From: Jonathan Herington
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Attachments: NCB Signing Ceremony Invite.pdf

The University of Sydney

University of Sydney Biosecurity Program

BIOSECURITY NEWS 09

22 August 2008

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The University of Sydney Biosecurity Program is coordinated by the Centre for International Security Studies.

CENTRE for INTERNATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

If you received this email as a forward and wish to subscribe to future issues of Biosecurity News, please contact Jon Herington (j.herington@econ.usyd.edu.au)

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1. Program News

A final reminder that the signing ceremony for the National Centre for Biosecurity will be held on **2 September 2008, 3-5pm in the Sutherland Room** of the **Holme Building, University of Sydney.** The ceremony will feature Dr. Michael Spence, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The University of Sydney, and Professor Ian Chubb, Vice-Chancellor of the Australian National University. We will also be launching a book, entitled ***Ethical and Philosophical Consideration of the Dual-Use Dilemma in the Biological Sciences***, by Professor Seumas Miller and Dr Michael Selgelid. Professor Miller will be introduced by Professor Merlin Crossley, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University of Sydney. A PDF of the invitation is attached.

Please RSVP for the signing ceremony by Monday 25 August 2008.

The next Biosecurity News will be sent as part of the National Centre for Biosecurity's outreach programs. The format will stay the same, however the look may change slightly. I hope that it continues to prove useful for you all.

Jon

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2. Conferences, Seminars and Journal Issues

Fellow / Post-Doctoral Fellow in Health Governance and Security
The Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore has advertised for a fellow (post-doctoral or otherwise) in Health Governance and Security.

Applicants should have a good understanding of health and human security, including pandemics and health governance. Related experience and knowledge of health systems and regional cooperative frameworks in ASEAN and Asia would be a major advantage. For more information on the research program, visit http://www.rsis.edu.sg/nts/programmes.html

In addition to having the skills to conduct independent research, successful applicants will also teach up to two courses in the School's Master of Science Programmes. A relevant PhD and a good publication record are therefore essential requirements. Applicants are also expected to contribute to the School's research agenda, contribute to team research projects, teach in short executive programmes, and organize conferences and seminars. Experience in policy-relevant research and publication would be useful.

All applicants should submit a full CV, two published articles or writing samples, a cover letter specifying how their qualifications match the job description, and the names and addresses of 1-2 referees. Screening of applicants will commence by **Friday 5 September** and will continue until the position is filled. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified. **Appointees would be expected to take up the Fellowship by the 1st of October**. The Fellowship appointment is for a

period of 1 year, with prospects for renewal.

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Dr Christian Enemark of the Centre for International Security Studies (and NCB Co-Director) at the University of Sydney will deliver a seminar at the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre from **3.30-5.00pm on Friday 29 August**. The seminar is entitled **'Infectious Disease, Security and Ethics'**. It will be held in Seminar Room B of the **HC Coombs building, Australian National University**. All welcome and no RSVP required. More info at: http://rspas.anu.edu.au/sdsc/seminars.php

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The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development has released a series of documents on the **Future of the Bio-Economy to 2030**. Some may be relevant to biosecurity and global health more generally. Please see: http://www.oecd.org/futures/bioeconomy

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The **3rd International Conference on *Influenza Vaccines for the World*** will be held **27-30 April 2009** in Cannes, France. While predominantly focused on the science of influenza vaccine production, a panel on "Social / Political / Financial Issues Surrounding Influenza Vaccination" is anticipated. Closing date for **presentation abstracts is Friday 31 October 2008**. Poster abstracts should be submitted by 14 March 2009. Registration details will be available in October 2008. More info at: http://www.meetingsmanagement.com/ivw_2009/index.htm

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The ***Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*** has released a new issue (Volume 5, Issue 1). Some selected articles are cited below. Full content available here: http://www.bepress.com/jhsem/

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National Centre for Biosecurity members Seumas Miller and Michael Selgelid have published a book entitled ***Ethical and Philosophical Consideration of the Dual-Use Dilemma in the Biological Sciences***. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the NCB signing ceremony and book launch **3-5pm** on **2 September** in the **Sutherland Room, Holme Building, University of Sydney**. More information on the book can be found at: http://www.springer.com/philosophy/ethics/book/978-1-4020-8311-2

