

MPH newsletter

Kansas State University • Master of Public Health Program

K-State Attends Hunger Summit

The Master of Public Health program represented Kansas State University at the first “War on Hunger” Summit hosted by Auburn University, February 17 - 19, in Auburn, Alabama.

K-State was one of 29 other universities to attend the summit, which included Colorado State, Iowa State, Michigan State, Ohio State, Oklahoma State, South Dakota State, Texas A&M and Missouri.



Source: WFP Congo www.wfp.org

Auburn’s “War on Hunger” campaign began in 2004, when The World Food Programme (WFP), the largest humanitarian agency in the world, partnered with Auburn to create a student-led model that raises awareness of local and global hunger issues.

“The timing appears right for a student movement to address global issues and a commitment

to making the world a better place,” said June Henton, Dean of the College of Human Sciences at Auburn.

Speakers at the summit included Peter McPherson, president of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, and Catherine Bertini, the former WFP Executive Director.

Lauren Bush, a Princeton University student, international fashion model and spokesperson for WFP’s “War on Hunger” campaign, spoke about her experience traveling as a WFP Ambassador in Africa.

The Auburn model is centered around a key group of students, faculty and staff named The Committee of 19, for the 19 cents a day it takes WFP to feed a hungry child. The Committee of 19 has mainly focused their efforts on raising awareness about issues that impact hunger.

On the final day of the summit, Dean June Henton emphasized the importance of raising awareness for American students, “they must understand that hunger is related with many of our own national issues, such as peace, security, health care and the environment.”

Henton hopes that other universities will begin their own “War on Hunger” effort to learn about the social inequities, conflict, political issues and other factors that prevent people from having access to food.

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If you would like to learn more about Auburn’s War on Hunger model, or are interested in joining an effort to fight hunger and poverty, please email Ginny Barnard at mphealth@ksu.edu

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Alumni Corner

Heidi Johnson, from Washington, Kansas, graduated from the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program in December 2004 and officially became the program's first alumni.

She is currently employed as the Wildcat Region Emergency/Bioterrorism Response Coordinator, located at the Riley County Health Department in Manhattan, Kansas.

The main focus of her job has been creating 'operating guides' for the Geary, Pottawatomie and Riley County Health

Departments in case of a bioterrorism event. She works closely with each of the health department's administrators and bioterrorism coordinators to organize meetings and trainings. All three counties will be able to implement a mass prophylaxis and medication clinic to deal with any Category A agents, such as anthrax, smallpox or botulism. Another interesting task Heidi's involved in is keeping a weekly tally of any atypical diseases within the region, like mumps, for an early response to potential outbreaks.

Heidi really enjoys working with the organizations and people within the communities of Geary, Pottawatomie and Riley counties and helping them realize the importance of preparedness planning. But her passion for public health extends beyond her job, she is also a member of the Clean Air Manhattan Task Force and the Diabetes Coalition.

"THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW TO LEARN, ESPECIALLY IN THE WORLD OF BIOTERRORISM."

- Heidi Johnson
'04 MPH Grad

Welcome New MPH Students for Spring/Summer 2006

Jennifer Akers

Krista Lindstrom

Mermagya Dhakal

Chris Marion

Katie Flock

David Montano

Lindsey Jones

Joan Talbott

Stephanie Kessler



Students in the Field

With an emphasis on physical activity and health promotion, **Ty Kane** completed his MPH field experience this spring at Johnson County Health Department in Olathe, Kansas. The Health Education Internship gave Ty an assortment of tasks and projects to participate in, from school tobacco policies to a stair-use intervention proposal.

“It was an interesting experience. One day I would be taking blood pressure for a resident at a high-rise retirement community and the next I would be in on a meeting discussing regional homeland security issues.”

Ty, originally from Hoxie, Kansas, would like to focus his career on researching creative solutions for Americans to incorporate physical activity into their daily lives as a way to improve weight management and promote better health. To learn more about the concept of active living, check out www.activeliving.org



CONGRATULATIONS!
Spring 2006 MPH Graduate - Ty Kane



This summer **Chris Kabriel** and **Sheri Anderson** will be completing their field experience.

Chris, with a program emphasis in nutrition and physical activity, has an opportunity to work in the Center for Integrated Health Research at the Cooper Institute, Dallas, Texas. His experience will mainly involve data collection and analysis of the Aerobics Center Longitudinal Study.

Sheri will focus her field experience time investigating Varicella zoster virus infection in the state of Kansas. Her project will be through the Kansas Epidemiologic Services Section in the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) in Topeka, KS.

