

**Jonathan Herington**

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**Sent:** Friday, 12 June 2009 3:01 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Herington  
**Subject:** Biosecurity News 17  
**Attachments:** image002.jpg; image001.jpg; SymposiumRegistrationFlyer.pdf

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[National Centre for Biosecurity](#)


**BIOSECURITY NEWS 17**

19 January 2009

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*\*\*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](mailto:j.herington@econ.usyd.edu.au))\*\**

**1. Symposium 2009 – Registration Closes 30 January**

A reminder that registrations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Biosecurity Symposium, to be held 9-10 February 2009 at The University of Sydney, are open (see attached flyer). A preliminary program will be distributed shortly. The deadline for registration is **30 January 2009**

*Registration Fees*

Registration fees for the symposium include lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea. All fees are listed in Australian Dollars:

Full registration (2 days)	\$250
Single day	\$150
Student	\$100

*Symposium Dinner*

The optional Symposium Dinner is to be held at the Forum Restaurant, Darlington Centre on the University of Sydney campus from 6:30pm on Monday 9 February. The cost (\$80) includes a three course meal and drinks. Attendance at the dinner will be limited to 100 registrants.

Further registration information and a web-based registration system are available at:  
[http://www.biosecurity.edu.au/conferences\\_reg.php](http://www.biosecurity.edu.au/conferences_reg.php).

## 2. Program News

The National Centre for Biosecurity welcomes you to 2009. National Centre for Biosecurity members from The University of Sydney recently travelled to Singapore as part of a collaboration with the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies and its Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS-Centre). The group, consisting of Jim Gillespie, Jenny-Ann Toribio, Christian Enemark and myself, participated in a conference on [Pandemic Preparedness in Asia](#) with a number of regional scholars and policymakers.

The NTS-Centre also hosted a [seminar](#) by the group on a range of biosecurity issues facing the region, including: avian influenza control in Indonesia, the emergence of MDR-TB in Papua, the risks associated with synthetic genomics and the legal regimes for laboratory biosecurity.

The Director of the NTS-Centre, Associate Professor Mely Caballero Anthony, will deliver a keynote address at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Biosecurity Symposium to be held 9-10 February 2009 at The University of Sydney.

Jon

## 3. Conferences, Seminars and Journal Issues

The US Department of Health and Human Services has released its *Guidance on Antiviral Drug Use during an Influenza Pandemic*. PDF accessed at: [http://www.pandemicflu.gov/vaccine/antiviral\\_use.pdf](http://www.pandemicflu.gov/vaccine/antiviral_use.pdf)

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The latest issue of *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism* (Volume 6, Number 4) has been released. Accessed at: <http://www.liebertonline.com/toc/bsp/6/4>

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The latest issue of *Global Public Health* (Volume 4, Number 1) has been released. Articles encompass health behaviours during epidemics, the politics of health in South America and China's engagement with global health governance. Accessed at:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~db=all~content=g907742351~tab=toc>

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The abstract deadline for the workshop, *Unhealthy Governance: Securitising Infectious Diseases in Asia*, has been extended to **26 January 2009**. The workshop will be held in Hong Kong on **21-22 May 2009**, with flights and accommodation provided for accepted presenters. More information can be obtained by contacting either Dr Nicholas Thomas, [ndthomas@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:ndthomas@cityu.edu.hk) or Professor Richard Fielding, [fielding@hkusua.hku.hk](mailto:fielding@hkusua.hku.hk).

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The Brocher Foundation is inviting calls for proposals to its 2010 Brocher Stays program. Researchers (including doctoral students) can apply for a one to six-month stay at the Brocher Foundation in Geneva. Accommodation, working space and a small per diem allowance are provided. Proposals can include research into: the ethical, legal and social issues, including political and economic aspects, of the life sciences and health. The deadline for submission of proposals is **2 March 2009**. For more information, please visit the Brocher Foundation website [www.brocher.ch](http://www.brocher.ch) or contact their staff at [scientificprog@brocher.ch](mailto:scientificprog@brocher.ch)

### Previous Announcements

- *Communicable Diseases Control (CDC) Conference*. **4-6 May 2009** in Canberra. More information: [www.diseases.consec.com.au](http://www.diseases.consec.com.au)
- *Genetics and Genomics of Infectious Disease*. Conference: **21-24 March 2009** in Singapore. More info: <http://www.nature.com/natureconferences/ggid2009/>
- *7th ASM Biodefense and Emerging Diseases Research Meeting*. Conference: **22-25 February 2009** in Baltimore, United States. More info: <http://www.asmbiodefense.org/Abstracts.asp>
- 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on *Influenza Vaccines for the World*. Conference: **27-30 April 2009** in Cannes, France. More info: [http://www.meetingsmanagement.com/ivw\\_2009/index.htm](http://www.meetingsmanagement.com/ivw_2009/index.htm)
- US Department of State's **Biosecurity Engagement Program** provides funding for travel to

biosecurity-related conferences. More information: <http://www.bepstate.net/index.html>

#### 4. News and Articles

##### Pandemic and Avian Influenza

'China treats toddler for bird flu'

18 January 2009

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/7835938.stm>

Nepal confirms first H5N1 outbreak in birds

16 January 2009

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/7833310.stm>

'Avian Influenza: Infection Study Worries Farmers, Bird Lovers'

16 January 2009

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/323/5912/324a>

New 1918 Influenza virulence factors suggested

14 January 2009

<http://www.pnas.org/content/106/2/588.short>

Media report:

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-wellbeing/health-news/researchers-unlock-secrets-of-1918-flu-pandemic-1217447.html>

