



Dr. Kishor Wasan and Jocelyn Conway
wish you and yours
a safe and happy holiday season!

NGDI-UBC News

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NGDI News

UBC joins WIPO Re:Search to tackle Neglected Diseases

December 2, 2013 Joint Release: NGDI and UILO

The University of British Columbia has made another major commitment to tackling neglected tropical diseases, malaria, and tuberculosis through signing up as a member of [WIPO Re:Search](#).



As a “provider” member, UBC has committed to sharing research discoveries, outputs and know-how with other groups and companies striving to find treatments for diseases affecting the world’s least developed nations. Technologies, data, compounds and know-how can all be contributed to WIPO RE:Search, a searchable, public database of available intellectual property assets and resources, and provided at no cost to other members in order to tackle the different diseases in countries where these treatments are most needed. Beyond the sharing of resources, however,

WIPO Re:Search is designed to spark new collaborations and partnerships between researchers at the different member organizations and institutions.

This is expected to be of particular value to members of [UBC's Neglected Global Diseases Initiative](#), (NGDI) formed in 2010 to develop interventions for neglected diseases and ensure their delivery to those in need. Involving over 35 researchers from five different faculties, the NGDI encourages and facilitates multidisciplinary research for these complex issues.

UBC's commitment to providing global access to relevant technologies was first formally expressed in 2007, when it became the first university in Canada to publish [Global Access Principles](#). In April 2013, its commitment and activities in this area were recognized with the top ranking in the first [University Global Health Impact Report Card](#), produced by the student-based group Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM).

WIPO Re:Search was formed in 2011 through the efforts of several of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies, the [World Intellectual Property Organization](#) (WIPO), and [BIO Ventures for Global Health](#).

NGDI will be meeting with representatives from BIO Ventures for Global Health in early February. If you would like to be in the meeting, please contact Jocelyn via jocelyn.conway@ubc.ca.

Next Distinguished Lectureship Seminar with Dr. David Zakus – January 24, 2014.

Please join us for our Tenth Distinguished Lectureship Seminar featuring Dr. David Zakus, BSc, MES, MSc, PhD.



Dr. Zakus is the Director, Global Health at the University of Alberta, and a Professor of Preventative Medicine. Prior to joining the University of Alberta, Dr. Zakus was the Director of the Centre for International Health and Associate Professor in the Departments of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation & Public Health Services, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. He has knowledge and experience with both non-governmental organizations and institutions. He was previously the President and CEO of Canadian

Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR), a medium size Toronto based NGO with field offices in three African countries. He has worked in some 20 countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, both as an academic and as a consultant.

His previous work in Africa included: a review of primary health care in Tamale/Northern Regions, Ghana; leading a team of evaluators of a UNICEF sponsored and CIDA funded health education program in Uganda; a study of the role of the nurse in community participation and primary health care in Botswana; the implementation of nursing information systems in Swaziland and Lesotho; a three year stay in Ethiopia as a professor at Addis Ababa University and the director of the McGill-Ethiopia Community Health Project which helped establish a masters degree in public health at AAU, a six month training program for district health managers, and research programs (including HIV/AIDS); and directed various health projects as part of his role as the chief executive of CPAR.

From 1995 to 1999, Dr. Zakus was the director of International Health and director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center for International Nursing Development at Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto. Dr. Zakus has served as a member of the board of directors of USC Canada, a member of the International Programs Advisory Board and the President's Taskforce for Internationalization at the University of Toronto, and a founding member of the Canadian Network for International Surgery. Dr. Zakus earned a BSc in biochemistry at the University of Saskatchewan (1975), a master's degree in environmental studies (MES) at York University (1978), and an MSc (1987) and PhD (1992) in community health/health services management at the University of Toronto.

Reminder NGDI Student Global Health Journal –

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS **DEADLINE EXTENDED**

Journal Matches Student with Faculty Member to Highlight Issues on Global Health



NGDI-UBC Student Global Health Journal

global health. This bi-annual publication will foster student interest and participation in global health research by allowing students a chance to work directly with a faculty mentor to produce a journal article, which will be published and accessible through the UBC library and the NGDI website.

