



# NewsCatcher

The latest news for and about our SPH community

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March 20, 2014

## Got News?

E-mail [sphnews@uw.edu](mailto:sphnews@uw.edu) to submit your news!

## SPH in the News

[Income gap, meet the longevity gap](#) - *New York Times*; quotes **Christopher Murray** (GH, HServ)

[Rainier Avenue traffic lights retiming: A benefit to public health](#) - *Seattle Times*; letter to the editor by **Howard Frumkin** (OD, DEOHS)

[What will the nutrition facts label look like in the future?](#) - *KUOW*; interviews **Adam Drewnowski** (Epi)

[Fitness trackers could boost kids' health, but face challenges, experts say](#) - *Fox News*; quotes **Michelle Garrison** (HServ)

[Recently Awarded Grants & Contracts »](#)

## Who Knew??



**Sheri Simonsen, the new**

**communications person** at HPRC, teaches ukulele and is a longtime guitar player, both acoustic and electric. She plays a variety of styles, from rock and blues to slack key and bluegrass.

## On the Calendar

**March 24, 5:30-8:30pm**  
[TB Vaccines, Multi-Resistant Strains, and Local Case Studies](#)

**April 1, noon-1pm**  
[Public Health Practice Seminar: What Health Services is Doing Related to the ACA](#)

**April 4-6**  
[11th Annual Western Regional International Health Conference](#)

**April 7, 5:30-8pm**  
[Service Learning Summit](#)

*We'll keep you busy: take a look at the [SPH Events Calendar](#).*

## Sign up for Service Day

SPH students, staff and faculty are encouraged to

## Congrats!



Grad student **Mariel Boyarsky** (MPH student, GH) won the Oscar - the Oscar Gish Social Justice Award - named for SPH's late health economist.



Other winners of the first [Global Healthies Awards](#), presented by **King Holmes** (GH), were **Aditya Khanna** (post-doc, GH), **Kristen Savage** (MPH student, HServ), **Arianna Rubin Means** (PhD student, GH), **Cynthia Simekha** (undergrad PH, GH minor) and **Russell Barlow** (PhD student, Pathobiology).



This year's [2014 World Science Festival Gala](#) in NYC, hosted by Alan Alda, will honor **Mary-Claire King** (Epi). The Gala calls her one of the most important geneticists of our time and a trailblazing role model. Watch a [short video profile](#) of her.



Biostat was tied for best biostatistics department (with Harvard) and ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> among combined statistics and biostatistics departments in the latest *US News & World Report* [grad school rankings](#).



**Leonidas Stamatatos** (GH) of Seattle BioMed and **Julie McElrath** (GH) of the HIV Vaccine Trials Network were part of a consortium that received a [\\$9.8 million grant](#) to develop a vaccine against HIV/AIDS. Stamatatos will be PI.



## Making a Difference



About 50 students signed up for health insurance this week at an event in the Health Sciences lobby coordinated by **Brit Exworthy** (OD) and Associate Dean **Mark Oberle**. The event was put

together before the March 31 deadline to enroll under the Affordable Care Act. Student affairs staff at the various Health Sciences schools wanted to help UW students who might lose coverage under their Student Health Insurance Plan next fall. Student support staff, the Student Public Health Association, Neighborcare Health and other schools on lower campus all participated. "The publicity blitz meant the healthcare navigators were busy all day," said Student Affairs Director **Anna Frazer** (OD).

## Around the Water Cooler



Our thoughts are with **Richard Newman** (MPH, HServ '09), seriously injured when a news helicopter crashed on his car, killing two people. Newman works part-time with Public Health-Seattle & King County's HIV/STD program. He is in serious condition at Harborview Medical Center.



**Kitty Christensen** is the new deputy director of the Health Promotion Research Center, replacing **Sheryl Schwartz**, now with UW Environmental Health and Safety. Kitty comes to us from the UW's Division of Integrated Care and Public

give back to the community on the [Annual Day of Service](#) April 12 as part of National Public Health Week. This year's projects are with Food Lifeline, Earth Corps and UW Farm. Please register by Wed. April 2 to ensure a spot!

### Opportunities

Check out the [SPH job listings page](#) for national and local public health jobs and opportunities.

Missed an issue of *NewsCatcher*? [Find it in the Archive](#) (UW netID required).



Health, where she was a senior project coordinator.



Junior **Alex Kent** (PH) has been named incoming president for UW's Habitat for Humanity club, which works to ensure that everyone has a safe and decent place to live. Follow UW Habitat on [Facebook](#).



**Jessica Harkhani, Daren Wade** and **Jennifer Lucero Earle** (all GH) took part in the UW's world-record setting Kettlebell workout attempt. [See photo](#) on our Facebook page.



[The SPH annual report](#) is out! Check out stories on our wide-ranging impact in Seattle and around the world, from undergrads teaching public health in high schools to mobile apps transforming research in Africa.

Sent to you twice monthly by the Office of the Dean, [University of Washington School of Public Health](#).

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