

Plenary Speakers Biographical Notes

(listed by plenary session and day)

Sunday, November 4

David Waltner-Toews is an epidemiologist, essayist, poet, fiction writer, veterinarian, and a specialist in the epidemiology of food and waterborne diseases, zoonoses and ecosystem health. A professor in the Department of Population Medicine at the University of Guelph, he is the founding president of Veterinarians without Borders/ Vétérinaires sans Frontières (www.vwb-vsfc.ca), and founding president of the Network for Ecosystem Sustainability and Health (www.nesh.ca). Besides being an author on about 100 peer-reviewed scholarly papers, he has published half a dozen books of poetry, a collection of poems and recipes, an award-winning collection of short stories (*One Foot in Heaven*), a murder mystery (*Fear of Landing*) and a book about the natural history of diseases people get from animals (*The Chickens Fight Back: Pandemic Panics and Deadly Diseases that Jump from Animals to Humans*).

Nancy Edwards (<http://www.health.uottawa.ca/profiles/nedwards.htm>)

Dr. Edwards is a community health nurse and epidemiologist. Her research interest is the design and evaluation of multiple interventions for population health. Her innovative studies have examined the relative contributions of interventions targeting self-care capacity and action, community capacity and action and supportive environments (policy, social, built). Dr. Edwards has led national and international studies addressing a number of issues: tobacco cessation, fall prevention for seniors, postpartum follow-up, breastfeeding and mammography screening. She is collaborating with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario on studies examining the dissemination and uptake of research evidence. Dr. Edwards holds a Canadian Health Services Research Foundation/Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CHSRF/CIHR) Nursing Chair. She is Director of the Community Health Research Unit; principal scientist, Institute of Population Health, University of Ottawa; and a member of the CIHR Governing Council

Monday November 5

Dr. David Butler-Jones (<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/cpho-acsp/index.html>)

Dr. David Butler-Jones, Canada's first Chief Public Health Officer, heads the Public Health Agency of Canada, providing leadership on the government's efforts to protect and promote the health and safety of Canadians.

He has worked in many parts of Canada in both Public Health and Clinical Medicine, as well as consulting in a number of other countries. He has taught at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, is a Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba, and is an Associate Clinical Professor at the University of Saskatchewan. He has also been involved as a researcher in a broad range of public health issues.

From 1995 to 2002, Dr. Butler-Jones was Chief Medical Health Officer for the Province of Saskatchewan and Executive Director of the Population Health and Primary Health Services Branches for the province.

Dr. Butler-Jones has served with a number of organizations including as: President of the Canadian Public Health Association; Vice President of the American Public Health Association; Chair of the Canadian Roundtable on Health and Climate Change; International Regent on the board of the American College of Preventive Medicine; Member of the Governing Council for the Canadian Population Health Initiative; Chair of the National Coalition on Enhancing Preventive Practices of Health Professionals; and Co-Chair of the Canadian Coalition for Public Health in the 21st Century.

Maureen O'Neil (http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-29563-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html)

Maureen O'Neil is President of the International Development Research Centre. Previous positions include President of the North-South Institute (Canada) and Deputy Minister of Citizenship in the Government of Ontario. Ms. O'Neil has been Chair of the Board of Governors of Carleton University and of the Board of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. She has a BA in Sociology from Carleton University and Honorary LLDs from Carleton University and Wilfrid Laurier University.

William (Bill) E. Rees (<http://www.scarp.ubc.ca/faculty%20profiles/rees.htm>)

William Rees received his PhD in population ecology from the University of Toronto. He has taught at the University of British Columbia's School of Community and Regional Planning (SCARP) since 1969-70. Prof Rees founded SCARP's 'Environment and Resource Planning' concentration and from 1994 to 1999 served as director of the School. Throughout his academic career, Prof Rees' teaching and research has focused on the diverse public policy implications of global environmental trends and the ecological conditions required for sustainable socioeconomic development.

