



# Research for Health Newsletter

## July-September 2016

*A periodic, informative bulletin reporting on the activities of research for health from the office of Knowledge, Bioethics, and Research to inform countries, partners, and PAHO managers and staff on the advances in the execution of PAHO's [Policy on Research for Health](#). Please send questions and comments to [cuervolu@paho.org](mailto:cuervolu@paho.org).*

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### Thank you

*The Knowledge Management, Bioethics, and Research (KBR) team appreciates the time dedicated to answer our consumer's survey in the past Research Newsletter. We truly value the information our respondents provided.*

## SPOTLIGHT

### 4<sup>th</sup> Evidence Aid International Conference



[Evidence Aid](#) is hosting “[Humanitarian Evidence](#)”, its fourth in a series of successful international forums on 17 and 18 November 2016 in Washington, D.C. at Georgetown University. The international platform, which addresses the need to deliver time sensitive access to summarized scientific evidence to inform the response and preparation for disasters and humanitarian emergencies, will be hosting the conference alongside Georgetown University, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (PAHO/WHO). PAHO/WHO worked together on a scientific survey (Policy Delphi Study) that engaged a wide range of key stakeholders in disaster response – the findings inspired this event. Additional information and registration is [available on the Evidence Aid website](#). The event is complemented by a training workshop for emergency respondents to be held at PAHO. More information about the latter under “In the Secretariat”

### Summer Institute for systematic reviews in nutrition for global policy making



Between July 25<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup>, experts from [Cornell University](#), the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), the [Cochrane Collaboration](#) and the [micronutrient Initiative](#) gathered to attend the Summer Institute training for nutrition experts, on developing systematic reviews to inform policies for nutrition and global health. PAHO trainers included [Dr. Chessa Lutter](#) and [Dr. Luis Gabriel Cuervo](#). In this occasion, the [Art for Research project](#) was also presented to show them the broader picture of how these experts contribute to development. This

Summer Institute workshops advance objectives of the regional [Policy on Research for Health](#) and has been carried out since 2014, training a cadre of epidemiologist and nutritionist to lead the way towards evidence-informed global policies in nutrition. More information found [here](#).

## Tutorial on Registration of Research Proposals available now in Spanish



It is now [available online](#) the Spanish version of the tutorial clip about registration of research proposals. The clip was produced by PAHO's Knowledge Management, Bioethics, and Research (KBR) Office at PAHO/WHO to explain how to register clinical trials and observational studies following international standards. Research registration increases the value of research and reduces its duplication. It brings transparency enabling the public to learn about research projects, collaborate and include it in the knowledge of topics. Following this brief guidance studies will made visible in the [International Clinical Trial Registry Platform of the World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#). A Portuguese version is to be available soon.

# RESEARCH POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

## In the Region

### New Director of BIREME/PAHO/WHO



Dr. Diego Gonzalez Machin has been appointed Director of the [Regional Virtual Library in Health](#) (BIREME, from its name in Spanish) from July 31, 2016. For his mandate, Dr. Gonzalez expressed his interest in strengthening the [Virtual Health Library](#) (VHL), promote the development of other products through projects with partner institutions, as well as new and potential partners. "Knowledge translation is certainly one of the areas in which BIREME has much to contribute and we are going to focus on this, in order to make the effective use of available information easier", said Dr. Gonzalez. He also stated that his team will work on

priority areas, such as Universal Health Coverage and the 2030 Agenda focused on the Sustainable Development Goals. More information available [here](#).

