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## Important Announcements

- Join the online members' network at [www.tephinet.org](http://www.tephinet.org)

## Conference Update

- Sixth Global Scientific Conference registration will open in September
- Registration link will be posted soon
- [Preliminary program agenda](#)

## Surveys

Please complete these surveys if you are an FETP director or staff.

### [TEPHINET Membership Survey Part 1](#)

**Part 2** (Available at [www.tephinet.org](http://www.tephinet.org))

### [WHO Lab Survey](#)

Please complete even if your program does not currently have a lab component.

## Welcome

Dear Colleagues:

We are excited to share with you this edition of *TEPHINEWS*, the periodic newsletter to update you on changes and improvements in TEPHINET, a unique global network of field epidemiology training programs and public health interventions. You are receiving this newsletter because you are an FETP staff member, graduate, trainee, or a TEPHINET partner.

In the past several months, we have worked to make great improvements to increase the capacity of the TEPHINET central office. Since joining the Task Force for Global Health in late 2008, TEPHINET has added and strengthened the resources, expertise, and staff of the secretariat. Two new staff you will be hearing from in the coming months include Tonya Duhart, our Program Administrative Coordinator ([tduhart@tephinet.org](mailto:tduhart@tephinet.org)) and Daniela Salas, who recently joined TEPHINET as a Program Associate ([dsalas@tephinet.org](mailto:dsalas@tephinet.org)).



Additionally, this year we will continue to improve in the technical activities of the organization, to support the member programs, and to foster communication between the programs, FETP trainees, and graduates. In order to increase communication, we revamped the [www.tephinet.org](http://www.tephinet.org) website. We are eager to share the new and improved website with you. Please check it out and join our online community!

Furthermore, the planning for the Sixth Global Scientific Conference is well underway and it promises to be our largest field epidemiology conference yet. We hope you can join us in South Africa!

We look forward to sharing more details of our strategic plan and adding even more resources to support your work in the field. In the meantime, we want to support the member programs and the network in every way possible. Please contact us if there is anything we can do to support you.

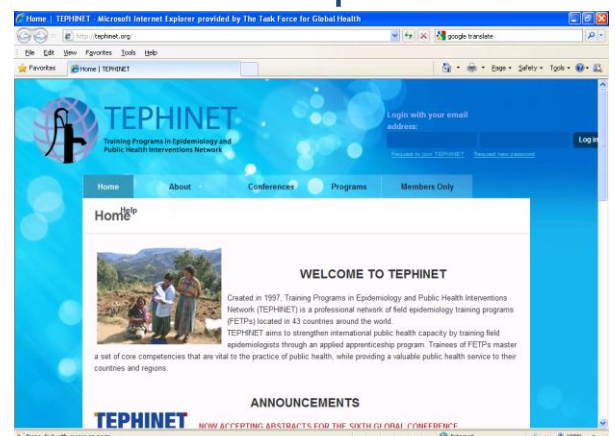
Sincerely,

Prof. Dionisio Herrera Guibert, MD, MAE, FmE, PhD  
Director, TEPHINET

*A Program of the Task Force for Global Health*

## New TEPHINET Website Launched April 2010

With the launch of the redesigned [tephinet.org](http://tephinet.org), the TEPHINET secretariat is excited to promote social networking opportunities to trainees and alumni within the network. All trainees, FETP alumni, and program directors have the opportunity to become authenticated users on the website. All you have to do is set up a member profile and wait for confirmation. Once you log in, you can develop a member



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profile, access training materials, and use tools such as the case studies, job opportunities, and the member directory.

A member profile also allows authenticated users to share research interests, and to keep an individual blog. As the online membership increases, members will be able to find other public health professionals with similar interests in their region. Alumni will also be able to reconnect with their training cohort.

Furthermore, authenticated users can create an interest group on the website. These groups can be open to all members or can be private and accept other members by invitation only. This is another way for members with similar interest to connect with each other and share their expertise and experience.

Lastly, with the new website, all member countries will have the opportunity to create program web pages and host future conference web pages. We encourage all trainees, alumni, and program directors to sign up for free membership at [www.tephinet.org](http://www.tephinet.org). TEPHINET will offer website tutorials at the global conference and on the website later this year; however we hope you will begin exploring the site and networking with colleagues today.

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## 2010 Global Conference



TEPHINET, in collaboration with South Africa's Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programme (FELTP), Africa's Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET), and CDC's Center for Global Health (CDC/COGH), is planning its sixth global scientific conference in Cape Town, South Africa, December 13-17, 2010.

### Preliminary Conference Program

Please reserve these dates to attend. Program Directors should plan to arrive one day in advance (Sunday, December 12) for a Program Directors' meeting.

In September, TEPHINET will begin taking requests for support to the global conference from all member programs. Please update your membership questionnaire, if you have not done so already, via this link: <http://tephittract.org/MembersSurvey.php>

### **NOW ACCEPTING ABSTRACTS**

The final abstract submission date is **August 16, 2010 at 5pm (EST)**. Instructions for submitting and evaluating abstracts can be found here: [http://tephittract.org/Sixth\\_TEPHINET/abstract/](http://tephittract.org/Sixth_TEPHINET/abstract/)

We look forward to seeing you in South Africa this year. Please check the website at [www.tephinet.org](http://www.tephinet.org) for updates about the conference or feel free to contact us with any questions.

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## Strategic Plan 2010-2012

TEPHINET has been developing a strategic plan to guide the program's activities through the next two years. The strategic planning initiative includes several phases: (1) project planning and startup; (2) execution of an environmental scan; (3) development of the organization's vision, priorities and goals; (4) development of strategic initiatives and project milestones; and (5) ongoing project management.

To guide the strategic planning process, an environmental scan was conducted to identify the programs' priorities, strengths, weaknesses and opportunities. Information was collected in the form of interviews, focus groups and surveys between February and April 2010. Program Directors, TEPHINET Board members, CDC and WHO representatives and other program collaborators participated in the interview process. Survey respondents

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were asked to select the top three priorities for TEPHINET to focus on over the next two years. Many interview participants validated the priorities established during the July 2009 FETP Program Director's meeting.

The priorities identified specifically for strategic planning purposes include:

- (1) *Assure the Quality of Training Programs (FETPs/FELTPs)*
- (2) *Accreditation of FETPs/FELTPs and Certification of FETP/FELTP Graduates*
- (3) *Build a Global Community of Field Epidemiologists and Laboratorians*
- (4) *Facilitate Information Sharing and Knowledge Development and*
- (5) *Build Organizational Capacity and Sustainability at Global, Regional and Program Levels.*

These priorities, as identified from the environmental scan, are helping guide a framework for the program's vision and mission. More information on our strategic plan to come!

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Thank you for your interest in TEPHINEWS. If you would like to submit a news item, or other information for us to include on our next edition, please e-mail [tephinews@tephinnet.org](mailto:tephinews@tephinnet.org) with the text, title, and a link to the item online.

best regards,

TEPHINET Secretariat