A human ecologist and ecological economist, Prof Rees is best known as the originator of 'ecological footprint' analysis. Dr Rees' book on this concept, *Our Ecological Footprint* (co-authored with then PhD student Mathis Wackernagel), was published in 1996 and is now available in English, Chinese, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Latvian and Spanish. Drawing parts of his answer from various disciplines, Prof Rees' current book project asks: "Is Humanity Inherently Unsustainable?" Prof Rees has also authored over a hundred academic journal articles and book chapters on various topics pertaining to eco-footprinting and the human ecology of sustainability, as well as numerous popular articles on his research interests.

Prof Rees is a founding member and recent past-President of the Canadian Society for Ecological Economics and a co-founder and Director of the OneEarth Initiative. He also serves as co-investigator in the 'Global Integrity Project,' aimed at defining the ecological and political requirements for biodiversity preservation and sustaining human population health.

A dynamic speaker, Prof Rees has been invited to lecture on areas of his expertise across Canada and the US, as well as in Australia, Austria, Belgium, China, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Indonesia, Italy, Korea, the former Soviet Union, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden and the UK. In 1997, UBC awarded William Rees a Senior Killam Research Prize in acknowledgment of his research achievements and in 2000 The Vancouver Sun recognized him as one of British Columbia's top "public intellectuals." In 2006 Prof Rees was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and, in 2007, he was awarded a prestigious Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Fellowship.

Mary Simon (<http://www.itk.ca/corporate/board-itk.php>)

Mary May Simon was born in Kangirsualuujuaq (George River) in Nunavik (Northern Quebec). She was the Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade from 1994 to 2003. Ms. Simon was the Canadian Ambassador to Denmark (1999-2001) concurrently during her Circumpolar position, a member of the Joint Public Advisory Committee of NAFTA's Commission on Environmental Cooperation;(1997-2000), and was;the chairperson from 1997-98. Ms. Simon was the Chancellor of Trent University (1995 to 1999). In 2001, she was appointed Councillor for the International Council for Conflict Resolution with the Carter Center.

Ms. Simon has devoted her life's work towards gaining further recognition of Aboriginal rights and to promoting the study of Northern affairs. She began her career with the CBC Northern Service as a producer and announcer. She was subsequently elected Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Northern Quebec Inuit Association (1976-1978). From 1978-1985, Ms. Simon was elected 1st Vice-President and then President of the Makivik Corporation;and went on to hold a number of positions with

the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Canada's National Inuit Organization. For 14 years (1980-1994), she served as Executive Council Member, President and Special Envoy of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference.

Mary Simon was one of the senior Inuit negotiators during the repatriation of the Canadian Constitution as well as the First Minister Meetings (FMM) that took in the 1980's and the Charlottetown Accord.; Ms. Simon also served as a member of the Nunavut Implementation Commission in 1993 until her appointment as Circumpolar Ambassador.

In 1994, Ms Simon was appointed by the Prime Minister of Canada to be the first Canadian Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs. As part of her work, she was instructed by the Government of Canada to take the lead in negotiating an eight country council, which is now known as the Arctic Council. This Council was established in 1996 and includes the active participation of the indigenous peoples of the Circumpolar Region. During her Chairmanship of the Arctic Council and subsequently as the Canadian Government, Senior Arctic Official, she worked closely with the Indigenous "Permanent Participant's" of the Arctic Council, as well as the 7 other Arctic Countries, including Russia.

Mary Simon has received many honours for her leadership in developing strategies for Aboriginal and Northern affairs. She has been awarded the Order of Canada, National Order of Quebec, the Gold Order of Greenland, the National Aboriginal Achievement Award and the Gold Medal of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. She is a Fellow of the Arctic Institute of North America and of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society.

She has received honorary doctorate of law degrees from McGill, Queen's and Trent Universities.

Ms. Simon has published a book titled; Inuit: One Arctic - One Future

Tuesday, November 6

Professor Anthony (Tony) McMichael, an Adelaide University medical graduate, is an Australia Fellow (National Health and Medical Research Council) at the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, The Australia National University. He was previously Professor of Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. His epidemiological research has spanned occupational diseases; diet, nutrition and disease; and environmental influences on health and disease. Over the past decade he has been an international leader and advisor to the World Health Organization and other UN agencies in developing research in relation to the health risks of climate change, with some particular emphasis on infectious diseases. During 1993-2007 he played a central role in the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessment of health impacts. He co-chairs the "Global Environmental Change and Human Health" project of the International Council of Science (ICSU). Along with many scientific papers, his books include Human Frontiers, Environments and Disease: Past Patterns, Uncertain Futures (Cambridge Univ Press 2001) and Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (WHO, 2003).

