



SF Bay Area PSR news

PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

THE ACTIVE CONSCIENCE OF AMERICAN MEDICINE

“Boots on the Ground; Shoes on the Ground” UCSF Exhibit Represents Soldiers & Civilians Killed in the Iraq War

By Michael Geschwind MD, PhD, and
Shipra Shukla

The UCSF Parnassus campus was transformed on September 19, 2007, by a traveling national exhibit entitled “Eyes Wide Open.” At the UCSF exhibit, called “Boots on the Ground; Shoes on the Ground,” more than 300 pairs of military boots, representing soldiers from California killed in the Iraq war, covered the campus courtyard and lined the Parnassus Avenue campus sidewalk. The exhibit was brought to UCSF by the UCSF Iraq Action Group (IAG), an alliance of students, faculty, and staff united to educate each other, the campus community, and the public about the health effects of the Iraq war on American and Iraqi citizens and soldiers. In May 2007, the IAG along with SF Bay Area PSR and several other organizations, hosted a well attended teach-in at UCSF on the health consequences of the Iraq war (see June 2007 issue of *SF Bay Area PSR News*).

Many of the boots in this exhibit have a tag attached with the name of the soldier who had worn them. In addition to the military boots, the IAG supplemented the exhibit with

hundreds of pairs of donated adult and children’s shoes representing the civilians killed in the war. The shoes belonging to fallen civilians carried no tag and provided an eerie contrast against the sea of black boots. These shoes were donated to charity following the exhibit. “Eyes Wide Open” began touring the country in 2003 and is sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC).

One of the key organizers of this exhibit, Nooshin Razani, MD, MPH, a UCSF fellow at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, and a member of the UCSF IAG, lost her 19-year-old brother Omead Razani while he was serving as a medic for the US Army in Habbaniyah, Iraq. The AFSC asked Dr. Razani to speak when it came to San Francisco’s Civic Center two years ago. After seeing the exhibit, she decided it needed to come to UCSF. “I was so moved that people could come and see the boots,” she said. “When you’re a family member, you get the soldier’s boots. That’s all you have left of them. I wanted to bring the



The boots of Omead Razani, a US Army medic who died in the Iraq war, was among the 400 pairs displayed at the exhibit at UCSF

exhibit here to UCSF. I think it’s especially poignant that it’s here. This is a health sciences campus, and all day long we talk about how to keep people healthy, and here are [the shoes of] previously healthy people who died from a preventable cause.”

The exhibit was held at UCSF just a few days before the September 21 nationwide Iraq

(Continued on page 7)

Welcome, Evan and Thank You, Marj!

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility is pleased to announce the selection of Evan Krasner, MD, as our new full-time Executive Director.

Dr. Krasner received his MD from the University of Maryland and trained in internal medicine in Chicago and North Carolina. After completing a program at Johns Hopkins in tropical medicine and public health, he spent time working as a volunteer physician in Ecuador and Bolivia while also practicing ambulatory medicine in Providence, Rhode Island. Since moving to the Bay Area, Evan has been writing and editing professionally, and recently had a story accepted for publication in

a national literary magazine. He comes to PSR with a deep commitment to social justice and health equality.

The Chapter Steering Committee and Staff would also like to extend our fondest appreciations to Marj Plumb, Dr.P.H, for seven years of service to the chapter as our administrative consultant. Through Dr. Plumb’s stewardship the chapter has been able to focus and expand our program work, grow our steering committee and membership, and strengthen our administrative structure. We are fortunate that Marj will continue her support of the chapter through a more limited role of mentoring and supporting Evan in his new position.

• from our president •

Dear PSR friends and supporters,

As someone who regularly corresponds with you about the significant challenges we face, such as preventing the worst scenarios of climate change or a possible war in Iran, it is personally gratifying to be sending out our latest newsletter that underscores the breadth of our ongoing work to help make the changes that matter for all of us.

While we are a relatively small organization by the numbers, we recognize our special role in articulating and mobilizing the unique voice of medical and public health professionals to provide critical support for the various campaigns of fraternal organizations laboring daily to change our national priorities. Common to all our work is the imperative need to stop spending our increasingly scarce resources on continued wars for fossil fuels and new nuclear weapons. We must fully fund real human needs that are at the core of protecting public and environmental health.

