Agenda

5:00-5:45 PM
Meet and Greet

5:45-5:50
Welcome
Brad Pollock, PhD, MPH
Professor and Chairman, Department of Public Health Sciences, UC Davis

5:50-6:00
“State of CDPH”
Karen Smith, MD, MPH
Director & State Health Officer, California Department of Public Health

5:50-6:00
“Public Health at UC Davis”
Julie A. Freischlag, MD
Vice Chancellor for Human Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine at UC Davis

6:05-6:15
Introduction of Dr. Cooper
Brad Pollock, PhD, MPH

6:15-6:20
Key Note Address
“Improving the Health of Farmworkers: A Microcosm of the Healthiest Nation 2030”
Sharon Cooper, PhD
Professor of Epidemiology, The University of Texas School of Public Health-Houston San Antonio Regional Campus

6:20-6:50
Question & Answer

6:50-7:00
MPH & PhD Update
Stephen A. McCurdy, MD, MPH
Professor and Director Master of Public Health Program, Department of Public Health Sciences, UC Davis

7:10-7:15
Closing Remarks
Featured Speakers

Brad Pollock, PhD, MPH
Professor and Chairman, Department of Public Health Sciences, UC Davis

Dr. Brad Pollock is a newly arrived Professor and Chairman of the Department of Public Health Sciences in the School of Medicine at UC Davis. He was the previous founding Chairman of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the School of Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA). While Dr. Pollock’s research concentration is in pediatric and adolescent oncology with emphases in cancer epidemiology and cancer prevention/control research, he has worked in a wide variety of medical and public health domains. He has served on numerous National Institutes of Health grant review and other scientific committees. Dr. Pollock is also an educator with a focus on early career mentoring of clinical translational researchers. He is one of the original faculty for the Clinical Science Course for the Society of Clinical Research Associates (SoCRA). Dr. Pollock received his B.S. in biological sciences (concentration in molecular biology) from the University of California at Irvine and his MPH and PhD in epidemiology (minor in biostatistics) from the UCLA School of Public Health.

Karen Smith, MD, MPH
Director & State Health Officer, California Department of Public Health

On March 23, 2015, Karen Smith, MD, MPH, was sworn in as director of the California Department of Public Health and state health officer. Smith is a physician specializing in infectious disease and public health. Prior to her appointment, Smith served as public health officer and deputy director at the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency since 2004. She has also been on medical staff for infectious disease at Queen of the Valley Medical Center in Napa since 2012 and has been a faculty consultant for the Francis J. Curry International Tuberculosis Center at the University of California, San Francisco since 1997. Smith completed her medical training and infectious diseases fellowship at Stanford University after having obtained a Master of Public Health degree in International Health at Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. Prior to her medical training, Smith worked in communicable disease control for the Peace Corp in Morocco and Thailand, and for a UCSF research project in Nepal.

Julie Freischlag, MD
Vice Chancellor for Human Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine at UC Davis

Julie Freischlag, MD oversees UC Davis Health System’s academic, research and clinical programs, including the School of Medicine, the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing, the 1,000-member physician practice group, and UC Davis Medical Center, a 619-bed acute-care hospital. Freischlag is one of the most prominent leaders among the nation’s academic health centers. For more than 15 years, she has led education and training programs at top medical schools in her role as professor and chair of surgery and vascular surgery departments. Freischlag also has more than 30 years of experience leading patient-care services as chief of surgery or vascular surgery at nationally ranked hospitals. Before joining UC Davis Health System, she served as professor, chair of the surgery department and surgeon-in-chief at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. Freischlag received a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Illinois and a medical degree from Rush University Medical College in Chicago. She completed her surgical residency and vascular fellowship at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.
Sharon Cooper, Ph.D.
Professor of Epidemiology, The University of Texas School of Public Health-Houston San Antonio Regional Campus

Sharon Cooper, PhD, served as Professor and Regional Dean of The University of Texas School of Public Health (UTSPH), San Antonio Regional Campus for the past 7 years and previously was Head of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Texas A&M School of Rural Public Health. She is an occupational epidemiologist whose research focus has been on surveillance of occupational illnesses and injuries, and assessment of occupational exposures and health effects in vulnerable working populations. She obtained her Master's degree in Biostatistics and Epidemiology from Harvard School of Public Health, and her doctorate in Epidemiology from the UTSPH. Dr. Cooper has been continuously funded by NIOSH or NIH to study injuries in migrant farmworkers, and assessed chronic disease risk factors in migrant education students along the Texas-Mexico border. She just completed an NIH-funded study to develop the infrastructure for a national network for farmworker research by linking Electronic Health Records. She recently moved to Ft. Worth where she will continue to teach an online occupational epidemiology course she developed for masters and doctoral students. She also continues to serve on the Internal Advisory Board for The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler Agricultural Health Center, the Preventive Medicine Residency Advisory Committee for the US Air Force, and has been invited to be a member of the NIOSH Board of Scientific Counselors.

Stephen McCurdy, MD, MPH
Professor and Director Master of Public Health Program, Department of Public Health Sciences, UC Davis

Stephen McCurdy, MD, MPH graduated from UC Riverside and received his medical degree from the UC San Diego School of Medicine. During medical school he also attended the UC Berkeley School of Public Health, receiving a Master in Public Health degree in epidemiology. He completed residencies in internal medicine (1984) and occupational and environmental medicine at UC Davis. He began his faculty career at UC Davis in 1987, where he is professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences and Director of the UC Davis Master in Public Health Program since its opening in 2002.