Jim Thomas is a Research Programme Manager and Writer with ETC group. His background is in communications, writing on emerging technologies and international campaigning.

For the seven years previous to joining ETC Group Jim was a researcher and campaigner on Genetic Engineering and food issues for Greenpeace International - working in Europe, North America, Australia/New Zealand and South East Asia. He has extensive experience on issues around transgenic crops and nanotechnologies has written articles, chapters and technical reports in the media and online.

Doctor Mamadou Souncalo Traoré

Doctor Mamadou Souncalo Traoré is lecturer at the Department of Public Health Research and Training of the Medical School of Mali, in West Africa since 2006. He was previously Detached National Expert at the European Commission Research Directorate General in Brussels, Director of the National Agency for Hospital Evaluation and lately National Director of Health at the Ministry of Health in Mali. Medical doctor graduated in Mali back in 1982, he did a Master in Community Health in Developing Countries and a PhD in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where he was awarded the Woodruff Medal in 1994 of London University. He is a member of the Health Action System Network and member of several Expert Advisory committees of the World Health Organisation and other international institutions. He is particularly interested in measures which contribute to reinforce health systems and the quality of services

Dr. Unnikrishnan P.V.; Humanitarian co-ordinator, ActionAid International & Media and Campaign Advisor , People's Health Movement.

http://www.globalpulsejournal.com/2007_unnikrishnan_pv_interview_ten_questions.html

Dr. Unnikrishnan P.V is a medical doctor who works in humanitarian situations and on humanitarian issues (natural disasters, conflicts and epidemics). He balances his work with field level humanitarian work and policy advocacy work. He has worked in over 25 countries (many of them flashpoints of natural disasters, conflicts, wars and epidemics) with agencies such as ActionAID, Oxfam, and others including various U.N. organizations.

Currently he works with Action AID International, an international Development agency dedicated to fight poverty worldwide. He serves with Action AID International as the Emergencies & Conflicts Advisor for Asia and on their International Emergencies and Conflict Team. He is also currently working as a taskforce member developing IASC guidelines on mental health and psychosocial support in emergency settings.

He is also the media and campaign advisor for the People's Health Movement.

Wednesday, November 7

Dr Jane-Frances Kengeya-Kayondo

(<http://www.who.int/tdr/topmenu/staff/pdf/kengeya.pdf>)

Born in Uganda, Dr Jane-Frances Kengeya-Kayondo trained at Makerere University Medical school (M.B.,Ch.B.-1978, D.PH -1982) and earned her M.Sc. in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1986. Before joining TDR in 1998, she worked for the UK's Medical Research Council (MRC) as the National Principal Investigator for their rural-based AIDS programme in Uganda, which has since become one of the largest AIDS research programmes in Africa.

At TDR, Jane has responsibility for planning, managing and monitoring the work programme, human and financial resources, and steering committee output and documentation concerned with Implementation Research and Methods (IRM). Jane's special interest is community and home management of malaria and other febrile infections particularly in children. She is also devoted to strengthening of research capabilities in developing countries and coordinates the Multilateral Initiative on Malaria (MIM). She is the focal point for gender mainstreaming in the work of TDR as well as the link with collaboration between TDR and the African region of WHO.

Publications (selected)

- Kengeya-Kayondo, J.F. (1994) Transdisciplinary research: Research capacity building in developing countries at low cost. *Acta Tropica*, 57: 147-152
- Kengeya-Kayondo, J.F., Seeley, J.A., Kajura-Bajenja, E., Kabunga, E., Mubiru, E., Sembajja, F. and Mulder, D.W. (1994) Recognition, treatment-seeking behaviour and perception of cause of malaria among rural women in Uganda. *Acta Tropica*, 58: 267-273
- Kengeya-Kayondo, J.F. (1996) Strategies for HIV/AIDS control in adults in sub-Saharan Africa. *J. Epidemiol.*, 6: S121- S123
- Kengeya-Kayondo J.F., Kamali, A., Nunn, A.J., Ruberantwari, A., Wagner, H.-U.H., and Mulder, D.W. (1997) Incidence of HIV-1 infection in adults and socio-demographic characteristics of seroconverters in a rural population in Uganda: 1990-1994. *Int. J. Epidemiol.*, 25:1077-1082
- Kengeya-Kayondo, J.F. et. al. (1999) Risk perception and HIV-1 prevalence in 15 000 adults in rural south-west Uganda. *AIDS*, 13: 2295-2302