## Establishment of Caribbean Institute for Health Research (CAIHR)



University of the  
West Indies

On August 1, 2016, the [Tropical Medicine Research Institute](#) (TMRI) at The University of the West Indies (UWI) officially completed its renaming process to become the [Caribbean Institute for Health Research](#) (CAIHR). The center, established in 1999, seeks to increase the output of research in major areas affecting the health of people and to increase the number of trained research scientists across the region. Currently under the leadership of Professor Susan Walker, the focus of CAIHR will be on understanding the factors that influence health across the course of life, evaluate cost-effective interventions, investigate programs to improve early child development and look at reducing the burden and impact of chronic diseases. Increased emphasis shall also be placed upon translation of research findings to support their use in informing policy decisions and programs across the Caribbean and internationally. The institute's renaming seeks to better represent this multidisciplinary scope of work and the center's vision of: *Transforming lives globally through innovative research and effective health interventions.*

## Publications supporting PAHO's Policy on Research for Health



Two evidence summaries to inform policies have been published by the Caribbean Public Health Agency's Evidence Informed Decision Making Network of the Caribbean (CARPHA-EvIDeNce), supporting the goals of the Health Research Policy for the Caribbean and PAHO's Policy on Research for Health.

Documents focusing on [Preventing Interpersonal and Self-Directed Violence and Injuries in the Caribbean](#) and [Improving the Healthiness of Food Environments in the Caribbean](#) were produced in partnership with stakeholders civil society, academia and public and private sectors. The dialogues fostered around them enabled policymakers from Caribbean Community countries (CARICOM), alongside stakeholders, to consider the use of research evidence in the identification and intervention processes. Further information on this work is available on the [CARPHA website](#).

## In the Countries

### Argentina

#### Ministry of Health approves the establishment of the Office of Research for Health



On May 19, 2016, through administrative decision 498/2016, the Argentine Ministry of Health established the [Office of Research for Health](#), in charge of Carolina O' Donnell, which will answer to the Undersecretary for Policy, Regulation and Control. The Office aims to implement health research policies supported by the Ministry of Health and promote knowledge management. For more information about this and other news from the “Boletín Salud Investiga” click [here](#).

### Brazil

#### EVIPNet Brazil shows growing demand for evidence based policy making training nearly 600 people



The [Evidence Informed Policy Networks](#) (EVIPNet) Brazil continues growing this year as reflected in increasing demands for training in the [SUPPORT Tools for Evidence Informed Policy Making](#), and other strategies. From 2012 to 2016, EVIPNet Brazil has trained nearly 600 people, including capacity building workshops and distance learning courses. The first Public Call for EVIPNet Brazil projects has intensified the production of evidence briefs for policy and policy dialogues – five have been completed this year, about subjects such as the effects of pollution in health, child development, tuberculosis and others. More information can be found [here](#).

## Canada

### Two of the world's best online sources of pre-appraised, synthesized research are housed at McMaster University



**McMaster**  
**HEALTH FORUM**

**Health Evidence™** is an online repository of 4,600+ quality rated public health relevant systematic reviews of effects (including 700+ Cochrane Reviews) directed to support health practitioners and researchers engaged in decision-making about public health programs and services. The website includes one page summaries with assessments and helpful background information in two of the four PAHO/WHO languages (English and French) and recently implemented website updates that have significantly improved the user experience - [check it out!](#)

**Health Systems Evidence (HSE)** is an online repository of 13,000+ health system relevant documents addressing the full range of questions about health systems and aims to support health-system policymakers, stakeholders and researchers in strengthening or reforming health systems and in getting the right programs, services and drugs to those who need them. The website is newly revamped with interesting added features - [check it out!](#)

## Ecuador

### Ecuador updates its National Policy on Research for Health.



On 5-6 July a technical meeting was held with key stakeholders in Quito with the aim of updating the National Research Policy for Health that was originally drawn up in 2005. The meeting was led by Dr. Christian Gavilanes, [Director of Health Intelligence from the Ministry of Health](#), and had the participation of Dr. Ana Ruano from the higher education, science, technology and innovation secretariat ([SENESCYT](#)); and the support of PAHO's Senior Advisor for Research Promotion and Development, Dr. Luis Gabriel

Cuervo. The National Agency of Regulation, Control, and health monitoring ([ARCSA](#)) and the [National Directorate of Policies and Modelling of the National Health System](#) also participated in the deliberations. This meeting was the first step to adapt the Policy to the new national and international context, and to bring together key stakeholders and encourage the production of research relevant for the priorities of Ecuador. More information available [here](#).

