

# Minor to broaden views on world health issues

Global health is now available as a biobehavioral health minor:

By Cassie Wiggins  
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Health issues are not just limited to the United States: A new minor degree will help broaden Penn State students' perspectives on worldwide health problems.

Global health, housed in the department of biobehavioral health, is now available as a minor.

The course aims to provide undergraduate students with an interdisciplinary understanding on the issues affecting the health of the international population,

said Melina Czymoniewicz-Klippel, a biobehavioral health lecturer in biobehavioral health and the minor's program coordinator.

The deadline for the first set of applicants is Oct. 22. The global health minor consists of 18 credits. As part of the minor, students will complete a supervised four- to six-week fieldwork experience, either internationally or domestically.

"[The minor] was something that had been discussed for years in the College of Health and Human Development and also especially in our department," senior biobehavioral health lecturer Daniel Trevino said. "Since we had a lot of good assets and resources available to us, it was natural that a global health minor would be developed for students

## New minor

**Details:** 20 students will be accepted per year.

**Deadline:** Oct. 22

**To apply:** Contact lecturer Melina Czymoniewicz-Klippel and visit [www.bbh.hhdev.psu.edu/globalhealth](http://www.bbh.hhdev.psu.edu/globalhealth) for more information.

that had an interest."

The program allows and encourages students from all disciplines and departments across campus to apply, Czymoniewicz-Klippel said.

"Students could come from majors in political science, business, engineering, geography, any

of the health departments — there really is a lot of scope for students to structure the minor and select courses that fit well with their own career goals," she said. "They could go down a more clinical path in terms of medicine, nursing and allied health, physical therapy, occupational therapy. They could also go into health services, teaching, project management and so on."

The minor requires some prerequisite courses and an application and interview process. Another application will be available in spring 2011 for the fall semester.

Biobehavioral health department head Collins Airhihenbuwa said he wants students' collaborative experiences within the pro-

gram to expand their global thinking skills and perspectives.

"I want students to see the whole picture," Airhihenbuwa said. "I want them to appreciate the positives as well as the negatives when it comes to dealing with other cultures' health issues."

Czymoniewicz-Klippel said that's an important goal for biobehavioral health students.

"We want students to understand the complexities of the field of global health — the way of which the behavioral, the biological, social, environmental factors impact different places of the world," she said. "A lot of this minor is students learning cultural sensitivity [...] for different people and their knowledge."



Jorge Saenz/Colegion

Brandon Fisher, left, president of Center Rock Inc., and colleague Richard Soppe watch as their company's hammer-style drill heads create the hole to reach the 33 trapped miners in Chile.

## Pa. company's drill helped save miners

By Joe Mandak  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PITTSBURGH — Proud employees of a small drilling company too remote to have cable television found themselves Wednesday at the center of the world's biggest news story — but they still had to get the day's work done.

As rescuers brought 33 Chilean miners one by one in a metal capsule through a 2,000-foot hole bored by a drill made by Center Rock Inc. of Berlin, Pa., workers in the small southwestern Pennsylvania community occasionally paused their daily routines to follow computer news feeds. Lunch was brought in to help them celebrate.

But machines still needed to be oiled, floors still needed to be swept — and somebody still had to answer the phones, which were ringing off the hook.

"We still have customers who still need products today, so we're working and we're celebrating," inside sales manager Becky Dorcon told The Associated Press.

Center Rock has a brief, but storied, history. Founded in 1993, the company's profile rose appreciably in July 2002, when it pitched in during a similar rescue to free nine miners trapped underground for more than three days in the flooded Queer Creek Mine a few miles away.

Tom Foy, 61, who still lives in Berlin, was one of the Queer Creek miners but has worked for Center Rock for nearly five years.

"The kids won't let me go back," Foy said, a married father referring to his four children, ages 38 to 34. "I gave the mining up. I wasn't about to put them through that again."

Center Rock owner Brandon Fisher, just back Tuesday night from Chile, fielded dozens of interview requests — and hoped to sneak away for some sleep.

In an exclusive interview with the Daily American of Somerset, Fisher said he and wife, sales director Julie Fisher, were back in Berlin in time to watch on television as the first miner was pulled from the hole where he and his colleagues had been trapped since Aug. 5.

Fisher, 38, and Richard Soppe, 58, his director of construction and mining tools, spent 37 days with scant sleep drilling the rescue shaft.

Julie Fisher joined them about two weeks ago, and relatives and friends gathered to welcome them home Tuesday.

"When I saw the first guy looking healthy, that's what it's all about," Fisher told the newspaper. "But the mission is not over until the last guy is out."

Espina was especially drawn to miner Mario Sepulveda Espina, with whom Fisher interacted by video during the drilling process.

Espina, the second miner pulled from the shaft, made a bizarre request while still underground: wigs. Officials granted Espina's request, Fisher told the Daily American, and the miner wore one in front of a video monitor, joking about what shampoo did to his hair — perhaps a reference to a commercial in which a wig-clad Troy Polamalu blames his big hair on shampoo.

