Announcing the new Center for Adolescent Nursing Leadership

With the completion of GSAN's five-year funding by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, GSAN Director Linda Bearinger sought to broaden the scope of scholarship and training in adolescent nursing. With another five years of funding from MCHB, the Center for Adolescent Nursing Leadership has been established in the University of Minnesota School of Nursing.

The mission of the Center is to improve the health of all adolescents by enhancing the preparedness of nurses in adolescent health leadership positions in academic and public health sectors. To accomplish this, the Center will have four major components. In addition to continuing the master's program nursing and offering doctoral study in adolescent nursing (GSAN), the Center will also provide faculty development, continuing education, and dissemination of best practices and technical assistance to the wider community.

Core Frameworks: Resiliency and Ecosystems Perspectives

The Center's educational offerings are built upon two core conceptual frameworks: resiliency theory and ecosystems perspective. A resiliency-based approach seeks to understand not only what puts young people at risk for negative health and social outcomes, but also seeks to understand what protects youths exposed to such risks from those negative outcomes. An ecosystems perspective seeks to understand and intervene within the social contexts in the adolescent's environment. As the health problems of today's youth have shifted from infectious to social/behavioral etiologies, the clinical repertoire of health care professionals must shift from individual to community and ecosystem approaches.

A community approach is more than placing learners in the community; it requires an understanding of community needs and resources, health and social services, and the social, cultural, economic and political influences on an adolescent's response to health risks.

The Center has developed seven tenets derived from resiliency theory and ecosystems frameworks to guide curricular development:

ANA joins nurses on youth health issues

Within the past year the American Nurses Association has formed a partnership with 14 specialty nursing and other health professional organizations with a vested interest in providing culturally competent adolescent health care. At two meetings this past year, representatives from each of these 14 organizations considered strategies for enhancing nurses' competencies in addressing adolescent health needs. The task force, chaired by Ann O-Sullivan, Ph.D., FAAN and under the direction of Peggy Veroneau, M.P.H. of the ANA, considered how individual organizational efforts could complement one another. More importantly they developed a plan whereby, as a collective under the leadership of this ANA initiative, nursing could improve their capacity to meet adolescent health needs. Based on the
Welcome!

Welcome to Margo Rowe, B.A., who received her degree in nursing from the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, MN. She is currently pursuing the M.S. and M.P.H. degrees in nursing with a focus on adolescent health.

Patrice Stamps, B.A., who received her degree in nursing from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. She is currently working toward the completion of her M.S. in nursing with an emphasis on adolescent health.

Congratulations to our graduates!

Congratulations to Karen Friedl, MS, RN, Mary Mach Long, MS, RN, and Lisa Peterson-Kirchner, MS, RN, who all graduated from GSAN during Spring and Summer 1998. Best of luck to all of you in your new careers!

Plan ahead:
Application deadlines for masters and doctoral studies with GSAN

Application deadlines for the Master’s of Science (M.S.) with a major in nursing are October 25, December 15, and April 15, for entry the following quarter (in 1999, the University will change to a semester system). For more information, contact the Graduate Studies in Adolescent Nursing office at (612) 624-3938 or e-mail adolnurs@tc.umn.edu.

Application deadline for the Doctoral Program in Nursing Science with a research focus in adolescent health is December 1 for the following Fall. Entry requirements, information about the program, and the application form can be accessed from the School of Nursing Web Page (www.nursing.umn.edu/PHD) or contact us at the telephone number above.

CENTER FACULTY AND STAFF ACTIVITIES


She also presented “STD/Pregnancy Protection for Sexually Experienced Adolescents: Measurement Issues with Add Health” at the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development, NIH, as part of a panel on Sexual Health Analysis with Add Health: The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health in Bethesda, MD, April 1998.

She co-authored several publications, including:


Linda Halcon, PhD, RN, Successfully defended her dissertation, “STDs in Female Job Corps Students: Prevalence, Associated Factors, and Implications” and received her PhD in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, in 1998. She was awarded the Division of Epidemiology’s Lester Breslow Scholar Award for academic excellence in Health Promotion/Disease Prevention.

Elizabeth Saewyc, PhC, MN, RN, PHN, received her Masters of Nursing in Advanced Community Health Nursing from the University of Washington School of Nursing, Seattle, in June 1998. She also passed her general candidacy exam for the PhD in Nursing Science at the same School of Nursing in October 1998.

