

## MPH faculty members pick up more awards

**M**PH Kansas faculty member Jasjit S. Ahluwalia, M.D., MPH, M.S., associate professor and vice chair, Preventive Medicine, has another award to attach to his vitae.

Ahluwalia was recently named one of four distinguished faculty researchers at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Ahluwalia received the Investigator's Research Award Nov. 3 as a part of Faculty Research Day 2000. The award came with a certificate of recognition and \$1000.

Ahluwalia is best known for his research in the area of smoking cessation and nicotine addiction. He recently presented a poster at a conference in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the American Psychological Association as part of a nationwide initiative called the "Decade of Behavior." The exhibit was designed to illustrate to the science media what kind of innovative research exists in the behavioral sciences.

"Wherever he goes or whatever he does, he never misses the opportuni-

ty to advocate the prevention or treatment of substance abuse," said S. Edwards Dismuke, M.D., M.S.P.H., professor and chair, Preventive Medicine.

"He makes remarkable contributions to the field of substance abuse by creating a new level of awareness and understanding of the problems created by alcohol, tobacco or other drugs."



Jasjit S. Ahluwalia

Ahluwalia recently became a member of the Research Advisory Committee for the Minnesota Partnership for Action Against Tobacco. He also was elected to serve a three-year term on the University of Kansas School of Medicine Research Committee as well as serve as Dean of the University of Kansas - Kansas City Mini-Medical School for fall 2000.

"He has more positive energy and optimism than anyone I know," said Dismuke. "Dr. Ahluwalia is one of our stars."

### Molgaard honored with Crumrine Medal

Craig A. Molgaard, Ph.D., MPH, professor and vice chair, Preventive Medicine and statewide director of MPH Kansas, was awarded the Samuel J. Crumrine Medal, Oct. 11, at the Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) annual meeting in Manhattan, Kan.

The Samuel J. Crumrine Medal is the highest award given by KPHA. It is awarded for meritorious service and state, regional or national recognition related to the improvement of the health of Kansans and/or the environment of the state.

Molgaard was instrumental in developing a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program in the state of Kansas. Under his leadership, the

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### Woolley named distinguished professor

**D**ouglas Woolley, M.D., associate professor, Family and Community Medicine, has been named Delos V. Smith, Jr., Professor in Community Geriatrics at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita.

The selection was announced during the 20th annual Family

Practice Postgraduate Education Program, Dec. 1.

Woolley is currently enrolled as a student in the MPH Kansas degree program.

The professorship is funded by a \$500,000 grant to the KU Endowment Association from the

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# Message from the director . . .

**G**reetings. I hope all the members of the MPH Kansas family had a wonderful and blessed holiday season. As we move into 2001, we look forward to continued expansion of our public health training and research missions in Kansas.

I truly believe that we, as public health educators and practitioners, are entering into an exciting time period. The state's public health awareness has expanded exponentially since the early 1900's when Dr. Samuel J. Crumbine began educating not only Kansans, but also people across the globe, on how to take preventive measures against disease.

Not only has his message been remembered with each passing decade, it has served as the foundation for even more steps toward wellness and prevention. Now, 100 years later, people cringe at the mere thought of taking a sip out of a stranger's cup. Children are not even allowed to go to school without proof of vaccination against disease, and inspection of all food is nationally

mandated. Yes, Dr. Crumbine was the catalyst for colossal change in a relatively short time period.

He made Kansas the leader in the world of public health. It is up to us now to relight that torch that burned so brightly and again lead the way.

There is a buzz across the state centered around one topic: how to improve public health workforce development and leadership. This can happen in a variety of ways, whether it is through MPH coursework, web-based training, seminars, tutorials or mentored activity in the workplace. Workforce needs are varied, whether they are in leadership or skills development. One of our goals as a program is to open our public health "tool kit" to all who desire it, at whatever level. In this way, our service function for Kansans can be combined with greater access to training opportunities for those concerned with the public's health.

