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BIOSECURITY NEWS 22

27 March 2009

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This newsletter is managed by the [Centre for International Security Studies](#) at the University of Sydney.



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1. Conferences, Seminars and Journal Issues

The journal *Public Health* has a new issue (Volume 123, Issue 3) devoted to health governance, examining the law, regulation and policy in safeguarding the public's health. Access at: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00333506>

The Lancet Infectious Diseases and *The Lancet* are organising a conference on influenza in the Asia-Pacific to be held in Qingdao, China, on **August 21—23, 2009**. To coincide with the conference, they intend to publish of *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* focusing on influenza. Readers are invited to submit Review, Personal View, Reflection and Reaction commentary papers on the topic of influenza to appear in this issue. The closing date for submission of papers is **May 7, 2009**. More information: <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309909700829/>

Previous Announcements

- The Consortium of Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia) invites applications for a 3-month Research Fellowship Programme, which will commence in July 2009. Applications due: **13 April 2009** info: <http://www.rsis-ntsasia.org/activities/research-fellowship.html>
- 3rd International Conference on *Influenza Vaccines for the World*. Conference: **27-30 April 2009** in Ca France. More info: http://www.meetingsmanagement.com/ivw_2009/index.htm
- *Communicable Diseases Control (CDC) Conference*. **4-6 May 2009** in Canberra. More information: www.diseases.consec.com.au
- US Department of State's **Biosecurity Engagement Program** provides funding for travel to biosecurity conferences. More information: <http://www.bepstate.net/index.html>

2. Positions and PhD Studentships

The Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL), a unit of the CSIRO at Geelong, is seeking a **Biocontainment Microbiologist** to join the Microbiological Security Group as a senior member. The position will be responsible for training, implementation of work practices, documentation of procedures and ensuring compliance with various regulatory requirements. In the role you will need to be able to respond effectively to situations of high priority at AAHL with proper regard to microbiological security and microbiological safety. Applications due **14 April 2009** information: https://recruitment.csiro.au/asp/Job_Details.asp?RefNo=2009%2F119

The Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics has advertised for an ARC-funded PhD scholarship to explore ethical and security issues associated with infectious disease. The PhD research project will examine “the nature of security and how the value of security should be balanced against other legitimate social aims in the context of naturally occurring epidemic disease.” Applicants should forward their CV and covering letter (highlighting areas of interest) to Dr Michael Selgelid by **3 April 2009**. For more information, please contact: Michael.selgelid@anu.edu.au

In the context of the Wellcome Trust funded project “**Building a Sustainable Capacity in Dual-Use Bioethics**” PhD studentships are available from October 2009 for three years that cover the cost of UK/EU PhD tuition fees and an annual average maintenance grant of £19,600.

The holder of one of the studentships will work under the supervision of Dr. Brian Rappert in the Department of Sociology and Philosophy at the **University of Exeter**. The holder of the second studentship – with a focus on *dual-use aspects of synthetic biology* – will work under the supervision of Dr. Alexander Kelle in the Department of European Studies and Modern Languages at the **University of Bath**.

University of Exeter Applications:

Applicants are required to contact Brian Rappert (B.Rappert@ex.ac.uk; also Tel +44 (0)1392 263353) with an initial expression of their interest (no more than 500 words) by the deadline. More information at: <http://admin.exeter.ac.uk/academic/scholarships/search/scholarship.php?id=260>

University of Bath Applications:

Applicants are required to contact Alexander Kelle (A.Kelle@bath.ac.uk) with a short initial expression of their interest (no more than 500 words) by the deadline. Further information will be provided on request.

Deadline: **15 April 2009**

3. News and Articles

Pandemic and Avian Influenza

US Government releases 'Interim Guidance for Cargo Trucking Crews for the Prevention of Pandemic Influenza'
24 March 2009

http://www.pandemicflu.gov/health/cargo_trucking.html

'Pandemic Influenza: An Inconvenient Mutation'

20 March 2009

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/323/5921/1560>

A phylogenetic study of HPAI Virus in Africa

19 March 2009

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0004842>

'Stories of an influenza pandemic'

14 March 2009

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673609605304/>

'Measurement of Airborne Influenza Virus in a Hospital Emergency Department' (*Clinical Infectious Diseases*)

9 January 2009

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/596478>

HIV

New Institute for HIV and TB, South Africa

27 March 2009

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/323/5922/1659>

Review of perspectives on the HIV/AIDS epidemic

26 March 2009

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/360/13/1367>

'Structural barriers and human rights related to HIV prevention and treatment in Zimbabwe' (*Global Public He*)

26 March 2009

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a909933651>

BMJ on condoms and HIV

25 March 2009

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/338/mar25_1/b1206

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/338/mar25_1/b1217

'WHO revises upwards estimated number of TB deaths associated with HIV'

25 March 2009

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/338/mar25_1/b1253

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/7959399.stm>

Washington DC now has a 'generalised and severe' HIV epidemic

16 March 2009

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/338/mar23_1/b1205

and comment:

<http://blogs.cgdev.org/globalhealth/2009/03/grab-that-bull-by-its-horns-hiv-aids-in-the-capital-of-the-richest-co-the-world.php>

Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases

April volume of *Emerging Infectious Disease* (Volume 15, Issue 4)

<http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/15/4/682.htm>

Zimbabwe's cholera epidemic slowing down

21 March 2009

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673609605912/>

'Trends in Tuberculosis --- United States, 2008'

20 March 2009

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5810a2.htm>

'Researchers Worldwide Rally to Help Scientist Exposed to Ebola'

18 March 2009

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/03/researchers-aro.html>

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/03/virologist-in-i.html>

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/338/mar23_2/b1223

Biological Weapons

'Biotechnology's crossroads'

24 March 2009

<http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/columnists/malcolm-dando/biotechnologys-crossroads>

Indonesian Health Minister wary of foreign biological attack using Indonesian viruses

21 March 2009

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/home/article/13817.html>

UN developing a biological incident database

20 March 2009

<http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/ODAPublications/OccasionalPapers/PDF/OP15.pdf>

'The geneticist in the garage'

19 March 2009

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2009/mar/19/biohacking-genetics-research>

'Countering Terrorism: Biological Agents, Transportation Networks, and Energy Systems.'

18 March 2009

http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12490

US Government to hold meeting on 'personnel reliability issues' pertaining to select agent research

13 March 2009

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-5526.htm>

'Science groups counter WMD Panel's prescription for stemming biological threats'

13 March 2009

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20090313_1111.php

Biosecurity Policy and Ethics

'Pruning the regulatory tree'

26 March 2009

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v457/n7229/full/457534a.html>

and letters in reply:

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v458/n7237/full/458404b.html>

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v458/n7237/full/458404c.html>

'The new biofactories'

23 March 2009

<http://whatmatters.mckinseydigital.com/biotechnology/the-new-biofactories>

'WHO Considers Tightening Regulations for Shipping Biological Material'

18 March 2009

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20090318_6957.php

Review of techniques for synthetic creation of engineered microbes

16 March 2009

<http://www.nature.com/nrmicro/journal/v7/n4/abs/nrmicro2107.html>

Global Health Governance and Disease Control

'Reducing greenhouse emissions could cut global disease burden by 25%'

16 March 2009

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/338/mar16_2/b1092

Best wishes and happy researching,

Jon

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