



Kellogg Health Scholars

Connecting Academe, Community, and Policy

In This Issue

KConnection

May 2009

Sounding Board

SOUNDING BOARD

Announcements

Congratulations Kellogg Scholars and Fellows

Spotlight

Dr. Carlotta Arthur, Scholars in Health Disparities Program alumna, currently the program officer responsible for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities and to the Appalachian Colleges Association will become the program officer for the Foundation's Diversity Initiatives and Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) programs on July 1, 2009.

E-Workshops

Funding

Dr. Vivian Chavez, Community Health Scholars Program alumna, is conducting her sabbatical research on teaching innovation in Public Health, which involves study at Tamalpa Institute, a school in Expressive Arts and Somatic Movement Education. Tamalpa is rooted in the work of Anna Halprin, who is among the first pioneers in the contemporary Western world to reframe dance from strict performance to a healing and transformative art, demonstrating the cognitive benefits of dance and documented improvements in learning. Somatic, from the Greek word soma, speaks to physical activity, body/mind integration, overall wellbeing and the connections between & within ourselves, the built and natural environment. Movement Based Expressive Arts teaches how to infuse movement with drawing and creative writing to access old known cross-cultural understandings of health with new innovative ways of relating to each other that can increase community participation, personal transformation and social action. Dr. Chavez has also published the following: V.. Chávez, "Community Organizing and Coalition Building." In Comprehensive Lesson Plans for Teaching Advocacy in Public Health, California Endowment, 2008; and E. Soep & V. Chávez, Drop that Knowledge: The Youth Radio Story, UC Press (in production). In addition, she conducted an international presentation on "Embodied Learning: Teaching Promoting Positive Health at SFSU," Medical Education for the 21st Century: Teaching for Health Equity, Nov. 2008.

Call for Submissions

Career Development

Conferences and Events

Resources

Quick Links

Kellogg Health Scholars Program Website

KConnection is produced by the Kellogg Health Scholars Program, a program of the Center for Advancing Health.

Maria Briones-Jones, Editor
Brandon Moore, Production Manager
Michael Everhart, Production Associate

Do We Have Your Most Updated Contact Information?

Please update our files if your email or mailing address has changed or will change. We want to keep our Scholars network as up-to-date and well-connected as possible! Please send any changes to dtorresen@cfah.org or mbjones@cfah.org.

Dr. Kim Dobson Sydnor

, Morgan State University KHSP site director and Scholars in Health Disparities Program alumna, has received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor, and will become official (by contract) in August.

Jessica Ruglis,

incoming KHSP Community Track scholar, defended her dissertation on April 23, and is now officially a PhD! The title of her dissertation is "Death of a Dropout: (Re)Theorizing School Dropout and Schooling as a Social Determinant of Health." Dr. Ruglis has presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, The Left Forum, and The Bank Street College of Education Opportunity Gap Forum in April, and will be presenting at the 5th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry and the The Society for Community Research and Action Biennial Conference in May. Also, a publication that was just released this April. Fine, M & Ruglis, J. (2009). Circuits and consequences of dispossession: The racialized realignment of the public sphere for U.S. youth. *Transforming Anthropology*, 17(1): 20-33. Available at: <http://tinyurl.com/c7yugj>.

[back to top](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kellogg Fellows in Health Policy Research program 2009 Networking Meeting will be held on **June 2, 2009** at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Avenue, Washington, DC. The Kellogg Fellow-Alumni Discussion of Career Opportunities and Career Development will be from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. There will be a dinner following the discussions from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 pm. Dinner venue will be confirmed via email to the meeting attendees. **Please RSVP to Barbara Krimgold (bkrimgold@cfah.org) as soon as possible if you plan to attend the dinner, so appropriate reservations could be made.**

Kellogg Health Scholars Program 2009 Networking Meeting will be held on **June 3-5, 2009** Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Avenue, Washington, DC. The meeting features a full day on Thursday, June 4, devoted to Congressional, Executive Branch and agency offices visits. As a first step to prepare attendees for these visit, a webinar on **Advocacy 101: Translating Health Disparities/Community-Based Participatory Research into Policy: Skills for Community and Academic Researchers** was held. Meeting attendees, especially those who will be participating at these visits, are encouraged to view the archived webinar. The webinar featured: Setting the Stage: Framing the issue, Connecting with State and Local Policy/Advocacy, presented by Jenifer Martin, KHSP Policy Consultant; Examples from Scholars Experience: Hill Visits to Congressional Offices (Community-based) and Executive Branch Agencies (Thematic), Mindi Spencer, (KHSP, MD Track alum and Assistant Professor, University of South Carolina; Kevin Robinson (CHSP alum and Assistant Professor, Bryn Mawr); and Next steps/Q&A/Discussion, facilitated by Bonnie Lefkowitz, KHSP Policy Consultant. To view the archived Webinar, click <http://www.sph.umich.edu/richmedia/sph/khsp/March25th2009/>.

The Disparities in Health in America: Working Toward Social Justice Workshop is being scheduled for **June 20 to June 26, 2009** in Houston, Texas at the Robert Hickey Auditorium at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The goal of the workshop is to provide a comprehensive approach to the issue of health disparities. In addition, to also provide the attendee with the broad base knowledge related to a bio-psychosocial approach in addressing health disparities. Barbara Krimgold, director of the Kellogg Health Scholars Program National Program office, Dr. Leonard Syme, KHSP NAC member, Dr. Lovell Jones, KHSP training site director and the workshop organizer, and several of our Kellogg Scholars and Fellows will present at this workshop. The Kellogg Scholars and Fellows presenting include: Dr. Carl Hill, Kellogg Fellows alumnus; Dr. German Hernandez, SHDP alumnus; Dr. Melva Green, SHDP alumna; Dr. Anne Foster-Rosales, SHDP alumna; Dr. Kalahn Taylor-Clark, Kellogg Fellows and KHSP alumna; Dr. Amy Snipes, KHSP alumna; Dr. Angelica Herrera, KHSP alumna; Dr. Gina Evans, KHSP alumna; Dr. Larkin Strong, KHSP alumna; Dr. Naima Wong, Kellogg Fellows alumna; Dr. Mindi Spencer, KHSP alumna; and, Dr. Patricia Miranda, Kellogg Health Scholar. For more information, visit www.mdanderson.org/crmh or call 713-563-4005.

