



AIDS & ANTHROPOLOGY

B U L L E T I N

The Newsletter of the AIDS and Anthropology Research Group

Vol.9 No.2 October 1997

AARG AND AIDS-RELATED ACTIVITIES AT UPCOMING AAA IN D.C.

[NOTE: Some AARG activities were not included in the preliminary AAA program. Please consult the inserts in the final program for activities and locations.]

Wednesday November 19

12:00-1:45 pm: 1) Transgender Identity, Community Building and Health; 2) Lemon Juice and the Monkey: Comparative Studies of HIV Risk in Spain and the U.S.; 3) Papers in Medical Anthropology.

4:15-5:45 pm: Project Lines: HIV Vaccine Trials and Community Scientist Tribulations or Triumphs.

Thursday November 20

10:30-11:45 am: AARG Steering Committee Meeting

12:15-1:30 pm: Roundtable on the Status of Lesbians and Gays. (Details pg. 3)

1:45-3:30 pm: Health Research in the Next Century: What Anthropology Has to Contribute.

6:30-8:30 pm: SMA Roundtable. (Advance registration)

Friday Nov. 21

12:15-1:30 pm: AARG Business Meeting

Saturday Nov. 22

8:00-11:45 am: Sex, Drugs, Violence and AIDS.

4:30-5:30 pm, AARG AIDS Support Group Meeting. Members and nonmembers welcome.

WASHINGTON REGIONAL HIV/SUBSTANCE ABUSE CONFERENCE

A public health and public policy conference, the "Pacific Northwest and Western Regional HIV Prevention, Treatment and Substance Abuse Conference," was held September 3-5, 1997 at the University of Washington's Center for Urban Horticulture. Approximately 130 researchers, public health officials, anthropologists, psychologists, social workers and other social scientists attended.

Co-sponsors were the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the National Institute on Drug Abuse (Community Research Branch and HIV/AIDS Office); the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; the University of Washington's Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute, Addictive Behaviors Research Center, School of Nursing and School of Public Health; the Seattle King County Health Department; the Washington Department of Health; and the Washington Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

(Continued page 5)

AARG SEARCHING FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

AARG is seeking a membership coordinator, to begin in Jan. 1998. The coordinator, who is appointed by the steering committee, is responsible for recruiting members and maintaining the membership list. Contact: Fred Bloom by November 14, 1997; this means you have 3 weeks. (414) 456-7722; e-mail frb@post.its.mcw.edu

AARG MISSION STATEMENT

The AARG, an interest group of the Society for Medical Anthropology (SMA), is a network of scholars interested in anthropological research on HIV infection and AIDS. The mission of the AARG is to support anthropological research on AIDS. To this end, AARG 1) works to use anthropological research in the fight against HIV and AIDS; 2) advocates for AIDS research within anthropology; 3) promotes AIDS research by anthropologists within the broader AIDS research community; and 4) provides a forum for anthropologists working on AIDS to meet and communicate about their work.

JOIN AARG TODAY

The AIDS and Anthropology Research Group is a special committee of the Society for Medical Anthropology, a unit of the American Anthropological Association (AAA). The *AIDS and Anthropology Bulletin* (AAB), the official newsletter of AARG, is published quarterly. Annual dues are \$20 for professionals and \$5 for students. Anthropologists who are unemployed or living in developing countries can join for free. Send key words describing geographic and topical interests, address, phone number, fax number, e-mail address and a check to: Fred Bloom, CAIR, 1201 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202.

AARG IS ON THE INTERNET!!!

AARG now has a home page. To get there, access the Society for Medical Anthropology home page at <http://www.people.memphis.edu/~sma>. Find interest groups and click on the first one, AARG.