She was awarded a 3-year National Research Service Award, Predoctoral Fellowship, from the National Institute of Nursing Research, for her doctoral training and her proposed dissertation, “Meanings of pregnancy and motherhood among out-of-home pregnant adolescents.”


On March 17 through 21, 1999, the 31st annual Society for Adolescent Medicine meeting will be held in Los Angeles, California. Center for Adolescent Nursing Leadership faculty and students will be presenting several research papers in the general sessions as well as during the Nursing Research Forum.

**Platform presentations:**

Renee Sieving, PhD, RNC; Clea Sucoff, PhD

“Maternal expectations, mother-child connectedness, and adolescent sexual debut”

Susan Bullerdick, MSW; Linda Bearinger, PhD, MS, RN; Sandra Potthoff, PhD; Sandra Erickson, MS; Carol Skay, PhD; John Eichhorn, BA; Shirlee Stone, BA

“School and family matters, or do they? Patterns of social connections for Native American young people”

Linda Bearinger, PhD, MS, RN; Sarah Stoddard, BSN, RN; Linda Moore, Administrative Director, Society for Adolescent Medicine

On Sunday, Linda Bearinger and Renee Sieving and other colleagues are presenting an Institute on conducting research with the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) entitled, “Add Health: Would you? Could you? Should you?”

For further information and registration materials, contact Edie Moore, Administrative Director, Society for Adolescent Medicine, 1916 Copper Oaks Circle, Blue Springs, CO 64015, (816) 224-8010. We hope to see you there!

**General session posters:**

Wendy Bensussen-Walls, MSN, RNC; Elizabeth M. Saewyc, PhC, MN, RNC

“Teen-focused vs. adult-focused prenatal care models for high-risk pregnant adolescents”

Marcia Shew, MD; Wendy Hellerstedt, PhD; Renee Sieving, PhD, RNC; Alison Smith, BA

“Home pregnancy testing among adolescents in teen clinics”

Elizabeth M. Saewyc, PhC, MN, RNC; Rebecca Frevert, MS, CNM; Anita Brown, MSW; Cynthia Rogers, MS, CNM

“Comparison of perinatal risk factors and outcomes among pregnant adolescents with and those without a history of sexual abuse”

Sandra Erickson, MS; Carol Skay, PhD; Linda Bearinger, PhD, MS; Sandra Potthoff, PhD; John Eichhorn, BA; Shirlee Stone, BA

“Probability profiling with American Indian youth: Determining priorities for suicide prevention”

Matthew Buhr-Vogl, MPH; Sandra Potthoff, PhD; Linda Bearinger, PhD, MS; Carol Skay, PhD; Sandra Erickson, MS; John Eichhorn, BA; Maggie Dexheimer Pharris, MS, MPH; Shirlee Stone, BA

“Is cultural connectedness a pathway to emotional well-being and suicide prevention? A study of urban American Indian youth.”

Linda Halcon, PhD; Alan Lifson, MD; Marcia Shew, MD; Marilyn Joseph, MD; Peter Hannan, MStat; Rose Hilk, BA; Charles Hayman, MD; Michael St. Louis, MD

“Prevalence of human papillomavirus-consistent pap smears among socio-economically disadvantaged adolescent females.”

Robert Wm. Blum, MD, PHD; Trish Beuhling, PhD; Marcia L. Shew, MD, MPH; Linda Bearinger, PhD, MS, RN; Renee Sieving, PhD, RN; Michael D. Resnick, PhD

“The effects of race, income and family on adolescent risk-taking behaviors”

**Nursing Research Forum presentations:**

Linda Bearinger, PhD, MS, RN; Ann O’Sullivan, PhD, CRNP; Peggy Veroneau, MPH, RN

"Partners in adolescent health: A nursing initiative"

Lisa Peterson-Kirchner, MS, RN; Linda Bearinger, PhD, MS, RN; Sandra Potthoff, PhD; Sandra Erickson, MS; Carol Skay, PhD; John Eichhorn, BA; Shirlee Stone, BA

“Family Connectedness as a protective factor for substance use in urban American Indian Youth”

Sara Stoddard, BSN, RN; Linda Bearinger, PhD, MS, RN; Sandra Potthoff, PhD; Sandra Erickson, MS; Carol Skay, PhD; John Eichhorn, BA; Shirlee Stone, BA

"Relationships between body image and cultural connectedness among urban American Indian youth"

In addition, Elizabeth Saewyc is co-facilitating the Nursing Networking Dinner, which allows nurses to meet and discuss potential collaborations and issues of interest to professional development in adolescent nursing; she is also co-moderator of the Qualitative Research Methods Special Interest Group Session.
Center
continued from page 1

--Training must be grounded in an understanding of adolescent development.

