Dr. Dennis Tsilimingras, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor and Co-Director of the Michigan Area Health Education Center in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences has received a $1.2 million R01 grant from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) to investigate postdischarge adverse events in neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) neonates at Children’s Hospital of Michigan and Hutzel Women’s Hospital.

Each year in the United States, 70,000 hospitalized children are estimated to experience an injury caused by medical management rather than the underlying disease or condition of the patient, defined as an “adverse event.” Approximately 60% of these adverse events are considered potentially preventable. Little has been done to examine adverse events specifically during the transition when children are discharged from the hospital to home.

The postdischarge incidence rate in adults was 28%, in Dr. Tsilimingras’ first R01 study funded by AHRQ, which is seven times higher than the in-hospital adverse event incidence rate for adult patients. Thus, it is plausible that the postdischarge adverse event incidence rate in children may be much higher than the in-hospital rate, as with adults.

Dr. Tsilimingras expects the identification of risk factors associated with postdischarge adverse events will significantly help efforts in improving the delivery of healthcare by enabling children’s and community hospitals to develop interventions to improve the hospital discharge process and neonatal patient safety during this vulnerable transition of care from the hospital to home. Thus, this project has the potential of becoming a landmark study and having a major impact on the field of pediatric patient safety.

For more information about this project, contact Dr. Tsilimingras at dtsilimi@med.wayne.edu.

Dr. Karen MacDonell, Assistant Professor in the Division of Behavioral Sciences, was awarded a $2.7 million R01 grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI).

The 5-year grant will fund a trial of a technology-based motivational intervention designed to improve adherence to medication in African American young adults with asthma. The program consists of two sessions of a computer-delivered, interactive, tailored intervention combined with text messaging for both assessment and intervention. The project involves multiple collaborations, including Drs. Sylvie Naar and Bo Wang of DFMPHS, Dr. Wanda Gibson-Scipio in the College of Nursing, Dr. Aaron Brody in Emergency Medicine, and Dr. Jean-Marie Bruzzese of Columbia University School of Nursing.

For more information about this project, contact Dr. MacDonell at kkolmodin@med.wayne.edu.
MI-AHEC RECEIVES $1 MILLION HRSA GRANT

U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has awarded Wayne State University’s Michigan Area Health Education Center (MI-AHEC) with a one-year, $1 million grant. HRSA has awarded consecutive yearly grants to MI-AHEC since 2010.

“The continued support by HRSA is a testament to the high quality services provided by AHEC for the health of Michigan,” said Dr. Tsveti Markova, Co-Principal Investigator of MI-AHEC and Endowed Chair in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences, the home department of MI-AHEC.

The grant money will be used for the continued work of the Center that seeks to increase access to quality primary care providers in underserved communities. These particular funds will be used to continue to strengthen the statewide network of five regional centers and provide an unprecedented number of health care career preparation initiatives, clinical experiences and continuing education programs for health care professionals in communities throughout the state.

For more information about MI-AHEC, visit:
www.miahec.wayne.edu

Excerpted from Today@Wayne News & Announcements distributed September 9, 2016

For more AHEC news visit:

DR. ANGIE TIURA RECEIVES MENTOR ED RESEARCH SCIENTIST GRANT

Dr. Angie Tiura, Assistant Professor in the Division of Behavioral Sciences, was awarded a 5-year $605,919 Mentored Research Scientist grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) (1K01AA024500-01A1).

The 3-phase project involves:

1) conducting an online background survey assessing dating and sexual violence experiences, drinking behaviors, loss-of-control eating behaviors, beliefs about alcohol and food, reinforcement from alcohol and food, and other background variables;
2) developing a mobile-delivered behavioral economics-guided intervention to reduce heavy drinking and loss-of-control eating; and
3) refining and pilot testing the intervention.

Mentors on the project are Drs. Sylvie Naar (DFMPHS), Mark Greenwald (Psychiatry), Steven Ondersma (Psychiatry and Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute), and Inbal Nahum-Shani (University of Michigan Institute for Social Research).

For more information about the study, contact Dr. Tiura at atiura@med.wayne.edu
BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES PROJECT ‘SCALE IT UP’ RECEIVES $15.7 MILLION FROM NICHD

Sylvie Naar, Ph.D., professor and division director of Behavioral Sciences in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences is leading the team for project, Scale it Up, which has been awarded an anticipated total of $15.7 million during five years from the National Institute of Child and Human Development of the National Institutes of Health (NICHD).

