



Public Health Undergrads Learn Through Service

Students gain valuable experience while at the UW, but not many can say they've produced a video that "improves the interface between Chinese callers and 9-1-1 dispatchers."

Tracy Yeung, who graduated from the UW in 2015 with a BS in public health and a BA in medical anthropology and global health, worked on such a video as part of the public health capstone course at the UW School of Public Health.

"I hope that people in the Chinese community with limited-English proficiency, especially the older population, will be able to watch the video and feel more confident about calling 9-1-1," Yeung says.

The capstone is a pioneering program that combines learning goals and community service to enhance student intellectual growth and the common good. In the required two-quarter course, students apply the knowledge they acquired during their degree program by creating solutions to public health problems. In Yeung's case, she tried to help Chinese immigrants overcome language barriers when making emergency calls.

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Photo: University of Washington

Example of student convening space, The Great Room, Maple Hall, UW Seattle Campus

Transformative Gift Boosts Population Health Initiative

The University of Washington's Population Health Initiative has received a major boost from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The foundation provided a gift to fund construction of a new building that will house several UW units working in population health, including parts of the School of Public Health.

UW President Ana Mari Cauce described the \$210 million gift as "transformative" for the University's 25-year vision for improving health and well-being, and said it "will create a new facility where faculty, students, staff and partners can come together to find solutions to the world's greatest health challenges."

Bill Gates said, "Melinda and I are pleased to make this investment in the University of Washington to help dramatically accelerate their 25-year vision to achieve positive health outcomes for populations around the world. UW has long been a partner in our foundation's global health and development efforts and this grant underscores our confidence in the school's students, faculty and multi-disciplinary resources to advance their Population Health Initiative."

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UW Developing 25-Year Vision for Population Health

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The building is scheduled to open on the Seattle campus in the fall of 2020. It will house the Department of Global Health, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, and portions of the School of Public Health, including representation from each of the School's four other departments.

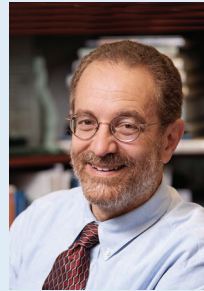
Interim Dean Joel Kaufman said, "This will catalyze a very important and exciting opportunity for the School of Public Health, our colleagues and collaborators on campus, and our partners in the local and global community."

The facility will act as a physical convening space to allow students, faculty and trainees from a wide range of population health disciplines to exchange ideas, develop projects and prepare for careers that will advance population health. The facility will also act as an idea laboratory and collaboration incubator for students, faculty, staff and visitors, who will come together for training, research work and informal discussions yielding new insights and innovation opportunities.

Three sites are under consideration for the new building. Depending on the final design, it could encompass nearly 300,000 square feet. Not all of the School can be housed in this one location because the School has grown so large, according to Uli Haller, senior director of finance and administration for SPH.

The Gates' gift was announced four days after the public launch of the UW's third comprehensive campaign, dubbed, *Be Boundless, For Washington, For the World*. The fundraising effort seeks to raise \$5 billion. Within this campaign, the School continues to raise funds for programmatic support, including a \$20 million goal from private individuals, according to Megan Ingram, assistant dean for advancement. Of that amount, she says, \$12.8 million has already been raised.

Creating Community: Dean Frumkin's Legacy



When he took over as dean six years ago, Howard Frumkin was struck by how fragmented the School of Public Health appeared to be. "We're in 20 locations around the city," Frumkin recalled. "Those serendipitous meetings you'd like to see

between faculty and students just didn't happen."

Frumkin, who stepped down in September, helped catalyze interest in a new building as a way to unify the School. "It was our great, good luck that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation decided to come forward," Frumkin said. "I think the building is going to be a game-changer in bringing people together. The UW's Population Health Initiative will allow our School to play a central role in fostering collaborations, building teams and tackling big questions."

Among Frumkin's other achievements:

- Establishing a thriving undergraduate program, recently rated the nation's best.
- Building a sense of the School "as a whole instead of just a collection of component parts."
- Improving links with the community, including promoting a "health-in-all-policies" approach.
- Setting SPH on a path toward addressing important and emerging critical public health challenges, from climate change to obesity, through a robust strategic plan.

Frumkin has returned to his role as professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences. He plans to take a sabbatical in 2017 at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and then at ISGlobal, the Barcelona Institute for Global Health.