[back to top](#)

SPOTLIGHT ON KELLOGG SCHOLARS NETWORK

Meet Kellogg Fellows in Health Policy Research Program alumna, **Debra Pérez Joy, MA, MPA, PhD...**

Dr. Debra Pérez is a senior program officer in Research and Evaluation with The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, where she is responsible for the Foundation's work on public health and managing programs that focus on increasing the diverse perspectives that inform the Foundation's grantmaking. As the former program officer for the Disparities Team, she was responsible for developing major initiatives designed to find interventions that work to reduce racial/ethnic disparities in healthcare and establish learning network of providers implementing strategies to serve the limited English proficient patient populations. In addition, she is also the senior program officer responsible for managing the National Urban Fellows program at RWJF which supports under-represented mid-careers in a 9 month mentorship at RWJF. As national

program director for *New Connections: Increasing Diversity of RWJF Programming*, Dr Pérez also works with historically under-represented investigators and identifies opportunities to link this new talent to the Foundation's work across health and healthcare research areas. Dr Perez is also the Chair of the RWJF Diversity Committee working within the Foundation and with other foundations to enhance the quality and impact of philanthropy.

Since joining the Foundation in October 2004, Dr. Perez has also been responsible for program development in research and evaluation in the areas of racial/ethnic disparities, Latino and minority health health and healthcare issues and public health. Much of her work focuses on building the field of public health services systems research which supports building the evidence of how the organization, financing, performance and impact of the public health system impacts the performance of governmental and non-governmental agencies. She also leads the Foundation's diversity committee.

Dr. Pérez graduated from Douglass College with a BA in communication. She received an M.A. in social science and women's studies from the University of Kent in Canterbury, England, in 1993. Dr. Pérez received the National Urban and Rural Fellows award leading to her MPA from Baruch College, City University of New York where she graduated with honors. In 1998 she became deputy director for New Jersey Health Initiatives, a program office of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation thus beginning her passion for philanthropy. In 2000, she entered an interfaculty doctoral program at Harvard University where in 2005 she received her PhD in health policy. While at Harvard, Dr. Pérez chaired the first and second university-wide symposium on racial and ethnic disparities in health/health care. She was awarded a five-year fellowship in health policy and research from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Her current research focuses on racial/ethnic disparities in health and health care. She has a particular focus on socio-cultural differences, factors associated with acculturation and how these factors impact immigrant and non-immigrants. She has also conducted research and published research on the prevalence of discrimination among Latinos and differences in Latino health policy preferences.

When asked what has been the impact of the Kellogg Fellowship on her career, Dr. Pérez said that "the Kellogg Fellowship program opened up a whole new world of possibilities. The things I am doing now, I could not even had imagined." She added, "If not for the Kellogg Fellowship, I would not be making the difference I am making today in the lives of other researchers/evaluators and community advocates working to promote health and healthcare equity. The Kellogg Fellowship was transformational to me."

[back to top](#)

Archived KHSP E-Workshops

The archived KHSP e-workshops are taped from the live e-workshops of the Kellogg Health Scholars. These live electronic workshops are intended to bring Kellogg Health Scholars together between face-to-face networking meetings to explore topics of mutual interest. Its purpose is to form closer networks between the Kellogg Health Scholars and to provide to them and the Kellogg Community of Scholars support and resources for career development.

Access to archived e-workshops is STRICTLY LIMITED to Kellogg Health Scholars, Kellogg Fellows in Health Policy Research (current and alumni), Scholars in Health Disparities and Community Health Scholars program alumni and H. Jack Geiger Congressional Health Policy Fellows program alumni. The contents of these e-workshops are confidential. These archived presentations should not be accessed, copied or forwarded by/to any individuals other than group of scholars, fellows and scholar/fellow alumni that have been identified.

To listen to the archived presentations and download materials, click <http://www.cfah.org/workshops/login.asp>. For login and passcode information, please contact Brandon Moore at bmoore@cfah.org.

[back to top](#)

FUNDING

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

Grants to Support the Hispanic Health Services Research Grant Program HHS-2009-CMS-HHS-0005

Please see brief description below - details are available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ResearchDemoGrantsOpt/> and <http://tinyurl.com/djkkvo>. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing the availability of funds under its grant program to assist researchers in conducting health services research for 2009. The purpose of the Hispanic grant program is to implement Hispanic American health services research activities to meet the needs of diverse CMS beneficiary populations. The grant program is designed to: 1) Encourage health services and health disparities researchers to pursue research issues which impact Hispanic Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance Program health services issues, 2) conduct outreach activities to apprise Hispanic researchers of funding availability to conduct research-related issues affecting Hispanic American communities to expand the pool of applicants applying for such grants, 3) assist CMS in implementing its mission focusing on health care quality and improvement for its beneficiaries, 4) support extramural research in health care capacity development activities for the Hispanic American communities, 5) promote research that will be aimed at developing a better understanding of health care services issues pertaining to Hispanic Americans, and 6) foster an network for communication and collaboration regarding Hispanic health care issues. Funding is available for grants to implement research related to health care delivery and health financing issues affecting Hispanic American communities, including issues of access to health care, utilization of health care services, health outcomes, quality of services, cost of care, health and racial disparities, socio-economic differences, cultural barriers, managed care systems, and activities related to health screening, prevention, outreach, and education. Eligible researchers may request \$100,000 per year for up to two (2) years for these grants. To be eligible for grants under this program, applicants must meet one of the following three requirements in order to qualify for funding under this grant program: 1) A health services/disparities researcher at an university or college offering a Ph.D. or Masters Degree Program in one or more of the following disciplines Allied Health, Gerontology, Health Care Administration, Nursing, Pharmacology, Public Health, Public Policy, Social Work; or 2) a member of a community-based health organization with a Hispanic health services research component; or 3) a member of a professional association focusing on Hispanic health services and health disparities issues.

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues The Grants-In-Aid Program

Deadline: May 15, 2009

The SPSSI Committee on Grants-in-Aid (GIA) wishes to support scientific research in social problem areas related to the basic interests and goals of SPSSI and particularly those that are not likely to receive support from traditional sources. The Committee especially encourages proposals involving (a) unique and timely research opportunities, (b) underrepresented institutions, graduate students, and junior scholars, (c) volunteer research teams, and (d) actual, not pilot, projects. Funds are not normally provided for travel to conventions, travel or living expenses while conducting research, stipends of principal investigators, costs associated with manuscript preparation, or the indirect costs of institutions. **ELIGIBILITY:** The applicant must be a member of SPSSI. Applicants may submit only one application per deadline. If an applicant has applied to the Clara Mayo Grant in the same award year (July 1-June 30), she or he is not eligible to apply for GIA. Individuals may submit a joint application. Please visit www.spssi.org/grantsinaid for more information and to apply online. The deadline for submissions is May 15, 2009.