The funding is part of the Adolescent Medicine Trials Network for HIV/AIDS Interventions, a research network devoted to the health and well-being of adolescents and young adults with HIV or at risk for HIV infection.

Dr. Naar will collaborate with Jeffrey Parsons, Ph.D., distinguished professor of Psychology and director of the Center for HIV/AIDS Educational Studies and Training at Hunter College, and Bonita Stanton, M.D., founding dean of medicine at Seton Hall University.

Scale it Up is committed to the development and assessment of effectiveness of theoretically and developmentally sound interventions focused on improving self-management among HIV-positive and at-risk youth between the ages of 13 and 24. The program will emphasize implementing methods to ensure that interventions are cost-effective and sustainable.

According to the research team, youth account for 17 percent of the population but 26 percent of newly diagnosed HIV infections. An estimated 60 percent of youth are unaware of their HIV status, less than two-thirds of those diagnosed are linked with care within one year and only 54 percent achieve viral suppression.

“Interventions to reduce HIV incidence in youth and link infected youth to care is critically needed,” said Dr. Naar, principal investigator on the grant. “Our goal for Scale it Up is to take successful smaller-scale trials and implement them in real-world clinic and community settings.”

Every step of the HIV treatment cascade — including the prevention cascade — requires youth living with HIV or at-risk youth to make decisions to engage with available services and/or to modify their behaviors. Every step requires active self-management.

“So much progress has been made over the last three decades toward the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) goal of eradicating all new HIV infections by 2030,” Dr. Stanton said. “Intensified, concerted efforts targeting especially high-risk groups – including youth — are needed to convert this aspiration into a reality. This is the purpose of Scale it Up.”

“We know that large numbers of youth are not seeking HIV/STI testing or prevention services,” Dr. Parsons said. “Young gay men of color are disproportionately affected – both in terms of new HIV infections and challenges with access to care and prevention services. Many HIV-positive youth are not sustaining adequate HIV care and treatment. They may be engaging in other risky behaviors such as substance use that interfere across all points in the HIV prevention and treatment cascades. The goal of Scale it Up is to help these youth effectively self-manage their behaviors.”

The Scale it Up team will implement three research projects as part of its NIH-funded grant. The first, led by Dr. Naar, will train multidisciplinary clinic providers in 10 adolescent HIV clinics to utilize motivational interviewing to promote self-management among HIV-positive and at-risk youth. The second, led by Dr. Parsons, will implement his Young Men’s Health Project intervention – focused on reducing sexual risk and substance use among HIV-negative young gay and bisexual men at three clinic sites. The third, led by Marvin Belzer, M.D., of Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles, and Karen MacDonell, Ph.D. of Wayne State, will implement a text messaging and cellphone support intervention to promote medication adherence among HIV-positive youth at four clinic sites.

Supporting the three projects will be a management core, led by Dr. Parsons and his team; an analytic core, led by Xiaoming Li, Ph.D., from University of South Carolina; and an implementation science core, led by Karin Coyle, Ph.D., from ETR Associates. The Scale it Up team will work closely with the two other funded NIH U19s to develop and implement new cross-network programs.

Congratulations to all of you for securing these funds for such an important and impactful project!

For more information about this project, please contact Dr. Sylvie Naar at snaarkin@med.wayne.edu

Article reprinted from School of Medicine News dated September 9, 2016.
Congratulations to Kim Campbell-Voytal, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor and Director, of the MPH Program. She is being recognized at a Program Assessment Appreciation Luncheon on October 24, hosted by President Wilson and Provost Whitfield for her outstanding assessment work in 2015-2016 relating to the multi-year cycle of revision to assessment processes for validly scoring student’s application of evidence-based knowledge.

**WSU MENTORED VOLUNTEER STUDENT INVITED TO PRESENT POSTER AT 5TH ANNUAL FAMILY MEDICINE MIDWEST CONFERENCE**

Dr. Hikmet Jamil, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences, has been mentoring Dr. Ayesha Naizy, MD and is pleased to report she was invited to present a poster at the 5th Annual Family Medicine Midwest Conference of the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP) on October 7-9 in Indianapolis, IN.

Her research project used data collected by surveying 337 Middle Eastern Iraqi participants from metro Detroit. The study showed the prevalence and correlates of substance abuse amongst this Middle Eastern population.

