

Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health is a new interdisciplinary center at the Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University.

The goal of C2S is to integrate the social, behavioral, biomedical, and life sciences to illuminate pathways contributing to health inequalities in order to improve practice and policy.

To learn more about our research, events, news, and other information, please visit us on the web at:

www.northwestern.edu/ipr/c2s



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The Center on Social Disparities
and Health

AT THE INSTITUTE FOR POLICY RESEARCH
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

**C2S Summer Biomarker
Institute**

**June 9-11, 2008
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL**

Application deadline: April 23, 2008

Cells to Society (C2S) invites applications for a three-day summer institute on the Evanston campus of **Northwestern University, June 9-11, 2008**. Interest in incorporating biomarkers into survey research is currently high, but disciplinary training is such that few investigators possess the necessary dual expertise in the social and biomedical sciences.

The institute is designed to provide a hands-on introduction to state-of-the-art methods for integrating biomarkers into population-based, social science research, covering technical as well as conceptual issues associated with biological measurement in naturalistic settings.

Thomas McDade (Anthropology), Emma Adam (Human Development and Social Policy), and Christopher Kuzawa (Anthropology) direct the workshop. Presentations by additional researchers with extensive biomarker experience will also be featured.

By the end of the institute, participants should have the tools necessary to make informed decisions about the appropriateness of specific biomarkers for their research agenda, to communicate effectively with potential collaborators about biomarker issues, and to engage in innovative research that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries.

Course Content

The institute will walk participants through the entire process of data acquisition, from the collection of samples to the generation of results in the lab.

Material will be covered in seminar and laboratory settings through a combination of presentations, discussion, and hands-on exercises.

Specific topics will include:

- Biology/environment interplay: Theoretical perspectives
- Rationale for biomarkers
- Procedures for sample collection, transport, and storage
- Options for the analysis of saliva and capillary whole blood
- Laboratory analysis of biological samples
- Anthropometry
- Analytic models for incorporating biomarkers
- Current applications
- IRB and ethical considerations
- Strategies for effective collaboration

Applying

Participation is limited to 15, with preference given to individuals who have received their PhD since 2000. Participants from groups historically underrepresented in population health research are especially encouraged to apply.

Following confirmation of participation, a \$400 registration fee will be required by June 1. It will cover all materials, coffee breaks, and lunches during the institute, plus one group dinner. Participants are responsible for covering their travel and lodging expenses.

Applications to the institute should be submitted electronically. To apply, send the following:

- Curriculum vitae (including contact information)
- A brief statement (two pages or less) discussing your research interests and how participation in the summer biomarker institute will advance those interests.

E-mail all materials as attachments to:
Patricia Lasley, Administrator
p-lasley@northwestern.edu

Application deadline: April 23, 2008.
All applicants will be notified by May 5.

Questions?

E-mail us at c2s@northwestern.edu
or visit us on the web at:
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