AIDS AND ANTHROPOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP

Officers:

Chair: Margaret Connors
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Norris G. Lang (1988-90, 93)
Ralph Bolton (1991)
Janet McGrath (1994)
Michael Clatts (1995)

AIDS and Anthropology Bulletin

Editor: Michelle L. Renaud

Associate Editors:

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Norris G. Lang
William L. Leap
Janet McGrath
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SUBMISSIONS WELCOME

Submissions for the next issue of AAB are due January 15, 1998. We encourage all members, especially our colleagues working internationally, to contribute. Submissions can include AIDS-related conferences and events, grants awarded and available, positions available, publications, obituaries of anthropologists and/or AARG members, book reviews, commentaries and letters (at the discretion of the chair and editor), research reports and paper abstracts. Submissions longer than half a page should be on disk or sent via e-mail. Contact: Michelle Renaud, Ph.D., NEW ADDRESS & E-MAIL: 4050 Inverness Crossing, Roswell, GA 30075; (770) 645-2294; e-mail: mrenaud@avana.net

IN THE NEWS... "A Deadly Profit"

Pharmaceutical companies charge prices that are ethically wrong for drugs that treat world-crippling diseases like AIDS, writes columnist Derrick Z. Jackson in the Boston Globe. Jackson likens these companies' profits to recent controversy about clinical trials that give HIV-positive mothers in some underdeveloped nations placebos or lower doses of AZT. These trials have been compared to the infamous Tuskegee syphilis experiment, in which African American men's infections were left untreated. Jackson agrees with this comparison, and believes that the ongoing practice of taking as much as an 80 percent markup on drugs after they come off patent parallels both of these events. It is a tragedy that while pharmaceutical companies pepper the top 26 spots in the Fortune 500, Jackson says, more than 90 percent of persons with HIV/AIDS live in underdeveloped nations, where only 6 percent of the money for AIDS treatment is spent.

[From the CDC AIDS Daily Summary: Boston Globe 10/01/97 p. A21; Jackson, Derrick Z. For a description of the consequences of an NEJM editorial on this topic, see: "The Ethics of Clinical Research in the Third World," NEJM 337(12) and "Journal departures reflect AIDS dispute," The Boston Globe, Oct. 16, 1997. Also, see panel discussion this page.]

PANEL ON AZT TRIALS

AARG hopes to organize an informal panel during the business meeting (info p.1) on AZT clinical trials in Africa. Anyone interested in speaking should contact Michelle Renaud by November 15. Phone (404) 639-0955; e-mail mer9@cdc.gov

ROUNDTABLE ON STATUS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS: PRESENT AND FUTURE

SPONSOR: SOLGA (Society of Lesbian and Gay Anthropologists)
DATE: Thursday, November 20, 1997

TIME/ROOM: 12:15-1:30 pm
Cabinet Room, Concourse

The roundtable will consist of a panel, which will discuss relevant concerns, considerations and strategies about sexual minority (lesbian, gay and transgender) issues. These include teaching, research (including HIV) and hiring considerations, as well as specific issues facing gays, lesbians and sexual minorities as they strive to define a place for themselves in the academy and the profession. A starting point will be a preliminary report of the AAA Task Force on the Status of Lesbians and Gays. Please attend and let others know.

Contact: Michael Gorman Ph.D.,
U of Washington, 3937 15th Ave
NE Seattle, WA 98105; phone
(206) 543-5473.

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENTISTS NEEDED FOR HIV PREVENTION EFFORTS NATIONWIDE

The emphasis on science-based prevention planning and program implementation has created an urgent need and ongoing demand for psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists and other behavioral and social scientists to participate in local HIV prevention activities.

In January 1996, the American Psychological Association (APA) Office on AIDS established a Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer Program to promote and facilitate the involvement of behavioral and social scientists in HIV Prevention Community Planning. This collaborative initiative involving APA, the Academy for Educational Development (AED), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) has focused on the identification and preparation of qualified scientists who want to offer assistance to others.

How Can Behavioral and Social Scientists Contribute?
Behavioral and social scientists often contribute by translating prevention research into practical terms that are useful for purposes of HIV prevention planning. Other contributions of value to prevention planners and implementers include: assessing community norms and barriers to prevention among local social networks; documenting prevalence and determinants of HIV-related risk behavior in specific communities; designing effective programs based on sound theory and research; adapting existing programs to new populations and settings; and evaluating the effectiveness of HIV prevention interventions.

What Does The APA Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer Program Do?

