



# Hope Lives!

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## Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health

Spring 2007

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### *Southeastern Symposium on Breast Cancer Disparities*

October 19th and 20th, 2007 Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health

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### Center Staff:

**Richard Dean, MD**  
*Interim Director*

**Ronny Bell, PhD, MS**  
*Interim Associate Director*

**Alain Bertoni, MD, MPH**  
*Director, Research & Evaluation*

**Melicia Whitt-Glover, PhD**  
*Director, Community Outreach*

**Jorge Calles-Escandón, MD**  
*Director, Faculty and Student Development*

**Kathy Townsend, MS**  
*Director of Development*

**David Mount, PsyD**  
*Faculty*

**Kristen Hairston, MD**  
*Faculty*

**Jaimie Hunter, MPH**  
*Research Associate*

**Sarah Fahey**  
*Associate Project Manager*

**Ti Klingler**  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Alicia Grayson**  
*Receptionist*

In Fall 2007, the Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health will hold its first Regional Breast Cancer Symposium. The conference will take place on October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott-Embassy Suites in downtown Winston-Salem, NC. Dr. John Stewart is organizing the conference, which aims to examine differences in the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer in underserved populations, delineate issues affecting breast cancer survivorship, and examine mechanisms for community outreach and training of new researchers and clinicians in the field of breast cancer research. Conference presenters will address the following themes: patterns of care and racial and ethnic disparities in the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer; minority participation in community-based cancer prevention programs and in clinical trials;

quality of care and breast cancer outcomes; career development; social justice; and breast cancer biology. All researchers, clinicians, residents, and students in the field are encouraged to attend.

On the first day of the conference, Dr. Stewart will provide the opening talk, which will summarize the current status of breast cancer disparities. Next, Gail Hurd (WFU), Dr. Melicia Whitt-Glover (WFU), Marilie Gammon (UNC-Chapel Hill), Lisa Carey (UNC-Chapel Hill) and Wendy Demark-Wahnefried (Duke), will moderate a session on breast cancer incidence and risk factors. A boxed lunch gathering will offer participants an opportunity to network with their colleagues. Three concurrent sessions on overcoming barriers to the role of race/ethnicity, genetic testing, and preventing breast cancer through lifestyle changes will

fill out the afternoon. On Friday evening, Nido Qubein, President, High Point University, will give the keynote address.

The second morning of the conference will feature a discussion on disparities in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, which will be moderated by Anne Geiger (WFU), Marvella Ford (Medical Univ. of South Carolina), Keith Amos (UNC-Chapel Hill), and Cary P. Gross (Yale). As well as a discussion on survivorship, moderated by Kristie Long-Foley (WFU) and Mary Flowers (WFU). Molley Polleto, from the HANYS Breast Cancer Demonstration Project will speak on an exciting breast cancer demonstration project during a plated lunch. The conference will conclude with three concurrent sessions on community outreach programs, treatment decision making, and clinical trials.

## Director's Note

The Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health is continuing its commitment to understanding and addressing the many health disparities that affect racial and ethnic minorities in this country. This edition of *Hope Lives* highlights the activities of the Center that express our intent towards this goal.

We were honored to have Dr. Wayne Kong, President of the Association of Black Cardiologists Inc., present our Spring Lecture on Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Kong reminded those in attendance of the ongoing ethnic disparities in cardiovascular disease that exist in the US, and the efforts of the ABC to address these disparities. Dr. Kong also gave the keynote

speech at the Student National Medical Association Banquet on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

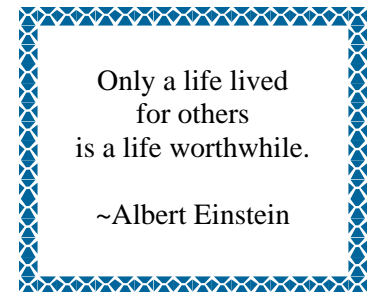
We are very excited about the upcoming Southeastern Regional Breast Cancer Symposium (Dr. John Stewart, Planning Chair and Center Affiliate) that the Center will host this October 19-20. The Symposium will be at the Marriott/Embassy Suites, downtown Winston-Salem.

Dr. Jorge Calles, Associate Professor of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Department of Internal Medicine, has accepted the role of Director of Student and Faculty Development for the Center. We are also very pleased to welcome a number of faculty to our list of Center affiliates.

You can also read about our on-going research and community outreach activities. We will be presenting the Hispanic Health Media Project at the Society for Public Health Education meeting in Seattle, WA, in June. This project is a model for health education programs in Latino communities across the country.

A number of highly qualified candidates have been interviewed for the Center Director's position. Our hope is to have this position filled by August 2007. Thank you for your support of the ARC and joining us in reducing health disparities.

