

Public Health Happenings

The official electronic newsletter of the
University of Connecticut Graduate
Programs in Public Health

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...the mission of the UConn Master of Public Health (MPH) program is to offer an exemplary academic environment that prepares interprofessional learners to achieve high standards of public health practice.

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OUR MISSION

About every seven years the UConn MPH program begins a reaccreditation process, looking at the current accreditation criteria of the Council for Education in Public Health (CEPH) and critically evaluating whether and to what extent we meet these criteria. The first criterion, **Criterion 1.1 Mission**, mandates that every accredited program or school “shall have a clearly formulated and publicly stated mission with supporting goals, objectives and values.”

The MPH Advisory Committee, comprised of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and other community partners, begins the self-study process by reviewing the current mission statement and

discussing at length how well it fits with what we are currently about and where we want to go as a program. Any suggested changes are posted on the program’s website for comment and further discussed by the Advisory Committee. The final version incorporated into the self-study is similarly disseminated.

One requirement of Criterion 1.1, as indicated above, is the “**publicizing [of] program mission, values, goals and objectives.**” With this in mind, we think it is worth reminding our public health constituency, particularly our students and faculty, as to what we are all about, so we can keep this mission in mind in all our transactions, both in the

classroom and in the community.

Our UConn MPH mission statement begins with a vision statement, which, unlike the mission, is aspirational in nature—we may not ever achieve this vision, but it is what we aspire to as a program. The entire mission statement is below:

Our program's vision is that the University of Connecticut (UConn) Graduate Program in Public Health is an integral contributor to the effort to make Connecticut residents among the healthiest, most productive and satisfied of Americans. Our faculty, students and staff, through efforts in teaching, application, discovery and integration¹ of public health theory and practices, are committed to improving the well-being of individuals, here in Connecticut and beyond, through organized, comprehensive, effective and just action.

In furtherance of our program's vision, the mission of the UConn Master of Public Health (MPH) program is to offer an exemplary academic environment that prepares interprofessional learners to achieve high standards of public health practice. Public health careers for the 21st century, along with many in the related health and human services, will require competence in interprofessional practice that coordinates skill sets and perspectives of various disciplines in pursuing effective, comprehensive, systems-level improvements to our environment and social structure. Interprofessional competencies refer to the capacity of individuals and teams to enact knowledge, skills, values and attitudes essential for working together across professions and stakeholder groups to improve outcomes.²

¹ The dimensions of scholarship are drawn from concepts developed by Ernest L. Boyer, *Scholarship Reconsidered: Priorities of the Professorate*, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, October 1997.

² Interprofessional Education Collaborative Expert Panel. (2011). *Core competencies for interprofessional collaborative practice: Report of an expert panel*. Washington, D.C.: Interprofessional Education Collaborative.

The goals and objectives that will guide us in achieving this mission are listed on the last pages of this issue of *Public Health Happenings*. We hope you will familiarize yourself with them and welcome your feedback.

Morgan H. Spencer, MPH, MPA, Program Coordinator

Joan Segal, MA, MS, Editor

MPH ALUMNA JOINS FACULTY



The MPH program welcomes our newest faculty member, **Dr. Angela Bermúdez-Millán, PhD, MPH (2001)**, to the Department of Community Medicine and Health Care. Dr. Bermúdez-Millán specializes in the area of community nutrition with a strong interest in

maternal and child health among low-income minority groups. Her academic degrees are in nutrition and public health. She is currently an Assistant Research Professor at the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine, Department of Community Medicine and Health Care and Division of Behavioral Sciences and Community Health, respectively. Prior to this, she was the Coordinator of the Community Connections Core for the Connecticut Center for Eliminating Health Disparities among Latinos at the Hispanic Health Council.

Dr. Bermúdez-Millán's current research interest is on food insecurity and its impact on psychological distress, dietary behaviors, sleep quality and metabolic risk. She is currently working with Dr. Julie Wagner in the Eat, Walk, Sleep (Cardiometabolic Lifestyle Program for Cambodian Americans) delivered by Community Health Workers, where she is training the community health workers in food insecurity and nutritional assessment methodologies, and helping with the development and implementation of the nutrition and physical activity lifestyle intervention. She is also a scholar of the Connecticut Institute of Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS), Education, Training and Career Development core Pre-K program. Her upcoming professional goals are to continue conducting research, translating and disseminating health education and contributing to the elimination of health disparities among low-income minority groups.

