

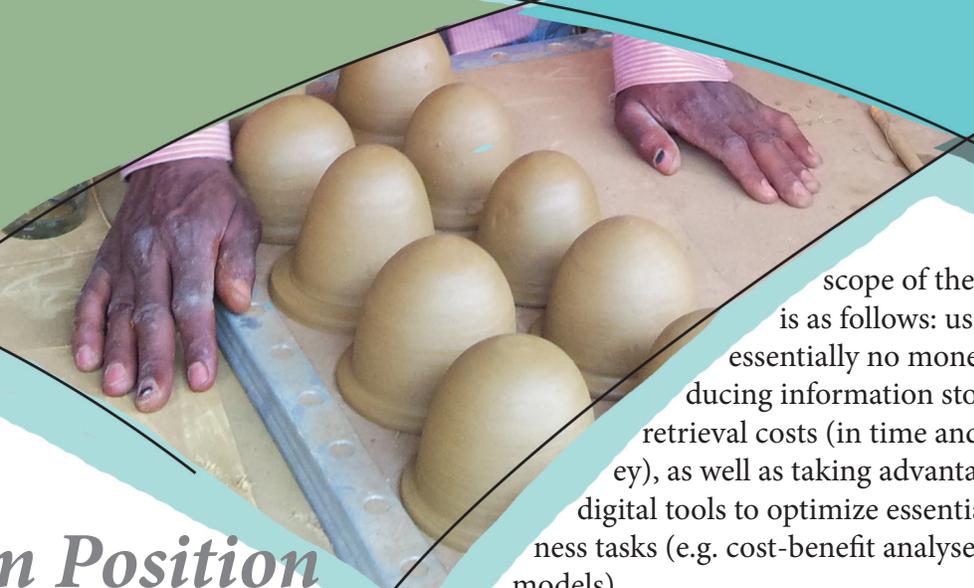
Student e-newsletter

Chipping In

Issue 1 Spring

2013

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Practicum Position

Practicums are offered throughout RTP, UNC, and the world. Here's the latest from Abhinav Koman-dur, Public Health Informatics student.

Organization: Safe Water Ceramics of East Africa
Location: Arusha, Tanzania

Project Scope:

Safe Water Ceramics of East Africa is a family-owned and operated sustainable enterprise located at the base of Mt. Meru, on the Arusha-Moshi highway, in Tanzania. Mesiaki Kimirei, the head of the organization, is a potter by trade. A few years ago, he learned about, became excited by, and pursued the idea of a ceramic pot water filter infused with colloidal silver, as a cure for point-of-use household water treatment woes in rural Tanzania.

For various reasons, Kim (as he's known) is attempting to modernize certain aspects of his business. The

scope of the project is as follows: using essentially no money, reducing information storage and retrieval costs (in time and money), as well as taking advantage of digital tools to optimize essential business tasks (e.g. cost-benefit analyses, pricing models).

Project Details:

Times being what they are, the business needed some assistance in system design and marketing. Being housed in a low-resource setting, it was essential to have a safe, cloud-based storage setup for the few paper files they needed to keep (certification by the Tanzanian government, etc.), as well as an easy way to digitally input sales, inventory, and pricing information into a simple online database from a mobile phone or an ancient computer. It was also important to have a financial system setup, to accept payments via Paypal from visiting tourists, as well as to accept donations from abroad for local filter provision. Payments must be capable of being *legally* transmitted to a local Tanzanian account (no easy feat).

More on page 2.



CHIP Correspondance

There are so many great stories coming from CHIP students, that I decided to share them with all of you. My goal is to crank out two newsletters a semester, but if there is more news that needs to be heard, I'll go for three! Send along anything you would like to share and continue making CHIP look good!

Now, an update on our social skills...

Thank you to all who support and follow CHIP's social media efforts! I was excited to see our Facebook page exceed 100 likes this month. If you have not had a chance to check out the practicum posters album, I have finally uploaded them all, and they look great. This is a great way to gather ideas on your practicum as well as see what others have in store. Our newest social media hub is Paper.Li. This is a great tool which pulls top news stories from the CHIP Twitter account (yes, we Tweet!) and produces a "daily newspaper" from them. Some of the informative news articles that I have posted recently come directly from our own newspaper! Finally, the CHIP webpage has a new face! Want to keep up with events related to informatics? Check out the new events calendar. Want to see practicum presentations? Check out the Industry tab. Here you will also find the latest practicum and job postings. (For more presentations, including ones on the seminar series, see the CHIP Slide Share Account.)