As you can glimpse from our newsletter, our activities continue to be centered on informing our physician colleagues, and the next generation of physicians at medical schools around the Bay Area, on numerous issues too often lacking within the current scope of medical education and practice. In line with this, we have maintained our focus on developing creative policy initiatives among colleagues in diverse organizations, ranging from the California Medical Association through the American Public Health Association.

Our work over the years has deepened on these issues. We have joined forces with numerous partners in initiating and sustaining projects that cut to the core of transforming the hospitals and clinics in which we practice into model institutions that counteract the energy and environmental crisis in which we find ourselves. With years of working to eliminate toxics like mercury and PVC plastics from healthcare settings, we are now working in coalition on a wide variety of green healthcare practices to reduce significantly the medical industry's substantial contribution to climate change.

One of our most exciting projects in this regard has been our Healthy Food in Hospitals Campaign. In tandem with moving towards bringing healthy and nutritious food to both inpatients and those visiting our clinics, we are encouraging the reliance on locally-sourced food to support sustainable agriculture that avoids the fossil-fuel burden of food miles associated with the global food industry. As such, we reap the dual benefit of better patient and public/environmental health.

On this and other fronts, we think we have a lot to be proud of. But so much more needs to be done. Your continued support of our chapter's work allows us to expand our outreach so that we can optimize the needed voice and input of physicians for all these necessary changes, and to be a more effective and compelling voice for reason and sanity in these dangerous times. As always, we count on you to sustain our ability to reach-out and make a difference.

With warm regards,



Robert M. Gould, MD
President, SF Bay Area PSR

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of PSR is a non-profit educational organization committed to the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, the achievement of a sustainable environment, and the reduction of violence and its causes.

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Antibiotics, Hormones and Genetically Engineered Organisms

Is This a Healthy Way to Eat?

By Jeff Ritterman, MD

We can lessen climate change, prevent obesity, save our waterways, prevent many occupational injuries and illnesses, and combat antibiotic resistance. There is a simple common link between these seemingly diverse concerns: Industrial agriculture.

Today's sad irony is that agriculture is a major polluter of our nation's air, soil and water. Fertilizer runoff into the Mississippi River has caused a hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico that is the size of New Jersey and completely barren of marine life. Billions of fish have been killed in our nation's waterways due to the contamination by manure from Concentrated Agricultural Feeding Operations (CAFOs).

These same meat production "factories" feed their livestock 70% of the antibiotics consumed in this country. The inevitable consequence, of course, is the production of resistant bacteria destined to cause serious

human illness. More than 300,000 Americans are hospitalized, and 5,000 of us die yearly from food borne illnesses. Over one third of these cases are from tainted meat, usually from animals raised on large feedlots. Take the case of Lauren Randolph, a five year old who died a week after eating a contaminated hamburger from a fast food outlet. The bacteria that killed the youngster were resistant to multiple antibiotics.

This same industrial food system produces twice as many calories as we need, pours \$25–30 billion into advertising junk foods, and coats almost everything with high fructose corn syrup, which is a cheap sweetener derived from corn. As a direct result, 30% of Americans are now obese.

Perhaps most serious of all, industrial agriculture is a major source of green house gases from food production, storage and transport. It is a system completely dependent on fossil fuel use. The average food item travels more than 1,500 miles to reach our plates.

We all eat. We all can make a difference. The system we need to embrace and build is one of local, small family farms and gardens which avoid the use of pesticides, hormones and antibiotics. We need to grow as much of our food locally as we can. Local is the way to have fresh food and to avoid the energy and green house gas costs of shipping long distances. It is also a way to preserve local wild spaces, prevent urban sprawl, and keep community financial resources circulating locally.

The PSR Food Committee is actively working on changing our food system to one which is healthy both for the individual and for the planet. We are currently working with several local hospitals to encourage local sourcing of produce, meat and poultry. Our committee also provides grand rounds presentations to

help doctors more fully understand the adverse health effects of our current food system. We believe that doctors can play an important role in changing the way America eats. Doctors can model healthy eating behavior and can also encourage hospitals and medical clinics to become centers of healthy eating.

