

## Biomedical and Health Informatics Lecture Series

**Tuesday, November 18, 2008**  
**Room RR-134, 12:00-12:50 p.m.**

### **Sherrilynn Fuller, Ph.D.**

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### **“Global Public Health Informatics for Low-Resource Settings – Vision, Strategies and Challenges”**

In the last twenty years we have witnessed the rapid advance of information and communications technology in the “developed” world and how these advances have played an increasingly important role in improving health and in disease prevention. In the developing world, however, the digital divide that reflects existing patterns of economic disparities threatens to wipe out the potential benefits that may accrue from insightful application of these technologies for improving health. The goal of this presentation is to describe the vision and current progress in creating integrated public health informatics initiatives in developing countries with a particular emphasis on insights and lessons learned to: (1) enable developing nations to create a sustainable public health information infrastructure; (2) leverage open-source software initiatives; (3) develop information policy and technology frameworks; and (4) create innovative partnerships among key stakeholders for capacity building including, in particular, workforce development.

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Sherrilynn Fuller is Co-Director, Center for Public Health Informatics; Professor, Biomedical and Health Informatics, School of Medicine ; Professor (Adjunct) Health Services, School of Public Health and Community Medicine; Professor, Information School; all at the University of Washington (UW) in Seattle, Washington. She served as the founding head of the Division of Biomedical and Health Informatics, School of Medicine, UW and has led several large-scale campus and regional research and development projects in the areas of biomedical informatics, telemedicine and information technology. Fuller has served as co-director of the NIH Fogarty International Center-funded AMAUTA Global Health Informatics Training program for the past eight years and has worked extensively with faculty and administrators at leading universities in Peru to develop library and information resources, health informatics research and training programs as well as campus research infrastructure. Fuller has done research, lectured and consulted throughout the world on the development of health information systems & libraries for low resource environments and on the creation of academic programs in biomedical and health informatics. She served as a member of the US President's (White House) Information Technology Advisory Committee 1997-2002; as a member of the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health and is an elected fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics. Fuller chaired the Steering Committees for PHI2007 and PHI2008: Creating a Global Partnership in Public Health Informatics and, with funding from the Rockefeller Foundation is currently leading planning for the development of the Global Partners in Public Health Informatics, an international partnership of governmental and non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and corporations dedicated to addressing health challenges in low-resource settings through appropriate application of information and communications technologies.