Public Health Week: In this Special Edition of the UC Public Health newsletter we are excited to share events & details with you surrounding Public Health Week, occurring this week; Monday 04/06/2015 to Sunday 04/12/2015. Read below for event details.

Events

National Public Health Week: (April 6th-April 12th)

Events hosted by the Gamma Rho Chapter of Delta Omega Public Health Honor Society:
Contact: Jerusha Clark for more event details

- Monday, April 6th - "Advocating for Vulnerable Populations - the HIV/AIDS Community"
  - Showing of the movie "And the Band Played On" with a Q&A afterward.
  - Food and drinks will be provided
  - MSB 7051 @ 6:45pm
- Tuesday, April 7th - "Advocating for the Fight Against Hunger"
  - Volunteering at Freestore Foodbank
Wednesday April 8th - Environmental Health Seminar "How to Become an Effective Advocate of Health" and HPIO dashboard- Kohoe Auditorium, Kettering Lab Complex 10am-1:30pm

- Advocacy panel with leading public health officials in the Tri-State region from 10a-11:30a
  - Panelists include:
    - Jennifer Chubinski, Interact for Health
    - Dr. Noble Maseru, Cincinnati Health Commissioner
    - Dr. Lynne Saddler - Director of the N. KY Health Department
    - Tim Ingram - Commissioner, Hamilton County Health Department
- Student Lunch and Meet & Greet with Panelists 11:30a-12:30p. (MPH students please RSVP for lunch to Brandon)
  - Rm. 121 Kettering
- Health Value Dashboard Health Policy Institute of Ohio 12:30-1p
  - Webinar from HPIO
  - Amy Stevens
  - Reem Aly
  - Kehoe Auditorium

Thursday, April 9th - "Advocating for Safe Housing"
- Volunteering with Habitat 4 Humanity from 8a-4:30p
- Forest Park - 492 Brunswick
- 8a-4:30p
- Please register by Monday, April 6th
  - To register:
    - [http://habitatcincinnati.volunteerhub.com/events/index](http://habitatcincinnati.volunteerhub.com/events/index)
    - The Join Code is: UCH4H
    - Once you are signed in:
      - Click on the event Thursday, 4/9/15 - Forest Park - 492 Brunswick
      - Follow the prompts. Once complete, you will receive an email confirmation.

Friday, April 10th - "Advocating for Healthy Lifestyles"
- Relay for Life with University of Cincinnati’s Turner Scholars
- The walk will take place between the hours of Friday, April 10th 6pm to noon the following day

Saturday, April 11th - "Advocating for Vulnerable Populations - the Homeless Community"
- Sponsoring a meal for Tender Mercies from 11:30-1:00p
- An optional tour will be held from 11:45a-12:15p
Meal serving will begin at 12:30p and will last until 1:30p
Meet at 15 West 12th Street

Contact: Jerusha Clark for more event details

Conferences

Ohio Public Health Conference (Columbus, OH)
Monday-Tuesday, May 18-19
A culture of Health: Learn from the Past - Build for the Future
Together. See you at the 2015 PHCC!

Seminars & Conferences Provided by the UC Global Health Newsletter:

UC's Office of Global Health website: www.med.uc.edu/globalhealth

(Contact: Debbie Lueders to receive the Global Health Newsletter)

• April 17, 2015, University of Louisville Shelby Campus, Global Health Hits Home. For more information, go to http://globalhealthconference.splashthat.com

• 2015 Minority Health Conference: The Minority Health Conference is a student-planned and student-led event that provides a forum for emerging scholars, community leaders and researchers from all health disciplines whose interests center around issues pertinent to the health of minorities, under-served and special needs populations across the Midwest Region. The theme of this year’s conference is “Building Action – Oriented Community Partnerships in Public Health”, and we hope to explore new ideas and innovative strategies to bridge the gap in healthcare quality, access, and outcomes created by racial, ethnic, and social discrimination. Visit http://odi.publichealth.uic.edu/ for more details. And click to register: https://uic.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6X04FoMMO5zHV2JQ_JFE=0. The Conference Website is: http://uhdp.publichealth.uic.edu/minority-health-conference/

