Alumni Notes

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Barbara Materna, Ph.D. ’92, has been named chief of the Occupational Health Branch of California’s Department of Health Services (DHS) after a decade as California’s point person for preventing lead poisoning in the workplace. She oversees activities conducted by the branch’s three key programs: the Hazard Evaluation System and Information Service, the Occupational Health Surveillance and Evaluation Program, and the Occupational Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

Edmund Pezalla, M.D., M.P.H. ’95, was appointed vice president and medical director for Prescription Solutions, a national pharmacy and medical management company.

Robert S. Brown, Jr., M.D., M.P.H. ’96 “Work has been busy with a growing liver program, but maintaining an active clinical research program (always need help for young graduates moving east). Family keeps growing too with Jake (born 8/6/03) adding to Jacqueline (6) and Dylan (4). All is well.”

Daniel Gentry, Ph.D. ’96, M.H.A., associate professor of health management policy, St. Louis University School of Public Health, has been granted a sabbatical for 2004. He will be completing several case studies on HIV prevention evaluation capacity, taking advanced evaluation coursework and immersion Spanish, and writing a practical “how to” book on managing large research projects. He also serves as director of the university’s Center for HIV/STD Policy Studies.

Karen L. Peifer, Dr.P.H. ’96, M.P.H. ’92 “Working on early childhood interventions, program planning and evaluation.”

Peter D. O’Hanley, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H. ’96, has been appointed senior vice president of clinical development and regulatory affairs at Avi BioPharma, a biopharmaceutical company that develops drugs to treat life-threatening diseases using third-generation antisense technology and cancer vaccines.

Carol H. Patterson, Dr.P.H. ’97, M.B.A., has been named CEO of Marin Community Clinic. Her immediate goals for the organization involve team building for the staff and a greater focus on patient service. In the longer term, her vision is to relocate the clinic to improve access for the community and the clinic’s current patients. She has also started an ongoing project to increase community awareness of the clinic.

Diana Wolfe, M.P.H. ’98, recently completed a clerkship in international health and medicine as part of her final year as a medical student at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Faculty of Health Sciences Medical School for International Health, in collaboration with Columbia University Medical Center. She worked at Hospital Apoyo in Iquitos, Peru, where she observed patients with a variety of tropical diseases.

Diana Wolfe (right) conducted interviews in Peru as part of her study of health knowledge among women in remote villages.

2000s

Jerome Adams, M.D., M.P.H. ’00, is in his second year of residency. He and his wife, Lacey, are expecting their first baby in June.

Marisa Hildebrand, M.P.H. ’01“The UCSF Women’s Options Center recently completed its first year of quality comprehensive abortion services. Financial— and strategic—planning knowledge gained at SPH continue to come in handy!”

Shannon Mitchell, Ph.D. ’01, is associate research scientist at Yale University School of Public Health and research associate at the New York Academy of Medicine.

Gwen Rove-Lee Sykes, Dr.P.H. ’01, M.P.H. ’81, M.S.W., was appointed to the Alameda County Medical Center’s board of trustees, which oversees three hospitals and three freestanding clinics in the county. Sykes is executive director of the Bay Area Consortium for Quality Health Care, an Oakland nonprofit.

John J. Troidl, Ph.D. ’01 “Am enjoying contributing to the SPH Alumni Board. Using my Berkeley education to pursue consulting, teaching, and research challenges.”

Nitika Pai, M.D., M.P.H. ’03, Ph.D. student, “It was a pleasure to serve as a voluntary student representative of the Alumni Association. Thanks!”

Friends

Arthur C. Hollister, M.D., M.P.H. “My beloved wife of 61 years, Olivia, died Aug. 10, 2003, after a long illness with progressive supranuclear palsy. She often attended UCB SPH events with me and we had many friends among them. I hope stem cell research will help defeat PSP!”

