Final Report on Justin Stoler’s SEEDS ‘You Choose’ Leadership Award:  
SPEAKER SERIES IN SOCIAL SCIENCE & MEDICINE  
May 1, 2016

Primary Activities
I received a ‘You Choose’ Leadership Award from UM’s SEEDS (Scientists and Engineers Expanding Diversity for Success) program to establish a speaker series at UM around the medical social sciences. With the help of SEEDS Program Manager Marisa Hightower and colleagues from the social sciences, we successfully produced three colloquia (see attached flyer) attended by a combined 153 attendees (students and faculty). The speaker series achieved several goals:

1. showcasing social science contributions to the health sciences from anthropology, geography, and sociology for students interested in public health and medicine across the Gables campus;
2. expanding the professional networks of public-health-oriented faculty—particularly junior faculty—for mentorship and career support;
3. enhancing the launch of the new A&S minor in Social Science & Medicine.

The ‘You Choose’ funds of $2,500 provided air travel, hotel accommodations, and $250 honoraria for all three colloquia speakers, with remaining funds covering networking breakfasts for junior faculty with our guests. Each colloquium was supplemented by additional funding from the Departments of Anthropology, Geography, and Sociology, which pushed total spending on the speaker series to approximately $3,500. (Travel expenses this spring were mitigated by seasonally low air fares driven by the recent fall in the price of oil, and because two of our three speakers were based in Florida.) All three departments hope to continue the speaker series annually and will investigate future budget options.

Synergistic Activities
An important side goal of this award was to foster collaborative partnerships across the medical social sciences and ultimately stimulate many untapped synergies across the Coral Gables campus. Through the convening of an informal working group of faculty across the medical social sciences and humanities, we are starting to see these types of collaborative activities. The early highlights:

- We created a new minor in Social Science & Medicine that is being promoted with its “sibling” minor in Medical Humanities; many A&S courses promoted with these minors anecdotally reported increased enrollments over the last academic year.
- We held a medical social sciences and humanities happy hour and subsequent lightning slide networking event; each event was attended by 18 faculty members across four colleges.
- I have personally collaborated on grant applications or manuscripts with eight faculty members outside of A&S—four assistant professors, and four senior personnel who provide supplementary mentoring. I am tracking other research outcomes among members within the working group.
- The medical social sciences and humanities listserve grew to over 40 faculty members since last fall.

We all hope that this is just the beginning. We appreciate all of the SEEDS programming at UM, and we thank you again for this professional development opportunity through the ‘You Choose’ Award.

Justin Stoler  
Department of Geography
Dr. Jason Blackburn
Director & Associate Professor
Spatial Epidemiology & Ecology Research Laboratory
Department of Geography & Emerging Pathogens Institute
University of Florida

Colloquium in Medical Geography:
Linking Space, Time, and Genetics to Evaluate Indirect Pathogen Transmission in Wildlife
Thursday, February 25, 2016, 2 – 3 PM, Student Center Activities North Room

Dr. Linda M. Whiteford
Professor of Anthropology
Co-Director, World Health Organization Collaborating Center Fellow, Prevention Research Center
University of South Florida

Colloquium in Medical Anthropology:
Searching for a Sustainable Global Health Model
Thursday, March 17, 2016, 2 – 3 PM, Student Center Activities North Room

Dr. Richard Carpiano
Professor of Sociology
Associate Member, School of Population and Public Health
University of British Columbia

Colloquium in Medical Sociology:
Public Conceptions of Child Undervaccination: A Randomized Experiment on Evaluations, Stigma, and Support for Policies
Monday, April 4, 2016, 10 – 11 AM, Student Center Senate Room

This speaker series is funded by a SEEDS ‘You Choose’ Leadership Award and co-sponsored by the Departments of Anthropology, Geography, and Sociology in the College of Arts and Sciences; and the UM student chapter of United Against Inequities in Disease (UAID).