Important Dates:

Public Health Week Monday-Sunday, April 6-12
Public Health Panel at the Seminar Wednesday, April 8, 10am-11:30am Kehoe
MPH Student Lunch Wednesday, April 8, 11:30am-12:30pm Rm 121Kettering
HPIO Health Value Dashboard Wednesday, April 8, 12:30pm-1:30pm Kehoe
Class end Friday, April 24
Examinations Saturday - Thursday, April 25 - 30
Master's Recognition Ceremony Friday, May 1, 10am
Spring Semester Ends Saturday, May 2
Ohio Public Health Conference Monday-Tuesday, May 18-19

Employment Opportunities:

- http://eh.uc.edu/publichealth/news/
- http://www.epa.gov/careers/
- http://jobs.cdc.gov/cincinnati-jobs
- http://www.globalhealthhub.org/jobs-grants-listings/
- http://jobboard.globalhealth.org/jobs/

Tulane's mental health meltdown

Late last November, as Tulane’s campus was winding down for Thanksgiving break, University President Michael Fitts sat on an airplane, reading through a sheaf of documents. In his hectic first year on the job, Fitts was crisscrossing the country, introducing himself to donors and alumni associations. But in this quiet moment midair, the former law professor finally had time to focus on his students.

What he read deeply moved him, but also left him worried. Fitts was only a few months into his new job, and five of his students were dead, three of them by suicide. Here in front of him was a 28-page compendium of students’ firsthand accounts of their experiences with his school’s mental health system. It was jarring and disturbing.
The stories depicted a campus in a full-blown mental health crisis. Students struggling with anxiety, crippling depression and other serious mental illnesses said they weren’t receiving the help they needed from the overloaded campus counseling center, which has a hard cap on how many times a student can see a therapist. Students wrote about falling into a hole of despair, wanting to die, and feeling as if no one at Tulane wanted to help.

Some of them directly criticized Fitts, saying he didn’t seem to care enough about what was obviously a dire situation. “I have never seen you on campus or heard about you meeting and getting to know our students,” one wrote. Another said Tulane felt like a “very expensive deathtrap” — a pressure-cooker of an academic and social environment with limited mental health support.

The new president says he had not realized that so many Tulane students were in so much pain. And he only learned about it because a Tulane senior named Shefali Arora took it upon herself to solicit stories from her peers on social media and methodically gather them into a public Google document to chronicle the campus’s mental health crisis.

Arora took this step in response to the latest student suicide, which had shaken the campus just a few days earlier. Mary Travis, a popular and artistic sophomore from Texas, committed suicide in her dorm on Nov. 22, shocking her friends and sorority sisters, some of whom had gone out with her just the night before. In September, Daniel Rupert, another sophomore, killed himself in his dorm room, devastating members of his fraternity and other groups of friends. A public health graduate student took her life off campus in October. (Two students died as a result of accidents over the same period, adding to the grief. Benjamin Burlock, another sophomore, accidentally fell in a dormitory to his death. And Andy Joseph, a junior, died in an accident caused by an epileptic seizure.)

“The comments were very helpful for me in getting the sense of the pain out there and also what were the issues in the uppermost in people’s mind,” Fitts recalled.

He tapped out a reply to Arora on his iPhone, apologizing for his “grueling” travel schedule, which prevented him from interacting with students as much as he would have liked to. “We are definitely talking about ways we can support all members of Tulane who may be at risk,” he wrote. “On a separate note, I also am vowing to try to be more visible and available on campus, including eating at Bruff [Commons Dining Hall] more often.”

Since then, Tulane has rolled out some small changes to its mental health services.
to address student criticisms, and finally held a public memorial, called “Tulane Cares,” outside the student center for the five who died. But the changes fall short of what many students wanted, and are unlikely to meet the staggering need for mental health services on campus.

(Full Story Here)

The Future of the Newsletter
We hope to expand our newsletter with each issue to include new ideas, interesting stories, and more involvement from the student body and faculty.

Don't forget to support the program on Social Media!

Visit Our Webpage: http://eh.uc.edu/publichealth/
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