



WELCOME NOTE FROM CENTER:

Welcome to the seventh Newsletter from the Center for Social Science Research on AIDS (CeSSRA), a collaborative training and research center, with collaborators from Case Western Reserve University, Makerere University, the Joint Clinical Research Centre, and Mbarara University of Science and Technology, SABRES/IDI/SPH, among others. The CeSSRA office is always open Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm. It is located in Seminar Room 7 in the Faculty of Social Sciences, Makerere University main campus.

The center's aim is to train social scientists to carry out social science research on HIV/AIDS collaboratively and also conduct a longitudinal study on the social context of HIV/AIDS treatment. Under the fellowship component, the Fellows are reviewing their individual mentoring plans and are concretizing their areas of research interest. They are currently participating in an ongoing research design course. Fellows continuously receive free-critique as they present their research work. This will enable them publish papers in scientific journals and prepare grantable proposals.

PUBLIC LECTURE:

As a part of the ongoing "AIDS 201" public lecture series, CeSSRA has invited **Mr. Matovu Joseph to give a talk on 6th March 2009 in Lecture Room 2 in Faculty of Social Sciences from 1pm to 2pm.** His talk is titled: **"The Changing Face of Uganda's HIV/AIDS Epidemic: A Case of Behaviour Complacency?"**

Mr. Matovu holds a Masters of Health Sciences degree in International Health from the John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in the US. He is an accomplished behavioral scientist with a strong research interest in behavioral change communication (BCC) for HIV/AIDS.

PROFILES

Katushabe Juliet

This month we are featuring a profile of one of our research fellows Katushabe Juliet

Juliet holds BA, Social Sciences, Makerere University; MA, Sociology, Makerere University. She is currently working as a Program Assistant in the Ministry of Health, and trains HIV counselors. She also focuses on PMTCT (Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission), working to train midwives to do counseling and testing.

Katushabe has worked as a team leader for research projects and was a program officer for the legal clinic. She is interested in knowledge and attitudes of the use of PMTCT. There is a high rate of acceptance of prenatal testing but some women refuse to accept parts of the package that is provided. Specifically the package includes bed nets and jerry cans. Women may accept the net because it is small but not jerry can as it is too large to hide and serves as a label that they were tested. She feels there is more research needed on women's experiences with HIV, particularly what women go through with issues of disclosure and breastfeeding.

She seeks to get a PhD in Sociology or Medical Anthropology to work in either academics or on projects.

Nalwoga Amina

Featuring in this month's newsletter as well is Nalwoga Amina, one of the research assistants/interviewers working with CeSSRA at the JCRC field site.



Nalwoga Amina

She is a graduate with a bachelors degree in Adult Education and community development attained from Makerere University

UPCOMING FELLOWS EVENTS

Research Design Course:

The next research design session will take place at UMI at a date to be communicated later.

RECENT EVENTS:

CeSSRA sponsored a public lecture that was presented by Dr. Janet Seeley on 6 February 2009 held at the faculty of social sciences. The lecture was well attended, with over fifty students, lecturers, and researchers present.



Dr. Seeley during the public lecture at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Makerere University

Dr. Janet Seeley is currently seconded to the MRC/UVRI Uganda Research Unit on AIDS from the University of East Anglia where she is a senior lecturer in Gender and Development at the School of Development Studies. She holds a PhD in social anthropology from the University of Cambridge (1985). She has been actively engaged in research on HIV and AIDS since the late 1980s, including four years with MRC in Uganda 1989-1993 as Senior Social Anthropologist, leading the establishment of the social science research in the Unit. Her other research interests include: chronic poverty and social protection, internal migration, the application of livelihood and gender analysis to development. She has undertaken long term research in Kenya, Zambia, Nepal, Bangladesh and India as well as Uganda.

SABRES organized a seminar on 11th February 2009 at MUSPH. The presentation was given by Dr. Godfrey Kigozi, titled "Safety of Medical Male Circumcision. Virological Response, and Wound Healing among HIV+ Men."

A presentation entitled "Non-Enrollment and Non-Adherence to HIV Care among HIV+ Patients in Rakai" was organized by the **Department of Health Policy, Planning and Management and the Office of the Dean, MUSPH** and presented by Dr. Gertrude Nakigozi, MPH MBChB on the 18th February 2009.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

Uganda Society for Health Scientists is organizing a data analysis workshop. The workshop will take place from the 24th to 27th March 2009.

For more information, e-mail: ugsociety@yahoo.com

The **Annual African Regional Course in Research Methods in Reproductive Health & HIV/AIDS** is to be held between 3rd and 28th August 2009.

- The course objective is to strengthen the research capabilities of participants to increase research capacity in the African Region.
- Provide skills in research methodology allowing participants to initiate research, participate in research and to critically appraise research findings.

For more details visit their website on

<http://www.rhru.co.za>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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