Global Health Passion Sparks Social Justice Award

Patrick Ryan is a conservationist and a ‘global-health junkie.’ He builds wells in Indonesia and attends global-health seminars on the UW campus. He’s also a School of Public Health donor. A recent contribution from Ryan was used to create a student award in memory of Oscar Gish, a former faculty member who passed away in 2004 but whose passion for social justice lives on. Ryan’s donation sparked an idea for an awards ceremony to honor other outstanding students. Read more about Ryan and the global health students.

Alumni Profile

Robert Newman: 2014 Distinguished Alumnus

When he was a medical student, Robert Newman, MPH 1998, Epidemiology, spent a year working in Brazil. The Portuguese language skills he picked up came in handy when he later went to Mozambique with Health Alliance International. That led to a career as a global malaria expert with the CDC and WHO and now as a managing director at GAVI Alliance. Newman’s advice? Don’t be afraid to take risks, says the School’s 2014 Distinguished Alumnus. Read more about his career path.

Making a Difference

Reducing Cancer, Improving Worker Health

The Health Promotion Research Center (HPRC) will track efforts of large Washington employers to provide interventions designed to reduce cancer and improve employees’ health. The project, CEOs Against Cancer Challenge,
is a collaboration between the American Cancer Society and HPRC’s Workplace Solutions wellness program. HPRC Director Jeff Harris, pictured with researchers Marlana Khon and Amanda Parrish, says the Challenge could reduce cancer, disease and corporate expenditures. Find out more.

Using iPhones to Monitor Health

Fareeha Siddiqui, who recently earned her eMPH, heads a diabetes outreach program south of Seattle that uses iPhones to help patients monitor their health. Free iPhones were given to 300 diabetics to allow them and a case-management team to better monitor health information, such as blood sugar levels. Improvements were seen in just four months. The project was featured in Seattle Magazine’s Top Doctors 2013 issue, which honored Siddiqui with a Community Service Award. Siddiqui is director of research and innovation for the Global to Local Initiative.

Keeping Farm Workers Safe

Farm workers have an easy training tool to track pesticide exposure, thanks to the Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety & Health Center (PNASH). It has included farm safety videos in a new YouTube channel for the 10 US Agricultural Safety and Health Centers around the country. The first PNASH series of videos is about using fluorescent tracers to track pesticide exposure. Under black light, exposed areas show up clearly. Videos on heat-related illness and orchard ladder safety are coming.

Alumni Updates

Stephen Maley, PhD 2013, Epidemiology, is teaching a class on natural science writing to UW undergrads studying biology.

Peace Imani, MPH 2011, Epidemiology, successfully passed all the United States’ medical licensing exams and was accepted to Baylor College of Medicine Fellowship Program in pediatric nephrology.

Bahaa Wanly, MHA 2006, Health Services, was selected by the FBI Seattle office for its Director's Community Leadership Award for his work in fostering relations between the local Muslim community and law enforcement.

Jeff Clark, MPH 1997, Health Services, is now the Commander of Walter Reed Bethesda National Military Medical Center.

J. Michael Marsh, MHA 1996, Health Services, has been named the new president and CEO of Overlake Medical Center in Bellevue.

Natalia Kanem, MPH 1990, Epidemiology, is heading to work with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Tanzania after a year of sabbatical in Trinidad.

Bryan E. Shepherd, MPH 2001 and PhD 2005, Biostatistics, was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Biostatistics at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

Mary T. Basset, MPH 1985, Health Services, is now the New York City Health
Commissioner.

See all Alumni Updates

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