Deep inequities exist in access to health care both internationally and nationally. Disease, chronic conditions, and local environments affect individual and communal health differently. Yet medical advances, public policy initiatives, and personal choices present real potential for improved health. This Symposium will identify some of these inequities, both globally and as they affect us individually, and point towards possible solutions.

*Sponsored by the Churchill Institute at Westminster College, the Missouri Foundation for Health and Pfizer*

**Symposium Schedule:**
**Tuesday, September 22**

**Plenary Session I** - 9-10:15am
**Forecasting Disease and the Future of Global Health**
A discussion of ways which we can predict and be aware of forthcoming diseases and epidemics
*Nathan Wolfe - Founder and Director of the Global Viral Forecasting Initiative*
*Champ Auditorium*

**Breakout Sessions I** - 10:30-11:45am

**Global Risks, Regional Barriers and Local Resources: Anthropological Perspectives on Global Health**
What can medical anthropology contribute to our understanding of national and international inequities in health care access, food security, and exposure to environmental hazards? Have anthropologists created feasible solutions to reduce disparities? This session explores models generated by anthropological research to predict global health trends associated with climate change, military conflict, and shortages of food, water, and medical resources. We consider regional barriers to health care, including political, economic, and cultural factors, and explore local resources to reduce these barriers and create sustainable, community-based health systems. Audience participation will involve local, regional, and global analysis of hypothetical scenarios.
*Presenter: Dr. Ann McElroy - Associate Professor of Anthropology, University at Buffalo*
*Coulter Science Center Room 239*

**Obesity Prevention Programs Within Missouri: Understanding the Impact of Environment and Policy Factors**
This session will begin broadly with an overview of chronic disease and more specifically the ever-growing obesity epidemic. This will be followed by an introduction to some of the important obesity prevention research being conducted in Missouri focused on understanding how the built environment and policy-level factors impact access to healthy options among
underserved populations. The session will provide students with an opportunity to learn more about the important field of Chronic Disease Public Health, particularly during a time of changing healthcare within the United States.

**Presenter:** Mariah Dreisinger - Program Manager, Washington University Schools of Medicine and Social Work  
Coulter Science Center Room 329

**How are Pandemics Born?**  
Current global disease control efforts focus largely on attempting to stop pandemics after they have already emerged. This fire brigade approach, which generally involves drugs, vaccines, and behavioral change, has severe limitations. Just as we discovered in the 1960s that it is better to prevent heart attacks then try to treat them, over the next 50 years we will realize that it is better to stop pandemics before they spread and that effort should increasingly be focused on viral forecasting and pandemic prevention. In this talk I discuss how novel viruses enter into the human population from animals and go on to become pandemics. I then discuss attempts by my own research group to study this process and attempt to control viruses that have only recently emerged. By creating a global network at the interface of humans and animals we are working to move viral forecasting from a theoretical possibility to a reality.

**Presenter:** Nathan Wolfe - Founder and Director of the Global Viral Forecasting Initiative  
Coulter Science Center Room138

**Nutrition and Body Image: A Global Perspective**  
Culture and learned associations govern our food choices. Our food options can also change our culture. This presentation will discuss interesting relationships among our access to food and its impact on nutrition and body image. Amanda Stevens will introduce the topic and current issues in the U.S. and International students from Westminster College will share stories about their culture, body image, and food options and how they have changed by going to college in another country.

**Presenters:** Amanda Stevens, M.Ed., R.D., L.D. - Health Educator/Registered Dietitian and Westminster College international students  
Coulter Science Center 139

**Moving Towards Health: Healing Through the Body In A Changing World**  
For many cultures dance and movement is a source of community identity, revitalization, and healing. In the West, we often forget that movement has this potential. Trauma, whether personal or communal, can create feelings of isolation, helplessness, confusion and fear. Using examples from world dance, and body image, grounding, and movement ritual techniques from dance/movement therapy, /MOVING TOWARDS HEALTH / offers participants’ methods of understanding and experiencing the healing potential of movement.