Seasonal influenza almost all resistant to Tamiflu

8 January 2009

<http://www.ihf.com/articles/2009/01/08/america/09flu.php>

Also see CIDRAP report:

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/general/news/dec1208cdc.html>

Small changes in HA receptor may facilitate virulence of H5N1

7 January 2009

<http://www.pnas.org/content/106/1/286.short>

Role of non-structural proteins in H5N1 pathogenicity

18 December 2008

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v456/n7224/abs/nature07444.html>

##### HIV

*Nature* editorialises on the Obama administration and PEPFAR

15 January 2009

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v457/n7227/full/457236a.html>

Protests at trial of HIV doctors in Iran

13 January 2009

[http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jan13\\_1/b109](http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jan13_1/b109)

'Iran puts leading HIV scientists on trial'

7 January 2009

[http://blogs.nature.com/news/thegreatbeyond/2009/01/iran\\_puts\\_leading\\_hiv\\_scientis.html](http://blogs.nature.com/news/thegreatbeyond/2009/01/iran_puts_leading_hiv_scientis.html)

##### Zimbabwe Cholera Outbreak

Latest news:

<http://www.who.int/hac/crises/zwe/en/index.html>

'1 million Zimbabweans on brink of starvation: Oxfam'

16 January 2009

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/01/16/2467188.htm>

'NGOs allowed to address Zimbabwe's cholera crisis'

14 January 2009

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/01/14/2466184.htm>

'Zimbabwe cholera cases rise above 40,000: WHO'

14 January 2009

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/01/14/2466239.htm>

'Health crisis in Zimbabwe is "man-made"'

13 January 2009

[http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jan13\\_2/b100](http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jan13_2/b100)

Botswana records eight suspected cholera cases

18 December 2008

[http://www.gov.bw/cgi-bin/news.cgi?d=20081218&i=Ministry\\_records\\_eight\\_suspected\\_cholera\\_cases](http://www.gov.bw/cgi-bin/news.cgi?d=20081218&i=Ministry_records_eight_suspected_cholera_cases)

'Health system problems aggravate cholera outbreak'

10 December 2008

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2008/pr49/en/index.html>

### **Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases**

'Global capacity for surveillance and response to emerging diseases of zoonotic origin'

11 January 2009

[http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12522](http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12522)

'Qld Govt stands ready to strengthen dengue fight'

9 January 2009

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/01/09/2462117.htm>

120 cases so far:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/01/16/2467313.htm>

'Unsexy tuberculosis' (XDR-TB)

3 January 2009

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608619522/fulltext>

Ebola Outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo

26 December 2008

[http://www.who.int/csr/don/2008\\_12\\_26a/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/don/2008_12_26a/en/index.html)

### **Biological Weapons**

'Portrait emerges of anthrax suspect's troubled life'

4 January 2009

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/04/us/04anthrax.html>

'Terror medicine can save lives'

4 January 2009

<http://washingtontimes.com/news/2009/jan/04/terror-medicine-can-save-lives/>

'Anthrax attacks less likely today, US Army officer says'

19 December 2008

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20081219\\_8332.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20081219_8332.php)

'Bioterrorism: a preventable catastrophe'

18 December 2008

[http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial\\_opinion/oped/articles/2008/12/18/bioterrorism\\_a\\_preventable\\_catastrophe/](http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial_opinion/oped/articles/2008/12/18/bioterrorism_a_preventable_catastrophe/)

Al Qaeda 'anthrax expert' released by Malaysian authorities

17 December 2008

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/175679>

### **Biosecurity Policy and Ethics**

'Science wins big in US economic plan'

16 January 2009

<http://www.nature.com/news/2009/090116/full/news.2009.35.html>

'Export controls: current system hampers U.S. innovation'

16 January 2009

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/323/5912/319>

<http://www8.nationalacademies.org/onpinews/newsitem.aspx?RecordID=12567>

and the full NAP report:

[http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12567](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12567)

'Bush Establishes Laboratory Biosecurity Panel'

9 January 2009

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20090112\\_2069.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20090112_2069.php)

and the full Executive Order:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2009/01/20090109-6.html>

Detention of US National Academies sponsored scientist in Iran

26 December 2009

<http://www8.nationalacademies.org/onpinews/newsitem.aspx?RecordID=20081226>

'Do it yourself DNA: amateurs trying genetic engineering at home' (AP story)

25 December 2008

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/12/25/do-it-yourself-dna-amateu\\_n\\_153489.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/12/25/do-it-yourself-dna-amateu_n_153489.html)

Venter Institute assembles synthetic bacterium

24 December 2008

<http://www.pnas.org/content/105/51/20404.short>

'Man-made SARS virus spreads fear' (comment by NCB Director Ian Ramshaw on synthetic SARS)

24 December 2008

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/news/local/news/general/manmade-sars-virus-spreads-fear/1394539.aspx?storypage=1>

'Report Faults U.S. Strategy for Nanotoxicology Research'

19 December 2008

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/322/5909/1779a>

#### Global Health Governance and Disease Control

*BMJ* editorial on the debate surrounding 'health as a human right'

15 January 2009

[http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jan15\\_1/b136](http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jan15_1/b136)

Discussion of 2001 UK foot and mouth outbreak and the role of modelling in policy

15 January 2009

<http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/columnists/laura-h-kahn/modeling-disease-spread>

'Health in Difficult Environments: The Case For "Cross-Border" Health Care'

13 January 2009

<http://medicine.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1000005>

Best wishes and happy researching,

Jon

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