MPH Kansas is proud to help achieve this goal. Our award-winning



**Craig A. Molgaard**

faculty and students, along with our outstanding alumni, will continue to offer our assistance and help lead the way to better overall health of the public.

Finally, I'd like to give a special thank you to KPHA for awarding me the Samuel J. Crumbine Medal at the annual Kansas Public Health Conference in Manhattan. I was very honored.

Good luck to all in the next year.

## *Information about the MPH Kansas degree program*

MPH Kansas is a joint degree program involving the University of Kansas and Wichita State University. It is designed to meet the needs of working health care professionals in the state who will complete the degree on a part-time basis.

MPH Kansas is a 36-credit hour program with thesis and practicum options. The MPH student must complete 15 core course hours.

Competencies in the five basic public health specialty areas will be provided by the core course work in environmental health sciences, epidemiology, public health administration, biostatistics and social and behavioral sciences.

The student's capstone experience consists of six credit hours. The thesis and practicum project are both designed to serve as the demonstration of proficiency in, and the ability to integrate, the curriculum.

### **Admission requirements...**

Applicants to the MPH program must meet the general requirements for admission to the Graduate Schools at the University of Kansas and Wichita State University. Admission to MPH Kansas requires a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution with a GPA of 3.0 based on the last 60 hours; one official copy of all transcripts; a personal statement; three letters of recommendation; demonstration of one or more years of work related to health; submission of an official report of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or equivalent professional test (GMAT, MCAT, LSAT, DSAT); a resume or curriculum vitae; and completion of an MPH application and a graduate school application.

International applicants are required to additionally submit the

following: TSE, TOEFL and TWE scores; official translations and interpretations of any non-English transcripts; and an evaluation of transcripts for academic compatibility with the U.S. grading systems.

### **How to apply...**

For more information, or to get an MPH and graduate school application, visit <http://prevmed.kumc.edu/mp> or contact:

#### **Kansas City (KUMC)**

Edie Bryant, 913-588-2720  
e-mail: [ebryant@kumc.edu](mailto:ebryant@kumc.edu)

#### **Wichita (KUSM-Wichita)**

Becky Gruhn, 316-293-2606  
e-mail: [bgruhn@kumc.edu](mailto:bgruhn@kumc.edu)

#### **Wichita (WSU)**

Janet Wetta, 316-978-5650  
e-mail: [wetta@chp.twsu.edu](mailto:wetta@chp.twsu.edu)

## SERVICE

# Students educate public one play at a time

No one knew eight years ago that two medical students' assignment for a class would evolve into an award-winning project, reaching more than 40,000 Kansas City-area youth and impacting attitudes and behaviors regarding HIV and AIDS.

Clinical Sciences I, a course taken by all first-year medical students at the KU School of Medicine, requires students to complete a service project focused on AIDS prevention.

One of the projects presented by two medical students was a dramatic, real life portrayal of teenagers infected with HIV.

This project grew into a joint effort formally named the Dramatic AIDS Education Project (DAEP). It is a collaborative partnership between the Department of Preventive Medicine and The Coterie Theatre in Kansas City, Mo.

"We have a cooperative agreement with each other," said Christine Moranetz, Ph.D., clinical associate professor and Interim MPH director, Preventive Medicine - Kansas City, and co-director of the DAEP. "They provide the artistic direction and we provided the education and research component."

The Coterie Theatre is a nationally-acclaimed youth theater that has been performing children's and family plays in the Kansas City area for the past 21 years. With a mutual interest in AIDS education and prevention, The Coterie Theatre provided an artistic approach to the educational component outlined previously by Dr. Moranetz.

DAEP performances consist of two presenters, one male and one female. One presenter is a medical student and the other one is a young professional actor. Each of the presenters is from a different cultural background and the pair is often chosen to be representative of the

cultural make up of the audience.

This year was the first year that occupational therapy education students were invited to participate in the program. Next year, nursing students also will be recruited to take

*"They provide the artistic direction and we provide the education and research component."*

part in performances. Participation in the project is voluntary and the presenters are paid a small stipend.

