2013-14 SPEAKER SERIES EVENT

Geomedicine: Getting from Hippocrates to HIE to Hadoop

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

6pm – 7:30 pm (Dinner will be available at 5:30)

Casa Loma Room, University of Redlands Main Campus

Register for this event by May 23, 2014 by contacting Vanessa Siliezar at 909-748-8769 or vanessa_siliezar@redlands.edu

ABSTRACT

The power of place as an important predictor of health status has been recognized since 460 BCE. Since then, the use of geographic information in health has remained predominantly in the domain of public health. The large body of knowledge that links an individual’s geography to environmental risks and resources impacting health has spawned several topic-specific journals such as The International Journal of Health Geographics, and the Journal of Spatial and Spatio Temporal Epidemiology. There is no doubt that geographic information, along with one’s genetic makeup and lifestyle behaviors culminate to create personal health outcomes.

Now imagine the potential to use location-specific knowledge to impact personal health directly. Dr. Geraghty’s presentation will make a case for geomedicine, a technology proposal that harnesses the vast geographic knowledge base and puts it into the hands of healthcare providers who might then be able to do things like: provide personalized recommendations for disease-specific screenings for which an individual may be at increased risk, direct patients to health-related resources in their neighborhoods, and perhaps even notify patients of nearby clinical trials for which they may be eligible. Geomedicine is about including relevant geographic knowledge as a part of the context in which clinical decisions are made so that we can all enjoy better health. Dr. Geraghty will explore the evolution of geomedicine and review current facilitating technology and policy such as meaningful use (MU) and health information exchange (HIE), especially as they relate to the role of big data in geomedicine.

Speaker: Dr. Estella Geraghty, Deputy Director of the Center for Health Statistics and Informatics with the California Department of Public Health

Dr. Geraghty leads the state vital records and public health informatics programs at California Department of Public Health. Dr. Geraghty also maintains her affiliation as a clinician researcher in the Division of General Medicine at UC Davis. Her research focuses on using GIS to influence health policy and advance community development programs. She has authored research in pesticide exposure modeling, statewide mental health service access and use tracking systems, asset and disparity mapping of youth outcomes, and index development for youth well-being and vulnerability. Dr. Geraghty is also a recipient of the Larry L. Sautter Golden Award for innovation in Information Technology as a part of a team developing an electronic medical record data discovery solution. In addition to her degrees in Medical Informatics and Public Health, Dr. Geraghty is also a certified Public Health professional (CPH) and a Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP).