



OIHRN
7TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
12 & 13 NOVEMBER 2014
DUNEDIN



The Otago International Health Research Network (OIHRN) is hosting the **OIHRN 7th Annual Conference** on 12-13 November at the Hutton Theatre, Otago Museum, Dunedin.

- This year's theme is 'One Health in low resource areas: the interface between human, animal, and environmental health'. Other session topics will include 'A focus on Myanmar'
- The keynote speaker - Prof. Dr. Jakob Zinsstag-Klopfenstein is from the Human and Animal Health Unit, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Switzerland and is the current President of the International Association for Ecology and Health (EcoHealth; www.ecohealth.net).
- Prof Dr Zinsstag-Klopfenstein will also present the McKinlay Oration (Thursday 12 November 4pm) titled – One Health: The added value of closer cooperation of human and veterinary medicine.
- Online registrations are now open at www.otago.ac.nz/oihrnconference
- Call for Papers - we invite submissions from interested parties (including students) on any subject relevant to global health. Please forward your abstracts to cih@otago.ac.nz by Friday 19 September
- For further conference information, please visit www.otago.ac.nz/oihrnconference.

Inaugural Professorial Lectures (IPL)

Professor David Murdoch's IPL titled 'The perennial challenge of infectious diseases', was held Wednesday 26 February 2014 and is available online:

http://www.otago.ac.nz/prodcons/groups/public/@otagopodcast/documents/audio_video/otago068292.mp4

Professor John Crump's IPL 'Beyond malaria: fever in the tropics' was held on Tuesday 27 May 2014, and is also available online:

http://www.otago.ac.nz/prodcons/groups/public/@otagopodcast/documents/audio_video/otago074811.mp4

Working in Polio Eradication in Northern Nigeria

Dr Gerida Birukila completed her PhD in Public Health at the University of Otago, Christchurch in 2012. Having previously completed her Master of Public Health and Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health there.

In 2013, Dr Gerida was employed by UNICEF to work in the area of polio communication in Northern Nigeria. Northern Nigeria is one of the few regions of the world where polio transmission persists, largely because of high rates of vaccine refusal and non-compliance with the supplemental immunization activities by parents in the general population.

Currently, Dr Gerida leads a large team (900) of national consultants, religious focal persons and volunteer community mobilizers.

Dr Gerida is very grateful for the public health training she received from the University of Otago, and says "Public health is a course I will recommend to anyone interested in working in the area of international health".

Dr Gerida is originally from Tanzania and she is also a New Zealand citizen.



Centre of International Health staff /student and visitors updates.

Welcome to Sarah Mitchell, who is based in Moshi, Tanzania for 6 months working on a multi-faceted project exploring the impact and social ecology of bacterial zoonoses. In 2015, Sarah will return to University of Otago - fourth year medical studies.

Congratulations to:

Dr Debasish Saha. Dr Saha has left the Centre of International Health to take up the position of Senior Epidemiologist in the Vaccine Value and Health Science (VVHS) unit for Glaxo Smith Kline based in Brussels, Belgium.

Namrata Prasad (MPH student). Namrata is now based in Fiji working on the Australian Government Overseas Aid Programme (AusAID) funded typhoid fever case-control study in Fiji.

Farewell to:

Professor Charles Branas - Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Pennsylvania. Prof Branas was based in the Centre for International Health while in New Zealand on sabbatical. We look forward to on-going collaborations with Prof Branas. Prof Branas profile is available at <https://www.cceb.upenn.edu/faculty/?id=114>

Dr Thanda Tun, from the University of Medicine(1), Myanmar. Dr Tun was in Dunedin working with Professor Cook and Dr Htin Lin Aung (in partnership with the Centre for International Health). Thanda is studying multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis from Burma and elsewhere.

Harold Atmaja from Padjadjaran University, Bandung . Harold was in Dunedin to gain experience with Dr Lisa Houghton and her team in the Human Nutrition Department. Once back in Bandung, Harold will be assisting an upcoming project by laboratory analysis of vitamin D levels. This project is part of collaboration between The University of Otago and Padjadjaran University .



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