From: Alexis Pillsbury
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BIOSECURITY NEWS 36

11 December 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. Program News

The National Centre for Biosecurity invites you to register for the 2010 Biosecurity Symposium at: http://www.biosecurity.edu.au/conference/registration.php.

The Symposium will be held at the Australian National University on **1 – 2 February 2010**. The symposium is an opportunity for the exchange of information and ideas between scientists, academics, health professionals, government officials, members of non-government organisations, and other interested individuals. Topics will include:

- Responding to infectious disease crises in Australia and the Asia-Pacific
- The epidemiology of public health and animal health emergencies
- The development and use of biological weapons by state and non-state actors
- Ethical dilemmas and security risks of research on pathogenic micro-organisms
- International law and domestic regulation
- Relevance and applications of new technologies to biosecurity challenges
- Ethical, social and cultural dimensions of biosecurity

Keynote speakers include:

Professor Ray Zilinskas, Director, Chemical and Biological Weapons Program, James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies
Professor Harvey Rubin, Director, Institute for Strategic Threat Analysis and Reduction, University of Pennsylvania
Dr Stefan Elbe, Head, Department of International Relations, University of Sussex

Fees (AUD): Full Registration (two days) $200

Students & Emeritus Faculty	FREE
Dinner (optional)	$60

The deadline for registration is 22 January 2010.

Enquiries:

Jon Herington
National Centre for Biosecurity
Australian National University
+61 2 6125 9009
biosecurity@anu.edu.au

Alexis Pillsbury
Centre for International Security Studies
The University of Sydney
+61 2 9351 5739
a.pillsbury@econ.usyd.edu.au

Kind regards,

Alexis Pillsbury

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2. Journal Issues and Conferences

The current issue (December 2009, vol. 27, no. 12) of *Nature Biotechnology* features a focus on synthetic biology.
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Previous Announcements

- Geneva's Brocher Foundation has issued a Call for Proposals for visiting researchers in 2011. The Foundation awards residencies of one to six months for researchers conducting projects on the ethical, legal and social implications for humankind of recent medical research and new technologies, including access to medicines, biobanks, biosecurity and dual use dilemma, clinical trials and research on human subjects, genetic testing and screening, health care reform, nanotechnology, neglected disease, pandemic planning, reproduction & technology, stem cells, transplantation. In 2011 the Brocher Centre will host up to ten researchers at any one time. The deadline is 18 January 2010. More information
- *Global Biosecurity 2010: safeguarding agriculture and the environment* will be held in Brisbane, Australia, on 28 February – 3 March 2010. More information
- The International Society for Infectious Diseases is organising the *14th International Congress on Infectious Diseases* (ICID) in Miami, Florida, USA, on 9 – 12 March 2010. More information
- The Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) International Symposium and Workshop is taking place from 12 – 14 April 2010 in Melbourne, Australia. The theme for the Symposium and Workshop is *Integrating Science and Management*. More information
- The *2010 International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases* will be held 11 – 14 July 2010 in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. More information
- The US Department of State's Biosecurity Engagement Program provides funding for travel to biosecurity-related conferences. More information

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3. Special Coverage: World AIDS Day 2009

'Asia grapples with unexpected wave of HIV infections'
Science
27 November 2009

'Moving forward in HIV vaccine development'

Science
27 November 2009

'Can this man cure AIDS?'
Newsweek
30 November 2009

'The more things change…' (HIV in China)
Newsweek
30 November 2009

'The PEPFAR paradox'
Newsweek
30 November 2009

'The World Health Organization changes HIV 'drug advice''
BBC
30 November 2009
(WHO report referred to: 'Rapid advice: antiretroviral therapy for HIV infection in adults and adolescents')

'PEPFAR 5-year strategy'
US Government
December 2009

'S. Africa to treat all HIV-positive babies'
MSNBC
1 December 2009

'The comeback of AIDS activism'
Newsweek
1 December 2009

'Bridging an inexplicable divide: integrating reproductive health services and the global HIV/AIDS response'
RH Reality Check
2 December 2009

'HIV tests turn blood into cash in China'
The New York Times
2 December 2009

'Are we bored with AIDS?'
NPR and *The New Republic*
3 December 2009

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4. News and Articles

H1N1 Influenza Pandemic 2009

'What's Your Underlying Condition?' (opinion)
The New York Times
26 November 2009

'WHO: drug resistant clusters unlikely to signal change in H1N1'
The Canadian Press
26 November 2009

'Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 – update 77'
WHO
4 December 2009
and
'Weekly update (virological surveillance data)'
WHO
4 December 2009

‘Whither 2009 H1N1?’
Virology Blog
4 December 2009

‘Aussies avoiding swine flu jab: expert’
The Sydney Morning Herald
7 December 2009

‘New York autopsies show 2009 H1N1 influenza virus damages entire airway’
NIH News
7 December 2009

‘Swine flu 'far milder' than feared’
ABC News
9 December 2009

‘Transmission of Tamiflu-resistant H1N1 on a Vietnamese train 'a concern': WHO’
The Canadian Press
9 December 2009

‘Value of Tamiflu for seasonal flu questioned’
The Canadian Press
9 December 2009
and
‘The Tamiflu doesn’t work non-story’ (opinion)
Effect Measure
10 December 2009

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Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases

‘Kenya faces worst epidemic in 10 years’ (cholera)
Daily Nation
30 November 2009

‘Global measles deaths drop by 78%’
WHO
3 December 2009

‘Mozzie find raises dengue fears’
ABC News
4 December 2009

‘The long shadow of malaria interventions in tropical Africa’
The Lancet
5 December 2009

‘36 million people with TB cured’
WHO
8 December 2009

‘Looking for trouble’
Nature
10 December 2009

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Biosecurity Policy and Ethics

‘Rob Carlson on synthetic biology’ (Video interview)
The Economist
26 November 2009

‘Educating scientists about dual use’

Science
27 November 2009

'Researcher at army lab infected with rabbit fever'
Science
4 December 2009

'US drafts guidelines to screen genes'
Nature
4 December 2009
(Report referred to: 'Screening framework guidance for synthetic double-stranded DNA providers')

'Threat of animal rights violence influenced decision to cancel anthrax project'
Science
7 December 2009

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Global Health Governance and Disease Control

'Where did all the aid go? An in-depth analysis of increased health aid flows over the past 10 years'
Bulletin of the World Health Organization
December 2009

'Could they all be prion diseases?'
Science
4 December 2009

'Epidemic dynamics at the human-animal interface'
Science
4 December 2009

'The need for science in the practice of public health'
NEJM
9 December 2009

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Happy researching and happy holidays,

Alexis

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Alexis Pillsbury
Projects Officer (Biosecurity)
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Centre for International Security Studies
The University of Sydney