

# ABOUT CHPAMS: MEMBERS' UPDATES

## CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

**Zhanlian Feng, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Health Services, Policy and Practice (Research), Center for Gerontology & Health Care Research at Brown University, is joining the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International in Boston this July. At RTI International, Dr. Feng will work with a team of research scientists on projects related to aging, disability, and long-term care.

**Xinzhi Zhang, M.D., Ph.D.**, previously with the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, joined the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Washington D.C. in July as a Health Scientist Administrator.

## MEMBERS' REPORTS

**Dr. Jian Ni**, Johns Hopkins University, writes to the Editor as below.

"Thanks for the opportunity provided by CHPAMS. Through the conferences and meetings organized [facilitated] by CHPAMS, Prof. Dongfu Qian from Nanjing Medical University and I got to know each other and started to form academic partnership to explore some research ideas. In June 2011, Prof. Dongfu Qian applied the China Medical Board (CMB) young faculty seed grant with me. We propose to study the effects of special outpatient reimbursement policy for common chronic diseases under China's new rural cooperative medical scheme. We focus on the reimbursement/insurance policy design and patient/physician incentive under the new rural cooperative medical scheme. Achieving this goal will enable us convey these findings to the policy makers and educate the patients and even business leaders in China. With the help from CHPAMS, Prof. Dongfu Qian and I got the chance to sit down and know each other's research interest better. We are very confident that this joint research effort will turn out to be fruitful from both academic and policy perspective."

**Dr. Tzesan Lee**, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), originally from Taiwan, writes on his recent, also his first, mainland China trip.

With an invitation from Dr. S.K. Zhu, Executive Dean, School of Public Health (SPH), Zhejiang University (ZJU), I taught a course in biostatistics during the summer session to medical students in ZJU's International Program. This is a six-year (five-year study plus a one-year internship) MBBS program offering Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery in which the language of instruction is English. The course is titled "Medical Statistics: An Overview". To facilitate my teaching, I prepared my lecture notes in power point presentations and printed hard copies for the students.

The summer session at ZJU started on April 16, 2012 and lasted for 8-weeks. Due to my limited vacation time available from the CDC, ZJU redesigned this course so that I could teach 6 hours per week for the first 4 weeks and then another faculty member would teach the SAS software for the remaining 4 weeks.

I had 78 students in my class who were in their third year with the ZJU. They came from all over the world, including the United States. Some students were of Chinese descent from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and Mauritius. By and large, students are smart and diligent. Predictably, they will become good patient-caring doctors after a solid 6-year training in medical education.

Besides teaching the course, I was invited by the Hangzhou CDC to give a talk entitled "Forest Fires and Landslides: Public Health Hazards". In addition, I held two seminars with faculty members of the ZJU SPH entitled "Medical Statistics: Integrating Biostatistics and Epidemiology" and "A Poisson Regression Model for Female Radium Dial Workers", respectively.

My wife was accompanying me during the China visit. We stayed in a four-star hotel on the campus. The campus is huge. It took 30 minutes to walk from the hotel to my office. Our day began with a delicious breakfast buffet. For lunch and dinner, we ate at the cafeteria with the charge card provided by the ZJU. We did a lot of walking after dinner on the beautiful campus. Also, we took this rare opportunity to visit many wonderful scenery spots in China during our free time. Overall, I enjoyed very much my teaching there. It was an unforgettable experience. My wife and I had a wonderful time in China.