The 2012-2013 academic year is full of fresh promise, and the Wright State University Master of Public Health program is right in the middle of it all. After over three years of reviewing, reformatting, readjusting, and rescheduling, we moved from contemplation to action with the statewide conversion to the semester system. As the first classes met on August 27, faculty breathed a huge sigh of relief. For students, academic life marched on, with few making comments about the new schedule. We think that the changes made in response to the semester conversion are good for the program, good for public health education, and ultimately will make for a smoother master degree education experience for students. What we traded off in flexibility by moving to semesters, we will get back in improved continuity, predictability, and achievement of the required public health educational competencies. In addition, the process of putting our program under the microscope, examining it lecture-by-lecture, course-by-course, then reformatting it on to a semester calendar forced the faculty to shine a scholarly flashlight into every nook and cranny. I believe that going forward, our program will be even stronger because of the work we did. Our faculty deserves mega kudos for a job well done!

During the past year, our faculty’s efforts were not limited to the semester conversion effort. We also underwent our first reaccreditation review by the Council on Education in Public Health (CEPH), and came away with a complete seven-year reaccreditation. Our thanks to all students, volunteer faculty, and university and community partners without whose cooperation in the months leading up to and during the site visit, our success would have been impossible.

Having put the semester conversion and reaccreditation process behind us, we can focus on fresh goals as we approach the beginning of our second decade of operations as an M.P.H. program in the fall of 2013. These include increasing our scholarly productivity, our extramural funding through grants and contracts, and our impact on the community by providing timely and appropriate training for the public health workforce, while continuing to provide a research-driven, application-centered, top-notch graduate program in public health for a diverse group of students who aspire to contribute to a better state of health locally, nationally, and globally.
M.D./M.P.H. PLDP Update

The Physician Leadership Development Program (PLDP) offers medical students management and leadership skills, as well as knowledge of health economics and population-based medicine. It is designed to develop future leaders of the health care system, including CEOs of health care organizations, such as hospital systems, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and for-profit health care companies.

This past year the PLDP accepted six first-year medical students to the M.D. dual-degree Iota cohort. Four of the students elected to earn their M.P.H. degree: Rebecca Beesley, Nicole Craker, TJ Klein, and Jasmin Scott. These students are slated to graduate with both degrees in 2016. During their first year of medical school, they attended the leadership in health care elective developed by members of Zeta cohort (Class of 2013) of the PLDP in consultation with faculty from the M.P.H. and M.B.A. programs and local leaders in health care.

Sabrina Neeley, Ph.D., M.P.H., and Colleen McCormick (M.D./M.P.H.-student) presented “Physician Leadership Education for Medical Students: Successes, Challenges, and Change” at the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) annual meeting, April 11-12, 2012, in Washington, D.C.

Six PLDP students completed their M.D./M.P.H. dual degrees in May 2012 and are currently in their residencies: Breanna Bolivar (Ob/Gyn, Mountain Area Health Education Center, North Carolina), Kelly Estes (Emergency Medicine, University of Virginia), Chad Garven (Family Medicine, Medical University of South Carolina), Sandeep Palakodeti (Internal Medicine, Kaiser Permanente, California), Laura Previll (Internal Medicine/Geriatrics, Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals), and Amy Rouse (Pediatrics, Advocate Christ Medical Center, Illinois).

Also in May 2012, the PLDP Council and the Delta Omega Gamma Alpha Chapter hosted an advance screening of the four-part HBO documentary *The Weight of the Nation*, which examines the obesity epidemic in the United States. Each presentation featured a viewing of a segment of the documentary and a question-and-answer period with local health professionals and government officials. In September 2012, the PLDP Council cohosted an advanced screening of the Sundance film *ESCAPE FIRE: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare*.

The Boonshoft School of Medicine was one of 80 medical schools selected to show the advanced movie screening — a documentary and discussion about U.S. health care.