Dr. Naizy received her medical degree from Ziauddin University in Karachi, Pakistan. Prior to joining Henry Ford Hospital as a clinical research associate, she was a research assistant at Brown University in Rhode Island. She met Dr. Jamil through the Henry Ford/Wayne State network where she approached him about a volunteer/mentoring opportunity.

An article discussing the findings was published October 3, 2016 in the Journal of Drug Abuse.

For details about the research, please contact Dr. Hikmet Jamil at hjamil@med.wayne.edu or Ayesha Naizy at ayesha_naizy@hotmail.com

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**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT**

The department’s own Dr. Dawn Misra, PhD was highlighted on the Wayne State University School of Medicine’s scrolling banner on the home page. It read: Meet.........Dawn Misra, Ph.D., is an expert on infant mortality among African American women. She is principal investigator of more than $8 million in research funding on perinatal health. Dr. Misra is also co-chair of a working group for the U.S. Surgeon General’s Conference on Preterm Birth, chair of the Committee for the Mayor’s Summit on Health Equity in Detroit 2016 and member of the Michigan Maternal Mortality Surveillance Injury Committee. She is creator of a perinatal health-life course model adopted by the Institute of Medicine Report on Preterm Birth, and cited more than 150 times worldwide.

On September 30, Dr. Misra was featured in the City University of New York, Lehman College School of Health Sciences, Human Services & Nursing Public Health Minute with William Latimer discussing preterm delivery and social environment. Take a listen by visiting: [https://soundcloud.com/publichealthminute/preterm-delivery-and-social-environment-dr-dawn-misra](https://soundcloud.com/publichealthminute/preterm-delivery-and-social-environment-dr-dawn-misra)

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**Acronym Soup**

**ABMS—American Board of Medical Specialties**

An organization that assists 24 medical specialty boards in the development and use of standards for the ongoing evaluation and certification of physicians. [www.abms.org](http://www.abms.org)
SCREEXING TOOL FACILITATES TEACHERS’ LIKELYHOOD OF DELIVERING SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL-BASED PREVENTION INTERVENTIONS

Dr. Bo Wang, Associate Professor in the Division of Behavioral Sciences had led a study describing the development and preliminary psychometric examination of “School Pre-implementation Screening Tool” for identifying “low- or high-performing” teachers in the delivery of school-based HIV prevention interventions. The study results were recently published in Health Education & Behavior titled “Development of a Brief Pre-Implementation Screening Tool to Identify Teachers Who Are at Risk for Not Implementing Intervention Curriculum and High-Implementing Teachers”.

Few questionnaires have been developed to screen for potentially poor implementers of school-based interventions. The study combines teacher characteristics, perceptions, and teaching/training experiences to develop a short screening tool that can identify potential “low-performing” or “high-performing” teachers pre-implementation.

Data was gathered from 208 teachers and 4,411 students who participated in the national implementation of an evidence-based HIV intervention in The Bahamas. Sensitivity and specificity were evaluated for the detection of “low-performing” and “high-performing” teachers. The validity of the screening tool was assessed using receiver operating characteristics analysis. The School Pre-implementation Screening Tool consists of seven predictive factors: duration as teacher, working site, attendance at training workshops, training in interactive teaching, perceived importance of the intervention, comfort in teaching the curriculum, and program priority. The sensitivity and specificity were 74% and 57% in identifying “low-performing” teachers and 81% and 65% with “high-performing” teachers. The screening tool demonstrated an acceptable/good validity (area under the receiver operating characteristics curve was 0.68 for “low-performing teachers” and 0.78 for “high-performing teachers”).

The brief screening tool can facilitate teacher training and recruitment of engaged teachers in implementation of school-based interventions.

For a PDF of the Health, Education & Behavior Brief Report, contact Judith Magdalenic jmagdale@med.wayne.edu

For more information about the study, please contact Dr. No Wang at bwang@med.wayne.edu

NEW GRANT USES CUTTING EDGE COMPUTER SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY TO AUTOMATE eCOACHING

Behavioral Sciences Assistant Professor, April Idalski Carcone, PhD, is collaborating with Dr. Alexander Kotov in the WSU Computer Science Department and Dr. Gwen Alexander from Henry Ford Health Systems on a newly funded National Institutes of Health grant, “Automated Coding of eCoaching Exchanges to Promote Healthier Eating” (NIDDK 1R21DK108071-01A1, Carcone and Kotov, PIs).

