

Kudos!

Balmes appointed to Air Resources Board



In December 2007, **John Balmes, M.D.**, professor of environmental health science, was appointed to the California Air Resources Board (ARB) by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The board, consisting of 11 members appointed by the governor, is part of the California Environmental Protection Agency. Its mission is to promote and protect public health, welfare, and ecological resources through the effective and efficient reduction of air pollutants while recognizing and considering the effects on the economy of the state. The ARB also oversees the activities of 35 local and regional air pollution control districts. Balmes is a pulmonary physician by training, professor of medicine at UCSF, and chief of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at San Francisco General Hospital. He also directs the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, a joint project of UC Berkeley, UCSF, and UC Davis.

Jewell named AAAS fellow



Nicholas P. Jewell, Ph.D., professor of biostatistics and statistics at the UC Berkeley School of Public Health and the Department of Statistics, was named a fellow of the American Association for the

Advancement of Science (AAAS). The organization announced his appointment on October 26, 2007, in its weekly publication, *Science*. Jewell was among 471 honored "for their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications," according to the article. He was selected for his "seminal contributions to biostatistical methodology and their applications to current health problems and editorial leadership in the statistical sciences."

The new fellows for 2007 were presented with an official certificate and a gold and blue (representing science and engineering, respectively) rosette pin on February 16, 2008, at a special forum during the AAAS annual meeting in Boston.

Founded in 1848, the AAAS is the world's largest general scientific society and includes some 262 affiliated societies and academies of science serving 10 million individuals. The tradition of AAAS fellows, who are chosen by their peers, began in 1874.

Barcellos honored by Prytanean Alumnae, Inc.



Lisa Barcellos, Ph.D. '96, assistant professor of epidemiology, received 2007 Honorable Mention at the Prytanean Faculty Award Reception held October 3,

2007, at University House. Prytanean Alumnae, Inc., the first women's honor organization in the United States, awards financial grants to outstanding women junior faculty members on the Berkeley campus in recognition of scholarly achievement, distinguished teaching, and success as a role model for Berkeley students. The organization was founded in 1901, and the Prytanean Faculty Enrichment Fund was founded 20 years ago.

Neuhauser appointed to FDA Risk Communication Advisory Committee



Clinical Professor **Linda Neuhauser, Dr.P.H.** '88, was selected by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in June 2007 to serve on its Risk Communication Advisory

Committee, which will advise the FDA about how

best to communicate to the public about the risks and benefits of FDA-regulated products so as to facilitate their optimal use. The establishment of the advisory committee was one of the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine's 2006 report, "The Future of Drug Safety: Promoting and Protecting the Health of the Public."

Scheffler honored by Charles University in Prague

Richard Scheffler, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Health Economics and Public Policy, was honored on May, 23, 2007, in Prague, Czech Republic, with the Silver Medal of Charles University for his contributions to education in health economics and health policy in the Czech Republic. Scheffler delivered a public lecture, "Social Capital, Economics, and Health: New Evidence," prior to receiving the medal.



Jan Skrha (right), Charles University's prorector for international affairs and mobility, presents the Silver Medal to Professor Richard Scheffler.

Publications win 2007 National Health Information Awards



Health Research for Action (HRA), a center at the School of Public Health, received three National Health Information Awards

from the Health Information Resource Center. The awards program recognizes the nation's best consumer health information programs and materials and is meant to set an industry standard of quality. Two of HRA's guides—*California's HMO Guide* and the *Arizona Parents Guide*—won Silver and Bronze awards, respectively, in the consumer decision-making information category. *Pennsylvania's Healthy Steps for Older Adults* won a Bronze Award for Health Promotion/Disease and Injury Prevention Information. *Healthy Steps for Older Adults*, which HRA developed with the Pennsylvania Department of Aging, is the first statewide community-based fall-prevention program in the nation.

Paper by Berkeley alumni, faculty, on community-based participatory research lauded

The journal *Health Promotion Practice* presented the Sarah Mazelis Paper of the Year award to the authors of "Addressing Food Security Through Public Policy Action in a Community-based Participatory Research Partnership," which was originally published online by the journal on August 28, 2007. The honor was bestowed at an awards banquet in conjunction with the 58th Annual Meeting of the Society for Public Health Education in November 2007. First author of the paper is **Victoria Breckwich-Vasquez, Dr.P.H. '05**. Coauthors include **Susana Hennessey-Lavery, M.P.H. '89**;

Shelley Facente, M.P.H. '04; **Helen Halpin, Ph.D., M.S.P.H.**, professor of health policy; and **Meredith Minkler, Dr.P.H. '75**, professor of health and social behavior. The paper analyzes a community-based participatory research partnership in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood in which youth-involved research found poor access to quality food, and the steps that led to a successful policy solution.

Smith and other contributing authors share in IPCC's Nobel honors

On October 12, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize jointly to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Al Gore "for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about manmade climate change, and to lay the foundations for

the measures that are needed to counteract such change." The authors who contributed to the IPCC's scientific reports share in the Nobel Peace Prize honors.



Kirk R. Smith, Ph.D. '77, M.P.H. '72, professor of global environmental health and Brian and Jennifer Maxwell Endowed Chair in Mothers' and Children's Health, was a contributing author for sections in two of the three main reports, Working Groups II and III (impacts and mitigation).

Rajendra Pachauri, chairman of the IPCC, said, "This is an honor that goes to all the scientists and authors who have contributed to the work of the IPCC, which alone has resulted in enormous prestige for this organization and the remarkable effectiveness of the message that it contains." 🌍

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