## Panama

### Panama publishes its national policy to strengthen research for health and innovation.



Panama has published its National Health Policy that includes specific points to strengthen the national capacity on research. Their policy includes elements like supporting researchers, guiding research to address national priorities, creating partnerships between private and public institutions to have appropriate infrastructure for conducting studies among others. This policy will support research for health in the country and it is an important step in incorporating research in the health sector. If

you want to learn more about Panama's policy [click here](#).

## In the Secretariat

### Evidence Aid resources now available in Spanish



[www.evidenceaid.org](http://www.evidenceaid.org)

Adding to the accessibility of the use of research in the context of humanitarian settings, Evidence Aid has expanded its catalogue of information in Spanish with multiple reports such as [Cash-based approaches in humanitarian emergencies](#) and [Unconditional cash transfers for assistance in humanitarian disasters: effect on use of health services and health outcomes in low- and middle-income countries](#). Full articles for respective studies are available [here](#) and [here](#).

## Research Interest Group

### Promoting Outcomes Research in the US and beyond: Dr. Marguerite Kearney and Dr. Rebecca Henry



The Research Interest Group (RIG) took place on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at PAHO Headquarters. The speakers, representing the [National Institute of Nursing Research \(NINR\) – National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#), discussed how researchers from different disciplines and countries interested in patient centered outcomes can apply to different grants from the NIH through this

particular institute. [Dr. Marguerite Kearney](#), Director of the Division of Extramural Science Programs of the NINR, gave an overview on the different [funding opportunities](#) provided by the NINR. Funding covers different disciplines, includes implementation and outcomes centered research, and can benefit non-US researchers. As for the NINR's international actions, [Dr. Rebecca Henry](#), Project Manager, reviewed some of the projects funded by the NINR outside the US, and other projects in the US aimed at immigrant communities. She underscored that the NINR is interested in international projects and that the possibility of having projects in Latin America is open. Lastly, the speakers encouraged the audience [to contact NINR's Project Managers](#) during the preparation of an application, and a recommendation was made to consider [regional research agendas](#) and regional policies in assessing the relevance of grant applications.

## The Advisory Committee on Health Research (ACHR) has a new President



[Dr. Nelly Salgado de Snyder](#) has been appointed President of the Advisory Committee on Health Research (ACHR) of the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO). Dr. Salgado de Snyder has an outstanding career in research for health and the strengthening of health systems using scientific research. In her role as President of the ACHR, Dr. Salgado de Snyder will build on the achievements of Dr. Jaime Miranda's tenure. Dr. Miranda served as President of the ACHR between 2014 and 2016 and during his mandate the ACHR accomplished important goals like the development of tools and recommendations that will allow PAHO/WHO to monitor the

implementation of PAHO's Policy on Research for Health in Member States and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, strengthen research governance and reporting at the PASB, and put PAHO at the forefront of research and policy through a series of articles in a leading open access scientific journal. These ACHR's developments contributed to position PAHO in the interphase between research and policy, projecting strategic leadership and gaining momentum. The Office of Knowledge Management, Bioethics and Research (KBR) welcomes Dr. Salgado de Snyder and thanks Dr. Miranda for his valuable contribution to the ACHR and PAHO/WHO.

## Wellness Week – “All for Health, Step Up!”



Following Caribbean Health Day on 10th September, this year's [Wellness Week](#) celebrations kicked off on Monday, 12 September. This year's slogan – [“All for Health, Step Up!”](#) – was inspired by the 9th Global Conference on Health Promotion “Health for All and all for Health” headline and World Health Day 2016's tagline “Step Up, Beat Diabetes”.