At the beginning of the school year, students are invited to attend a presentation and are asked to schedule an audition time if they are interested in performing. This year, 17 medical students are involved with the DAEP.

"It's very much a real theatrical experience. We have them sign up for auditions, do a cold reading, talk to them about their history and background with theater and HIV and AIDS," said Annette Filippi, project coordinator for the DAEP.

After troupe members are selected, they go through an intensive training process that is designed to improve their acting skills and educate them on HIV and AIDS. The goal of the training is to make the actors AIDS Peer Educators that are capable of correctly responding to any question that might be asked during the question-and-answer segment of the performance.

The format is described as "guerilla theater." Students are told that they are attending a presentation on AIDS and HIV. Then, the actors pass themselves off as real teenagers who are infected with HIV.

After the presentation is over, the presenters disclose their real identities and then answer questions from the youth audience. This type of

format has proven to be very effective with the teenage audience.

"We have found through our evaluations that this format is more effective than that of typical lectures," said Moranetz.

The DAEP is evaluated using quantitative and qualitative methods. Students in the audience fill out surveys about their knowledge before and after the performance. The project is

also evaluated for its content and is periodically modified to fit the changing times. This year, the effect of alcohol on decision-making was added to some scripts in order to address a typical teenage issue.

The DAEP receives support from several area organizations. American Century Investments, the AIDS Service Foundation of Greater Kansas City and the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA) all fund the DAEP.

In 1997, the project received the Ribbon of Hope Community Service Award, an award that honors two-to-five programs a year for their service. The program also received the Achiever Award in 1998 from the Kansas City Consensus, an organization that honors partnerships and collaborative efforts throughout the community.

Today, the eight-year-old partnership continues to grow. Last year, it performed to more than 8,000 youth in the Kansas City metropolitan area, primarily at the high school and middle school level.

"It is our goal to get worked into a school curriculum," said Filippi. Performances are booked on a first come, first served basis within a 20-mile radius of the downtown Kansas City, Mo., area. For more information or to book a performance, contact Annette Filippi, project coordinator, at (913) 588-2776.

## MPH STUDENTS

### Naylor travels to Washington, D.C.

**Lore Naylor**, an MPH student at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, recently met the President of the United States, Bill Clinton, at a fundraiser held for 3rd District Congressman Dennis Moore, Oct. 2, at the Frederick Douglas Museum in Washington D.C. USDA Secretary Dan Glickman was also in attendance.

Naylor worked as a volunteer for Congressman Moore in Kansas City during his campaign. He was successfully re-elected to the 3rd District of Kansas which covers Wyandotte, Johnson, Douglas, and Miami counties. According to Naylor, Moore is a strong supporter of public health issues, children's programs and higher education.

She became involved with the campaign because she believes it is important that students volunteer on campaigns to re-elect officials like Moore who understand and support issues that are valued by the public health profession.



Photo by Doug DeMark

Photo (left to right): President Bill Clinton, Lore Naylor, and Congressman Dennis Moore.

Naylor is currently a full-time MPH student and works part-time at The University of Health Sciences as a research assistant on a March of Dimes folic acid grant.

Norge Jerome, emeritus professor, Preventive Medicine, is Naylor's

advisor. Naylor will graduate with her MPH this summer and plans to start work on a doctorate in August. Her interests include maternal child health, international health, HIV/AIDS and public policy.

## Students receive statewide recognition for service

**Suzanne Schrater** was installed as president of the Kansas Employee Pharmacists Council (KEPC) Sept. 30, 2000, during the Kansas Pharmacists 120th annual meeting in Wichita, Kan. Schrater is currently an MPH student at the KUSM-Wichita.

Schrater also won the Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award for pharmacists who have practiced a decade or less and have distinguished themselves through outstanding community or professional service to the Kansas Pharmacists Association and efforts to advance the profession.

She served as secretary-treasurer of KEPC previously. She also has been a member of the Kansas Pharmacists Association finance and

operations and professional affairs committees and the Kansas Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

She is a past recipient of the Myland Pharmaceutical Excellence Award.

