



UNC
GILLINGS SCHOOL OF
GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

2011 NOMINATION FORM:
LARSH AWARD FOR STUDENT MENTORING

**This form should be completed electronically, and submitted via e-mail
to Angelica Figueroa (a.figueroa@unc.edu) by March 4, 2011.**

I wish to recommend the following faculty member at the Gillings School of Global Public Health as a candidate for the John E. Larsh Jr. Award for Mentorship:

Nominee: **Gerardo Heiss**

Department: **Epidemiology**

Please provide a detailed supporting statement in the space below (or using letterhead stationery). Nominations without signatures will not be considered.

When I enrolled in the PhD program in the Department of Epidemiology, in 1977, Gerardo Heiss was a relatively junior faculty member. I took a course that he co-taught and learned that the sequel to it was the opportunity to develop and carry out a research project under Gerardo's guidance. Since CVD epidemiology was not my focus, I did not take that course, but came away impressed that a faculty member would spend so much time working with students in that way.

Since joining the faculty in 1980, I have regularly witnessed Gerardo's absolute dedication to students' learning. His students speak of their gratitude to him and appreciate his solicitousness and effectiveness as an advisor. He extends his dedication to the highest standards of training in the way he leads the department's Graduate Studies Committee, a key role he has played for many years. I have particularly admired his leadership of the CVD Epidemiology Training Program, providing over decades the best organized and most complete training experience of any in the department. When our department devoted a faculty retreat to the topic of mentoring, I learned that at Gerardo's initiative the CVD Training Program had instituted mentoring guidelines, including annual reviews of all trainees by their mentors about the whole range of professional development experiences to become scientists and faculty. The CVD program also pairs all its trainees with a research mentor, often Gerardo himself, and assigns a different student trainee to organize their seminar series each semester. There is no better mentor than Gerardo.

Electronic Signature:

I authorize that I, Victor J. Schoenbach, of the Department of Epidemiology have submitted this nomination.

Date: 3/4/2011

A separate nomination form is needed for each recommendation.