatal Nursing*.

Visit

<http://www.atmch.org/membership.cfm>

for more information on the resources available to you!

**The ATMCH Secretariat is moving!!**

**As of June 1, 2010, ATMCH's new address will be:**

**1900 M Street, NW  
Suite 710  
Washington, DC 20036**

Visit [www.atmch.org](http://www.atmch.org) for updates.



The ATMCH Newsletter is produced by ASPH staff with submissions from ATMCH members.



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<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6RKVRNV>