Schrater earned her bachelor's degree in pharmacy and doctor of pharmacy degrees from the University of Kansas. She expects to graduate with her MPH in May.

### Good honored with Presidential Citation Award

**Marge Good**, MPH student at KUSM-Wichita, was the recipient of the Presidential Citation Award from the Kansas Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This award

recognizes outstanding accomplishments within the chapter in the areas of fundraising, program efforts or volunteer leadership.

Good was nominated because of her volunteer participation that provided education to patients, families and health care professionals.

She served on the planning committee for the "Cancer: Keys to Survivorship" program; she spoke with patients and family members about clinical trials at the chapter's Family Support Group, and was a featured speaker at the Society's longest-running medical education program, the Dr. William Dameshek Medical Symposium.

Good expects to receive her degree in May.

## MPH STUDENTS

# Woods takes year off med school to pursue MPH

**W**hen **Malaika Woods** applied to medical school, she already had an interest in the public health arena. With a B.A. in sociology from Wichita State University and previous experience in medical research, her medical degree was simply another catalyst to further her interest in preventive medicine.

So when Jasjit S. Ahluwalia, M.D., MPH, M.S., associate professor and vice chair, Preventive Medicine, approached her about obtaining her MPH degree while still in medical school, she decided to do so.

"I was always interested in public health and the opportunity arose to work with Dr. Ahluwalia on his smoking cessation project, so I took it," Woods said.

Woods had previously worked in the Department of Preventive Medicine as a research intern. In 1999, she took a leave from medical school and became a research fellow with the Tobacco Control Project.

"Malaika became an important member of Dr. Ahluwalia's research team," said Kari Harris, Ph.D., MPH, research assistant professor, Preventive Medicine. "Her focus on our project, close collaboration with our research team, along with her research experience in the first sum-

mer, allowed her to jump right into designing her thesis project."

Woods' year off from medical school turned out to be anything but a vacation. She spent half her day conducting research in the department and half her day attending MPH classes. In that year, she completed her MPH coursework, successfully defended her thesis, first-authored a paper under review, co-authored another paper that is awaiting final data, presented papers and posters at several conferences across the country and won the award for best student investigator at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

"Malaika is a good example of a medical student with well-defined career goals. She knew what she needed to do to position herself to meet those goals and proved that the MPH could be completed in one year," said Kolawole Okuyemi, M.D., assistant professor, Family Medicine.

Because of her fellowship, Woods was able to spend her entire day



**Malaika Woods**

immersed in research practices that gave her a better understanding of her coursework. She was able to implement everything she was taught in class as well as see the results of her research. She learned presentation skills, how to write grants and how to implement research.

"The MPH program gives you a totally different perspective on public health and medicine," said Woods. "In medical school, you are taught to see the disease."

Woods plans to use her MPH degree as a tool to obtain her future goals. She hopes to pursue a residency in obstetrics and gynecology. Eventually, she would like to go on and work in an academic institution. But her long-term plans include splitting her time between health care research and a clinical practice.

Right now, Woods remains content in her third year of medical school. As an MPH graduate, she is able to see the advantages of preventive measures and how they could impact patients.

Even though she spent a whole year away from her medical training, she has jumped back into clinicals without any problems. But now, she is looking at medicine through a different perspective.

## *The road to a public health career included a walk down the aisle...*

*MPH student Andrew Warlen and recent graduate Leslie [Elsener] Warlen, MPH, were married last summer at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Prairie Village, Kan.*

*The couple met while attending classes at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City. Leslie graduated in Fall 1999 and is employed by Project Eagle as a Health Educator. Andrew is an Epidemiology Specialist with the Missouri Department of Health, Section of Communicable Disease Control. He is a May 2001 candidate for graduation.*



## SERVICE

### KUSM-W joins First Monday 2000

The University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita was one of more than 200 schools of social work, public health, medicine, law enforcement and nursing across the nation to join in the First Monday 2000 campaign.

This year's campaign is "Unite to End Gun Violence." The campaign's highlights are the hundreds of events on campuses and in communities nationwide.