The APA Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer Program has been organized to assist HIV prevention efforts in the following ways:

1) By recruiting qualified behavioral and social scientists

from several disciplines for volunteer participation in HIV prevention planning and implementation activities in their respective communities;

2) By orienting behavioral and social scientists to CDC's HIV Prevention Community Planning process and issues involved in establishing successful working relationships with community planning groups (CPGs) and community-based organizations (CBOs); and

3) By linking behavioral and social scientists with prevention planners and implementers in their respective communities in collaboration with NASTAD, CDC Program Consultants, the CDC Behavioral and Interventions Research Branch, the CDC Training and Technical Support Systems Branch and national technical assistance providers.

How Can I Find Out More?

The APA Office on AIDS is pleased to facilitate involvement of behavioral and social scientists as community members offering their expertise and talents "at home." For more information on the APA Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer Program, contact Mr. Darryl Lampkin at the APA Office on AIDS; phone (202)336-5632; fax (202) 336-6198; e-mail: dcl.apa@email.apa.org

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE (From Page 1)

Also present were representatives of the Office of AIDS Research at NIH and the Presidential AIDS Commission, the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) and the office of Congressman Jim McDermott.

Goals and objectives of the meeting were to review relevant ethnographic, epidemiological and culturally appropriate intervention and treatment data (including linkages between HIV and substance abuse treatment), especially for gay and bisexual men and other men who have sex with other men (MSM); to identify gaps in HIV, alcohol and drug research, interventions and treatment; and to make recommendations with respect to these areas.

A particular consideration was to address relevant substance abuse and HIV issues to facilitate the interface of HIV prevention/treatment efforts with substance abuse prevention/treatment efforts in regard to their impact on high risk populations. Underlying the discussions was the growing awareness of significant regional differences in the HIV epidemic in terms of profiles of highest risk populations. In the western U.S., MSMs are considered a high priority population because they continue to represent a disproportionately high percentage of new HIV/AIDS cases, including injection drug users. Methamphetamine use among MSMs is also an important factor in the region.

Several anthropologists presented major papers that highlighted the important role of ethnographic research in HIV prevention and substance abuse. (*See references.*)

Steering Committee Members included: Michael Gorman, Ph.D., MPH, MSW, ADAI, U of Washington; John Peppert, Washington Dept. of Health; Robert Wood, MD, Seattle-King County Health Dept.; and Fritz Wrede, Washington Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

Federal Steering Committee Members included: T. Stephen Jones, MD and David Purcell, Ph.D., CDC; Richard Needle, Ph.D., Community Research Branch, NIDA; Lynda Erinoff, Ph.D., HIV/AIDS Office, NIDA; Brad

Austin, DSTC/CSAT/ SAMHSA; and Adolfo Mata, CSAT, SAMHSA.

For more information, contact: Michael Gorman, Ph.D., MPH, MSW, Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute, U of Washington, 3937 15th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98105.

REFERENCES

Michael Clatts, Ph.D., NDRI, "Methodological and analytical strengths of ethnographic approaches for drug use among MSM and HIV prevention."

Michael Gorman, Ph.D., MPH, MSW. "Ecological perspectives on co-occurring epidemics in the Pacific Northwest: HIV, drugs, and MSM: context and meaning."

Ron Stall, Ph.D., UCSF. "Intertwining epidemics: a short history of the research on substance use and its relationship to the AIDS epidemic among gay men."

Linda Valleroy, Ph.D., CDC. "The 1994-1997 Young Men's Survey: the prevalence of HIV, alcohol and drug use, and other HIV-related risk behaviors among young men who have sex with men sampled in six urban counties in the USA."

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The University of Colorado, Denver seeks applicants for the position of **Director, Program in Health and Behavioral Sciences (HBS)**, beginning August 1998. HBS is an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program designed to integrate social/behavioral science and human ecological perspectives for understanding health and health care. The appointment will be at the Associate Professor level and rostered in the Department of Anthropology at CU-Denver with an optional joint appointment in Family Medicine at CU-Health Sciences Center. Applicants must possess a Ph.D. or other doctorate and demonstrate evidence of interdisciplinary research; a strong track record generating research and training grants; teaching excellence; and an ability to bridge multiple academic disciplines and institutions (e.g. biomedical and social science departments, campus and community constituencies, academic and community-based teachers and scholars). Leadership abilities and administrative experience in an academic setting are essential. A strong social science background and methodological skills in social/behavioral epidemiology, primary care research and/or health outcomes research is required. Additional areas of specialization should complement strengths of program faculty, which include: medical anthropology, health psychology, community-based health promotion, HIV/AIDS prevention, primary care research, maternal and child health and evaluation research. Review of applications will begin December 1, 1997 and continue until the position is filled. Please send letter detailing qualifications, curriculum vita and names of three or more references to Lorna G. Moore, Ph.D., HBS Search Committee, University of Colorado at Denver, Suite 400, 1380 Lawrence St, Denver CO 80204; fax 303-556-8501; e-mail (Lorna.G.Moore@uchsc.edu). EOE/AAE

