

Behind the Screen: Hollywood and Public Health

Online Discussion Forum Week 2: April 2-6, 2007

Facilitator: Vicki Beck, Hollywood, Health and Society

Monday, April 2: Joe Sachs, Co-Executive Producer, ER/NBC

– Dr. Joe Sachs is a writer and co-executive producer on the NBC television series "ER." Since 1994, he has penned over 30 episodes of the Emmy-award winning series. Joe began his multi-disciplinary career at Stanford Medical School where he simultaneously pursued both an M.D. and a Master's Degree in Film-Making. In addition to his work in television, Joe is an Attending Physician in the Emergency Department at Northridge Hospital Medical Center, a designated Trauma Center for LA County.

Tuesday, April 3: Zoanne Clack, Co-Producer, Grey's Anatomy/ABC

– Dr. Zoanne Clack is a writer and co-producer on the award-winning ABC television hit "Grey's Anatomy." She has been with the show since it began and also acts as a medical advisor. She has a bachelor's degree in communications from Northwestern, a medical degree from UT Southwestern in Dallas, TX, and an MPH from Emory School of Public Health. She completed a residency in Emergency Medicine, a fellowship in Injury Prevention, and spent a year at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in International Emergency Medicine where she developed emergency response to the bombing of the American Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Dr. Clack continues to work shifts in an emergency department in Los Angeles.

Wednesday, April 4: Neal Baer, Executive Producer, Law & Order: SVU/NBC

– Dr. Neal A. Baer is the Executive Producer of the series Law and Order: Special Victims Unit and a former Executive Producer of ER. He graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1996 and completed his internship in paediatrics in 2001 at Children's Hospital, Los Angeles. Dr. Baer serves on the boards of the Venice Family Clinic, Children Now, Advocates for Youth, and Physicians for Social Responsibility, and is Co-Chair of the Hollywood, Health & Society advisory board.

Thursday, April 5: David Foster, Executive Story Editor, House/Fox

– Dr. David Foster is an executive story editor on the Emmy nominated, medical drama House. He has been with the show from the beginning and assists in production of all medical aspects of the show. He graduated from Harvard Medical School and from Colgate University with a degree in Classics, and has two other master's degrees from Harvard. He practiced medicine in an inner city community health center and has a special interest in homeless populations and diseases of poverty, including addiction, HIV and Hepatitis C.

Friday, April 6: Betsy Snyder, Associate Head Writer, The Bold and The Beautiful/CBS

– Betsy Snyder is associate head writer for The Bold and The Beautiful, and has written for soap operas for twenty years, including General Hospital, Another World, Day of Our Lives and Sunset Beach.