



# NewsCatcher

The latest news about our SPH community



July 20, 2017

## Got News?

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

## SPH in the News

[Complex lessons about cancer risk from Holocaust survivors](#) - *Fred Hutch News*; Q&A with **Beti Thompson** (HServ)

[Guns in America: The worrying relationship between school-bullying and gun violence](#) - *Newsweek* (via The Conversation); written by PhD student **Maayan Simckes** (Epi)

[Opioid prescriptions fall after 2010 peak. CDC report finds](#) - *The New York Times*; quotes **Bruce Psaty** (Epi, HServ)

[Researchers to probe effect of Seattle's minimum wage hike on childcare workers](#) - *EdWeek*; features research by **Jennifer Otten** (DEOHS, Nutr)

[Recently Awarded Grants & Contracts »](#)

[Foundation Funding Opportunities »](#)

## On the Calendar

**July 25, 12-1pm**  
[Hot Topics in Practice Webinar: Improving Refugee Health in Oregon](#)

## Congrats!



The UW School of Public Health [ranked No. 3](#) in the world and No. 1 among public universities, according to a global ranking of academic subjects.



PhD students **Jiacheng Wu** and **Brian Williamson** (both Biostat) each won first place in a regional student paper competition. Wu won the written category for a framework that estimates the rate at which ideas and behaviors can [spread through social networks](#).



Williamson won the oral category for a new method to understand factors that [predict whether a vaccine will work](#).



**Alison Drake** (GH) won a [\\$100,000 Grand Challenges Explorations grant](#) from the Gates Foundation to launch a project using text messaging to understand contraceptive use among women and girls in Kenya.



PhD student **Alex Woersching** (HServ) [was awarded](#) AcademyHealth's Alice S. Hersh Student Scholarship to attend the Annual Research Meeting in New Orleans last month. Sixteen other students (and several alumni) from health services also attended the event.



MPH student **Divya Patil** (Epi, MCH) won \$6,500 from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau's [Graduate Student Epidemiology Program](#) to complete her practicum with the Hawaii Department of Health, where she is evaluating the impact of substance use and chronic disease on birth outcomes.

## Making a Difference



Graduate public health students are one step closer to being able to access financial aid through a state scholarship program, thanks in part to State Rep. **Gerry Pollet** (COPHP). The House recently passed a bill to expand the state's [Opportunity Scholarship program](#) to support students

July 27, 3-5pm

[Serving Global Populations with Raabya Rossenkhan](#)

Sept. 25-27

[Global Burden of Disease 20th Anniversary Event](#)

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

## Common Book

The 2017-18 Health Sciences Common Book is *Changing Planet, Changing Health* by the late Dr. Paul R. Epstein and journalist Dan Ferber. Visit the [SPH Common Book website](#) for information on how to purchase or borrow the book. [Follow the Facebook page](#) to stay up to date on lectures and seminars.

## Jobs

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

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seeking advanced degrees in health professions, if they commit to working with vulnerable populations. Motivated by students he met at SPH, Pollet urged the bill's sponsors to include public health. "There is widespread legislative recognition of health professional shortages in underserved communities due to lower compensation, geographic location and high student loan debt," Pollet said, but the need for public health professionals is often overlooked. The scholarship program currently supports undergraduate students from low- and middle-income households. [The bill is in the Senate](#).

## Around the Water Cooler



**Stephen Schwartz** (Epi) will serve as interim chair of the Department of Epidemiology, effective Aug. 1, until a permanent chair is hired. **Victoria Holt** (Epi) completes her tenure as chair at the end of July.



Consultants from ORS Impact [shared a final report](#) with key findings and recommendations for addressing race, equity and inclusion in the School.



The [Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center](#) (DEOHS) announced recent additions to the team: **Vanessa Galaviz** (director of engagement and education; pictured), **Jennifer Grasso** (outreach and education specialist), **Dennise Drury** (program coordinator) and **Sarah Fish** (graphic designer). **Jose Carmona** was promoted to research coordinator.



**Scott Barnhart** (GH) moderated a town hall on health care earlier this month with US Rep. **Pramila Jayapal**. [Barnhart noted](#) how critical the ACA has been in expanding health insurance to millions of Americans.



From community doula to baby-friendly hospitals and Alaska's first lactation pod, stories [featured in the latest issue](#) of the Maternal & Child Health Northwest Bulletin explore barriers to breastfeeding.

## Featured by the ASPPH

[Maternal lifestyle behaviors impact risk of gestational diabetes and child obesity:](#)

**Sylvia Badon** (PhD '17 Epi, MCH), **Daniel Enquobahrie** (Epi, MCH)

[Legal fireworks are likely the most dangerous kinds:](#)

**Ali Rowhani-Rahbar** (Epi), **Alex Quistberg** (MPH '10, PhD '12 Epi)

[Summer of public health reading recommendations:](#)

**Joel Kaufman** (OD, DEOHS, Epi)

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