Look for a follow-up to their field experience projects in the fall edition of the MPH newsletter.

Calendar of Events

Spring 2006 Commencement	May 12 & 13
Summer 2006 Semester Begins	May 22
Kansas Veterinary Medical Association Annual Conference	June 4 - 7
www.ksvma.org	
Rapid Methods & Automation in Microbiology Workshop	July 14 - 21
www.dce.ksu.edu/rapidmethods/	
MPH Program Applications Due for Spring 2007	August 1
Fall 2006 Semester Begins	August 21
MPH Program Picnic	Sept 15
Kansas Public Health Association Annual Conference	Sept 26 - 28
www.kpha.us/	
American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo	Nov 4 - 8
www.apha.org	

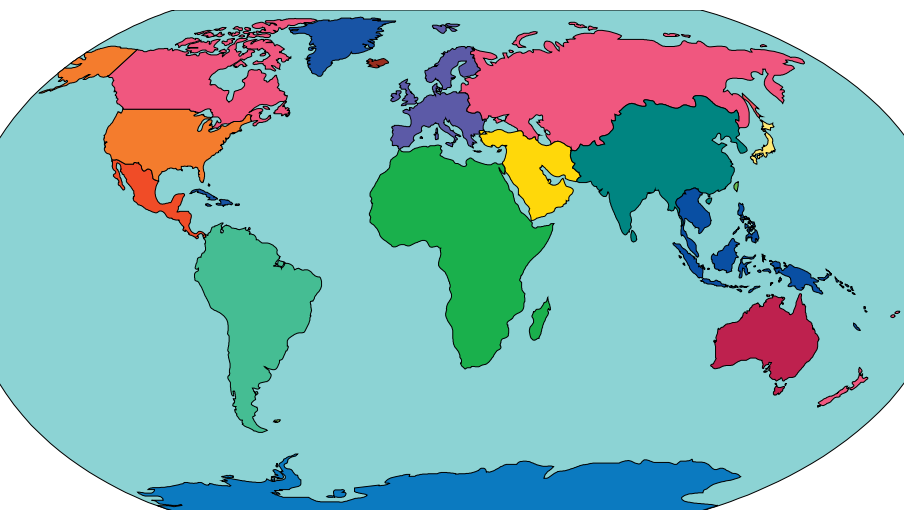


Faculty Spotlight

Daniel Y.C. Fung, a Professor in Food Science/Animal Sciences and Industry at K-State, is an internationally known microbiologist. He is one of the world's leading experts in the field of rapid methods and automation in microbiology. The Rapid Methods and Automation in Microbiology Workshop, founded and directed by Dr. Fung since 1980, has attracted more than 4,000 participants from 60 countries and 46 states for the 8-day intensive course held in Manhattan, KS.

Dr. Fung, originally from China, received his B.A. degree from the International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan, in 1965. He continued his education at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill with a M.S. degree in Public Health in 1967 and a Ph.D. in Food Technology from Iowa State University in 1969. His education and interest in public health helped focus his work on issues related to food safety and security and food toxicology.

Students are an important part of Dr. Fung's career. He has taught over 18,000 undergraduate and graduate students, first at Penn State University and then at K-State starting in 1978, and has been the major professor for 32 doctoral and 64 master students. During the next academic year, he will see his 100th graduate student finish, a major milestone!



Dr. Fung's accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. He has won more than 50 awards, including the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) Food Microbiology Distinguished Service Award in 2004, K-State's College of Agriculture Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award in 2005 and IFT's Carl R. Fellers Distinguished Career Award in 2006. During the 25th Anniversary of Dr. Fung's microbiology workshop in 2005, the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, from the U.S. Food and Drug

Administration, awarded him the Exceptional Achievements Award for the longest running continuing education program at Kansas State University.

When Dr. Fung is not working in the lab or helping students, he volunteers his time to improve the quality of life for citizens in the local community as an active member of the Manhattan Sunflower Lions Club. He has taught a UFM class called "Chinese Cooking without Sweat" for many years and you may also hear Dr. Fung playing the piano for banquets at K-State functions.

Dr. Fung continues to work and travel, giving lectures and workshops around the world, as an ambassador for Kansas State University.

Dr. Fung can be reached by email at: dfung@ksu.edu

Stay Connected

Faculty, Students and Alumni - let us know what you are doing! What new projects you are working on? Did your address or email change? Send an email or give us a call.

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