



Otago International Health Research Network

Hosted by the Centre for International Health

News in brief...

Welcome to our network:

Professor Brendan Gray, **Chair Centre for Entrepreneurship**

As per feedback from members, we are exploring the possibility of a column in our newsletter dedicated to possible **collaborative projects for members seeking expertise in other fields**. Would you be interested?

We'd like to **form a group of students** interested in International Health and get them involved with the conference. Contact

cih@otago.ac.nz

Some useful info:

The Research and Enterprise Office has various research related awards up for grabs. For more information go to:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/research/awards/index.html>

To subscribe to the Research and Enterprise weekly Research news and funding opportunities go to:

<http://lists.otago.ac.nz/listinfo/researchinfo>

NIH Funding Opportunities, Peer Review and Grant Writing. For more information go to:

http://ora.stanford.edu/ora/ratd/nih_04.asp

Public Health Postgraduate course PUBX731 gains momentum

The University of Otago together with the National University of Samoa recently taught its first students in the PUBX731 Applied Social and Health Research in the Pacific course. The paper was delivered in Samoa using the National University of Samoa facilities and bringing into effect the Memorandum of Understanding between the two entities. The students were able to engage the Samoan community through their field work activities. OIHRN member and course convenor—Dr Tamasailau Suaalii-Sauni says that the course content aimed to provide graduate students opportunities to learn and practise in a supervised setting:

1. Key paradigms in indigenous Pacific research;
2. Key social research methods and methodological approaches;
3. Selected epidemiological methods; and
4. Community research relationship building.

Students found the course useful as summed up by one student's comments, "A thoroughly worthwhile paper".

The course was completed successfully with the support of various staff members and the Committee for the Advancement Learning and Teaching.



Dr Suaalii-Sauni (in red) with the PUBX731 teaching and support staff together with the uniformed students.

Member Profile—Professor Pauline Norris

Pauline Norris, Professor of Social Pharmacy, aims to improve the distribution and use of medicines in developing countries with the results of the research she does. Her background is in sociology and health services research. She leads an on-going programme of work on antibiotic use in Samoa, funded so far by the Health Research Council of New Zealand and Otago Research Grants. She has also supervised under-graduate and post-graduate research in South Africa, East Timor and the United Arab Emirates.

While on research and study leave in 2005, she worked for the World Health Organisation in Geneva as a Visiting Scientist, reviewing evidence about the success of interventions to improve antibiotic use. In addition to her research activities, Pauline also teaches both undergraduate and postgraduate students in the School of Pharmacy.

Some of Pauline's recent publications include:

1. Norris P, Vaai C, Faalau F, Churchward M, Arroll B Pain, infection and colds and flu: Samoan people's views about antibiotics Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy. (2010)
2. Patel A, Gauld R, Norris P, Rades T. This body does not want free medicines: South African consumer perceptions of drug quality. *Health Policy and Planning*, (2010) 25(1): 61-69
3. Norris P, Fa'alau F, Va'ai C, Churchward M, Arroll B. Navigating between illness paradigms: treatment-seeking by Samoan people in Samoa and New Zealand. *Qualitative Health Research* (2009) 19(10): 1466-1475

Look out for the new book

Japan's Wartime Medical Atrocities



Assoc. Prof. Nie

A comparative inquiries into science, history and ethics, Associate Professor Jing-Bao Nie co-edited book **Japan's Wartime Medical Atrocities** is soon to be available on the 21st

July 2010. The volume's central ethical claim is that the failure to bring justice to bear on the systematic abuse of medical research by Japanese military medical personnel more than six decades ago has had a profoundly retarding influence on the development and practice of medical and social ethics in all of East Asia.

More information on <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415583770/>



Professor Pauline Norris at the University of Otago main Leith bridge

OIHRN 3rd Conference: 8th and 9th Nov 2010