This research will use cutting edge computer science technology – machine learning-based classification models – to automate communication coding, a resource-intensive qualitative analysis process, and identify key communication strategies used by eCoaches linked to increased fruit and vegetable (FV) intake among young adults age 21-30. eCoaching is motivation enhancing behavior change coaching delivered via email.

Identifying communication strategies linked to increased FV intake will identify empirically derived communication techniques that can be used to tailor interventions and health promotion messages to more effectively promote behavior change in this age group. The development of this computer science technology is the first step toward automating the eCoaching process.

For more information about this study, contact Dr. April Carcone at acarcone@med.wayne.edu
CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DR. SCOTT YAEEKLE RECEIVES MICHIGAN FAMILY PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR HONORS

Scott Yaekle, MD, a 1992 graduate of Wayne State University’s School of Medicine, was named Michigan Family Physician of the Year by The Michigan Academy of Family Physician (MAFP).

MAFP is the largest medical specialty organization in the state. It presents the award annually to a family physician who exemplifies the tradition of the family doctor and the contributions of the specialty of Family medicine to the continuing health of the state’s residents.

Dr. Yaekle sees patients in Westland and is known for his kindness, profound interest in students and residents, and dedication to his patients and to the specialty of Family Medicine.

He is an active clinical associate professor (voluntary) in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences. He was nominated by Dr. Margit Chadwell, Assistant Professor and Director of the Year III Family Medicine Clerkship.

Upon learning of and receiving the award, Dr. Yaekle said, “It was truly humbling and a tremendous privilege to be recognized by colleagues and physicians who have completely dedicated their lives to caring for families throughout the spectrum of life.”

Our congratulations to Dr. Yaekle!!

ANNUAL RETURNING VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 4, 2016

Michigan AHEC’s Mid-Central Regional Center will host a seminar to help health care professionals better address the behavioral health issues of our returning service members and their families at Central Michigan University on November 4, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This live broadcast will be simulcast at the following locations: Kirtland Health Science Center in Grayling, Northern Michigan University in Marquette; Western Michigan University in Grand Rapids; and Wayne State University’s College of Nursing in Detroit.

The cost of the event is $65 ($20 for students) which includes breakfast, lunch and CE credits.

To register, go to: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-returning-veterans-mental-health-conference-registration-27046591082.

For information about the event, please contact Rachel Huber, Information Officer, MI-AHEC at rhuber@med.wayne.edu

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

We are pleased to welcome the following individuals to the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences:

Mark Brettschneider, Clinical Operations Manager, Rochester FMC (hired 9/6/2016)
Sarah Furguson, Rochester Residency Program Coordinator (hired 9/6/2016)
Tess McCready, UPG Physician, Rochester and Troy FMC (hired 8/1/2016)
Curtis Love, Social Worker, Rochester FMC (hired 8/8/2016)
MEDICAL STUDENT SHARES HER REFLECTION AND THANKS TO DR. BRUCE KRESGE

The Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences receives gifts of financial support from its alumni, faculty members, and their families who embrace our mission. Our students are honored to use the funds to explore and expand their interest in the Family Medicine profession while representing WSU School of Medicine and the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences.

One such donor is Dr. Bruce Kresge, a retired family physician and Wayne State University School of Medicine alumni. Dr. Kresge remains very passionate about family medicine. Year 4 Medical Student Regina Wang had the opportunity to attend a recent conference due to his generosity.

Recipients of scholarships and funds are encouraged to send a thank you note to the donor. Not only did Regina thank Dr. Kresge in words, she shared her experience with photographs that were taken of her and other attendees during the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) National Conference (see note below).

On October 13, The Council on Education for Public Health notified the leaders of the MPH Program that they have been awarded a full seven year accreditation based on the site visitor’s recommendation and documentary evidence! The Council concluded the MPH Program met or exceeded requirements in all applicable criteria. The Council provided Commentary in four areas which directs attention to some aspects of performance that could be strengthened in the future: fiscal resources; student and faculty diversity; program assessment (attrition); community service. We will make this determination and supporting documents available to the public on the program’s website within the next 60 days.

Kudos to the MPH Team and all faculty and staff from the department who contributed to the preparation for the extensive site visit. Also a special thank our Community Partners and the University for their support and commitment to Public Health.