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FACULTY OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Child and Youth Care
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Health
Social Work
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### Hands On Approach

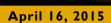
#### **INSIDE:**

Street Children Day				
WHO Should've Been Fighting				
China Double Doctor Numbers	2			
US climate pledge	3			
Antarctica's Ice Shelves Thin	3			
The Greener Pope	3			
Spending Cuts In India	4			
Young People Need to Lead	4			
How To Win Over A Recruiter	4			
Conferences & Symposiums	5			
<b>UofA Integrative Health Institute</b>	6			

# PLANETARY HEALTH WEEKLY

BRINGING YOU CURRENT NEWS ON
GLOBAL HEALTH & ECOLOGICAL WELLNESS

Volume 1, Issue 6



### **Hot Spots for Food Security**



See: <a href="https://www.devex.com/news/an-ounce-of-prevention-85582">https://www.devex.com/news/an-ounce-of-prevention-85582</a>

We all know that food security and the underlying political, economic and environmental stability that makes it possible is a prerequisite for sustained development and stable societies. But as we look around the world, there see several areas where countries, sometimes even entire regions, face a triple threat of conflict, climate change and vulnerability to natural disasters that threaten food security and income stability. If they are not addressed, these threats are likely to create challenges for trade, international security and ...

#### **GLOBAL HEALTH WATCH 4**

*GHW4* is now available for free download. Visit <a href="https://www.ghwatch.org">www.ghwatch.org</a> to download the entire contents by individual chapters.

**GHW** is widely perceived as the definitive voice for an alternative discourse on health. GHW4 integrates rigorous analysis, alternative proposals and stories of struggles and change to present a compelling case for the imperative to work for a radical transformation of the way we approach actions and policies on health.

See: www.ghwatch.org



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### **UN Experts: Street Children Have Rights Too**

Speaking ahead of the International Day for Street Children (April 10), two United Nations human rights experts reminded States that every child matters and that there are no throw-away children.

The UN Special Rapporteurs on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, and on adequate housing, Leilani Farha, called on States to invest in children working or living on the street and to guarantee their full access to rights and services, including housing, health and education.

See: http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news\_media.nsf/%28httpNewsByYear\_en%29/CBC7CA436F741D96C1257E23002F7A81?OpenDocument

### WHO Should Have Been Fighting The Virus, Not MSF



Sierra Leone recently implemented another three-day lockdown across the country in efforts to curtail further spread of the Ebola virus and finally bring the cases down to zero.

While some gaps remain, there is now a sense of optimism that the country "will eventually get there," MSF's new Regional Communications Coordinator for West Africa Yann Libessart told Devex.

However, with the battle still being fought hard in Guinea...and unsafe burials continue to be reported in the country nothing is for sure. What is certain, though, is that the WHO has come under

great criticism for its tardy and inadequate response.

See: https://www.devex.com/news/who-should-have-been-fighting-the-virus-not-msf-85772

### **China Aims to Double Doctor Numbers To Cure Healthcare Woes**

China will almost double the number of its general doctors by 2020, trim its public sector and improve technology as it seeks to fix a healthcare system plagued by snarling queues and poor rural services, its main administrative authority, the Politburo, has said. China's fast-growing healthcare market is a magnet for global drug makers, medical device firms and hospital operators, all looking to take a slice of a healthcare bill expected to hit \$1 trillion by 2020, according to McKinsey & Co.

See: <a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/03/31/us-china-healthcare-idUSKBN0MR0EU20150331">http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/03/31/us-china-healthcare-idUSKBN0MR0EU20150331</a> AND: <a href="http://www.rbfhealth.org/event/adding-it-costs-and-benefits-investing-sexual-and-reproductive-health">http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/03/31/us-china-healthcare-idUSKBN0MR0EU20150331</a> AND: <a href="http://www.rbfhealth.org/event/adding-it-costs-and-benefits-investing-sexual-and-reproductive-health">http://www.rbfhealth.org/event/adding-it-costs-and-benefits-investing-sexual-and-reproductive-health</a>

Volume 1, Issue 6 Page 3

### **US Climate Pledge Promises To Push For Maximum Ambition**



The US has set out its contribution to a new international climate change agreement, due to be agreed in Paris this December.

It promises to cut emissions by 26% to 28% in 2025 against a 2005 baseline, confirming an existing goal jointly announced with China in November. It says the US will make best efforts to cut emissions by the maximum 28% by 2025...

See: <a href="http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/03/us-climate-pledge-promises-to-push-for-maximum-ambition/?">http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/03/us-climate-pledge-promises-to-push-for-maximum-ambition/?</a> utm source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm campaign=ac57ff6591-

### **Antarctica's Ice Shelves Thin, Threatening Significant Sea Level Rise**

Over the past two decades, the massive platforms of floating ice that dot the coast of Antarctica have been thinning and doing so at an increasing rate, likely at least in part because of global warming. Scientists are worried about its implications for significant sea level rise.

The ice shelves, some of which are larger than California and tens to hundreds of yards thick, are the linchpins of the Antarctic ice sheet system, . As the ice sheets thin, the massive rivers of ice behind them can surge forward into the sea.

See: <a href="http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/antarctica-s-ice-shelves-thin-threaten-significant-sea-level-rise/">http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/antarctica-s-ice-shelves-thin-threaten-significant-sea-level-rise/</a>?

