

One Health Masters Program Letters of Support

From Strategic Leaders

- James M. Hughes, MD, FIDSA, is president of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA). He is currently professor of medicine and public health at Emory University, Director of the Southeastern Center for Emerging Biologic Threats, and Senior Scientific Advisor for Infectious Diseases for the International Association of National Public Health Institutes
- Lisa Conti, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, Director, Division of Environmental Health, Florida Department of Health
- Marguerite Pappaioanou, DVM, MPVM, PhD, Executive Director, Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
- The One Health Initiative Team, Bruce Kaplan, DVM, Laura H. Kahn, MD, MPH, MPP, Thomas P. Monath, MD, and Jack Woodall, PhD
- Carol Rubin, DVM, MPH, Director, One Health Office, Division of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Kelly G. Vest, DVM, MPH, DrPH, Veterinary Epidemiologist, Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center, US Department of Defense

From University of Florida Administration

- Winfred M. Phillips, DSc, Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School
- Michael G. Perri, PhD, Dean, College of Public Health & Health Professions
- Deans of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
- Laurence B. Alexander, PhD, Director, Office of Graduate Minority Programs
- Marie Emmerson, Director of Development, Development and Alumni Affairs, College of Public Health and Health Professions

From External Advisor Committee members

- Bob McKnight, MPH, ScD
- Thomas Bernard, PhD, CIH, CSP
- Carina Blackmore DVM, PhD, Dipl
- James Lowe, DVM, PhD
- Jim Handley

From Internal Advisor Committee members

- Mary B. Brown, PhD
- Melanie J. Correl, PhD
- Jorge A. Hernandez, PhD, MPVM, DVM
- Ramiro Isaza, DVM, DVM MS, MPH.
- D. Dwain Johnson, PhD
- Mary Peoples-Sheps, DrPH, Senior Associate Dean for Public Health, College of Public Health and Health Professions
- Tara Sabo-Atwood, PhD
- Thomas B. Waltzek, MS, DVM, PhD

From Support Faculty

- Asfar Ali, PhD
- Alba Amaya-Burns, MD, MSc
- Paul A. Chadik, PhD

- Joseph J. Delfino, PhD
- Nancy D. Denslow, PhD
- Gary Heil, PhD
- Margaret O. James, PhD
- Kwang Cheol Jeong, PhD
- Andy Kane, MS, PhD
- John Lednicky, PhD
- Bernard A. Okech, MS, PhD
- Randy Schoepp, PhD
- Cindy Prins, PhD, MPH
- Chang-Yu Wu, PhD

From Potential Employers

- Tara Lindsay, West Liberty Foods



EMORY
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

Department of Medicine
Division of Infectious Disease

July 29, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very pleased to learn that the University of Florida is developing graduate training programs in One Health.

Having served from 1992-2005 as the Director of the National Center for Infectious Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control Prevention, I have been involved in the detection of and response to a number of emerging zoonotic diseases including hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, West Nile virus infection, SARS, monkeypox, and H5N1 influenza. I am very aware of the need to assemble multidisciplinary teams to respond to and control these diseases, all of which have important workforce implications and pose occupational health challenges. More recently in my role at Emory University I have been involved in the response to the 2009H1N1 influenza pandemic which also had numerous occupational health implications.

My experience tells me that we will continue to face challenges posed by new and re-emerging zoonotic diseases. It is critically important that individuals be trained to work at the human, animal, and environmental interface as members of multidisciplinary teams in order to confront these challenges. I am confident that employment opportunities will be available for these individuals in both the public and the private sector. Your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers" addresses a critical gap in the public health and occupational health workforces. I wish you success with your application and look forward to monitoring your progress in developing this innovative training program.

Sincerely,

James M. Hughes, MD. FACP, FIDSA
Professor, Medicine and Public Health
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The Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center
An equal opportunity, affirmative action university



Rick Scott
Governor

H. Frank Farmer, Jr., MD, PhD, FACP
State Surgeon General

August 5, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, M.D., M.P.H., F.I.D.S.A.
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental
and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Dr. ^{Gray} Gray:

The University of Florida continues to develop programs on the cutting edge and is a model innovator and educator. I am delighted that the University is developing multiple graduate training programs in One Health, clearly understanding the need for professionals skilled in systems thinking to address the "wicked problems" facing our society.

As an Advisory Board (Hon.) of the [One Health Initiative](#), our concept is a worldwide strategy for expanding interdisciplinary collaborations and communications in all aspects of health care for humans, animals and the environment. The synergism achieved will positively impact health outcomes by accelerating biomedical research discoveries, enhancing public health efficacy, expeditiously expanding the scientific knowledge base, and improving medical education and clinical care. When properly implemented, it will help protect and save untold millions of lives in our present and future generations.

Your proposal "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers" is exactly the type of cross species and environmental factor work that needs to be conducted and will add value to our ability to prevent and control diseases.

Please know that we would like to engage your trainees in rotations at the Florida Department of Health as part of their training. We also look forward to recruiting them into public health positions at the state and county health departments upon their completed training. In addition, from available position descriptions advertised in our state and federal networks, I believe these skills would be sought after by other employers as well.

Thank you for pursuing this important work.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa A. Conti".

Lisa A. Conti, D.V.M., M.P.H., Dipl. A.C.V.P.M.
Director, Division of Environmental Health



July 29, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I was very excited to see your proposal to NIOSH on the delivery of occupational safety and health training through a new MPH degree program emphasizing close integration across human medicine, public health, and veterinary medicine! This “One Health” approach is badly needed in today’s world where humans, animals, and environment intersect at an increasing rate. As such, I believe this special approach by knowledgeable public health experts is truly needed to effectively address the prevention and or response to emerging zoonotic disease threats, including potential occupational exposures. In the case of threats of potential pandemic influenza viruses, such as pandemic influenza H1N1, it may well have been an initial occupational infection of an agricultural worker, that resulted in further transmission to household or other community members that led to the 2009 pandemic. How important it would have been to have prevented the index case, which could well have occurred in a swine worker.

And these infectious disease threats are increasing as human populations grow in size, travel around the world rapidly, and move into areas previously inhabited by wildlife or food animals. Having an adequate public health workforce with advanced training in the prevention of occupational zoonotic infections among agricultural workers is critically important to prevent human outbreaks of these diseases, and has been under-supported in past efforts. I believe your graduates from this special program will be well sought-after and highly competitive for the growing number of health care positions in local, state, and national health and public health settings and organizations, where current levels of special expertise in this increasingly important area are alarmingly low.

You are to be commended for your vision and commitment to developing this important new program, and I wish you great success in your obtaining critical funding. Please let me know how the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) can assist you in this effort.

Most sincerely,

Marguerite Pappaioanou, DVM, MPVM, PhD
Executive Director



<http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/>

“One Health is the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines working locally, nationally, and globally to attain optimal health for people, animals, plants and our environment.”

“One Health implementation will help protect and/or save untold millions of lives in our generation and for those to come.”

