

Postdoctoral Fellowships in Health Promotion & Health Behavior at Oregon State University

The College of Health and Human Sciences (HHS) at Oregon State University (<http://www.hhs.oregonstate.edu>) is pleased to announce up to four Research Associate Postdoctoral positions, funded by the College. The current College of HHS has applied to become an accredited College of Public Health and Human Sciences. We aspire to lead the region and nation in building public health capacity that addresses the needs of society's most vulnerable groups. We particularly seek new scholars who are committed to serving diverse communities and increasing OSU's ability to address health concerns of historically underrepresented groups. Toward that goal, we are expanding graduate programs and building capacity to substantially increase the research opportunities in areas of Public Health and Human Sciences. The College of HHS currently has approximately 80 tenured and tenure-track faculty and 250 graduate students. These new Postdoctoral positions will contribute to meeting College and Divisional goals.

Awards are competitive, with a major emphasis on potential for independent and creative research. These are 12-month, fixed-term positions at full-time (1.0 FTE) for the first and second year. Reappointment is possible for two additional years, with funding at 0.75 and 0.50 FTE in years 3 and 4, respectively. FTE in years 3 and 4 can be increased to 1.0 with external funding. Successful candidates will be paired with faculty mentors for training in the development and submission of fundable research proposals, research collaboration, and publishable manuscripts. HHS Research Associate post-docs will be encouraged to seek external funding, and may serve as Principal Investigator or Co-Principal Investigator on grant proposals. Following postdoctoral training, and based on mutual agreement of the College and the candidate, successful postdoctoral trainees will become research or tenure-track faculty.

Candidates are required to have completed the Ph.D. degree in a Public Health, Human Sciences, or a related field prior to beginning the appointment. Applications must include a curriculum vitae, undergraduate and graduate school transcripts, names and addresses of three referees willing to write confidential letters of recommendation, and a two-page statement of proposed work, including information on possible HHS faculty mentors. We encourage applicants to contact faculty members with research interests that align with the proposed work. Candidates will be selected based on overall excellence, including academic qualifications, letters of recommendation, and a statement of proposed work that is compatible with the HHS strategic hiring plan as outlined on the College website (<http://www.hhs.oregonstate.edu/>). Applicants from typically underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply. All candidates are expected to have an excellent quantitative analytical skills (appropriate to their field), and excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Faculty in the program in **Health Promotion and Health Behavior (HPHB)** encourage applications from candidates with interests parallel to funded projects of current faculty:

Drs. **Joe Catania** and **Peggy Dolcini** are engaged in two NIH funded HIV/STI prevention research projects. "Gender informed HIV intervention development for urban African American youth" is a three-phase qualitative investigation of social developmental factors impacting sexual health. This multi-site project will lead to innovative interventions for this population. "Translation of an HIV behavioral intervention into practice" is a national-level longitudinal investigation of community-based agencies and public health clinics implementing an evidence-based HIV/STI intervention. They are examining organizational, programmatic, and social-psychological factors impacting program fidelity.

Dr. **Brian Flay's** current research interests are in theoretical and methodological issues in the development and evaluation of school- and community-based interventions for the improvement

of the health of children and youth. The Positive Action program utilizes a positive youth development approach to the prevention of unhealthy behaviors among children and youth (see <http://www.positiveaction.net>). Dr. Flay co-directs the Promise Neighborhoods Research Consortium (see <http://www.promiseneighborhoods.org>), which studies the use of complex, multi-component, community-wide interventions in high-poverty neighborhoods to reduce health and economic disparities. He has grants from IES and NIDA to support these projects.

Dr. **Marie Harvey** has NICHD funding for a longitudinal study to examine relationship dynamics within the heterosexual involvements of young men and women at increased-risk for HIV infection. The objective of this research is to improve understanding of the influence of relationship dynamics on sexual risk perceptions, intentions, and behaviors. She is also PI on a CDC-funded cross-sectional study that examines the individual, relational and contextual determinants of contraceptive use, sexual risk behavior, and HIV/STI prevention among young adult Latinos in rural areas in Oregon and on a DHHS Office of Population Affairs funded qualitative study designed to explore sexual and reproductive health needs of heterosexual immigrant Latino men who live in rural areas.

Dr. **Sheryl Thorburn's** current interests focus on discrimination in health care, its effects on the health care and health-related behavior of disadvantaged groups, and its contribution to disparities in health and health care. She has a grant from NCI to explore discrimination, medical mistrust, and other social, cultural, and health care system factors on breast and cervical cancer screening among Hmong women living in Oregon.

Candidates are encouraged to contact the above HPHB faculty to discuss these and other research opportunities in HPHB.

To access application instructions, go to <http://oregonstate.edu/jobs>, posting 0006976 and for the position announcement, go to <http://www.hhs.oregonstate.edu>. Questions may be directed to Jeff McCubbin, HHS Executive Associate Dean (541)737-5921 or Jeff.McCubbin@oregonstate.edu. Screening of applications will begin February 15, 2011; the positions are open until filled. OSU is an AA/EOE.