--Training must be community-based, in both rural and urban settings.

--Training must be systemic in nature, reflecting the multiple contexts in which young people live.

--Training must be resiliency-based.

--Training must be interdisciplinary.

--Training must be culturally competent.

--Training must develop strengths in working with families.

Graduate Studies in Adolescent Nursing

The Center will continue to offer the Master of Science with a major in Nursing, based on advanced practice public health nursing with a focus on adolescent health. The program, which prepares nurses for advanced practice roles in management, education, clinical practice, policy development, research and advocacy, takes approximately one and a half years of full-time study to complete, and includes clinical and leadership practicums in a variety of adolescent-focused public health settings across the state. The program offers career development training in public speaking, grantwriting, appraisal of research, program development, and evaluation. In addition, each student completes a mentored adolescent health research project. Some stipend and tuition support is available for students admitted to the program.

In addition, doctoral study in Nursing Science with a research focus on adolescent nursing is now available, with mentorship from Center faculty. Doctoral study is designed to build a foundation of knowledge and research competencies to support dissertation work. Doctoral programs, including the dissertation, take on average 3 to 4 years of full-time study, and prepare students to move into faculty, research, or a leadership role in the public health sector at the state, regional, or national level.

Faculty Development

The Center's second goal is to enhance teaching capability among faculty in university-based child, youth and family health undergraduate and graduate programs. To accomplish this, each year the Center will sponsor 2-day and 4-day Institutes for Leadership in Adolescent Health and for Advanced Adolescent Health Assessment and Intervention for MCH faculty in nursing and other health disciplines. Faculty from across the country will be invited to participate in these Institutes that provide opportunities to learn and practice effective methods of teaching adolescent health clinical and program-development skills.

These Institutes will be modeled after previous Summer Institutes offered by GSAN which have been extremely popular and exceeded planned capacity.

Continuing Education Offerings

Each year the Center will offer one-day workshops for health providers from a variety of disciplines for building skills in adolescent health issues and practice. These workshops will create an opportunity for health providers to meet experts from across the country. At least one of the workshops will be ITV or Web-enhanced to improve outreach across greater Minnesota; at least one of the programs will be offered outside of the Twin City area as well.

The Center will also offer seminars to students and fellows in MCH-funded university training programs; the seminars focus on priority concerns related to adolescent health, such as community-based pregnancy prevention programs, substance use and abuse, cross-cultural diversity, and youth development. The Center will also provide seminars twice quarterly for prospective and current masters and doctoral students on the development of professional roles for adolescent health leadership in various systems of care.

Dissemination of Best Practices

The Center is committed to broadening the knowledge base of providers who work with adolescents to include evidence-based best practices for health service delivery, intervention models, and evaluation approaches. In addition to providing the ongoing continuing education offerings, the Center faculty provide technical assistance at county, state and national levels, including presentations at MCH workshops and meetings, and participation in grant review panels and workgroups.

But evidence-based practices can reach a broader audience if dissemination strategies include many approaches. Therefore, the faculty also use various print media and professional meetings to improve health professionals' skills in working with youth. The Center faculty have given high priority to publishing evidence-based best practices research in professional journals, writing chapters for adolescent health texts for a variety of health professionals, and presentations at professional meetings. And, as part of the plan to share the Center's activities, research findings by students and faculty, and networking information for adolescent health information from around the world, this newsletter, Adolescent Nursing, will continue to be published quarterly.

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau, HRSA, DHHS, has funded the Center from July, 1998 through June, 2003, with a grant of nearly $1.2 million.
ANA, continued from page 1
discussions, the task force developed a multi-pronged plan of action that includes: 1) improved infrastructure and educational offerings within professional organizations to address adolescent health needs that fully utilize Bright Futures and GAPS as a guide; 2) integrating adolescent health content in curriculums at all level of nursing education; 3) assurance of licensure/ accreditation/certification emphasis on adolescence, and; 4) collaboration with other disciplinary professional organizations.

This American Nurses Foundation managed project was funded for five years by the Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) of the Health Services and Resource Administration’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). This contract with MCHB/OAH, called Partners in Program Planning for Adolescent Health (PIPPAH), joins the ANA task force with adolescent experts from other national organizations representing law, medicine, psychology, nutrition, and social work. For more information contact Joy Blackwood, project coordinator, at (202) 651-7079 or E-mail: jblackwo@ana.org. ■

Health Futures, continued from page 1
development, and funding initiatives at the federal level.