“Between animal and human medicine there are no dividing lines--nor should there be.” Rudolf Virchow, MD (the father of cellular pathology)

August 9, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

My One Health colleagues Laura H. Kahn, MD, MPH, MPP, Thomas P. Monath, MD, Jack Woodall, PhD and I are delighted to learn that you are developing graduate training programs in One Health. Our autonomous *pro bono* One Health team has been actively engaged in promoting the One Health concept for years including establishment of our One Health Initiative website since October 1, 2008 which endeavors to post all known One Health News, Publications and Upcoming Events items in the U.S. and worldwide.

We have over 879 individuals on our e-mail distribution list and over 590 prominent physician, veterinarian and other health scientist supporters from 53 nations including the U.S. In addition, we have over 76 known reciprocal website links.

The reasons for our steadfast support for the One Health concept can best be summed up with our statements contained below the One Health Initiative website logo (see above). Please also see <http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/about.php> and <http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/mission.php>.

After reviewing your proposal to NIOSH for “One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers”, we agree that it is an excellent idea particularly in light of the expanding need for protein food sources and the increasing numbers of personnel being employed on farms, feed lot operations and meat and poultry inspection facilities in the U.S. As you are well aware, all of these locations where livestock exist or are processed as food sources present potential infectious disease hazards for workers and visitors. Approximately 75 percent of recently emerging diseases affecting humans are from animal origins. About 60 percent of all human pathogens are zoonotic. Obviously, this alarming trend will require a significantly increased number of

highly trained professionals for prevention, control and management of this plethora of pathogenic diseases with public health risks for the near and foreseeable future in the 21st century. Indeed we all subscribe to a recent publication by our colleague, Dr. Laura H. Kahn http://www.infectionecologyandepidemiology.net/index.php/iee/article/view/7919/pdf_185

Considering the exponentially expanding worldwide recognition of the critical need for "One Health" multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary knowledge, employers would likely prefer hiring trained and credentialed One Health personnel. Presumably candidates holding such degrees would be sought after in local, state and federal governmental public health and agricultural agencies as well as at private companies and corporations engaged in related endeavors. In addition, other institutions of higher learning should be interested in hiring such individuals to help enhance their One Health teaching and research expertise.

We strongly agree with your statement in the proposal that "the University of Florida, [is] very well-positioned to conduct this diverse training because our campus, unlike most US campuses, has 16 health science and land-grant colleges that will provide the unique multi-disciplinary training (public health, agriculture, environmental engineering, [medical] and veterinary [medical])."

Sincerely,

Bruce - Laura - Tom - Jack

Bruce Kaplan, DVM

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One Health Initiative Autonomous *pro bono* Team:

Laura H. Kahn, MD, MPH, MPP • Bruce Kaplan, DVM •
Thomas P. Monath, MD • Jack Woodall, PhD

Laura H. Kahn, MD, MPH, MPP

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Jack Woodall, PhD, Director (retd.) (co-founder & Current Associate Editor, ProMED-Mail)

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Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

August 1, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Dr. Gray;

Thank you for sharing your plans for developing graduate training programs in One Health at the post graduate level. As the Director of the One Health Office at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) I am frequently in the position of hiring staff for national as well as international placement and am repeatedly dismayed by the lack of any formal academic One Health preparation among otherwise qualified applicants. The University of Florida is uniquely positioned to provide much-needed leadership in filling this training gap. Your graduates will be highly competitive for One Health positions that are becoming more numerous at local, national and international levels.

As you are aware, CDC established a One Health Office several years ago within the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases. The Office proactively builds strong relationships with agriculture and environment agencies and partners in order to more effectively mitigate the impact of diseases that emerge and re-emerge at the animal-human interface. The Office currently has staff in Atlanta as well as embedded at international animal health organizations (i.e., The World Organization for Animal Health-OIE and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization) and in country offices in Nigeria, Thailand, Egypt and Kenya. As your program moves forward I would be happy to discuss the likelihood of internships or rotations for your students within these CDC One Health sites.

Your proposal to NIOSH entitled "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers" appears to be a good first step and I am happy to provide a letter of support. Having worked with you on other One health and One Flu projects, I am confident that you and your staff will produce an excellent product that is consistent with the NIOSH mission.



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol".

Carol Rubin, DVM, MPH
Director, One Health Office
Division of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ARMED FORCES HEALTH SURVEILLANCE CENTER
503 ROBERT GRANT AVENUE
SILVER SPRING MD 20910-7500

Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

Wonderful! I am so pleased to learn that the University of Florida is developing graduate training programs in One Health.

As a 22-year career public health veterinarian for the US Department of Defense I have long been a proponent of One Health thinking. We need better cooperation across human, animal and environmental disciplines to solve the really tough public health problems. We have particularly embraced this thinking in our DoD efforts to control zoonotic influenza and have invested many resources into zoonotic influenza research and surveillance.

With you taking a lead in One Health training, this will provide tremendous opportunities for US Department of Defense professionals to receive training and likely recruit new professionals from among your other trainees.

I know that collaborative possibilities exist among DoD programs to engage your graduate students in field research experiences. For instance, occupational and environmental health is very important in keeping US military personnel healthy, especially during training and deployments. Often they work in rural and pastoral environments where they are exposed to domestic and wild animals and where zoonotic disease hazards exist. Hence, one might envision your professional students, especially military trainees, working alongside DoD occupational physicians in the field and at major military installations like Ft. Bragg, NC or Camp Pendleton, CA.

Again I congratulate you on developing One Health training and wish you every success.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly G. Vest".

Kelly G. Vest, DVM, MPH, DrPH, Dip. ACVPM
Veterinary Epidemiologist



Vice President for Research
Winfred M. Phillips

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August 10, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Campus

Dear Greg,

It is my pleasure to support your proposal "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections Among Agricultural Workers," and your plans to offer cross-disciplinary training to students so they are equipped to tackle difficult public health problems like emerging zoonotic infections. With all our diverse colleges and programs, we are well-positioned to provide this training.

As a demonstration of my support, I am pleased to provide matching funds of \$30,000 per year for 5 years for a total of \$150,000 if the proposal is funded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Winfred M. Phillips'.



College of Public Health and Health Professions
Office of the Dean

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August 9, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very pleased to offer this letter of support for your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

I echo what you have written in the proposal. Here at University of Florida, we are very uniquely positioned to offer such a cross-disciplinary "One Health" training program. I am pleased to see faculty from the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and College of Engineering join you in this effort. Like the diverse mix of faculty in our research institutes, the mixing of diverse disciplines in your program will be a catalyst for the generation of new solutions to complex health problems.

Your focus upon agriculture worker health is strategic for Florida. Agriculture is very important to Florida. We have not emphasized protecting these workers enough. Recent state data show that there are 47,500 commercial farms in Florida and animal workers enough to care for 1.7 million head of cattle. We also have a large poultry industry, many zoos, aquariums, and exotic animal ranches, and numerous state and national parks where workers daily come in close contact with animals.