In the future Dr. Bermúdez-Millá envisions offering electives in the MPH Program, such as *Food, Health and Politics; Community-based Participatory Research; Nutrition in Health and Diseases; Food Safety; and Public Health Nutrition*. Looking back on her time as a UConn MPH student, she states,

It is impossible to maintain the health of our populations without thinking and considering public health. UCONN public health program taught me this and provided me the skills necessary to improve the health of low-income populations, and become a committed advocate for social justice in health.

PHSO SPRING PREVIEW

By: *Mitchell Irving, PHSO Vice President*

The Public Health Student Organization (PHSO) would like to welcome all students back to UConn for the spring 2016 semester! This past fall was one of the most active times in our organization's history, and we intend to push forward with that momentum right through the end of the 2016 academic year. We have several major events planned so far, including a local community-based organization networking event, a group trip to visit public health schools in the Boston area, educational outreach at UConn Storrs & CCSU, guest speakers, and participation in student research poster sessions at UConn Health. In addition to these, we hope to organize at least one community service project as well in association with the broader UCHC GSO. Watch out for our emails (phso@uchc.edu) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/UCONN.PHSO>) posts, chat with a member of the Executive Board (Samia, Mitch, Andrew, Rabale, & Linh), or attend one of our bi-monthly meetings for more information on upcoming events. Similar to the fall semester, we plan to hold spring meetings in the Health Center Student Lounge (by the Academic Entrance) on the first Tuesday and third Thursday of each month from 4:30–5:30 p.m.

The spring semester is always an exciting time; students are completing their Thesis, Applied Practice, and Practicum projects; some people will be graduating with intentions to further their education or to enter the public health workforce; and a new cohort of prospective students will first be introduced to our programs. The PHSO aims to

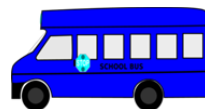
be at the center of all this academic energy and produce an exciting experience for all.

Best of luck with the start of classes, and stay tuned for more announcements, including e-board elections in April!



Holiday Party - From Left to Right: Chris Seery, Cory Loftis, Samia Hussein, Kelcie Reid, Andrew Lyon, Chelsey Hahn, Taryn Sidney, & Nishelli Ahmed

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE TO STORRS



Have you wanted to take a course in Storrs or attend a seminar there, but were unenthusiastic about driving (and parking) there (or lacked transportation)? If so, you may be interested in a new, free shuttle service that started on January 19, which allows UConn Health employees and students to travel easily between Farmington and the Storrs campus each weekday during the spring 2016 semester. Shuttle passengers will be required to reserve a seat online at www.bus.uconn.edu/#shuttleUCH no later than 3:00 p.m. on the prior day. Passengers will be asked to provide information about whether they are traveling one way or round-trip; indicate their pick-up location, as well as provide a cell phone number so the shuttle driver can be in touch to ensure the best service. Passengers should arrive at the shuttle stop no later than 5 minutes prior to the scheduled departure time with their UConn Health ID badge.

There are three shuttle bus stops at UConn Health located at the Main Road Bus Shelter at Discovery Way (JAX), Main Building Entrance, and the Cell and Genome Sciences Building, 400 Farmington Avenue. The shuttle bus stop at Storrs is located at

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, Hillside Road.

The anticipated weekday schedule, subject to traffic and weather conditions, is as follows:

8 a.m.	Depart from Storrs campus
9 a.m.	Arrive at UConn Health – disembark and pickup new passengers
10 a.m.	Arrive at Storrs campus
3 p.m.	Depart from Storrs campus
4 p.m.	Arrive at UConn Health - disembark and pickup new passengers
5 p.m.	Arrive at Storrs campus

The shuttle service will operate on a trial basis through the end of May. At that time, the schedule and ridership data will be assessed to determine future availability. Address questions or concerns to the UConn Health Parking and Transportation Department by phone at 860-679-4248 or by email at the following website:

parking.transportation@uchc.edu.