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Previous Announcements

- Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney, is offering a **PhD scholarship** in **Economics of Animal Health Emergencies**. More details can be found at http://agile-prod.ucc.usyd.edu.au/research/opportunities/opportunities/617
- US Department of State's **Biosecurity Engagement Program** provides funding for travel to biosecurity-related conferences. More information: http://www.bepstate.net/index.html
- Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney. *Import risk analysis for animals and animal products*. Workshop: **23-25 September 2008**. More info: Dr Naomi Cogger (N.Cogger@massey.ac.nz)
- *Understanding and Controlling Infectious Diseases: An Agenda for the 21st Century*. Abstracts: **14 September 2008**. Conference: **11-13 November 2008** More info: http://www.pasteur.fr/infosci/conf/sb/clp7
- *BioSecure 2008*. Workshop: **2 December 2008**. More info: http://ai.arizona.edu/BIO2008/

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3. News and Articles

Pandemic and Avian Influenza

Insight into H5N1 and 1918 influenza pathogenesis in mice – lung inflammation through cytokine storm
20 August 2008
http://www.plospathogens.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.ppat.1000115

'Confronting an influenza pandemic with inexpensive generic agents: can it be done?'
20 August 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908700707/abstract

'Pandemic influenza: mass gatherings and mass infection'
20 August 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908701865/

Neutralising antibodies still present in 1918 flu survivors
17 August 2008
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/7567219.stm
and the original article

http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nature07231.html

'Factors associated with case fatality of human H5N1 virus infections in Indonesia: a case series'
15 August 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608611253/abstract
and commentary from CIDRAP
http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/aug1808fatality-ms.html

Draft text of Influenza Virus Sharing Agreement leaked from Intergovernmental Meeting on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
14 August 2008
http://wikileaks.org/wiki/World_Health_Organization_Avian_Flu_draft_2008

'Replication and Transmission of H9N2 Influenza Viruses in Ferrets: Evaluation of Pandemic Potential'
13 August 2008
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0002923

'New bird flu threat could be H9N2: researchers'
13 August 2008
http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/08/13/2333665.htm

Laurie Garrett discusses 'viral sovereignty' in the context of Indonesia
10 August 2008
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/08/08/AR2008080802919.html

'Court fines bird flu case farmer'
8 August 2008
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/suffolk/7549042.stm

'3 dead in feared bird flu outbreak in Indonesia: officials'
6 August 2008
http://www.straitstimes.com/Latest%2BNews/S-E%2BAsia/STIStory_265208.html

HIV

'Donors Officials Discuss HIV/AIDS Monitor Report on Health Systems at the 2008 International AIDS Conference'
21 August 2008
http://blogs.cgdev.org/globalhealth/2008/08/donors_officials_dis.php

'Mexico conference considers pre-exposure prophylaxis for AIDS'
14 August 2008
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/337/aug14_1/a1278

Cost-benefit analysis of male circumcision in Africa
13 August 2008
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0002679

'Putting prevention at the forefront of HIV/AIDS'
9 August 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS014067360860882X/
and a follow up comment
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608608831/
and a history of the prevention efforts
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608608843/

Nature blogs the recent International AIDS conference
8 August 2008
http://blogs.nature.com/news/blog/conference_reports/international_aids_conference/

'The AIDS fight: looking ahead to 2010'
8 August 2008
http://www.nature.com/news/2008/080808/full/454812a.html

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Role of migrant communities in TB epidemic, China
22 August 2008
http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/14/9/pdfs/07-1543.pdf

'Several horsemen of the apocalypse' – *BMJ* surmises the state of infectious disease control
21 August 2008
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/337/aug21_4/a1365

'Pathology of Puumala Hantavirus Infection in Macaques'
21 August 2008
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0003035

'Queensland vet dies of Hendra virus'
21 August 2008

http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/08/21/2342124.htm
an independent review has been ordered into the case
http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/08/22/2343148.htm

'Strengthening infectious disease surveillance in Europe'
20 August 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908701889/

'More diseases surface as bush meat eating rises' (discretion: graphic photographs)
20 August 2008
http://www.monitor.co.ug/artman/publish/features/More_diseases_surface_as_bush_meat_eating_rises_70101.shtml

South Africa recalls sub-standard TB drugs
18 August 2008
http://www.thetimes.co.za/News/Article.aspx?id=820162
and analyses
http://blogs.cgdev.org/globalhealth/2008/08/post.php
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/337/aug20_1/a1385

