

# CHALLENGE

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SUMMER 1984



*Marilyn Johnson describes her work responsibilities during an on-campus session for the Independent Study Program in Nutrition Administration.*

## Nutrition Graduate Applies Skills On Blackfeet Indian Reservation

A typical day's work for Marilyn Johnson includes counseling pregnant mothers on proper diet, recommending supplemental foods for infants, and referring children to public health services for medical attention.

Johnson has been director of the Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Program at the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning, Montana, since January. Her responsibilities include nutrition education, direct patient care services, and administrative duties. She and her staff of two have assisted more than 1,000 clients in the last six months. Although they have increased the number of people helped, limited state funds prohibit them from serving many who are in need.

Johnson also serves as a member of the State Advisory Board of the Blackfeet Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Project, a federally funded demonstration project for community and professional education and research.

A 1983 graduate of the School of Public Health's Independent Study Program in Nutrition Administration (ISP/NA), an advanced credential program, Johnson is the first person in that specialty area to also complete the M.P.H. degree. In June she received the Ruth Stief Chair Award, which is presented annually to an M.P.H. graduate for achievement and leadership potential in public health nutrition.

Johnson, who grew up in Bowman, North Dakota, earned a B.S. degree in community nutrition from North Dakota State University in 1971. She has worked as a community nutritionist and nutrition consultant with several state and federal agencies. When she entered the ISP/NA program in 1981, she was a nutritionist with the Navaho WIC Program in Shiprock, Arizona.

The independent study approach appealed to Johnson because it allowed her

*Johnson continued on page 3*

## Alumni Society Plans Meeting For October

School of Public Health alumni will return to campus October 19 and 20 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the school and to hold their annual meeting. The theme of the gathering will be "Public Health: Multidisciplinary and Interdisciplinary."

Friday night's keynote speaker will be Milton Terris, editor of the *Journal of Public Health Policy*. Terris will review the history of public health and will discuss current issues and problems as well as the future of the profession.

Activities for Saturday morning include a panel discussion on the broader multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary theme and its application at a variety of practitioner levels. The panel moderator, Phyllis Fleming, associate professor in public health nutrition, will introduce panel participants Sister Mary Madonna, commissioner of health of the Minnesota Department of Health and an alumna of the school; Henry Blackburn, director of the epidemiology division; Mila Aroskar, associate professor in public health nursing and an authority on ethics; Hal Leppink, executive officer of the St. Louis County Board of Health, Duluth, Minnesota, and an alumnus of the school; James Kenney, director of the Minnesota Coalition on Health Care Costs; and William Rom, director of the Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health.

Panel participants will lead small-group discussion sessions focusing on resolved and unresolved problems faced by alumni at their work settings. A summary of discussions and conclusions will be presented when the group reconvenes.

The election of four new members of the Alumni Society's Board of Directors will be on the agenda for the business  
*Alumni Society continued on page 4*



*Alton Hollenbeck is pictured with the School of Public Health Award presented to him by the Recognition, Awards, and Honors Committee.*

## Hollenbeck Receives School Award

Producing approximately 8,000 photographic slides a year for faculty presentations and classroom use, preparing laboratories for environmental health classes, and monitoring health and safety equipment are only some of the duties of Alton Hollenbeck, scientist in the environmental health program.

Hollenbeck, a staff member in the school for the past 34 years, received the School of Public Health Award for outstanding performance and dedicated commitment to students, faculty, and staff at a reception held June 14. He began his career at the school in 1950, when he joined the environmental health

staff as a junior scientist. He was promoted to assistant scientist, associate scientist, and finally, scientist.

Marilyn Zappia, senior secretary in environmental health, is one of many staff members who appreciate Hollenbeck and his "in-house" expertise in many areas. "Personally, I am aware of his responsible and professional performance daily, year in and year out," she said.

A faculty member who regularly seeks help from Hollenbeck in preparing visual aids, Robert ten Bensel, director of the maternal and child health program, commented: "Al's work is professional, and he takes a genuine interest in the subject matter, so that each time I show a slide, his mark of quality is on that product. He takes extreme pride in his work, is more than competent, and is a professional in the highest sense of the word."

Environmental health student John Mulhausen has worked with Hollenbeck first as a student, later as a teaching assistant, and now as a Ph.D. candidate seeking advice and assistance in troubleshooting problems on a research project. "During all that time," he said, "I have been continually impressed with his helpfulness, knowledge, and earnest enthusiasm with which he teaches others."