STUDENT/STAFF PARKING IN STORRS



To make it easier for UConn Health students on the Farmington campus to attend classes, lectures or other activities in Storrs, those with a parking permit may park in C-lot on the Storrs campus. Similarly,

UConn Health staff may park at the Storrs campus in parking areas equivalent to the parking permit that they have for the Farmington campus. For example, an UConn Health Area 1 permit holder may park in any lots marked Area 1, 2 or 3. UConn Health Area 3 permit holders may only park in lots marked Area 3. In all cases, a valid UConn Health hangtag must be displayed. For a Storrs parking map, go to <http://park.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/112/2015/09/uconnparkingmap.pdf>.

Please note: If UConn Health staff members or students choose to park in a visitor garage on the Storrs campus, they must pay the posted hourly/daily rates. Storrs visitor garage rates are available at <http://park.uconn.edu/garage-rates-and-fees/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Health Center Parking and Transportation Department by phone at 860-679-4248 or by email at parking.transportation@uchc.edu.

CPHA CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS



There is no greater honor than to be recognized by one's peers. To that end, the Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) holds the honor of recognizing individuals and agencies that have demonstrated leadership, and/or have made significant contributions to the public health sector in our state. This year's awards are even more significant as CPHA celebrates its centennial and 100 years of promoting public health in Connecticut.

The CPHA Call for Awards is an invitation to nominate an individual or agency from a traditional or non-traditional public health occupation or sector. The awards are listed below:

The C.E.A. Winslow Award is presented to a public health professional that has demonstrated leadership and achievement in practice, research and/or education. The grant commemorates Charles-Edward Amory Winslow (1877-1957), a pioneer in public health and medicine who is credited with founding the second oldest school of public health in the country at Yale University. Among the most widely quoted health leaders during his lifetime, Winslow believed that equal weight with scientific ideas about health and disease was a commitment to social justice—that social ills must be the first conquest in the “conquest of epidemic disease.”

The Ira V. Hiscock Award recognizes a Connecticut layperson OR organization that has made notable contributions to the advancement of public health through public service, education, advocacy and/or leadership. Hiscock was an internationally recognized epidemiologist and public health professor at Yale who inspired generations of students.

The Charles G. Huntington III Award recognizes a health care practitioner who has demonstrated public health leadership and a commitment to the health and well-being of populations. Huntington was a leader, a role model, a dedicated humanist, a steadfast public health advocate, and a caregiver of the first order. Believing that physician assistants

are critical to meeting our nation's health care needs, he did much to advance the profession and served as the president of the American Academy of Physician's Assistants. He provided leadership to CPHA, serving as president for three years. At the time of his passing, Charles was an Associate Dean and Associate Professor at the UConn School of Medicine. He was an instructor in the MPH program and served as an advisor to several students.

The Michael J. Perlin Student Award recognizes a current public health student who demonstrates, through student activities and/or community service, a commitment to leadership, volunteerism, and the highest educational standards. At the time of his passing, Dr. Michael Perlin was Professor Emeritus of Public Health at Southern Connecticut State University, where he distinguished himself as a respected educator, colleague and public health advocate. During his 41 years in education, Perlin was known as an energetic and ingenious teacher, who left an indelible mark on countless students. He was the 2009 recipient of the C.E.A. Winslow Award. Jonathan Noel, MPH (2009), a student in the UConn doctoral program in public health, was the 2015 recipient of the Perlin Award.

To submit a nomination, use the [Call for Awards Nomination Form](#). All nominees will be evaluated on their strengths, talents and abilities, as well as on their contributions to public health in Connecticut. Anyone is welcome to submit a nomination, even individuals who are not members of CPHA..

The deadline to submit the 2016 CPHA Call for Awards Nomination form to cpha@cpha.info is **Friday, February 26, 2016**. The CPHA Awards Committee will review all nominations and select award recipients to be acknowledged during the CPHA Awards Event that will take place on Friday, April 8, the last day of National Public Health Week. More information on the event will follow shortly. If you have questions about the nomination process, please send an email to the Awards Committee Chair Kathi Traugh at kathi.traugh@cpha.info.

HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS INTERNSHIP
The National Cancer Institute (NCI) has recognized that health information dissemination is key in raising public awareness about new cancer treatments, support for cancer patients and their

families, and prevention strategies. To that end, in 1975 the NCI established the **Health Communications Internship Program (HCIP)** to attract and develop individuals interested in careers in health communications and science writing.

The HCIP gives highly qualified graduate students and recent graduate degree recipients the opportunity to participate in vital health and science communications projects in one of the many offices that make up the NCI. Interns select one of two areas of emphasis: **Health Communications** or **Science Writing**. Six-month and one-year internship terms are available.

Health Communications applicants should have some science background as well as experience and/or education in any of the following areas: public health, epidemiology, public relations, health education, communications, science writing, statistics, social marketing, or journalism. Health Communications interns: will have the opportunity to:

- Plan, develop, and promote cancer education programs and materials (including Web-based) for the public, cancer patients, or health professionals
- Gain experience in pre-testing and evaluating cancer prevention and treatment messages, publications, materials, and programs that reach the American public
- Participate in professional meetings and training seminars

Science Writing applicants should have a science background with the ability to translate complex scientific concepts into material suitable for a lay audience. Science Writing interns will have the opportunity to:

- Write fact sheets and press releases
- Answer inquiries from the press
- Attend and report on scientific meetings
- Write feature length, creative articles on the latest, most important advances in cancer research
- Participate in professional meetings and training seminars

Applications for the 2016 term are due by March 14th. Additional information about this program including an online application can be found by visiting <http://hcip.nci.nih.gov>. If you have question, contact [HCIP-](#)

Contact@mail.nih.gov<<https://mail.nih.gov/owa/HCI-P-contact@mail.nih.gov/UrlBlockedError.aspx>>.

INTERNSHIP: INJURY PREVENTION & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) has an opening for an Intern in Injury Prevention and Behavioral Health. The intern will work with ASTHO's Health Improvement team to support improvements in state prevention policies and practices, as well as increased alignment of state and federal strategies to reduce the burden of injury and improve health outcomes.

The primary responsibilities of the intern are to:

- Track ongoing and emerging issues relevant to injury and violence prevention efforts and policy issues with some specific focus on the prevention of sexual violence.
- Assist with drafting of newsletter stories, policy or position statements, fact sheets, and reports
- Assist in collecting and disseminating stories from the field
- Conduct literature reviews and prepare fact sheets, issue briefs, and other written materials on specified topics
- Handle administrative tasks such as meeting planning, conference call arrangements, committee/workgroup mailings
- Take notes during meetings and summarize information for staff, ASTHO members, and meeting participants.

Minimum qualifications for the position include:

- Bachelor's degree, with strong preference for Master's level experience in public health, social and behavioral science, and/or public policy
- Experience or interest in working on violence prevention and related health topics across the lifespan (strongly preferred)

Applicants should have the following knowledge, skills and abilities:

- Excellent oral and written communication and interpersonal skills
- Strong attention to detail
- Ability to work independently and in a team environment, manage multiple projects and

- complete assigned tasks in a timely manner
- Experience conducting literature reviews and querying academic journal articles
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office, as well as basic knowledge and ability to use other software applications

To apply for the internship, please submit a resume, cover letter, and writing sample (less than 5 pages) with the subject line "Intern, Injury Prevention and Behavioral Health" to resumes@astho.org. For further information on careers at ASTHO, go to <http://www.astho.org/Careers-at-ASTHO/>.

CONSULTANT/PROJECT COORDINATOR
BHcare in New Haven is seeking a visionary who possesses the necessary skills to spearhead a new and exciting project. This project involves outreach activities to garner support and develop a strategic and sustainability plan for the establishment of a Family Justice Center in New Haven.

The ideal candidate for this consulting position has extensive experience with project development, networking, marketing and grant writing. The ability to develop relationships and liaisons with the Greater New Haven community partners will be critical. This person will need to be highly organized, work well independently, but also be collaborative. The position requires a Bachelor's degree, but a Master's degree is preferred.