[back to top](#)

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

**Call for Abstracts for Papers and Posters -- 16th Annual Canadian Conference on
International Health
Health Equity: Our Global Responsibility
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
October 25-28, 2009
Deadline: Monday, May 11, 2009**

Website: <http://www.csih.org/en/ccih/overview.asp>

Program: <http://www.csih.org/en/ccih/program.asp>

The 2009 Canadian Conference on International Health (CCIH) will examine inequities of health status, and the impact on the health of marginalized, vulnerable and Indigenous populations of changing environments, whether these changes are due to climate, technology, the economy or threats to human security. Deadline: The Call for Abstracts for Papers and Posters will be: Monday, May 11, 2009. Anticipated outcomes of the conference will be: 1) evidence of improvements in social determinants and their impacts on health and social outcomes; 2) evidence of the impact of environmental technological and economic change on health equity; 3) consideration of the need for a paradigm shift in intersectoral policy and practice, locally, nationally and internationally; and, 4) a summary of the current thought and discourse on Canada's responsibility, in Canada and globally, for health equity and social justice (addressing our original 1948 commitment), and proposed ways forward.

THEME AREAS (Note: Global, National and Local experiences will be welcome on each day)

Day 1: Ethics and Responsibility, Economics and Social Determinants

- Economics: Achieving the MDGs: Hope or Despair
- Ethics: Partnerships and Capacity
- Social Determinants of Health: Evidence, Achievements and Challenges
- Searching for Social Justice: Achievements and Challenges

Day 2: Global Health Diplomacy (GHD)

- Social reform, responsibility, accountability:
- Global Health Diplomacy and the G8
- Diplomacy and Ethical Aid
- Responsible Health Security: Ethics and Reality
- Health in all policies: The Role of Global Health Diplomacy
- Role of academe/ the role of civil society in Global Health Diplomacy: Training and capacity building and action

- Indigenous participation and perspectives

Day 3: Social Determinants of Health: Think Globally, Act Locally

- Rolling out the MDGs
- Implementing the Social Determinants of Health: What's Working
- Advocacy and Social Determinants of Health: Does It Work?
- Sustainable Environments in the Context of Global Change
- Social Determinants of Health and Vulnerable Populations: Evidence and Action
- Indigenous World Views and Contribution to Social Determinants of Health

EDITOR'S NOTE: Barbara Krimgold would like to hear from anyone who has an abstract accepted for this conference. Please send her an email at bkrimgold@cfah.org.

Call for Manuscripts - Health and Human Rights: An International Journal, Issue 11:2 Non-Discrimination and Equality

Deadline: May 15, 2009 (extended deadline)

DEADLINE EXTENDED for invited manuscripts on "nondiscrimination and equality" to Health and Human Rights: An International Journal. The new deadline is May 15, 2009. Details below.

Non-discrimination is perhaps the most fundamental principle underlying all of human rights. Yet, notions of equality and non-discrimination have yet to be fully developed as they apply to health policy and programming. What does equality actually mean in rolling out or scaling up services, or determining resource allocations in health? What dimensions of inequality result in inequity? What are the grounds for advancing substantive equality as it relates to preconditions for health and access to care? How is the concept of non-discrimination related to but distinct from development concepts of social exclusion? This issue will critically explore these concepts in theory and practice. Further information is available at:

<http://www.hhrjournal.org/index.php/hhr/about/submissions>.

Call for Interest to be a Member of a New WHO Scientific Resource Group on Health Equity Analysis and Research - Department of Ethics, Equity, Trade and Human Rights, World Health Organization

Deadline: May 15, 2009

Website: <http://www.who.int/eth/en/>

Nominate yourself or someone else: equity@who.int

" The World Health Organization (WHO) is establishing a Scientific Resource Group (SRG)

on Health Equity Analysis and Research to support WHO on its programme of work on equity and health. This includes contribution to the development of WHO and other collaborative products or the peer-review of these products. The Scientific Resource Group (SRG) work aligns with a key strategic objective of WHO to address a broad range of determinants of health (social, economic, political, environmental, etc.) and a core value to increase social justice including health equity within and across countries. Members will advise WHO on strategic directions, work plan content, objectives and priorities, as well as contribute to products and services in particular those relating to measurement, monitoring, evaluation, analysis and research, including:

§ Recommend indicators for the monitoring of broader determinants of health and health inequalities, within and across countries; recommend indicators and measurement approaches to enhance global accountability and national monitoring efforts in this area

- Produce or endorse tools and methods to support measurement and evaluation of status and trends in equity and health, drawing on multiple disciplinary perspectives
- Recommend research and research synthesis methods to evaluate policies and interventions from an equity perspective and support global research activities in this area that serve to increase global evidence on what to do, and strengthen capacities and extend collaborations across low-, middle- and high-income countries involving a wide range of knowledge producers and users
- Produce key analysis and reports addressing equity and health, that clarify analytical methods, revise and apply norms and standards as well as peer-reviewed articles or practical guidelines for wider dissemination.

The members of the Scientific Resource Group (SRG) will work primarily through electronic communications (e.g. email, facsimile, telephone or video conferences) to exchange information, circulate documentation and maintain contact. Expected Qualifications: Up to 25 members will be selected on the basis of their knowledge and expertise on equity and health. The group will include both established experts as well as promising leaders in relation to measurement, monitoring and analysis, and research methods. Experts from research and training institutions, universities, ministries, other institutes, governmental and non-governmental, as well as from other UN organizations, development banks, etc. are sought to participate in this group. Individuals from low- and middle-income countries and women are especially encouraged to apply. Commitment: A two year commitment, renewable, is sought. A base advisory role is expected to range from 6 to 12 working days per year. This includes the tasks of reviewing documents, preparing for discussions, completing written comments, and participation in eventual meetings. Additional working days to contribute to products and services will be mutually agreed upon and contractual arrangements, as appropriate, will be made with each Scientific Resource Group (SRG) member and in consultation with its chair, Professor Cesar G. Victora, President Elect of the International Epidemiological Association. Nomination Process: Please nominate yourself or someone else by 15 May 2009, by sending an expression of interest by email to equity@who.int that includes the nominee's name, full contact information including email and telephones, and optionally, a couple of sentences on why the nominee should participate in the group and noting no conflict of interest to advise WHO. All nominees will be contacted on a rolling basis with selection completed by end June 2009. Submitted by: Ritu Sadana, Coordinator ai, Equity Analysis and Research, Department of Ethics, Equity, Trade and Human Rights, World Health Organization, 20, avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

**Call for Papers - Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE)
Reducing Health Disparities Among Youth: Promising Strategies
Deadline: May 20, 2009 (extended)**

The Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) is set to publish a supplement of Health Promotion Practice in collaboration with CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health. This supplement will feature practice-based programs, interventions and projects that have been successful in reducing disparities affecting children and adolescents, including social determinants of health. In particular, manuscripts are sought that address HIV/AIDS, immunizations, as well as risk factors for chronic conditions such as obesity, physical activity, diabetes, and asthma. Papers are sought that include innovative approaches to institutional supports, policy/advocacy and systems change, community/school health partnerships, engaging parents or peers, changing norms, and health communications programs and uses of various technological systems (e.g. games, avatars, cell phones, YouTube, social

networking sites). Articles should describe what was unique and successful about these programmatic activities, what partners were brought to the table, the challenges and opportunities associated with this approach, any health outcome data associated with the change in policy and/or practice, and efforts to make these changes sustainable. All manuscripts must be submitted no later than May 20, 2009 to SOPHE's online journal submission system: Editorial Manager <<http://www.editorialmanager.com/hpp>>. Guidelines for authors can be found at: http://www.sagepub.com/upm-data/15040_HPP_Submission_Guidelines.pdf. Health Promotion Practice (HPP) publishes authoritative, peer reviewed articles devoted to the practical application of health promotion and education. The journal is unique in its focus on critical and strategies information for professionals engaged in the practice of developing, implementing, and evaluating health promotion and disease prevention programs. In addition, HPP serves as a forum to promote linkages between researchers in the academic and private sectors with health promotion and education practitioners.

The manuscript process is managed through Aries Editorial Manager. For more information, contact Carmen Head (chead@sophe.org).

**Call for Posters - National Association of Community Health Centers
Present Health Center Research & Innovations at the 2009 Community Health Institute
& Expo**

Deadline: May 29, 2009

Are you conducting research in, on, or with health centers? Do you have an exceptional program that can be replicated by other health centers?

With over 2000 attendees, the Community Health Institute & Expo (CHI) is the ideal place to showcase a research activity happening at a center, research on centers, or an innovative best practice that has improved care or reduced costs. Presenting a poster at the CHI provides you a forum to share your work, find other centers with similar needs and interest, deliberate over new ideas, and facilitate the creation of new partnerships. For more information on posters, abstract guidelines, selection process, and presentations, please [click here](#). Accepted poster submitters will be notified of decisions by July 1. For more information, email Michelle Proser, NACHC Director of Research, at mproser@nachc.com.

**Call for Abstracts -- The 8th International Conference on Urban Health
Nairobi, Kenya**

October 19-23, 2009

Deadline: May 30, 2009

All abstracts must be submitted online at www.icuh2009.org/abstracts.htm. Authors may submit an unlimited number of abstracts. We invite you to submit your recent research and other scientifically relevant urban health work for consideration for the conference. CBPR submissions are welcome!

**Call for Mentors and Mentees -- American Psychological Association Office on AIDS
Deadline: June 1, 2009**

The American Psychological Association (APA) Office on AIDS is currently seeking qualified mentors and mentees to participate in a two-year, distance-learning, mentorship program designed to prepare doctoral-level behavioral and social scientists for careers as independent researchers in the area of HIV/AIDS and communities of color. The deadline for application materials is June 1, 2009. This one-year-old program called the Cyber Mentor Program (http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/cyber_mentors.html), funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), utilizes state-of-the-art, distance-learning technologies (e.g., webcasts, online classrooms, etc.) to assist mentees to achieve three major goals:

- 1) develop and implement a career development plan focused on building the capacity to conduct independent research in the area of HIV/AIDS and communities of color;
- 2) conceptualize, draft, and submit a high-quality research application to an appropriate NIH funding mechanism; and,
- 3) establish a mutually supportive network of professional colleagues with common research interests.

Click Here for Mentor Application Information (<http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/mentor.html>)

Click Here for Mentee Application Information (<http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/mentee.html>)

Career Development

Brooklyn College/City University of New York Assistant Professor or Public Health - Health Care Policy Health and Nutrition Sciences

<http://tinyurl.com/d75qhr> and www.brooklyn.cuny.edu

Open until filled with the review of resumes to begin 4/30/09. POSITION DESCRIPTION AND DUTIES The selected candidate will have his/her primary appointment with Brooklyn College's Department of Health and Nutrition Sciences with potential for additional appointment with The City University of New York's newly instituted doctoral program in public health (DPH). Responsibilities will include teaching courses in public health policy in the undergraduate health and master of public health (MPH) programs; supervising master's students program in field placements/practice experience, teaching in other areas of public health depending on areas of expertise; developing and maintaining a funded research program with emphasis on health care policy; providing service to the department/college, university, and profession, e.g., student advisement, maintenance of program accreditation with CEPH, and faculty governance. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS Ph.D. or equivalent; expertise in health care policy as it affects racial or ethnic minorities. Prior college teaching with experience incorporating active learning strategies and communication skills; teaching or other relevant experience in urban communities; research experience specific to public health issues; and interest in collaborating with faculty and mentoring student research highly preferred.

Send cover letter, curriculum vitae, and names/addresses of three references to
Michael T. Hewitt

Assistant Vice President for
Human Resource Services
Brooklyn College/CUNY
2900 Bedford Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11210-2889

Loyola University Chicago, Center for Urban Environmental Research and Policy Research Associate

Loyola University Chicago (LUC) and the Center for Urban Environmental Research and Policy (CUERP) (<http://www.luc.edu/cuERP>) invite applications for the position of Research Associate. LUC is the largest Jesuit research universities in the United States, with four campuses: two campuses situated in urban settings, Lake Shore campus set along the shores of Lake Michigan, and Water Tower in downtown Chicago, a medical center in the metropolitan-area and a Center in Rome, Italy. Loyola also serves as the U.S. host university to the Beijing Center for Chinese Studies in Beijing, China. Launched in September 2005 as one of LUC's Centers of Excellence, CUERP is an interdisciplinary center dedicated to research, teaching, training, and outreach activities that focus on the urban landscape as an ecosystem. CUERP's mission is to advance understanding of the complex interdependency between humans and environmental systems and facilitate collaboration among scholars who are interested in making a significant contribution to environmental research and policy. CUERP also houses the undergraduate major Environmental Science/Studies Program (ESP). CUERP, located at the Lake Shore campus, is spearheading a research project called the Chicago Clean Air, Clean Water Program (CACW). This Program is a collaboration between CUERP and city, state, and federal environmental agencies that monitor Chicago's air and water quality, to develop a common database and research agenda focused on emerging threats including antibiotics, pharmaceuticals, endocrine disruptors, and plastic leachates. Drawing from the Center's interdisciplinary resources, the Research Associate will be involved in all aspects of initiating and orchestrating the science component of the CACW. Specific responsibilities of the Research Associate will include: 1) Helping to build collaborative partnerships with the city, state and federal agencies within Chicago that monitor air and water quality; 2) Designing and developing research projects within CACW; 3) Writing grant proposals for CACW research and infrastructure; 4) Serving on the CACW Leadership team as the Science Team Leader; 5) Participating in a search for an Analytical Chemist Lab Manager; 6) Helping to design and develop the Analytical lab; 7) Conducting research (CACW-related) and mentoring students in their lab; 8) Participating in CUERP staff

meetings, participating in the search for a FT TT faculty member in fall 2009. Qualifications:

- The successful candidate will have an advanced degree in an appropriate field with a doctorate degree preferred.
- Experience in an academic setting, and leadership in the area of environmental protection, and research collaborations.
- Experience in fostering partnerships with partner organizations, and excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

This is a 12 month position (1 July, 2009 - 30 June 2010). To ensure full consideration, applications should be received by 1 May, 2009. The position will remain open until filled. The anticipated start date is July 1, 2009. Candidates must register their application and submit an electronic CV, cover letter, and contact information for three references to

www.careers.luc.edu. Questions should be directed to Gina Lettiere, glettie@luc.edu.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Program Associate and Associate Director in the Diversity Initiatives and Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Programs

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation ("Foundation") is a not-for-profit organization that makes grants in five core program areas (higher education, museums and art conservation, performing arts, conservation and the environment, and scholarly communications). In the higher education area, one of the Foundation's strongest commitments aims to promote racial and ethnic diversity, most notably through programs designed to increase the numbers of faculty members who belong to underrepresented and disadvantaged groups. The principal program area that supports this effort will be undergoing a transition in the summer of 2010 with the retirement of its long-time program officer and director and departure of its associate director. At that time, the Foundation's Diversity Initiatives and Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) programs will assume the responsibility for grantmaking to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). More information about these programs may be found on the Foundation's Web site at www.mellon.org. The position of Program Associate and Associate Director in the enlarged program will be filled by an open search to be conducted during the month of May 2009. Program Associate/Associate Director Position Description: The Program Associate/Assistant Director will work closely with the Program Officer/Director in managing the office of the Diversity Initiatives and Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship programs and in organizing and maintaining both grantmaking activities and contacts with participants. While the main time commitment of the holder of this position will be to the MMUF, the concerted overlap of responsibilities between the Program Officer/Director and Program Associate/Associate will allow them to cover for one another and will imply a relationship of constant and thoroughgoing collaboration. *Responsibilities of the program associate/associate director will include, but not be limited to:*

- working closely with and reporting to the Director of MMUF, assisting the Director with all aspects of managing the MMUF program.
- working closely with the on-campus MMUF coordinators to advise them on the management of their programs and respond to questions.
- assisting Mellon fellows by answering questions about the fellowship or program processes.
- working closely with colleagues at the Social Science Research Council and Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation to coordinate the administration of graduate programs for Mellon fellows.
- assisting the Director in developing strategic goals for the program and other programmatic opportunities in the Diversity Initiatives area.
- reviewing proposals and assisting with the drafting and editing of materials for grants recommended to the Foundation's Board of Trustees.
- with the Director, providing supervision and guidance to the program assistants who serve the MMUF and Diversity Initiatives program area.
- assisting staff with preparation for special meetings and major conferences.
- carrying out general office work, such as filing, assisting with the preparation of letters and other correspondence, creating mailing labels, answering the telephone, faxing documents, and other various projects as assigned.
- traveling for program functions and making travel arrangements for staff.
- representing the Foundation in professional settings, and specifically representing the Director of MMUF at various functions.
- taking on other assignments as necessary.

Relevant skills and experience for the appointee to the program associate/associate director's

position include:

- master's degree or higher in the humanities, social sciences, education, or other relevant field.
- experience working in/with higher education institutions and with students and active interest in current policy issues in American higher education.
- outstanding interpersonal communication, team-building, and leadership skills
- strong oral and written communication skills.
- strong organizational and work-flow management skills,
- ability to work with a diverse constituency and on multiple tasks under deadline pressure.
- capacity to work independently at times, while also being a committed team player.
- understanding of and commitment to the goals of the MMUF program and of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
- PC computer literacy, particularly capacity to use all functions of Microsoft Office, and ability to learn new applications quickly.
- strong work ethic with a commitment to integrity and high quality
- pleasant and courteous personality.
- commitment to a collegial work environment and to collaboration with colleagues in all of the Foundation's program areas

The Foundation is an equal opportunity employer that offers a competitive salary, generous benefits, and excellent working conditions. Qualified candidates should submit a resume or curriculum vitae, cover letter, and salary requirements, addressing them in hard copy to Oscar De La Cruz, Human Resources Manager, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 140 East 62nd Street, New York, NY 10065 or transmitting them electronically to

programofficer@mellon.org.

The Hastings Center, New York

Research Scholar

Deadline: May 15, 2009

The Hastings Center seeks applications and nominations for the full-time, permanent position of Research Scholar at the early-career level. This position offers a superb opportunity for an early-career scholar (recent post-doc or equivalent) with extremely strong writing skills and a commitment to collegial, interdisciplinary scholarly work. This scholar will work with the Center's current research scholars to develop, secure grant funding for, and participate in, new research projects. She or he will also collaborate with the Center's Public Affairs and Communications Department to create new publications for journalists, policymakers, opinion leaders, and other audiences. Qualifications: Competitive candidates will have a PhD, JD, or other relevant terminal degree or combination of degrees. Although a degree in bioethics is not essential, the successful candidate should have training or significant experience in bioethics. Academic training and experience in at least two of the following areas (broadly defined) is strongly preferred: health care ethics, health policy, public health, and/or research ethics. An aptitude for communicating with diverse audiences will be considered a strength. To apply, send: a letter of application describing your background and interests; a resume or CV; two writing samples; and the names and contact information for two references to jobs@thehastingscenter.org. Electronic applications are preferred. Questions sent to jobs@thehastingscenter.org will be answered promptly. Application deadline: Friday, May 15th, 2009. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. The Hastings Center offers a competitive salary commensurate with experience, health insurance, TIAA-CREF pension plan, generous vacation, sick leave and holiday schedules. We are an equal opportunity employer, actively committed to building a diverse staff and creating an inclusive environment for all employees. The Hastings Center is an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan institution that since 1969 has been a leader in research, education, and policy recommendations on the ethical and social impact of advances in medicine, health care, and biotechnology. The Center is located in Garrison, New York, 50 miles north of New York City. For more information about The Hastings Center, visit: www.thehastingscenter.org.

