ACGH Newsletter

ASTMH Committee on Global Health

January 2023

POST-ANNUAL MEETING NEWS



Thanks to those, like 2022 ACGH Councilor Elizabeth Collins, who participated in and attended our ACGH events at the ASTMH Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington.



Thank you to Peter Hotez, MD, PhD, FASTMH, and the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine for donating autographed copies of his books for the ACGH Booth prizes at the ASTMH Annual Meeting:

Winner of Forgotten People, Forgotten Diseases:

Daniel Nuñez, Scientist, Department for Research, Mexico City, Mexico

Winner of *Blue Marble Health*:

Jérôme Nkurunziza, National Professional Officer, WHO, Bujumbura, Burundi



Stand Committee on Globo

2022 ACGH Councilors, Elizabeth Collins & Njeri Wamae, present Jérôme Nkurunziza, winner of the ACGH Booth prize, with an autographed copy of *Blue Marble Health*.



Highlight #OneHealth around the world! January is One Health Awareness Month.

Here are some ways to raise awareness about the importance of One Health each day during the first month of 2023.

We challenge you to pick at least one of the suggested <u>actions</u> from the calendar – any topic on any day.



ACGH Awards for Research Support

In 2022, we received 21 applications; 3 ACGH members were awarded a research grant.



Ghassan Ilaiwy, MD, MPH, *Infectious Disease Fellow, University of Virginia, USA*. Dr. Ilaiwy's goal is to examine the obstacles that prevent household members of TB patients from being screened for TB disease and then receiving TB preventive therapy, if eligible, in high burden countries. He will use the ACGH Research Award to increase the number of participating households in his study site in Tanzania which will improve the diversity of responses to the planned survey, ultimately providing deeper insights to guide future projects.



Minu Singh, MSc, Research Associate/Program Manager, Kathmandu Research Institute for Biological Sciences, Nepal. Ms. Singh's research involves measuring the functional capacity of long term cryopreserved peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) from human patients for B-cell sorting – used in characterizing HIVspecific B-cells in order to screen for HIV neutralizing monoclonal antibodies. The ACGH Research funding will be used to help in developing a lab protocol that will allow for the assessment of the functional stimulatory capacity of these PBMCs (e.g. ELISPOT assay) in Nepal.



Evelyn Munayco Pantoja, MPH, *Doctoral Fellow, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Peru.* Ms. Pantoja will use the ACGH Research Award funding to conduct a mixedmethods study to determine the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of face washing in six indigenous communities, including some vulnerable communities in Alto Amazon, Peru. This is an area where she has been part of research demonstrating the presence of trachoma, with face washing being a main intervention to prevent this disease.

ASTMH 2022: Reflections from a first-time attendee

As a first-time attendee, my experience at the ASTMH 2022 Annual Meeting was informative, engaging, and impactful. From the poster sessions to the research seminars, I realized the importance of collaboration and communication in the scientific community as shared knowledge is crucial to securing the health and futures of people in this interdependent world. The meeting also gave me a platform to share my work on scrub typhus in Thailand where I was able to receive great feedback and insights from experienced researchers, dedicated public health practitioners, and passionate educators. The highlight of my experience was sharing and discussing research findings with participants from all over the world. Overall, I truly felt that all of us had something to learn at the meeting about tropical medicine, hygiene, global health, or this year's theme, a great humanitarian principle: Global Health = Human Rights.



Reiden Magdaleno is an undergrad research assistant at the Bakker Lab and Epibayes Lab, studying Public Health Sciences at the University of Michigan. He is interested in vectorborne diseases and spatiotemporal transmission dynamics.

Congratulations to the new ACGH officers:

Position	Member	Term Expires in November
President	James Colborn	2023
President-elect	Yazoumé Yé	2023
Past-President	Corine Karema	2023
Secretary/Treasurer	Maria Elena Bottazzi	2024
Councilor	Achama Eluwa	2023
Councilor	Abdisalan Noor	2023
Councilor	Arielle Dolegui	2024
Councilor	Katherine Wolf	2024
Councilor for Trainees	Camila Tompkins	2023



The new year is a great time to get involved with ACGH!

Subcommittee members are expected to meet approximately once a month for an hour and sometimes more frequently before deadlines and the annual meeting.

Sign up to join ACGH Subcommittees <u>here</u> or contact leaders for more information:

Global Health Award Research Award Student Travel Award 2023 Pre-Meeting Course 2023 Symposia Strategic Activities/Bylaws Communications, Advocacy, & Policy ACGH Booth at ASTMH Annual Meeting Mentorship Initiative miguelreinaortiz@boisestate.edu gacheric.wamae@gmail.com gacheric.wamae@gmail.com jmcolborn@gmail.com jmcolborn@gmail.com ElizabethMontgomeryCollins@gmail.com akilahstewart@gmail.com fabu_md@hotmail.com bottazzi@bcm.edu

ASTMH on Social Media

Why not add to global health social media conversations by following and interacting with ASTMH (<u>@ASTMH</u>) on Twitter?

We encourage ACGH members to share news relevant to global health with all of us and to let us know if you have any news to share in our newsletter by clicking on the <u>ASTMH homepage</u>, selecting "Subgroups and Committees," scrolling down to the "My Communities" option, then clicking on the Global Health Subgroup (ACGH) link and following the instructions to add your message to the forum. We will highlight hot forum items in future newsletters.

Sincerely,

American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) Committee on Global Health (ACGH) Subcommittee on Communications, Advocacy, & Policy

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