

# UM Global Health Research and Training (UM-GHRT), Looking Back 2006-2009

In July 2009, having successfully completed its original mission, the NIH/Fogarty International Center funded UM-Global Health Research and Training Initiative will be scaled down as the new UM Center for Global Health is formally launched. Most of UM-GHRT functions will now continue in similar or modified forms under the auspices of the new Center. During its four year tenure, the GHRT program made significant contributions to the growth of global health research and training on campus, funding numerous students, faculty and programs across UM 's campus while increasing the visibility of UM 's work in this arena. The Initiative has provided:

- \$180,000 in support of graduate & under-graduate student global health travel fellowships with funding from NIH, Fogarty International Center, & the Horace Rackham Graduate School.
- \$70,000 in support of the Minority Health & Health Disparities International Research and Training (MHIRT) program & of the Ford School 's International Economic Development Program (IEDP) with funds from NIH/Fogarty International Center.
- \$100,000 in support of UM faculty seed grants to foster innovative global health research with funding through the Office of the Vice President for Research & in collaboration with IRWG 's Gender & Global Health program.

UM-GHRT began as a university-wide framework to strengthen and expand opportunities for innovative multi-disciplinary global health research and scholarship. Building on existing educational programs, international research collaborations, and the infrastructure of the University of Michigan 's five NIH/Fogarty International Center sponsored research training programs, UM-GHRT focused on increasing visibility of faculty research, and curricular opportunities while also supporting under-graduate and graduate research training on projects related to the health needs of low-and middle-income countries and on health problems of a global nature.

As Principal Investigator of the NIH/Fogarty International Center *Frameworks for Global Health* grant, I would like to express my thanks to all the many faculty and staff across the University who served on GHRT committees, worked to ensure the success of the program, and helped build the institutional framework at UM in support of our growing Global Health agenda. Particular appreciation is extended to Nancy Vander Kuyl for the excellent administrative support she provided to the program. We look forward to the launch of the Center for Global Health under the creative leadership of Sandro Galea and the many new initiatives and programs that will grow under its auspices.

— Siobán Harlow, Director UM-GHRT

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# UM Center for Global Health: Message from the Director

**T**he University of Michigan has a legacy of tackling critical global health issues through research and action. In particular, for the past four years, the Global Health Research and Training Program has been at the forefront of helping catalyze work at the University concerned with global health issues. The Center for Global Health aims to build on this tradition, and on the work of GHRT, by generating novel approaches and partnerships for global health research and action.

Through its research, training, and service activities the Center for Global Health is centrally concerned with work that aims to promote global health equity. Our international engagements are informed by a principle of valuing the wisdom and expertise of others. We aim to produce new knowledge that serves society, and to build collective capacity.

The Center has four strategic objectives. These are (a) to catalyze campus and national discussion on the evidence base for improving global health; (b) to promote innovative and

## Center for Global Health Staff

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& Deputy Director

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Project Manager

**Jennifer Johnson**

Research Analyst

**Alexis Kielwasser**

Administrative Assistant

**Heather Lutz**

Events & Special  
Projects Officer

**Kate Restrck**

Program Manager for  
Education & Linkages

interdisciplinary global health research and action; (c) to nurture and develop new scientists focused on global health research and action; and (d) to build capacity for research for health in the global south. Our primary, but not exclusive, substantive areas of focus are (a) chronic non-communicable diseases, including mental health, (b) the health effects of urbanization, (c) improving human resources for health, and (d) global environmental change and health.

The Center's web-site will be active by June 2009 together with announcements of Center programs that will contribute to the Center's strategic objectives. Dr Sandro Galea, Professor of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health, Professor of Emergency Medicine in the Medical School, and Research Professor in the Institute for Social Research was appointed Director of the Center in January 1, 2009. He can be reached at [sgalea@umich.edu](mailto:sgalea@umich.edu).

—Sandro Galea, Director  
UM Center for Global Health

## Rachel Snow named New Director,

### IRWG Gender and Global Health Program



The Institute for Research on Women and Gender's Gender and Global Health (GGH) program recently named Rachel Snow as its new director. She will take over from Siobán Harlow who has led the program since it began in 2006.