GOAL: The NGDI Student Global Health Journal is a new, cross-disciplinary publication created and published by student members of the NGDI. Articles in the journal will be written by students and edited by a paired expert UBC faculty member. The journal will focus on a wide range of topics pertaining to

Mechanism for Submission: Please submit by following the link on the right hand tool bar. Students will submit **an abstract or general idea**, and the editorial board will contact a faculty member that would be appropriate as an editor, including the proposed article abstract/idea. If the faculty member is interested in the project, the student will be contacted and introduced to the collaborating faculty member. When the student has completed their article, they will submit it to the faculty member for revision. The faculty member will review and edit the article, and return it to the student. Communication between the faculty member and student is strongly encouraged throughout all steps of the writing and editing process. The final article will be submitted by the faculty member to the editorial board for formatting and publication. The final publication will contain both the student and the faculty member as authors. [<Read more>](#)

Dr. Kish Wasan Presents at 2013 International UAEM Student Conference

Dr. Kishor was once again invited to be a speaker at the Nov 15-17th 2013 International Student Universities Allied for Essential Medicines Conference at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Kish was invited to join the panel: *Increasing Academic Innovation for Neglected Diseases: how do we connect research priorities to global needs?*

Job Opportunity – Senior Advocacy and Policy Officer

Senior Advocacy and Policy Officer, *Canadian Coalition against Neglected Tropical Diseases (CCNTD)*

Download copy of opportunity [here](#).

Background Information:

Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) are a group of 17 bacterial and parasitic diseases that are estimated to affect more than 1 billion people worldwide. NTDs can cause debilitation, disability, malnutrition, disfigurement, social discrimination, and even death. These diseases—also known as diseases of poverty—are endemic to nations, regions and communities where access to health services is minimal, malnutrition is high, and inadequate housing and access to clean water and sanitation exist. NTDs are barriers to both reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to sustainable poverty reduction, and they are a significant global health concern.



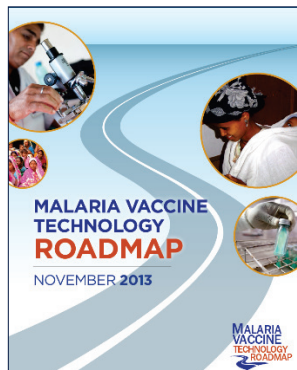
Job Purpose:

The Leprosy Mission Canada, in partnership with a steering committee of NGO's, private sector, academia, and public sector representatives, seeks to convene a Canadian Coalition against Neglected Tropical Diseases to

garner support amongst Canadian stakeholders, in order for Canada to increase its contribution towards the eradication of NTDs. The CCNTD Senior Advocacy and Policy Officer will work with the International Programs Team at the Leprosy Mission Canada and in collaboration with colleagues at the Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases (Global Network) in Washington DC, in order to build support around NTDs across Canada that would lead to the establishment and launch of the Coalition in 2014. This position reports to the Team Leader, International programs at The Leprosy Mission Canada.

Reports of Interest

Malaria Vaccine Technology ROADMAP



This publication represents the result of a review process facilitated by the World Health Organization (WHO), which worked with the Malaria Vaccine Funders Group to update the vision and strategic goals of the Malaria Vaccine Technology Roadmap.¹ Originally launched at the 2006 WHO Global Vaccine Research Forum and supported by the Funders Group, the Roadmap forms a strategic framework that underpins the activities of the global malaria vaccine research and development (R&D) community.

This update responds to the recognition that the malaria epidemiological and control status has changed markedly since 2006 when the Roadmap was originally launched. For instance, substantial changes in malaria epidemiology are now being observed in many settings following a reduction in malaria transmission, which has occurred in association with the scale-up of malaria control measures. The reduction in malaria transmission is associated with a shift in the peak age of clinical malaria to older children, as well as an increase in the median age of malaria-related hospitalization in some settings.

Download the report from [here](#).

Report on Tuberculosis Research Funding Trends, 2005 - 2012



Over the last eight years, Treatment Action Group (TAG) has tracked annual spending on tuberculosis research and development (TB R&D) and compared investments in six areas of research with the corresponding annual funding targets called for by the Stop TB Partnership's *2011–2015 Global Plan to Stop TB (2011–2015 Global Plan)*. For the first seven years, TAG observed slow and unsteady increases in funding signaling slow progress toward the new tools needed to end the global TB epidemic. This year, for the first time, TB R&D investors reported a drop in spending that threatens to undermine the tenuous gains made since 2005.

Download the report from [here](#).