I understand that you have conducted an informal anonymous survey of a number of our current undergraduate and graduate public health students and the interest among them for such occupation One Health training has been keen. Once funded, I think one of your biggest problems will be you will have too many excellent applicants for this program and your selections will be difficult.

On behalf of our College I am pleased to offer your program the following support:
\$30,000/year in tuition and stipend assistance for 5 years (\$150,000 total).

The Foundation for The Gator Nation

An Equal Opportunity Institution

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Page 2

Again, I strongly support your proposal and look forward to watching the training program grow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael G. Perri". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Michael G. Perri, PhD, ABPP
Dean, College of Public Health and Health Professions
Robert G. Frank Professor of Clinical and Health



Mary Peoples-Sheps, Dr.P.H.
Senior Associate Dean for Public Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions

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August 9, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH
Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg:

I am so pleased that you are seeking to develop this occupational health program "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers." With 50 years of allied science work behind us, the College is very committed to improving the quality and skills of the health workforce. This is right in line with what we do best. Also, it is very consistent with the University's interest in fostering transdisciplinary research and education.

As Senior Associate Dean for Public Health I can see many potential benefits from this training, and I am behind you 100 percent. In addition to drawing the students you have planned to recruit, I suspect others will also be interested in this training. In particular, I predict that a number of veterinarians enrolled in our college will be interested in this course work. Also, while NIOSH is not likely to support them, it seems quite likely that our international students will be interested in this training as many come from developing countries where agriculture and animal workers are economically very important.

I am pleased to offer you my support by serving on the Internal Advisory Committee. I agree to help guide Program evaluation efforts, specifically the development of your annual Program Evaluation Summary Report.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Peoples Sheps".

Mary Peoples-Sheps, DrPH
Senior Associate Dean for Public Health



Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)

August 8, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair
Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

We are delighted to learn that you are developing cross-disciplinary graduate training programs in One Health in the area of zoonotic infections among agricultural workers. This is certainly an area of great interest to the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, the Florida Cooperative Extension Service and to our constituents involved in raising, handling, and processing of food animals.

IFAS is blessed with a large, diverse, and state-wide research, teaching and extension enterprise that supports our land-grant mission here at the University of Florida. Besides our many laboratories, greenhouses, and growing plots here on campus, as well as our working dairy and nearby horse and cattle farms, our 13 statewide Research and Education Centers have active and excellent research facilities that span the spectrum of Florida agricultural enterprises. We also have 67 County Extension Offices with faculty that address key issues facing our agricultural enterprises and the technology transfer from our research programs. They also serve as the 'front door' to UF. Be assured that we will work with One Health, and we are delighted that IFAS is well represented on your proposed Program Board.

Your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers" outlines a much needed program that links many scientific and medical disciplines and focuses on a timely problem of real concern, agriculture worker health. Just this week, the announcement of the ground turkey related outbreak of salmonellosis reminded all US citizens that serious human pathogens are carried by food animals. New findings from Europe on the carriage of MRSA strains by several kinds of food animals are also a wakeup call to us all.

IFAS researchers are actively involved in various projects within the Emerging Pathogens Institute, and our investment in food safety activities is considerable. Your proposed new training program can focus these many campus and statewide efforts, and directly contribute to the "teaching" leg and the "extension" leg of the land-grant stool (teaching, research and extension).

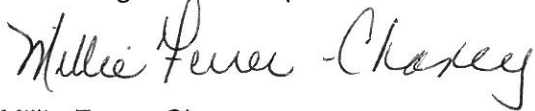
We would be pleased to provide guidance to your graduate students in finding field experiences in industry, and depending on available resources, make available our agriculture research laboratories and extension offices as part of their training.

Most importantly, I foresee numerous job opportunities, both now and a growing need in the future, for your proposed program's trainees. As the number of workers in the animal agriculture industries increases, which it surely will, a better understanding of the transmission of zoonotic diseases to workers, and perhaps dissemination to people in the non-agriculture sector, will assume even greater importance. I applaud your efforts in establishing this program at the University of Florida, an environment in which it can flourish.

Most sincerely,



John P. Hayes
Interim Dean for Research and Director
Florida Agricultural Experiment Station



Millie Ferrer-Chancy
Interim Dean for Extension and Director
Florida Cooperative Extension Service



Teresa C. Balser
Dean for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences



The Graduate School

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August 10, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

It is great to learn that the University of Florida is developing an MHS in One Health. On behalf of the Graduate School, the Office of Graduate Minority Programs is pleased to contribute to this program by assisting in the recruitment and retention of minorities and other underrepresented groups to this degree program.

We would be happy to provide program recruitment opportunities via our MADE (Moving in the Direction of Excellence) Conference and the Campus Visitation Program. In addition, the OGMP will distribute information regarding your program at other local, regional and national minority recruiting events.

We look forward to working with you to promote this unique training opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Laurence B. Alexander'.

Laurence B. Alexander, Ph.D.
Associate Dean
Director, Office of Graduate Minority Programs



College of Public Health and Health Professions
Development and Alumni Affairs

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July 28, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH
Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

It is great to learn about your grant proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers." I think it is a very important work and I really like the One Health theme.

I would be very pleased to help you track alumni of your program as part of the trainee follow-up plan. This information is available through the University of Florida Foundation records which we can access as required for your project.

I wish you great success and welcome the opportunity to assist in any way I can.

Sincerely,



Marie Emmerson
Director of Development



Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
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Director, Global Pathogens Laboratory
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Southeast Center for Agricultural
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August 16, 2011

Dear Dr. Gray,

I am pleased to provide my enthusiastic letter of support for the TPG you are submitting to NIOSH to train MHS students in agricultural zoonoses.

As director of the NIOSH-funded University of Kentucky Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention, I am pleased to have consulted with you in the design of your proposed training program.

Your "One Health" approach is highly innovative and your TPG will fill a gap in the education of individuals who work to prevent agriculture-related illnesses.

I will gladly serve on the TPG's External Review Committee and work with University of Kentucky faculty for the possible exchange of students and faculty for seminars and classes. The Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention also provides opportunities for pilot funding and I will make sure that you and your faculty are on our mailing list for the announcement that will be forthcoming in a few weeks.

As I learned from my recent trip to Gainesville, the University of Florida is perhaps in the best position in the US to offer an agricultural health training program focused on zoonoses. Your facilities, faculty, and laboratories are among the best in the country for this unique educational effort to train Master's students in this area of agricultural health.

Your TPG has my full support and I encourage NIOSH to fund it.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert McKnight". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "M".

Robert McKnight, MPH, ScD
Director, Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention
Chair, Department of Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health



Rick Scott
Governor

H. Frank Farmer, Jr., MD, PhD, FACP
State Surgeon General

August 3, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg:

I am so pleased to hear that University of Florida is aggressively seeking to train professionals in One Health. You know that I am a very strongly support the One Health concept. I was a member of the AVMA One Health Initiative Taskforce and I currently serve as an Associate Editor of the One Health Newsletter and a member of the Advisory Board for the One Health Initiative Website. I have written articles and book chapters on the topic and also give regular presentations on One Health to professional audiences and college students.