RWJF project promotes statewide M.P.H. program collaboration

Wright State joins all accredited Ohio public health programs under a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant secured through the Ohio Research Association for Public Health Improvement (RAPH). Ohio RAPH is a consortium of academic public health programs and local health departments across Ohio. Dr. Scott Frank of Case Western Reserve University leads the project, Direct Observation of Local Public Health (DOLPH): Prevention, Investigation, Intervention, and Communication Related to Public Health Gastroenteritis Investigation in Ohio. DOLPH’s purpose is to investigate the structure, process, and outcome of the local health department role in foodborne illness prevention, investigation, intervention, and communication, emphasizing direct observation methodology proven successful in other disciplines, but not yet tested in public health. Sylvia Ellison and Christopher Eddy coordinate the Wright State contribution to the project.
I am now the emergency response coordinator for the Warren County Health Department! After working at ODH as a TB epidemiologist and then briefly as a sanitarian with Warren County, I was offered the position at the end of February of this year (2012). I have found that I am very well prepared for this role due in large part to my education and experience in the emergency preparedness courses at WSU. Being proficient and knowledgeable in the field of emergency preparedness, NIMS/ICS structure, and how to build an effective all-hazards plan has helped me to quickly get Warren County’s program/plans up to speed for our upcoming grants and assessments. So again, I just wanted share my appreciation and gratitude as I am starting to really utilize all that I gained from my M.P.H.”

Emergency Response Coordinator, Warren County Combined Health District
President’s Award for Leadership—Lori Metivier

Lori Metivier received the Wright State University President’s Award for Excellence in Leadership. The award is presented each year by the president of Wright State University to a staff member who has provided leadership in support of the university’s mission. Metivier serves as a grants and contract specialist in the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine’s Center for Global Health.

Metivier has been the operational manager for annual conferences on health systems management and public health for the last decade and has served as an important catalyst in the integration of the Center for Global Health and the Center for Healthy Communities.

Michele Battle-Fisher, M.P.H., selected to attend NIH Institute

Michele Battle-Fisher, M.P.H., was competitively selected to attend the annual National Institutes of Health Institute on Systems Science and Health (ISSH) in 2012. This institute, held at Washington University in St. Louis, is sponsored by the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research (OBSSR) and prepares research scholars to use innovative system science methodologies to tackle public health questions and become competitive for NIH funding. Battle-Fisher was a part of the Network Analysis cohort but also had exposure to scholars in Agent Based Modeling and System Dynamics as well.

Welcome aboard! Introduction of Dr. Nikki Rogers

Nikki Rogers, Ph.D., is a biological anthropologist with experience in quantitative data analysis and management, community service projects targeting underserved African American populations, and African and African-American women’s health. Her most recent work focuses on the health and well-being of people living in northern Ethiopia, including studies of breastfeeding behaviors and child growth of participants in an organic gardening program. She has more than two decades’ experience in research and technical writing. She is a coffee fanatic and collects vintage dresses. Dr. Rogers joined the M.P.H. faculty in September 2012 and assumed the role of Culminating Experience Director. This addition to the faculty will give Dr. Cristina Redko time to expand the Global Health Concentration and Global Health Systems Program using Dr. Rogers’ expertise when needed.

Fourth National Conference of State Breastfeeding Coalitions

The WSU M.P.H. program was well represented at the CDC-sponsored Fourth National Conference of State Breastfeeding Coalitions, August 4-6, 2012. With the program theme centered around the Surgeon General’s Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding, particularly via acceleration of the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative, Ohio’s representatives came to publicize progress in their state, as well as learn from the experience of others.
Student Notes
M.P.H. Akash Prasad attending medical school at Barry University in Florida
M.P.H. Sneha Srinivas has been accepted to the Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine for the class of 2017
M.P.H. Brian Patterson has been accepted to the WSU Boonshoft School of Medicine class of 2016

Student Awards
M.P.H. Kathleen Henschel received a 2012 IESE Student Scholarship to the 24th Annual Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, held August 26-30, 2012, in Columbia, SC.
M.P.H. Kim London received a Certificate in Advanced Study in Bioethics and Health Policy from Loyola University—Chicago in 2012.
M.D./M.P.H. Colleen McCormick was awarded a Wright State Graduate Student Assembly Grant to help with travel expenses when she presented her research at conferences.

Student Academic Awards
Jessica Hunt (M.P.H. 2011) received the 2012 WSU Graduate Student Excellence Award. The Graduate Student Excellence Awards Program is an event to recognize the outstanding achievements of our graduate students. Each of the graduate programs nominates a student for this award on the basis of superior academic achievement, noteworthy thesis or dissertation research, and a clearly demonstrated potential to make significant contributions to his or her chosen field.