**Presenter:** Alice Bloch - Dance/Movement Educator, Center of Contemporary Arts (COCA)  
Coulter Science Center 204

**Design For Children: An Architect’s Challenge**  
Design For The Children was an open, international design competition asking architects and designers from around the world to develop a sustainable, culturally responsive, pediatric clinic model for East Africa. Co-sponsored by Humanity for Children and Architects for Humanity, this competition attracted over 300 innovative designs from architects from every region on the globe. Two of the judges for this competition, along with a humanitarian worker who served in
Rwanda, will present the top 20 entries in the Coulter Atrium and discuss the cultural and environmentally sustainable criteria that went into the selection of the top three designs.  

Presenters: Bob Hansen - Interim VP & Dean of Student Life, Associate Professor of Leadership Studies, Board of Directors, Humanity for Children; Rose Nanyonga-Clarke - Board Member: Board of Directors International Medical Group and Doctoral Student at Yale University; Nancy McCue - Rwanda Community Partnership Project Chair and HIV/AIDS Program Coordinator Anglican Church, Diocese of Kibungo, Rwanda  

Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

Plenary Session II - 1:15-2:05pm  
**The Story of Bread for the World: Ordinary People Making Extraordinary Strides Against Hunger**

“It is better to build a fence at the top of a cliff than to drive an ambulance at the bottom.” These words from Art Simon’s father were the impetus for Bread for the World, an organization working to end hunger at home and abroad through political advocacy. The history of Bread, which Art captures in his new book, *The Rising of Bread for the World: An Outcry of Citizens Against Hunger*, speaks of the power of ordinary individuals to effect change in our nation’s laws and structures, bringing help and opportunity to hungry people. This power is still available to us today, and here at Westminster, a growing movement called the Poverty Initiative fights hunger and poverty in Callaway County and around the world.  

*Art Simon, Founder and President Emeritus of Bread for the World*

Champ Auditorium

Breakout Sessions II - 2:30-3:45pm

**Traditional Medicines in a Time of Emergent Diseases and Limited Resources**

Mankind has forever used indigenous plants to address health conditions presenting as the symptoms of HIV/AIDS and related opportunistic infections. In the United States, Canada and Europe, Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) use by PLWHA is extensive and well documented. Through support by the NIH/NCCAM and the Fogarty International Center (FIC), the International Center for Indigenous Phytotherapy Studies (TICIPS) is systematically uncovering and describing traditional medical and CAM practices by peoples living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) to assist with sustainable outcomes of antiretroviral treatment programs.  

*Presenter: Dr. William Folk, Professor of Biochemistry, University of Missouri-Columbia*

Coulter Science Center Room 239

**Health and Wealth: How Does Money Get Under the Skin?**

Even in developed countries such as the U.S. and the U.K, individuals with more education and higher income live longer and healthier lives than those with fewer resources. How do social and economic factors get translated into biological risk? This session will provide an overview of current research on the biological underpinnings of socioeconomic inequalities in health.  

*Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Dowd - Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Hunter College Faculty Associate, CUNY Institute for Demographic Research*

Coulter Science Center Room 139
A Curious Mix: Strategic Interests, Personal Interests, and Mutual Interests in Global Health
Focusing upon Africa, this session will explore the “curious” intersection of three sets of interests: (1) why and how one nation (e.g. the United States, China, Norway) provides assistance to other nations (e.g. Tanzania, Ghana, Rwanda) directly and/or multilaterally; (2) the reasons for personal altruism and group cooperation and/or aggression; and (3) the terms and conditions whereby a “receiving society” or nation agrees to accept assistance. The speaker will draw upon his personal experience in 12 African countries as a Peace Corps Volunteer, academic researcher and lecturer, consultant to business and medical programs, traveler, and as a nonprofit corporation director to illustrate these broader themes. Finally, he will look at how humanitarian and medical education volunteers can foster entrepreneurialism in global health programs.
Presenter: Robert Hamilton, Consultant on African Projects and Programs
Coulter Science Center Room 204

Who Cares at Westminster?
Westminster students present a short documentary film on campus attitudes about global health. This film investigates how our own hyperlocal views reflect current international health policies around the world. Are we part of the problem or part of the solution? Come see the film and participate in a brief panel discussion afterwards.
Presenters: Students in Tuthill and Lawson classes
Coulter Science Center Room 138