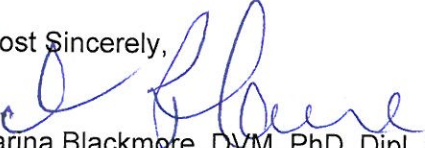
I am also very pleased to serve on the External Advisory Committee for your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

Zoonotic and other emerging diseases are significant occupational hazards. The diseases are also of interest to the animal industry because of the threat to animal health. In addition, occupational health is critical for the success of any disaster response activities including high pathogenic influenza or other foreign animal disease and occupational health recommendations are included in all disaster response plans. These cross-trained individuals would be attractive employees of both the farm (animal and plant) industry and the federal, state or local government. They could also serve as consultants at veterinary schools, zoological parks and research facilities.

I consult on occupational health and safety issues for animal workers every day in my job as the State Public Health Veterinarian with the Florida Department of Health. I also serve as an Executive Board Member for the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians. The NASPHV produces guidance documents for veterinary practitioners and animal workers; all have a large occupational health component. My staff and I are looking forward to sharing our experiences through lectures and internship opportunities to students going through the new One Health Master's Degree program.

I can also facilitate contacts with other colleagues in both the government and private sector for additional training or job opportunities.

Most Sincerely,



Carina Blackmore, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACVPM.
State Public Health Veterinarian
Chief, Bureau of Public Health Medicine

From the desk of
J. F. Lowe, DVM, MS

404 Pin Oak Dr, Albers, IL
phone: 309-336-1006

August 7, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Dr. Gray,

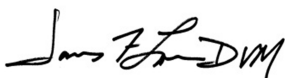
I most strongly support your proposed cross-disciplinary "One Health" training program to prepare professionals who would be able to use knowledge from public health, animal health, food industry, and environmental health to prevent infectious disease problems in man, in animals, and in the food supply.

As a swine veterinarian, we are concerned about the ability of humans to be an important vector and fomite of important swine diseases. More importantly as 2009 pH1N1 influenza demonstrated humans can be an important source of cross species disease transmission that can have devastating economic consequences, not from the disease but from the misinformed public, for our industry.

Over the last three years I have cooperated with medical and veterinary colleagues on a NIH-CIRES funded project to do better understand the transmission of Influenza A viruses in health swine populations. Only through this multidisciplinary, multispecies collaboration will we truly begin to understand the complexity of infectious potentially zoonotic disease in populations. Unfortunately there are too few scientists and medical professionals trained in these multispecies, multidisciplinary methods to address the needs of society. A training program such as that you have proposed would yield graduates with the skills and relationships to address these pressing concerns.

I would be pleased to serve on an advisory board for the program if it is funded and you would desire my input.

Most sincerely,



James. F. Lowe, DVM, MS



Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department

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August 1, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am excited about collaborating with you in your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

The proposal would complement my research interests by providing an interdisciplinary setting that will train students in areas that my colleagues (from the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department) and I are engaged. For example, I am working with colleagues to develop and test novel sensors to control and monitor the environment of agricultural systems. These sensors could be used to study and optimize environments in animal housing facilities to minimize the spread of infectious agents. Students trained through this program would have the desired background to perform these studies and test these new tools. In addition, I believe the collaborations developed through this program will lead to new research projects and the development of new educational tools that will improve safety in the agricultural community.

My department colleagues and I would be pleased to engage your Program graduate students in my course, Industrial Hygiene (ABE 4905/6905) and Fundamentals and Applications of Biosensors (taught by Dr. Eric McLamore of our department, currently numbered ABE 6933).

I am pleased to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty and to also serve on the One Health Graduate Program Internal Advisory Committee.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Melanie J. Correll'.

Melanie J. Correll, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

The Foundation for The Gator Nation

An Equal Opportunity Institution



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FLORIDA

28 July 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very pleased to collaborate with you in your NIOSH proposal "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

The proposal would complement my research and training activities in animal health and public health in Latin America and the Caribbean.

I am pleased to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty and to serve on your internal advisor committee.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge A. Hernandez", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jorge A Hernandez, DVM, MPVM, PhD
Professor
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Tel (352) 562 1548 (mobile)
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August 8, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

We strongly support your proposed cross-disciplinary “One Health” to prepare professionals who would be able to use knowledge from public health, animal health, food industry, and environmental health to prevent infectious disease problems in man, in animals, and in food supply.

I am so pleased to hear that University of Florida is aggressively seeking to train professionals in One Health. The cattle industry suffers greatly from infectious diseases and we know that these are often introduced by man or man’s behaviors. Having specially trained professionals join our businesses would be very helpful in developing better programs to protect cattle and beef and dairy products.

I am also very pleased to serve on the Internal Advisory Committee for your proposal to NIOSH “One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers.” I want to help you prepare your graduate students for employment in our and other related industries. As the students approach graduation, I think our organization can also help them find opportunities for brief field experiences to work and possibly audition for employment with cattle industry businesses.

Safety has become the highest priority for the food industry around the world. Employers are actively seeking highly trained individuals to utilize the latest information, processes and technology to produce a safe and wholesome food supply. They are also seeking individuals that are versed in current food safety regulations and hold certifications in programs such as HACCP. We have a steady request for applicants that have these abilities and are not currently able to fill our local and state wide needs. Individuals with this concentration would be highly employable.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Dwain Johnson'.

D. Dwain Johnson, Ph.D.
Professor

DDJ/sl



College of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences

PO Box 100126
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August 4, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am pleased to learn that the University of Florida is aggressively seeking to train professionals in “One Health”. As you know I have been a long time supporter of the “One Health” concept and am currently actively training veterinary students and residents to think about One Health as a central paradigm in clinical veterinary medicine and a bridge to bring veterinary medicine and human health together.

I am in full support of the T03 - NIOSH “One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers” proposal and also very pleased to serve both as a Program Faculty and as a member of the Internal Advisory Committee.

In this capacity I would be pleased to engage our program’s graduate students in their research and provide advanced clinical training to those students interested in the interface of clinical veterinary medicine and occupational risk assessment. My current clinical and research interests provide me unique access to non-domestic animal collections and the people that work within these collections. This resource combined with the infectious diseases laboratories and researchers throughout the University of Florida will provide a rich environment for our graduate students to investigate occupational risks associated with this animal industry.

From my perspective as a faculty member in the College of Veterinary Medicine, this program will provide a training program that is currently lacking for veterinary students in the United States. Although interested veterinary students are often told of a pressing need for public health veterinarians, specific examples of how veterinarians can contribute is lacking. By providing a program that combines Master’s level didactic training with a practical

research project that has direct relevance to the occupational risks of animal industries, our young veterinarians will be directly marketable for federal, state and private industry employment opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Isaza', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ramiro Isaza, DVM, MS, DACZM
Associate Professor of Zoological Medicine
University of Florida
College of Veterinary Medicine
Dept of Clinical Sciences
Gainesville, Florida 32608-1166



College of Public Health and Health Professions
Department of Environmental and Global Health

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Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am extremely pleased to hear that University of Florida is aggressively seeking to train students and professionals in a 'One Health' based program. As you are aware I am a strong supporter of a 'One Health' interdisciplinary approach as this type of program offers exceptional real world knowledge for participants. This will ultimately prepare trainees for a wide array of employment opportunities in academia, government and industrial sectors.