2012 Student Categorical Awards

2011-2012 Master of Public Health Program Graduates

Alumni Notes
Shari Martin (M.P.H. 2010) launched the Greene County Disability Coalition in April 2012. The coalition’s initial goal was to bring agencies and individuals serving or living in Greene County together to start a conversation about how we could better identify and serve the individuals in Greene County who have a disability. The coalition is in the initial stages of developing its vision and mission statements. Dr. Marietta Orlowski is a partner in this new venture. Martin is also an affiliate faculty of the M.P.H. program, who taught a course on disability and health in the summer 2012 quarter.

Three WSU M.P.H. alumni are now Ohio Environmental Health Association Board members:
President: Jennifer Wentzel (M.P.H. 2007)
Vice President: Alan Pierce (M.P.H. 2007)
Secretary: Brad King (M.P.H. 2006)
Also Chris Cook (M.P.H. 2007) is a former board member having served as vice president. Visit the website for more information: www.ohioeha.org.

Alumni Job Updates
Erik Balster (M.P.H. 2010) became the emergency response coordinator for Warren County Combined Health District in February 2012.
Dawn Ebron (M.P.H. 2011) was hired as an epidemiologist for Public Health—Dayton and Montgomery County in February 2012.
Zachary Fehrman (M.P.H. 2011) took the position of sanitary in training with Clark County Combined Health District.
Jessica Hunt (M.P.H. 2011) was promoted to supervisor of physical therapists and physical therapy assistants on the rehabilitation unit at MVH.
Sarah Johnson (M.P.H. 2010) started dental school in August 2012 after working with the Clark County Combined Health District as an epidemiologist upon graduation.
Gabriel Jones (M.P.H. 2012) was hired as an epidemiologist for Clark County Combined Health District in July 2012.
Brad King (M.P.H. 2006) was named health commissioner for the Norwood City Health Department in February 2012.
Heather Motter Wochrmyer (M.P.H. 2011) was accepted to The Ohio State University College of Dentistry in August 2012.
Jean de Dieu Mukunzi (M.P.H. 2011) was awarded a scholarship from the Harold P. Freeman Patient Navigation Institute to become certified as a psychosocial patient navigator. He is currently working at CareSource in Dayton, Ohio.
Rehan Puri (M.P.H. 2011) is in psychiatry residency at Bergen Regional Medical Center, Paramus, N.J.
Johanna Tyler (M.P.H. 2011) is employed as a CareConnect credentialed trainer at Community Health Network in Indianapolis.
Pattama Ulrich (M.P.H. 2008) has been promoted to the next rank as a Lieutenant Commander and assumed her new role as an International Health Service Program Manager.

2012 Delta Omega WSU Gamma Alpha Chapter

Student/Alumni Inductees
Abby Burns (M.P.H. 2012)
Kim Caudill (M.P.H. 2012)
Dawn Ebron (M.P.H. 2012)
Melissa Howell Wallace (M.P.H. 2007)
Mary Beth Kaylor (M.P.H. 2011)
Laura Previll (M.D./M.P.H. 2012)
Robert Sarlay, Jr. (M.P.H. 2012)
Linda Smith (M.P.H. 2011)
Tim Soward (M.P.H. 2011)

Faculty Inductees
John McAlernar, Ph.D.
Marietta Orlowski, Ph.D.
Ken Dahms, M.A., J.D.

M.P.H. student Jessica Kruse was the first person to identify this picture on the WSU M.P.H. Facebook page as a “Foodborne Outbreak.” (See the E coli among the veggies?) Jessica won a $5 giftcard from Tropical Smoothie. Join us on Facebook today!

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Ken Dahms, M.A., J.D.

M.P.H. Culminating Experiences Available Online through CORE Scholar
Check out our M.P.H. student CEs posted to the WSU CORE (Campus Online Repository)
Scholar webpage: corescholar.lib.ohio-state.edu/MPH/
M.P.H. students must provide us permission in order to have them posted.
M.P.H. Student/Alumni Presentations

Sherri Adkins (M.D./M.P.H. 2011) presented her CE during the 139th APHA Annual Meeting (Oct. 29-Nov. 2, 2011) in Washington, D.C. The oral presentation was titled “Assessment and Management of Adolescent Obesity in an Ambulatory Primary Care Practice.”