Responsibilities will include:

- Develop and recruit a committed team of partners representing the New Haven community
- Secure funding and financial support for the Family Justice Center location
- Collaborate with committee members to develop a strategic plan specific for setting up the Family Justice Center
- Attend Family Justice workshops/trainings and visit other centers throughout the US
- Develop and produce marketing materials in support of the Family Justice Center
- Develop partnerships with corporations and foundations for ongoing project support
- Conduct partner meetings to facilitate communication and effective relationships among the partnering agencies

- Complete reports for funding sources which demonstrate project activities and outcomes
- Identify and secure a site for the Family Justice Center within the first two years

Please send CV or Resume to lmiles@bhcare.org or tcorniello@bhcare.org.

DIRECTOR OF FUND DEVELOPMENT

The Hispanic Health Council (HHC) in Hartford has an opening for a Director of Fund Development. The Director of Fund Development will be responsible for developing and implementing the strategy to create a Fund Development office and achieve the agency's partnership and fundraising goals. This position includes leveraging key relationships and contacts within and outside of HHC's geographic locations and research/writing grant proposals. In addition, the Fund Development Director will work closely with the board of directors and support board members as they take on a more active community ambassador and fundraising role.

Qualifications for the position include:

- Minimum of a Bachelor's degree
- At least three years of experience in nonprofit revenue development
- Demonstrated knowledge and success achieving revenue targets
- A professional and resourceful style and the ability to work independently and as a team member while managing multiple tasks
- Proven management and leadership capability
- Demonstrated commitment to the mission of the organization and experience building a collaborative team in a racially and ethnically diverse environment
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, bi-cultural understanding and Bilingual Spanish/English (oral/written)
- Superior grant research and grant proposal writing skills (scientific grant research background a plus)
- Experience working with senior level executives in corporations, foundations, government, and nonprofit agencies
- Knowledge and proficiency in using computer applications, including standard Windows applications, donor databases (Donor Perfect a plus), and social media.

To obtain further information or apply, contact Sylviana Lopez, MBA, Director of Human Resources, Hispanic Health Council, 175 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106, phone: 860-527-0656, X-256, Fax: 860-724-0467. A more detailed description of the position is online at <https://workforcenow.adp.com/jobs/apply/posting.html?client=HispanicHC#>.

PUBLIC HEALTH DATA ANALYST

Pinal County Public Health Services District (PHSD), located in Florence, Arizona, is recruiting a **Public Health Resource Data Analyst**. Under general supervision, the Data Analyst performs analytical work of considerable difficulty in health care information management and reporting. Responsibilities include:

- Analyze public health demographic data to identify and quantify public health issues and assist the PHSD in developing strategies to meet the demands of complex and interconnected public health issues
- Perform health assessments and track health issues and trends
- Develop specialized analysis tools, including the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Statistical Analytic Software (SAS).

Positions at this level are assigned a broad range of duties and may supervise others. The employee has considerable responsibility in the area of data management and analysis affecting the operations and planning of public health activities within the Public Health Services District (PHSD).

The position requires a Bachelor's Degree in Public Health, Business or Public Administration, Statistics, Finance, or a related field AND three years' experience in statistical analysis, research methods, data collection, coding, survey research, database management and other analytical work OR an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience. A Master's Degree in Public Health is preferred and will substitute for two years of work experience.

Annual compensation is \$50,592.36 - \$53,172.08. Further information on job functions is available at http://cfusion.sph.emory.edu/PHEC/index.cfm?action=job_Details&JobID=51822. Apply through the Pinal County Website at:

www.pinaljobs.com or paste address below into browser:
https://www.pinaljobs.com/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails_css.jsp?postingId=251075.
The application deadline is **April 7, 2016**.

For additional information contact Graham Briggs, Public Health Resource Data Analyst, PO Box 2945, 500 S. Central, Florence, AZ 85132, 520-866-7325, graham.briggs@pinalcountyz.gov.

PART-TIME BILINGUAL ADVOCATE
The YWCA Sexual Assault Crisis Service is seeking a part-time Bilingual Advocate to provide individual counseling, support groups, advocacy, presentations, and outreach to Spanish speaking sexual assault survivors and their loved ones. The Advocate will have on call responsibilities and work select holidays, evenings, and weekends as necessary.