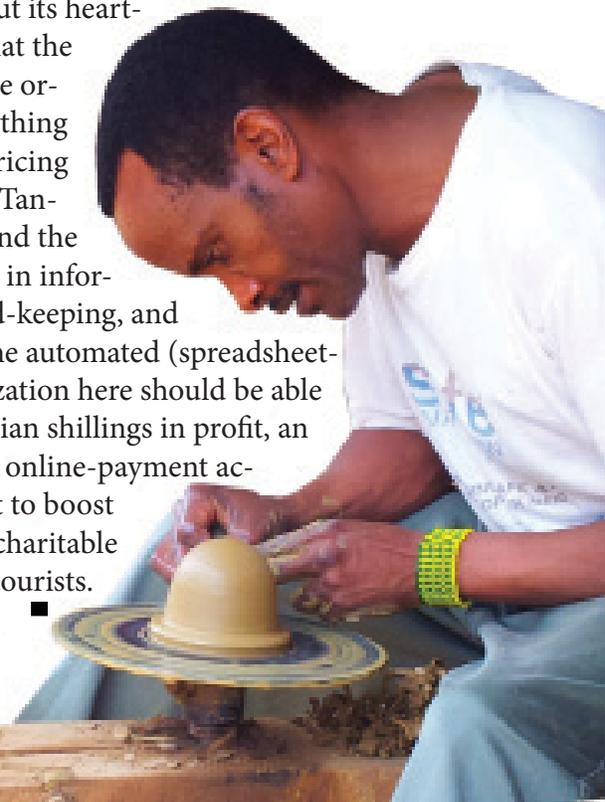
Practicum Position Continued...

Multiple system access points were mandatory, as Kim's daughter, nephew, and wife play significant roles in conducting business. The system needed to be easy to use and simple to access as well, since the client had only a modest baseline level of technical proficiency. The system needed to be bilingual, in both English and Kiswahili, and expandable as needs dictated.

As you may have guessed, I turned to Google for all my answers. We used a private Google Site, and a public Google Blogspot in combination with Google+ pages to lay the framework for the marketing, as well as mobile information editing and input aspects of the project. Google Drive was used to house the database, and Google Forms used to input information from the Google Site.

Project Effects:

I'm not quite sure of all the effects yet, but its heart-ening to see the energy and optimism that the new information system injected into the organization here (particularly since everything was free!). Already, two more efficient pricing models have been created (solely by the Tanzanian workers here, not by me at all!) and the daughter and nephew have been trained in information input, sales and inventory record-keeping, and basic blog-editing. Each month, using the automated (spreadsheet-based) pricing models alone, the organization here should be able to make an additional 15-20,000 Tanzanian shillings in profit, an approximate boost of 8%. The use of the online-payment acceptance and transmission system ought to boost the ability of the organization to accept charitable donations from, and market directly to tourists.





Upcoming Chip Graduation

Spring semester 2013 CHIP will have its largest graduating class! Graduation is scheduled for Friday, August 30th at 2pm, and will be held for Fall 2012, spring 2013, and summer 2013 graduates. This is informal, but please do invite family and friends if you wish! For the first time, we will have a speaker line-up from the industry; we will welcome **Sudha Srikantawamy**, Senior Analyst at Duke Health Technology; **Rich Medlin**, Clinical Information Science alumnus and Lead Informatics Physician Epic@UNC; and **Eric Brinsfield**, Director of Health and Life Sciences at SAS Research and Development. ■

About those practicums...

Congratulations to Richard Schaedler, who completed his Clinical Information Science certificate in 2012. His practicum titled, "NC Health Information Portal Education Program Design for the NC Institute of Public Health," was accepted into the "2013 Emerging Professionals" poster session at HIMSS! See a portion of the poster on page 6. Eddie Alcorn, Public Health Informatics student, was also at HIMSS, and worked as a Program Assistant at the Interoperability Showcase.

Not familiar with HIMSS? Read on!

