



University of California  
San Francisco



**Inside this issue:**

IHPS Profile: Ed Yelin	1-2
Announcements	2
Get a Clue	3
Artist's Corner	4
Calendar	5

The Institute's Strategic Development Committee recently surveyed faculty members, asking them to write about what they regard as their greatest past contributions—to health policy, to health care, to the health of the public, or other contributions, during their tenure at IHPS, and what future contributions they would like to make. The faculty's responses together make up the story of what the IHPS has accomplished as an institution over more than thirty years, as well as what core faculty hope to accomplish at IHPS in the next ten years. Their stories tell in a compelling way the history of the Institute—and its future as well—and the vision and values of many of the people who are a part of the Institute. Each month the IHPS e-letter will profile a faculty member's story about his or her contributions, past and future tense. —**Claire Brindis**, Acting Director, IHPS and Associate Director for Strategic Planning and Development

**Faculty Profile: Ed Yelin, Ph.D.**

Professor of Medicine and Health Policy, Division of Rheumatology and Institute for Health Policy Studies.  
Director, Arthritis Research Group

**General Contributions**

**Improving Cost of Illness Studies**

Cost of illness studies have traditionally failed to distinguish between all costs incurred by persons with a specific condition and those costs that could be specifically attributable to that condition. With funding from CDC (and active collaboration with colleagues from that agency), we have adapted econometric techniques to estimate the increment of direct and indirect costs due to the condition in question rather than all costs of persons with that condition. In a series of papers, we have used this new method to publish studies of the cost of arthritis, all forms of musculoskeletal disease, and respiratory conditions. We are currently updating the cost of arthritis estimates with our CDC colleagues.



**Contributions to Improving the Health of the Public**

**Re-Thinking Work Disability Policy**

In research about work disability, historically, a medical model predominated in research and policy. My research has established that, except in cases of extremely severe disease, work disability is more a function of the kind of work done than the extent of disease or even demographic characteristics of the person with the chronic condition. In a series of publications in the Milbank Quarterly and Monthly Labor Review, I then went on to establish how structural changes in the economy, from goods-production to services, have affected the work disability rate. More recently, I showed how the changes in the nature of employment, from secure long-term employment to more contingent employment arrangements, have adversely affected the employment prospects of persons with chronic diseases. Finally, I have showed how the labor market effects on work disability are tied to larger trends in employment by gender, age, and race and ethnicity, so that health and disability combine with other characteristics that jeopardize employment. Thus, for example, race and ethnic disparities in employment occur almost exclusively among those with chronic disease. Overall, then, this line of research has led to a fundamental re-thinking of work disability policy, with an increased emphasis on the changes in the labor market rather than the prior sole focus on the extent of medical impairment. Much of this work has been conducted with **Laura Trupin**.

(Faculty Profile: Ed Yelin, Ph.D. cont'd.)

### Better Understanding the Relationship between Work and Health

Most people, when asked, will state that work—or unemployment—adversely affects their health. Conversely, a large fraction of those who stop working will state that health is the reason. A large literature spanning economics, epidemiology, and occupational health has investigated the relationship between adverse working conditions, lack of work, or loss of jobs on health. Some work by **Harold Luft** has shown that not only does poverty (usually the result of unemployment or underemployment) result in poor health, but the reverse is also true: that poor health also results in poverty (the so-called “downward drift” hypothesis). Although the public suspects an adverse relationship between work and health and much research has established the association, almost all of the research predated changes in the nature of the labor market.

### Contributions to Improving Health Care

In a large scale project funded over four years by The California Wellness Foundation, we fielded a longitudinal survey about work and health issues to a random sample of the California population. The project funded research on the relationship between work and health by about 20 California academics and policy analysts as well as ourselves. In our own research, we showed that the emergent nature of employment in California, involving contingent work, had shattered many of the buffers that prevented adverse health consequences, subjecting workers to many of the same stresses that long-term workers experience, but without the security of employment that mitigated those conditions. In an important part of the project, the results of the survey were disseminated to the public through a series of press releases on or around Labor Day each year and to policymakers through a series of forums in Sacramento. The project was covered by major media throughout the State and, in the last year, by national media.

### Awards, Publications & Announcements

**Joe Guydish, PhD., Patti Katz, PhD., and Ed Yelin, PhD.,** were all approved for a change in series from Adjunct Professors to Professors-in-Residence. Bravo and Congratulations!

