Substance Abuse, Violence, and HIV: Changing Environments to Reduce Risk in North Philadelphia

Philippe Bourgois, PhD is the Richard Perry University Professor of Anthropology and Family and Community Medicine. He has been conducting participant-observation fieldwork in the US inner city since 1985 with NIH support on substance abuse and HIV in the urban United States. He has published over 150 articles in public health, the humanities and the social sciences analyzing social inequality, urban segregation, labor migration, ethnic conflict, violence, homelessness, substance abuse, and poverty, interdisciplinary methods, HIV and structural public health interventions. He is best known for his award-winning books: In Search of Respect: Selling Crack El Barrio (Cambridge University Press) and Righteous Dopefiend (University of California Press). In 2013-2014 he received a Guggenheim Award and an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship to work on a book manuscript entitled, Cornered, based on five years of fieldwork in the heart of North Philadelphia’s open-air heroin and cocaine markets.

Brian Work, MD, MPH is Internal Medicine Faculty at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine and co-directs, attends, and teaches at the United Community Clinic at First African Presbyterian Church in West Philadelphia. Dr. Work focuses on community outreach, community public health, and providing free and low-cost care out in the community. He has extensive experience in substance abuse treatment and research and is an integral part of Prevention Point Philadelphia and its Street Side Health Clinic. Prevention Point Philadelphia is the only sanctioned organization that offers syringe exchange in the region and has won an Impact Award from GlaxoSmithKilne for working in the community to help reduce the spread of HIV.

Thursday, October 16th, 5:00-6:30pm

Class of 49’ Auditorium, Houston Hall, 3417 Spruce Street
Wine & Cheese Reception. RSVP: http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/CPHIEvents.shtml