Cancer Research and Therapy in the 21st Century – Are We Winning the Battle?
Cancer impacts millions of lives annually, causing suffering and financial hardship. For the past 4 decades, the United States has waged the “War on Cancer.” What have we learned about cancer from this major scientific effort? What are the new strategies that promise to improve cancer diagnosis and therapy? Will there be a “cure” for cancer?
Presenter: Dr. Steve Alexander - Professor of Biological Sciences, University of Missouri
Coulter Science Center Room 345

Change Your World through Action: Westminster’s Student-led Poverty Initiative
Poverty is a harsh reality for families in Callaway County and around the world, but you can make a difference! During this session, you will learn more about the Westminster Poverty Initiative, a project based on Bread for the World’s advocacy model that connects Westminster students with churches in the larger community to address the root causes of poverty and hunger. You will also gain the knowledge and tools that will empower you to effect change through advocacy and service. Come join a movement that will impact the lives of poor and hungry people!
Presenter: Art Simon - Founder and President Emeritus of Bread for the World, Art Simon and Westminster students Jacque Sanders, Andrew Kinkade and Derick Dailey
Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

Access to Mental Health Care
As we learn more about the treatment of mental health, the services - inpatient and outpatient - seem to become even less accessible. As science advances why does policy retreat?
Presenter: Tim Harlan – National Alliance on Mental Health Missouri, Vice President
Coulter Science Center Room 329
Keynote Speaker - 4pm, Champ Auditorium
Women and Children – Global Health’s Challenge
Women’s and children’s health issues have attained higher international visibility and renewed political commitment in recent decades. While targeted policies and programs have enabled children and women to lead healthier lives, significant disparities remain in many countries. Child and maternal health are closely intertwined. More than 536,000 women die of pregnancy-related causes each year. A child whose mother dies has 3 to 10 times greater risk of death than one whose mother survives.

With limited access to education or employment, high illiteracy rates and increasing poverty levels are making health improvements for women exceedingly difficult. And while impressive gains have been made in reducing child mortality in the past 40 years--globally, child deaths have halved from 20 million in 1960 to under 10 million in 2008--progress has been geographically uneven, with child mortality rates either increasing or remaining constant in at least 26 countries. Health related challenges continue. Many of the modest gains in women’s and children’s health realized in recent decades are now threatened or have been reversed due to war, economic instability and the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Investing in women’s and children’s health, especially through an integrated system of care for mothers and children is one of the most cost-effective and efficient ways to save lives, strengthen communities and advance economic growth and development. In many parts of the world, widespread introduction of simple, inexpensive interventions have successfully targeted the major killers of infants and children. As well, there is strong international consensus regarding interventions that directly or indirectly improve maternal and reproductive health.

Carol Bellamy – Head of UNICEF for ten years, CEO of World Learning, and President of its school for international training

Wednesday, September 23

Plenary Session III - 9-9:50am
The Global Epidemic of Childhood Malnutrition: A Doctors Without Borders Perspective
At any given moment, there are around 20 million children suffering from severe malnutrition. This chronic situation is centered on several hotspots in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia, and is among the leading causes of death in children under 5 in places like India, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Southern Sudan. Treating children suffering from malnutrition is one of the key activities of Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). Drawing on her years of experience, Ms. Sekkenes will discuss some of the revolutionary tools and strategies implemented by MSF to treat these vulnerable children.

Johanne Sekkenes, Director of Operational Support, Doctors Without Borders
Champ Auditorium

Breakout Sessions III - 10-11:15am

Sustainable Public Health Programs for Children in the Former Soviet Union
When the Cold War ended the Russian cellist Maestro Mstislav Rostropovich and his wife soprano Galena Vishnevskaya established a foundation to improve the health and well being of children in the former Soviet Union through selected, sustainable, and transformational public health programs. Eight million children have now been immunized against endemic diseases,
1.5 million treated for intestinal parasites and 200,000 women and newborns screened and protected from HIV and hepatitis B. Measles and Rubella syndrome have been eliminated or curtailed in three countries. Local governments are assuming responsibility for sustaining these programs. Program methodologies and accomplishments will be presented.