- Richard Dean, MD  
Interim Director



## Upcoming Events

**2007 National Health Education Conference.** June 6-9, 2007. Seattle, WA. Sponsor: Society for Public Health Education.

**22nd Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference on Hypertension and Related Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Ethnic Populations.**

June 21-25, 2007. Orlando, FL. Sponsor: ISHIB and American Society on Hypertension (ASH).

**Community Connections: Using Research Results to Reduce Health Disparities** June 25-28, 2007. Wintergreen, VA. Sponsor: East Tennessee State Univ. and the Appalachian Center for

Translational Research in Disparities (ACTRID).

**National Conference on Health Disparities: Past, Present and Future.**

July 19-21, 2007. Charleston, SC. Sponsor: Medical University of South Carolina

**4th Annual NC AHEC Latino Health Symposium: Focus on the Power of Partnerships.** July 19-20, 2007. Asheville, NC. Sponsor: NC AHEC.

**American Psychological Association Annual Convention.** August 17-20, 2007. San Francisco, CA. Sponsor: APA

**Research for Native Health: Strengthening Partnerships, Promoting Trust, and Increasing Communication.** August 22-23, 2007. Denver, CO. Sponsor: Dept. of Health and Human Services.

**Minority Women's Health Summit: Addressing Disparities, Acknowledging Resilience, Providing Actions for Success.** August 23-26, 2007. Washington DC. Sponsor: The National Women's Health Information Center

**Southeast Regional Breast Cancer Symposium.** October 19-20, 2007. Winston-Salem, NC. Sponsor: Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health.

**SOPHE Annual Meeting** October 31-Nov. 3, 2007. Washington, DC. Sponsor: Society for Public Health Education.

**APHA Annual Conference: Politics, Policy, and Public Health.** November 3-7, 2007. Washington, DC. Sponsor: American Public Health Association.

**2007 National HIV Prevention Conference.** December 2-5, 2007. Atlanta, GA. Sponsor: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## Research Update

**The People's Clinic: A North Carolina Health Education Collaborative**  
 Funded by the Fannie E. Rippel Foundation, the People's Clinic continues to thrive. Our partnership with the *Winston-Salem Chronicle* is entering its third year, and to-date we have published nearly 100 health education columns. Partnerships with other African American newspapers in NC (*Charlotte Post*, *Carolina Peacemaker*, *Carolina Times*, *Carolinian*, *Wilmington Journal* and *Greater Diversity News*) are in their second year of publication. Our partnership with *Greater Diversity News* has produced a web blog (online discussion board) *GreaterDiversity.com*, where our

columns are posted online for the community to enjoy. The project team still welcomes contributions from faculty, staff, and guests as we continue to provide this important community outreach service. Our health education initiative also extends to American Indian communities across NC. Through our partnerships with the NC Indian tribes, we are placing health education articles in church bulletins and have created public service announcements and brochures to augment our health education initiative. Our columns are also run in *Native Visions Magazine*, a monthly publication that is currently distributed throughout Robeson, Hoke, Cumberland, and Scotland counties.

The project team is also attending tribal pow-wows, where we are setting up health booths to provide culturally appropriate health and wellness information. The team feels honored to have made such wonderful partnerships. **Hispanic Health Media Project: *La Clínica del Pueblo*.** Jaimie Hunter, MPH, will be traveling to Seattle to represent the HHMP project team and present an abstract entitled: *La Clínica del Pueblo: A Model Collaboration between a Private Media Broadcasting Corporation and an Academic Medical Center for Health Education among Latinos* at the 2007 SOPHE National Conference, June 7th thru 9th.

**Faculty Research**  
**Dr. Sara Quandt**, Professor, Dept. of Epidemiology, Div. of Public Health Sciences, is Principal Investigator of a recently funded project (March 2007), *Rural Elders' Diabetes Self Management: Development of a Common Sense Model Inventory*. The objectives of the study are to: delineate the lay, or common-sense, models of diabetes held by rural African American, Native American, and white older adults with diabetes; and to develop and validate a quantitative instrument to differentiate older adults with diabetes according to their common sense models of diabetes. This project is funded by National Institute on Aging and is a continuation of four previous years of funding in which the research team investigated diabetes self-management practices in the same population. Collaborators on this research include Drs. Thomas Arcury, Joseph Grzywacz, and Julienne Kirk of Family and Community Medicine, and Drs. Ronny Bell and Edward Ip of the Division of Public Health Sciences. **Dr. Anne Jenkins**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Occupational Therapy, Winston-Salem State Univ., is the Principal Investigator of a study that will begin in June 2007 entitled: *Demystifying Spirituality: A Healing Odyssey*. The specific aims for this project are to: 1) look at the attitudes of allied healthcare students towards spirituality and their perception of the role of spirituality in healthcare service delivery, and 2) to examine the need for spirituality content in the current healthcare curriculum.

