Welcome Day 2014!

Monday, March 24 was the annual Welcome Day for MS, PhD and MPH prospective students in the Department of Population Health Sciences. The day began in the beautiful Mendota Room at the DeJope residence hall with a welcome and continental breakfast followed by time for newly admitted students to meet and mingle with current students, faculty and staff. The morning continued with breakout sessions for each program and then a relaxing lunch. Just before noon, the group moved to the HSLC, where prospective students attended the Philip M. Farrell Population Health Distinguished Alumni Lecture given by Ann P. O’Rourke, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery, School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Students then had the opportunity to meet with advisors/faculty/staff and view the posters submitted for the annual Poster Day Session. Judging from early feedback, the day was a great success! A sincere thank you to everyone who made the day so welcoming and informative for our 2014-15 prospective students.

Congratulations, Rachel Bergmans!

Epidemiology doctoral student, Rachel Bergmans, along with her teammate, Valerie Stull, a second year doctoral student at the Nelson Institute, are among the 30 team finalists for the 2014 Agricultural Innovation Prize. This competition, launched by the Howard G. Buffett Foundation and University of Wisconsin-Madison, is open to U.S. undergraduate and graduate students across all academic disciplines. The competition runs through spring 2014, when teams will compete for the chance to win $215,000 in prize money, with a grand prize of $100,000 making this the largest agriculture-focused student competition in the world. As for their current status in the competition, Rachel and Valerie’s team has been awarded $1000 for their innovative plan to address social and agricultural challenges within food systems, and improve the standard of living and quality of life for the world's population. Their business Mighty Meal(worm) addresses food insecurity in sub-Saharan Africa by empowering women’s cooperatives and promoting a sustainable approach to microlivestock farming.
The Human Genetics Journal Club is a group of graduate students, post-docs, academic staff, and faculty from various departments (Population Health Sciences, Biostatistics, Statistics, Genetics, Animal Sciences...) that meet informally once a month to discuss recent papers from the human genetics literature. Our focus is primarily on genetics of complex diseases, and recent developments of high interest in human genetics research. We welcome suggestions from participants for interesting topics of discussion. If Interested, you can check this website for updates: http://www.biostat.wisc.edu/~kbroman/hgic/ or you can send an email to Corinne Engelman (cengelman@wisc.edu) to be added to our email distribution list.

The next meeting will take place on Friday, April 25th at 3:00pm in WARF room 1419.
Upcoming Seminars

**Seminars will take place from 12pm-1pm. Monday seminars are held in room 1309 HSLC and Wednesday seminars will be held in room 132 WARF, unless otherwise indicated**

- **Wednesday, 4/2**: Danielle Schulte presenting on “Prevalence and Incidence of Candida Colonization and Co-colonization.”
- **Monday, 4/7**: Monica Marie White, PhD, Assistant Professor of Environmental Justice, UW-Madison, presenting on “Increasing Access to Healthy Food: Urban Agriculture and Health.”
- **Wednesday, 4/9**: Michelle Raymond
- **Monday, 4/14**: Julie Maslowsky, PhD, RWJ Scholar, UW-Madison, presenting on “Adolescent Health Risk Behavior: A Wide and Focused Lens.”
- **Wednesday, 4/16**: Elizabeth Pollock
- **Wednesday, 4/23**: Lindsay Allerton
- **Monday, 4/28**: Fenaba Addo, PhD, RWJ Scholar, UW-Madison, presenting on “Seeking Relief? The Case of Consumer Bankruptcy and Later Life Health Outcomes.”
- **Wednesday, 4/30**: Karen Lazar

Upcoming PHS Student Org Events

**PHSSO Meeting**

The next PHS Student Organization Meeting is Wednesday, May 7 at 1:00pm (immediately following the noon seminar). You will receive an agenda via email closer to that date. As usual, this meeting will include a free lunch from Potbelly’s.

**PHS Happy Hour**

The April PHSSO Happy Hour will be this **Friday, April 4 at 5:00pm** at Blue Moon. All are welcome to attend!

Be sure to “Like” University of Wisconsin - Madison Department of Population Health Sciences on Facebook!