What does Hollenbeck say?: "I treat my division and school like I treat a home."

Nominated for the award by the school's Staff Association, Hollenbeck was enthusiastically approved by the Recognition, Awards, and Honors Committee. Our congratulations!

## ALUMNI NOTES

- **Dan Bain** (M.P.H., environmental health, 1970) is a regional health officer in Rockford, Illinois.

- **Keith Burau** (Ph.D., biometry, 1980) is a programmer/analyst in the School of Public Health at the University of Texas in Houston.

- **Mary Lou Christensen** (M.P.H., public health nursing, 1976) is associate director of public health nursing services in Ramsey County.

- **Roger DeRoos** (Ph.D., environmental health, 1973) is director of environmental health and safety at the University of Washington.

- **Diane Donilon** (M.P.H., public health nursing, 1981) is a nursing instructor at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Utah.

- **Laura Folden** (M.P.H., public health nursing, 1966) is a health services coordinator in School District 281 in Minneapolis.

- **David Giese** (M.P.H., environmental health, 1970) is the new assistant director of the Minnesota Department of Health's Division of Maternal and Child Health.

- **Kyung-Hee Kim** (Ph.D., environmental health, 1975) is an assistant professor in the Department of Microbiology of the Medical School at Han Yang University in Seoul, Korea.

- **Raymond A. Kuthy** (M.P.H., dental public health, 1979) is chief of the Division of Dental Health in the Illinois Department of Public Health in Springfield.

- **Cheryl Ann Lapp** (M.P.H., public health nursing, 1979) is an instructor at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing and also a doctoral student in family studies.

- **Georgianna Larson** (M.P.H., public health nursing, 1982) is an assistant maternal and child health coordinator with the Minneapolis Department of Health.

- **Roberta Lee** (M.P.H., public health nursing, 1975) is an associate professor at the School of Nursing at the

University of Texas in Galveston.

● **James Lieberman** (M.P.H., veterinary public health, 1947) is director of the Department of Health in Greenwich, Connecticut.

● **Robert Murray** (M.P.H., environmental health, 1970) is a health commissioner in West Allis, Wisconsin.

● **John New** (M.P.H., veterinary public health, 1977) is an associate professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville, Tennessee.

● **Ingrid Ritchie** (Ph.D., environmental health, 1980) is an assistant professor in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University.

● **Wayne Thompson** (M.P.H., health officer, 1958) is a professor of preventive medicine at the University of Wisconsin Medical School.

● **Raymond W. Thron** (Ph.D., environmental health, 1975) is the new director of environmental health at the Minnesota Department of Health.

● **Richard A. Wissell** (M.P.H., environmental health, 1967) is a public health administrator in Woodstock, Illinois.

● **Douglas A. Wood** (M.P.H., environmental health, 1977) is a deputy administrator at the Washington County Courthouse.

● **Susan Zahner** (M.P.H., public health nursing, 1983) is a volunteer public health nurse in Thailand with the American Refugee Committee.

## ● NEWS BRIEFS ●

### Accreditation

The School of Public Health will undergo an accreditation review in April 1985 by the Council on Education for Public Health. Faculty, staff, students, alumni, school committees, and community representatives are already involved in the internal review process required prior to the accreditation site visit. Survey questionnaires have been mailed to students registered in the 1980-81 academic year.

### Occupational Health and Safety Institute

The second annual Graduate Occupational Health and Safety Institute will be held September 10 through 21 at the Earle Brown Continuing Education Center on the St. Paul campus. Introductory and review courses in occupational health management principles, industrial hygiene, occupational health nursing, occupational and environmental toxicology, industrial safety, occupational safety, occupational medicine, epidemiology, and health statistics will be offered.

Course instructors include James Boen, Richard Culbertson, Susan Gerberich, Marcus Kjelsberg, Jack Mandel, Charles McJilton, Elaine Richard, and Jeffrey Stevens from the School of Public Health as well as faculty members from the Mayo Medical School in Rochester, the St. Paul-Ramsey Medical Center, and the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

For more information, contact the Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety, (612) 221-3992.