Candidates must possess reliable transportation enabling them to travel extensively throughout the New Britain and greater Hartford areas. They must be self-starters, highly organized, and have strong knowledge of issues related to sexual violence. State certification as a Sexual Assault Crisis Counselor is preferred but candidates can be trained from within. This position is 30 hours a week and is benefit eligible.

If you are interested in applying, please submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to Caitlin Sorge, SACS – Director, at csorge@ywcanewbritain.org.

APHA CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



The 2016 Annual Meeting and Expo of the American Public Health Association (APHA) will be held in Denver on October 29-December 2, and the organization invites public health professionals, faculty and students to become presenters by submitting an abstract. Abstracts may relate to all areas of public health, including those that coincide with the 2016 theme “Creating the Healthiest Nation: Ensuring the Right to Health.” Abstracts are currently being accepted, with deadlines

ranging from February 22-26, depending on topic area.

Participants have the option to present their work in three different formats:

- Oral Sessions — formal presentations to larger groups including Q&A sessions with the audience.
- Roundtable Sessions — small group discussions where presenters can speak directly to attendees in a more intimate setting.
- Poster Sessions — visual representation of research and findings where presenters can interact one-on-one with attendees.

You do not have to be an APHA member to submit an abstract. However, if your abstract is accepted for presentation, the presenting author **MUST** become an APHA individual member and **MUST** register for the Annual Meeting by the pre-registration deadline.

There are several benefits to presenting at APHA:

- Share your research with a large public health audience
- Enhance your CV
- Expand career opportunities
- Disseminate your findings
- Receive feedback from colleagues
- Attend the largest public health gathering

For further information, go to the following website: <https://www.apha.org/events-and-meetings/annual/presenter-information>

APHA SEEKS ABSTRACT REVIEWERS

APHA's [2016 Annual Meeting and Expo](#) is the pre-eminent public health event, with more than 13,000 attendees and 1,000 presentations. Help create the 2016 meeting program by reviewing abstracts. Reviewers have the opportunity to take a firsthand look at abstracts and help develop the scientific content presented at APHA 2016.

As a reviewer you will be assigned 3-10 abstracts based on the member group you are reviewing. All abstracts are reviewed by three reviewers, and your score is tallied with the other two reviewers to help determine which abstracts should be accepted. The deadline to sign up as a reviewer is **January 29** and the review process commences on March 7. Please note that you must be a member

of APHA to participate as a reviewer. To learn more about how to become a reviewer, go to the following website:

<https://apha.confex.com/apha/144am/cfr.epl>.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SEMINAR

MPH alumnus **Marc Croteau, MD, MPH (2004)** will present a seminar, *Health Effects Related to Mold and Moisture*, on **February 3, 2016**, 12:00-1:00 p.m. in the Outpatient Pavilion, 7th Floor EAST Conference Room. The target audience includes occupational health professionals, primary care physicians and practitioners, health promotion professionals, and health policy specialists.

Participants will be able to:

- Discuss the impact of climate change and severe weather events or indoor environments.
- Appreciate the health consequences of moist indoor environment.
- Make informal decisions regarding the diagnostic and management of medical conditions related to indoor environment.

HEALTHY HOMES WEBINAR SERIES

The New England Public Health Training Center and the Connecticut Department of Public Health are sponsoring the **Connecticut Healthy Homes Winter Webinar Series**. Information on the second webinar in the series, to be held on Thursday, February 18 at 12:00 noon, is listed below.

LIABILITY AND CODE ENFORCEMENT: WHAT PUBLIC HEALTH NEEDS TO KNOW

Do you know when a code enforcement activity is mandated and when it is discretionary? Learn what every public health practitioner should know about liability and risk for government agencies and enforcement staff from the perspective of a civil and criminal attorney. The presenters include Judith Dicine, JD, Office of the Chief State's Attorney and Joseph Schwartz JD, Murtha Cullina Attorneys at Law. Register on TRAIN at Course #1060896. To register on TRAIN, go to <https://ct.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx>.