The Healthcare Information and Management System Society (HIMSS) "is a cause-based, not-for-profit organization exclusively focused on providing global leadership for the optimal use of information technology (IT) and management systems for the betterment of healthcare. Founded 52 years ago, HIMSS and its related organizations are headquartered in Chicago with additional offices in the United States, Europe and Asia. HIMSS represents nearly 50,000 individual members, of which more than two thirds work in healthcare provider, governmental and not-for-profit organizations. HIMSS also includes over 570 corporate members and more than 225 not-for-profit partner organizations that share our mission of transforming healthcare through the effective use of information technology and management systems. HIMSS frames and leads healthcare practices and public policy through its content expertise, professional development, research initiatives, and media vehicles designed to promote information and management systems' contributions to improving the quality, safety, access, and cost-effectiveness of patient care." himss.org ■



SILS hosted the "2013 Emerging Trends in Information Professions Showcase"

on February 26th, at Motorco Music Hall in Durham. CHIP was delighted that **Oakkar** was asked to present one of the Lightning Round Presentations. As the Co-Founder and CEO of Keona Health, Oakkar's talk was on "Health Informatics in 2013," during which, Oakkar mentioned the CHIP program and faculty who made a difference. ■





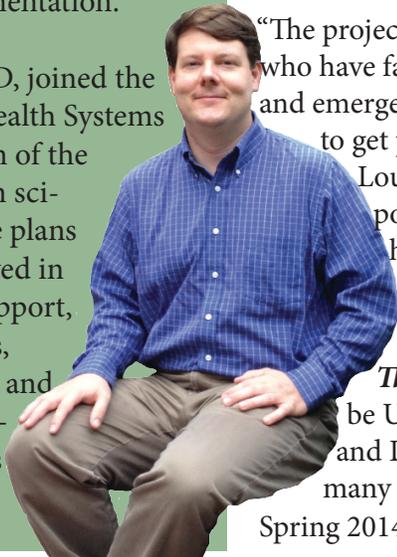
photo courtesy of Cerner

Where are they now?

The Health Care Informatics Certificate, housed in the Nursing School, graduated its first student spring of 2012. Since then, Stephanie Johnson-Dean began a new role as Principal Trainer for Epic at Cone Health. She has traveled to the Epic training headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin, twice and experienced her first “go live” in November. Stephanie’s accomplishment was highlighted in UNC’s own “Carolina Nursing” magazine. Read about it here: http://nursing.unc.edu/files/2012/11/ccm3_039300.pdf.

Rich Medlin, MD, was one of the first graduates of the clinical information science certificate. He is employed at the UNC Medical Center Emergency Department, and just recently gained another role as the Lead Informatics Physician for the Epic@UNC implementation.

Britt Ritter, PharmD, joined the Duke University Health Systems after his completion of the clinical information science certificate. He plans to be further involved in clinical decision support, outcomes measures, secondary analysis, and many other information-related impacts on patient care.



Health IT Fair: Growth and Outreach

Spring semester 2013 marked the third fair for Carolina Health Informatics, in which we were honored to be in collaboration with Allied Health, the Gillings School of Global Public Health, and University Career Services. We were successful in attracting 50 employers and 500 students!

CHIP has great success stories surrounding our fair, with one resulting form an e-newsletter posted for our vendors. The vendor newsletter provided an inside look at the people who make up CHIP. Stories about our faculty, students, and alumni (next page is an insert) were generated. After the fair, one of the vendors requested an interview with a student who had been highlighted in the newsletter. With the connection made, Brad Wheeler went for an interview, and as it turned out, came out having found his wife a job! His wife, Jenni Wheeler, having extensive background in HIV policy at the state level, started a position as program manager for the NC HIV Exchange project (NC-HIVE). Both are Ph.D. students in the Department of Epidemiology.

“The project utilizes existing state databases to identify people with HIV who have fallen out of care. In partnership with participating primary and emergency care providers, the state Health Department will work to get patients back into treatment. The project seeks to replicate Louisiana’s HIV Exchange system as a model and highlights the potential for health information exchange to enhance public health.”

Congratulations Jenni!

