MEDIA ADVISORY

UC Berkeley Faculty Seth Holmes, PhD, MD to Brief Congress on Health Disparities in Farm Labor Sector

ATTENTION: Assignment desks and general assignment, labor, food, health, agriculture and economics reporters

WHAT: “National Minority Health Awareness Month: Briefing on Health Disparities,” convened by the Congressional Healthcare Task Force Chairs of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) will bring experts from across the nation to address pressing issues in healthcare access and health outcomes for communities of color. Dr. Holmes, a medical doctor, medical anthropologist and winner of the 2014 Margaret Mead Award on faculty at the School of Public Health and the Graduate Program in Medical Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley, and an affiliated faculty of the Berkeley Food Institute, joins Isha Weerasinghe (Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations), Susie Saavedra (National Urban League) and Brian Smedley, PhD (National Collaborative for Health Equity) to mark National Minority Health Awareness Month and highlight persistent health disparities for communities of color.

WHO: Dr. Holmes is the author of Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States (University of California Press: 2013), a multiple award-winning bestseller based on five years of research in the field with undocumented Mexican farmworkers, including two summers spent traveling and working with Triqui-heritage migrant farmworkers. In his talk, he will address failures in our systems of immigration, food and agriculture and healthcare that worsen health disparities across farm labor communities – and offer policy solutions that can be implemented immediately, within existing laws.

WHEN: Friday, April 17th, 2015, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

WHERE: 121 Cannon House Office Building, Independence Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20003. For more information about the event please contact Andrew Goodwin (Lee) at Andrew.goodwin@mail.house.gov

The Berkeley Food Institute works to catalyze and support transformative changes in food systems, to promote diversity, justice, resilience, and health, from the local to the global. More information is available at http://food.berkeley.edu.

The UC Berkeley School of Public Health improves population health, especially for the most vulnerable, through preeminent education, transformational research, and community collaboration. For more information, visit http://sph.berkeley.edu.