HEALTH EQUITY SEMINAR

As part of the UConn Health Disparities Institute: Advancing Health Equity Spring Seminar Series, Wisdom Powell, PhD, MPH will present a talk on "Disrupting the Single Story: How Whole Truths help us to Advance Sustainable Health Equity

Agendas" on **Thursday, February 4 at noon** at 195 Farmington Ave., 3rd Floor Conference Room U3071A & U3071B. Dr. Powell is an Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health, Department of Health Behavior. She has been a White House Fellow, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholar and an appointee in the Obama Administration acting as a Special Advisor on military mental health policies to Secretary Panetta. Her research focuses on psychosocial determinants in health disparities/inequities within Black male populations. To attend, RSVP to Jeanette Goyzueta-Rhodes, MPH (20XX) at jgoyzueta@uchc.edu.

GLOBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

The **Global Health & Innovation Conference** convenes leaders, changemakers, and participants from all sectors of global health, international development, and social entrepreneurship, as well as students from all 50 states and over 50 countries, at its annual event held at Yale University in New Haven. This year's conference takes place on **April 16-17**.

Presented annually by Unite For Sight, a nonprofit organization based in New Haven, the conference provides a forum for the some of the most groundbreaking work in global health. Designed to advance the world's health outcomes, the conference requires its speakers to focus their presentations on outcomes, data, and evidence that support their conclusions.

Register by January 31 for the lowest registration rates: \$220 (regular) or \$165 (students). To register online, go to <https://maestro.technolutions.net/uniteforsight/conference>. For more information about the conference and Unite for Site, including global volunteer opportunities, go to <http://www.uniteforsight.org/conference/>.

STUDENT NEWS

Fawatih Mohamed is delighted to announce that is she became a naturalized citizen of the United States at a ceremony held in Bridgeport, CT on December 17.



The picture shows her and her family at the ceremony. Congratulations, Fawatih!

Congratulations to second-year student **Lina Jaradat** and her husband, Dr. Yazeed Maghaydah, on the birth of a beautiful daughter, Ryana Maghaydah, on January 3..



ALUMNI NEWS

Raul Pino, MPH (2005), who was serving as Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Public Health (DPH), was appointed as Acting Commissioner beginning Monday, December 21, by Governor Dannel P. Malloy while the Governor conducts a search for a permanent Commissioner to replace Dr. Jewel Mullen. Dr. Mullen recently has taken a new position with the federal Department of Health and Human Services. In making the announcement, Governor Malloy said, “Dr. Pino is very well respected within Connecticut’s public health community, and I want to thank him for taking on this responsibility.”

Prior to serving as Deputy Commissioner of DPH, Raul Pino served as Director of the City of Hartford Department of Health and Human Services, where he managed the department’s budget and oversaw labor relations, public health preparedness, code enforcement, and the department’s management team. Prior to that, he served as an epidemiologist for DPH’s STD Unit and worked at the Institute for Community Research, Hispanic Health Council, and Hartford Hospital. He is a member of the American Public Health Association and National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse. Before earning his MPH from UConn, he graduated from the University of Havana with a Doctorate in Medicine.

Erin Egan, LMSW, MPH (2015) was named ABI Clinician by United Services in January 2016. Prior to this she worked in Quality Assurance for Advanced Behavioral Health, Inc.

Kelcey Johnson, MPH (2015) is author of an article, “Social Marketing as a Strategy to Increase Uptake of Childhood Vaccines and Reduce the Impact of Anti-Vaccination Sentiment,” which

appeared in the Summer 2015 issue of the *Connecticut Health Quarterly*. The article is based on her MPH capstone research project.

Jennifer Kertanis, MPH (1996) has agreed to serve as the new chair of the MPH Advisory Committee beginning at January 2016 meeting.

FACULTY NEWS

David Gregorio, PhD, MS, Director of Public Health Programs and Professor of Community Medicine and Health Care, is a contributing editor to a new publication, *Connecticut Health Quarterly*, which was established to “improve our understanding of Connecticut healthcare issues.” Dr. Gregorio was author of the lead article in the second (Summer 2015) issue entitled “Place and Health: The Effects of Where We Live.” The article explores the effects of “place” on health outcomes, which “have potentially important implications for how policymakers should address health disparities.”