After SF Bay Area PSR presented grand rounds on what a healthy food system would look like, the pediatricians of San Francisco General Hospital began working with a local organic farm to start a CSA at the hospital. A CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) is a prepaid system of food purchasing. Local farms deliver boxes of fresh produce which customers pick up weekly. The customers are treated to farm-fresh produce, and the farmers are assured a market for their goods. A wonderful way to encourage local organic production is to stimulate a growing demand for healthy food choices. Imagine if our hospitals and the cafeterias in our medical centers all began sourcing local, fresh and organic produce. That is our goal. We need your help to make it a reality.

The Food Committee of SF Bay Area PSR believes that if we change the food system, much else in this country which needs changing will follow suit. Contact us if you would like us to speak to your hospital or clinic. We envision a time when all medical centers will have active food committees planning the healthiest way to feed their patients and the healthiest way for the food to be produced and transported. Together, we can create a food system which truly nourishes us and sustains the very systems which support all life.

For more information about the SF Bay Area PSR food working group or to schedule a presentation at your healthcare facility, please contact Lucia Sayre at 510-559-8777 or luciasayre@sbcglobal.net. ■

Sign Up for Our Email Action Alerts

SF Bay Area PSR sends two to four action alerts per month on topics of interest to our members. To sign up to be a part of our activist network and receive these action alerts, visit www.sfbaypsr.org/action.html.

We do not sell or give our email alert lists to any other organizations although we will occasionally forward action items from other organizations to our members if we believe the item would be of interest.

Recent Policy Work

A quick look back to 2007 reveals significant success by our chapter in getting several important resolutions adopted by three influential medical policy institutions.

Chapter President Bob Gould and long-time PSR member Vic Sidel authored the recently adopted American Public Health Association (APHA) resolution “Opposition to U.S. Attack on Iran,” through which the APHA calls on the U.S. Government to “clearly state that it will not launch a preemptive military attack on Iranian facilities and explicitly rule out any possible use of nuclear weapons against Iran.” The resolution further calls on the U.S. government to reaffirm its commitment to international treaties aimed at curbing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Two important chapter-authored resolutions were also adopted by the California Medical Association (CMA) in 2007. Along with Lucy Crain, Bob Gould submitted “Modern Chemicals Policy,” addressing the burgeoning scientific literature on the effects of industrial chemicals on public health. The resolution calls upon California and the U.S. government to implement a comprehensive chemicals policy drawing on sound scientific research and evaluating the human health impact of existing and new industrial chemicals in a manner similar to the FDA’s evaluation of medicines and drugs.

Bob Gould’s “Improving Health Through Sustainable Food Purchasing” was also adopted by the CMA, encouraging hospitals, other healthcare institutions, and healthcare providers to adopt food procurement practices that support the environmentally and

socially sustainable production of food. This includes eschewing the support of industrial agriculture—which contributes tremendous pollution and environmental toxicity through its practices, and offers products laden with residual antibiotics and toxic pesticides—in favor of small- to medium-sized farms which emphasize organic methods, renewable resources, and ecological diversity. Through their substantial purchasing power and social standing as models of public health, these institutions can have a marked positive impact on how food is raised in the U.S. and elsewhere.

Another favorable development is steering committee member Tom Newman’s nuclear security work with the American Academy of Pediatrics (see article below). Visit www.sfbaypsr.org for the full text of these and other resolutions. ■

Pediatricians Opposing Nuclear Weapons

By Tom Newman

I am happy to report two favorable developments in my work with PSR to organize pediatricians in opposition to nuclear weapons. First, a paper I wrote about the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and the danger posed to it by US plans to develop new nuclear weapons, (adapted from my article in the Spring 2006 *SF Bay Area PSR News* (<http://www.sfbaypsr.org/>

[psrnewsletter17.pdf](http://www.sfbaypsr.org/psrnewsletter17.pdf)) was accepted for publication in the journal *Pediatrics* (April 2008). Second, the Northern California Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has again passed a resolution opposing new nuclear weapons and supporting nuclear disarmament. Last month the Board of Directors of the entire California District (representing more than 5,000 California pediatricians) voted to

endorse the resolution. This is significant because last year the District Board declined to endorse a similar Chapter 1 resolution, and it did not pass nationally in 2007. I hope to attend AAP’s Annual Leadership Forum in March 2008 and work with PSR-National to mobilize support for the resolution. The draft resolution can be found on our web site (http://www.sfbaypsr.org/work_aap1.html). Watch for Action Alerts about this issue! ■