The fair is traveling! The next stop for the Health IT Fair will be UNC-Charlotte. We have collaborated with UNC-Charlotte, and Duke, to expand the fair, an opportunity to bring knowledge to many more employers about our students! It will return to the area Spring 2014, but you are all welcome to attend in Charlotte. ■



April 17th in Health Sciences Library, room 328, from 4-5pm, **Vikas Chowdhry** from Epic will be presenting on “Clinical Intelligence.” Vikas has over 10 years of healthcare IT experience. His role as a lead software developer at Epic allows him to focus on utilizing data to improve healthcare quality.



CHIP Student Highlight

Brad Wheeler, MPH

Public Health Informatics Certificate Student

Community partnership and disaster preparedness link an informatics interest.



My choice to study in the field of public health was a product of my interests in biological sciences and in policy and data analysis. After receiving a Bachelor of Music degree from Penn State, I decided to enter the MPH program at East Carolina University -- a program that quickly acclimated me to health disparities, emergency preparedness, and the opportunities that community partnerships bring to extend the work of local public health. While at ECU, my interests in public health and technology first intersected when I created a publicly-oriented web application to display disaster preparedness resources using the Google Maps API. I am currently pursuing a Ph.D. in epidemiology at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health focusing on quality of life among individuals with cancer and their interactions with the health care system.

Public Health Informatics is giving me additional tools to explore and think about the design of complex systems at a time when disruptive technologies are at our fingertips. I'm excited to be pursuing my Certificate in Public Health Informatics at UNC - an institution on the frontier of research and a leader in information science.



CHIP Faculty Highlight

Claudia Gollop, Ph.D.

Frances Carroll McColl Term Professor

Childhood experiences spark early interest in health information retrieval.

Maybe it was her childhood maladies such as allergies and asthma that caused Dr. Claudia Gollop to take an interest in health issues. In any case, she found herself always looking for health information wherever she could find it. Claudia began to read health-related literature published in the US and abroad. It wasn't until recently that this passionate curiosity, formed long ago, developed into what became consumer health information. Lately, her interest has expanded to include the rapidly growing area of health informatics.

Because so much interest is moving towards health IT, like personal health records and health information that is accessible on the Internet, Claudia's teaching has shifted focus to the informatics area. This former librarian completed her dissertation in "Health Information Seeking Behavior," and when she started teaching at UNC-SILS, a big part of her focus was on health librarianship in academic and public arenas. Now she finds herself teaching classes titled "Consumer Health Information and Health Sciences Environment."

Claudia's research currently focuses on "Cardiac Rehabilitation" (CR) Referrals. She is looking at how or whether patients are referred following a cardiac event and why there seems to be an information gap in patients not being referred or not participating in CR programs. While CR is thought to be of great benefit to many cardiac patients, currently, there is no standardization on referring patients to CR rehabilitation.

NC Health Information Portal Education Program Design For the North Carolina Institute of Public Health

A Practicum by Richard Schaedler

Project Description

To develop an educational program to train public health personnel in the effective use of the North Carolina Health Information Portal (NC-HIP.)

What is NC-HIP?

- GIS-based
- interactive web atlas
- health data visualization tool
- an adaptation of a health center mapping tool called HealthLandscape.

What can it do?

- allows health professionals, policy makers, academic researchers and planners to combine, analyze and display information in ways that promote better understanding of health and the forces that affect it.
- brings together various sources of health, socio-economic, and environmental information in a convenient, central location to help answer questions about and improve health and healthcare.
- turns the Community Health Center or clinic's data into maps of the patients being served, the core neighborhoods that comprise the service area, and areas with the densest concentrations of patients.

Method / Approach

Identify Best Practices for Training Through Literature Review

Define the Audience

Learn the Tool Through a Train the Trainer Class and Hands-On Learning

Produce Training Materials, Including Three Powerpoint Presentations: Basic, Advanced, and Analytic Classes

See Richard's poster in its entirety:
<http://chip.unc.edu>

Final Note...

Many thanks to **Kaitlyn Murphy** who worked with CHIP on funding in the Starlight system!



News Brief: **Nasim Lari**, Clinical Information Science Certificate student, teaches a course called, "Health Economics and Policy," at Meredith College. After taking classes at SILS, she added a two-week unit to the course, on EHR's, discussing policy, economics, and ethics!

Phillip Transou, Clinical Information Science Certificate student, was recently admitted into UNC's Pharmacy School. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