CALENDAR

February 1—Add/drop for spring semester ends
April 4-11—National Public Health Week 2016.
Theme: *Healthiest Nation 2030*

PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The *mission statement* on page one of this newsletter lays out the purpose of the UConn MPH Program. Emanating from this mission, the program *goals* lay out what the program expects to attain or achieve. These goals are developed to be “believable, attainable and based on identified needs.”³ The *objectives* further define the goals. They are “statements of specific, measurable and attainable outcomes that contribute to the achievement of a particular goal.”³

Please review these goals and objectives and address any questions or comments to Mogran Spencer, mhspencer@uchc.edu.

Interprofessionalism - Scholarship of Integration

We will sustain an environment wherein students, staff, faculty and community partners embrace collaboration across disciplines of public health, law, social work, pharmacy, medicine, dentistry, basic sciences and engineering, education, rehabilitation, business administration and allied health professions.

Goal #1: *Recruit and prepare MPH students who will engage collaboratively with practitioners in the pursuit of system-level public health solutions to community health concerns.*

Objective 1. Provide options for public health students to pursue professional (dual) degrees that integrate public health, clinical, and non-clinical disciplines.

Objective 2. Encourage and accommodate enrollment of students from across the University and the community in our public health courses.

Education - Scholarship of Teaching

We will be innovative in the delivery of curriculum, the provision of experiential learning options and the evaluation of curricular practices.

Goal #2: *Prepare, through exemplary didactic and experiential learning, competent public health practitioners who know and demonstrate interprofessional understanding of public health, medicine, dental medicine, nursing, pharmacy, law, social work and public administration.*

Goal #3: *Be recognized nationally as the leading educational institution that prepares leaders in the interprofessional practice of public health.*

Objective 3. Offer a competency-based core curriculum.

Objective 4. Facilitate global learning and research by faculty and students.

Objective 5. Assure graduates are competent professional practitioners of public health.

Objective 6. Nurture diversity of experience and interest in faculty, students and program staff.

Objective 7. Maintain appropriate faculty to deliver an exemplary interprofessional practice curriculum.

Service - Scholarship of Application

We will be active proponents and policy developers to favorably affect the social determinants of health and the delivery of public health services.

Goal #4: *Enable students, staff, faculty and community-based partners to contribute competent, collaborative effort toward assuring healthful, satisfying lives of Connecticut residents and beyond.*

Objective 8. Promote continuing education/life-long learning across public health specialties.

Objective 9. Emphasize opportunities for service learning throughout the curriculum.

Objective 10. Support career development among the public health workforce.

Research - Scholarship of Discovery

We will support activities that increase our understanding of the social, behavioral, physical and biological bases of population health and health service delivery.

Goal #5: *Uncover determinants of health and well-being and disseminate that information in support of evidence-based health promotion/disease prevention practices for populations.*

Goal #6: *Promote an environment where faculty and students collaborate on research addressing public health concerns and practices.*

Objective 11. Prepare students to design, undertake and disseminate relevant public health research.

Objective 12. Promote ethical, compassionate and culturally appropriate public health research.

Objective 13. Emphasize research focused on causes and control of inequities in health.

Leadership - Scholarship of Administration

We will continually examine our efforts to prepare competent, successful and satisfied students, support the work of faculty, staff and community partners and have meaningful impact on the well-being and prosperity of our community

Goal #7: *Effectively utilize University, program and community resources to sustain a high quality, high impact program in academic public health.*

Objective 14. Maintain a rigorous and recurring schedule to evaluate program practices and impact.

Objective 15. Identify and retain qualified faculty, within and outside of public health to serve as academic advisors and instructors of public health students.

Objective 16. Recruit and retain diversity among students, faculty and staff.

Objective 17. Secure necessary financial and material resources to fulfill our mission, goals, and objectives.

Objective 18. Communicate effectively with stakeholders and community-at-large in advocacy of our discipline and educational offerings.

³University of Maine, Bulletin #6107, Vision, Mission, Goals & Objectives, <http://umaine.edu/publications/6107e/>, Accessed January 26, 2016.

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has been sexually assaulted**

National Institute of Justice Study



**We can't let it happen here!
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