The Stop TB program releases an educational comic book
14 August 2008
http://www.stoptb.org/figo/csexpo.asp
The Center for Global Development discusses the implications for global health innovation
http://blogs.cgdev.org/globalhealth/2008/08/the_world_tuberculos.php

'Large ongoing Q Fever outbreak in the south of the Netherlands'
31 July 2008
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=18939

'Inapparent infections and cholera dynamics'
14 August 2008
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v454/n7206/abs/nature07084.html

Biological Weapons

Review of *Biosecurity & Bioterrorism: Containing and Preventing Biological Threats*
22 August 2008
http://www.bepress.com/jhsem/vol5/iss1/41/

'Neutralisation of Botulinum toxin via antibody specific for light chain'
15 August 2008
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0003023

$200m cost increase in Atlanta biolab
15 August 2008
http://www.ajc.com/search/content/metro/stories/2008/08/15/biolab.html

'Simulating the Economic Impacts of a Hypothetical Bio-Terrorist Attack: A Sports Stadium Case'
15 August 2008
http://www.bepress.com/jhsem/vol5/iss1/39/

'How to prevent the next biological agent attack'
14 August 2008
http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/features/how-to-prevent-the-next-biological-agent-attack

Biosecurity Policy and Ethics

Science editorial: 'Science and Security, Again'
22 August 2008
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/321/5892/1019

Synthetic biology: 'Microbial fuels for the future'
21 August 2008
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v454/n7207/full/454943a.html

Synthetic Biology: Characterisation of new Type VI secretion system in *V. cholerae, P. aeruginosa* and *B. mallei*
20 August 2008
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0002955

'Ensuring the Involvement of Children in the Evaluation of New Tuberculosis Treatment Regimens'
19 August 2008
http://medicine.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.0050176

Ongoing community concerns and legal action prevent opening of laboratory in Boston
12 August 2008
http://www.bostonherald.com/business/general/view.bg?articleid=1112486

'Despite Low Score, Mississippi Made Short List to Host Animal-Disease Lab'
11 August 2008
http://chronicle.com/news/index.php?id=4972

Global Health Governance

'The politics of clean water and sanitation'
21 August 2008
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/359/8/784

'Global initiatives to promote wider access to medicines'
20 August 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS147330990870197X/

'Obama vs McCain on global health'
16 August 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608612167/

'Rotavirus vaccine for developing countries'
9 August 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608611885/

Special Topic: Anthrax Attacks in the United States

The investigation into the 2001 Anthrax Attacks has continued to produce some very interesting developments. In particular, the FBI plans to publish the scientific evidence which links Bruce Ivins with the anthrax used in the attacks, potentially in a peer-reviewed academic journal. They have also been providing detailed briefings to reporters and scientific organisations (see here and here). This action is the result of significant scepticism amongst scientists and commentators – as well as what the FBI's Deputy Director described as "spore on the grassy knoll" conspiracy theories. A selection of stories on the case can be found below:

Science discusses the information in the briefings provided by the FBI
22 August 2008
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/321/5892/1026

'Case not closed' – *Nature* editorial on the case
21 August 2008
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v454/n7207/full/454917a.html

'Full-genome sequencing paved the way from spores to suspect'
15 August 2008
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/321/5891/898

Accusations of FBI mistakes, 'missing early clues'
15 August 2008
http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-anthrax15-2008aug15,0,4707256.story

'Our own worst bioenemy: The U.S. bioweapons program has grown so large that it has become a threat to Americans'
13 August 2008
http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-orent13-2008aug13,0,7101025.story

'Anthrax case ignites new forensics field'
13 August 2008
http://www.nature.com/news/2008/080813/full/454813a.html

'Anthrax Case Had Costs for Suspects' – discussion of FBI's path to Ivins (and the possibility of compensation for affected suspects)
9 August 2008
http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/10/washington/10anthrax.html

'Biosecurity lessons from the Bruce Ivins case'
8 August 2008
http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/columnists/laura-h-kahn/biosecurity-lessons-the-bruce-ivins-case

An article on Anthrax vaccine testing, authored by Ivins, appears in a recent issue of *Vaccine*
5 August 2008
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18586363

Best wishes and happy researching,

Jon

***If you received this email as a forward and wish to subscribe to future issues of Biosecurity News, please*

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