Led by **Craig Molgaard, Ph.D., MPH**, and MPH student **Julie Oler-Manske**, the Department of Preventive Medicine hosted a First Monday 2000 event, which was open to the public, Monday, Oct. 2. More than 50 citizens throughout the community were in attendance for a film, lecture and panel discussion.

**Brian Withrow, Ph.D.**, assistant professor and director, Midwest Criminal Justice Institute School of Community Affairs, Wichita State University, was the guest speaker. Withrow's presentation was followed by a panel discussion that included representatives from Wichita's Promise Youth Council, the Wichita Police Department and faculty from the Department of Preventive Medicine.

First Monday is an annual, national initiative coordinated by the Alliance for Justice in conjunction with Physicians for Social Responsibility. Highlighting a different justice issue each year, the First Monday campaigns seek to inspire and mobilize a new generation of advocates to further the cause of justice.

### *Award, continued from page 1*

MPH Kansas degree program was recently ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* as the fifth leading graduate degree program nationwide in community health.

In 1999, Molgaard sought funding in response to an identified need for public health workforce development in the state of Kansas. Upon approval for funding from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), he began work on developing and implementing the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute which focused on this need.

A colleague says of Molgaard, "... more important than his impressive resume is the personal approach he takes with all of the students in the MPH program and the colleagues he interacts with on a daily basis. He never stops educating and searching for better solutions to public health problems."

## Unique class provides service to local agencies

**M**PH Kansas has added yet another dimension to its mission of teaching the state's public health practitioners by providing educational opportunities for non-graduate students.

For the second semester in a row, an MPH elective, PRVM 869: Grant writing, is being made available to members of the public.

"Local agencies try and tackle many public health problems with a very limited budget," said Craig Molgaard, Ph.D., MPH, professor and vice chair, director of MPH Kansas.

"By providing this educational instruction on how to write grants, we hope to empower public health practitioners with the knowledge necessary to help bring in funds and tear down financial barriers. This will help these local agencies better serve the public's health. Everyone will benefit from this."

The class, which is offered from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, is co-instructed by Molgaard and Deanna Knapp, co-founder of the Kansas Professional Grant Association. The course combines instruction and practical exercises to move the participant step-by-step through all stages of planning programs, identifying funding sources, and writing grant proposals.

Upon completion of this unique course, the student will have developed a quality proposal and be able to demonstrate skills in preparing grants.

Examples of these skills include: development of a fundable idea; researching appropriate funding opportunities from foundations, corporations, and governmental sources; finding grant information on the Internet and reviewing federal grant applications, including, NIH, NSF, and HRSA applications, etc.

Interested students outside of the MPH Kansas program who wish to take the class can do so at a charge of \$300, plus textbook. Instead of receiving graduate school credit for the MPH elective, these students receive a certificate of completion from the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute.

Response from the public was so overwhelming that Molgaard decided to repeat the class for the Spring 2001 semester.

Examples of grants that were submitted by students from the Fall 2000 semester include: "Identifying health needs of high school drop-outs in Sedgwick County, Kansas"; "Diabetic Case Management and Education," and "Asthma Outreach Program for Children in Northeast Wichita, Kansas."

Grant writing is also offered as an MPH elective at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

## NEWS

### *Distinguished professor,* continued from page 1

Delos V. Smith Senior Citizens Foundation of Hutchinson, Kan. It honors the late actor and KU alumnus who established an enviable record as an actor, producer and director in television, film and theatre. In 1985, he was named Best Actor by the Kansas Film Commission. After living in New York, London and Los Angeles, Smith returned to his home in Hutchinson, where he taught drama classes at Hutchinson Community College. He died in 1997 at age 91.



**Douglas Woolley**

the KU School of Medicine-Wichita faculty in 1993, having previously taught at East Carolina University School of Medicine and Penn State University College of Medicine. Board certified in family medicine, he also holds a Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Geriatrics from the American Board of Family Practice/American Board of Internal Medicine. A literal pioneer in the field, he was a member of the first generation of physicians to achieve the CAQ in 1988.