Frumkin was succeeded by Interim Dean Joel Kaufman, UW professor of environmental and occupational health sciences, medicine and epidemiology, and an expert in the relationship between environmental factors and cardiovascular disease. A national search for a permanent dean will begin in summer 2017, with the goal of hiring a new dean by autumn 2018.

Public Health Undergrads

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Since the capstone's inception in 2013, students have dedicated more than 20,000 cumulative hours supporting projects that strengthen local communities and provide services to vulnerable populations. Partners have included the Chinese Information and Service Center, United Way of King County, Urban Rest Stop, Roots Young Adult Shelter, Jewish Family Services, Low-income Housing Institute, International Refugee Commission, East African Community Services and Bailey-Boushay House. About 50 projects are lined up for this academic year.

"We fill so many different needs," says Deborah Hinchey, a clinical instructor of health services who teaches the course. "Students are filling positions that help keep the doors open, they're interacting with people in need, helping clean bathrooms and showers." It's not always the most glamorous work, she says, but it teaches students humility and helps them better understand the communities they seek to serve.

"Students bring everything together during their capstone," Hinchey says. "It's a structured way for them to gain exposure to communities and make meaning of their experiences."

This year, 240 students bring their fresh perspectives to an array of societal challenges, from refugee resettlement and food insecurity to financial stability and homelessness. The projects, in turn, impact the students—building leaders who possess passion, proficiency and confidence that their work can change the world.

Says Hinchey, "Students examine their own power and privilege, who they are and how they see the world."

Public Health Capstone Course: Student Experiences



"The most beneficial aspect of the capstone project was challenging myself to connect with a community different from my own. It pushed me outside of my comfortable place in the classroom to experience working in public health in the real world."

—Erin Deffenbaugh, BS 2015, *Noel House, Homeless Shelter for Women*



"The capstone provided a lot of freedom for students to explore their interests, strengths and areas of improvement. The immersion of service-learning, along with Deb Hinchey's facilitation, allowed me to gravitate towards the assessment, aggregation and analysis of public health data and literature."

—Kevin Kwong, BS 2015, *Boys and Girls Club*



"Public health professionals can get caught up in their personal perceptions of community health, but those ideas may not reflect community needs. The capstone taught me to abandon my assumptions and engage in authentic questioning and exploration."

—Margaret Babayan, BS 2015, *Chinese Information and Service Center*



"The capstone was a safe space to think critically and realistically about current public health problems, the initiatives addressing them and how my own background, biases and privilege could affect my approach to these issues. The service-learning experience was critical to my understanding of the many ways public health practice can look within a community."

—Leah Todd, BS 2015, *Public Health - Seattle and King County Pilot Project Vulnerable Populations Strategic Initiative, and the Somali Health Board*

Transforming the student experience

Faculty/Staff/Retiree Campaign for Students

The University launched the UW F/S/R Campaign for Students, a special gift-matching program for all UW faculty, staff and retirees to support students in the School of Public Health. Any size gift or pledge to the following SPH funds will receive a 50 percent match:

- The School of Public Health Endowed Fellowship.
- The Double Eagle II Undergraduate Scholarship in Public Health.

Also receiving a 50 percent match will be any gift or pledge of at least \$10,000 to create an endowed undergraduate scholarship or graduate fellowship in SPH, or to support an existing one. Matches will be added to the endowment upon fulfillment of the pledge, which can be paid over five years. Matching is limited to \$125,000 per donor household and gifts/

pledges must come from a single donor household (no consortium gifts).

The matches are granted on a first-come, first-served basis and will end

once the \$5 million matching pool is depleted. If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact Libby Singer, SPH assistant director for advancement, at 206-221-6343 or ersinger@uw.edu.



Photo: University of Washington

BE BOUNDLESS

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L to R: Nicole Errett, Anne-Marie Gloster, Christine Khosropour, Cory Morin, Melissa Mugambi, Bryan Weiner, David Smith, Paul Fishman.

New Faculty

Nicole Errett, *lecturer, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences*, is interested in the use of public policy to enhance health outcomes during and after disasters.

Anne-Marie Gloster, *lecturer, Epidemiology, Nutritional Sciences Program*, is interested in connecting culinary arts with food science to promote healthy eating.

Christine Khosropour, *acting assistant professor, Epidemiology*, focuses on HIV and STI prevention.

