

Department of Work Environment Alumni Newsletter

Volume VI

September 2010

In This Issue

Just Published

News from our Alumni

Will you be visiting the Lowell area?

If you will be in the area, please visit! The Department holds Monday seminars at 12:30 PM that attract a wide audience.

For more information about visiting or talking about your work at one of the seminars, please contact our department administrator, Ms. Sokny Long at Sokny_Long@uml.edu

Our annual Pot Luck Dinner will be held later this fall. All alumni are welcome!

Please stay tuned for more information to follow.



A Biologic
Approach to
Environmental
Assessment and
Epidemiology

THOMAS J. SMITH
AND DAVID KRIEBEL

OXFORD

Just Published:

David Kriebel has just published a book with colleague and mentor Dr. Tom Smith of Harvard School of Public Health. "A Biologic Approach to Environmental Assessment and Epidemiology", which David says they've been working on for "way too many years", is now available from Oxford University Press:

www.OUP.com

Congratulations to the recipients of the Department's recognition



Work Environment alumni at the PREMUS conference in Angers France in August 2010. L to R: Helena Miranda, Alicia Kurowski, Dong Mug Kang, Jung Keun Park, Laura, Grace Sembajwe, Doug Myers, Angelo D'Errico.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Here in the Department of Work Environment, September brings a new academic year and renewed optimism on the positive impact of our collective efforts.

Several milestones have occurred since our last newsletter:

- In May, 11 Masters degrees and 2 Doctoral degrees were awarded to Work Environment students.
- Dr. Rafael Moure-Eraso was recently sworn in as the Chairman of the U.S. Chemical Safety Advisory Board.

We congratulate them on their achievements and wish them well!

The Department of Work Environment recently launched the Professional Science Masters (PSM) as an alternative to the MS degree. PSM degrees respond to the needs of nonacademic employers (companies, government agencies, nonprofits) for technically trained leaders with graduate level skills. The program includes an internship and is well-suited to students who will pursue a non-academic professional career.

Your assistance is needed to help establish internships for our students. Several alumni are currently working with us and our first formal internship took place over the summer at Genzyme, thanks to the efforts of alumnus Jim Giordani. The internship programs are very valuable

Publication of the Month:

March 2010

Marucci-Wellman H, Leamon TB, Binh TT, et al. A survey of work-related injury in a rapidly industrializing commune in Vietnam. *Int J Occup Environ Health*. 2009 Jan-Mar; 15(1):1-8.

April 2010

Kim H, Kriebel D. Regression models for public health surveillance data: a simulation study. *Occup Environ Med*. 2009 Nov; 66(11):733-9.

May 2010

Quinn MM, Markkanen PK, Galligan CJ, et al. Sharps injuries and other blood and body fluid exposures among home health care nurses and aides. *AJPH Nov 2009*: S710-17.

June 2010

Roelofs C, et al. The Boston Safe Shops Model: An Integrated Approach to Community Environmental and Occupational Health. *Am J Pub Health 2010 Feb 10*.

July-August 2010

Morose G. The 5 principles of "Design for Safer Nanotechnology." *J Cleaner Production*, Feb. 2010.

September 2010

Shepherd S, Woskie SR, Holcroft C, Ellenbecker M. Reducing silica and dust exposures in construction during use of powered concrete-cutting hand tools: Efficacy of local exhaust ventilation on hammer drills. *Journal of Occ Env Hygiene 2009*; 6(1):42-51.

October 2010

Gold JE, d'Errico A, Katz JN, Gore R, Punnett L. Specific and non-specific upper extremity musculoskeletal disorder syndromes in automobile manufacturing workers. *Amer J Industr Med 2009*; 52:124-132.

November 2010

Holcroft CA, Punnett L. Work environment risk factors for injuries in wood processing. *Journal of Safety Research 2009*; 40(4):247-55.

experiences for our students and if you can assist with establishing an internship at your organization, please contact our department administrator, Ms. Sokny Long at: Sokny.Long@uml.edu

With best wishes,

Margaret Quinn
Professor and Alumni Committee Chair

Kudos to the Class of 2010!

We offer congratulations and best wishes to our recent graduates:

MASTERS: Ann Bauer, Natalie Brouillette, Anthony Campana, Stephanie Carroll, David Coffey, Andrew Dalton, Efsun Karbeyaz, Luz Stella Marin, Jessica McShane, Laura Shea, and Cary Williams

DOCTORAL: Clara Rosalia Alvarez and Philip Terrell

News from the Field

Many of our alumni have been in touch, telling us about the interesting events in their lives. Thank you, and keep the news coming!



Leslie MacDonald (ScD Ergo, 2000), a Scientist Officer at NIOSH in Cincinnati, visited Lowell this spring and described a comprehensive survey she and NIOSH colleagues conducted of current practices in collection and use of occupational data among population-based cardiovascular studies in the U.S. Their findings, published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology* in June 2009, provided the foundation for subsequent examinations of the role of occupational exposures (e.g. job strain, shift work) in the development of cardiovascular disease among established longitudinal population-based cohorts.

In addition to her position at NIOSH, Leslie's role as a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service enables her to deploy during public health emergencies. In January-February 2010, Leslie was deployed to Port-au-Prince Haiti, where she worked in the Incident Response Command Center at the U.S. Embassy, providing planning and other administrative support to the set-up and operation of emergency medical field stations. Leslie was recently promoted to the rank of Captain. Outside of work, Leslie is nearing completion of an ambitious home remodeling project. Leslie will move in October with her husband Patrick and 6-year old daughter Grace into their new Cincinnati residence.

Ramana Dhara (ScD Epi, 2001) was a member of the International Medical Commission on Bhopal (IMCB), a group of independent experts in different fields of medicine and public health who studied long-term health effects among the survivors of the Bhopal disaster, ten years after the 1984 accident. The Bhopal criminal case was re-opened recently by the Supreme Court following outrage from civil society groups. Comparing the compensations for victims of the Bhopal disaster and the BP oil spill and calling for an equitable dispensation of justice, the former members of the IMCB are planning a visit to Bhopal to determine if any follow-up work can be done. Their Op-Ed appeared in the *Hindu* on August 4, 2010. (<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/article550595.ece>)

UMass Lowell Alumni Community

Be sure to check out the UMass Lowell Alumni Community through the University's website: www.uml.edu/alumni

Options that may be of interest include the online alumni directory, networking opportunities, alumni support through the Office of Career Services, and participation in the University Career Advisory Network. Local alumni can also take advantage of October Homecoming events, access to the Campus Rec Center at a special alumni rate, discounted admission for River Hawk hockey games, and local business discounts.

Stay in touch with the Department of Work Environment!

Please be sure to send us new contact information and tell us about your professional & academic accomplishments, marriage, births, and any interesting activities.

Email our Department
Administrator

Ms. Sokny Long at
Sokny_Long@uml.edu

Jon Boyer (ScD Ergo, 2009) has recently joined Childrens Hospital, Boston as their Environmental Health and Safety Manager.

BongKyoo Choi (ScD Ergo, 2007) was awarded "Best Abstract Winner" at the 2010 ICOH-WOPS conference in the Netherlands for his abstract: *Job control and job demands as risk factors for central obesity in US workers: a 9-year follow-up study*. BongKyoo is Associate Project Scientist at the Center for Occupational and Environment Health, School of Medicine, University of California Irvine

Will Henderson (OEH, Class of 2011) did a summer internship in the Health and Safety Department at Genzyme Corporation, Framingham, MA with alumnus James Giordani (MSc OEH, 2009). Sincere thanks to Jim for facilitating the development of this internship position.

JungKeun Park (ScD Ergo, 2006)

I'm a senior researcher of Occupational Ergonomics at Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute, Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA). My research interests include exposure assessment and surveillance.



On coming back to KOSHA in 2006 after study at DWE, I have been conducting musculoskeletal disorders prevention studies which focus on ergonomic exposure assessment. My duties include partnering for each ergo project supported by government grants which are annually opened to researchers at universities or institutes across Korea. Also I perform standards work such as review of ISO standard drafts or KOSHA codes establishment as well as investigation or surveillance of workers' compensation claims for musculoskeletal disorders.

Hope all DWE friends are safe and well,
Jungkeun