Dr Jaime Breilh,

Ecuadorian scientist. His books have focused on Critical Epidemiology, innovation of health research methodology and ecosystem planning. Various awards. Co-founder of the Latin American New Public Health Movement. Chair of the Ecuadorian Academy of Medicine. Member of the Editorial Council of various social medicine journals. Visiting professor of many Latin American Universities; the Universities of Michigan, California and Harvard.

Theoretical contributions in the critique of positivistic paradigm; reframing of the gender approach; reinterpretation of inequity and the relation between social, ethnic and gender determinants; territorial epidemiological regionalization model; development of an Index for Social Deterioration and Gender inequity. Creator of a stressors scale (EPISTRES). Co-author of the PENTOX system, for the participatory research of the neurobehavioural disturbances produced by exposure to pesticides; participative epidemiological health monitoring system.

Author and coauthor of many books some of which have been translated to Portuguese and a few in English. His most well known books are "Epidemiology: Economy, Politics and Health"; "New Research Concepts"; "Gender Crossfire"; "Deterioration of Life" and "Critical Epidemiology: Emancipatory Science and Interculturality".

Present research: community driven project in the field of health and environmental protection related to cut flower production.

Stephanie Nolen (<http://28stories.com/author/author.asp>)

Author: "“I looked at AIDS in Africa for a long time before I understood what I was seeing.”"

Stephanie Nolen is the Africa correspondent for The Globe and Mail, the national newspaper of Canada. At 35, she is a six-time nominee for Canada 's top reporting prize, the National Newspaper Award, and a back-to-back winner of the International Reporting award. She was the recipient of the 2003, 2004 and 2006 Amnesty International Award for Human Rights Reporting, for reports from war zones in Uganda and Sudan.

She has reported from more than 40 countries around the world. Assigned to Africa with a mandate to cover the impact of the AIDS pandemic, she also reports on issues including the political crisis in Zimbabwe, the oil industry in Nigeria and the aftermath of the genocide in Rwanda.

Prior to her posting in Africa, she covered development issues and conflicts, including the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Before joining the Globe in 1998, she was based in the Middle East for four years. She has written for publications including Newsweek, The Independent, Elle and Ms Magazine.

In award citations, her work has been commended for "creative brilliance, humanitarian compassion, personal courage, and relentless pursuit of truth."

She is also the author of Promised the Moon: The Untold Story of the First Women in the Space Race and Shakespeare 's Face.

Born in Montreal, she is a graduate of the University of King's College in Halifax and the London School of Economics. She is a failed student of flying trapeze, a devoted canoe-tripper and a novice pie-baker.

She lives in Johannesburg with her partner and son.

Closing Symposium (Nov.7th)

Chair: _____

ENRIQUE CIFUENTES

- Ph D, Epidemiology and Population Sci., London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London (UK), 1995
- MMed Sci. Community Medicine, University of Nottingham (UK), 1982
- MD. School of Medicine, UNAM, México, 1979

Current

- Director, Pediatric Environmental Specialty Unit (www.PEHSU.net) , Cuernavaca (México)
- Senior Researcher and Professor, Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública, México
- Consultant, SODIS FOUNDATION (www.sodisfoundation.ch) Guatemala, Nicaragua, Ecuador.