*Johnson continued from page 1*

to combine her educational studies with her professional work as a nutritionist. Over the past three years, she attended three concentrated summer sessions and one full-time quarter on campus. She completed the required 20 independent study units with readings and written assignments relating classroom studies of theory and principles to her work situation, and she met regularly with her clinical preceptor. Her research project focused on fetal alcohol syndrome.

When asked why she sought a career in public health nutrition, Johnson an-

swered: "I like seeing tangible results, and nutrition makes a daily difference in life." She believes that health factors such as nutrition cannot be isolated and that as a nutritionist she must be aware of all health practices of her clients in order to foster improvement in their total well-being. Johnson is committed to the preventive approach, working with people before they develop chronic problems that result from poor nutrition or health practices. Good public health workers can make a difference through example and dedication, she said.

Johnson lives on the Blackfeet reservation with her husband and two children.



*From left, Alcohol and Drug Counseling Education Program (ADCEP) staff and faculty members Sally Bennett, Constance Fabumni, Bil Goodman, and Bruce Fischer joined Robert Schwanke at a reception to honor the program held in May. ADCEP, a collaborative extension program that has been housed in the School of Public Health since it was formed by Schwanke in 1969, has now relocated to the Department of Family Social Science in the College of Home Economics.*

## ● FACULTY NEWS ●

● **Robert K. Anderson**, professor and director of veterinary public health, has been named director of the Center To Study Human-Animal Relationships and Environments (CENSHARE). He succeeds Stanley L. Diesch of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

● **Mila Aroskar**, associate professor of public health nursing, is vice president of the Institute of Society, Ethics, and the Life Sciences of the Hastings Center, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, for 1984. The Hastings Center, founded in 1969, is involved in research, education, and consultation in ethics. Major areas of interest include death and dying, behavior control, genetics, population, and health policy. The vice president is elected by the center's board of directors from the group of over 90 fellows.

● **Henry Blackburn**, professor and head of epidemiology, received the Faculty Scholar Award from the Delta Omega Society during the American Public Health Association's annual meeting last November. Delta Omega, the honorary public health society, presents national merit awards to honor outstanding achievement by public health faculty, graduate students, and alumni.

● **Lester Block**, associate professor and director of dental public health and public health administration, has been elected to the executive council of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry and appointed chair of the association's executive policy committee.

● **Judith Garrard**, associate professor in health education, conducted research and consultation in Budapest, Hungary, this summer under a grant sponsored by a joint program between the Fogarty Inter-



*Professor Emeritus Ancel Keys (center) receives the Board of Regents' Award of Special Recognition from regents chair Lauris Krenik in April (see Health Sciences magazine story, page 15). With Keys is his wife, Margaret.*

national Center of the National Institutes of Health and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Garrard is the first American to receive the grant.

● **Anne Goldman**, associate professor of biometry, was promoted to full professor July 1. Goldman, who has been with the school since 1970, specializes in biometric consultation in clinical research and data base management.

● **John Kralewski**, professor and head of the Center for Health Services Research, has been named cochair of the editorial board for the journal *Health Services Research*. He was appointed by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration.

● **Theodor Litman**, professor in hospital and health care administration, has coedited a book, *Health Politics and Policy*, designed for students in public

health, health care administration, and public affairs. The book is published by John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

● **Marla E. Salmon**, associate professor and director of public health nursing and acting director of community public health programs, has been selected a Kellogg National Fellow by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. The three-year fellowship began July 1.

● **Ruth Stryker-Gordon**, associate professor in hospital and health care administration, received the journalism award and **G. Kenneth Gordon**, associate professor in hospital and health care administration, received the education award from the Minnesota chapter of the American College of Health Care Administrators last March. Both awards were for outstanding professional achievement.

*Alumni Society continued from page 1*

meeting that follows. A report from the Future Directions Committee and a discussion of priorities and activities for the Alumni Society are also on the agenda. Results of a membership survey conducted earlier this year will be presented.

Donna Anderson, current president of the Alumni Society, will chair this second annual meeting. Anderson, a graduate of the health education program, is director of community health services for

Dakota County, Minnesota.

Alumni Society activities will be held in the Radisson Hotel Metrodome on the West Bank of the Minneapolis campus and in Coffman Memorial Union on the East Bank.

For more information, contact the School of Public Health Alumni Society, Minnesota Alumni Association, 100 Morrill Hall, 100 Church Street S.E., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455, (612) 373-8060.

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