In Memoriam

John Wendell Behrman, M.P.H. ’71, died January 30, 2004 at Washington Hospital in Fremont, California at age 59. Born in Sacramento, Behrman worked for 24 years in hospital administration, including six years as assistant administrator for Washington Hospital. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

Sally Bellows, manager of student services for the School of Public Health and a longtime member and leader of the Berkeley Staff Assembly, died October 22, 2003, at her home in Albany, California, at age 53. She had worked on campus since 1986, including more than four years at the Center for Health and Public Policy Studies, and had managed the Office of Student Services and Admissions at the School since 2001. She is survived by her husband, two daughters, her parents, two brothers, and a sister. Bellows’s friends and coworkers planted a Japanese red cedar tree in her memory on the lawn near Warren Hall. In addition, her parents have established the Sally Bellows Endowed Fund to support international students with financial need. Those interested in making a gift to add to the fund may send a check payable to the “Sally Bellows Endowed Fund,” to the attention of Pat Hosel, Office of External Relations & Development, 140 Warren Hall #7360, School of Public Health, Berkeley, CA 94720-7360.

Mary Ann (Martinez) McKale, M.S.W., M.P.H. ’75, died November 30, 2003. She had retired earlier that year from her position as executive director of Lincoln Child Center, an Oakland-based nonprofit residential and day treatment center for emotionally disturbed children, following an 18-year tenure. Under her leadership, the organization grew from a residential program to community-based services reaching roughly 2,500 emotionally troubled children every day. To honor her pivotal role, the Lincoln Child Center board created the Mary Ann McKale Center for Education along with an endowment fund to help support it. McKale arrived in San Francisco in the mid-1960s, at which time she worked as a social worker for the city, assisting low-income persons, the elderly, the abused, and neglected children. She is survived by her daughter, parents, and three sisters.

Hugh Patterson, professor in the UC Berkeley-UCSF Joint Medical Program, died October 22, 2003, in Davis, California, at age 61. Patterson taught gross anatomy and embryology to medical students at UCSF and the Joint Medical Program at UC Berkeley. In addition to teaching, he was an active researcher and worked with colleagues at UCSF to revamp the medical school curriculum. He received four Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation awards for excellence in teaching, the Kaiser Career Achievement Award, and...
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Brian Maxwell, a former Cal track star and coach who, along with his wife, founded the PowerBar sport snack, died March 19 of an apparent heart attack near his home in Ross, California, at the age of 51. Maxwell graduated from UC Berkeley in 1975 with a degree in architecture and was honored with the Brutus Hamilton Award for his achievements on the school’s track team. He went on to coach the Golden Bears in distance running and in 1977, was ranked as the No. 3 marathon runner in the world. Maxwell grew up in Toronto, represented Canada in a number of international competitions, and was part of the 1980 Olympic team that boycotted the games in Moscow.

Maxwell and his wife, Jennifer, were pioneers in the field of energy supplements. The idea for the PowerBar came after Maxwell “bonked” at the 21-mile mark in a marathon—the point at which the body has completely burned through its stored carbohydrates. Maxwell worked with Jennifer, a nutritionist who was his girlfriend at the time, to come up with an energy bar that athletes could eat before and during events. In 1986, they began making PowerBars in their kitchen. By the time they sold the company in 2000 to Nestle SA, its annual revenue had reached some $30 million.

Both Brian and Jennifer Maxwell have been longtime members of the Cal community. Jennifer graduated from UC Berkeley in 1988 with a degree in nutrition and food science. Over the years, the Maxwells have been generous contributors to the Berkeley campus, donating to the Haas Pavilion renovation, the Athletic Department’s Academic Study Center, and the renovation of Kleeberger Field, which was renamed Maxwell Family Field. In 2002, the Maxwells—parents of six children—established the Brian and Jennifer Maxwell Endowed Chair in Maternal and Child Health at the School of Public Health, demonstrating their deep commitment and concern for the health of mothers and children.