

RYERSON UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Child and Youth Care
Disability Studies
Early Childhood Studies
Midwifery
Nursing
Nutrition
Occupational and Public
Health
Social Work
Urban and Regional
Planning

350 VICTORIA ST.
TORONTO, ON
M5B 2K3



SEE PAGE 5



INSIDE:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Girls, Not Brides..... | 2 |
| World is Inadequately Prepared.... | 2 |
| Jean-Jacques Muyembe-Tamfum... | 2 |
| Coexist or Perish, New Wildfire..... | 3 |
| Caribbean Countries Taking Firm... | 3 |
| Video Games Seek to Motivate..... | 3 |
| When a Kid With Low Self-Esteem | 4 |
| Infrastructure Investments in..... | 4 |
| Domestic Abusers Have Gone..... | 4 |
| Symposiums & Conferences..... | 5 |
| 7 of The Biggest Mistakes..... | 6 |
| Right to Food and Nutrition..... | 7 |

PLANETARY HEALTH WEEKLY

BRINGING YOU CURRENT NEWS ON
GLOBAL HEALTH & ECOLOGICAL WELLNESS



Volume 1, Issue 17

July 2, 2015

Breastfeeding Protects Against Environmental Pollution



See: [http://www.sciencedaily.com/
releases/2015/05/150522083414.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/05/150522083414.htm)

Living in a city with a high level of vehicle traffic or close to a steel works means living with two intense sources of environmental pollution. However, a study indicates that the harmful pollution particle matter and nitrogen dioxide disappear in breastfed babies during the first four months of life. According to the results of the research, breastfeeding plays a protective role in the presence of these two atmospheric pollutants.

U.N. Urged to Put Global Citizenship at Centre of Post-2015 Development Agenda

When Denmark hosted the World Summit on Social Development (WSSD) in March 1995, one of the conclusions of that international gathering in Copenhagen was to create a new social contract with "people at the centre of development." But notwithstanding the shortcomings in its implementation over the last 20 years, the United Nations is now pursuing an identical goal with a new political twist: "global citizenship."



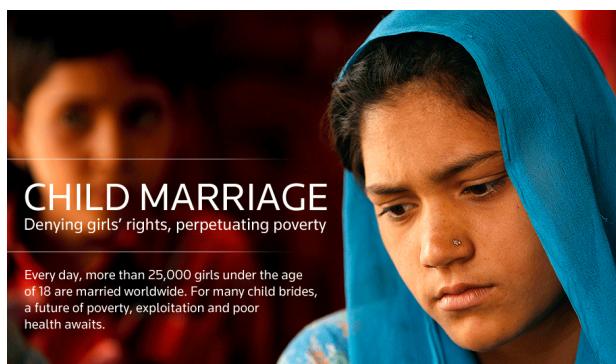
See: [http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/06/u-n-urged-
to-put-global-citizenship-at-centre-of-post-2015-
development-agenda/](http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/06/u-n-urged-to-put-global-citizenship-at-centre-of-post-2015-development-agenda/)

RYERSON
UNIVERSITY

Girls, Not Brides

When Memory Banda's younger sister was forced to marry at just 11 years old, Memory became determined to ensure that no more girls had to experience her sister's fate. Since then, this remarkable young woman from rural Malawi has helped to persuade her government to raise the minimum age of marriage across her country, and is blazing a trail for all girls that we all should follow.

See: <http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/minimum-marriage-age-by-graca-machel-and-mabel-v--oranje-2015-04#MlxL9OAhDmvmPwr.99>



World is Inadequately Prepared to Handle Drug-Resistant Superbugs



A World Health Organization survey of 133 countries found that only 34 countries have plans in place to cope with antibiotic-resistant bacteria. "This is the single greatest challenge in infectious diseases today," says Keiji Fukuda, assistant director-general for health security for the WHO. The organization recommends that countries quickly put programs in place to counteract the overuse of antibiotics.

