



Ontario Women's Health Council Chair
Women's Health Research

Annual Report
June 1st, 2005 – May 31st, 2006



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Canada's university

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Summary Report from the Chair

I am pleased to submit the annual report for the Ontario Women's Health Council (OWHC) Chair, Women's Health Research, for the year June 1, 2005 to May 31, 2006. The OWHC Chair in Women's Health Research is situated at the Institute of Population Health, University of Ottawa. As a transdisciplinary Chair, the position is supported by four faculties at the University of Ottawa: Social Sciences, Law, Health Sciences, and Medicine. As titleholder, I hold a full-time faculty appointment in the Department of Epidemiology and Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine.

Key to furthering the work of the Chair is the Women's Health Research Unit (WHRU). Created in 2003 after a process of community consultation, the WHRU is a growing organizational unit within the Institute of Population Health. It provides a 'platform' for implementation of the four key areas of the Women's Health Research Chair i.e., research, teaching and mentoring, networking and knowledge exchange, and organizational development. In particular, it provides an opportunity for women's health researchers and scholars, research fellows, and students to collaborate and engage in participatory, community-based research within women's health, and to undertake initiatives for knowledge exchange and policy uptake.

Growth and Development

The WHRU has grown tremendously over the past three years, whether measured by the number of staff, the amount of research funding, the scale of our research, teaching, and knowledge exchange activities, or the stage of our organizational development. It now is among the largest units within the Institute of Population Health, and is beginning to have a visible presence within the University of Ottawa, the local community, provincially, and beyond.

This growth is due to several factors. First, the WHRU has been able to attract several University of Ottawa faculty members as affiliates, with whom we work closely on a number of initiatives, including strategic development. These include Dr. Denise Spitzer, Canada Research Chair in Gender, Migration, and Health, who shares her time between the WHRU/Institute of Population Health and the Institute of Women's Studies; Dr. Karen Phillips, Assistant Professor; and Dr. Eileen O'Connor, Assistant Professor, both with the new Health Sciences Program at the Faculty of Health Sciences. We are also delighted to have worked closely with Dr. Robert Clarke on a number of projects, and look forward to continuing our association with him now that he is at the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Research Partnerships

A second factor in our growth has been the opportunity to develop and participate in new research partnerships, including projects on the psycho-social impacts of Prion diseases (such as BSE) on farm families with PrionNet Canada and the McLaughlin Centre for Population Health Risk Assessment, and an international twinning partnership on HIV/AIDS with the Université Nationale de Rwanda. Other projects have involved continued association with long-standing partners, such as at the Atlantic, Prairie, and B.C. Centres of Excellence for Women's Health, the federal Bureau for Women's Health and Gender Affairs, and the Canadian Women's Health Network (CWHN).

We continue to enjoy fruitful collaborations with a number of Principal Scientists at the Institute of Population Health, notably Drs. Louise Lemyre, Peter Tugwell, Daniel Krewski, Lise Dubois, Ron Labonte, and Ted Schrecker. Community collaborations also continue to be a high priority for us, and participation in initiatives such as the Global Ottawa AIDS Link (GOAL) and the African/Caribbean Health Network of Ottawa have been extremely rewarding. We believe effective partnerships are key to our success, and we are delighted to have had the opportunity to work with such talented and dedicated colleagues in areas relevant to women's health.

Networking and Capacity-building

This belief in the value of partnerships has also led us to work hard over the past year to rejuvenate the Women's Health Research Network at the University of Ottawa, to serve on the Board of Directors of the new Shirley E. Greenberg Centre for Women's Health, and to collaborate with colleagues at the OWHC in its ongoing evolution. At the WHRU, we are determined to develop a higher profile and capacity for women's health research, and see progress in the University of Ottawa's identification of women's health research as a Strategic Area of Development, and the first Ontario women's health research symposium, held by the OWHC in April of this year.

The WHRU is also fortunate to have attracted a number of students and community members to work with us as research assistants and volunteers, which has greatly increased our capacity to deliver our programs. Jill Hardt and Jennifer Lee have come to us through the University of Ottawa's Co-operative Education Program, and have been a tremendous help with writing and research assistance. Catarina Silva and Susan Smith have volunteered their valuable time and expertise to help us develop in the area of communications and planning. Darcie Gibson has become indispensable on the CRTI project, and the contributions of Béata Mairesse-Umubyeyi and Albert Kanakabami - along with Debjani Mitra, Marion Doull, and Dr. Gail Webber - to the GOAL initiative have been instrumental in its recent success with community engagement and funding. We also look forward to working with two new doctoral students and a

post-doctoral fellow, all of whom are expected to join the WHRU in September, 2006.

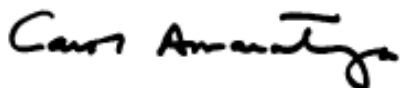
A Team Focus

Finally, the growth and development of the WHRU can be attributed in large part to the commitment and hard work of our talented core staff. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the following members of our core staff team: Dr. Tracey O'Sullivan, CRTI Project Manager; Lynn McCrann, CRTI Finance Officer and Research Assistant; Allison McEwan, WHRU Administrative Assistant, and Heather Smith Fowler, WHRU Research Manager.

In keeping with the growth of the WHRU and the theme of partnership and collaboration, therefore, you will note a change in our annual report. The activities reported therein reflect the combined efforts of not only the OWHC Chair, but our entire core team – our staff, and affiliated members of the WHRU. Given the significant amount of work devoted to organizational development of the past year, we have also included a section on this area, in addition to our four key areas of research, teaching and mentoring, networking and knowledge exchange and organizational development.

We hope you agree this is a truer reflection of the value added from the collaborative approach taken at the WHRU, and more often than not, in the field of women's health research in general. We look forward to building on our growth and achievements in the coming year, particularly in terms of research capacity and knowledge impact for community development and policy uptake.

Thank you for your support in making these achievements possible.



Carol Amaratunga
Ontario Women's Health Council
Chair in Women's Health Research
University of Ottawa
June, 2006

About the Women's Health Research Unit

The Women's Health Research Unit (WHRU) was created in 2003 at the University of Ottawa with the recruitment of Dr. Carol Amaratunga as the inaugural Director and Ontario Women's Health Council Chair in Women's Health Research. Over the course of the first year, the Chair embarked on a consultation process with women's health stakeholders to determine priorities and reinforce networks. As a result, the Chair and the WHRU are focused on four inter-related 'pillars' of activity: research, teaching and mentoring, networking and knowledge exchange, and organizational development.

Today, the WHRU provides local, provincial, national, and international leadership in gender-sensitive research and scholarship in non-traditional areas of women's health. Our current research program focuses on gender in the following four areas: 1) global health and HIV/AIDS; 2) disaster management and emergency preparedness planning; 3) paid and unpaid caregiving; and 4) coastal community health. Collaborative, community-based research methods are favoured, especially those which are action-oriented and relevant to policy.

The WHRU defines women's health research as a *process* of enquiry and engagement, in which the community, clinical, academic, and public policy sectors work together to advance the health and well-being of women and families in Canada and internationally. We aim to achieve these goals by:

- Understanding the interaction of gender with other social determinants of health (including ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexual preference, immigration status, and geographical location) to consider their differential impacts on women and men;
- Recommending new conceptual frameworks, tools, and methodologies for research (e.g., participatory action research on women's health, work and family conditions, and chronic diseases);
- Addressing gaps in knowledge with respect to 'forgotten' populations of women and families who live in disadvantaged circumstances;
- Enhancing knowledge exchange through communications, networking, and database development;
- Fostering 'evidence-based advocacy' to address inequities, through collaborations with community-based and policy audiences at the micro, meso, and macro levels.