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), a National Institutes of Health component, has an opening for the **Chief of the Clinical, Epidemiology, and Applied Science Review Branch** in the Office of Extramural Program Review (OEPR). This is a challenging and rewarding position that requires expertise in a social or

behavioral science related to drug abuse and that allows one to have a significant role in advancing drug abuse research. The Chief contributes to the overall effectiveness of the Institute's extramural research grants program, organizes and manages the peer review of applications, ensures the integrity of the review, plans and conducts scientific review meetings, participates with other OEPR staff in planning office activities and serves as a scientific expert in NIDA-wide activities. Hiring will be at the GS-15 level, which starts at \$75,935 in the Washington, DC area. The announcement number is DA-97-50, and the complete announcement can be obtained by requesting a FAX from 1-800-728-JOBS (request FAX number 2602), from NIDA's Web Site (<http://www.nida.nih.gov>) by looking under "What's New" then "Current Job Listings" or by calling (301) 443-9663.

An international research centre for population studies and reproductive health has recently been established in South Africa by the Wellcome Trust. The brief of this centre is to conduct and support research that addresses pressing population and reproductive health questions and specifically explores their impact on populations in sub-Saharan Africa.

(Continued next page)

POSITIONS AVAILABLE *(from previous page)*

The Centre's management committee seeks to appoint a senior scientist to the position of **Director of the "Africa Centre."** The Centre, located in the province of KwaZulu-Natal with a rural field site in the Hlabisa district and an institutional base in Durban, has been set up by a consortium of biomedical, social and population scientists from the Universities of Natal and Durban-Westville and the South African Medical Research Council. This is a unique career challenge for a person seeking intellectual and personal advancement, as well as the opportunity to coordinate and develop a wide range of research activities in population studies and reproductive health.

In order to achieve the goals and objectives of the Centre, the incumbent will be required to be a strong leader with the demonstrated ability to manage human and financial resources, specifically to manage and control a large "core" Centre grant; provide intellectual support to a wide range of research projects that will make up the Centre research programme; maintain close liaison between the Centre and its multiple and varied stakeholders, such as host communities, health departments and related research and development programmes at national and international level; initiate innovative research training programmes for graduate students throughout the world and, in particular, from sub-Saharan Africa; and disseminate and implement research findings to maximize the impact of the Centre on both policy and programming locally and more widely on the African continent.

The ideal candidate will hold a PhD, MD or equivalent degree in health related sciences, supplemented by at least ten years research and/or development experience in Population Studies or Reproductive Health. Specific training or expertise in demography, maternal and child health epidemiology, health economics or in research related to sexually transmitted diseases or HIV infection will strengthen the application. Evidence of well-developed competencies in adult education and training, the application of micro-computers in research and strong interpersonal and management skills will all be strong

additional recommendations.

The Committee recognizes that the breadth of these expectations may not be easily met, and are therefore open to some negotiation about the job description.

The contract position will be held within the University of Natal and will be valid for an initial 5 year period. The negotiable remuneration package will be set approximately at the level of Professor at a South African University.

For further details, please contact Professor Geoff Solarsh, University of Natal, Durban. Tel: +27 (0)31 2604352, Fax: +27(0) 31 2604388, E-mail: solarsh@med.und.ac.za

Please submit a full curriculum vitae and the names of 5 confidential referees to: Mrs R. McMaster, Human Resources, University of Natal, Private Bag X10 Dalbridge 4014 KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Phone 0+27 (0)31 2603378; fax 27 (0)31 2602139; e-mail: mcmaster@admin.und.ac.za. Applications by fax or e-mail are encouraged.

Closing date: November 7, 1997.
