

Louisiana  
Public  
Health  
Association

# LPHA *Highlights*

"An Equal Opportunity Association"

## LPHA celebrates 60th annual LPHA Educational Conference

The 2008 Louisiana Public Health Association Educational Conference, slated for April 15-18 at the Holiday Inn Select in Baton Rouge, celebrates "60 Years of Promoting Health: The Wealth of Our State."

Pre-conference activities start at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 15 with "Learning to Communicate During a Crisis," led by Dr. Amy Lafreniere.

Other pre-conference workshops will be held Wednesday April 16 starting at 8 a.m. and running until 11:30 a.m. The back to back workshops are "Naturally Occurring Bioterrorism," presented by Dr. Vincent Corvello, and "Management of Radiological Casualties," presented by Dr. Joseph Contiguglia.

Dr. Lafreniere is a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences. Her areas of expertise are human health exposure assessment, risk assessment and risk communication. She has taught courses in Environmental Health Risk Assessment, Risk Assessment Data Analysis and Fate and Transport of Chemicals in the Environment.

Dr. Covello is the founder and Director of the Center for Risk Communication. Over the past 25 years, he has held numerous positions in academia and government, including Associate Professor of Environmental Sciences and Clinical Medicine at Columbia University. Prior to his joining the faculty at Columbia, Dr. Covello was a senior scientist at the White House Council on Environmental Quality in Washington, D.C., a Study Director at the National

Research Council/National Academy of Sciences and the Director of the Risk Assessment Program at the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Contiguglia is a Clinical Professor for the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. His research interests include the application of good science, operational analysis, and infrastructure planning in the development and implementation of effective operational models for disaster management; development and implementation of effective guidelines and standards for disaster response.

After the Opening Ceremonies, slated for 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Dr. Corvello will present "Risk Media/Communication to the Public Population" from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m., Dr. Frank Welch will offer a "Pan Flu Workshop."

Dr. Welch's presentation is followed by the Hospitality Suite from 4:30-6:30 p.m. and the annual Crawfish Boil from 6-8 p.m. Music and dancing will be held from 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Section meetings will be held Thursday morning with Administrators, Physicians and Nursing participating in "The Role of Public Health in the Medical Home Framework" presented by Dr. Karen DeSalvo (9-10 a.m.) followed by a business meeting (10:30 a.m.-12 noon). Dr. Takeisha C. Davis will serve as moderator and section chair.

The Environmental Health section, moderated by section chair Tenney Sibley, will feature "Actions and Procedures followed During a Foodborne Outbreak," led by

Susanne Straif-Bougerois from 9-9:30 a.m., and "The Role of Environmental Epi," presented by Dianne Dugas from 9:30-10 a.m.

The Laboratory section, moderated and led by section chair Betty Day, will hear "HPV: The Clinical Perspective," presented by Shonda Williams, FNP-C, APRN, MSN.

Allied Health Services, moderated by section chair Julie Landry, will participate in "Disease Prevention and Treatment," presented at 11:10-11:40 a.m. by Dr. Dean Baker Ellithorpe.

The LPHA Awards Banquet will be held from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday evening.

The agenda on Friday morning includes a business meeting from 8:40-10 a.m., presided over by Chuck Methvien, RS. The docket

for the meeting includes the treasurer's report from Becky Stith, RN, BSN; election of officers led by Cheryl Ewing, immediate past president; the Resolutions Committee Report by Tamara Morris, second vice president; and section reports by the newly elected section chairs.

From 10:15-11:15 a.m., there will be a "State of the State" panel presentation, moderated by Dr. Jimmy Guidry, state health officer for the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals. Presenters include Mr. Alan Levine, secretary for the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, and Dr. Rony Francois, MD assistant secretary for the Louisiana DHH.

Cajun humorist Kurt Gonsoulin will perform from 11:15 a.m. until 12 noon.



**The Holiday Inn Select in Baton Rouge is the site of the 2008 Annual LPHA Educational Conference. The association is celebrating its 60th anniversary.**