

## PHSSR InsideTrack-May 2012

### JUMP TO:

#### Research

#### PBRN

#### Policy

#### Funding

#### Events

Click [here](#) to play Dr. Frieden's keynote address.

Well, another [Keeneland Conference](#) has come and gone. It took me two days to catch up on emails and issues that popped up, but that goes with the territory. I did get one day to kick back, and I needed it. The pace this year was amazing. First, the plenary speakers were wonderful. [Debra Joy Pérez](#) of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation kicked off the publication of our supplemental issue of the [American Journal of Preventive Medicine](#) with the [PHSSR Research Agenda](#) that so many of us worked on over the past couple of years. It was good to finally see it in print! And speaking of print, she also showcased the [first edition of Frontiers in PHSSR](#), the new online journal, designed to get the best and newest information to our community. Then she talked about the "why of PHSSR," a refrain from her note in the April issue of Inside Track. [Harvey Fineberg](#) was wonderful talking about what's next, not only at the Institute of Medicine, but also in the nation, in public health. He was stellar and demonstrated his old professorial ways when he was still talking with students in the banquet room at 11 p.m. after his talk, one of the reasons that I love the man.

[Carol Moehrle](#) was spectacular, demonstrating a practitioner from a small community in Idaho who gets it and can lead the PHAB accreditation board as it goes about awarding its first accreditation, scheduled for this fall. She is a delight and her exuberance is infectious. And [Rich Umbdenstock](#), the CEO of the American Hospital Association, admitted that while he didn't know public health, he knew that hospitals and public health must begin to work closely together in a new normal, with a paradigm change from paying for piecemeal sickness care to payments based on maintaining the health of

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*ABOUT PHSSR - The emerging field of public health services and systems*

*research (PHSSR) examines questions that relate to the financing, organization and delivery of public health services - and how those factors translate to population health.*

sickness care to payments based on maintaining the health of populations. He called for an epidemic of health and said that hospitals were prepared to work with health departments, in fact, must work with them in order to achieve that. Bobby Pestronk of NACCHO and Paul Jarris of ASTHO agreed and grasped the extended hand of the AHA with a commitment to work collaboratively to achieve common goals. [Tom Frieden](#) was our closing plenary, with his message of how we must address the “winnable battles” in public health and the role of research and PHSSR in achieving those wins.

All observed that the the papers presented at this year’s [Keeneland Conference](#) were much more science driven and that the caliber of the research has progressively improved since the first [Keeneland Conference](#). The abstracts we received this year made us more selective in the ones chosen for presentation, which we think made the conference more rigorous. The networking was incredible. At least one group of people participating in a dine-a-round agreed to write a paper for publication together! The World Café we had for new grantees was absolutely a knock-out success, with ideas practically flying around the room. And the [final session](#), led by Ross Brownson and Paul Erwin, featured a horse racing theme in which attendees bet on examples practitioners and researchers working together on a question. The session was a raging success as we demonstrated that we can indeed connect research and practice to benefit the community. I don’t know who the big winner was at the track on Thursday, our closing day, but I do know that it wasn’t me! Remember to mark your calendar for next year (April 8-11, 2013). It will be hard to beat this year’s effort, but we’ll give it a try!

**F. Douglas Scutchfield, M.D.**

*Director*

National Coordinating Center for Public Health Services and Systems Research

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## Research

[Quality improvement learning collaboratives in public health: findings from a multisite case study](#)

Joly BM, Booth M, Shaler G, Conway A.  
J Public Health Manag Pract. 2012 Jan-Feb; 18(1):87-94.  
PMID: [22139316](#) [PubMed – indexed for MEDLINE]

[Assessing quality improvement in local health departments: results from the Multi-State Learning Collaborative.](#)

Joly BM, Booth M, Shaler G, Mittal P.  
J Public Health Manag Pract. 2012 Jan-Feb; 18(1):79-86.  
PMID: [22139315](#) [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE] Related citations.

[Early evaluation results from a statewide quality improvement training program for local public health departments in North Carolina.](#)

Cornett A, Thomas M, Davis MV, Mahanna E, Cordova A, Herring C, Lea CS, Harrison LM, Randolph GD.

J Public Health Manag Pract. 2012 Jan-Feb; 18(1): 43-51.

PMID: [22139309](#) [PubMed – indexed for MEDLINE]

**AJPM Publication Highlights Road Map for Future of Public Health Services & Systems Research**

A new publication highlights a road map for the growth of research that looks at how public health agencies and their partners can most effectively and efficiently keep people healthy and safe. A [special supplement](#) to the May issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine (AJPM) outlines the [new agenda for public health services and systems research](#) (PHSSR), a multi-disciplinary field of study that examines the organization, financing, delivery and quality of public health services within communities and the impact of those services on public health. You'll find more information about the new supplement [here](#).

**New Online Journal Accelerates Public Health Research to Practice and Policy**

An innovative new online journal is providing a platform for quickly putting research on the effective delivery of public health services into the hands of practitioners, policy officials and scholars, aiming to accelerate improvements in public health. [Frontiers in Public Health Services and Systems Research](#) ([www.frontiersinphssr.org](http://www.frontiersinphssr.org)) is an open access, peer-reviewed journal that aims to shorten the turnaround time between research results and publication of a traditional journal. Frontiers is produced monthly through a collaboration of the Public Health Practice-Based Research Networks (PBRN) National Coordinating Center and the National Coordinating Center for Public Health Services and Systems Research (PHSSR). Both Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded centers are based at the University of Kentucky College of Public Health.