The WHRU is located at the University of Ottawa's Institute of Population Health, and through the Research Chair, is supported by the Ontario Women's Health Council and the faculties of Health Sciences, Law, Social Sciences, and Medicine at the University of Ottawa. Project funding is received from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Defence Research Development Canada (DRDC), the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and Health

Leadership and Capacity Building in Women's Health Research

Canada, the National Centres of Excellence (NCE), and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).



Photo: J. Lee

Research and Administrative Team

Note: All colleagues are listed in alphabetical order.

WHRU Staff	Position
Carol Amaratunga, PhD	OWHC Chair, Women's Health Research
Darcie Gibson, B. P.H.E	Research Assistant
Jill Hardt	Research Assistant
Jennifer Lee	Summer Co-op Student
Lynn McCrann, B. Comm	Finance Officer, Research Assistant
Allison McEwan, B. Mus	Administrative Assistant
Tracey O'Sullivan, PhD	CRTI Project Manager, Research Associate
Heather Smith Fowler, MA	Research Manager

Core Team Members	Position
Robert Clarke, PhD, DVM	CRTI Deputy Project Manager
Wayne Corneil, ScD	Research Associate, CRTI Project
Lori Jones	Project Coordinator, CIHR Sri Lanka
Albert Kanakabami	Research Assistant, GOAL project
Béata Mairesse-Umubyeyi	Research Assistant, GOAL project
Kate McLaren, MEd, MPA	Project Consultant, Tsunami Forum
Eileen O'Connor, PhD	Research Associate, IPH Affiliate Scientist
Karen Phillips, PhD	Research Associate, IPH Affiliate Scientist
Catherine Sheehan	Consultant, Bibliographic services
Catarina Silva	Volunteer, Communications
Susan Smith	Director of Development, Faculty of Medicine
Jan Soetermans	Consultant, Graphic Design
Denise Spitzer, PhD	CRC Chair, Gender, Migration and Health
Rémy Tremblay, PhD	CRC Chair, Université du Québec à Montréal, Consultant, Arctic Women's Health

Leadership and Capacity Building in Women's Health Research

Community and Student Collaborators	Organization
Ron Chaplin	Ottawa-Carleton Council on AIDS
Marion Doull	PhD Candidate, University of Ottawa
Orhan Hassen	City of Ottawa, Public Health
Debjani Mitra	MSc Candidate, University of Ottawa
Félicité Murangira, LLB	Somerset West Community Health Centre
Melissa Rowe	African/Caribbean Health Network of Ottawa
Kate Waller	Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women
Gail Webber	PhD Candidate, University of Ottawa
Anne Wright, MA	Project Consultant, Tsunami Forum

Co-Investigators & Co-Applicants	Position
Sarath Amarasinghe, PhD	Ruhuna University, Sri Lanka
Neil Andersson, MD	University of Ottawa
Caroline Andrew, PhD	University of Ottawa
Tim Aubry, PhD	University of Ottawa
Madeline Boscoe, DU	CWHN, Winnipeg
Lorne Clearsky, MD	University of Calgary
Barbara Clow, PhD	Dalhousie University
Ronald Coleman, PhD	GPI Atlantic Inc.
Elaine Enarson, PhD	Brandon University
Nancy Edwards, RN, PhD	University of Ottawa
Bob Flynn, PhD	University of Ottawa
Lorraine Greaves, PhD	BC Centre of Excellence for Women's Health
Margaret Haworth-Brockman, BSc	Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence
Karen Hughes	University of Alberta
Michèle Kérisit, PhD	University of Ottawa
Daniel Krewski, PhD, MHA	University of Ottawa
Ron Labonte, PhD	University of Ottawa
Louise Lemyre, PhD, MSRC/FRSC	University of Ottawa
Jenepher Lennox Terrien, PhD	University of Ottawa
Lynne Leonard, PhD	University of Ottawa
Joe Losos, MD, DECH, FRCP(C), FACPM	University of Ottawa
Andrea Martinez, PhD	IPH Affiliate Scientist, Women's Studies and Globalization
Lynn McIntyre, PhD	University of Calgary
Stéphane McLachlan, PhD	University of Manitoba
Brigitte Neumann, PhD	Dalhousie University

Leadership and Capacity Building in Women's Health Research

Jacqueline Oxman-Martinez	University of Montréal
Myrtle Perera	Marga Institute, Sri Lanka
Kevin Pottie, MD	IPH Principal Scientist
Ted Schrecker, MA	University of Ottawa
Wilfreda Thurston, PhD	University of Calgary
Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC	University of Ottawa
Madine Vanderplatt, PhD	Dalhousie University
Linda Waverley, PhD	International Development Research Centre

Research Colleagues	Institution
Akua Benjamin, PhD	Ryerson University
Huhua Cao, PhD	University of Ottawa
Neil Cashman, PhD	University of British Columbia, Prionet
Tony Charles	Saint Mary's University
Lise Dubois, DtP, PhD	University of Ottawa
Dave Este, PhD	University of Calgary
Margot Felix-Bortolotti	University of Ottawa
Janet Hatcher-Roberts, M.Sc.	University of Ottawa
Jana Janakiram, PhD	University of Guelph
Carl James, PhD	York University
Anne Kinsella, PhD	University of Western Ontario
Daniel Lane, PhD	University of Ottawa
Dorothy Lander	St. Francis Xavier University
Wanda Thomas Bernard, PhD	Dalhousie University of Ottawa

Key WHRU Partners and Funding Bodies

The following organizations either provide funding for the WHRU or its research and knowledge exchange projects, or are key partners in implementing more than a single project. Other partners are identified under 'Networking and Knowledge Exchange.'

Ontario Women's Health Council (OWHC) - The Ontario Women's Health Council was established in 1998 by the Ontario Minister of Health with the objective of improving women's health at all stages of life. The Council focuses on providing women with better access to the unique health care and information that they require. The Council has been charged with stimulating the advancement of women's health in Ontario by identifying where change is needed and bringing forward solutions that can be integrated into the complexities of today's health care system. In 2003, the OWHC endowed three Chairs in Women's Health Research, the University of Ottawa, the University of Toronto and the University of Western Ontario, to stimulating systematic change in the healthcare system to benefit future generations of women.

Bureau for Women's Health and Gender Analysis, Health Canada – As the focal point for women's health within the federal government, the Bureau for Women's Health and Gender Analysis provides policy advice and leads initiatives to advance women's health and to increase understanding of how sex and gender affect health. It builds departmental capacity by coordinating the implementation of gender-based analysis and reports on the development of gender-sensitive legislation, policies and programs at Health Canada. The



Photo: Health Canada*

Bureau, through the Centres of Excellence for Women's Health, Working Groups and the Canadian Women's Health Network, ensures policy relevant research and information dissemination.

Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) – The CIHR is the Canadian Government's health research funding agency which supports the work of researchers in universities, teaching hospitals, and research institutes across Canada. The funding assists in improving Canadians' health, health care

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system and quality of life as well as moving research discoveries from academic setting to the marketplace.

Canadian Women's Health Network (CWHN) – The CWHN is a network of individuals, groups, organizations and institutions concerned with women's health. The CWHN recognizes the importance of information sharing, education and advocacy for women's health and equality, and works to build and strengthen the women's health movement in Canada and throughout the world. The CWHN is recognized as a leader in knowledge translation and dissemination in the area of women's health and works closely with the WHRU on a number of knowledge transfer initiatives.