The relevance of this event to the research field is the increasing emphasis on research evidence to guide decisions relevant to the topic, such as strategies to increase access to parks. Alongside events across the USA, Caribbean, Latin America and Canada, WDC held a week of festivities including healthy living promotions, webinars on stress and financial wellbeing, discussion on advancing inclusive disability policies. At the close of the week came the main events, with the Dr. Carissa Etienne leading the PAHO Walk for Health that had a great turn out from WDC staff on Friday, 16 September and PAHO hosting a stand at Fiesta DC to raise awareness about key health issues, such as the prevention of non-communicable and communicable diseases, in DC's Hispanic community and the wider general public. Overall the week was informative, engaging and most importantly, healthy!

## WHO-Collaborating Centre to Advance the Policy on Research for Health



On October 3-5, 2016, the WHO/PAHO collaborating center will work on a plan for the implementation of the Policy on Research for Health. During the visit, [Dr Carol Baldwin](#) and [Dr David Coon](#) will meet [Dr. Luis Gabriel Cuervo](#) to discuss making the University of Arizona an international model, working across disciplines to promote evidence-informed policies, and support health systems, health outcomes and health equity. [More info is available here.](#)

## Online course in Research for Health (Johns Hopkins University/Coursera) – Introduction to Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis



Course materials, assignments and access to peer review and forums are available for free in this web hosted course by Johns Hopkins, a leading public health institution. It covers key aspects of conducting quality systematic reviews. The host page can be found [here](#) and contains details on the available modules. If official certification of completion the course is needed, is available for a small fee and may be covered by Coursera's Financial Aid program. More details at this [link](#). If interested and seeking to learn more from one of the instructors, please contact Jimmy Le at [jle6@jhu.edu](mailto:jle6@jhu.edu), a [former research intern at PAHO/WHO](#).

## Meet the Newest Team Members

### María Senés



[María Senés](#) is an intern at PAHO/WHO between August 2016 and February 2017 in a collaboration between the Department of Health Systems and Services and the office of Knowledge Management, Bioethics, and Research. After receiving a B.A. in Social Communication from the University of Buenos Aires (UBA), María completed her Master's degree in Public Health with an emphasis on Health Promotion and Policy at the University of

Missouri (MU). At MU, María worked as a research assistant at Cambio Center, and volunteered at the Health Communication Research Center, where she participated in several health communication projects. In Argentina, María worked six years at the Argentine Dentistry Association (AOA). More recently, she joined a non-profit organization, "Salud Darnos", as a health communication consultant. María is passionate about health communication, and her interests involve the study, use and design of communication strategies to inform and empower people to make healthier decisions.

At PAHO, María will work on two main projects, Virtual Campus for Public Health and Training & Fellowships PAHO-OAS, supporting activities, managing social media channels and contributing with the improvement of their communication strategies.

### Lorcan Clarke



Having recently completed his Bachelor's Degree at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland (TCD), [Lorcan Clarke](#) will be interning in Research Promotion and Development the end of December 2016. There he majored in Economics with a focus on developmental and applied macroeconomics, with a portion of his studies also taking him to Tilburg University, Netherlands. During his time as an undergraduate, he developed an interest in social entrepreneurship projects with the Enactus network, which he hopes to advance while assisting in the expansion of the Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI).

At PAHO, Lorcan is focusing on a number of projects including developing an impact assessment for research promotion initiatives in the Caribbean and formulating a proposal for technology assessment and cost effectiveness evaluations for emergency situations, in coordination with PAHO's Department on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief (PED). He is also supporting the EVIDENCEAid training workshops listed in this newsletter.

## Cristina Schreckinger



[Cristina Schreckinger](#) is interning at PAHO in the Office of Knowledge Management, Bioethics, and Research from September 2016 to February 2017. She is a Doctor in Medicine from Universidad Internacional del Ecuador. During medical school, she was part of the International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA) and represented IFMSA-Ecuador as national president and vice-president. During her medical training she

developed several projects focused on reproductive health, access to medicine in rural areas and medical education. After graduating, Cristina has prepared to pursue a medical residency in neurology in the United States, and is pursuing a Master in Public Health at the University of New England.