## Community Outreach Update

The Angelou Research Center's Community Outreach efforts are now in full-swing! As the Director of Community Outreach for the Center, Dr. Melicia Whitt-Glover has been busy finding exciting opportunities for the Center to interact with minority communities across the state. The goals of the Community Outreach initiative are: (1) to educate minority communities regarding public health topics relevant to them, (2) to build community coalitions, and (3) to increase awareness of the Center in the community. The Center has formed a working group consisting of center faculty affiliates and staff, which has been meeting over the past couple of months and has begun to develop ideas for community outreach. We have

purchased educational materials to use as part of our outreach efforts. Team members have begun to get our message out to the community by participating in health fairs and other community events. To date, team representatives have attended the NC Commission of Indian Affairs Unity Conference in Raleigh; pow-wows for the Haliwa-Saponi and Lumbee Indian tribes in Hollister and Lumberton, NC, respectively; the Winston-Salem State Univ. Health Fair; the Share the Health Fair at Marketplace Mall (Winston-Salem); the Annual Diabetes Expo at the Lawrence Joel Veterans' Memorial Coliseum (Winston-Salem); and the Sigma Gamma Health Fair at Marketplace Mall. We have

also assisted with recruitment efforts for ongoing research studies, including the Healthy Living Partnership to Prevent Diabetes (HELP) study. In the near future, we will expand our efforts to assist investigators with inclusion of minority participants in research studies and programs through a recruitment and retention database. The Center will be continuing its health education efforts in the African American, American Indian, and Latino communities. We are also developing a Community Research Advisory Board and Youth Advisory Committee, to more directly involve the community in identifying ways the Center can improve health in our community. Look for exciting things to come!

## Advisory Board Focus: Who's Who

**National Advisory Board:  
Executive Chair**  
**Maya Angelou, PhD**, Author and Poet, Reynolds Professor of American Studies, Wake Forest University

**Acting Co-Chairs**  
**Robert J. Brown**, Chairman & CEO B&C Associates, Inc.

**Eldridge C. Hanes**, The Encore Group, Inc.

**Wake Forest University Health Sciences Liaison**  
**Richard H. Dean, MD**, President & CEO, Wake Forest Univ. Health Sciences

**Members**  
**Crandall C. Bowles**, Chairman/CEO, Springs Industries, Inc.

**Clarissa Pinkola Estés, PhD**, Jungian Psychoanalyst, Author

**Edward F. Haponik, MD**, Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Wake Forest Univ. School of Medicine

**Carla Harris, MBA**, Managing Director, Global Capital Markets, Morgan Stanley

**Richard Janeway, MD**, Executive Vice President Emeritus, Wake Forest Univ. School of Medicine

**Peter J. Jannetta, MD**, Professor of Neurosurgery, Drexel University College of Medicine

**Charles A. Sanders, MD**, Chairman, Foundation for the National Institutes of Health

**Levi Watkins, Jr., MD**, Professor of Surgery and Associate Dean, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

**Regional Advisory Board:**  
**David Branch, MD**, Ophthalmologist, Winston-Salem, NC

**Rev. Serenus T. Churn, Sr.**, Pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC

**Miriam Hernandez**, Director, Hispanic Interaction

**Beth N. Hopkins, JD**, Attorney, Adjunct Professor, Wake Forest University

**Jean Irvin**, Vice-Chairman, Juvenile Justice Council and Executive Director, Forsyth Futures

**Jose A. Isasi**, CEO, Qué Pasa Radio and Newspaper

**Ramon Velez, MD**, Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Wake Forest Univ. School of Medicine

**Velma Watts, MD**, Professor Emeritus, Wake Forest Univ. School of Medicine

**Martha Wood**, Former Mayor, City of Winston-Salem, NC

## "Meet the Faculty" Event



In February 2007, **A. William Blackstock Jr., MD**, vice chairman of the Dept. of Radiation Oncology (above, far left), hosted a "Meet the Faculty" event for minority faculty from the Angelou Research Center and Wake Forest University Health Sciences at the Delta Fine Arts Center in Winston-Salem. WFU School of Medicine alumni who attended the gathering included **Jamehl Demons Shegog, MD, FHO**, assistant professor of Geriatrics and Gerontology (above, far right), and **Lawrence D. Hopkins, MD, '77**, assistant

professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology (left, 2nd from right).

Also in attendance were (below) **John H. Stewart IV, MD**, assistant professor of General Surgery (front, left) and **Steven M. Block, MB BCh**, associate dean for Faculty Services and Student Development (front, right), **Audrey Stone**, associate VP for Development and Alumni Affairs (background, left), and **Melicia Whitt-Glover, PhD**, assistant professor of Epidemiology and Prevention (background, right).