**Presenter:** Dr. Harold Koenig - Vice Admiral, Medical Corps, United States Navy, Retired
*Coulter Science Center Room 329*

**Race, Medicine, Authorship, and the Discovery of Sickle Cell Anemia in 1910-1911**
The first two case histories of sickle cell anemia appeared in the medical literature in 1910 and 1911. In an illustrated talk Savitt tells the divergent stories of the first two sickle-cell patients and their physicians against the backdrop of a racially divided America and of a highly competitive scientific community. We see how race and class affected the discovery of SCA and how credit for one discovery went to a senior physician and credit for the other went to a senior medical student. Savitt will also tell about his own "adventures" in tracking down the identities and backgrounds of these first two SCA patients.

**Presenter:** Dr. Todd Savitt – Professor of Medical Humanities (Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University)
*Coulter Science Center Room 204*

**The Globalization of Tobacco**
A wealth of information exists on the dangers of tobacco use, yet little is widely known about the social and economic effects of tobacco globally. This presentation will bring awareness about tobacco as a social justice issue. Tobacco not only affects the user, but impacts community, culture and the world. Westminster students and community professionals will present this issue, engage the audience, and call for action against Big Tobacco.

**Presenters:** Traci Harr, Coordinator, Columbia Tobacco Prevention Initiative and the Westminster Peer Health Educators
*Coulter Science Center Room 345*

**Stories of the fights: AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the Developing World**
With the world’s 1.1 billion citizens facing critical health issues and still living in poverty, this affirms health is not only a basic human right but also a key to economic development. This session introduces the audience to the world’s three most devastating diseases - HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The panelist representing Africa, Africa, Asia and Latin America provide perspectives on what are the causes and how the disease hinder economic growth in their own countries. Furthermore, they will discuss about health care systems, its effectiveness as well as the role of civil society in responding to the issues.

**Presenters:** Westminster Students Fon Komkai, Paola Pratti Nunez and Edward Munyeshuli
*Coulter Science Center Room 138*

**Health and Research Amidst Converging HIV and Drug-resistant TB Epidemics in Rural South Africa**
There are more people living with HIV and tuberculosis (TB) in South Africa than any other country in the world. The rural town of Tugela Ferry has become an epicenter of extensively drug-resistant (XDR) TB where little effective treatment exists. Approaches toward diagnosis and treatment of drug-resistant TB remain stigmatized and politicized but sustainable changes can be accomplished with community and governmental support. Unique definitions of community
health can guide urgent interventions. Research can directly impact patient care if it is conceived with operational intent and informed by conditions in the field.

**Presenter:** Scott K. Heyssel, MD, MPH - Burroughs Wellcome Fund/American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Fellow in Tropical Infectious Disease, University of Virginia

**Coulter Science Center Room 139**

**An Update on Federal Health Reform and its Impact on Missouri**

Intense health reform discussions are occurring around the country and legislation is currently being debated in Congress. This session will provide an update on the status of federal health reform and an overview of what is included in the bills being debated. Additionally, this session will examine how this legislation might impact Missouri. In the U.S and Missouri, the number of uninsured has been steadily rising across the last decade, health care spending has tripled in the last 20 years, and businesses and individuals struggle to find quality, affordable health coverage. This session will explore the proposed health care legislation that aims to address the issues of health care quality, cost, and coverage.

**Presenter:** Ryan Barker - Health Policy Analyst, Missouri Foundation for Health

**Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall**

**Global Health: Making Women and Children a Priority: Changing the Context of our Banner**

The African report card for women and children continues to read like a royal litany of negatives...132 million children in the developing world have lost one or both parents. 25 million children will be orphaned by HIV/AIDS alone by the year 2010. One billion children are currently living in poverty, over 9 million children are dying annually of preventable diseases and malnutrition and 77 million children are out of school, 44 million of these are girls...Equally, the health of African women is lagging behind the rest of the world, and leaders should move the issue to the top of their agenda, according to the head of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)... She called on all leaders “to make the health of women a political and development priority” (UN News May 2008). Every minute, a woman somewhere in Africa dies in pregnancy or childbirth. This adds up to 1,400 women dying each day—an estimated 529,000 each year from pregnancy related causes...**How do we then change the Context of this Banner?**

**Presenter:** Rose Nanyonga-Clarke - Board Member: Board of Directors International Medical Group and Doctoral Student at Yale University

**Coulter Science Center Room 239**

**Breakout Sessions IV - 1:30-2:45pm**

**Managed Care or Managed Cost-Striking a Healthy Balance**

Healthcare reform has taken center stage as the nation’s no. 1 domestic priority. For many years, insurers, employers, and providers have implemented and participated in a myriad of programs and initiatives to reduce costs while maintaining quality care. Despite these efforts, little progress has been made in achieving a balance between these goals. This session will explore current market dynamics and offer potential solutions to address this challenge.