Once rescued, Espina ran along high-fiving those above ground.

"He was a practical joker; he used humor to keep the morale up," Fisher told the newspaper.

Dorcan said the company took "tremendous pride" in the rescue.

"Everybody here has been giving 110 percent since the day Brandon got in contact with the people of Chile and it was thought he was going and our tools were going to be used," she said.

Foy said Center Rock volunteered to help in Chile after officials there confirmed the miners were still alive Aug. 22, but said soon afterward that they expected it would take until Christmas to dig a rescue shaft.

## Education fair to target new freshmen

By Paul McMullen  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Today, faculty from the College of Education will be helping new freshmen find their place at Penn State during the College of Education Academic and Career Services Fair.

The event, which will be held from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the main lobby area of Chambers Building, will present the opportunity for students to familiarize themselves with the career services and academic programs available at the university.

The fair is a part of the college's First Year Experience program, which is geared towards easing students' transition into University Park, said Jacqueline Edmondson, associate dean for undergraduate and graduate studies in the College of Education. First-year students are urged to attend, but all students are welcomed to the event. Students, no matter what level, can benefit from the event because of the opportunity to receive feedback from a college committed to providing help and support for students, Edmondson said.

## If you go

**What:** College of Education Academic and Career Services Fair

**When:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today

**Where:** Main lobby in Chambers

**Details:** Learn about the services offered by the College of Education

"We strive to help students make connections with faculty, staff and other students as they adjust to student life at University Park," she said. "We want all students to have a positive and productive experience as they pursue their educational and professional goals at Penn State."

Representatives from Penn State Career Services, Penn State Learning, academic programs in the College of Education, the Education Library and members of the College of Education alumni and scholarship offices will be in attendance to help students lay the foundation towards achieving those goals, Edmondson said.

Freshmen and upperclassmen alike can benefit from participating in the event mainly because of its presentation of career services in a digestible manner, Richard Harris (senior-secondary education and mathematics) said.

"I recommend students make every effort to attend the fair because it helped make the number of resources, said David Price, stewardship and public relations specialist for the College of Education.

"If you don't know what the resources are, how can you use them?" he said. "The fair brings a gallery of resources to one location so that students can get to know what we have to offer."

To email reporter: [pnm5030@psu.edu](mailto:pnm5030@psu.edu)

## Program to benefit schools in Rwanda

By Caitlin Smith  
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Access to higher education isn't lacking in a college, but for children in Rwanda, even basic education is hard to come by.

Only one in 10 children between the ages of 13 and 18 living in Rwanda are enrolled in secondary school. That's where Global Capacity comes in.

The non-profit organization is scheduled to hold an open house tonight from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Schlow Centre Region Library's Downsborough Community Room, 211 S. Allen St.

The goal of the event is to educate others about the Right2School program, which provides scholarships to Rwandan children, Global Capacity Executive Director Matthew Heinz said.

"I believe that Penn State students can learn to appreciate their own education from this as well as help others," Heinz said.

The event will include a multimedia self-guided tour of elements of the program, as well as a silent auction of Rwandan artifacts that Heinz said he acquired while on a trip there. Attendees will learn how they can donate both time and money to the cause.

According to the Right2School website, the group strives to facilitate holistic scholarships that provide students with tuition, school materials,

"... Students can learn to appreciate their own education from this as well as help others."

Matthew Heinz  
Global Capacity executive director

transportation, school uniforms and health insurance. For \$1,790, all of these things can be provided for a Rwandan child for an entire year, according to the website.

Every child enrolled in the program is guaranteed a full year in school, but Right2School tries to ensure that once a child starts school, he or she can continue to attend beyond that first year, Heinz said.

Global Capacity was started two years ago by EnergyCAP, Inc., an energy efficiency software publisher based in State College. Because the company values global stewardship, Heinz said, it decided to help Rwanda, one of the poorest nations in the world.

It was at this time that Heinz spent five months in Rwanda observing and researching the quality of life there. Heinz said it was a life-changing experience to live among the Rwandan people.

"I went to Rwanda with a blank slate," Heinz said. "I had no idea what to expect. It was difficult to be amongst the poverty, but it was an

unforgettable experience."

After much research and development work conducted by the organization, the program raised enough money to sponsor four Rwandan students this school year.

Their goal is to enroll 30 students by next year.

Heinz said Penn State students can help the cause simply by spreading awareness and learning what the program entails.

Non-profit organizations are not charged with the use of the Downsborough Community Room and the library will provide Global Capacity with access to the room's technology such as the overhead projector, Head of Adult Services Pat Griffith said.

"As a library we are committed to helping the community become informed and educated," she said.

Those planning to attend the event should RSVP via the Global Capacity Facebook page.

## If you go

**What:** Global Capacity open house

**When:** 6:30 to 8:30 tonight

**Where:** Downsborough Community Room of Schlow Centre Region Library, 211 S. Allen St.

**Details:** RSVP via the Global Capacity Facebook page

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