Leslie Clem (M.P.H. 2011) provided healthy eating seminars, “Make it Fast, Keep it Healthy,” at Wright State University on March 28 and 29, 2012, sponsored by the Wright State Wellness and Recreation Committee as part of National Nutrition Month.

Joseph Frank (M.P.H. 2011) presented “Stop-N-Check Movement, Inc.” with Dr. Alok Agrawal under the New Seeker Presentations of the OHIC Childhood Obesity Research Community of Practice series on March 2, 2012, at Wright State University.

M.P.H. Kathleen Henschel presented her poster titled “Questioning Extreme Weather’s Role in the Seventh Pandemic: Influence of Weather Fluctuations on Cholera in India from 1960-2008” at the 24th Annual Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, August 2012, in Columbus, S.C.


Kelli Kohake (M.P.H. 2010) presented her CE at the CityMatch Conference, September 2011, in San Francisco. Her poster was titled “The relationship of maternal age, trimester of entry into prenatal care, maternal postpartum depression, and race with birthweight of infants born in Cincinnati, Ohio.”


M.D./M.P.H. Colleen McCormick presented her CE project April 29, 2012, at the national conference for the Pediatric Academic Societies in Boston. Her poster was titled “Tetanus Toxoid, Reduced Diphtheria Toxoid, and Acellular Pertussis Vaccination and Influenza Vaccination of Pregnant and Postpartum Women.”

Leah Sabato (M.P.H. 2011) presented her CE at the 37th Annual Meeting of International Society of Pediatric and Adolescents Diabetes, October 2011, in Miami Beach, Fla. Her poster was titled “Prevalence of Metabolic Abnormalities in Young Obese Children.”


M.P.H. Ted Talley presented at the Open Forum Meeting for Accreditation and Quality Improvement in Public Health Conference sponsored by the National Network of Public Health Institutes, in Portland, Ore., in June 2012. Ted presented his quality improvement project, which is focusing on unlicensed mobile food vendors operating in the Northern Kentucky Health Department’s district of Boone, Kenton, Campbell, and Grant counties.


M.P.H. Alumni Abstracts

Accepted for presentation at the 2012 APHA Conference in San Francisco, CA on October 30, 2012

Dawn Ebron (M.P.H. 2011): “Association Between Neighborhood Walkability, Type 2 Diabetes, and Socioeconomic Status in Residents of Eight Ohio Counties.”


M.P.H. Alumni Publications

Chad Garver’s (M.D./M.P.H. 2012) CE, “Analysis of an Improved Cook Stove Intervention in Rural Guatemala,” is being submitted to Social Science and Medicine.


Faculty Presentations

John Bullock was the C.E. Reynolds Medical History Society Lecturer at the University of Pittsburgh, in February 2012, where he presented “The Worldwide ReNu®-Related Furatirum Keratitis Epidemic of 2004-2006: What Would the Reverend Henry Whitehead and Doctor John Snow Have Done?”


John McAlearney presented “An Overview of the Economics of Health and Health Policy” at the Boonshoft School of Medicine Faculty Leadership Academy, at Wright State University, November 2011.

John McAlearney presented “The Current Economics of Cardiovascular Care” at the Heart Institute of Dayton, in October 2011.

Marietta Orlowski presented “Integrating multiple health behavior theories into program planning: The PER worksheet,” at the Society for Public Health Education Midyear Scientific Meeting, in Nashville, Tenn., in April 2012.


Cristina Redklo presented a poster on “We are resilient people, just getting sicker and sicker, after resettling in America,” by Redklo, C., and Housel, J.; at the Global Health Conference (GHEC, CUGH and Canadian Society for International Health) in Montreal, in November 2011.

Andrew Carlson presented a poster on “Enabling women and children in a low-income rural population to become agents of nutritional change,” by Carlson, A. J.; Rogers, N. L.; and Felke, A., at the American Public Health Association annual meeting, in October 2011, in Washington, D.C.

Jared Embree presented a poster on “Exploring connections between suicidal behavior and language acquisition in a deaf population with co-occurring substance use disorder,” by Embree, J.; Fraker, S.; Rogers, N. L.; Ford, J. A.; and Wilson, J.F., at the American Public Health Association annual meeting, in October 2011, in Washington, D.C.

Nikki Rogers presented the published abstract “Why are females with lighter skin darker than those without? Preliminary findings from the Kossosey Development Program Nutrition Study in Kossosey Kebele,” by Feleke, A.; Rogers, N. L.; and Carlson, A. J.; at the 22nd Annual Research Conference, University of Gondar, Ethiopia, in June 2012.

