



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program
SPRING NEWSLETTER
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Headline News

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The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars** Annual Program Meeting was held May 3-6, 2011 in Bethesda, MD. The annual meeting is a wonderful opportunity to bring the scholars of the program together with the National Advisory Committee members, training site directors and faculty, RWJF staff, and esteemed guests. The meeting also serves as an introduction of the newly selected ninth cohort who attended the event as part of their orientation.

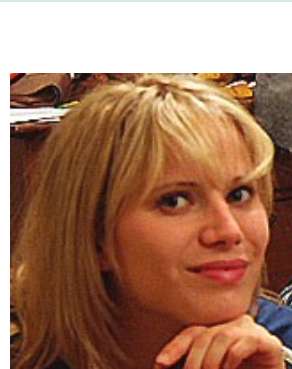
The Annual Program Meeting is an important step in fostering the development of the scholars to conduct innovative research and work with policy-makers on issues important to the health and well-being of all Americans, by allowing them to receive feedback from their colleagues across the program. Bethesda, MD was chosen as the site for the meeting this year to permit a visit to the National Institute of Health. While visiting the NIH campus, attendees heard from an international leader in the field of health disparities, Sir Michael Marmot, HSSP Alumni Michelle Frisco, Gina Lovasi, and Wizdom Powell Hammond, and learned more about the many NIH research and funding opportunities available to them.



UCSF-UCB Site Breakfast ~ Doubletree Hotel, Bethesda, MD – May 4, 2011

Scholar Spotlight

From parity in science to improvements in health



Emily C. Jacobs, PhD
Cohort 8 Scholar

Suppose there were a scientist who spent his life searching for the key to some great mystery. And suppose the apparatus he used to try to solve the mystery was broken, restricting its power by half. Say, a microscope whose left lens had cracked. Arguably, the science would be slowed, or worse, flawed.

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Scholars

Incoming Cohort 9 Scholar, [Meredith Barrett](#), was awarded this year's **Dean's Award for Outstanding PhD Student Manuscript at the Nicholas School of the Environment**, Duke University, for her entry: "*Modeling the effects of illicit rosewood logging in Madagascar: A call for CITES designation*" which was published in Science Vol 328. [Read article](#)

[Laura Gottlieb, MD, MPH](#) was featured in Maggie Mahar's Health Blog on 5/4/11. The Health Beat Blog is a project of The Century Foundation. [Read blog](#)

[Janet Tomiyama, PhD](#), CRONA (Caloric Restriction with Optimal Nutrition and Aging Study) study received press in a HealthDay News article on extreme low-cal diets. [Read more](#)

The study also made front page news on the UCSF webpage this past April. [UCSF News](#)

Featured Publications

[Laura Gottlieb, PhD, MPH](#), [Paula Braveman, MD, MPH](#) and Sue Egerter, PhD co-authored an RWJF Issue Brief on Health impact assessment: "**A tool for promoting health in all policies.**"

Access [brief](#)

Article by [Irene Yen, PhD, MPH](#) and [Len Syme, PhD](#), et al, from the *American Journal of Public Health*, "**Integration of Social Epidemiology and Community-Engaged Interventions to Improve Health Equity**"

[Read publication](#)

Cohort 7 Scholar, [Nicki Bush, PhD](#), et al, (2011) from the *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, "**Differentiating Challenge Reactivity from Psychomotor Activity in Studies of Children's Psychophysiology: Considerations for Theory and Measurement**"

[Read article](#)

RWJF H&SSP Faculty

[Irene Yen, PhD, MPH](#) is teaching a new social epidemiology course this quarter at UCSF and will be promoted to Associate Professor as of July 1, 2011.

Congratulations Irene!



Alumni Corner

[Annaliese Beery, PhD](#) and [Darlene Francis, PhD](#) from *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*, "**Adaptive significance of natural variations in maternal care in rats: A translational perspective**"

[Read article](#)

[David Chae, ScD](#), [Amani Nuru-Jeter, PhD](#), Karen Lincoln, PhD, and [Darlene Francis, PhD](#) from the *DuBoisReview Special Issue on Race & Health*, "**Conceptualizing Racial Disparities in Health: Advancement of a Socio-Psychobiological Approach**"

[Read article](#)

[Doug Jutte, MD](#) third regional meeting on Community Development & Health in collaboration with RWJF and NYAM, titled, "**Healthy Communities: the intersection of community development & health,**" took place in Boston on April 20th, 2011. RWJF HSSP affiliates speaking at the meeting included Lisa Beckman, David Williams, James Marks and Jo Ivey Boufford.

The fourth regional meeting is scheduled for June 13th in New York, NY.

[Amani Nuru-Jeter, PhD](#) and Thomas LaVeist from the *Journal of Urban Health*, "**Racial Segregation, Income Inequality, and Mortality in US Metropolitan Areas. J Urban Health**"

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