Cory Morin, *acting assistant professor, Global Health*, researches air quality, heat-related morbidity and mortality, and infectious disease.

Melissa Mugambi, *assistant professor, Global Health*, is a new strategic hire who will help address the

emerging challenge of public health implementation science.

Bryan Weiner, *professor, Global Health, Health Services*, is also a new strategic hire for public health implementation science, focusing on the adoption, implementation and sustainability of innovations and evidence-based practices in health care delivery.

David Smith, *professor, Global Health*, investigates how infectious diseases such as malaria persist in populations through transmission and the associated burden on human health.

Paul Fishman, *associate professor, Health Services*, is known for important work in risk adjustment and smoking economics. He is interested in analyzing changes in health care costs over time.

Alumni News

2017 Distinguished Alumnae

Two SPH alumnae who are the top health officials in their respective countries have been chosen as the School's 2017 Distinguished Alumni awardees.

Bernice Dahn, MPH, Global Health 2005, earned her degree in the aftermath of a prolonged civil war that decimated Liberia's health infrastructure and compelled many of its health workers to flee. Her aim of completing the degree: To target head-on the challenges faced in rebuilding Liberia's health system. She was integral in bringing an end to the country's Ebola outbreak and restoring routine health services as the deputy minister and chief medical officer. She now serves as Liberia's minister of health.

For Patricia Garcia, MPH, Epidemiology, 1998, training in internal medicine, infectious disease and public health paved the way for success. She became a leading researcher in sexually transmitted disease, the first female chair of the Peruvian National Institute of Health and, most recently, Peru's new health minister. She also serves as an affiliate professor in the School's Department of Global Health.

Join us at the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Lecture, *Leading the Health of a Nation: The Impact of a Public Health Education*, at 7:30 pm Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2017, in Kane Hall 130.



Bernice Dahn, left, and Patricia Garcia

Alumni Updates

Andrew Olshan, PhD 1987, MS 1982, Epidemiology, was elected president of the Society for Epidemiologic Research, the oldest and largest general epidemiology society in North America.

- **Want to read about the rest of your classmates?** Alumni updates have moved online. Catch up with alumni news at sph.washington.edu/alumni/

Irvin Emanuel MD Endowed Fellowship



A new endowed fellowship has been created in the Department of Epidemiology to honor Emeritus Professor Irv Emanuel. Established by former faculty

member Dr. Michelle Williams and her husband Dr. Todd Curtis, the fund will support Epidemiology graduate students enrolled in the Maternal and Child Health Program.

Dr. Emanuel is a respected scientist and mentor and has been an inspiration for multitudes of alumni who studied maternal child health. Assuming the directorship of the program in 1983, Dr. Emanuel brought to his work a background in anthropology, pediatrics and preventive medicine. As a faculty member instrumental in the formation of SPH, he also served as the director of two interdisciplinary/inter-departmental programs at the UW, and has participated in research and teaching in rural Alaska, Taiwan, Hawaii, the Solomon Islands, the Philippines and England. Dr. Emanuel has been an emeritus faculty member since 2000.

This new fellowship solidifies his legacy in SPH, offering future generations of students the opportunity to study this important and evolving field. When asked what inspired this gift, Dr. Williams replied, "Establishing the Irvin Emanuel MD Endowed Fellowship presented us with an opportunity to both support worthy students at the UW and honor a giant in our field."

If you would like to make a gift to this fund in honor of Dr. Emanuel, please contact Liz Van Hoy at 206-221-6395 or vanhoye@uw.edu.

STUDENT AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

SPH Undergraduate Student Assistance Fund

The Public Health Undergraduate Student Assistance Fund provides a range of support, including tuition assistance, research fees and travel. You can support students such as these through the attached donation envelope, by visiting sph.uw.edu/giving or by contacting Libby Singer at ersinger@uw.edu.

For the 2016–17 academic year, nine undergraduates received SPHUSAF awards. All of them submitted thank you statements, describing what the award means to them and how it impacts their studies and educational goals. Below are four representative statements and photos of all nine students.



Terra Hoy

Senior, Public Health

"This is a privilege I intend to use to tackle institutional oppression, primarily focusing on health care for minority populations, including the homeless, LGBTQ and people of color."



Sandra Mata-Diaz

Junior, Public Health

"I hope to use my education to raise awareness for public health disparities. This award will allow me to focus on my studies and my research on veterans living in rural areas."