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) – CIDA is Canada's lead development agency. It has a mandate to reduce poverty and to contribute to a more secure, equitable, and prosperous world. CIDA works in partnership around the world to support sustainable development in developing countries and to offer humanitarian assistance in areas of need. CIDA is a new funding partner to the WHRU supporting our newest research project on *International AIDS/HIV Partnership* with the Université Nationale du Rwanda

City of Ottawa – Ottawa is the second largest city in Ontario, and is considered one of the most liveable cities in Canada. As the level of government with the greatest impact on local communities, the City of Ottawa is a key partner with the WHRU on a number of initiatives, notably pandemic planning and HIV/AIDS services to Ottawa's ethno-cultural communities.



Photo: Health Canada*

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Defense Research and Development Canada (DRDC) – DRDC is the part of the Canadian Department of National Defence which responds to the scientific and technological needs of the Canadian Forces. Its mission is to ensure that the Canadian Forces remains scientifically and operationally relevant. DRDC works in collaboration with industry, international allies, academia, other government departments, and the national security community in an effort to progress and maintain scientific and technological relevance.

Institute of Population Health - The mission of the Institute of Population Health is to build an academic program of excellence in population health research and training, and to play a leadership role in developing effective population health strategies and policies in Canada. Working with its partners, the ultimate goal of the Institute is to contribute to enhancing the health status of the Canadian population.



Photo: J. Lee

Institute of Women's Studies – The Institute of Women's Studies is the centre of bilingual feminist education and research at the University of Ottawa. Created in 1999, the Institute of Women's Studies promotes multi- and inter-disciplinary perspectives on issues relevant to women around the world. Numerous Women's Studies faculty are engaged in research pertaining to women's health, including reproductive health issues, women and globalization, and health ethics. Additionally, the Institute houses the Canada Research Chair on Gender, Migration and Health who is also affiliated with the WHRU.

Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) – The NCE on Prion Disease, PrioNet, fosters unique partnerships among universities, industry, government and non-profit organizations with the goal of turning Canadian research and entrepreneurial talent into economic and social benefits for all Canadians. Our research focuses on the impact of BSE (Mad Cow Disease) on farm women and their families in Canada.



Photo: Health Canada*

Ontario Women's Health Network (OWHN) – Founded in 1997, the OWHN provides information to help women make informed health care choices. The OWHN works with women, service and care providers, local groups, health practitioners, and other health organizations in Ontario to network around women's health issues. For the past five years, OWHN has worked across the province to support more equitable, accessible, and effective health services for all women in Ontario.

Public Health Agency of Canada – The Public Health Agency of Canada is focused on creating more effective efforts in preventing chronic diseases, like cancer and heart disease, prevent injuries and respond to public health emergencies and infectious disease outbreaks. The Public Health Agency of Canada works closely with provinces and territories to keep Canadians healthy and help reduce pressures on the health care system.



Photo: www.photo.com

University of Ottawa – Established in 1848, the University of Ottawa has become a recognized leader among institutions of higher education and bilingual learning. As the largest bilingual university in North America and the only bilingual university in Canada, the University of Ottawa prides itself as being 'Canada's University' as it embodies the cultural diversity of Canada's history. The University of Ottawa's strategic areas of development in research specifically outline a focus on women's health within its broader focus on health research. The faculties which the WHRU is most closely affiliated include:

- Faculty of Graduate and Post Doctoral Studies
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Social Sciences
- Faculty of Health Sciences



Photo: J. Lee

Research

The research program of the WHRU is focused on four key areas:

- 1) global health and HIV/AIDS;
- 2) disaster management and emergency preparedness planning;
- 3) paid and unpaid caregiving; and
- 4) coastal community health

We currently manage or co-manage \$4.96 million in research and contract funding; with five projects directly managed by WHRU. Summaries of our major projects are provided in the subsequent pages, but the following are some of the highlights of the 2005/2006 year:

- As part of our \$1.1 million CRTI project, we launched a national survey of Canadian nurses and conducted five focus groups in Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, and Halifax - using cutting-edge qualitative methodology - to explore nurses' experiences with infectious disease outbreaks (e.g., SARS) and recommendations for disaster preparedness;
- Through the Global Ottawa AIDS Link (GOAL) initiative, we conducted four focus groups with local service providers and community members on priority issues regarding HIV/AIDS and the African and Caribbean communities in Ottawa (CIHR research development grant, \$25,000);
- With colleagues at the Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence and the University of Calgary, we conducted preliminary literature reviews of the psycho-social impacts of BSE disease outbreaks, as part of a larger project on Integrated Risk Management Framework for BSE, PrioNet;
- We drafted a literature synthesis and final report on CIHR Global Health Research pilot project: "A Gendered Analysis of the Determinants of Health and Well-Being of Young Women in Post-Conflict Sri Lanka;"
- With colleagues at the Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's Health and Dalhousie University, we developed a wrap-up and dissemination plan for the CIHR project: "A Healthy Balance: A Community Alliance on Unpaid Caregiving and Women's Health" (CIHR, \$1.7m);
- At the end of May, 2006, we received word that our proposal on behalf of the GOAL initiative to the CIDA HIV Small Grants program was successful. We will immediately begin to implement this exciting international HIV/AIDS Twinning Partnership with the Université Nationale du Rwanda for training and knowledge exchange in the area of culturally competent HIV prevention.

WHRU Major Research Projects

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Global Health Research Pilot *Youth Risk Behaviours: A Gendered Analysis of the Determinants of Health and Well-Being of Young Women and Men in Post-Conflict Sri Lanka.*

This research focuses on the interplay among the determinants of health and assesses how these factors affect decision making with respect to tobacco, alcohol, drug use and sexual health practices. The pilot will generate evidence to assist policy makers to design health programs for displaced and unemployed youth. Sri Lanka is emerging from more than 30 years of social unrest in the South and civil conflict in the North and East. With the



Photo: www.omn.ca/cch

advent of peace and reconstruction, young women and men will be repatriated to their ancestral villages. These youth face prospects of unemployment and post traumatic stress. The pilot will provide a gender analysis of the challenges, and also the opportunities, faced by young women and men as they search for security in post conflict Sri Lanka.

Community Impact of BSE – Psychosocial, Economic, and Gender Impacts of BSE on Communities

This research, funded by PrioNet, the National Centre of Excellence for Prion Disease Research, is part of a core project entitled *An Integrated Risk Management Framework for BSE*, with Daniel Krewski as Principal Investigator. This component investigates the complex interconnections among the determinants of health and BSE and their impact on communities, as well as how policy makers and decision makers can target strategic investments and interventions to help affected communities and households. Through literature reviews, secondary data analysis and focus groups, it will develop a community profile of BSE-affected communities in Canada, and provide an initial portrait or 'health atlas' of Canadians who reside in rural and remote communities affected by BSE. It will generate new knowledge about why some BSE affected communities are more resilient than others. Lastly, the research will help us understand the relationship and the impact of psychosocial, socioeconomic and gender determinants on the health and wellbeing of Canadians living in BSE affected communities. The research is being conducted in partnership with colleagues at the Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence and the University of Calgary.



Photo: freedigitalphotos.net

CRTI – Caring about healthcare workers as first responders: Enhancing capacity for gender-based support mechanisms in emergency preparedness planning

This Project is a \$1.1 million initiative funded by Defense Research and Development Canada (DRDC) under the Canadian CBRN Research Technology Initiative. Using the 2003 SARS epidemic as a referent, this study addresses



Photo: Health Canada*

front line health care worker response, preparedness and resilience for coping with disaster scenarios. The knowledge obtained from this initiative will be used to identify gaps and make recommendations for improved support mechanisms. This three and a half-year project is divided into four

components (modules), that each build on the knowledge and resources developed in earlier modules.