The Praxis Project, Washington, DC

Policy Director

Our policy work is certainly not like most national groups as we focus on local policy development from a very particular framework. Our hope is to find an energetic, creative person who can help lead this area of work and is committed to helping build the institution as part of a senior management team. Those interested should submit a cover letter and resume

to Salimah Salaam Muhammad at ssalaam@thepraxisproject.org as soon as possible.

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The Policy Director should be willing and able to work with a team approach, and should share Praxis' overall commitment to addressing issues of racial and economic justice, working with traditionally disenfranchised populations, changing structural conditions to improve the quality of life, building community power, and institutional/systemically focused strategies. Manage Technical Assistance and Policy Related Activities. Direct and execute the provision of technical assistance to local coalitions and others on public policy issues related to health justice including site visit coordination and coordination of policy related training needs (in collaboration with the Training Director); respond to (and refer as appropriate) routine and specialized requests for information, including maintenance and distribution of Praxis policy related information; and provide direction for policy related research activities, as needed. Provide professional and personal assistance to constituents in answering inquiries, locating information, and interpreting requests. Conduct manual and computerized information research to support Resource Center requests. Research and Writing. Identify emerging policy issues and approaches and provide written synopses and analyses of key policy issues that relate to program work; assist in the preparation of a variety of Praxis publications, including manuscripts, graphic presentations, fact sheets, action alerts, media packets, training curricula, etc. Training. Assist in the coordination and implementation of trainings and training logistics. Fundraising. Assist in identifying funding sources, and contacts; and help with the preparation of funding proposals, reports and other related correspondence. Personnel Supervision. Select and supervise interns in policy, as funding permits.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- * Familiarity with social justice oriented approaches to framing, media strategy, and propaganda. Connections to and/or history of work with Latina/o, Asian-Pacific Islander and/or indigenous communities a plus.
- * Strong journalistic research and writing skills along with the ability to write for the public in a compelling way.
- * Minimum of three years experience working on public policy issues at the community level.
- * Ability to interpret and communicate research materials for lay audiences.
- * Understanding of principles and approaches to policy-focused prevention.
- * Ability to work collaboratively and to enable community members to build power for policy change.
- * Experience and ease working with diverse populations.
- * Commitment to addressing systemic causes of racism, sexism, homophobia and poverty.
- * Knowledge of and experience with web publication and the use of the Internet as a tool for communication, propaganda and action.
- * Ability to work independently, be detailed oriented, prioritize own work, and collaborate with and coordinate the work of others in a harmonious and empowering manner.

SALARY RANGE: The salary range is based on experience and funding availability with a generous benefits package.

**University of California, Los Angeles, California Center for Population Research (CCPR)
Tenure-track Assistant/Associate/Full Professor**

The UCLA California Center for Population Research (CCPR) is seeking candidates for a full time tenure-track position in demography and population studies. This is an open rank faculty appointment with rank depending on the candidate's experience and record. The department in which the appointment is made will be based on the candidate's discipline and departmental preferences, but will most likely be made in one of the major departments represented within CCPR (Economics, Sociology, Community Health Sciences, Geography, and Public Policy). Candidates should have an active research program in areas related to demography and population research and the ability to teach high quality required and elective courses. We invite applications from candidates whose research and teaching focuses on any area of demographic research, including the following: demographic aspects of ethnicity, discrimination, social class, income inequality, and social and geographic mobility; economic and social disparities in health and the effects of health on socioeconomic status; adolescence, young adulthood, and youth at risk; aging, retirement, and the elderly population; population and the environment. Research may focus on the United States, other countries, or both. Strong preference will be given to candidates who show evidence of interdisciplinary research and/or interest in communication and collaboration among disciplines. Applicants

must have an earned doctorate in a social science, public policy, public health, demography, or a related field. Preference will be given to candidates with graduate training in demographic methods, theory, and research. Responsibilities include teaching required and elective courses in the department in which the appointment is made, student advising, maintenance of a strong and innovative research program, active participation in the CCPR Demographic Training Program, and participation in CCPR, departmental, and campus-wide committees. Candidates are expected to have extramurally funded research or (for junior candidates) to show evidence that they will compete successfully for extramural research funding in the future. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but review of full applications will start immediately. The start date for this position is negotiable, but preferably during academic year 2009-10. Established in 1998, the California Center for Population Research (CCPR) is one of the leading population studies centers in the United States. Research by CCPR affiliates is focused both domestically and internationally. This NIH-funded center comprises over 60 active faculty researchers from the disciplines of anthropology, economics, epidemiology, geography, law, management, medicine, pediatrics, policy studies, population, psychology, public health, social welfare, sociology, and urban planning. CCPR provides a vibrant and interdisciplinary intellectual environment for population-related research and training and excellent services that support these endeavors. For more information on CCPR see www.ccpr.ucla.edu. Applications, including a letter of interest and a CV, including contact information for three references should be sent to:

Professor Patrick Heuveline, Chair
CCPR Search Committee
c/o Wendy Tieu
California Center for Population Research
4284 Public Policy Building
PO Box 957236
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90095

[back to top](#)

Conferences and Events

amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research *and* Research!Americ.
Capitol Hill Conference: Future Directions in the Fight Against HIV/AIDS
Cannon House Office Building, Caucus Room 345
First Street & Independence Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, May 13, 2009, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Please join us at a landmark summit on the future of the fight against HIV/AIDS. The Capitol Hill Conference will convene international HIV/AIDS experts, members of Congress, representatives of the Obama administration, and celebrity AIDS advocates for an intensive one-day forum on the most pressing global health issue of our time.

Speakers include:

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable James Clyburn, Majority Whip, U.S. House of Representatives

Jeffrey Crowley, M.P.H., Director, White House Office of National AIDS Policy

Anthony Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH

Kevin Fenton, M.D., Ph.D., Director, National Center on HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention, CDC

Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Founder and Chairman, Magic Johnson Foundation

Michel Kazatchkine, M.D., Executive Director, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

The Honorable Barbara Lee, Chair, The Congressional Black Caucus, U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Nita Lowey, Chair, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs, U.S. House of Representatives

Moderator: **Ted Koppel**, Senior News Analyst, NPR, Contributing Analyst, BBC News
conference chair: Susan Blumenthal, M.D., M.P.A., Senior Policy and Medical Advisor,

amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research, Former U.S. Assistant Surgeon General

PRESENTATION OF amfAR'S AWARD OF COURAGE: Speaker Nancy Pelosi; Sen.