I would embrace the opportunity to serve as Program Faculty and as a member of the Internal Advisory Committee for your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers." I fully support engaging program graduate students in courses that cover a global breadth of Environmental Health Concepts (PHC 6313) and environmental toxicology and molecular techniques. In addition, there would be opportunities for students to intern under my direction by performing a research project in my laboratory.

I look forward to working with you on this exciting endeavor.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Tara Sabo-Attwood'.

Tara Sabo-Attwood, PhD.
Associate Professor
University of Florida
Department of Environmental and Global Health
Gainesville, FL, 32610
sabo@phhp.ufl.edu



College of Public Health and Health Professions
Department of Environmental and Global Health

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August 9, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very pleased to collaborate with you in your NIOSH proposal "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers." I am happy to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty and serve as a member on the Internal Advisory Committee. My departmental colleague, Dr. John Lednicky, and I would be pleased to engage your Program graduate students in the following course: "Special Topics: Environmental Infectious Disease, a molecular approach (CRN PHC 6937)". I am especially excited to be a part of your dynamic proposal as I believe future progress in zoonotic and emerging disease research will require the coordination of multidisciplinary teams addressing the human, animal, environment nexus that has been referred to as the "One Health" paradigm. Clearly, graduate students receiving training through this program will be well positioned for future employment in the public health arena.

Most sincerely,

Thomas B. Waltzek, MS, DVM, PhD
Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
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08/10/2011

Gregory C. Gray
Chair Person
Department of Environmental and Global Health
School of Public Health and Health Professions
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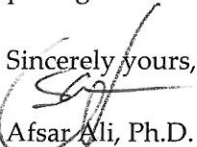
Re: Letter of Support

Dear Dr. Gray,

I am very excited and enthusiastic about your grant proposal titled "**One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers**" to be submitted to the External Grant Program as NIOSH proposal. I have thoroughly read the proposal and found that this proposal is being proposed very timely, particularly at a time, when humans are increasingly acquiring infections from animals of agricultural importance. The major thrust of this project is to provide elaborate information on zoonotic human diseases to classroom setting either via lectures and/or hands on training in different laboratories involving this kind of research. I have recently developed (Spring, 2010) and taught a course titled "Water quality and human health where I stresses how the feces of agricultural animals pervasively contribute to the quality of drinking and recreational waters by enriching waters with infectious disease agents of agricultural animals' origin, including bacterial, viral and protozoan species. I also have a laboratory where my students and I perform research on the virulence, environmental persistence and evolution of enteric pathogens.

I strongly support this proposal and would provide any support that may need to make it a successful project. Finally, I would be very happy to share my knowledge on my research and training on enteric pathogens with Dr. Gray should the grant be funded.

Sincerely yours,



Afsar Ali, Ph.D.

Research Associate Professor
Department of Environmental and Global Health
School of Public Health and Health Professions
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College of Public Health and Health Professions
Department of Behavioral Science and Community Health

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August 3, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very happy to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty in your NIOSH proposal "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

I would be pleased to provide your Program graduate students with the course, PHC6762 International Public Health. This course includes a holistic approach- environment, animals and human interactions-, in responding to the increasing trends of occupational zoonotic infections affecting the general population and in particular agricultural workers. I am also happy to share with our students "hands on" experience by working with agricultural workers in Florida.

The unique training offered by this new degree would complement my research interests and training by allowing me and my students to stay up to date on the lessons learned to halt zoonotic infections. This program will also provide, national and global public health institutions, a cadre of public health practitioners armed with the knowledge and skills to respond, in an integrated manner, to the increasing demand of professionals fully prepared to address zoonotic infectious diseases in low/middle income countries, as well as in industrialized countries. Thus, our graduates will have a lot of opportunities to work in international, national and local organizations and agricultural business.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Alba Amaya-Burns'.

Alba Amaya-Burns, MD, MSc.
Clinical Associate Professor
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Tel: (352) 2736565
aaburns@phhp.ufl.edu

August 11, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg:

Your proposal to NIOSH, *One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers*, addresses a critical need in health education, and we in Environmental Engineering Sciences (EES) are excited about collaborating on this important effort.

Public health has been an essential part of EES for many years and is addressed in directly related courses, such as *Environmental Health* at the graduate level and *Public Health* at the undergraduate level. Uniting the health related units at the University of Florida in a One Health program will go a long way in finding sustainable solutions to zoonotic disease.

I am pleased to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty. My department colleagues and I would be happy to engage your Program graduate students in the following courses:

EES5245 *Water Quality Analysis*
EES5415 *Environmental Health*
EES6051 *Advanced Environmental Planning and Design*
EES6135 *Aquatic Microbiology*
EES6318 *Principles of Industrial Ecology*
EES6405 *Environmental Toxicology*

The proposal would complement my research interests and training by coordinating several health related programs on the University of Florida campus with *One Health* theme, thereby facilitating collaboration on future research.

As disease outbreaks, particularly those of zoonotic origin such as Q fever, the SARS coronavirus and the recent *E. coli* outbreak in Germany, continue to threaten global populations, the need for *One Health* graduates will be only be increasing in the future. Environmental engineers and scientists will need the coordinated assistance of *One Health* graduates in their design to prevent the spread of these deadly and debilitating illnesses.

We strongly endorse your proposal and look forward to working closely with you in the future.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul A. Chadik". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "P" and "A".

Paul A. Chadik, Ph.D., P.E.
Associate Professor and
Department Head



College of Engineering
Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences

University of Florida
PO Box 32610
Gainesville, FL 32610
352-273-9188

August 9, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

It is good to learn about your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers." I am pleased to be listed as Program Faculty and to engage your students in my course "Water Quality Analysis." Attached is my NIH biosketch.

I think the MHS program with a One Health concentration is a great idea. We need such cross-trained professionals to tackle difficult zoonotic problems.

Most sincerely,

Joseph J. Delfino

Joseph J. Delfino, Ph.D.
Professor
delfino@ufl.edu

August 9, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very happy to collaborate with you in your CDC/NIOSH proposal "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers." This is a much needed area of training and there are too few professionals with the interdisciplinary education needed to make informed decisions about health. I am happy to be listed on the grant as Faculty. My department colleagues and I would be pleased to engage your Program graduate students in the course *Ecological Toxicology and Risk Assessment*.

The proposal would complement my research interests and training by providing an opportunity to cross train public health students in environmental issues. We are developing molecular biomarkers for assessing the safety of drinking water and reused water and it would be good to train students in these methodologies. In addition, it is clear that exposure to certain environmental contaminants may reduce the effectiveness of the human immune system and may also lead to epigenetic changes that influence long term disease. Students who are trained in cross-disciplinary projects, such as these, will be the health science leaders of tomorrow. As the world population grows in the next decade, these issues will predominate and will create jobs for our graduates with experience in thinking outside of the usual disciplinary constraints and being able to communicate with other professionals to solve the problems. I look forward to this training opportunity.