At PAHO she works on the evaluation of PAHO's Policy on Research for Health, supporting the ACHR (Advisory Committee on Health Research) and other initiatives to improve the quality and relevance of research in the Americas.

## Aura Marcela Ariza



[Aura Marcela Ariza](#) is an International Professional Consultant at PAHO/WHO from September to December of 2016. Marcela holds a Master's in Economics, with a focus on Innovation and Social Change from the Friedrich-Schiller-University of Jena, Germany. She studied International Affairs at the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University in Bogota, Colombia. Aura Marcela has 10 years of professional experience in the fields of social development, infrastructure, project management at country and regional level having worked at The World Bank, The Pan-American Health Organization and the Organization of American States. She also worked for the private sector in Colombia.

## PARTNERSHIPS

### SCHOLARSHIPS IN BRAZIL | The Advisory Committee will select the awarding scholarships on November 14-18, 2016.



The Evaluation Advisory Committee of the Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC) of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Coimbra Group of Brazilian Universities (GCUB) will meet to select the awarding scholarships on November 14-18, 2016. The meeting is done with support from the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Division of Educational Topics, and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO / WHO). The OAS-GCUB PAEC 2016 offered more than **400 scholarship opportunities** to outstanding professionals from

OAS Member States to pursue masters or doctoral programs in Brazilian universities. The results will be announced in the corporate websites as from December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. For more information, click [here](#).

### "Effective Project Planning and Evaluation in Biomedical Research (EPPE)" course for TDR Fellows at the University of Antioquia, Medellin, Colombia



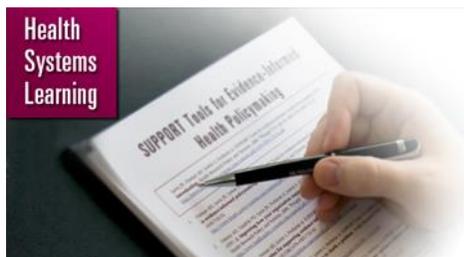
An "[Effective Project Planning and Evaluation in Biomedical Research \(EPPE\)](#)" course organized by the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) and sponsored by WHO, UNDP, UNICEF, was held at the Universidad de Antioquia (Medellin, Colombia) from 6 to 9 September 2016. Twenty-

two graduate students from the Master in Epidemiology with emphasis on Research Implementation participated. These students from Universidad de Antioquia come from Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic and they joined 5 teachers from the University in the training delivered as part of the agreement between TDR and the National School of Public Health, with support from the [TDR Regional Training Centers](#). Participants worked hands-on advancing research projects about Implementation Research and covering topics such as tuberculosis, arboviral infections, malaria, geohelminthiasis and trachoma. Following the EPPE course's methodology, participants presented a project plan using their new skills on organizational planning, management implementation, and evaluation. Training and coordination of the course was conducted by professionals from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras, International Training Center and Medical Research (CIDEIM from its name in Spanish) and the University of Antioquia. For further information please click [here](#).

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES:

### McMaster Health Forum



Between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2016, the McMaster Health Forum will host a five day workshop on “Finding and Using Research Evidence”, which aims to put attendees at the leading edge of policy development and health-system strengthening. Previous workshops in this and previous years have received praise for being highly useful and insightful for attendees, please find course testimonials [here](#). For more information and

to contact the organizers please visit the [Health Systems Learning website](#). To register for the workshop please use this [link](#).

### Fourth Global Symposium on Health Systems Research



The Fourth Global Symposium on Health Systems Research will be held on November 14-18, 2016, in Vancouver, Canada. The conference’s theme this year is Resilient and responsive health systems for a changing world, and will confront questions of how health systems can absorb shocks, respond to emerging needs and take advantage of new opportunities in the face of emerging challenges. This conference takes place every two years, and brings

together the full range of players involved in the health systems and policy research from around the world. For more information about the symposium please click [here](#).

