

UIC University of Illinois
at Chicago

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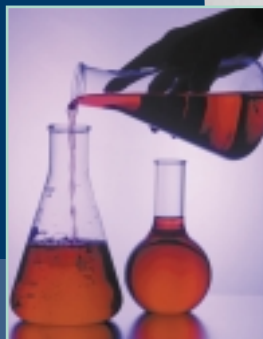
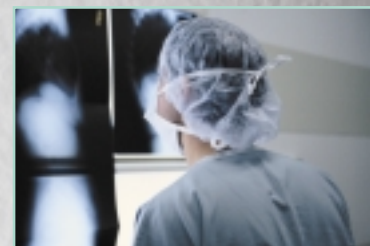
Great Lakes Centers
for Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health
312-996-7887



*How a Gift to the Great Lakes Centers
for Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health
Can Promote a Healthy Human Environment
for Generations to Come*

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
people serving people

UIC University of Illinois
at Chicago



TO SERVE THE PUBLIC . . .

The University of Illinois at Chicago

Founded in 1946, the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) has evolved into a world-class university renowned for its teaching, research, and public service. It is the largest university in the Chicago metropolitan area, with 25,000 students, and one of the most comprehensive higher-education institutions in the nation. UIC is one of only 88 higher-education institutions in the United States from among 3,200 to have received the prestigious Research I designation from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Historically, the University has been noted for its strong programs in public health, medicine, urban and public affairs, economic development, public safety and justice, culture and the arts, and international projects. Through its Great Cities Program, initiated in 1994, the University has undertaken an institutional commitment to create, apply, and share new knowledge that addresses the needs of Chicago and urban centers internationally.

The School of Public Health

Established in 1970, the UIC School of Public Health is the only fully accredited school of public health in Illinois, with divisions dedicated to community health sciences, environmental and occupational health sciences, epidemiology and biostatistics, and health policy and administration. The School is situated in one of the world's largest concentrations of advanced public and private health care facilities. Beyond, the city of Chicago provides a dynamic and diverse urban environment in which over 100 faculty, 337 staff members, and 550 students pursue the School's threefold mission of research, service, and education for improved health and quality of life through initiatives that reach from neighboring communities to other countries. The School of Public Health is particularly recognized for its leading-edge initiatives in occupational and environmental safety and health, prevention research, community health, health systems management, and public health practice and leadership.

The Great Lakes Centers for Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health

A Healthy Human Environment

Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine, instructed his pupils: "If you want to learn about the health of a population, look at the air they breath, the water they drink, and the place where they live." During the Age of Enlightenment, Ramazzini, a professor at the University of Padua, added: "Ask your patient, what kind of work do you do?" Today, more than ever, we recognize the importance of a healthy human environment, at home, at work, and at play, as a major determinant of health and quality of life.

Chicago and Illinois have led the nation in pioneering innovative approaches to promoting a healthy human environment. In 1910, Dr. Alice Hamilton conducted the first survey of occupational hazards in the United States while living at Chicago's Hull House. Chicago established the first industrial clinics and hospital-based occupational health programs in the country. In 1995, the University of Illinois at Chicago was designated as the first World Health Organization Collaborating Centre in both occupational and environmental health in the world.



through public health

A Quarter Century of Leadership

In 1977, Dr. Bertram Carnow, a pioneer in occupational and environmental medicine, established one of the first regional Educational Resource Centers in occupational safety and health in the nation at the University of Illinois at Chicago. This new center, funded by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, included training programs in industrial hygiene, occupational health nursing, occupational safety, and occupational medicine. The center was named the Great Lakes Center (GLC) to reflect its regional mandate. From its inception, the Center was multidisciplinary and multi-institutional. The occupational medicine program was based at Cook County Hospital, and the hospital has remained one of the cornerstone institutions of the Great Lakes Center.

Also from the beginning, the Center worked to establish its constituency among the region's numerous industrial, labor union, and academic organizations. Public-private partnerships were a core activity of the Great Lakes Center. These partnerships involved joint sponsorship of continuing education courses, industrial rotations for its residents and nurses, and community and industry health hazard evaluations. Faculty members offered consultations, guest lectures, and assistance in course and curricula design at local colleges.

In 1987, Dr. Donovan Yeates, Research Professor of Medicine, was appointed as Director of the Center. Dr. Yeates provided the Center with a new vision of being a center of excellence not only in occupational safety and health training but in research as well. In 1990, the Center expanded its scope beyond industrial health by adding a new program in agricultural safety and health.