Edward M. Kennedy; Earvin "Magic" Johnson; C. Everett Koop, M.D., Sc.D.

presented by: **Kenneth Cole**, Chairman of the Board, amfAR
HONORARY COMMITTEE: Harry Belafonte, Pierce and Keely Brosnan, Lisa Edelstein, Sir Elton John and David Furnish, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Barry Manilow, Matthew Modine, Jane Seymour, Barbra Streisand, Dame Elizabeth Taylor, and Stanley Tucci. Honorary Congressional Committee includes more than 100 Members of Congress.
To RSVP: <http://tinyurl.com/cv78kh>. Attendance is free and includes continental breakfast and lunch. For additional information, please contact (703) 556-0024 or AIDSconference@hayespr.com. For media inquiries, please contact Cub Barrett, (212) 806-1602 or cub.barrett@amfar.org.

**Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Amplifying the Call for Healthy Communities
June 1 - June 3, 2009**

Marriot Crystal Gateway, 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202
For more information and to register, visit
https://org2.democracynaction.org/o/5844/event/checkOut.jsp?event_KEY=6185,

**California Breast Cancer Research Program
Webinar on How to apply for Community Researcher Collaboration funding: Getting Started**

**Monday, May 11, 2009, 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. or
Wednesday, May 13, 2009, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.**

Are you curious about how community members and researchers can form teams, receive funding, and conduct breast cancer research together? Join Marj Plumb, collaborative research consultant, from the comfort of your own desk for a free, LIVE, engaging 1-hour information webinar about the Community Research Collaboration (CRC) Awards. For more information: <http://www.cbcrp.org/community/workshop.php>. CRC awards provide \$150,000 to \$600,000 of funding (plus indirect funds for most institutions) from the California Breast Cancer Research Program and require a partnership of CA-based community organizations and research scientists. Application success rates have historically been high, ranging from 19% to 43%. While the call for applications occurs around the end of September each year (with a submission deadline in January of each year), finding a partner, forming your team, discussing research ideas and methodology, and getting prepared to apply should begin now. Past CRC Awards have funded research topics from the fields of:

- Health policy, public health, and health services
- Psychology and sociology
- Epidemiology
- Behavioral science
- Environmental sciences
- Ethnic studies

This call "Getting Started" will provide:

- 1) an overview of the CRC awards,
- 2) suggestions for how to find a partner and form your team,
- 3) an overview of CBCRP research funding priorities, and
- 4) application deadlines and timelines.

To sign up, please send the following information to
CRCTeleconference@cabreastcancer.org:

Your email address

Name

Primary Organizational Affiliation

Position/Title

The city where you are located

The teleconference you plan to participate in (choose one):

1. Monday, May 11, 12noon - 1:00pm
2. Wednesday, May 13, 10:00am - 11:00am

Call-in information will be emailed prior to the start of the webinar. Access to the web is recommended during the webinar but is not required. Please forward this announcement to anyone likely to be interested in learning more about the CRC application process. Attendance is not a pre-requisite for submitting an application but is highly recommended. Future Webinar/Conference Calls will cover "completing the application materials" (in August or

September) and a "walk through the online submission process" (in November). For more information about the CRC awards, including a list of previous award topics and partnerships, please visit www.cabreastcancer.org/community/. To request technical assistance (including help finding a partner, collaboration assistance, feedback on research ideas, etc.) or to request a speaker for your symposium or meeting, please contact: Katherine McKenzie, Ph.D. at 510-987-9884 or CRCinfo@cabreastcancer.org. To receive the "Call for Applications" for all CBCRP award types please send your contact information to getinfo@cabreastcancer.org and put "mailing list" in the subject line.

**Children in Balance at Tufts University
Community Leadership Institute for Childhood Obesity Prevention
Boston, MA
July 21-23, 2009**

Community Leadership Institute for Childhood Obesity Prevention Hosted by Children in Balance at Tufts University, July 21-23, 2009, Boston, MA. Children in Balance (CIB), an initiative of the Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University, has as its mission the prevention and reversal of childhood obesity. Children in Balance is hosting a three day leadership training institute for professionals and advocates who wish to further childhood obesity prevention efforts in their communities with a focus on elementary-aged children. Participants will leave the training prepared and empowered to create healthier community environments for children, encouraging better nutrition and more opportunities for physical activity. Visit <http://childreninbalance.org/> for more information.

Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Health Policy Institute and the Office of the House Majority Whip

Congressional Briefing on Addressing the Needs of Young Men of Color

Rayburn B-369

May 15, 2009, 8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Participate in a discussion with distinguished experts regarding how the needs of young men of color can be addressed in current federal legislation, and how communities can work to improve opportunity for this population.

Panel Moderator: Former Congressman and current Oakland Mayor Ronald V. Dellums.

Continental Breakfast will be served. To reserve a seat, please RSVP to

hpi@jointcenter.org. Contact Kim Raymond at 202-789-6355 for more information.

Mark Your Calendar! Winston Salem State University, Center of Excellence for the Elimination of Health Disparities

National Conference to End Disparities II

Twin City Quarter

Winston Salem, MA

November 3-6, 2009

Featured Speakers: Dr. Garth N. Graham; Mrs. Elizabeth A. Edwards; Dr. David R. Williams; and Dr. Alvin F. Poussaint

Join us as we bring together representatives from local, regional, state and national organizations, along with consumers, in a forum addressing the NIH National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities and Healthy People 2010 goals. Convene with more than 800: Healthcare Providers; Healthcare Professionals; Educators; Program Managers; Researchers; Policymakers; Business and Community Leaders.

[back to top](#)

Resources

Publications

**Communiqué: Psychological and Behavioral Perspectives on Health Disparities
American Psychological Association**

The American Psychological Association published *Communiqué: Psychological and Behavioral Perspectives on Health Disparities*. This guide seeks to inform policy makers, advocates, the general public, and behavioral scientists about the disproportionate impact of

health disparities on communities of color. It suggests that efforts to reduce health disparities must include collaboration between medical and public health scientists with behavioral and psychological scientists. To view this guide, visit <http://tinyurl.com/csngvh>.

Key Health and Health Care Indicators by Race/Ethnicity and State Kaiser Family Foundation

The Kaiser Family Foundation recently updated *Key Health and Health Care Indicators by Race/Ethnicity and State*. This fact sheet shows variations across all 50 states and racial and ethnic groups for six key health and health care indicators, including rates of infant mortality, diabetes-related mortality, the AIDS case rate, and the percentage of people in each state who are uninsured, enrolled in Medicaid, and living in poverty. To view this factsheet, visit <http://www.kff.org/minorityhealth/upload/7633-02.pdf>,

Quantifying Separate and Unequal: Racial-Ethnic Distributions of Neighborhood Poverty in Metropolitan America

Theresa L. Osypuk, Sandro Galea, Nancy McArdle and Dolores Acevedo-Garcia. (2009/In Press). *Urban Affairs Review*. First published on February 4, 2009 as doi:10.1177/1078087408331119
<http://uar.sagepub.com/cgi/rapidpdf/1078087408331119v1>

Web site

Statehealthfacts.org

Statehealthfacts.org, from the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, provides free, up-to-date, and easy-to-use health and health policy data on all 50 states. Statehealthfacts.org has data on more than 600 health topics including Medicaid and SCHIP, Medicare, health coverage and the uninsured, health costs and budgets, providers and service use, minority health, women's health, and HIV/AIDS.