### 2008 GHRT Doctoral Trainee Kristin King: NIH/FIC Clinical Research Scholar

**D**octoral Epidemiology student Kristin King travelled to Zambia in Summer 2008 as an NIH/Fogarty International Clinical Research Scholar (FICRS). This clinical research training opportunity is awarded annually to U.S. graduate health profession students in international



settings. Kristin was matched to an Oncology site in Zambia where she worked for the Cervical Cancer Prevention Program (CCPP) as a data coordinator, data analyst, and epidemiologist. <http://www.cidrz.org/>

Before Zambia, Kristin researched the topic "Trends, Determinants and Consequences of Cesarean Sections Among Chinese Migrants" in Beijing, China with support from a GHRT Travel Fellowship.

### 2008 UM-GHRT Trainee Abdulrahman M. El-Sayed: Rhodes Scholar



**A**bdulrahman M. El Sayed, studies in the university's joint medical Ph.D. program in medicine and public health. He was a 2008 recipient of a GHRT Travel Fellowship with a project in Guatemala where he researched the topic "Understanding the Role of Fumonisin FBI in the Etiology of Neural Tube Defects in Guatemala".

Abdulrahman is one of 32 persons from across the U.S. selected as a Rhodes Scholars for 2009.

# OVPR/UM GHRT Faculty Seed Grant Program, 2006-2008

**10** UM faculty received funding from UM-GHRT's partnership with the office of the Vice President for Research to facilitate innovative, collaborative, and high-quality research in the field of global health.



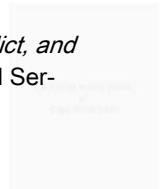
**2006 Vincent Abreu**  
*A Decision Support System to Forecast Dengue in Panama and Nicaragua*



**2007 Bruno Giordani**  
*The Neuropsychological Impact of a Computerized Cognitive Rehabilitation Training Intervention with Ugandan Cerebral Malaria Survivors*



**2008 William Axinn**  
*Social Change, Armed Conflict, and Mental Health Disorders and Service Use, Nepal*



**Lisa Harris 2008**  
*Psychosocial Dimensions of Ghanaian Abortion Provider Experiences*



**2008 Jody Lori**  
*A Critical Analysis of Maternal Morbidity in Liberia*



**2006 Margaret Kruk**  
*Economic Assessment of a Non-Physician Obstetric Surgical Provider Program in Mozambique*



**2007 Arland Thornton**  
*Measuring Developmental Idealism and its Impact Upon Family*



**2008 Jerome Nriagu**  
*Co-Morbidity of Malaria and Lead Poisoning in Nigerian Children*



**2008 Julia Seng**  
*From "Moms" to "Mums": Adopting a Perinatal PTSD Intervention for Australian Settings*



**2008 Mark Padilla**  
*Qualitative Research on Institutional Readiness for Gender-based HIV Prevention in the Dominican Tourism Sector*

May 2009



# Fall 2008 GHRT/ MHIRT (Minority Health & Health Disparities International Research and Training)

## Poster Session & Symposium

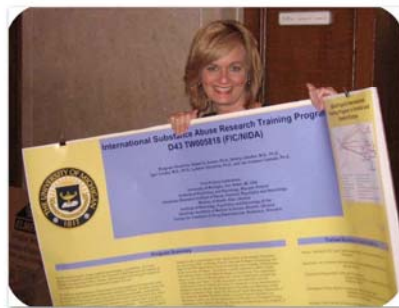
A. Kilolo Harris, Cuba  
&  
Christine Pierce, Peru



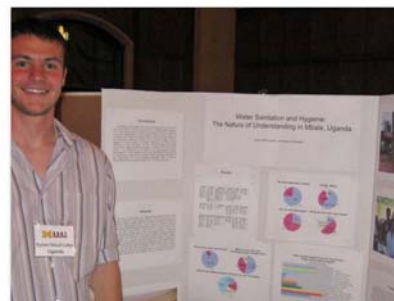
Shama Cash-  
Goldwasser,  
Bangladesh



Kristi Jenkins,  
University of Michigan  
Addiction Research  
Center (UMARC )  
Fogarty Program



Eytan Shtull  
Leber, Uganda



Kate Restrict ( pictured center )  
Honored for her work as MHIRT Program Manager  
1994-2008

## New Connections; Global Health and Art & Design.

### Masters Student, John Walters: Chile, Thailand Cuba

**U**M-GHRT aimed to strengthen and expand opportunities for innovative multi-disciplinary global health research and scholarship. John Walters, Masters student in the Department of Art and Design, helped realize this goal when he submitted his application last year for a GHRT global health travel fellowship.