During the first year, the project team conducted a substantive review of existing literature in three distinct areas: Support mechanisms for health care workers as first responders; Impacts on health care workers involved in SARS and other examples of undefined biological airborne agents; And mechanisms for adoption of communication and organizational best practices. This past winter, five focus groups were conducted across Canada (Vancouver, Toronto, Halifax and two in Ottawa). A focus group report entitled "Health Care Workers Reflect on Their Roles in Infectious Disease Outbreaks" was submitted to DRDC in March 2006. Currently, a nationwide survey of emergency and critical care nurses is being conducted. The survey report will be complete in the fall of 2006. During the fourth and final year of the project, the findings and recommendations from the project will be disseminated to a variety of stakeholders, including a policy forum with key policy audiences.

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GOAL – The Global Ottawa AIDS Link (GOAL) Initiative: Fostering a Culture of Learning through Community and Academic Partnership

GOAL is a community-based research development initiative of community volunteers, service providers, and academics, exploring the issue of HIV/AIDS within the African and Caribbean communities of Ottawa. GOAL developed out of the shared realization that local treatment and support services were not meeting the needs of Ottawa's racial and cultural communities, partly because of powerful cultural barriers and systemic racism. This service gap makes it difficult for the people in African & Caribbean communities, in particular, to access the information and services they need to prevent, treat, and cope with HIV/AIDS, individually and as communities.

GOAL's purpose is to strengthen the capacity of the local community to provide culturally appropriate HIV/AIDS interventions, and to develop policies that will have a positive impact on the health of our community. Its specific aims are to:

- 1) identify promising culturally-relevant practices locally, nationally, and internationally;
- 2) facilitate the diffusion of such practices;
- 3) create arenas for knowledge exchange and learning among those interested in HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and support for ethnocultural and ethno racial communities;
- 4) foster the participation, skill development, and leadership of local community members, particularly youth; and
- 5) share knowledge and evidence of good practice and interventions with wider audiences in Canada and internationally.

With the help of a \$25,000 research development grant from the CIHR, GOAL is working with service providers and community members to develop a proposal for a research project that would help achieve these goals. We recently received



World AIDS Conference,
Bangkok 2004

word that our proposal to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) HIV/AIDS Small Grants program for an *International HIV/AIDS Twinning Partnership* with the Université Nationale de Rwanda was accepted!

The Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN) Coastal Community Health Working Group

The OMRN links individuals across Canada with an interest in research relating to ocean management and is coordinated by a National Secretariat, located in Halifax at the Gorsebrook Research Institute of Saint Mary's University, operating in cooperation with the International Oceans Institute of Canada, and with participation of the Maritime



Photo: Health Canada*

Awards Society of Canada. The **CCHWG** is an informal network of researchers and practitioners who share a passion for issues that affect the health of coastal communities. This network facilitates the pooling of financial and human resources and expertise for coastal community health research and training. The purpose of the Working Group is to create and share knowledge for the application of critical thinking and best practices to the health of coastal communities, in Canada and internationally.

CCHWG, through the WHRU, is involved in the Youth Risk Behaviours in Sri Lanka Project, as well as undertaking work on the health needs of women in Arctic coastal communities. CCHWG also acts as the Canadian contact for the Gender and Disaster Network, a network of about 300 researchers and practitioners around the world who share a commitment to integrating gender equality in all phases of disaster risk management. The most recent work of the CCHWG – aside from developing an action plan – has been to co-host and publish the final report of the National Tsunami Forum in April, 2005.



Photo: www.omrn.ca/cch

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Other projects on which the OWHC Chair participates as a Co-Principle Investigator or Co-Investigator include:

- *Caught at the Intersection: Working with the Impact of Witnessing and Surviving Individual and Systemic Violence on the Health of Black Men and Black Women, their Families and Communities* (CIHR; Wanda Thomas-Bernard, PI);
- *Sexual Behaviour of Youth: Sociopolitical and Educational Issues, Lessons and Challenges in Canada & Chile* (SSHRC; Andrea Martinez, PI);
- *PrioNet NCE Core Project 5: An Integrated Risk Management Framework for BSC* (PrioNet NCE; Daniel Krewski, PI);
- *Globalization and Social Determinants of Health Knowledge Network WHO Hub Proposal* (World Health Organization (WHO); Ron Labonte, PI);
- *Globalization and the Health of Canadians* (CIHR; Ron Labonte, PI);
- *Development of an interdisciplinary public health continuing education training initiative.* (Health Canada, Nancy Edwards, PI);
- *A Healthy Balance: A Community Alliance for Health Research on Women's Unpaid Caregiving* (CIHR, Carol Amaratunga, Brigitte Neumann, Barbara Clow, Co-PI)
- *Guided Community mobilization for Youth Problem Prevention and Positive Development: Evaluating the Communities That Care (CTC) Approach in Selected Canadian Communities* (National Crime Prevention Council; Robert Flynn, PI)

Teaching and Mentoring

At the WHRU, we believe it is important to take a leadership role in supporting the recruitment, retention, and recognition of women's health researchers, both at the University of Ottawa and more broadly. We are thrilled to have been joined by three colleagues who now work closely with us on research, project development, and strategic planning for the Unit. **Denise Spitzer**, PhD, comes to us from the University of Alberta, as a result of having been successfully nominated for a Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) and University of Ottawa Faculty appointment by Carol Amaratunga. She now holds the Chair in gender, Migration, and Health, and divides her time between the WHRU/Institute of Population Health and the Institute for Women's Studies. **Karen Phillips** and **Eileen O'Connor** are both Assistant Professors with the new, interdisciplinary Health Sciences program at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Ottawa, as well as Affiliate Scientists with the Institute of Population Health.

We are also pleased that Carol Amaratunga was able to successfully nominate **Madeline Boscoe**, RN, Executive Director of the Canadian Women's Health Network, for an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Ottawa; as well as **Andrea Martinez**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences and Institute for Women's Studies, and **Stephanie Austin**, PhD, Bureau for Women's Health and Gender Affairs, Health Canada, for status as Affiliate Scientists with the Institute of Population Health. We consider recognition of women's health researchers and advocates to be an important factor in the development of the field of women's health research.

Likewise, we believe it is important to help find creative solutions to address institutionalized gender inequities. Dr. Amaratunga is therefore actively involved in the Gender and Equity Committee, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa and serves as an advisor on gender to the Ontario Women's Health Council.

Teaching:

While the OWHC Chair is primarily a research position, Dr. Amaratunga and WHRU staff have been actively involved over the past year in curriculum development and occasional teaching. In particular, these have included:

1. the design and development of a course of project management and qualitative methods for the Global Health Certificate Program (in development) for delivery in Winter, 2007;
2. Guest lecturer, MSc Department of Epidemiology and Community Medicine, undergraduate and graduate MSc courses, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Health Sciences, and Faculty of Medicine, Fall and Winter, 2005/06.