Currently medical director for Larkfield Place Retirement Community, Wichita, Kan., Woolley brings a distinguished list of accomplishments to this new position. In 1980, he established a teaching nursing home at Penn State to train family practice residents. This was one of the first of these facilities affiliated directly with a university program. He also spent more than 10 years as director of continuing medical education in geriatrics at Penn State, followed by service as a member of the geriatric fellowship faculty at East Carolina.

In addition to his teaching duties and patient care responsibilities, Woolley serves as vice chair for the Department of Family and Community Medicine.

As the new Delos Smith professor, Woolley will teach and mentor students participating in the medical school's geriatric health-care education program, a six-week clinical rotation required for all third-year medical students. He also will instruct practicing physicians taking continuing medical education classes in geriatrics, conduct research and present geriatric health-care information to community organizations.

Woolley received his medical degree from the University of California, Davis, in 1977. He joined

## Manning wins trip to APHA

**Brian Manning**, MPH student in Kansas City, was recently awarded a trip to the American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference in Boston, Mass., after winning the "Overall Best Student Entry" for a poster presentation at the 2000 Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) Conference in Manhattan, Kan., Oct. 10-12.

His presentation titled "Strategies



**Brian Manning**

to Enhance Retention of Minorities in Clinical Trials: The Kick It at Swope Experience" characterize his research involving a NIH-funded smoking cessation program at the Swope Parkway Health Center in Kansas City, Mo. Brian is mentored by Jasjit S.

Ahluwalia, M.D., MPH, M.S. Principal Investigator; and Kari Jo Harris, Ph.D., MPH.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JANUARY

16 Spring semester begins

### MARCH

2 Last day to turn in application for degree card

19 Spring break recess

26 Classes resume

### APRIL

2-8 National public health week

9 Last day for May 2001 master's candidates to take final exams

### MAY

2 Last day for May 2001 master's candidates to file theses, dissertations, and other materials in their graduate divisions' offices. **No extensions by Graduate Divisions.**

7 Last day of classes.

9-16 FINALS

19 Hooding ceremony (Kansas City)

### *Student attends ILCA Conference*

At the recent International Lactation Consultant Association (ILCA) Conference in Washington, D.C., many U.S. members took the opportunity to visit their Congressional delegates to support several breastfeeding-related bills currently stalled in the House of Representatives.

Among the members was **Katherine Shuster**, MPH student in Kansas City, and her daughter, Daeya. More than 60 ILCA members visited Capitol Hill where they met with Representatives, Senators, and legislative aides.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### 59th annual ATPM meeting nears

The 59th annual Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine (ATPM) conference will be April 4-6 at the Hyatt Regency Savannah on the Waterfront in Savannah, Ga.

The ATPM annual meeting is designed to improve the teaching of prevention in the health professions through a conference that links the community of prevention educators in a learning environment.

Registrations must be received on/or before Jan. 31, in order to receive the advance registration rates. To register online, visit [www.atpm.org](http://www.atpm.org), or for more information, contact ATPM toll free at 1-866- 474-ATPM.

Sessions will provide interactive discussion opportunities for faculty to address issues and exchange strategies to increase the recognition and support for health promotion and

disease prevention curriculum at their institutions.

The conference agenda is organized into two keynote presentations and four sets of sessions. Two sets of sessions will focus on the goals and Leading Health Indicators of Healthy People 2010.

These sessions will be primarily didactic with presentations by experts in these fields on the latest scientific information, as well as examples of effective methods to teach these topics to health professions students.

### New public health resource available

An adapted version of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's framework for program evaluation has recently been published by the Center for the Advancement of Community-based Public Health (CBPH). The Center is

a CCPH member. This new resource is titled "An Evaluation Framework for Community Health Programs." It is a public domain document that can be shared without restriction and can be accessed via the CDC Evaluation Working Group's website at <http://www.cdc.gov/eval>. The direct link is <http://www.cdc.gov/eval/evalcbph.pdf>

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