The Legacy Foundation Honors UCSF Tobacco Researcher **Ruth E. Malone, RN, PhD**, a professor of nursing and health policy in the UCSF School of Nursing’s Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences. Ruth is one of three individuals honored for their use of tobacco industry documents to educate the public about tactics that tobacco companies have employed to attract and addict smokers to tobacco products. Ruth was honored in Washington, DC, as part of the 13th World Conference on Tobacco or Health.



**R. Adams Dudley, M.D., M.B.A.** was the Health Care Financing Organization’s Grantee Spotlight of the month in October. His research primarily focuses on purchaser behavior and the failure of the health care market to reward quality and compensate those who assume a disproportionate share of sicker patients. Dr. Dudley focuses on improving the measures of quality of care, the techniques for health plan and provider risk-adjustment, and the feasibility of shifting market participant focus from price to quality. For the entire article, go to: (<http://www.hcfo.net/granteespotlight1006.htm>)

**Claire Brindis** is the recipient the Healthy Teen Network Outstanding Researcher Award in honor of the dedication and leadership in the field of adolescent pregnancy, parenting and prevention.

### UCSF-Coro Leadership Collaborative

This Spring, **Laura Schmidt, Ph.D.** will participate in the UCSF-Coro Leadership Collaborative. This program seeks to improve and support faculty leadership campus-wide at UCSF through an intensive training program. A specific goal of the program is to increase the number of women in leadership positions at UCSF. **Dan Dohan** recently completed the program’s first class.

### Newly Published:

“Changing Patterns of Addiction and Public Aid Receipt: Tracking the Unintended Consequences of Welfare Reform.” **Schmidt LA**, Wiley J, **Dohan D**, Zabkiewicz D, Jacobs LM, Henderson S, Zivot M. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*. 31, (5), October 2006.

“Increasing Access to Program Information: A Strategy for Improving Adolescent Health.” **Brindis CD**, Hair EC, Cochran S, Cleveland K, Valderrama TL, Park MJ. *Journal of Maternal Child Health*, 11(1), January 2007.

Thanks to everyone who helped make the CLUE game possible. We won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize (we missed 1<sup>st</sup> prize by one point!)

Twenty-two people helped by painting, acting, and setting up! Thanks for all your hard work – it looked great because of you!

Set Design

- Abby Pablico
- Angelina Nicole
- Barbara Tajima
- Belinda Wong
- Beth Newell
- Elizabeth Hirose
- Emma Passalacqua
- Eunice Chee
- Joe Funk
- Leah Gonzalez
- Meaghan Pai-Dhungat
- Michelle McKean
- Michelle Rait
- Shelly Koenemann



Strategic Design

- Annie Larson
- Beth Newell
- Pat Franks
- Pat Henderson



Sets

- Annie Larson
- Beth Newell
- Joe Funk
- Richard Kite

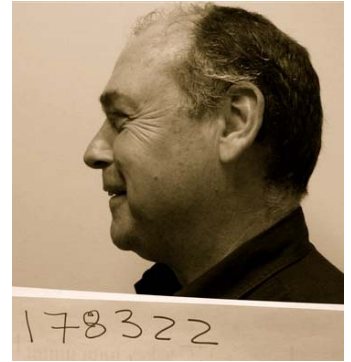
- Shelly Koenemann
- Vince Moulton

Propmasters

- Annie Larson
- Richard Kite

Photographer

- Richard Kite



Obie Award winning playwright

- Barbara Tajima

Tony Nominated Actors AKA "The IHPS Players"

- Angelina Nicole
- Annie Larson
- Meighan Schreiber
- Pat Henderson
- Richard Kite
- Stephen Crane
- Vince Moulton



Promo

- Annie Larson
- Beth Newell
- Richard Kite



Clean Up

- Elizabeth Hirose
- Ernestine Florence
- Stephen Crane
- Annie Larson



## ARTISTS' CORNER

Chances are if you've been at IHPS for any length of time, **Vince Moulton** has attended to your computer. When not being part of the IHPS computer techno wiz team, along with Richard Kite, Vince is a musician. The following is an account of what he is up to when not rescuing your hardrive. -A.Larson

Q: How long have you been singing and playing music?

VM: I started singing probably when I was about 2 or 3 to Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Heart's Club Band, which my mother had on a reel to reel tape. I started playing guitar when I was 8 or 9.



Q: What's your creative process like? Do you wait for inspiration?

VM: It's definitely more organized. If nothing else is going on, I have a regular schedule where I go over to my studio (in my mother's basement) and work on the album for

around 2-3 hours a day, and several hours on weekends. It's a very deliberate and methodical (sometimes ponderous) process, rather than a spontaneous, erratic one.