In 1990, the administration of the Center moved from the College of Medicine to the School of Public Health. Dr. Daniel Hryhorczuk, a Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences and Epidemiology, was named as the new Director. The Center achieved many milestones in the 1990s. It expanded its mission to include environmental health and developed a correspondingly broader vision regarding new initiatives. The Center continued to serve the region and its population, while simultaneously focusing on disadvantaged and high-risk populations as a special part of its mission.

In 1995, the Center became one of three United States-based World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centres in occupational health and the first WHO Collaborating Centre in the world to serve both occupational and environmental health. Along with research and training support from the National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Center, the designation made it possible for the Center's training and research programs to span the globe. That same year, the Center established a new Occupational Health Service Institute to fulfill the service component of its academic mission of teaching, research, and service.

In 2000, to reflect its multidimensional nature, the Center modified its name from the Great Lakes Center to the Great Lakes Centers, now comprising five related centers: the NIOSH Education and Research Center, the Center for Children's Environmental Health at Cook County Hospital, the Illinois Center of Excellence in Environmental Health, the Occupational Health Service Institute, and the Center for Global Environmental and Occupational Health. The Great Lakes are a fitting image for the Centers: as the same water unites the individual lakes into a greater whole, a shared vision, shared faculty, and commitment to occupational and environmental health unite the separate Centers into the Great Lakes Centers. Together, the Centers are designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre.

Today, the mission of the Great Lakes Centers extends across multiple disciplines, and their activities reach around the world. The Centers have been in the forefront in addressing local issues such as childhood lead poisoning, mercury exposure from gas regulators, and indoor exposure to illegal pesticides. The Centers have also played a leadership role in responding to global issues such as mercury poisoning in the Amazon basin and health effects from the Chornobyl reactor accident. The Centers' clinical programs were commended by the U.S. Congress, and its Chornobyl research program was recognized by the White House. The Centers bring the expertise of the world to Illinois and the expertise of Illinois to the world.

for Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health



A VISION . . .

Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century

The 20th century saw the birth and development of the fields of occupational and environmental health in the United States. The 21st century presents us with new sets of occupational and environmental challenges. The U.S. workplace is rapidly changing. Jobs are shifting from manufacturing to services. New chemicals, materials, and processes are being developed at an ever-accelerating pace. Our workforce is becoming older and more racially diverse. The globalization of the economy is shifting manufacturing jobs from developed to developing countries. Lack of labor and environmental laws in some developing countries raises the risk of exploitation of the workforce and environment. Environmental pollutants do not recognize political boundaries. Global pollutants, such as mercury released from gold mining operations in the Amazon region, eventually find their way through atmospheric deposition into our Great Lakes basin. Our Great Lakes Centers must think globally and act globally to protect our workforce and environment in Illinois.

Building on Our Mission and Our Strengths

To meet these challenges, GLC will continue to pursue its mission of promoting a healthy human environment in our workplaces and communities through the academic triad of teaching, research, and service. GLC will continue to build on its strengths, which include its multidisciplinary approach and its partnerships. GLC will continue its programs in occupational and environmental medicine, occupational health nursing, industrial hygiene, agricultural safety and health, and children's environmental health, and will invite participation of institutions and scholars from other, related disciplines. GLC will continue and expand its partnerships with business, labor, governmental institutions, and non-governmental organizations.

Creating Communities of Excellence

In 2002, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designated GLC and its partners as one of four Communities of Excellence in Environmental Health in the United States. CDC asked schools of public health around the nation to present innovative models through which academic expertise in environmental health could be integrated into the public health practice of environmental health. Together with its partners in the city, county, and state health departments, the University of Illinois at Chicago successfully competed to create an Illinois community of excellence in environmental health. This new model extends the traditional role of schools of public health from providing service to requesting agencies to becoming a partner in assessing and preventing environmental health problems in our state. Public health and private sector practitioners serve as members of our faculty, while our faculty spend a portion of their time working on real-life environmental problems. We are convinced that public-public and public-private partnerships are the most effective way to create the necessary synergy to tackle the environmental health problems of the 21st century.



for the future

Evolving a New School of Thought to Transcend Borders and Disciplines

Over the course of history, leading-edge academic institutions have attracted not only talented students, but also scholars who congregated to share new ways of thinking and new ways of looking at the world. These rich academic environments created new schools of thought through scholarly collaboration. GLC's multidisciplinary and global approach to training and research fosters exchange of ideas across borders and disciplines. Over the past decade, in addition to our many graduate and post-graduate students, we have hosted and trained over 25 international visiting scholars. We have focused on building both UIC expertise and the in-country capacity of our international partner institutions. Our graduates and colleagues have become leading figures in academia, government, and the private sector. They have helped shape the field of occupational and environmental health both here and abroad. Our international centers of excellence, such as the Louise Hamilton Center for Children's Environmental Health at the Institute of Pediatrics, Obstetrics, and Gynecology and the Chernobyl Data Management Center at the Institute of Endocrinology in Kyiv, Ukraine, are helping to build communities of excellence in our partner countries. Our multidisciplinary and global approach, our integration of occupational and environmental health, our incorporation of service into training and research, and our focus on creating communities of excellence through partnerships are the defining principles of the GLC school of thought in occupational and environmental health.