## Faculty/Staff Update

**Welcome**  
**Jorge Calles-Escandón, MD**, Associate Professor, Dept. of Internal Medicine, Section on Endocrinology, also ARC affiliate faculty, has accepted the additional role of Director of Student and Faculty Development for the Center.

**New Affiliated Faculty**  
The ARC would like to welcome five new affiliated faculty:  
**Liz Arnold, PhD, MSW**, Assistant Prof., Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine.

**Kim Hutchinson, EdD, LVAS, APRN-BC**, Clinical Nurse Specialist, North Carolina Baptist Hospital Behavioral Health Service

**Anne Jenkins, DMin, MDiv, EdM**, Assistant Prof., Department of Occupational Therapy, Winston-Salem State University

**Amy McMichael, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Dermatology

**Rita Pichardo, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Dermatology

**Aimee Wilkin, MD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Internal Medicine, Section on Infectious Diseases

**Congratulations**  
**Gretchen Wells, MD, PhD**, Dept. of Internal Medicine, Section on Cardiology, and ARC Affiliate Faculty, has been promoted to Associate Professor.



**Spotlight on...**

**Melicia Whitt-Glover, PhD**



Dr. Melicia Whitt-Glover joined the Angelou Research Center as affiliate faculty and Director of Community Outreach in December 2006. Dr. Whitt-Glover is also an Assistant Professor with appointments in the Div. of Epidemiology and Prevention (primary) and the Div. of

Social Science and Health Policy (secondary), both in the Dept. of Public Health Sciences. Her primary research interests include community-based behavioral interventions to improve cardiovascular disease outcomes, including obesity, among minority populations and physical activity assessment. Dr. Whitt-Glover holds degrees in Exercise Science (BA, MA) from the UNC-Chapel Hill and Epidemiology (Ph.D.) from the University of South Carolina. Her previous research experience includes the development and validation of physical activity

assessment tools, and behavior change programs related to weight loss, weight gain prevention, and physical activity among African Americans. She recently completed a church-based program to increase physical activity among sedentary African Americans. Dr. Whitt-Glover is a co-investigator for several other studies focusing on weight management among African Americans, as well as a community-based study to prevent development of type 2 diabetes. Dr. Whitt-Glover is also actively involved in several local and national initiatives to promote physical

activity among African Americans, and currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Strategies to Promote Physical Activity in African Americans. As Director of Community Outreach, Dr. Whitt-Glover's role is to collaborate with the local community to identify the most pressing health-related issues and to develop strategies for addressing the issues. Dr. Whitt-Glover lives in Kernersville with her husband, son, and two dogs. Her hobbies include reading, exercise, and volunteering in the community.

**From the Student National Medical Association**

The WFU SNMA has a long tradition of community partnership in the Winston-Salem area. This year we have continued past initiatives and worked on implementing new programs. We have participated in numerous glaucoma screenings, recently screening over 100 people at the annual Share the Health Fair. Under the guidance of the Twin Cities Medical Society, we have initiated a medical archives project, chronicling the history of minority physicians in the greater Winston-Salem community. As a part of Northwest AHEC's SciWorks program, our members helped

give the youth in our community a greater understanding of the science and medical field. We have continued to foster our relationship with the Sickle Cell Disease Assoc. of the Piedmont, participating in the summer Adolescent Support Group, Memorial Service and annual Christmas Celebration for children living with the disease. Our "Medical Student for a Day" program allowed pre-medical college students to experience the life of a medical student. Additionally, we have initiated a Smoking Prevention program at a local youth center and hope to continue this program throughout the year.

Our annual Medical Excellence banquet was well attended and featured in the Winston-Salem Chronicle. Dr. B. Wayne Kong, President of the Assoc. of Black Cardiologists, gave the keynote lecture about the lack of minority physicians and healthcare disparities. The chapter honored alumnus Dr. Ira Smith and 6 graduating students. Additionally, SNMA awarded its first Scholarship of Excellence, honoring the community work of college students living with sickle cell disease. Our chapter is most appreciative of the support we have received from the school and the community.



**2006-07 WFUSM Officers**

- Co-Presidents:** Shatima Seward, Jasmine Smith
- Vice President:** Bryant Webb
- Secretary:** Ogonna Iwuora
- Treasurer:** Vivian Chidi
- Committee Chairpersons:**
- MAPS/Post Baccalaureate:* Jewell Carr
- Community Service:* Lalita Holt
- Fundraising:* Curtiss Moore
- Banquet:* Diandra Ayala, Jewell Carr
- Social:* Edi Ntuen

www.wfusm-snma.org

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