Mentoring:

Student Name	Degree Sought	Department	Thesis topic	Supervision
Marion Doull	PhD	Institute of Population Health	<i>Girl Power: Studying Canadian Female Adolescents, Sexual Health, Relationships and Practices</i>	Committee Member
Mulki Kassim	PhD	Institute of Population Health	<i>Black Canadian Adolescents Discursive Constructions of Health and Fitness</i>	Committee Member
Susan McWilliam	PhD	Dalhousie University	<i>How National HIV/Prevention Policy for Women Filters down to Provincial Policy and Local Activity</i>	Committee Member
Gail Webber	PhD	Institute of Population Health	<i>How Ethnic Minority Chinese Women and their Health Care Providers view the Factors</i>	Committee Member

Leadership and Capacity Building in Women's Health Research

Post Doctorates

Cyndi Brennan	Post Doctoral Fellowship CIHR	Healthy Balance	<i>Marching Towards Balance: Caregiving, Health & Work of Women in the Canadian Forces</i>	Committee Member
Robert Geneau	Post Doctoral Fellowship CHSRF	Public Health Agency and the Centre for the Control and Prevention of Chronic Diseases	<i>Canadian Health Services Research Foundation</i>	Committee Member

Colleagues

Kevin Pottie	TUTOR- PHC Fellowship	CIHR	<i>Reducing Health Disparities in Immigrants from Developing Countries</i>	Supervisor
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Networking & Knowledge Exchange

Networking

A significant effort has been made over the past year by the WHRU to strengthen and revitalize existing connections with women's health researchers, organizations, and networks, and to developing new partnerships and collaborations. A list of key partnerships is provided, but the following are particular highlights in the area of networking from the 2005/06 year:

- Participation on the Board of Directors for the new Shirley E. Greenberg Women's Health Centre, including leadership of the Education Committee;
- Participation in the new African/Caribbean Health Network of Ottawa, to address HIV/AIDS (formerly the Joint Action Team);
- Re-formation of the Women's Health Research Network, a group of over 30 researchers at the University of Ottawa interested in women's health;
- Participation in the City of Ottawa Pandemic Planning Committee;
- Appointment to the Psycho-Social Task Force of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM);
- Appointment to the Board of Directors for PrioNet



Photo: J. Lee

Knowledge Exchange

The collaborative effort put forth by the WHRU team in the past year to knowledge exchange has led to significant contributions to the field of women's health research. With numerous publications in books, journal articles and abstracts, as well as active participation in conferences and presentations, the WHRU has begun to position itself as a leader in women's health research. Through our networking and knowledge exchange efforts, we have extended beyond the University of Ottawa, reaching local, provincial and international audiences and partners. A complete list of publications and presentations can be found in Appendix 1, but the following are highlights:

- We circulated 1000 copies of our 8-page final report of the National Tsunami Forum held in Ottawa in April, 2005, to participants, and representatives of industry, NGOs, and government, and received follow-up correspondence from three cabinet ministers and the Prime Minister of Canada;

- With the Canadian Policy Research Network (CPRN) and the Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, we co-hosted a very successful Policy Roundtable on Unpaid Caregiving, as part of the Healthy Balance project, in Ottawa, September 26, 2005, attended by 40 representatives of government and NGOs;
- We conducted five successful focus groups with service providers and members of the African and Caribbean communities of Ottawa, to discuss priority issues with respect to HIV/AIDS, and to develop plans for a research proposal.

Conference Participation

- 11th World Congress on Population Health/8th Brazilian Congress on Collective Health: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2006
- Ontario Training Centre (OTC) in Health Services and Policy Research Summer Institute: York University, Toronto, May 17, 2006
- Metropolis Network: McGill University, Montreal, May 16, 2006
- Healthy Balance Research Program Forum: Halifax, May 2, 2006
- National Retreat for Women: Workshop – Ottawa, April 28-May 1, 2006
- Ontario Women's Health Council (OWHC) Enhancing Women's Health Conference: Ottawa, April 20-21, 2006
- National Metropolis Conference: Vancouver, March 23, 2006
- IPH Strategic Workshop: Ottawa, January 10, 2006
- 3rd Annual Symposium, University of Ottawa Applied Health and Social Research Network: Ottawa, December 6, 2005
- ACANGO Workshop: Ottawa, November 9,10,2005
- Workshop on Health in the Global Economy, Canadian Conference on International Health: Ottawa, November 7, 2005
- Gender Equality Strategy: National Consultation – Ottawa, November 1-2, 2005
- City of Ottawa Pandemic Workshop: October 28, 2005
- International Metropolis Conference: Toronto, October 20, 2005
- Towards Social Justice, Canadian Ethnic Studies Association Conference: Ottawa, October 14, 2005
- Association for the Study of Worldwide African Diaspora: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, October 8, 2005
- Ocean Management Research Network Conference: Ottawa, September 19, 2005
- Canadian Public Health Agency Conference: Ottawa, September 18-21, 2005
- World Health Organization Conference: Ottawa, July 12-15,2005
- Expert Workshop on Gender in Health Promotion and Prevention: Hanover, Germany, July 6-8, 2005
- CRTI Research Symposium: Aylmer, Quebec, June 22, 2005

Leadership and Capacity Building in Women's Health Research

- Endocrine Toxicants: Ecological and Population Health Impacts: Ottawa, 2005
- 3rd Annual Summer Symposium, Science for a Secure Canada Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Research and Technology Initiative (CRTI): Gatineau, Quebec, June, 2005.

A Sample of our Partnerships and Collaborations:

(not otherwise listed)

Local:

- City of Ottawa Pandemic Influenza Planning Committee
- City of Ottawa Multicultural Health Coalition
- Population Health, Research, Education and Development (PHRED), City Of Ottawa
- Global Ottawa AIDS Link (GOAL) with Somerset West CHC, Ottawa-Carleton Coalition on AIDS.
- Shirley Greenberg Women's Health Center, Riverside Hospital
- African/Caribbean Health Network of Ottawa

Provincial:

- Ontario Women's Health Network
- African/Caribbean Council on HIV in Ontario (ACCHO)
- Philippine Women's Centre of Ontario

National:

- Social Accountability Committee, Association of Canadian Medical Colleges (ACMC)
- Coastal Community Health Working Group, Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN) of Canada
- Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation
- Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, Dalhousie University
- Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence
- B.C. Centre of Excellence for Women's Health
- Inter-Agency Coalition on AIDS (ICAD)
- PrioNet
- Bureau for Women's Health and Gender Affairs, Health Canada
- Canadian Women's Health Network (CWHN)
- CIET Canada
- Canadian Society of International Health (CSIH)
- R. Samuel McLaughlin Centre for Population Health Risk Assessment
- Philippine Women's Centre of British Columbia
- Edmonton Multicultural Health Broker's Cooperative
- CIHR Institute of Gender and Health
- Changing Together: A Centre for Immigrant Women

International:

- University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka
- International Advisory Committee, HIV/AIDS Legal Network, Montreal
- Academic NGO initiative (ACANGO)
- Commonwealth Secretariat, UK
- Gender and Disaster Network, Brandon University, Manitoba
- Research for International Tobacco Control (RITC), Ottawa, Canada
- Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH), Ottawa, Canada

Networking & Knowledge Exchange

Highlights for the 2005/2006 year included the following achievements:

- We initiated and regularized a process of operational and strategic planning for the WHRU with participation of core staff and colleagues, including an annual retreat and quarterly planning meetings;
- We initiated the development of a communications plan for the unit, with the help of a volunteer with expertise in communications and marketing and the Director of Development for the Faculty of Medicine;
- We implemented comprehensive procedures for monitoring and tracking financial transactions, and monthly reporting and budget planning;
- We moved to larger office space within the Institute of Population Health;
- We implemented administrative procedures for WHRU personnel, including standard consulting contracts, regular performance evaluations, and a tracking system for annual and special leave.

WHRU Staff and Core Team Members:

Carol Amaratunga, PhD

- Ontario Women's Health Council Chair
- Director, Women's Health Research Unit
- Principal Scientist, Institute of Population Health
- Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine

Carol Amaratunga holds the Ontario Women's Health Council Chair in Women's Health

Research, at the Institute of Population Health, University of Ottawa. Carol's research interests are in population health and the social determinants of health, with a focus on disadvantaged populations and "forgotten" communities. Carol has worked and studied in coastal and rural communities in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean for over 25 years.



Robert Clarke, PhD & DVM

- CRTI Deputy Project Manager

Dr. Robert Clarke is currently Visiting Professor of Epidemiology and Community medicine in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa.