Elizabeth Jatta

Junior, Public Health

"This award grants me more time and freedom to fully immerse myself in my studies and extracurricular activities. Upon graduation, my plan is to go to medical school."

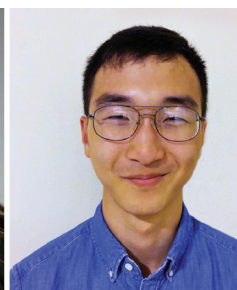


Cristal Rangel Peña

Senior, Public Health and American Ethnic Studies

"As a first-generation student, it has been difficult finding ways to support myself financially. This scholarship means that I can spend less time worrying about paying

for tuition and more time focusing on succeeding academically."



L to R: Hana Feseha, Miriam Flores, Stephen Lee, Nancy Tovar-Garcia, John Yang

Double Eagle II Endowed Scholarship in Public Health

The Double Eagle II Endowed Scholarship in Public Health supports undergraduate students committed to ensuring healthier communities locally and abroad. Retired Navy Captains Frances M. Frazier and Midge M. Loser established the scholarship in 2006. Their collective 57 years of active duty took them across the world, and they observed firsthand how the effectiveness of a public health system impacts the well-being of communities.



Teresa Mata-Cervantes, a UW junior, hopes to earn a PhD in public health. The Double Eagle II Endowed Scholarship is helping her achieve this goal by allowing her the opportunity to study abroad, the freedom to focus on her studies and

the ability to take time to serve the community. She hopes to move back to her hometown in eastern Washington and work for the local public health district on policy to efficiently communicate health education.



Nancy Tovar-Garcia is the first of six children in her family to attend college. A junior in the Public Health Major, she is passionate about providing health care access to low-income and marginalized communities through educa-

tion and service. The Double Eagle II Endowed Scholarship will alleviate stress over funding of Tovar-Garcia's education while allowing her to take part in extracurricular activities, volunteer work and academics.

SPH Professor Awarded University-Wide Honor



The School of Public Health is honored that Dr. Margaret "Peggy" Hannon, associate professor in the Department of Health Services, has been appointed

the James W. Mifflin University Professorship. Dr. Hannon is the first from the School to be selected for the University-wide honor, which supports faculty in any field of study.

Her appointment is in recognition of her exceptional contributions and accomplishments as well as her leadership qualities. The professorship provides \$25,000 of support per year for five years. Dr. Hannon is the director of the School's Health Promotion Research Center, which is part of a national network of 26 Prevention Research Centers funded through the CDC.

The James W. Mifflin University Professorship was established by Durward "Huck" Huckabay and his wife, Susan Huckabay, to honor Mrs. Huckabay's late stepfather. Mifflin received both his undergraduate and law degrees from the UW and served as a judge on the Superior Court of King County from 1960 to 1980.

The Professorship aims to enhance the University's ability to attract and retain distinguished faculty members who have made a significant impact. "Education is important to us," say the Huckabays. "Over the years we've contributed to the University, and now we wanted to honor our fathers."

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Magnuson Scholar Seeks to Prevent Diseases at Earliest Possible Time

Sylvia Badon, a fourth-year PhD candidate in epidemiology, investigates how a mother's lifestyle before and during pregnancy could influence her risk for complications as well as her child's growth and development. She is using data from Swedish Medical Center and Tacoma General to compare a mother's physical activity to her child's birth weight and head circumference.

For her academic merit and outstanding potential, Badon was named the School's prestigious Magnuson Scholar for 2016-17—one of six students in UW Health Sciences who will receive \$30,000 each to support their studies. The award is named in memory of Senator Warren G. Magnuson.

"I'm so honored and grateful to join the community of Magnuson Scholars," Badon says. "This award will allow me to travel to Denmark to work with the Danish National Birth Cohort as part of my ongoing dissertation research."

During her time at the UW, Badon has also won the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Foundation Fellowship; the Reproductive, Perinatal and Pediatric Epidemiology Fellowship; the Kosciuszko Foundation Scholarship; and the Epidemiology Congress of the Americas Travel Scholarship.

After receiving her PhD, Badon plans to pursue a postdoctoral fellowship where she can expand her research to investigate the offspring of more diverse populations as they reach adolescence and adulthood. She is particularly interested in studying long-term health outcomes.

"I see myself in academia," Badon says. "I'm devoted to reducing obesity, diabetes and other chronic diseases in future generations."