John combines global health and Art and Design with an innovative conception of the artist’s responsibility for resource management and insight into the process of embodiment of health. As he describes his work: “I examined the environmental and socio-economic burdens of resource management in relation to copper ore extraction in Chile, the world’s largest copper producer. Secondly, I visited a unique

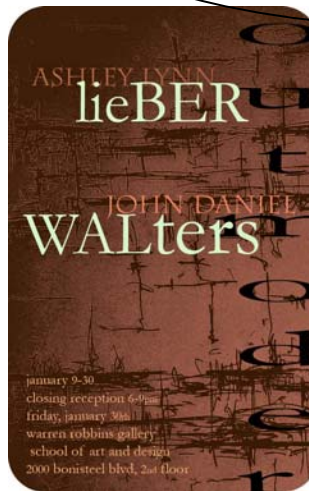
detoxification program at the Thamkrabok Monastery near the city of Phraputthabat in Thailand. The monastery helps individuals manage their addictive tendencies in regards to substance abuse. I combined these two very different avenues of research by drawing a direct correlation between copper extraction and addiction management and the role these two subjects play within my interests as a creative practitioner.”

John continues to expand his research with a new project entitled “Access, Innovation and Mobility in Contemporary Cuba”. He will examine the innate understanding that Cubans have of the objects that enable mobility within their society and how their relationship with these objects identify themselves within Cuban culture.

Visit the GHRT website at <http://ghrt.psc.isr.umich.edu> for more about student projects



John Walters stands in front of a giant copper ore extraction vehicle at a plant in Chile.



John exhibited his art during the month of January at the Warren Robbins Gallery, School of Art and Design.



**2009 GHRT Student Global Health Fellowship Recipients**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Project Title</b>
<b>Antara Aiama</b>	India	Performing a Formative Evaluation of a Sponsorship Program for Children Affected by HIV/AIDS in Kerala, India
<b>Kathleen Bush</b>	India	The Impacts of Climate Change on Gastroenteritis Disease Burden
<b>Anika Fassia</b>	Costa Rica	Costa Rican Community Development Project
<b>A. Kilolo Harris</b>	Cuba	The Invisible Latino: The Implications of Racism on the Psychological Distress of Cubans of African Descent
<b>Alyssa Marks</b>	South Africa	Cross Cultural Solutions/UM School of Social Work Internship Abroad-South Africa
<b>Megan Milbrath</b>	Ecuador	Environmental Change and Infectious Disease; How Road Access Affects the Transmission of Dengue Fever in Rural Ecuador
<b>Kristen Munnelly</b>	South Africa	From the Clinics to the Community: Uniting Epidemiological Data with Local Perceptions of HIV in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa
<b>Nyia Noel</b>	South Africa	Retrospective Study of Causes of Maternal Mortality in Patients of an Integrated Antenatal HIV Clinic at Johannesburg Hospital
<b>Robin O'Neill</b>	Honduras	Housing and Chagas Disease in Rural Honduras
<b>Christine Pierce</b>	Peru	The Epidemiology of Cervical Cancer & HPV Infection in Peru
<b>Luis Rivera</b>	Mexico	Estimating Air Pollution Exposure and its Relationship to Preterm Birth in Mexico City: The Use of Geographical Information Systems
<b>Olga Semenova</b>	Honduras	Feasibility Study for the Development of an Automated Telephone Chronic Disease Intervention System in Honduras
<b>Manuela Sifuentes</b>	Guatemala	Evaluation of Cervical Cancer Screening Program
<b>Erik Strong</b>	Thailand	Analysis of Millenium Development Goals in Asia-Pacific
<b>Nazneen Uddin</b>	Egypt	Urban-Rural Differences in Cultural Attitudes Towards Breast Cancer in Egypt
<b>John Walters</b>	Cuba	Access, Innovation and Mobility in Contemporary Cuba
<b>Carissa Williams</b>	Jordan	Videovoice: Youth Video Workshop to Explore Health Concerns in Amman, Jordan
<b>Shelby Wolf</b>	Scotland	NHS Health Board Internship

**TRAINEE UPDATE:**

2007 GHRT Travel Fellowship Trainee **Megan Ryan** receives a 2009 Fulbright for her project "The Impact of Decentralization on Maternal and Child Health Care in Indonesia".

**T**his is the seventh and final edition of the Global Health Research and Training Initiative (UM-GHRT) newsletter. This program was funded through the Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health, grant TW007496, to develop an institutional framework for global health at Michigan. (ghrt@umich.edu)

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*Program Coordinator*

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