Increasing Sustainability at UCSF

By Tom Newman

SF Bay Area PSR has contributed to several positive developments regarding sustainability at UCSF. In addition to PSR program associate Lucia Sayre’s work with Healthcare Without Harm facilitating the Global Health and Safety Initiative, to which the UCSF Medical Center signed on as a charter member, long time SF Bay PSR Board Member Tom Hall, member Steve Hulley, and I have been working on the campus side to increase faculty, student, and staff involvement in improving, learning, and

teaching about sustainability. Our department (Epidemiology and Biostatistics) has formed a Green Committee (see our website at www.epibiostat.ucsf.edu/general/administration/green.html) that is seeking to reduce the environmental impact of our own activities. We successfully lobbied for the hiring of a full-time sustainability coordinator at UCSF (architect John Pihl) who will be leading UCSF efforts from Capital Programs and Facilities Management (see www.cpfm.ucsf.edu/ucsf_sustain_cmtte.html).

Most recently, following our presentations at the Academic Senate Committee on Planning and Budget and the Academic Senate Coordinating Committee, the latter voted unanimously to establish a Sustainability Task Force at UCSF. In the first two weeks after the call for volunteers went out, 24 faculty members expressed an interest in serving on the Task Force. Finally, we are helping to plan the UCSF event for Focus the Nation, at which SF Bay Area PSR Board President Robert Gould and Vice President Gina Solomon are scheduled to speak. ■

Today's political environment leaves much to be desired. Students at the University of California San Francisco School of Medicine are collaborating to make their voices heard as they call for social justice both locally and globally. This year, several inspiring students (including 2nd year medical students Ashkon Shaahinfar and Elizabeth Harrington) are spearheading the reactivation of UCSF's student chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility: Student Health Professionals for Social Responsibility (SHPSR). They are determined to uphold the principles of ensuring quality public health, protecting the environment, and addressing the issues of violence and social justice. UCSF SHPSR supports cooperation between all healthcare students and professionals to instill a conscientious approach to healthcare for our communities and environments.

UCSF SHPSR has already hit the ground running. In the first week of October, along with UCSF's Iraqi Action Group (IAG), they co-sponsored and organized a successful event entitled: "Nightmare Beyond Borders:

The Iraqi Displacement Crisis and What Can Be Done to Stop It." The speakers, Raed Jarrar, an Iraqi political analyst, and Noah Baker Merrill, UNHCR consultant and Direct Aid Initiative coordinator for Iraq, shared their personal experiences working with Iraqi refugees. Their moving presentations addressed the war's effects on Iraqi safety, and promoted political advocacy on behalf of the displaced populations, especially those enduring ethnic discrimination.

This event's success has only provided more momentum for the group as students from all the health professional programs are boosting not only the membership, but their ability to develop and participate in new projects. The year ahead promises to be rewarding. Potential projects will focus on environmental justice, violence reduction in our communities, and expanding the pledge against torture. Collaborations include working with the national student PSR group to join the Medical Alliance to Stop Global Warming action petition campaign and addressing health and human rights issues caused by war alongside UCSF's IAG.

Notably, UCSF SHPSR plans to effect change locally in our own backyard through environmental justice work in one of San Francisco's most underserved districts: Bayview. A lecture series will focus on the environmental racism plaguing the community and how to effect change through environmental justice. It will explore community organizing as a social tool, and include a look at the community's struggle with toxic exposures and a tour of the area with prominent Bayview community members.

As many of you know, UCSF's SHPSR chapter was originally founded in the 1990s, and has a history of being one of the most active and well-organized national student chapters. In 1998, the UCSF student chapter received the SF Bay Area PSR Fred Epstein Award for their commitment to peace and social justice issues, and in 2000 received the Broad Street Pump Award from National PSR. With your support, UCSF's new group of students will create an SHPSR chapter rivaling that of the '90s. ■

In Memory

On December 11, 2007, our chapter lost a great friend and supporter. Jean Howden-Goetzl departed peacefully at Piedmont Gardens, Oakland. Jean dedicated her life to helping others and to taking action for the environment, peace and social justice. She was involved throughout her life in numerous social organizations as a volunteer, supporter and board member. She was a leader in the UC Berkeley YWCA for over 50 years, eventually becoming board president. Jean was also a long-time board member of the Oakland/East Bay chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), and engaged in work addressing the AIDS crisis.