Wayne Corneil, ScD

- Associate Scientist, Institute for Population Health, University of Ottawa
- Research Associate, CRTI Project

Wayne Corneil has spent 32 years in the Federal Public Service of Canada in a variety of senior executive positions in the Occupational Health and Safety Agency of Health Canada. He is acknowledged as the founder of the Federal Government's Employee Assistance Program. Wayne Corneil has conducted research examining the effects of workplace practices on health.

Darcie Gibson, B. P.H.E.

- Research Assistant

Darcie is a graduate student in the Epidemiology program at the University of Ottawa. Darcie has provided invaluable research assistance on the CRTI project – Caring for Healthcare Workers as First Responders.

Jill Hardt

- Research Assistant

Jill is currently working on her BSoc in Political Science and Economics at the University of Ottawa. Jill has been an active member of WHRU providing significant research support on a variety of major projects.

Lori Jones

- Project Coordinator, CIHR Sri Lanka project

Lori is a research consultant at the Women's Health Research Unit, the Elizabeth Bruyère Research Institute, and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Technology Assessment at the University of Ottawa, the School of Nursing at McMaster University, the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre and the WHO. Lori is currently working with the WHRU and the Ocean Management Research Network in the area of coastal community health, as well as coordinating the implementation of our CIHR-funded project on youth risk behaviours in post-conflict Sri Lanka.

Albert Kanakabami

- Research Assistant

Albert is currently doing his Master's degree in Regional Development at the Université de Québec à Outaouais. His thesis research concerns the integration of Congolese immigrants in Gatineau. He has worked in numerous humanitarian and development-related NGOs in Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and is currently working with the WHRU as a Research Assistant on the GOAL project.

Jennifer Lee

- Summer Co-op Student

Jennifer is currently working on her Honours BSoc with a specialization in Political Science and a minor in History at the University of Ottawa. Jennifer has provided support and assistance within the WHRU, notably on communications.

Béata Mairesse-Umubyeyi

- Research Assistant

Beata is a post-graduate student in International Cooperation and Development. She has worked as a program manager for international NGOs in several countries, focusing on issues such as HIV/AIDS and homelessness. She is currently a research assistant for the GOAL initiative.

Lynn McCrann

- Finance Officer, Women's Health Research Unit

Lynn is the financial assistant with the CRTI project. Her diverse background in accounting and as an administrative consultant makes her an extremely valuable asset to our team. Lynn has a long standing interest in health issues and has spent many hours volunteering with charitable organizations that promote health and wellness in our community.

Allison McEwan, B.Mus and a certificate in Arts Administration

- Administrative Assistant

Allison is the administrative assistant of the WHRU. Allison has contributed significantly to the WHRU team through the administrative support which she provides and her organizational guidance.

Kate McLaren, MEd, MPA

- Project Consultant, Tsunami Forum

Kate is an organizational consultant based in Ottawa and one of the founders of the Ginger Group Collaborative. Her years of experience in the non-profit sector, in program management, public education and international development are the foundation of her expertise in facilitating organizational learning and development processes.

Eileen O'Connor, PhD

- IPH Affiliate Scientist

Eileen is presently co-editing a monograph on the History of the Women's Movement and teaches courses in Women's History, the History of Medicine, Health Sociology, and the Sociology of Sport & Physical Activity at the University of Ottawa. She has collaborated with the WHRU on our proposal for the Canadian Research Technology Initiative, for a gender-analysis of SARS.

Tracey O'Sullivan, PhD

- Senior Research Associate, Women's Health Research Unit
- Affiliate Scientist, Institute of Population Health
- Adjunct Professor, School of Human Kinetics, Faculty of Health Sciences

Tracey O'Sullivan's research interests focus on the social determinants of population health, with particular emphasis on women's health and wellness. Tracey currently manages the CRTI project, which focuses on social support mechanisms to protect health care workers as first responders in infectious disease outbreaks. She is also a co-investigator for the Physical Activity Counseling (PAC) Project, a randomized controlled trial funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Primary Care Transition Fund. Tracey has authored several book chapters, articles and published abstracts on the health impacts of organizational supports and public health interventions.

Karen Phillips, PhD

- Assistant Professor, Health Sciences Program, Faculty of Health Sciences
- IPH Affiliate Scientist

Karen is a Physiologist with the McLaughlin Centre for Population Health Risk Assessment, at the Institute of Population Health, where she coordinates a bilingual, web-based Internet resource on the health effects of endocrine-disrupting chemicals. She is collaborating with the WHRU on several projects, including the CRTI SARS analysis, and a comparative analysis of youth sexual and reproductive health in Canada and Chile.

Catherine Sheehan

- Consultant, Bibliographic Services

Catherine Sheehan is a native of St. John's, Newfoundland. She worked as a librarian at Memorial University for 32 years (the last 27 in information services at the Health Sciences Library), where she performed literature searches, reference services, and taught library skills and Internet searching. She retired from Memorial in August, 2002. In August, 2003, she moved to Ottawa and has since done several literature searches for WHRU, and has also become involved with Ottawa Storytellers.

Catarina Silva, BA in Legal Studies

- Volunteer, Communications

Catarina is a community volunteer with expertise in marketing and communications. She has assisted the WHRU with the development of a communications plan in the past year. With over 13 years of marketing and marketing communications experience, Catarina has worked in both the private and public sectors. Beginning her career as a fundraiser at the Ottawa General Hospital she then moved into high tech marketing. She recently completed a six year tenure at JDSU and is now the Director of Marketing Strategy at SolaCom Technologies where she continues to expand her role in corporate strategy.

Susan Smith

- Director of Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa

Working together with Catarina Silva, Susan has assisted in increasing the profile of the WHRU and also in the development of our communications plan.

Heather Smith Fowler, MA

- Research Manager, Women's Health Research Unit

Heather provides project management for the various research projects of the WHRU, as well as strategic planning, knowledge exchange, and communications. She also has expertise in policy and program development, community-based research methods (including qualitative research), and program evaluation. With an MA in Community Psychology, she brings connections with the non-profit housing and homelessness sector, as well as with community mental health. When time permits, she also works as a Research and Evaluation Consultant, and a reviewer for the Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation.

Jan Soetermans

- Consultant, Graphic Design

Jan is an art director/senior designer and graphic designer. Jan is a 23-year veteran of the design industry who specializes in corporate collateral, annual reports, advertising and trade-show booth design. She has also done art directing in the Canadian Consumer magazine for two years.

Denise Spitzer, PhD

- Chair, Gender, Migration and Women's Health
- Institute of Women's Studies
- Institute of Population Health

Denise Spitzer is a medical anthropologist and Canada Research Chair in Gender, Migration and Health in the Institutes of Women's Studies and Population Health at the University of Ottawa. She works primarily with immigrant and refugee women on a range of issues including the intersections of work (both paid and unpaid), marginalization and health, the impact of policy on health, the influence of structural racism on the health of minority populations as well as the relationship between social support and health.

Rémy Tremblay, PhD

- Canadian Research Chair
- Consultant, Arctic Women's Health

Rémy Tremblay is a Canada Research Chair on knowledge cities at the Télé-université of Université du Québec à Montréal. He completed his PhD dissertation on the topic of the socio-spatial dimensions of the transnational tourist community of Little Quebec (Floribec) in Miami, and until 2004, was a postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute National de la Recherche Scientifique (INRS), in Montréal.

Appendix 1

Publications:

The following information contains published work from June 1st, 2005 to May 31st, 2006.

Books Reviewed

1. **Amaratunga, C.** (2005) *Race, Gender and Work* [Review of the book *Race, Gender and Work: A Multi-Cultural Economic History of Women in the United States*]. South End Press, 1-xv, 442 pp.