I'm currently re-recording some vocals, which, because it's very structured, doesn't require much creativity. It's more a question of what state my voice is in. With certain stages like recording and mixing, it's something I can do on a regular schedule, but for me writing is harder to do on demand.

It's been a long time since I've written music, but for me, it works best if I'm constantly thinking about creative ideas, and then, if I come up with a riff, or a lyric idea, I immediately write it down or record it. The more I get into the habit of doing this, the more ideas come to me. They can be from dreams, conversations, or just random thoughts flitting around my brain.

Once I get a certain number of these ideas down, the harder part of putting them together or expanding them into songs begins. That's actually something I can do on a regular schedule. Over time, I start pounding out some songs, and when they are in a roughly finished state, I can start recording. However, they can, and do, still change further, even after that.

Q: Who are some of your influences?

For years, the Beatles was my favorite band, then briefly The Who, and finally, (and still), the Canadian band Rush. I would say that '70's rock bands are my most direct influences, and probably one of the ones that can be heard most clearly is Aerosmith.

"it's nice because it uses a different part of my brain"

Q: Were you encouraged by your family?

My mother is the one who suggested I start playing guitar. She's played piano from an early age, and was playing banjo at the time. Now, she plays Scottish Fiddle and Piano.

Q: So, what does inspire you?

In music, it's bands or artists that have a lot of integrity and imagination in their work. I am most inspired by artists who give careful thought to every aspect of the work: the tune, the lyrics, the chords, and the performance; there's no sense that any part was thrown in there just to fill up space. Sometimes mediocre or very "poppy" music inspires me, because I think "I can do better than that; I have done better than that."

Q: How do you balance your creative endeavors with working at IHPS full time?

It's not too hard in terms of time. I only went full time last year, but before that, I wasn't taking proper advantage of all the extra time. I basically work in the evenings and on weekends. I would say the hardest part is the fatigue of working a full day and then working on the project after that. However, it's nice because it uses a different part of my brain, and it gives me a lot of satisfaction.

Q: Where can we catch your performances these days?

VM: With the San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers, of the Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddling School led by Alasdair Fraser. We perform three concerts in the springtime, and then there are various other smaller performances throughout the year, though I'm not generally involved with those. Here's the website: (<http://www.sfscottishfiddlers.org/>)

I used to be in a band, *World For Ransom*, from 94-96 that played in the city fairly frequently, but aside from the fiddle club, I don't actually perform much these days, instead spending my time working on my album. I left *World For Ransom* in '96 to do my first album, which I completed in '97, and put on CD in '98. It's called "Living Lighting", and I will give anyone who is interested a copy (I make them myself).

Since '97 or so, I've been working on my second album, which is all new material. It's 10 songs, 7 with lyrics and four instrumentals. As you can imagine, I'm pretty ready to be done with it, and hope to have it complete by the middle of next year.



**Strategic Development News**

Thanks to all of you who took the time to provide your ideas and suggestions for our Clean Up and "Refurb" Campaign. (c'mon, admit it, you did it for the candy) In keeping with our intent to involve the IHPS community in this process, while at the same time moving expeditiously to make meaningful improvements sooner rather than later, **PLEASE VOLUNTEER** for the committee of your choice. Sign Up sheets are in the main kitchen, or email John Meyer (John.Meyer@ucsf.edu).

It could be fun! You know, snacks, music, etc. And.....while we're on the subject of Beautification..... Tired of beige?



**"My IHPS SPACE"**

**Personalize your cubicle!** One such attractive example is **Rita Moreno's** cube; located near the west corner of IHPS, as you walk between the flyers up on the cubicle

walls, to your right, just before you enter the Core area. Beautiful boxes and plants decorate the top of a file cabinet; the theme is "the seasons." Each wall represents either spring, summer, fall, or winter.



**We Want you!**

- Please send in material for Issue #7 by January 22, 2007
- Feedback on our newsletter? We want your input!
- Writers for e-IHPS columns
- Please contact: [annie.larson@ucsf.edu](mailto:annie.larson@ucsf.edu)

December 2006

- ♣ Health Policy Seminars Mondays 12-1:30 PM
- ◆ IHPS Grand Rounds Monthly at Noon Room 263

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	♣ Mitchell Feldman, MD, MPhil (Special Session)	5	6	7	8	9
10		12	◆ Grand Rounds: 13 Carol Korenbrot, Ph.D.	14	15	16
17		White Elephant 19	20	21	22	23
24	UCSF Holiday 25	UCSF Holiday 26	27	28	UCSF Holiday 29	30