CANL director Linda Bearinger was appointed co-chair for Workgroup III: Identifying Effective Strategies and Interventions for Improving Adolescent Health at the Individual Level, along with James Farrow, MD, of the University of Washington, and Jewelle Taylor Gibbs, PhD, of UC-Berkeley. Elizabeth Saewyc, who was also invited to participate in Workgroup III, was requested by the co-chairs to take on the role of recorder and draft the Workgroup’s summary statement of recommendations and rationales.

According to Juanita Evans, MSW, chief of the Bureau’s Office of Adolescent Health, the recommendations will be disseminated in a variety of forms, including as a published government report that will include all the background papers prepared for the workgroups, as well as potential publication in relevant scholarly journals. ■

Call for Papers on Violence and Adolescence


The seminar is planned to be a meeting for a variety of disciplines to explore and address the factors that determine the presence of violence, preventive measures to reduce its incidence, and the provision of mental health care for the victims of violence.

The format will be a series of 90-120 minute workshops, as well as free papers, poster presentations, and audio-visual presentations.

Topics include gang violence, bullying in high schools, the influence of mass media, sexual violence, the cycle of love-jealousy/violence, the role of drug and alcohol abuse in violence, violence among ethnic minorities, adolescent self-violence and suicide, medico-legal and judicial aspects, treatment of violent adolescents, after-effects in adolescents of childhood sexual abuse, and pharmacotherapy in the treatment of adolescent violence.

The deadline for submission of a 150-word abstract is May 15, 1999.

For further information, contact:

ISAS International Seminars
P.O. Box 34001
Jerusalem, 91340
Israel
Tel: 972-2-6520547
Fax: 972-2-6520558
e-mail: isas@netvision.net.il

Institutes in Summer 1999, University of Minnesota

Leadership Institute: Resource Development through Grantwriting

Thursday, June 10, 9:00 am-5:00 pm
Friday, June 11, 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Designed to enhance skills around resource development and grantwriting, advocacy and policy development, and dissemination of best practices.

Leadership institutes are sponsored annually by the MCHB-funded Centers of Excellence in the University of Minnesota’s School of Nursing with faculty from the Schools of Nursing, Public Health, and Medicine.

Clinical Assessment & Interventions: Adolescent Sexual Health

Monday-Thursday, June 14-17

Integrates knowledge from nursing, public health, and adolescent development along with legal and ethical principles as a framework for developing clinical assessment and intervention strategies to promote adolescent sexual health.

The Institute is available for graduate credit or continuing education units. Sponsored annually by the MCHB-funded Center for Adolescent Nursing Leadership, School of Nursing and co-sponsored by the National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Research Center. ■
WHO/UNICEF link nine nations in common youth agenda

Launched jointly by WHO’s Adolescent Health and Development Programme (Geneva Health Section) and UNICEF’s Health Section, adolescent health leaders from nine nations have moved forward in a common agenda on behalf of young people. In May of 1998 in Morges, Switzerland these country leaders met with international resource persons from the United States and a number of international health organizations, including the Population Council (Kenya), International Council for Research on Women (Washington D.C.), International Planned Parenthood Federation (New York) and Universidade Federal de Pelotas (Brazil) to develop plans for adolescent health assessment and youth development initiatives for each of the nine represented nations. The countries joined in this common agenda for youth health monitoring and development include Bangladesh, Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Malaysia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Uganda.

Funded by the Rockefeller Foundation with bilateral country-level support for nation-specific initiatives, this gathering of adolescent health experts deliberated on the challenges in monitoring the health status of young people and evaluating the impact of youth development initiatives. The group sought consensus on relevant issues to be tracked, the minimum indicators to be measured, and the tools and methodologies available and necessary to facilitate the process.

World-wide Internet communication links all collaborating country representatives with WHO/UNICEF programme directors and the international resource persons for on-going technical assistance. It is anticipated that this group of more than 40 country leaders and consultants will reconvene in April of 1999 to measure progress and develop next steps as each country develops programming for adolescent health and development.

Dr. Linda Bearinger with WHO/UNICEF collaborators, Dr. Khushid Talukder of Bangladesh and Dr. Krishna Bose, WHO -Geneva, Switzerland.