See: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/04/29/us-health-antibiotics-who-idUSKBN0NK15O20150429>

Jean-Jacques Muyembe-Tamfum: Africa's Veteran Ebola Hunter

Jean-Jacques Muyembe-Tamfum has investigated ten outbreaks of Ebola and Marburg, which must be some kind of record, but were it not for a simple precaution he took during the first outbreak of Ebola, in 1976, then he may not have lived to see the others. His first encounter with Ebola came at a Belgian mission hospital in Yambuku in Equateur Province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). "We heard that a lot of people were dying, even the Catholic sisters", recalls Muyembe, who was then a young Professor of Microbiology at Kinshasa University Medical School. "The Minister of Health ordered me to go there and assess the situation." Read more about his amazing life story.



See: [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(15\)61128-X/fulltext?elsca1=etoc&elsca2=email&elsca3=0140-6736_20150620_385_9986_&elsca4=Public%20Health%7CInfectious%20Diseases%7CHealth%20Policy%7CInternal%2FFamily%20Medicine%7CGeneral%20Surgery%7CLancet](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(15)61128-X/fulltext?elsca1=etoc&elsca2=email&elsca3=0140-6736_20150620_385_9986_&elsca4=Public%20Health%7CInfectious%20Diseases%7CHealth%20Policy%7CInternal%2FFamily%20Medicine%7CGeneral%20Surgery%7CLancet)

Coexist or Perish, New Wildfire Analysis Says: Changing Wildfire Paradigm from Fighting to Coexistence



Many fire scientists have tried to get Smokey the Bear to hang up his "prevention" motto in favor of tools like thinning and prescribed burns, which can manage the severity of wildfires while allowing them to play their natural role in certain ecosystems. The debate over fuel-reduction techniques is only a small part of a much larger fire problem that will make society increasingly vulnerable to catastrophic losses unless it changes its fundamental approach from fighting fire to coexisting with fire as a natural process.

See: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/11/141105131937.htm?>

Caribbean Countries Taking Firm Stance on Limiting Climate Change

Climate change represents an existential threat for small island developing states like those the Caribbean. Global warming will have to be limited to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and anything above that will cause catastrophic sea level rise, warming and acidification of oceans, all of which will impact fisheries, tourism and will cause a reduction in water availability that will impact agriculture, ordinary lives and availability and accessibility of potable water.



See: <http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/04/caribbean-stakes-out-red-line-issues-for-paris-climate-talks/>

Video Games Seek to Motivate Youth on Climate Change



Climate change is predicted to hit hard, likely causing typhoons, floods, famine and rising sea levels that will put millions of people at risk. Yet it's difficult for individuals regardless of social, economic or political status to envision scenarios of climate resilience that would protect them, their families, communities and countries. It is particularly important for youth, who face a challenging future because of climate change, to be a part of developing solutions. Learn how video games may help.

See: <https://www.devex.com/news/not-just-for-play-video-games-seek-to-motivate-youth-on-climate-change-86395>

When a Kid With Low Self-Esteem Dreams of Becoming the President

Some 781 million people globally cannot read or write, a staggering statistic in a world where not only basic literacy but also, increasingly, computer literacy, forms the fine line between a decent life or one of poverty. It is the quality of education that will close wealth gaps and ensure such elusive goals as peace, security and the curbing of violent extremism.

See: <http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/06/when-a-kid-with-low-self-esteem-dreams-of-becoming-the-president/>



Infrastructure Investments in Emerging Economies Hit Record Levels But at What Cost?



Driven largely by massive infrastructure booms in Brazil, Colombia and Peru, Latin and America and the Caribbean accounted for 55 percent of global investments, snagging to 69.1 billion dollars last year. Not all regions are seeing an increase. Both India and China experienced declines last year, with the latter witnessing its lowest infrastructure investment levels since 2010, at 2.5 billion dollars. India's commitments dropped down to 6.2 billion dollars. Despite uneven investment levels globally, a common thread is often high risk and damage to local populations.

See: <http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/06/infrastructure-boom-in-emerging-economies-hits->

Domestic Abusers Have Gone Unpunished in Native American Country Until Now

According to the Department of Justice, the rate of violent victimization among Native American women was more than double the rate of all women between 1992 and 2002 (the most recent figures available). During that same time period, nearly 60 percent of Native victims described their attacker as white. Yet, while crimes like threats and intimidation, destruction of property, sexual assault and child abuse still continue, new laws give some hope for justice to be attained.



