



Public Health

at Stony Brook

Version 1 Fall 2011

WELCOME to the first edition of our Alumni Newsletter!

Dear MPH Alumni,

With our growing network of MPH alumni, we are increasingly aware of the need to connect you to each other and to the *Graduate Program in Public Health* in a more formal and systematic way. This—the Alumni Newsletter—is our first venture in the direction of such connectivity. We anticipate that the Newsletter will become a source of information, inspiration, and pride that will keep you involved in the *Graduate Program in Public Health*, support your career goals, and aid you in maintaining the friendships that you developed with faculty and fellow students. Please enjoy the first Alumni Newsletter, and let us hear from you about evolving career for future editions.

Best wishes for a healthy year,

Raymond L. Goldsteen, DrPH, Director
Graduate Program in Public Health

Public Health Month 2011

Each year, the Graduate Program in Public Health coordinates events around National Public Health Week by developing a variety of programs and activities for students, faculty, alumni, and staff. Since public health is a broad and multi-disciplinary field, we collaborate with many departments and organizations on campus to demonstrate the connectiveness of the profession.

This year, Public Health Month took place *from Monday, March 21 to Friday, April 15* and included programs related to public health topics such as safety, wellness, mental health, preventive health, environmental health, research, and community outreach.

Graduate Program in Public Health
Serving the Community, the Nation, the World

Public Health Month 2011
March 21- April 15

Street Medicine Screening
Preventive Health Fair
Nutrition Information Table



Research Poster Session
Public Health Trivia Challenge
and more ...

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

<http://www.stonybrookmedicalcenter.org/publichealthmonth>

For more information about events and programs visit:
<http://www.stonybrookmedicalcenter.org/publichealthmonth>

OPHSA Student & Alumni Dinner

To keep alumni in touch with campus life and to make students aware of their potential roles as alumni, OPHSA hosted its first annual Student-Alumni Dinner. The dinner was held at the Old Street Restaurant and Bar in Smithtown, NY this past May. For hosts and guests alike, the evening proved to be a great opportunity to share experiences. OPHSA was delighted at the outcome of the event! We hope this event will be the start of an annual tradition to gather everybody, together.



Faculty & Student

Congratulations



Raymond Goldsteen (GPPH faculty member), is the Co-PI of the new HRSA-funded New York City-Long Island-Lower Tri-County Public Health Training Center, which will bring \$800,000 to Stony Brook University Medical Center over the next 4 years.

Jaymie Meliker (GPPH faculty member), is the Principal Investigator of a 4-year R01 grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to investigate the epidemiologic relationship between cadmium and breast cancer. His collaborators include colleagues at the Danish Cancer Society, RTI International, University of Missouri, and Stony Brook faculty member Jack Kovach and Hongshik Ahn.

Lauren Hale (GPPH faculty member), in collaboration with Eric Reither (Utah State University) and Patrick Krueger (University of Colorado), was awarded an R21 grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Kidney Diseases entitled "Sleep, Obesity, and the Well-being of US Adolescents".

Aleef Rahman, a current MPH student, co-authored a research paper titled "Pharmacokinetic drug interactions of phosphodiesterase-5 inhibitors mediated by cytochrome P450 3A4 isoform" that was published in the International Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences.

Dilruba Khanam, a current MPH student, received a NYSCHA Certificate of Recognition for her outstanding work with Student Health Advisory Committee and the Health Education program. The award is a recognition for her efforts in promoting health and wellness during Public Health Month.

Trends in Public Health

"Under the budget deal agreed to by Congress, the community health centers would see their funding slashed by \$600 million for the remainder of 2011."

15 April 2011, CNN Money.com

"The government is willing to make major changes to its overhaul of the NHS (National Health Service)."

5 April 2011, BBC News

Job Searching...

Stony Brook University Career Center
<http://www.career.sunysb.edu>

Public Health Employment Connection
<http://cfusion.sph.emory.edu/PHEC/phec.cfm>

American Public Health Association
<http://www.apha.org/about/careers/>

Association of Schools of Public Health
<http://www.asph.org/>

Alumni Profile

Since my graduation in 2008, I have worked with...

the Turkana Basin Institute in Ileret, Kenya to initiate its Community Outreach program, for which I am now the Program Coordinator. The program is focused on promoting education, health, economic development, and conservation. We...

- Work to design and raise funds for projects in identified areas of need in cooperation with the local community, NGOs, and governmental partners;
- Have raised over \$100,000 for purchasing a mobile clinic, constructing and equipping local schools, and providing access to water;
- Manage the annual bursary fund of \$16,000 and run the mobile clinic;
- Collaborate with the SBU Schools of Health Technology and Management, Medicine/GPPH, Dental Medicine, Nursing, and Social Welfare to implement public health activities in Ileret including constructing a maternity ward, hiring and supervising nurses, and planning a dental camp; and
- Act as a community liaison to foster a positive relationship with the community.



Until June of this year, I was also Executive Committee Member of Friends of Lake Turkana, Kenya, where I organized and participated in activities to conserve Lake Turkana, its eco-system, and the livelihood of the local communities.

My activities included:

- Formulate a strategy to bring attention to the potential impacts of the Gibe III hydroelectric dam on Lake Turkana; and
- Raise local and international awareness of issues facing Lake Turkana through education, community mobilization, meetings, media, and other avenues.

My degree was instrumental to my growth at TBI

Some of the first projects I was tasked with implementing in Ileret were initiating public health programs. I credit my MPH Practicum experience with Dr. David Krause in Madagascar, advised by Dr. Karen Goldsteen, as being a significant source of my first ever professional experience in community health. It gave me the push I needed to get into the field. Also, the Community Health degree was rich in general knowledge about a variety of public health topics rather than narrowed down to one field, which allowed me to be much more well-rounded.

The advice I would give a new student just starting the program...

Do not underestimate the value of working closely with your advisor through your academic program. That aspect of my academics is what allowed me to tailor my degree through my advisor and make it unique to what I wanted to get out of it, and also maximize my practical experiences.



Evonne Kaplan-Liss (GPPH faculty member) and Elizabeth Bass (MPH alumna) wrote an article titled, "Experimental Induction of Psychogenic Illness in the Context of a Medical Event and Media Exposure", which was recently accepted in for publication in the *American Journal of Disaster Medicine*.

Carolyn Gallagher (MPH alumna) and Jaymie Meliker's (GPPH faculty member) work "Blood and Urine Cadmium, Blood Pressure, and Hypertension: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis" is published in the *Environmental Health Perspectives Journal*.

Breana Taira (MD/MPH alumna) received a 2011 Outstanding Recent Graduate Award from the Stony Brook University School of Medicine for her many contributions to medicine and public health so far.

Upcoming Events

December 9, 2011	GPPH Holiday Party
March 2012	Public Health Month
March 2012	Spring Job Fair @ Career Center
May 2012	OPHSA Students & Alumni Dinner

Graduate Program in Public Health

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www.stonybrookmedicalcenter.org/publichealth

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- Have you joined the Alumni Association?
<http://alumniandfriends.stonybrook.edu/>
- Check out all the resource available to your as alumni: <http://www.career.sunysb.edu/>