Chapters in Books

1. **Amaratunga C.**, Neumann, B., Clow, B., CIHR Institute of Population and Public Health. Moving population and public health knowledge into action: A casebook of knowledge translation stories/ *Mise en application des connaissances: Recueil de cas d'application des connaissances*. Ottawa: Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2006. (With the Canadian Population Health Initiative.)
2. **Amaratunga, C.**, Neumann, B., Clow, B., Institut de la santé publique et des populations des IRSC. *Mise en application des connaissances : Recueil de cas d'application des connaissances/Moving population and public health knowledge into action : A casebook of knowledge translation stories*. Ottawa : Institut de recherche en santé du Canada, 2006. (Avec l'initiative sur la santé de la population canadienne.)
3. **O'Sullivan, T., & Amaratunga, C.** (in press, 2006) Psychosocial and Gender Support for Public Health Care Workers in Bioevent Disasters. In F.M Burkle, J.D. Cahill & D. Barbisch (Eds.), *Bioevent Disasters and the Public Health*. New York: Springer/Klewer Press.
4. **Amaratunga, C. & Smith Fowler, H.** (in press, 2006). Social and political aspects of tsunami response, recovery, and preparedness planning: A transdisciplinary approach from Canada. In T. Murty & U. Aswathanarayana(Eds.), *Tsunami in the Indian Ocean*. The Netherlands: A.A. Balkema Publishers, Ottawa: Taylor & Francis Group.
5. **Spitzer, D. L.** (In press) Policy (in) Action: Policy-Making, Health and Migrant Women. In *Migrant Women's Quest for Social Justice*, Vijay Agnew, ed. University of Toronto Press.

6. **Spitzer, D. L.** (In press) Hard Labour: Minority Women, Nurses and the Childbirth Experience. In *Becoming a Mother: A Cross-Cultural Perspective on Reproduction and Childbearing*, Pranee Liamputtong, ed. Nova Science.
7. **Spitzer, D. L.**, Neufeld, A. Harrison, M. Hughes, K. and Stewart, M. (2006). Caregiving in Transnational Perspective: My Wings Have Been Cut: Where Can I Fly? In *Global Dimensions of Gender and Carework*, Mary K. Zimmerman, Jacquelyn S. Litt and Christine Bose, eds. Stanford: Stanford University Press, pp. 176-194. [reprint]
8. Okeke-Ihejirika, P. and **Spitzer, D. L.** (2005) In Search of Identity: Intergenerational Experiences of African Youth in a Canadian Context. In *The African Diaspora in Canada: Analyses of Race, Identity, and Integration*, Wisdom Tettey and Korbla Pupilampu, eds. Calgary: University of Calgary Press, pp. 205-224.
9. **Spitzer, D. L.** (2005) Women and Poverty. In *Gendered Intersections: A Collection of Readings for Women's and Gender Studies*, C. Lesley Biggs and Pamela J. Downe, eds. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing. Pp. 119-224.
10. **Amaratunga, C. & O'Sullivan, T.** (2005). Recognizing front line heroines and heroes in the response to bioterrorism. In C. Mayhew, & C. Peterson, (Eds.), *Guide to Managing Occupational Health and Safety Risks in The Health Care Industry*. Australia: CCH.

Papers in Refereed Journals

1. **O'Sullivan, T., Amaratunga, C., Hardt, J., Gibson, D., Phillips, K., & Corneil, W.** (submitted for review April 3, 2006). Are We Ready? Evidence of Support Mechanisms for Canadian Health Care Workers in Multi-Jurisdictional Emergency Planning, Submitted to the *Canadian Journal of Public Health*.
2. **Amaratunga, C., & O'Sullivan, T.**, (accepted for publication Sept/Oct 2006). In the Path of Disasters: Psychosocial Issues for Preparedness, Response and Recovery, In *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine, Vol 21, No 3, 139-144*.
3. Stewart, M., Anderson, J., Beiser, M., Mwakarimba, E., Neufeld, A., Simich, L. and **Spitzer, D. L.** (revised and re-submitted to *International Migration*). "Multicultural Meanings of Social Support among Immigrants and Refugees."
4. Stewart, M., Neufeld, A., Harrison, M., **Spitzer, D.**, Hughes, K., and

Mwakwarimba, E. (in press) Immigrant Women Family Caregivers in Canada: Implications for Policies and Programs in Health and Social Sectors. *Health and Social Care in the Community*.

5. **Spitzer, D. L.** (2006) The Impact of Policy on Somali Refugee Women in Canada. *Refuge* 23(2): 42-49.
6. **Spitzer, D. L.** Engendering Health Disparities. *Canadian Journal of Public Health* 96 (Suppl.2): S78-S96, 2005.
7. **Amaratunga, C., O'Sullivan T & O'Connor, E.** (in press). *The Gendered Dimension of Globalization and Infectious Disease: A Case Study of SARS in Canada in Gender, Globalization & Health: The Research-Policy Interface*, Centre for Research in Women's Health (CRWH), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Institute of Gender & Health, (*Special Collection).
8. **Amaratunga, C., Clow B., Neumann, B.** (in press). Research in Action: A Healthy Balance: A Community Alliance of Health Research on Women's Unpaid Caregiving. Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) Institute of Population Health Casebook.

Abstracts in Refereed Conference Proceedings

1. **Amaratunga, C.**, (abstract accepted for publication, in progress 2006). Youth Risk Behaviours in Transitional Societies – the Search for Health, Safety and Personal Security [Abstract]. Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), *Global Health Research Casebook*.
2. **Amaratunga, C.**, (2005) *Creating Learning Cultures for Gender Mainstreaming: Strategic Approaches for Impact Assessment of Multisectoral Approaches: HIV/AIDS in Subsistence Agriculture and Artisanal Fisheries*. Mexico: CIMMYT International Impact Assessment Workshop, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. In Lilja N; Dixon J; Manners G; La Rovere R; Hellin J; Feldstein HS (Ed.), 2006. New avenues in impact assessment of participatory research and gender analysis. Summary proceedings of the Impact Assessment Workshop, CIMMYT Headquarters, Texcoco, Mexico, October 19-21, 2005. Cali, Colombia: CGIAR Systemwide Program on Participatory Research and Gender Analysis for Technology Development and Institutional Innovation (PRGA Program); and Texcoco, Mexico: International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT).
2. **Amaratunga, C., O'Sullivan, T., Félix-Bortoltti, M., Corneil W., Phillips, K., Clarke, R., O'Connor, E., Smith Fowler, H., Lemyre, L.** (2005).

- Caring About Health Care Workers as First Responders: Building Research Capacity to Enhance Resiliency through Emergency Preparedness Planning. *Pre Hospital and Disaster Medicine*, 20(Suppl.1), s38. Madison, Wisconsin: World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine.
3. **Amaratunga, C.**, "Preparing for the Flu Pandemic" Presented at Third Annual Symposium, University of Ottawa Applied Health and Social Research Network, Ottawa, ON, December 6, 2005.
 4. **Amaratunga, C.**, & Hatcher-Roberts, J. (2005, November). *Tsunami Recovery: Gender-Specific Health Impacts and Responses*. Paper presented at the Canadian Conference on International Health, Ottawa, ON.
 5. **Amaratunga, C.**, "Coastal Community Health" Research and social change in the post-tsunami period" Chair and Presenter, OMRN Conference, Ottawa, ON, September 19, 2005.
 6. **Amaratunga, C.**, **Smith Fowler, H.**, & Charles, T., (2005, September). *Tsunami Recovery: Eco-Health Impacts and Responses*. Poster session presented at the Oceans Management Research Network (OMRN) Conference, Ottawa, ON.
 7. **Amaratunga, C.**, Lemyre, L., **Clarke, R.**, Krewski, D., **Corneil, W.**, **O'Sullivan, T.**, **Phillips, K.**, **O'Connor, E.**, & **Smith Fowler, H.** "Caring about Health Care Workers as First Responders: Enhancing Capacity for Gender-Based Support Mechanisms in Emergency", CRTI Summer Symposium, Alymer, Quebec June 22, 2005.
 8. **Amaratunga, C.**, Lemyre, L., **Clarke, R.**, Krewski, D., **Corneil, W.**, **O'Sullivan, T.**, **Phillips, K.**, **O'Connor, E.**, & **Smith Fowler, H.** "Soin des travailleurs de la santé oeuvrant comme premiers : Amélioration des mécanismes basés sur le sexe dans la planification des mesures d'urgence ». Symposium d'été de l'IRTC 22 juin 2005.