Jean became a volunteer for SF Bay Area PSR in the early 1980s, was the office manager for several years, and then continued as an active office volunteer until just a couple years ago. Jean was instrumental in keeping our chapter office administration functioning over the years through her own work and her ability to marshal the efforts of dedicated volunteers. She is remembered as a woman of great talent and humanitarian vision, whose bright, energetic spirit and positive outlook was a constant buoy to those around her. Jean's husband, Dr. Franz Goetzl, who predeceased her, was also an active PSR member as are her sons, Charles Goetzl and his partner Eric Fine (Oakland), and Randall Goetzl and his wife Sharon (San Francisco).

We would like to offer our sincere condolences to her family and our heartfelt thanks to Jean herself for her years of service and support to our chapter. Contributions to her memory can be made to SF Bay Area PSR (please mark your check or donation envelope in Jean's name), and will be acknowledged to her family.



SPEAKING for PSR

SF Bay Area PSR Speakers'

Bureau members have spoken on a broad array of topics to a wide variety of audiences during the second half of 2007.

JULY 2007

- National Youth Leadership Forum, "Public and Environmental Health Impacts of Nuclear Weapons," UC Berkeley. Robert Gould, MD.
- Medical Grand Rounds, SF VA Hospital: "Nuclear terrorism and nuclear proliferation: can they be stopped?" Thomas Newman, MD, MPH
- Interservice Discussion, Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo: Reducing your carbon footprint. Thomas Newman, MD, MPH
- Grand Rounds, Kaiser Richmond, "Preventive Medicine in the 21st Century: The Role of the Social Environment" Jeff Ritterman, MD
- Pediatrics Grand Rounds, SF General Hospital, "Antibiotics, Hormones and GMOs: Is This a Healthy Way to Eat?" Jeff Ritterman, MD

AUGUST 2007

- Golden Gate Mothers' Group, "Health Hazards to Children in the Home." San Francisco, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- ABC Radio, "New Orleans: Contamination at Schools." National Radio Broadcast. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- NPR Day-to-Day, "New Orleans: Contamination at Schools." National Radio Broadcast. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- KQED Forum, "Bottled Water and Health." SF Bay Area Radio Broadcast, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH

SEPTEMBER 2007

- Collaborative on High-Performing Schools, "Indoor Air Quality Issues in Schools." San Francisco, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- UC Berkeley, Environmental Health Masters Seminar, "Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals." Berkeley, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- KISS-FM Childhood Matters, "Health Hazards to Children in the Home." SF Bay Area Radio Broadcast, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- Santa Clara County Medical Association Environmental Health Committee, "Resurgence of Nuclear Power: Health,

Environmental and Security Issues," San Jose, CA. Robert Gould, MD

- Grand Rounds, Kaiser Oakland, "Preventive Medicine in the 21st Century: The Role of the Social Environment." Oakland, CA. Jeff Ritterman, MD

OCTOBER 2007

- American Academy of Pediatrics Annual Meeting, "Environmental Pollutants: Is it Safe to Breastfeed?" San Francisco, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- UCLA School of Public Health, "Preparing for Climate Change in California." Los Angeles, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- KPCW Radio, "Mercury in Fish." Utah Radio Broadcast. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- California Assembly Committee on Labor and Employment, "Diesel Exhaust and the Health of Workers and Communities." Oakland, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- EnvironMinute Syndicated Program, "Air Fresheners and Endocrine Disruptors." National Radio Broadcast. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- Pediatric Grand Rounds, SF General Hospital, "Pediatric Environmental Toolkit." San Francisco, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- Stanford Law School, "Environmental Health in New Orleans Post-Katrina." Palo Alto, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
- Stanford University Medical School, "Generations at Risk: The PSR Model of Physician Activism," Palo Alto, CA. Robert Gould, MD
- Press conference, SF City Hall, "Dangers of Phthalates in Toys." San Francisco, CA. Robert Gould, MD and Sarah Janssen, MD, MPH, PhD.
- Grand Rounds, SF General Hospital, "Preventing Gun Violence." San Francisco, CA. Jeff Ritterman, MD

NOVEMBER 2007

- APHA Annual Meeting, "Nuclear Weapons and Public Health." Washington, DC. Robert Gould, MD

Speaking Out!

