Greetings,

As we begin 2012, we reflect on those that have assisted in advancing the mission of the Institute. On behalf of the faculty, staff and students of the Institute, we are grateful to those that have dedicated their time and energy to building collaborations, advancing initiatives, addressing challenges, and supporting successes.

2012 will undoubtedly be filled with exciting opportunities for growth and advancement while sustaining and building new partnerships both internal and external to the Institute. Let's continue to strengthen our internal bonds through open communication and collaboration. We look forward to working with each of you in service to the people we employ, the students we teach and the communities we serve.

With appreciation,
John, Erin, May yer, Jessica and Julie

People

Welcoming...

Sarah DiPadova, MPS Program Coordinator III, Health Equity and Urban Clinical Care Partnerships Division
Programs

Congratulating...

The John M. Kohler Foundation has given $250,000 to the Medical College of Wisconsin Global Health Program in memory of Dr. Elaine Kohler, a former MCW Associate Professor of Pediatrics (1968-1981) and alumnus of the pediatrics fellowship (1968). Dr. Elaine Kohler focused her research efforts on juvenile diabetes, but believed in a call to service and worked with passionate dedication to improve the health of children in Milwaukee and Africa. This gift pays tribute to her life's work by supporting individuals who carry on her selfless commitment to helping others. The summer academy will support up to six first-year medical students with a 10-week hands-on research experience. Participants spend five weeks addressing health disparities in Milwaukee and five weeks addressing health disparities internationally. The global health elective scholarships give students the opportunity to experience health care settings outside of the United States. The gift will fund up to 25 stipends for students going overseas and help expand the number of students who can participate in the two programs.

If you have any additional questions about the Global Health Program or the John M. Kohler Foundation gift, please contact Tiffany Frazer, MPH, Global Health Program Manager, tfrazer@mcw.edu or 955-4763.

Accomplishments...

Ashley Hines, Global Health Program Administrative Assistant, will receive an award from the Black Women's Network who will hold their 33rd Annual Recognition Scholarship Dinner on Friday, February 3, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Ashley is one of twelve women being honored who reflect the night’s theme of “Well-Willed Women”. The Black Women's Network was established in 1979 and collaborates with community organizations to support issues affecting Black Women and
the community. They provide scholarships and support for young women entering college.

**Clarene Mitchell** authored a health disparities focused article that was published on a national level in November 2011. The article, *Hospice Care Can Help Blacks Embrace Death With Dignity*, was published in the [New Journal & Guide](#) and in the [Toledo Journal](#).

## HWPP 8th Funding Cycle RFP

HWPP anticipates releasing its 8th Funding Cycle Request for Proposal (RFP) in mid-February. As in prior funding cycles, HWPP will continue to support Development and Impact projects that address public health improvement through community-academic partnerships. Awards will support innovative projects implemented by Wisconsin partners, in Wisconsin communities, for the benefit of Wisconsin residents.

You may find it helpful to review the last RFP, which is still available in PDF format on our [website](#). The principle structure of the RFP will likely be similar to the past; however, the specific forms and attachments will change.

Announcement of the release of the next RFP will occur through the HWPP electronic distribution list and our [website](#). If you would like to be added to the HWPP distribution list, please complete the form on our [website](#) (there is a link found at the bottom of the page).

## Second Annual Biostatistics Poster Day

On behalf of the Division of Biostatistics, we would like to thank you for participating/attending the Second Annual Biostatistics Poster Day. A total of 30 posters were presented from collaborative work done within the division making the overall event a huge success! Furthermore, we encourage you to continue to use the resources available within the Division of Biostatistics and the Biostatistics Consulting Service for all of your statistical needs. Thanks again!

## Dr. Willis Serves as Expert Panelist

Earnestine Willis, MD, MPH was an expert panelist at the March of Dimes' *Health Equity in Preterm Birth Workgroup* session on January 18, 2012 in Washington, D.C. The event was a pre-meeting to the *Prematurity Prevention Symposium*. 
The goal of the workgroup session was to generate lively discussion and innovative recommendations to address racial and ethnic disparities in preterm birth. Dr. Willis specifically discussed strategic opportunities for community programs to address these disparities; she centered much of her talk on her leadership level involvement with the Milwaukee Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families as an example of a community driven approach to eliminate racial disparities in infant mortality.

U.S. Surgeon General Regina Benjamin was the keynote speaker for the Symposium. At which she launched the Prematurity Prevention Network - a virtual network made up of health care providers, insurers, policy makers, and business leaders - who will work together to achieved the March of Dimes goal of lowering the preterm birth rate to 9.6 percent of live births. Dr. Willis is an inaugural member of the Network.

If you are interested in joining the Network, you can create an account at http://www.prematurityprevention.org

For questions or comments, or if you have an event you would like highlighted in Notes from the Institute, please contact Julie Dotson at jdotson@mcw.edu or call at x8032.