



# NewsCatcher

The latest news for and about our SPH community

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February 7, 2013

## Got News?

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

## SPH in the News

[HIV 'may have an ancient origin'](#) - BBC; cites research by **Michael Emerman** (GH)

[Half of U.S. babies may miss on-time vaccinations](#) - Science News; quotes **Edgar Marcuse** (Epi)

[Decoding the Affordable Care Act](#) - KING-5 TV; features **Sallie Sanford** (HServ)

[Sweating bullets](#) - The Daily; quotes **Fred Rivara** (Epi)

## Who Knew??



**Sara Mackenzie (OD)** is a former a

**national champion Ultimate Frisbee player.** She was on the UC Davis women's team as a medical student, and helped win college nationals in 1989. Sara went on to play with Seattle's Women on the Verge (now Riot) from '92 to '98. "Ultimate is an amazing sport," she says. It's also how she met her husband, who played for Seattle's Sockeye.

## On the Calendar

**Feb 14, 10:00-10:50 am**  
[Vaccination Promotion Practices Among Large Employers](#)

**Feb 21, 12:30-1:20 pm**  
[Access to Healthy Food in Schools and Child Care Settings](#)

**Feb 21, 3:30-4:50 pm**  
[Confronting Institutional Racism: A Public Health Priority](#)

**Feb 26, 8:30-12:30**  
[Children's Environmental Health Research Matters](#)

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

## SPH Self Study

The SPH's Preliminary Self-Study and a brief description about the re-accreditation

## Congrats!



**Mary Selecky** (HServ) [plans to retire](#) as State Secretary of Health after more than 14 years of making Washington a healthier place. "I'm especially proud of the great progress we've made lowering smoking rates and getting more kids vaccinated," she said.



**Tao Kwan-Gett** has been [named director](#) of the Northwest Center for Public Health Care Practice, effective March 1. He replaces **Susan Allan** (HServ), who will remain on faculty.



**Bruce Weir** (Biostat) has received a Fulbright-Science Without Borders Distinguished Chair award. He plans to spend three months in Piracicaba, Brazil, and three months in Switzerland in 2014.



**Jennifer Otten** is a new assistant professor (HServ) affiliated with Nutritional Sciences. She will spend one day a week with Public Health - Seattle & King County's Healthy Eating and Active Living unit.



**Richard Fenske** (DEOHS) is new president of the [International Society of Exposure Science](#). His two-year term runs through 2014.

[See recent SPH grants and contracts »](#)

## Making a Difference



**Sheridan Reiger** (MPH student, Epi) has spent several years working to improve the health of Hondurans. Last month, he [was honored](#) with a Community Volunteer Recognition

Award at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute by UW Health Sciences. Reiger, also an MD student, formed Salud Juntos (Health Together) while a college student in 2008. The NGO works with local government and health leaders on chronic diseases such as hypertension, nutrition, diabetes and asthma. UW students help with health-education materials and intervention planning and evaluation. So far, blood pressure has improved significantly as has adherence with medications and self-care.

## Around the Water Cooler



More than 250 people attended our sold-out [forum on gun violence](#) as a public-health crisis at Town Hall. Check with [UWTV](#) for rebroadcast times.



It's all about service! More than 20 SPH students and staff volunteered on the MLK Jr Day of Service, working at places from shelters to community gardens.

Meanwhile, COPHP students took part in the annual "one-night count" of the

process can be found on the [School's website](#).

## 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).



homeless. **Patricia Atwater, Sarah Colling, Elliot Swanson** and **Angie Wood** went to the Fremont neighborhood with faculty members **Peter House** and **Amy Hagopian**.



If you missed the All-Hands Meeting, you can still catch highlights of 2012 in [this video](#). Dean **Howard Frumkin's slideshow is also available online.**



**Gwen Robertson**, wife of **Lawrie Robertson** (OD), was inducted into the Washington State Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame last month. Gwen is in her 30th year of coaching at Issaquah High School.



**Clarissa Hsu** and **Dan Cherkin** (HServ) of Group Health each received awards from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to study ways to improve care for back pain and to connect patients with community resources. Only 25 awards were given out nationally in the first cycle of funding.

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

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