SF Bay Area PSR has a very active Speakers' Bureau. If you are interested in helping us schedule speaking engagements at your hospital grand rounds or medical center, please call us at 510-845-8395 or visit: www.sfbaypsr.org

- Interview, WPFW Radio, "Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq" Washington, DC. Radio Broadcast. Robert Gould, MD
 - APHA Annual Meeting, "U.S. Threats on Iran." Washington, DC. Robert Gould, MD
 - "Social Responsibility in Action: Taking Global and Local Action." San Francisco, CA. Robert Gould, MD
 - Stanford University School of Medicine, Student Physicians for Social Responsibility chapter, "Hormonal Effects of Chemical Pollutants—Endocrine Disruptors and Human Health." Palo Alto, CA. Sarah Janssen, MD, MPH, PhD
 - UCSF Academic Senate Committee on Academic Planning and Budget, "Sustainability at UCSF." San Francisco, CA. Thomas Newman, MD, MPH
- ### DECEMBER 2007
- UC Irvine, "Environmental Health After Katrina: Global Warming and Our Future." Irvine, CA. Gina Solomon, MD, MPH
 - Interview, KRCL Radio, "Shock and Awe Hits Home: Impact of Iraq and Afghan War on Veterans" Salt Lake City, Utah. Radio Broadcast. Robert Gould, MD
 - UCSF Academic Senate Coordinating Committee, "Sustainability at UCSF." San Francisco, CA. Thomas Newman, MD, MPH
 - Richmond Rotary (invited speaker), "Medical Consequences of the War in Iraq." Richmond, CA. Jeff Ritterman, MD

If you are interested in speaking on nuclear proliferation, environmental health issues, gun violence, or global climate change, contact SF Bay Area PSR at 510-845-8395 or info@sfbaypsr.org. ■

By Harry Wang, MD
President, PSR/Sacramento

We were pleased that Joseph Cirincione was keynote speaker at our October 28 Annual Dinner at the California State University Sacramento Alumni Center. Senior Fellow and Director of Nuclear Policy at Center for American Progress, Mr. Cirincione is author of *Bomb Scare: The History & Future of Nuclear Weapons*. His talk, “A New Moment: The Drive for a Nuclear-Free World,” offered the audience hope through his clear vision of how to solve the world’s proliferation problem. We were fortunate to have him in Sacramento given his October schedule which included travel to Italy, Russia, and Canada. Proceeds from the Dinner will go to

the High School Essay Scholarship Fund and other projects.

Harry Wang wrote an article, “Physicians as Activists” for the September/October issue of the Sierra Sacramento Medical Society’s magazine, *Sierra Sacramento Valley Medicine*. The article suggested models for physician activism, highlighting PSR’s work against nuclear proliferation as a prime example of addressing a public health issue through political means. The article generated considerable response, including letters and a rebuttal article (Gibson) in the same issue and additional letters to be published in the November/December issue. You can view the articles and letters at www.ssvms.org/magazine/sep_oct_07.asp.

Other activities included: Jon Block, Union of Concerned Scientists, speaking on “Why Nuclear energy is Not The Answer to Climate Change” (August 28); a multimedia presentation—Climate Change, Despair, and Empowerment Roadshow with Kelly Tudhope (September 6, co-sponsor); The People’s Rally to End the War (September 7, co-sponsor, speaker, tabling) at the state Capitol; talks on Guantanamo Prison and torture (September 12 and October 10) by Holly and Rick Mines and UC Davis professor Almerindo Ojeda; and participation in a Valley and North Coast regional peace activist conference (October 20-21).

For more information about our chapter, see www.sacpsr.org or call 916 955-6333. ■

Boots on the Ground...

(Continued from page 1)

Moratorium (see below), as organizers hoped the display would allow for quiet reflection about the Iraq war. A few passersby verbally protested the display, however. Dr. Razani, along with many volunteers from the UCSF IAG, AFSC, Military Families Speak Out, and the neighborhood church St. John of God were present throughout the day to talk about and hand out information on the Iraq Moratorium to those who stopped by the exhibit. A book was placed at the exhibit for those who wished to leave their personal thoughts and reflections.

