

e-update

on the pulse of health careers

Oct 2006

What is Public Health?

Public health is a field of study, but it's so much more. People are attracted to public health because it is education with heart, profession with purpose, and life with meaning.

- If you have an interest in the health field, but really want to focus on prevention, public health is for you.
- If you want an opportunity to keep lots of people healthy instead of treating people one patient at a time, public health is for you.
- If you want to be creative in designing programs that help people help themselves be healthy, public health is for you.

On October 20, visit the Health Careers Center in 2-565 Moos Tower, and learn about types of education and career opportunities that await you in the exciting and growing field of public health. (See below for registration information.)

Hosted by the U of M School of Public Health, this "Pathways to Public Health" event will feature 45-minute sessions on specific areas of study like environmental health, epidemiology, community health education, maternal and child health, public health nutrition, health policy and management, and dual degrees. Stay for a free lunch, to listen and talk with public health students, staff and alumni, and take your first step towards a career with endless opportunities!

Register for this event and enter to win an iPod nano at www.healthcareers.umn.edu.

Career Spotlight: Mortuary Science

Mortuary science is about helping people, who have lost a family member or friend, to deal with that loss and honor that person's life. Mortuary scientists, also known as funeral directors, are compassionate, caring people, who help others in a time of need. They use both their knowledge of science and interpersonal skills to guide people through a painful and sometimes challenging time of their lives.

This discipline requires a unique balance between the physical sciences, and social sciences and compassion, in helping the living deal with death.

What Does A Funeral Director Do?

As cited on America's Career Infonet (<http://www.acinet.org>), Funeral Directors "...perform various tasks to arrange and direct funeral services, such as coordinating transportation of [the] body to mortuary for embalming, interviewing family or other authorized person to arrange details, selecting pallbearers, procuring official for religious rites, and providing transportation for mourners."



Michael LuBrant, director of the program in Mortuary Science, demonstrates a restorative process used for funeral preparations during the Health Careers Fair held at Coffman Memorial Union.

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As mentioned on the University of Minnesota's Mortuary Science website, some of the aspects that they help to deal with include: selecting/suggesting appropriate

funeral proceedings/burial/disposition; business-related issues of the mortuary; legal documentation including signing off on death certificates; providing grief counseling/support.

Cultural Awareness

One area of

growth in the profession has to do with increased levels of cultural sensitivities and awareness. As the American culture becomes more and more diverse and multilingual, cultural awareness and bilingual skills are desirable in new professionals.

www.healthcareers.umn.edu

Mortuary Science (continued)

Education Required

The University of Minnesota offers a bachelor's level degree which prepares you for work as a funeral director. Program information can be found at: www.med.umn.edu/mortsci.



For information on licensure, look at the website for the National Funeral Directors Association <http://www.nfda.org/>.



Personal Statement Drop-In Clinic

Personal statements are an important piece of the application packet to many graduate and health professional programs. Are you looking for some help with your personal statement? Are you an undergraduate student at the University of Minnesota applying to a health professional program? If so, consider attending the following drop-in clinic!

Drop-In Clinic Provides Assistance

On October 17, from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Health Careers Center staff will be available for 20 minute sessions on a first-come, first-serve, basis to help you with the personal statement portion of your application to a health professions school.

This "clinic" assists with the following:

- proofreading for grammatical errors;
- proofreading for spelling errors; and
- feedback on how your statement addresses questions asked on your application.

Attending the Clinic?

Please bring with you:

- Instructions for your personal statement from your application packet
- A draft copy of your personal statement

Drop-in and we'll be happy to review this important application document with you!

Upcoming Events

Register for an event at www.hccevents.umn.edu. Locations of events and info sessions are provided after registration.

Pharmacy Admissions Sessions
Thur, Oct 26, at 1:00 p.m.

A Physician's Life
Wed, Nov 1, at 9:30 a.m.

Personal Statement Drop-In Clinic
Tues, Oct 17, at 1:30 p.m.

Idealist Fair
Wed, Oct 18, from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Preparing for Medical School
Wed, Oct 18, at 9:00 a.m. - or -
Wed, Nov 8, at 9:30 a.m.

MD/PhD Information Session
Wed, Oct 18, at 1:00 p.m.

Health Sciences at the U of M and U!
Thur, Oct 19 at 1:15 p.m.

Pathways to Public Health
Fri, Oct 20, at 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Interviewing for a Health Prof. School
Tues, Oct 24, at 2:30 p.m.

Scientific and Technical Communication
Tues, Oct 24, at 12:00 p.m.

Health Sciences Libraries Open House
Tues, Oct 24, at 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
555 Diehl Hall

Medical Technology Info Session
Wed, Oct 25, at 1:00 p.m.

Resume Writing
Tues, Nov 7, at 1:15 p.m.

October is...

Brain Injury Awareness Month
www.biausa.org/

Breast Cancer Awareness Month
www.nbcam.org/

Campaign for Healthier Babies Month
www.marchofdimes.com/

Children's Health Month
www.aap.org/

Cold and Flu Campaign
www.lungusa.org

Crime Prevention Month
www.ncpc.org/

Dental Hygiene Month
www.adha.org/

Depression & Mental Health Month
www.nmha.org/

Domestic Violence Awareness Month
www.ncadv.org/

Down Syndrome Awareness Month
www.ndss.org/

Family Health Month
www.aafp.org/

Healthy Lung Month
www.lungusa.org/

Orthodontic Health Month
www.braces.org/

Physical Therapy Month
www.apta.org/

Spinal Health Month
www.amerchiro.org/

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness
www.firstcandle.org/

UNICEF Month
www.unicefusa.org/

World Blindness Awareness Month
www.aao.org/

www.healthcareers.umn.edu

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