Major Invited Contributions and Technical Reports

1. **Amaratunga, C.**, **O'Sullivan, T.**, **Corneil, W.**, **Hardt, J.**, **Gibson, D.**, **McCann, L.**, **Smith Fowler, H.**, **Phillips, K.**, Lemyre, L., **O'Connor, E.**, & Krewski, D. (2006). *Health Care Workers Reflect on Their Roles in Infectious Disease Outbreaks: Focus Group Report*, Report submitted to the CRTI Secretariat, Project 03-0009RD, Canadian Federal Government.
2. **Spitzer, D. L.** (2006) *Gender and Sex-Based Analysis in Health*

Research: A Guide for CIHR Peer Review Committee Members. Ottawa, CIHR, 12 pages.

3. **Amaratunga, C.**, (2005) *Creating Learning Cultures for Gender Mainstreaming: Strategic Approaches for Impact Assessment of Multisectoral Approaches: HIV/AIDS in Subsistence Agriculture and Artisanal Fisheries.* Mexico: CIMMYT International Impact Assessment Workshop, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.
4. **Amaratunga, C., O'Sullivan, T., Phillips, K., O'Connor, E., & Corneil, W.** (2005). *Support Mechanisms for Health Care Workers as First Responders (Module 1.1).* Ottawa: CBRN Research and Technology Initiative (CRTI), Government of Canada.
5. **Amaratunga, C., O'Sullivan, T., Phillips, K., Ter Kuile, S., Letourneau, M., O'Connor, E., & Corneil, W.** (2005). *Lessons Learned from SARS: Impacts on Health Care Workers as First Responders in SARS and Other Models/Examples of Undefined Biological Airborne Agents (Module 1.2).* Ottawa: CBRN Research and Technology Initiative (CRTI), Government of Canada.
6. **Amaratunga, C., O'Sullivan, T., Clarke, R., Phillips, K., & Felix-Bortolotti, M.** (2005). *Supporting Healthcare Workers as First Responders: Mechanisms for Adoption of Communication and Organizational Best Practices in Emergency Preparedness Planning (Module 1.3).* Ottawa: CBRN Research and Technology Initiative (CRTI), Government of Canada.
7. **Amaratunga, C., O'Sullivan, T., Clarke, R., Phillips, K., Felix-Bortolotti, M., Corneil, W. & Smith Fowler, H.** (2005). *Caring about Health Care Workers as First Responders: Enhancing Capacity for Gender-Based Support Mechanisms in Emergency Preparedness Planning (Synthesis).* Ottawa: CBRN Research and Technology Initiative (CRTI), Government of Canada

Conferences/Presentations

1. **Amaratunga, C.**, *Healthy Balance Program (CIHR) and Caring for Health Care Providers as First Responders (CRTI).* OTC Summer Institute, York University, Toronto, ON, May 17, 2006.
2. Oxman-Martinez, J., **Spitzer, D. L.**, Hanley, J., and Hughes, K. *Une terre promise.* Metropolis Network. McGill University, May 16. 2006.

3. **Amaratunga, C.**, "*Health Care Providers as First Responders during Emergencies and Pandemics*". University of Ottawa, Health Sciences Department, Ottawa, ON, May 10, 2006.
4. Stadnyk, R., **Amaratunga, C.**, Norris, D, Clow, B., "*New Directions in research on caregiving*", Healthy Balance Research Program Forum, Holiday Inn Harbourview, Halifax, NS, May 2, 2006.
5. **Amaratunga, C**, MacDonald N, Petite, K., "*Partnering with communities: Equity Reference Groups as a model for participatory research*", Healthy Balance Research Program Forum, Holiday Inn Harbourview, Halifax, NS, May 2, 2006.
6. **Amaratunga, C**, Neumann, B., "*Healthy Balance Research Program: An Overview*" Healthy Balance Research Program Forum, Holiday Inn Harbourview, Halifax, NS, May 2, 2006.
7. **Spitzer, D. L.**, "*Negotiating Identities: African Women in Alberta.*" Invited Presentation to *Power, Gender and Social Change in Africa and the Diaspora* Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, April 22. 2006.
8. **Amaratunga. C.**, "*Research as a tool for Social Justice: A reflection on Women's Health in Canada*". Enhancing Women's Health Research Conference, Crowne Plaza, Ottawa, ON, April 20, 2006.
9. **Amaratunga, C.**, "*Culturally-relevant community based research with populations affected by HIV/AIDS*". Global Ottawa AIDS Link (GOAL), African Caribbean Health Network, Somerset West Community Centre, Ottawa, ON, April 12, 2006.
10. **Spitzer, D. L.** "*You've Got Nowhere to Go: Live-in caregivers in Rural and Small City Alberta.*" 11th National Metropolis Conference, Vancouver, March 23, 2006.
11. **Spitzer, D. L.** "*Is Migrating to Canada Bad for your Health? A Case Study with Live-in Caregivers*". Invited presentation to Institute of Population Health Speaker's Series, March 14, 2006.
12. **Spitzer, D. L.** "*Towards a Research Program in Gender, Migration and Health.*" Invited presentation. University of Ottawa, March 2, 2006.
13. **Amaratunga. C.**, "*Gender and Disaster Management*" University of Ottawa, Women and Health class, Institute of Women's Studies, Ottawa, ON, February 7, 2006.

14. **Amaratunga, C.**, "Gender and Disaster Management: Caregiving in the time of Pandemics" University of Ottawa, Institute of Population Health Seminar Series, Ottawa, ON, February 7, 2006.
15. K Grigoriev, **KP Phillips**, Poster presentation: *Health Promotion: Eating Disorders and Health Risks*. Ontario Women's Health Council Enhancing Women's Health Conference. Ottawa Ontario. 2006.
16. A Martinez, **KP Phillips**. Poster presentation: *Adolescent Sexual Health: Implementation of Sexual and Reproductive Health Curricula in Ottawa Secondary Schools*. Ontario Women's Health Council Enhancing Women's Health Conference. Ottawa Ontario. 2006.
17. K Grigoriev, **Phillips, K.** (2006). *Health Promotion: Eating Disorders and Health Risks*. Ontario Women's Health Council: Enhancing Women's Health. Conference Program. p. 37.
18. A Martinez, **Phillips, K.** (2006). *Adolescent Sexual Health: Implementation of Sexual and Reproductive Health Curricula in Ottawa Secondary Schools*. Ontario Women's Health Council: Enhancing Women's Health. Conference Program. p. 48
19. **Amaratunga, C.**, "Preparing for the Flu Pandemic" Presented at Third Annual Symposium, University of Ottawa Applied Health and Social Research Network, Ottawa, ON, December 6, 2005.
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