

**ATTN: ASSIGNMENT EDITORS / PRODUCERS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA ADVISORY
“Heroes” Tackle Challenges in Public Health

UC Berkeley School of Public Health Hosts 12th Annual Heroes Awards on April 2nd

WHAT: We often hear only about the immense health issues facing our global population; from international crises like AIDS in Africa, to local concerns including teen drug use and violence. The UC Berkeley School of Public Health annual **Public Health Heroes Awards** highlight the measurable advancements being made in the public health sector, and the individuals and organizations behind this tremendous progress. Now in its twelfth year, the awards call attention to critical global health challenges, and celebrate the people who work tirelessly to protect the health of the human population.

WHO: 2008 Public Health Heroes

International Hero: Donald P. Francis, M.D., D.Sc.

For his many contributions to global health, including his leadership in the eradication of smallpox, the discovery of HIV, and the control of Ebola hemorrhagic fever.

National Hero: David A. Kessler, M.D.

For his leadership and courage in challenging the U.S. tobacco industry.

Regional Hero: Barbara Stagers, M.D., M.P.H.

For her dedication to promoting adolescent health, particularly among high-risk, urban, and minority youth.

Organizational Hero: International Medical Corps

For advancing public health, particularly in the world's most poverty-stricken, remote, and dangerous environments.

WHY: As a leader in public health research and advancement, the UC Berkeley School of Public Health honors the heroes among us, whose efforts call attention to and solve some of the most serious global health issues. The Public Health Heroes Awards feature professionals at the top of their fields, and highlight the accomplishments they have made across the public health landscape.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 2, 2008 – 6:30 p.m. reception, 7:15 p.m. dinner seating, 8:15 p.m. awards

WHERE: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission Street, San Francisco

Editor's Note: We are happy to arrange interviews with the award winners, Dean Stephen Shortell, or other UC Berkeley School of Public Health professors. Please call Erin Taylor to arrange 415-403-0800.

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