Experience

- Director, Centre of Environmental Health / PAHO & WHO Collaborating Centre, 2001-2004
- Teaching Coordinator Master in Environmental Health (INSP) 1996-2005

- Director, Centre of Studies in Indigenous Villages, Sierra Norte, México, 1982 - 1989
- Visiting Professor, School of Public Health Mount Sinai, New York (USA)
- Visiting Professor, Andean University, Ecuador
- Board of Directors, Canadian Coalition Global Health Research (<http://www.ccghr.ca>)

Russell Williams, President, Rx&D

Mr. Williams joined Rx&D after a successful career in provincial politics and community service. For fifteen years, Mr. Williams represented the Montreal riding of Nelligan in the National Assembly of Quebec. During his career as Liberal MNA, he led numerous public policy debates on important and complex issues such as the role of government in research and development (R&D), compensation for victims of contaminated blood, linguistic policy, access to services for handicapped people, pre-hospital emergency services, and gambling. He is well known for his dedication and perseverance as an advocate for individual rights, and government services focused on the needs of its citizens.

During his tenure as parliamentary assistant to two Ministers of Health and Social Services, Mr. Williams identified and initiated strategies for a more efficient and integrated health care system. In addition, he spearheaded the development of an R&D policy for the pharmaceutical sector.

Prior to and during his political career, Mr. Williams played a key role in numerous non-profit and community-based initiatives in areas ranging from palliative care to human rights.

Dr. Margot W. Parkes

Dr. Parkes' long-standing interest the links between health, ecosystems and sustainability was founded during her medical training in New Zealand and subsequently through research and education in Belgium, Hawaii, Canada and Ecuador. Margot has been actively involved in a range of international and not-for-profit organisations that address these themes at local and global scales - including the International Association for Ecology and Health (Charter Board founding secretary, www.ecohealth.net) and Network for Ecosystem Sustainability and Health (Board of Directors, Vice-president www.nesh.ca). Following a doctoral dissertation focused on the public health implications of watershed management in New Zealand, Dr. Parkes served as founding Managing Editor of the international journal *EcoHealth* from 2002-2007 and since 2005 has worked at the University of British Columbia. Her roles at UBC have included Assistant Project Director of a capacity-building project entitled "Sustainably Managing Environmental Health Risks in Ecuador" (supported by the CIDA University Partnerships in Cooperation and Development program) and - since September 2007 - as a recipient of a Fellowship from the CIHR 'Initiative in Global Health Research'. Margot's Fellowship is focused on the role of education and training as a vehicle for knowledge translation to address cross-sectoral issues spanning global health, environment and development. She holds a joint appointment with the UBC Department of Family Practice and College of Health Disciplines (affiliated with the Institute for Aboriginal Health and Center for International Health). In addition to peer-reviewed publications in ecosystem, environmental and public health journals, Dr. Parkes has co-authored a chapter on 'An Ecosystems Approach' in the Oxford University Press text 'Environmental Health in Australia and New Zealand' (2004).

Professor Peter A. Singer MD, MPH, FRCPC

Professor Peter A. Singer is Senior Scientist and Co-Director of the Program on Life Sciences, Ethics and Policy at the McLaughlin-Rotman Centre for Global Health, University Health Network, and Professor of Medicine at University of Toronto.

His current research focuses on harnessing life sciences to improve health in developing countries. His scholarly contributions have included improvements in quality end of life care, fair priority setting in healthcare organizations, teaching bioethics, pandemic influenza planning, global biosecurity.

Singer has received Canada's highest health research awards including the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Distinguished Investigator Award and Michael Smith Finalist Award. He is also the recipient of the Nellie Westerman Prize in Ethics of the American Federation for Clinical Research, Young Educator Award of the Association of Canadian Medical Colleges, American College of Physicians George Morris Piersol Teaching and Research Scholar, Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association Medical Scholarship, NHRDP National Health Research Scholar, and Award for Excellence from Yale University School of Public Health, University of Toronto Dales Award, Department of Medicine Research Award. He is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences and the Royal Society of Canada.

He has published over 230 research articles, received over \$50 million in research grants, trained over 70 graduate students and fellows, and written more than 30 op-eds in national newspapers.

Singer is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Grand Challenges for Global Health Initiative, a former member of the US National Academies Committee which reported on "Globalization, Biosecurity, and the Future of the Life Sciences", and he has advised the UN Secretary General's Office on biosecurity.

Between 1995 and 2006, Singer was Sun Life Financial Chair in Bioethics, Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto, and Director of the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics.

Singer studied internal medicine at the University of Toronto, medical ethics at the University of Chicago, public health at Yale University, and management at Harvard Business School.