Most sincerely,



Nancy Denslow, Ph.D.
Professor



College of Public Health and Health Professions
Department of Environmental and Global Health

University of Florida
PO Box 32610
Gainesville, FL 32610
352-273-9188

August 9, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very pleased to collaborate with you in your NIOSH proposal "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

I am happy to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty, and gladly offer my expertise in virology and zoonotic influenza serology and surveillance.

The proposal would complement my research interests and training by providing opportunities to expand the focus of current research in the area of zoonotic virus exposure among people working with animals and the effectiveness of biosecurity measures on preventing cross species transmission of pathogens while taking advantage of the energy and fresh perspectives of young professionals entering the field.

As our understanding of the connections between humans, our food sources and the environment improves individuals with a training that encompasses a "One Health" perspective of these relationships will be highly sought after as leaders in research and addressing the policy issues that arise. Individuals with a solid foundation of training in the "One Health" perspective will be well equipped to recognize and address emerging threats to human, animal and environmental health.

I sincerely look forward to being a integral part in this training effort.

Most sincerely,

Gary L Heil PhD

Research Assistant Professor
Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
The University of Florida

College of Pharmacy
Department of Medicinal Chemistry

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August 5, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am pleased to be listed on your grant as Program Faculty on your grant proposal NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

I would be happy to engage your Program graduate students in my course *Drug Biotransformation and Molecular Mechanisms of Toxicity*, PHA 6425. The course is offered each Fall and Spring semester and discusses not only pharmaceutical drugs but also natural products and environmental pollutants to which people and animals are exposed.

The proposal would complement my interests in research and graduate education. I am particularly interested in off-target effects of drugs and other xenobiotics that may result in unexpected toxic effects of exposure to these chemicals. Students in the One Health training program would learn about this topic, giving them a better understanding and perspective of considerations in the prevention and treatment of zoonotic infections in agricultural workers. NIOSH, pharmaceutical companies, the FDA and other federal agencies are interested in this topic and I anticipate that graduates of the One Health program will be in demand at these workplaces, based on their broad training and knowledge.

Most sincerely,



Margaret O. James, Ph.D., D.Sc.
Jack C. Massey Professor of Pharmacy
Chair, Medicinal Chemistry

August 3, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am pleased to be listed on your grant as Program Faculty on your grant proposal NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

I am specifically excited about my role in training the One Health graduates through the course of Meat Technology by which we cover topics of muscle biology, meat science, food safety, and pre-harvest food safety. Since I am interested in research topics that may help both human and animals, I am desperately looking for students who can conduct multiple aspects of research. Therefore, trainees in the One Health program would complement my research interests by providing graduate students who have a broad spectrum of knowledge in human, animal, and environment. There is no doubt that the need for manpower with education and training that span human, animal, and environment will rise exponentially in the near future because they will effectively fight against disease outbreaks originating from animals. Therefore, graduates trained from One Health program will be highly desired in many industries.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Most sincerely,



Kwang Cheol Jeong, PhD.
Assistant Professor
Department of Animal Sciences
Emerging Pathogens Institute

August 1, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

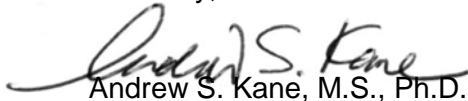
I remain excited about collaborating with you in your proposed efforts to NIOSH *“One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers.”* This will be an excellent opportunity to harness the breath of expertise and enthusiasm within Environmental and Global Health, as well as our Emerging Pathogens Institute.

Please count me in as part of your Program Faculty, pending NIOHS support, and I look forward to engaging your Program graduate students in my Aquatic Systems and Environmental Health course. Students will also be able to take advantage of the research and training facilities within the Aquatic Pathobiology Laboratories.

The proposed training in this grant would directly support critically needed opportunities for professional students working in a variety of different, but allied fields, i.e., human and veterinary medicine, and public and environmental health. “One Health” style training, with multidisciplinary input and cross-cutting expertise as proposed, will provide both the content and mindset needed to meet the workforce of the next decade. This construct is exemplified, in small part, by some of the work I am pursuing in global aquaculture regarding the presence of hypervirulent vibrios affecting (and killing) aquaculture workers.

Again, thank you for the opportunity for me to contribute to this effort. I look forward to working with you and your Program students!

Sincerely,



Andrew S. Kane, M.S., Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Associate Chair

Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
Health Science Center

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August 5, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am excited about collaborating with you in your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers." For many years now, I have been a proponent of the One Health Concept, starting in 2001 with my involvement with the Conservation Medicine Program at the Loyola University Medical Center in Illinois. My passion for the topic arises not only from scientific curiosity and training regarding microbial pathogens, but with the observation that unrecognized illnesses arise in humans working with agricultural, wild, and zoo animals. Moreover, it is a 2-way street: animals also succumb to human pathogens. Based on my personal experience and literature studies, I have concluded there is a great gap in our understanding of the pathogens that emerge from these cross-species pathogen exchanges. A new curriculum is sorely needed for the training of professionals who are able to recognize zoonoses and develop countermeasures against them.

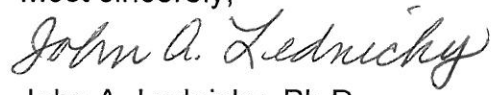
I am pleased to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty. My department colleagues and I would be happy to engage your Program graduate students in the following course: *Environmental Infectious Diseases: A Molecular Approach*. Additional courses are planned over these topics: *Aerosol Transmission of Pathogens*, and *Emergent Viruses*.

The proposal would complement my research interests and training by creating opportunities for multi-disciplinary approaches to studies of cross-species pathogen transmission and evolution. One big benefit is these cross-disciplinary approaches elevate my work from *in-vitro* modeling to "big picture" status.

Science and Medicine are not static, and I foresee the rise of a new need-based profession: One-Health Practitioner. Globalization has already shown its hand: not

many Americans are trained to recognize illnesses already showing up with greater regularity in the USA, such as Chagas disease and Dengue Fever. There will be a big demand in the near future for professionals capable of diagnosing the still uncommon diseases caused by microbes, and more importantly, able to investigate and identify new/emergent zoonotic pathogens.

Most sincerely,



John A. Lednicky, Ph.D.
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August 9, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida, Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very pleased to hear that the University of Florida is aggressively seeking to train professionals in One Health. As you already know, I very strongly support One Health training and completely embrace its philosophy. Importantly, my research and training interests align very well with the goals of the one health initiative.

I am also very pleased to serve as Program Faculty for your proposal to NIOSH titled "*One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers.*" My teaching and research goals at the University of Florida focus on vector borne diseases, which together with zoonotic infections account for more than 70% of the new emerging infections in the world today. Additionally, I would be pleased to engage your program graduate students in my research work that I conduct at international sites, particularly in Haiti, where several emerging infections that have the potential to spread in to the US are endemic.