**Presenter:** Greg Richard - Vice President, Laboratory Corp. of America

**Coulter Science Center Room 329**
Reforming America’s health care system: The ideal way to expand coverage and cut costs?

Nearly 46 million Americans are uninsured, the United States spends more on health care than other industrialized nations, and those countries provide health insurance to all their citizens. In 2008, health care spending in the United States reached $2.4 trillion, and was projected to reach $3.1 trillion in 2012. Health care spending is projected to reach $4.3 trillion by 2016. With all these staggering statistics, there is the need for us to find a lasting solution to this problem. The Westminster College Forensics Society will be leading this discussion during the session on health care reform.

Presenters: MO Representative Rob Schaaf(R) Chairman of the Health Care Transformation Committee, MO House of Representative Paul Levota (D) MO House Minority Leader, Westminister Students Eric Hunt and Patrick Davey
Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

Living the Mediterranean Diet

The Mediterranean diet, rich in whole grains, fruits, nuts, legumes, fish and olive oil has been linked to longer life, decreased risk of heart disease and a lower prevalence of cancer and other chronic diseases in the Mediterranean population. Participants will experience Mediterranean tastes, sights and sounds for an understanding of how cultural food choices and physical activity opportunities impact health.

Presenter: Ann Cohen - State Nutrition Specialist
Coulter Science Center Room 138

Influenza: Approaches to Control a Global Disease that Keeps Changing

New variants of influenza spread around the world very quickly, only to be replaced by a new variant, sometimes before a new vaccine is made. Annual epidemics are widespread even in the wealthiest countries. What could be done globally to contain a new virulent variant? New approaches to vaccines and drugs will be discussed.

Presenter: Dr. Gillian Air, George Lynn Cross Professor and Vice-Chair, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Coulter Science Center Room 139

Child Sacrifice: A Silent Heinous Crime

This summer, I spent seven weeks back home in Uganda organizing a campaign to End Child Sacrifice. It is a cruel injustice against children that is less discussed, less understood, and rarely championed. In most parts of Africa and around the world, the ritualistic killing of children or human sacrifice has existed for many years and continues to do so. Most people are appalled that such heinous acts could continue in a civilized world we live in: it does! Meet George, a 3 year old boy whose private parts were mutilated by a witchdoctor. For George, and many others like him, we walked this summer, holding our placards high, representing many without a voice, and putting a dent in the silence surrounding child sacrifice in Uganda...this is a political, social, health, and global issue. We must all understand the context, if we are to be helpful in interventions.

Presenter: Rose Nanyonga-Clarke - Board Member: Board of Directors International Medical Group and Doctoral Student at Yale University
Coulter Science Center Room 239
Symposium Community Celebration
3-4pm, Mueller Leadership Hall

Special thanks to our symposium sponsors: The Churchill Institute, Westminster College, Pfizer and the Missouri Foundation for Health

Special Exhibit at the Churchill Memorial
"Hope & Heartbreak: The Many Faces of Childhood" created by West Boulevard Elementary, Columbia, Missouri

Spring 2009, 35 fifth-graders from West Boulevard Elementary in Columbia, Missouri visited the National Churchill Museum to do research on their class project - a classroom museum. They toured the facility to see what a real museum look like and interviewed staff on the particulars on how an exhibit is curated. After a lot of hard work and determination, the elementary students opened their museum up to the community in May 2009. To support the local community and to honor the young curators, the Churchill Museum decided to display the classroom museum in their own facility. Opening on August 3, this new temporary exhibit has shed light on an important topic - children rights. They discuss global issues concerning children such as overall health, home, water, food, education, play, expression, family, and religion. Everything you see in the exhibit was done by the students; from the initial research to deciding on even the most basic elements such as color, design, and text. It is truly an amazing piece of work, something the Museum encourages everyone to see. http://service.columbia.k12.mo.us/wblvd