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## Practice

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Launches Diversity Matters Community Podcast Series**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) recently announced the launch of the Diversity Matters Community podcast series. The first podcast features Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell, national program director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholars program, discussing the importance of “moving beyond traditional recruiting practices” with RWJF Human Capital Portfolio Consultant, Jacinta Gauda. This podcast is the first in a series of 12 interviews that

highlight the diversity strategies used by RWJF national programs and experts in the field. You can listen to the podcast by clicking [on this link](#), and you can share your thoughts and comments by [joining the discussion](#).

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## Events

### **NPHL Offers Webinar on Data Surveillance and Data Exchange**

Register today for the Data Surveillance and Data Exchange: A Tool for Comparative Effectiveness webinar, to be held on May 17 at 1pm ET. This webinar will cover recent developments in medial technology, explore the inherent privacy issues and discuss using data exchange and data surveillance as tools for comparative effectiveness. More details and registration information can be found [here](#).

### **NPHL Offers Newborn Screening Webinar Series**

States that store and provide residual dried blood spots (DBS) for secondary uses, or are considering storage and secondary uses, may face an array of legal issues. The Network for Public Health Law and several partners are hosting a webinar series, "Providing Newborn Screening Specimens for Research: Legal Issues Faced by State Health Departments," to cover these legal issues. The series includes six free webinars on the last Thursday of every month from 1-2 p.m. (ET). Find more details [here](#).

### **Partnerships for Environmental Public Health Offers Mapping**

#### **Webinar**

The Partnerships for Environmental Health is offering a webinar on "Mapping and Environmental Public Health: Visualizing Health Disparities" from 12-1:30 p.m. on May 7, 2012. Find more information [here](#).

### **Public Health Law Reception/'Performance' Set for June 26**

AcademyHealth's PHSR Interest Group and Public Health Law Research (PHLR) are co-sponsoring a reception and "performance" of Critical Opportunities for Public Health Law on Tuesday evening, June 26, 2012. Join as a presenter or as a spectator at a "poetry slam"-type reception where multiple presenters will be filmed pitching their great idea for using law as a tool to promote public health. Visit the PHLR website to learn more about the criteria for what makes an idea a Critical Opportunity, download a template and submit your 3-5 minute "TED-talk"-style pitch. PHLR will select the top three to four ideas for presentation at the reception. Critical Opportunities for Public Health Law is a year-long PHLR effort to solicit, review, and build consensus around effective ways to use law as a tool to promote health.

Additional events are also planned for the coming year, including a session at APHA and a plenary at the Public Health Law Conference.

Check out the PHLR [website](#) for more details

CHECK OUT THE FULL [WEBSITE](#) FOR MORE DETAILS.

### Two NCC Research Assistants Receive AcademyHealth Scholarships

Two doctoral research assistants in the National Coordinating Center for PHSSR have received AcademyHealth's PHSR Interest Group Student Scholarship. [Kristina Rabarison](#) and [Rachel Hogg](#) both received the scholarship based on the quality of their research abstracts. The scholarship seeks to recognize graduate students who have the potential to contribute to PHSR through research. Rabarison and Hogg will attend AcademyHealth's Annual Research Meeting (June 24-26) and their PHSR IG Meeting (June 26-27). Catch their work at the poster session on Tuesday the 26th from 5:30-7 p.m.

### AcademyHealth

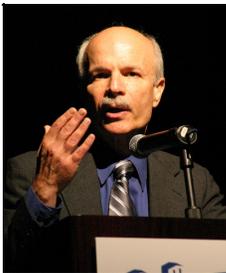
Annual Research Meeting (ARM): We have a record number of sessions on public health this year, as well as a set of related sessions on research methods, research resources, and career development. Our conference hotel is filling up especially quickly. Annual PHSR Interest Group Annual Meeting: Take a look at the [agenda](#).

New Publication: At the Keeneland Conference last month, AcademyHealth released a new publication, HSRProj Update: Public Health Services and Systems Research. HSRProj is the National Library of Medicine's free online resource that provides access to recently funded health services research projects and provides a unique opportunity for the research community to view the range of research topics currently being explored, including PHSSR. The goals of this brief were to:

- demonstrate the potential use of HSRProj to identify PHSSR;
- share search strategies for PHSSR, based on the published PHSSR definitions and the search terms used by the National Coordinating Center for PHSSR;
- identify a reasonable range of studies that may be PHSSR; and
- describe results for a subset of projects in HSRProj that are explicitly defined as PHSSR, including key funders and funding trends over time.

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### In Memoriam



E. Richard Brown, the founding director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a leading national advocate for the uninsured, has died. He was 70. Beloved husband, father, grandfather, teacher, mentor and public health visionary, Rick touched the lives of tens of thousands of Americans with his unique blend of warmth, intelligence, tenacity and



believe that public health data and information could be a powerful force for good.

If you would like to send private condolences, flowers or other commemorations to Rick's family directly, they can be reached at:

Marianne Brown  
1348 Hill Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90405  
Marianne.P.Brown@gmail.com

[Read more](#) about Dr. Brown's life and career.

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