The One Health training that you have proposed in your proposal is uniquely placed to provide high caliber professionals with broad, multi faceted skill sets that are needed to fill new job opportunities in the prevention and control of new emerging infectious pathogens in the world today.

Most sincerely,

Bernard A. Okech, MS, PhD
Research Assistant Professor
Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida, Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610



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US ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
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MCMR-UID-A

August 10, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am so pleased to understand that University of Florida is aggressively seeking to train professionals in *One Health*. You know that I very strongly support *One Health* concept.

I am also very pleased to serve as Program Faculty for your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

Emerging and re-emerging pathogens are an increasing concern for public health professionals in both developing and developed countries. Many of these pathogens are tied to wildlife and/or domestic animals for parts of their life cycle. The *One Health* trained professionals will play a vital role in the detection, identification, and the control these diseases ensuring the protection and health of all nations.

I support the *One Health* Masters Program at the University of Florida and will help to identify and secure training opportunities for qualified individuals at USAMRIID.

Sincerely,

Randal J. Schoepp
Chief, Applied Diagnostics Branch
Diagnostic Systems Division



College of Public Health and Health Professions
Department of Epidemiology

University of Florida
PO Box 32610
Gainesville, FL 32610
352-273-9188

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very pleased to participate in offering this unique and much needed training in One Health. The new MHS in One Health will fill many gaps in human and animal health.

I am happy to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty in your NIOSH proposal “One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers.” Students in the MHS One Health program would be a welcome addition to my *Principles of Epidemiology* course and to my *Public Health Biology* course.

Public Health agencies are beginning to recognize that human health and the health of other species and the environment are naturally entwined. This recognition brings with it a need for members of the public health workforce who are trained to cross traditional disciplines and therefore have a better understanding of how to prevent and manage disease outbreaks. Public health professionals with a Master’s of Health Sciences in One Health will be highly valued by employers because they will have unique training in how to bridge current gaps that exist between public health disciplines that are mainly focused on human disease or animal disease or on environmental health issues. I’m excited for the opportunity to be part of this innovative program.

Most sincerely,

Cindy Prins



Dr. Chang-Yu Wu
University of Florida
Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences
PO Box 116450
Gainesville, FL 32611-6450
TEL: (352) 392-0845
FAX: (352) 392-3076
Email: cywu@ufl.edu

July 28, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am very excited about the opportunity to collaborate with you in your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers."

Our discipline of Environmental Engineering Sciences is very relevant to the One Health Training Program. My colleagues in the department offer a wide range of courses that would benefit Program graduate students such as Wastewater Microbiology, Water Quality Analysis, Aerosol Mechanics, Elements of Atmospheric Pollution, Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollution, Water/Wastewater Treatment. We'll be pleased to engage the Program graduate students in these courses.

The proposed program would also complement my research interests and training by increasing the professional pool understanding aerobiology, expanding research directions into agricultural settings and emerging pathogens, and enhancing interdisciplinary interactions. It is truly a win-win program for everyone participating in the engaging activities.

I am pleased to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Chang-Yu Wu'.

Chang-Yu Wu, PhD
Professor



August 1, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH
Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Dr. Gray,

It was good to hear from you! We are pleased to acknowledge that one of your former trainees, from the University of Iowa, Dwight Ferguson, MS, is joining us as our Safety Manager.

I was also pleased to learn about the occupational training program you are planning for the health of agricultural workers. Like Dwight we need such employees.

At West Liberty Foods, we employ 1800 team members in our processing plants and they work with a variety of different product lines. Having formally trained professionals really helps us maintain our aggressive quality, health and safety programs.

We would also be pleased to engage your graduate students in internship projects if they can find their way to West Liberty, Iowa. We are able to keep them pretty busy and appreciate the value they add to our organization during their internship experience.

“One Health” trained employees would be very useful to us and would provide a desirable knowledge base for job applicants. We would be very interested in hiring well-trained public health professionals who have vast knowledge about food safety and occupational health.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Tara Lindsay".

Tara Lindsay
VP of Human Resources
West Liberty Foods

Corporate Headquarters
228 West 2nd Street
PO Box 318
West Liberty, IA 52776
888-511-4500 phone
319-627-6127 fax

Mount Pleasant Facility
2225 E Commerce Drive
PO Box 272
Mount Pleasant, IA 52641
319-385-3922 phone
319-986-6658 fax

Sigourney Facility
22034 200th Street
PO Box 209
Sigourney, IA 52591
641-622-3220 phone
641-622-2558 fax

Tremonton Facility
705 N. 2000 West
Tremonton, UT 84337
435-207-7000 phone
435-207-7090 fax

www.wlfoods.com



August 2, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

We strongly support your proposed cross-disciplinary "One Health" to prepare professionals who would be able to use knowledge from public health, animal health, food industry, and environmental health to prevent infectious disease problems in man, in animals, and in food supply.

I am pleased to hear that University of Florida is aggressively seeking to train professionals in One Health. The cattle industry suffers greatly from infectious diseases and we know that these are often introduced by man or man's behaviors. Having specially trained professionals join our businesses would be very helpful in developing better programs to protect cattle and beef and dairy products.

I am also very pleased to serve on the External Advisory Committee for your proposal to NIOSH "One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers." I want to help you prepare your graduate students for employment in our and other related industries. As the students approach graduation, I think our organization can also help them find opportunities for brief field experiences to work and possibly audition for employment with cattle industry businesses.

As we have seen advancements in the food animal industries the demand for well trained, highly qualified employees has increased. As livestock business managers embrace new technology and more advanced products and practices the need for skilled professionals will continue to grow, offering an increase in potential jobs for graduates of the One Health program.

Sincerely,

Jim Handley
Executive Vice President

President

DON QUINCEY, Chiefland

President-Elect

WOODY LARSON, Okeechobee

1st Vice President

WES WILLIAMSON, Okeechobee

2nd Vice President

HENRY KEMPFER, St. Cloud

Treasurer

ERIK JACOBSEN, St. Cloud

Secretary

NED WATERS, Bartow

Executive Vice President

JIM HANDLEY, Kissimmee

Department of Infectious Diseases and Pathology
College of Veterinary Medicine

PO Box 110880
Gainesville, FL 32611-088
352-294-4029

August 23, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

I am excited about collaborating with you on your proposal to NIOSH “One Health Training in the Prevention of Occupational Zoonotic Infections among Agricultural Workers.” Having served on multiple review panels for the Department of Homeland Security HS-STEM training programs, the NIAID panels for K and T awards, and NSF EID programs, I am well aware that the approach taken by your application not only fills a critical gap in national training needs but also is unique among existing training programs.

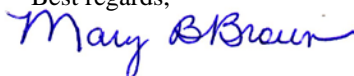
My colleagues and I would be pleased to engage your Program graduate students in courses within the College of Veterinary Medicine. As you are aware, we have a number of professional courses that deal with disease epidemiology, food animal medicine, and infectious diseases. We would also be interested in assisting you to develop specific special topics courses tailored for the needs of the trainees. For example, our current Molecular Pathogenesis course is driven by the current cutting edge literature and discussion by graduate students and could easily be tailored to address issues of emerging infections and One Health.