Andrew Carlson presented the accepted abstract “The Kossossey Development Program Model of Development,” by Feleke, A.; Rogers, N. L.; and Carlson, A. J.; at the 22nd Annual Research Conference, University of Gondar, Ethiopia, in June 2012.

Fraser, D.; Embree, J.; and Rogers, N. presented “Factors Associated with Anxiety and Depression in an Underserved African American Population,” at the STREAMS Poster Symposium, on August 14, 2012, at Boonshoft School of Medicine, Wright State University, in Dayton.

Nikki Rogers presented the poster “Birth attendants can be trained to maximize breastfeeding and decrease prelacteal feeding in Ethiopia’s Amhara region,” by Rogers, N. L.; Carlson, A. J.; and Feleke, A.; at the American Public Health Association annual meeting, in Washington, D.C., in October 2011.


Faculty Abstracts


Faculty Publications


Faculty Awards

Michele Battle-Fisher received a Graduate Scholar Award at the 2011 Aging and Society: An Interdisciplinary Conference, University of California, Berkeley.

John Bullock was selected as the 2011 APHA Vision Care Section Outstanding Project Award recipient.

John McKeeney was selected by the M.P.H. students for the 2012 Outstanding Faculty Member.

Cristina Redko received a seed grant from the Boonshoft School of Medicine for a research project entitled “Assessing Quality of Life of Somali Refugees.”

Public Health Grand Rounds Series 2011-12

Public Health Grand Rounds is presented by the Master of Public Health Program, Center for Global Health, Boonshoft School of Medicine, Wright State University, to inform health professionals about public health topics related to prevention and workforce development.

2011


Oct. 4, 2011: Ted Wymyslo, M.D., “Spend the Morning with ODH Director Dr. Wymyslo.” Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton.

2012


May 8, 2012: Christy Porucznik, Ph.D., MSPH, “Prescription Opioid Adverse Events in Utah—Re- search into Practice and Back Again” (Delta Omega Lecturer). Wright State University.


Sept. 11, 2012: Panel: David Gerstner, Mark McDonnell M.S., and Rick Murray facilitated by Christopher Eddy M.P.H., “9/11: Eleven Years After,” Herman N. Menapace Center for Health Education, Greene Memorial Hospital, Xenia, OH

Public Health Grand Rounds will be held Oct. 6, 2012, with a discussion about health disparities lead by a panel of local community leaders, and in January 2013, with Dr. Sara Paton presenting on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. Dates and topics are subject to change. Go to med.wright.edu/hsm/education for more information.
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Center for Global Health

Chris Eddy
Med Force, National Center for Medical Readiness
1/1/2011 to 12/31/2011
FAPTC Consortium, National Center for Medical Readiness
1/1/2012 to 12/31/2012

Sylvia Ellison
Advancing Quality Improvement in Public Health
7/1/2012 to 10/29/2012
Direct Observation of Local Public Health Workers
2/1/2011 to 1/31/2013

John McAlearney
Direct Service Workforce Project – Providing Pathways for Ohio’s Long-Term Care Workforce
9/1/2011 to 6/30/2012

Marietta Orlowski
Create a Classroom that Moves
7/1/2011 to 10/31/2012
Evaluation for Healthier Ohio School Challenge Team Nutrition Project
7/1/2012 to 9/1/2012

Sara Paton
Med Force, National Center for Medical Readiness
1/1/2011 to 12/31/2011
FAPTC Consortium, National Center for Medical Readiness
1/1/2012 to 12/31/2012

Cristina Redko
Assessing Quality of Life Among Somali Refugees
7/1/2012 to 6/30/2013

Bill Spears
Direct Service Workforce Project – Identifying Competencies for Ohio’s Long-Term Care Workforce
9/1/2011 to 6/30/2012

Best Practices for Study Recruiting in Primary Care Settings
9/25/2009 to 8/31/2012
PI: John “Jack” Pascoe

Academic Administrative Units Primary Care
9/1/2010 – 8/31/2011
PI: John “Jack” Pascoe

Kettering Foundation Contract
(Dec 2010 to Nov 2012)
Food Access Grant – approx. 4/24/2012 to 11/15/2012