See: <https://news.vice.com/article/domestic-abusers-have-gone-unpunished-in-native-american-country-until-now>

CONFERENCES &



SYMPOSIUMS

| Date | Conference | Location | Registration Site |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| August 25-27 | The Global Forum for Research and Innovation for Health 2015 | Manila, Philippines | http://blog.cohred.org/67/forum-2015-people-at-the-center-of-research-and-innovation-for-health |
| Aug. 25 to Sep. 2 | The Society for the Advancement of Science in Africa (SASA) 3rd International Annual Conference | Toronto, Ontario | http://sasascience.org/call-for-abstracts/ |
| September 16-18 | Community Health Centers: Agents for Care, Agents of Change | Ottawa, Ontario | http://www.cachc.ca/acac2015 |
| November 5-7 | Canadian Conference on Global Health 2015 | Bonaventure Hotel - Montreal, Quebec | http://www.csih.org/en/events/ccgh2015/ |
| May 16-19 | 4th Global Conference on Women Deliver, 2016 | Copenhagen, Denmark | http://wd2016.org/about/registration/ |

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

Robert F. Kennedy,
American politician.



The wonders of Vancouver Island (near Tofino)

Planetary Health Weekly



This newsletter is **FREE**
To Subscribe / Unsubscribe: dzakus@ryerson.ca



Planetary Health Weekly
@ PlanetaryWeekly
#planetaryhealthweekly

Editor: Dr. David Zakus
Production: Anna Oda



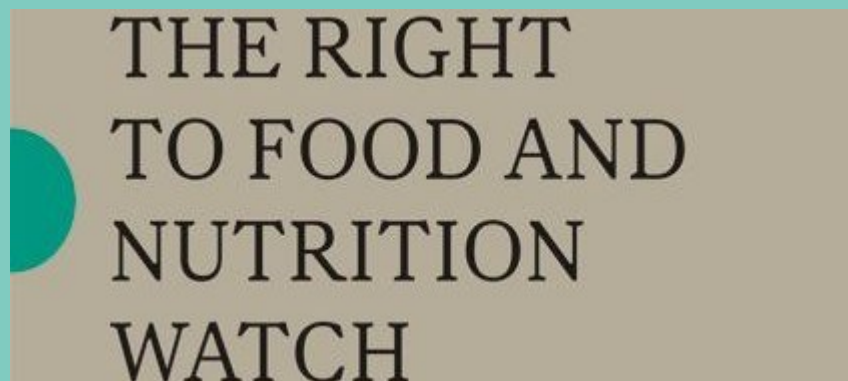
Recruiters Weigh in: Seven of The Biggest Mistakes Recent Grads Make

An interview can go up in flames just as easily as a first date, and a poorly written cover letter is a surefire way to get cut from a candidate list.

In an industry as highly competitive as international development, there is little room for slip-ups.

- 1. Jumping straight to salary**
- 2. Cutting corners on research**
- 3. Not including a cover letter**
- 4. Leaving out key examples of past experience**
- 5. Not showcasing problem-solving ability**
- 6. Limiting your CV**
- 7. Acting entitled instead of confident**

See: <https://www.devex.com/news/recruiters-weigh-in-7-of-the-biggest-mistakes-recent-grads-make-86054>



Right to Food and Nutrition Watch

First published in 2008, *the Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* is an annual publication that monitors key policies, processes and issues related to the right to adequate food and nutrition (RtAFN) at the global, regional, national and local level. In so doing, it gives visibility to peoples' struggles and efforts on the ground. Its goal is to contribute to advancing the realization of the RtAFN for all.

What makes the Watch unique is its commitment to capturing and reflecting the experiences and perspectives of a wide range of actors, namely academics, policymakers, human rights experts, as well as civil society and social movements representing rights-holders, including peasants, fisherfolks, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, rural women, and food and agricultural workers.

The Watch is a product of a collaborative effort by the Right to Food and Nutrition Watch Consortium, which comprises around 20 civil society organizations and social movements. Since 2013, the Watch has also become the most prominent tool of the newly established Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition. The Watch Consortium and the Global Network are closely linked, since the majority of their members participate in both.

For more information, please visit:

Website: www.rtfn-watch.org.

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/RtFNWatch

Videos of Watch 2014 international launch: www.fian.org/en/library/multimedia/launch-of-the-right-to-food-and-nutrition-watch-2014/