I am especially pleased to be listed on the grant as Program Faculty and also to serve on the One Health Graduate Program Internal Advisory Committee. As you know, I have a strong commitment to mentoring and training. Over the years, I have been involved in training of undergraduates, medical and veterinary students, fellows and residents with both DVM and MD degrees, as well as graduate students without professional degrees. Over the last few years, it is increasingly apparent that the opportunities for multidisciplinary research that are available at the University of Florida make it an outstanding opportunity to address the critical needs of the One Health initiative.

Importantly, I have first hand experience with the employment opportunities for individuals who combining classical training with a strong background in epidemiology. All easily found positions after graduation. As examples, Margaret Riggs completed a combined PhD and MPH in my laboratory. After a fellowship at NIH and CDC, she is now an EID liason between the state of Kentucky and CDC. Caro Perez-Heydrich, who was supported on a minority supplement from NSF and a fellowship from Morris Animal Foundation, recently completed her PhD and benefited from the strong mathematical modeling training available at UF; she is now a postdoctoral T32 trainee at the University of North Carolina and will complete an MPH. LeAnn White completed a combined PhD and MPH and is an infectious diseases specialist with the USGS Wildlife group in Madison, WI. Finally, Lori Wendland completed her PhD, supported by an NSF grant, and then received an NIH K08 award for advanced training in molecular epidemiology. She currently divides her time between private veterinary practice and a research assistant professor position here at UF, where she is preparing a new course in wildlife diseases. Clearly, there are multiple career paths and opportunities for individuals with the training that will be provided with this project.

I look forward to working with you on this project.

Best regards,



Mary B. Brown, Ph.D.

Professor



The Graduate School

115 Grinter Hall
PO Box 115500
Gainesville, FL 32611-5500
352-392-6444 Tel
352-392-3773 Fax

August 10, 2011

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
Box 100188
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Greg,

It is great to learn that the University of Florida is developing an MHS in One Health. On behalf of the Graduate School, the Office of Graduate Minority Programs is pleased to contribute to this program by assisting in the recruitment and retention of minorities and other underrepresented groups to this degree program.

We would be happy to provide program recruitment opportunities via our MADE (Moving in the Direction of Excellence) Conference and the Campus Visitation Program. In addition, the OGMP will distribute information regarding your program at other local, regional and national minority recruiting events.

We look forward to working with you to promote this unique training opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Laurence B. Alexander'.

Laurence B. Alexander, Ph.D.
Associate Dean
Director, Office of Graduate Minority Programs

21 August 2011

Gregory C. Gray, M.D., Professor and Chair
Department of Environmental and Global Health
College of Public Health and Health Professions
University of Florida
101 S. Newell Drive, Ste 2150A
Gainesville FL 32610



Thomas E. Bernard
University of South Florida
College of Public Health
13201 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
Tampa FL 33612-3805

813-974-6629
tbernard@health.usf.edu

Dear Dr. Gray:

It was a great pleasure to meet with you in person and to discuss with you subsequently, the One Health training program focused on occupational health in agriculture. This will benefit employees in Florida, the Southeast and nationally. One Health is an important program, and one to which I enthusiastically lend my full support.

First, thank you for the invitation to be on the external review committee. I am pleased to accept and look forward to working with you in this role. You have assembled strong internal and external committees to provide advice and oversight. This is a real strength for your application.

Second, as director of the Sunshine ERC at USF, I see many opportunities for our programs to interact and collaborate. With my roles on your external review committee and as ERC director, I am well positioned to facilitate the interactions. You are familiar with our Pilot Project Research Training grants for your junior faculty and doctoral students. This is the easiest collaboration.

Next, I would like to invite University of Florida faculty and students to prepare posters for the USF Health Research Day in February. The Sunshine ERC has a special section allocated for Research Day, and students from USF, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida International University, and the University of Puerto Rico will be attending. It is our custom to pay the travel expenses including meals and lodging and to have a picnic the next day.

The department is preparing an online MPH in Health, Safety and Environment. While this is not part of the ERC, there will be courses that might be used as electives for your students to complement the ones offered at the University of Florida. We can work together to facilitate the offering at UF directly or as modules or turnkey courses at UF.

Finally, we will invite your students and faculty to attend seminars and workshops in person or through audio-video links. And we look forward to joining those that you offer. While this is the least developed of our options, it will receive my attention because I think the potential is greatest for both programs.

Overall, collaboration among our students serves both groups well. I wish to confirm that you will have my total support in developing and sustaining those ties. Not only does it benefit the UF program, it has a substantial advantage for the Sunshine ERC.

My best wishes for your application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. E. Bernard", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Thomas E. Bernard

October 28, 2011

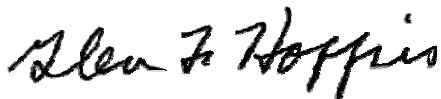
Via e-mail to mperry@phhp.ufl.edu

Dr. Michael G. Perri, Dean and Robert G. Frank Professor of Clinical and Health Psychology
College of Public Health and Health Professions
PO Box 100185
Gainesville, Florida 32610

Dear Dean Perri:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the establishment of the self-funded MHS Environmental and Global Health degree program in the College of Public Health and Health Professions (PHHP). The program's first concentration will be focused upon the interdisciplinary concept of One Health. The faculty in the College of Veterinary Medicine, have been directly involved in planning this new degree program with PHHP. Together they have recently collaborated in seeking a NIOSH training grant to support graduate students. They are committed to working with PHHP students through course-specific activities and field mentorship training. My representative for this collaboration will be Paul Gibbs. This will include negotiation of student fees and identifying appropriate course sections as needed. We look forward to our teaching and research collaboration with PHHP as this program moves forward.

Sincerely,



Glen F. Hoffsis
Dean and Professor

cc: John Harvey
Charlie Courtney
John Dame
Greg Gray



College of Pharmacy
Office of the Dean

101 S Newell Dr/Bldg 212
HPNP Rm #4334
PO Box 100484
Gainesville, FL 32610-0484
Phone: (352) 273-6309
Fax: (352) 273-6306

Date: 10/10/2011

Dr. Michael G. Perri
Dean
College of Public Health and Health Professions

Dear Dean Perri

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the establishment of the self-funded MHS Environmental and Global Health degree program in the College of Public Health and Health Professions (PHHP). The program's first concentration will be focused upon the interdisciplinary concept of One Health. Professor Margaret O. James of the College of Pharmacy has been directly involved in planning this new degree program with PHHP faculty. Together they have recently collaborated in seeking a NIOSH training grant to support MHS graduate students. They are committed to working with these MHS students through course-specific activities and field mentorship training. My representative for this collaboration will be Margaret O. James. We look forward to our teaching and research collaboration with PHHP as this program moves forward.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William H. Riffée'.

William H. Riffée, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Pharmacy

Sincerely,

William H. Riffée, Ph.D.
Dean