



Touro College

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FOR RELEASE

**TOURO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY TO HOST
URBAN HEALTH FORUM OCT. 26, 2010**

New York, N.Y., October 4, 2010 – To foster interaction between members of the urban health community in its efforts to address health inequities, the Touro College of Pharmacy is hosting an innovative, free, two-day forum entitled “*The Faces of Urban Health.*”

The forum, to be held on Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2010 at the College, located at 230 W. 125th St. in Harlem, will bring together community advocates, organizations and academics involved in urban health and social research to exchange ideas and information, as well as provide an opportunity to network with others doing similar work in the field of urban health.

Dr. Stuart Feldman, dean of the Touro College of Pharmacy, said he hopes the forum will serve as an opportunity to address the serious health disparities facing low-income urban communities such as New York City and others. He cited disproportionately high rates of diabetes, hypertension, and asthma in such communities, which he said typically are both economically disadvantaged and underserved in terms of access to health care.

“Touro College of Pharmacy is pleased to host this significant conference at our Harlem facility,” said Dr. Feldman. “This is an important event that seeks to bring together the expertise necessary to develop and sustain academic-community partnerships, which are critical to solving the many issues that urban communities face today.”

Organizers anticipate that the forum will allow participants to interact with one another and to share stories, compare experiences, and enhance their research skills, as well as to develop action strategies to solve common problems facing global urban communities.

Among the topics of discussion will be “Implementing Participatory Models to Achieve Healthy Communities: A Conversation,” moderated by Sarena Seifer, executive director of Community Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH). A moderated conversation will take place featuring Siddarth Agarwal, executive director of the Urban Health Resource Centre, New Dehli, India; and Ann-Gel Palermo, chairperson of the Harlem Community and Academic Partnership (HCAP), New York City.

“We hope to break the traditional research paradigm, which has limited interactions between researchers and researched communities, by creating a forum where both groups can freely interact,” Ms. Palermo said. “In this way, the two camps are not confined to seeing one another as the subject and expert.”

Participants are expected to include residents of local, regional and international urban communities; representatives of community organizations; international, national and local non-governmental organizations (“NGOs”); foundations; students; faculty, and university administrators.

The forum is being held in conjunction with the New York Academy of Medicine’s (NYAM) 9th annual International Conference on Urban Health (ICUH).

In addition to Touro and the NYAM, other sponsors of “*The Faces of Urban Health*” include CCPH, Center for Multicultural and Community Affairs of Mount Sinai School of Medicine; The People’s Policy Institute; Center of Excellence in Disparities Research of Weill Cornell Medical College; Connect 2 Protect NYC (CP2); East Harlem Community Health Committee, Inc.; Human Services Consortium of East Harlem, Inc.; Sister Mary Nerney; Manhattan HIV Care Network; WEACTION for Environmental Justice; East and Central Harlem District Public Health Office/NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; and STEPS To End Family Violence.

To learn more about the “*The Faces of Urban Health*” forum, please visit <http://facesofurbanhealth.blogspot.com>. To register, visit: <http://tiny.cc/80eps>.

When it opened in 2008, the Touro College of Pharmacy was the first new pharmacy school to launch in New York City in 68 years. It remains the only pharmacy program in Manhattan, and the first to open in Harlem. Reflecting the values of Touro College, the goal of the College of Pharmacy is to contribute to the building of a better society by improving the health status of individuals and the community. The College seeks to accomplish this goal by offering increased educational opportunities--specifically to the Harlem community—via programs in pharmacy education, research and scholarship, and through service to the community and the profession.

Touro is a system of Jewish-sponsored non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. Touro College was established in 1971 primarily to enrich the Jewish heritage, and to serve the larger American community. More than 18,000 students are currently enrolled in its various schools and divisions. Touro College has branch campuses, locations and instructional sites in the New York area, as well as branch campuses and programs in

Berlin, Jerusalem, Moscow, Paris, and Florida. Touro University California and its Nevada branch campus, as well as Touro College Los Angeles, are separately accredited institutions governed in common by the same Board of Trustees as Touro College. For further information on Touro College, please go to: <http://www.touro.edu/media/>.

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