Others

Kaiseredu.org

Fellowship and Internship Directory
The [Fellowship and Internship Directory](http://www.kaiseredu.org/fellowships/default.aspx) has been updated.
<http://www.kaiseredu.org/fellowships/default.aspx>

Kaiser Family Foundation's Archived Webcast Today's Topics In Health Disparities: The Effect of the Economic Downturn on the Health of Communities of Color

The Kaiser Family Foundation hosted The Effect of the Economic Downturn on the Health of Communities of Color. During this live, interactive webcast, panelists examined how the recession is affecting communities of color in the areas of health coverage, access to care, and health outcomes. The panelists also discussed whether the economic recovery legislation would help states respond to the rising demand for programs such as Medicaid. A webcast of this briefing is available at <http://www.kff.org/minorityhealth/rehc032509webcast.shtml>.

X PRIZE Foundation, WellPoint Inc. Unveil Initial Design for Revolutionary \$10+ Million Healthcare X PRIZE

Initial Prize Design Released for Public Comment at World Health Care Congress in Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON (April 14, 2009) -- The [X PRIZE Foundation](http://www.xprize.org), a nonprofit organization that drives innovation through large incentive competitions, in collaboration with the [WellPoint Foundation](http://www.wellpoint.com), one of the nation's largest private foundations, and [WellPoint, Inc.](http://www.wellpoint.com) (NYSE: WLP), the nation's largest health benefits company in terms of medical membership, announced today the initial competition design for a \$10M+ Healthcare X PRIZE.

The Grand Challenge for this Healthcare X PRIZE will be to create an optimal health paradigm that empowers and engages individuals and communities in a way that dramatically improves health value. Following today's announcement, the public is invited to comment on the approach and provide feedback to ensure that the competition results in affordable, high-quality health care for all communities. An overview of the initial prize design and guidelines are available for public comment at www.xprize.org/wellpoint. The initial X PRIZE design was

announced jointly by Dr. Peter H. Diamandis, chairman and CEO, The X PRIZE Foundation and Angela Braly, president and CEO, WellPoint, Inc. They were joined by the Hon. Bill Bradley, former U.S. Senator, and managing director, Allen & Company LLC, and the Hon. Newt Gingrich, former Speaker of the House and Founder, Center for Health Transformation, for a health care discussion moderated by Susan Dentzer, editor in chief, *Health Affairs*.

"President Obama has called for bold new ideas to revitalize our health care system. We are answering that call by developing an innovative incentive prize that optimizes the health of all Americans and significantly increases the value from every health dollar," said Dr. Diamandis. "This is not the situation today and we need to change it. Ultimately, you get what you incentivize. If we can refocus our health care system on helping individuals optimize health, and reward providers who improve outcomes, the implications over the next decade will be profound." "I'm very pleased to be part of this developing X PRIZE competition," said Sen. Bradley, "This prize will bring together people from different elements of the health care system and get them collaborating to devise a new system that will produce the highest quality health care for the greatest number of people at the lowest possible cost. The greatest key is tapping into the American people; if you've got a great idea, put it forward." The collaboration between The X PRIZE Foundation, WellPoint, Inc. and the WellPoint Foundation to design a \$10M+ Healthcare X PRIZE was announced in October 2008. Since then, hundreds of comments from the public and leaders across the health care industry have been collected from The X PRIZE Foundation Web site to create the initial design announced today. "From across the health spectrum physicians, consumers, entrepreneurs, technology experts, government officials and others have already contributed their time and expertise to developing a meaningful prize design," said Angela Braly. "Now we ask the public and interested stakeholders to take a look at our initial design and share ideas on how we can use a Healthcare X PRIZE to create a dramatic improvement in the health of our families and communities while simultaneously improving affordability." The X PRIZE Foundation's health care prize development team and WellPoint collaborated with prominent health care providers, thought-leaders, academic and political advisors from across the nation to identify key components for a health care focused incentivized competition. Key advisors include: Dr. Glenn Steele, CEO, Geisinger Health System; Dr. Jim Weinstein, director, Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice; Dr. Carol Diamond, managing director, Markle Foundation; Mark Litow, principal and consulting actuary, Milliman; Dr. Dean Ornish, president, Preventive Medicine Research Institute; Michael E. Porter, professor, Harvard Business School; Hon. Bill Bradley, former U.S. Senator; and Hon. Newt Gingrich, former Speaker of the House and Founder, Center for Health Transformation. The proposed \$10M+ Healthcare X PRIZE is designed to improve health value by more than 50 percent in a community during a three year trial. A competition around value measures and compares health outcomes against the total cost of care for a community. Health outcomes would be measured by a "community health index," which combines functional health (e.g., reduced sick days, improved ability to climb stairs) and clinical events (e.g., visit to ER, rehospitalization). Total cost would include direct costs incurred across health benefits, payroll (sick and disability pay), coupled with out-of-pocket health care. "We have a challenge of how we pay for things. In many ways, we over pay for acute care and we underpay for preventative care and wellness," said Speaker Gingrich. "This approach allows for significant improvements that would lead to better health outcomes, which would lead to longer, more active lives and do so at lower costs." Under the proposed competition framework, teams would have 18 months to conceive, model, and submit plans to create a new paradigm that can impact the health status of individual participants as well as the overall health status of communities. A later pilot phase will be used to demonstrate that the models can successfully be applied on a small scale. To select finalists, the competitive field will be narrowed to approximately the top five performers as judged by an objective process currently under development. During the competition stage, the five finalists will be matched to a test community of 10,000 individuals and compared against a control group during a three year real-world trial. WellPoint, together with its affiliated health plans, has committed to collect appropriate data and collaborate with employers and providers to set up the test communities, subject to validation by an independent third party. The competing team's ability to change incentives is expected to drive improved behaviors across consumers and providers. "We appreciate the tremendous support and advice we've received from the health community as we've shaped this effort," said Dr. Vijay Goel, director of Prize Development, The X PRIZE Foundation. "By engaging individuals through the creation of a personal vitality score to help them understand their health options, and then measuring the impact of their choices at the community health level we can create new

approaches to achieve optimal health in a convenient, proactive, and effective way. We see the Healthcare X PRIZE effort as a public-private collaboration that makes affordable health care for working families a sustainable reality."

[back to top](#)