
•CULTIVATION•

The Newsletter for The Southwest Center for Agricultural Health, Injury Prevention and Education

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From the Director...

Change is Good

Although longevity and tenure are valuable qualities within a department or organization, change is also good. Change brings new perspective to existing programs and new direction for the future. On an individual level, change allows people to grow by learning new skills, working with new people, and addressing new issues. Like all other organizations, the SW Ag Center and its individual team members experience change.

Karen Gilmore, who has served as the Center's Program Director since its inception, has recently accepted another position on the UT Health Science Center campus in Tyler. While Karen's departure is a great loss, we also celebrate her contribution to the NIOSH Agriculture Initiative, as well as, congratulate her as she makes a career transition. The Center is indebted to Karen for her direction and leadership within the agricultural health and safety field. She has deftly guided principal investigators, advisory board members and staff to fulfill the Center's mission for the last 17 years. Karen possesses a wealth of knowledge and experience that will undoubtedly serve her well in the future. We wish her all the best (and we will keep her phone number handy).

The Center will recruit an Assistant Professor for Occupational Health Sciences-Outcomes Research to carry out many of Karen's duties. Karen will mentor and train the successful applicant during a transition period. In addition, Amanda Wickman, former Outreach Education Coordinator, has accepted an expanded role as Program Manager for the Center.

Author and past U.S. congressman, Bruce Barton, once said, "when you are through changing, you are through." The SW Ag Center and the individuals who comprise it are definitely not through. We are changing, adapting and moving forward. More to come.



Meet the Advisory Board

Featured Member: Sharon Cooper, Ph.D.

Sharon Cooper, Ph.D. is a Professor of Epidemiology and Regional Dean of The University of Texas School of Public Health (UTSPH) located in San Antonio, Texas. She received her MS in Biostatistics and Epidemiology from Harvard School of Public Health and her PhD from The University of Texas School of Public Health. She served as head of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Texas A&M School of Rural Public Health for five years before joining the San Antonio Regional Campus in July 2007. She has more than twenty-five years of research experience in injury, occupational and chronic disease epidemiology. She is an occupational epidemiologist whose major research focus has been on surveillance of occupational illnesses and injuries, and assessment of occupational exposures and their relation to adverse health effects. She is also interested in research in vulnerable working populations, particularly migrant farmworkers, child and adolescent workers, and the military. She is currently working on a study to build a national database by linking electronic health records across Community and Migrant Health Centers to enhance capacity for farmworker research. She has published in the area of injuries in farmworkers, substance use and occupational injuries, childhood cancer, pesticide safety training, ethical issues in working with vulnerable populations, and most recently is studying chronic disease risk factors in Hispanic youth. In addition to her work with the SW Ag Center, she is Deputy Center Director and directs the occupational epidemiology training grant for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health-funded Education and Research Center (ERC) at UTSPH. Dr. Cooper brings her experience and expertise to the Internal Advisory Committee for the SW Ag Center.



Summer 2012

Right from the Start Supplemental Materials Unveiled at Texas FFA Convention

Written by Ashton Williams, Agricultural Safety Intern

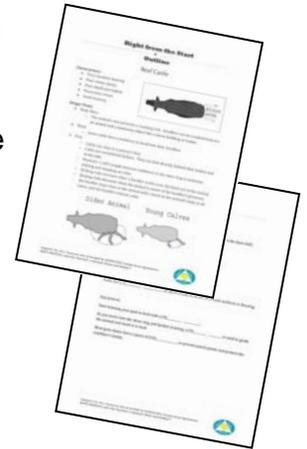
SW Ag Center Program Manager, Amanda Wickman, and Agricultural Safety Intern, Ashton Williams, attended the state FFA convention on July 9-12th in Corpus Christi, TX. About 11,000 FFA advisors, students and family members attended the convention. An exhibit booth was set up to promote the *Right from the Start: Safety Awareness for the Next Generation of Livestock Producers* DVD and its new supplemental materials. *Right from the Start* is an educational tool that teaches livestock handling safety to youth.



Amanda Wickman and Ashton Williams at the FFA Convention

in the classroom. Several commented that the supplemental materials would be extremely beneficial and the online availability would make using the program easier. A few FFA advisors had shown *Right from the Start* in conjunction with Quality Counts, a program that is required for youth to complete prior to participating in some Texas livestock shows. The advisors found the two programs worked well when used together.

If you are unable to view the videos or supplemental materials online, email [aman-da.wickman@uthct.edu](mailto:amanda.wickman@uthct.edu).



The new supplemental materials that coincide with the DVD include:

- Chapter outlines
- PowerPoint presentations with notes
- Student fill in the blank notes
- Chapter quizzes
- Comprehensive exam
- Best practices
- Curriculum crosswalk (coming soon)

Production of this material was funded through the **Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo** and can be found on the SW Ag Center website at <http://www.swagcenter.org/resourcesvideos.asp>.



DVD chapters are also available online. There was an excellent response to *Right from the Start* at the convention, and many educators said they had already viewed the DVD or used it

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health **NIOSH News**

- ◆ NIOSH conducted a re-review of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Research Program. You can view the full report at www.swagcenter.org. More information will be forthcoming.
- ◆ Capt Brad Husberg has been appointed manager of the NIOSH office of Agricultural Safety and Health (OASH) in the office of the NIOSH Director.
- ◆ Dr. George Conway has been appointed Resident Advisor, China Field Epidemiology Training Program in the Division of Public Health System & Workforce Development in the Center for Global Health.

Calendar

August 1-2

Biosafety for Safety and Health Professionals
Norfolk, VA

<https://osherc.sph.unc.edu/forms/winter12reg.htm>

August 1-3

26th Annual Occupational Health Nursing Certification (COHN and COHN-S) Review
Norfolk, VA

https://osherc.sph.unc.edu/forms/ohn_cert_rev_reg.htm

September 13-14

SW Ag Center Board Meeting
Houston, TX

September 16-22

National Farm Safety & Health Week
Agricultural Safety & Health-A Family Affair

www.necasag.org

September 20-21

Western Occupational Network (WestON)
Denver, CO

<http://ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/PublicHealth/research/centers/maperc/weston/Pages/default.aspx>

September 25-26

Rural Health Clinic Conference
Kansas City, MO

www.ruralhealthweb.org

October 21-26

National Association of Extension 4-H Agents
Orlando, FL

www.nae4ha2012.com

October 24-27

Evaluation in Complex Ecologies
Minneapolis, MN

www.eval.org

October 28-November 1

Lessons Learned: Contributions of Exposure Science to Environmental and Occupational Health

Seattle, WA

<http://ises2012.org/index.html>

October 29-November 2

Certified Safety Professional (CSP) Review Course

Chapel Hill, NC

https://osherc.sph.unc.edu/forms/csp_rev_reg.htm

November 8-10

Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum
San Antonio, TX

<http://www.ncfh.org/?pid=47>

November 14-16

Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference-Reaping the Rewards

Cedar Rapids, IA

www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

December 5-7

Rural Multiracial and Multicultural Health Conference

Asheville, NC

www.ruralhealthweb.org

Practical Information for Producers

Check out www.extension.org/farm_safety_and_health to read recent articles about farm safety and health written by cooperative extension experts. You can also read responses to important safety and health questions.