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Carbon Brief Weekly 260315&utm medium=email&utm term=0 3ff5ea836a-ac57ff6591-303440217



### **The Greener Pope**



Francis is about to put climate change front and center on his papal agenda. But can his Holiness heal the political divide? Earlier this month, before a modest audience at a Catholic university in Ireland, Cardinal Peter Turkson delivered a lengthy address on the importance of caring for the environment, which he described as inseparable from caring for the poor. This will be, Turkson told the students, a "critical year for humanity," culminating in the international conference on climate change in December. "Compelled by the scientific evidence for climate change," Turkson said, "we are called to care for humanity and to respect the grammar of nature as virtues in their own right."

See: http://foreignpolicy.com/2015/03/30/the-greener-pope-francis-climate-change/

### Spending Health Cuts In India Will Hurt Already Inadequate Services

Deep cuts in health spending by the Indian government will lead to continued inadequate health services and delays in achieving universal access to healthcare, experts argue. The Bharatiya Janata Party, elected to power in 2014, promised to increase access to health, improve quality and lower costs. But in 2014-2015, the central government spent much less than it had budgeted for - 20% less in current spending and as much as 50% less in capital spending.



See: http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/04/150409221842.htm

### **What Young People Need To Lead**



U.K. Young Ambassador to the Commonwealth Leon Ward, 23, dedicates his time to activities many adults might find surprising. In addition to a full-time job, he delivers young U.K. citizens' views to heads of state of the 53 Commonwealth countries. He is a trustee of global development charity Plan International, and also supports a national charity campaigning for young people's sexual health. Experts who work in youth civic engagement say the ways development organizations engage young people need to change. That said, methods like setting up local youth councils and youth parliaments, and getting youth involved in scrutiny groups, yield different results in different

See: https://www.devex.com/news/what-young-people-need-to-lead-85741

countries...

### **Job Interview Secrets: How To Win Over A Development Recruiter**

Customs may differ around the world and among employers, but there's one factor to landing a staff or consulting gig in international development, humanitarian aid and global health that tends to be universal: the job interview. Here's how to ace that face-to-face:

Do your research, dress for success, arrive with time to spare, be positive, answer the interviewer's questions, give concrete personal examples as you can, be as relaxed as possible, be aware of cultural nuances, come with quality questions and thank the interviewer.

See: <a href="https://www.devex.com/news/job-interview-secrets-how-to-win-over-a-development-recruiter-73225">https://www.devex.com/news/job-interview-secrets-how-to-win-over-a-development-recruiter-73225</a>

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Volume I, Issue 6

#### **SYMPOSIUMS**

#### **QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

#### **Erik Brynjolfsson**

Professor of Management at the MIT Sloan School of Management offers three pieces of advice to his students:

First, "learn how to do things that humans do better than machines". These include creativity and entrepreneurship, but also interpersonal skills such as motivation, persuasion, nurturing and caring.

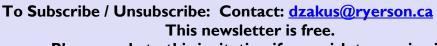
Second, embrace life-long learning. "The skills that are valuable today may be less valuable tomorrow, as technology advances."

Third, do what you really love. "In the second machine age, most markets will be 'winner-takes-most' where a small number of top performers get most of the revenue, attention and success. It's difficult, if not impossible, to excel without really loving what you do."

Date	Conference	Location	Registration Site
May 7-8, 2015	Global Health/Global Justice 2015: Making New Medicines Accessible to All	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	https://mitusengupta.com/2015/04/11/global -healthaccess-to-medicines-conference-at- ryerson-all-are-welcome/
June 29-30, 2015	4th Annual Global Healthcare Conference (GHC 2015)	Singapore, Singapore	http://events.einnews.com/event/23735/ 4th annual global healthcare conference ghc 2015
Aug. 25-27, 2015	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
November 5-7, 2015	Canadian Conference on Global Health 2015	Bonaventure Hotel - Montreal, Quebec	http://www.csih.org/en/events/ccgh2015/



## **Planetary Health Weekly**



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Weekly/842076405858777

Editor: Dr. David Zakus Production: Anna Oda







#### In this issue:

- News
- Networks
- Get to Know your Scholars
   Events of Interest
- Opportunities
- Publications and Resources
- Conferences and Meetings of Interest

#### News

PHW Readers: This is a new institute and newsletter from the University of Alberta. Its focus on Integrative Health (or Complimentary Medicine) may be of interest. You can contact any of the directors listed to learn more and/or to subscribe to this newsletter.

Please invite your team members and other interested University of Alberta community members to subscribe to this monthly newsletter using the "Send this to a friend" feature!

entific Advisory Board met for the first time on March 23. We thank them for their time and contributions to help the IHI have a successful start.



Left to Right: Glenda MacQueen, Jacques Bradwejn, Heather Boon, Catherine Field, Rickey Yada, Glen Baker, Brendan Hokowhitu and John Bienenstock

Not pictured: Lesley Brown, Lorne Tyrrell, Kathryn Todd, Verna Yiu, Katherine Pohlman and Joshua Simpson

#### Networks

The International Society for Complementary Medicine Research (ISCMR) is an international professional, multidisciplinary, non-profit scientific organization that is devoted to fostering Complementary and Integrative Medicine research and provides a platform for knowledge and information exchange to enhance international communication and collaboration.

Among other activities, ISCMR co-organizes an annual international research congress, ICCMR, which takes place at different global locations each May. In 2015, May 13-15 it will be in South Korea rg), and in 2016, May 17-20 in Las Vegas, Nevada, in collaboration with the ACIMH





#### Mission:

Excellence in scholarship in integrative, traditional, and indigenous health.

#### Vision:

Optimal health and well-being through evidence-informed patient-centered integrative care.

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