“With this particular event, we wanted to remind people that people are dying; soldiers are dying and Iraqi people are dying,” said Luna Abdallah, PhD, a postdoctoral student in the Department of Psychiatry and a member of the IAG. “This is totally not a political campaign. There are a lot of different groups involved, like faith-based groups and groups of

various political orientations. The message is simple: We want to stop the war.”

“This is one of a number of events taking place on our campus this fall meant to keep our community in touch with the reality on the ground in Iraq,” said Dan Lowenstein, MD, professor of neurology and a founding member of the IAG. “We hope that everyone who was able to pay tribute to those who are represented by the boots can take action based on the voice of their conscience.”

The Iraq Moratorium (<http://www.iraqmoratorium.org/>) is a community-based, nationwide campaign to organize public displays of opposition to the war in Iraq. The Iraq Moratorium began on September 21, the United Nations-sponsored International Day of Peace, and meets on the third Friday of each month. The goals of the moratorium are to end the war in Iraq, bring the troops home now and fund human needs in the United States. For more information about the AFSC exhibit, see <http://www.afsc.org/eyes/about-the-exhibit.htm>.



A passerby stops to observe the row of boots along Parnassus Avenue.

The UCSF Iraq Action Group holds weekly meetings every Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m., Medical Sciences building, Room S 172, 513 Parnassus Avenue. ■

Thanks!

We would like to thank the following people who made gifts, joined PSR, or renewed their PSR membership through the SF Bay Area Chapter from July through December 2007.

Herbert L. Abrams, MD	David Fryberger	Pearl and Alvin Leonard, MD	Dorothea Shaw
Joan Anderson	Chester and Cynthia Gabriel	Elaine Lester	Shira and William Shore, MD
Nancy Auker	Fred J. Geiger	Catharine and Alan Levin	Rosalind Singer
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Ann M. Bjorklund	Mary Goodkind and Lindley Garner	Jane Chittenden Minor	Dwight G. Straub, MD
Virginia Blackledge, MD	A.V. Gratch, MD	Rose Ellen Morrell, MD	Mary B. Strauss
Steven Blumlein, MD	Marian and Roger Gray	Arthur Morse	Judge John Sutter and Elouise Sutter, MD
Paula A. Braveman, MD	Charles P. Gresham	Edward Munyak	Patrice Sutton and Robert Gould, MD
Charles Browning, MD	Joseph Gutstadt, MD	Robert J. Murphy, III	Sara Syer, MS, PA-C, and Thomas Bodenheimer, MD
Shirley Burlingame	The Goyko Fund	Doris Nassiry	Ellen E. Taylor
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David H. Campen, MD	Mary Eloise Halperin	The Onward Fund	Diane Tokugawa and Alan Gould
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E. Patrick Creehan, MD	Lorraine and Victor Honig	Jerry Presswood and Deborah Nord	Charles A. Weber, MD
Maya Das, MD	Marjorie and Alfred Hurwitz, MD	Jonathan S. Rapp, MD	Joellen Werne, MD
Greg A. Denari, MD	Gale L. Hylton, MD	Alice Richards	Barbara S. Werum
David B. Downie, MD	Joan Intrator	Terry M. and Ann Riley	Susan and Lewis Wexler, MD
Diana Dunn	Dana T. Kent, MD	Jeffrey B. Ritterman, MD	Deborah T. Whitney
Nancy Eaton	Lorrin M. Koran, MD	Barbara and Brian Robinson	Kathryn A. Williams, MD
Frances Emley	Sidney Kurn, MD	Laurel Robinson	David Winter
Paul Feigenbaum, MD	Erda and Richard Labuhn	Gail L. Rubman	Philip E. Wolfson, MD
Zarrin Ferdowsi, DDS	Charles Landefeld	Bertha H. Russell	Margaret Wyatt
Geraldine Fink, MD	Patricia T. Lapp	Patricia Scheuer	Charles Yanofsky
Martin Fishman, MD	Joyce C. Lashof, MD	Phyllis and Richard Schlobohm, MD	Howard Zugman
Alan Frank, MD	Marvin K. Laurence	William Seaman, MD	
William S. Franz			