

# PEER to PEER

## The College of Arts and Sciences Academic Student Newsletter

Inside this issue:

New Chair of Sociology

Fall 2010 Checklist

Event Spotlight: Issues in Global Health

Tips from your Peer Advisors: Putting Together a Schedule

Important Reminders

Student FAQ of the Month:

Q: How can my Peer Advisor help with registration?

A: We can help you...

- Put together a schedule
- Select courses to fulfill general education or major requirements
- Select courses that allow you to explore your interests and learn more about majors and minors

Stop by during our office hours or make an appointment via the 24-hour online scheduler: <http://www.american.edu/cas/advising/undergraduate.cfm>.

### New Chair in Sociology Department is Bringing Health Focus to Curriculum

The new Chair of the Sociology Department, Prof. Kim Blankenship, has some exciting ideas for the sociology department. When I spoke with her recently about the goals and focus of the department, she emphasized the importance of integrating sociology with other fields.

Societal issues are sometimes overlooked when addressing a problem, espe-

cially in the field of health where science reigns supreme.

Blankenship would like to bring health and sociology closer together in research and in the classroom.

The more interdisciplinary focus in sociology is based on Blankenship's experience working on the social issues connected with the research and treatment of HIV/AIDS. This focus on public health will guide the

changes in the sociology department and Blankenship plans to get curriculum on the books soon.

For more information about the sociology major stop by the department office located in Battelle-Tompkins T-21 or visit their website at: [www.american.edu/cas/sociology](http://www.american.edu/cas/sociology)



### End of Fall 2010 Semester Checklist

Your Peer Advisors want to make sure you have covered all your bases as the semester comes to a close. We have prepared a short checklist of things to be aware of:

- Know your final exam schedule. Visit: [www.american.edu/provost/registrar/finalexamschedule/Fall-2010](http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/finalexamschedule/Fall-2010)
- Check your "student snapshot" at [my.american.edu](http://my.american.edu) for final grades (usually posted

within 72 hours of the final.) This is also a good place to look and see if your schedule for next semester and your financial aid is correct.

- If you live in university housing, make sure you know protocol for winter break. Check with your RA for complete information.
- Continue to check your AU email over break for updates. (Especially if you are on any waitlists!)



## Event Spotlight: Issues in Global Health

Join CAS and the Premedical Program in welcoming Dr. Edward O'Neil for **Understanding and Acting on Global Health Inequality: A Unique Service/ Training Opportunity in Uganda.**

**On Tuesday, November 16 from 7 to 8pm,** Dr. O'Neil from Tufts University will be giving a talk in the **Katzen Museum.** O'Neil is the Chair of the Health Service Taskforce in Sub-Saharan Africa as part of the Brookings Institution's International Volunteering and Service Initiative. His speech will focus on why global health work is important and how to get in-

volved as a volunteer. O'Neil has done substantial work in Uganda and is the founder of Omni Med, a non-profit organization that works to reduce global health inequality by inspiring more health providers to serve internationally.

Students interested in public health, international development, or the medical field will find this talk particularly engaging.

To learn more about O'Neil's organization, visit [www.omnimed.org](http://www.omnimed.org).



Dr. Edward O'Neil



### Tips from your Peer Advisors: Putting Together a Schedule

Sometimes it's difficult to keep track of all the elements that make a balanced schedule. Here are some great resources for planning your schedule:

- The **DARS** report on your my.american.edu portal is a great tool for looking at major, university, and general education requirements. You can use the DARS to make a list of classes you need/want to take to complete your requirements.
- Next, check to see if those classes are offered using the schedule of classes on the Registrar's webpage. You can search by open sections, professor,

subject, and semester.

- Finally, make sure that none of the classes overlap! Always have back up choices. Put together a weekly calendar that includes all the courses you've chosen as well as your other time commitments to see if it's a schedule that works for you.

Most importantly, remember that the peer advisors are here to help! Feel free to make an appointment with us for individual help with your schedule. We will also be available for drop-in advising in TDR, the Tavern and the Mudbox (see important reminders for details).

**"What if the ideal of global health equity were to move from a surreal dream of the few into the mainstream of modern medicine, and health were to become a birthright for all people, regardless of their nationality or income? "**

-[www.OmniMed.org](http://www.OmniMed.org)

### Important Reminders:

- **11/15 and 11/17–11/19: Drop-in Peer Advising** Registration help. TDR 12-2 pm.
- **11/16: NGO Founder's Discussion of Global Health Issues.** Katzen Museum, 7-8 pm.
- **11/18: Peer Advising Schedule Clinic.** Tavern, 8-10 pm. Stop by to get one-on-one help with your spring schedule!
- **11/24–11/26: Thanksgiving Break.** No Classes. Friday classes held on Tuesday. University offices closed 11/25–11/26.
- **11/30: Peer Advising Schedule Clinic.** Mudbox, 8-10 pm.
- **12/3: Last day of classes.**
- **12/6: Beginning of Finals Week.** Good Luck!