### Evidence Aid Training Days



Building on the success and popularity of previous courses on systematic reviews across settings, [Professor Mike Clarke](#) will join other experts in running one-day Evidence Aid courses on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2016, in [Washington, D.C., USA](#) (at PAHO HQ) and [Oxford, UK](#) respectively. These courses will guide respondents on how to better tap into evidence sources such as systematic reviews directly when preparing for, or responding to

disasters and humanitarian aid provision. Aiming to provide a practical small group experience that will encompass learning on question formulation, eligibility criteria, searching for eligible material, data extraction, data analysis and reporting. For attendance inquiries and further information please contact Claire Allen ([callen@evidenceaid.org](mailto:callen@evidenceaid.org)). The event at PAH-HQ will link to a meeting in Colombia of experts in emergency preparedness and response, to strengthen the use of research evidence in these fields.

## PUBLICATIONS

### The Lancet Series: How city design and transport planning can improve health



[A new series published in The Lancet](#) quantifies the health gains that could be achieved if cities incentivized a shift from private car use to cycling and walking, and promoted a compact city model where distances to shops and facilities, including public transport, are shorter and within walking distance. Case studies across the world, including work carried out by the University of Sao Paulo which helped contribute to [“Can air pollution negate the health benefits of cycling and walking?”](#) The series, which was launched at the United Nations General Assembly in September, established tipping and break-even points of concern for time and exposure level concerns and concluded that in all but the most extreme circumstances, the benefits of active travel outweighed the harms caused by air pollution. This work was also featured in a [Financial Times Article](#) on the trade-offs present when cycling in an urban environment, which includes at its close a novel online tool to assess how long it would take for adjustable levels of pollution to exceed healthy amounts of cycling time - from literally a day, to a few hours, to mere minutes.

### Indicators to achieve Universal Health in Latin America and the Caribbean



The Pan American Journal of Public Health has published a study to identify health indicators to evaluate the progress the continent has made towards achieving universal health. This study provides information on the availability of 141 indicators that can be used to evaluate the progress made in the region to achieve universal health. The main barrier encountered during this study was the heterogeneity of reported indicators between countries. Researchers urge countries to standardize the reporting of information to have a reliable measurement of the progress of the region regarding reaching universal health. If you want to learn more [click here](#)

### Rapid response programs to support evidence-informed decision-making in the Americas



Implementation Science has published a research paper on designing a rapid response program to support evidence-informed decision-making in the Americas. Rapid response programs have the objective of facilitating the use of research evidence in policy by providing rapid reviews of the results of high quality research evidence targeted to the needs of policy makers. This paper evaluates the design of rapid reviews to identify program

processes, barriers and facilitators while designing them. The ideal method for evidence synthesis continues to be systematic review methods. However, rapid reviews using shortcuts that minimize the impact on quality can provide research evidence in a shorter time. To learn more [click here](#).

## Reducing dengue and Chagas disease transmission in Mexico



New community and environmentally-based approaches tested in the state of Yucatan in Mexico are helping to reduce vector-borne disease transmission. Working with two communities, researchers identified sources of Chagas infection. The study included an educational campaign and allowed the whole community to participate and prevent the spread of Chagas disease. Similarly, other researchers have worked to better control the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito near homes through innovative environmental approaches. If you want to learn more [click here](#)

# CALLS FOR APPLICATIONS

## Funding Opportunities



The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) currently has a number of funding opportunities open which may be of interest to readers:

1) Postgraduate training support is available in 7 universities towards PhD and Masters programs focused on implementation research in malaria, TB and neglected tropical diseases to improve health in the regions. Applications must go directly to the universities, which are located across Bangladesh, Colombia, Ghana, Indonesia, Lebanon, South Africa and Zambia - [information and links to institutions are available here](#).