Giving Illinois a Voice in Global Policy

Chicago is famous for an academic tradition that promotes free trade and globalization. Yet the success of these economic practices has been accompanied by unintended social and environmental consequences. Protection of the natural and social environment and upward harmonization of worker protection laws are requisites for equitable and sustainable economic development. The solutions to these problems are complex, and they require input from public and private stakeholders, including academia. GLC faculty view the development and promotion of a sound global policy on occupational and environmental health as a vital necessity. We have consulted on these issues to the World Bank, to multinational corporations and international labor unions, and to ministers of public health and environment. We have served as members of the National Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health and have participated as academic advisers to signers of international environmental treaties. Most importantly, through our role as a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre in Occupational and Environmental Health, we are a participant in the development and implementation of global occupational and environmental health policy. GLC gives Illinois a voice in these global policy decisions. We see this as a major continuing activity of GLC in the future.



AN INVITATION . . .

The Crucial Need for Private Support

The primary mission of the University of Illinois is education and research. State dollars allocated for occupational and environmental health are used to support teaching of graduate courses and research. Moreover, the overall percentage of the University of Illinois' budget provided by state assistance has been cut back continually since the late 1980s. Formerly "state supported," the University is now "state assisted." That assistance totals under 35 percent of the operating budget—down from 72 percent in 1954 and 42 percent only a few years ago. State dollars do not support service, outreach, or the building of community and global partnerships. To create and maintain programs that extend beyond the classroom or laboratory requires other resources.

For the past 25 years, the Great Lakes Centers have been funded primarily through competitive federal grants. The types and amounts of these grants vary from year to year. There is no assurance that the agencies which fund our Centers will have funds in the next fiscal year or even that the agencies themselves will continue to exist from one administration to another. GLC does not have a dedicated faculty position for its Director or for any of its faculty. GLC does not have a state operating budget to support administrative personnel or pay for supplies and utilities. GLC does not have any fiscal support to carry out its role as a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre. If we were to stop writing grants today, the Centers would soon disappear.

We are seeking philanthropic support to secure the existence of the Centers into the future. Donations will be put into a permanent endowment. Interest from this endowment will support a dedicated leadership position and will provide the Centers with basic operating expenses to assure the continuity of their work despite the variations in funding available through grant cycles. These funds will also be used to support Visiting Scholars who can enrich our academic community with their scholarship and broaden our school of thought beyond the walls of our university. These funds will also be used to support our global mission as a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre.

An Invitation to Partnership

You can create a living legacy for yourself, a family member, a respected mentor, or colleague, through a gift that can support one of several areas. All categories below offer naming opportunities.

Endowed Directorship

\$3.75 million

Support of the Directorship of the Great Lakes Centers. The person selected for this position would be a professor at the UIC School of Public Health dedicated to directing the Centers and to conducting teaching and research on global environmental and occupational health issues.

Center Endowment

\$5 million

These funds would be used to provide ongoing support for the operating expenses of the Centers, including the role as a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre.

Visiting Scholars Endowment

\$750,000

These funds would be used to support the travel and living expenses of up to six national and international scholars per year who would conduct teaching, research, or service at the Great Lakes Centers or at one of their partner institutions around the world.

Global Centers of Excellence Program Endowment

\$750,000 per center

\$750,000 is required for the establishment of each international center of excellence in occupational and environmental health at our partner institutes around the globe. Current centers include the Louise Hamilton Center for Children's Environmental Health at the Institute of Pediatrics, Obstetrics, and Gynecology and the Chernobyl Data Management Center at the Institute of Endocrinology in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Endowed Health in the Arts Program

\$1.5 million

These funds would be used to provide for a coordinator and general operating expenses for our Health in the Arts Program. This program provides training, research, and service on the special occupational health and safety needs of visual and performing artists.

to partnership

The name of each donor will appear in perpetuity on all publications, educational, and public relations materials emanating from each category.

Please consider helping the Great Lakes Centers continue their success and service in improving, promoting, and maintaining the health and safety of workers, families, and communities across Illinois and around the world.

For more information on providing support to the Centers, please contact the Office of Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health at 312-355-4501.