2) An invitation is currently open to submit proposals to undertake transdisciplinary research on health and environment leading to the development of community-participatory strategies for the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases (VBD). The proposed research project should utilize an ecosystem-based approach and explore how innovative VBD control tools and strategies can be used more effectively among vulnerable populations. More information regarding the project and application process is available [here](#). Deadline for applications is 15 October 2016, 17:00 CET.

For more information on current opportunities supported by TDR, please direct attention to the following [webpage](#). More general information on the global program of scientific collaboration that helps facilitate, support and influence efforts to combat diseases of poverty can be found [here](#).

## National Institute of Health Funding Opportunity Announcements



The National Institute of Health is currently inviting qualified researchers to submit grant applications aimed at improving and developing methodology in the behavioral

and social sciences through innovations in research design, measurement, data collection and data analysis techniques. This opportunity in *Methodology and Measurement in the Behavioral and Social Sciences (R21)* has a general deadline for applications of 16 October, 2016; however all types of AIDS and AIDS-related application allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due 7 January, 2017. . Research projects can last up to two years and the maximum budget is US\$275,000 in total. Applications from non-United States institutions are welcomed. The criteria for review consider overall impact, significance of the problem, innovation, methodological approach, probability of success given the research environment, and investigator experience. More info can be found on the grant profile [here](#).

Applications for a National Institute of Health funding opportunity in *Advancing Basic Behavioral and Social Research on Resilience: An Integrative Science Approach (UG3/UH3)* will open on 1 November, 2016 (with letters of intent due on that date). The goal of this research is to develop comprehensive models of individual and/or social resilience in humans, and to shed light on the mechanisms and processes that account for adaptive or “resilient” response profiles, by leveraging the expertise of investigators from multiple disciplines working in a cooperative and integrated fashion. Research projects can last up to two years and the maximum budget per year is US\$250,000. Applications from non-United States institutions are welcomed. More information on this announcement is available [here](#). Deadline for applications is 1 December, 2016; earliest start date is July 2017.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### Best wishes to Janaina Sallas



We extend an appreciation and thanks to our colleague [Janaina Sallas](#) for her continued contributions to the Knowledge Management, Bioethics, and Research (KBR) Office of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) in Brazil. Over the 4 years she spent as a focal point, Brazil has developed remarkable advancements in the implementation of the EVIPNet platform to integrate scientific evidence with policies for health, care and prevention, as highlighted in this issue. We appreciate her support and contributions to many of the achievements and progress with the EVIPNet Brazil.

## IN MEMORIAN



Dr. Pamela Hartigan (1948-2016) was an expert in entrepreneurship, with substantial work in social entrepreneurship and health. She was a PhD in Human Developmental Psychology (Catholic University of Washington DC), a MA in Education (American University), a MA in International Economics (Université Libre de Bruxelles) and a BA of Science and International Economics (Georgetown University). Throughout her career she occupied several positions of leadership, becoming an authority in her field. She taught regularly at the University of Oxford (UK) and at Columbia University (US). Dr. Hartigan also worked for international organizations, including the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), focusing on Health Promotion, Applied Field Research, Gender, Development and HIV/AIDS. She also played a role in the Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI), a project which promotes and develops innovative projects for health across the world that is partnered with the University of Cape Town, University of Oxford, PAHO/WHO and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Dr. Hartigan will be missed, but her contributions will remain an inspiration for individuals around the globe working in entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship and health issues.

## ERRATUM

In our last newsletter we made a mistake regarding McMaster's University online sources of preappraised research: Health Evidence and Health Systems Evidence. You can learn more about both online systems in page 4 in this issue.

*For the compilation of material for this newsletter PAHO technical areas, PAHO country offices, the ACHR as well as strategic partners for the advancement of the Policy on Research for Health were invited to send contributions.*

*It was compiled by the Office of Research Promotion and Development; Johanna Fedorovsky, Ana Castro, Maria Senés, Lorcan Clarke, Cristina Schreckinger and Dr. Luis Gabriel Cuervo*

*Find this and previous newsletters in our [Research Portal](#)*