



# NewsCatcher

The latest news about our SPH community



January 8, 2015

## Got News?

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

## SPH in the News

[Global population living six years longer than in 1990](#) - Fox News; cites research led by **Christopher Murray** (GH, HServ)

[Our health will benefit from taking action on climate change](#) - The (Tacoma) News Tribune; opinion by **Michael Yost** (DEOHS)

[Congress puts potatoes on the menu in nutrition subsidy](#) - Northwest Public Radio; quotes **Adam Drewnowski** (Epi)

[The health concerns behind New York state's fracking ban](#) - The Take Away; interviews **Peter Rabinowitz** (DEOHS, GH)

[Recently Awarded Grants & Contracts »](#)

## Who Knew??



**Prof. Emeritus Mark Oberle (Epi, GH, HServ) and his**

**wife and son** survived the deadly tsunami in Thailand 10 years ago. Mark scrambled over rubble and through debris-choked water to triage and evacuate victims. "The lesson was that you need to be prepared for the local hazards wherever you go," [he tells HSNewsBeat](#) in an anniversary story. Mark's experience [blogging about the disaster](#) was also featured in [a BBC piece](#) about the role social media might play today.

## On the Calendar

**Jan. 13, 5-8pm**  
[What if the Crowd is Wrong? A Contrarian Look at Health Care Financing](#)

**Jan. 15, 12:30-1:20pm**  
[Electric Light, Particularly at Night, Disrupts Human Circadian Rhythmicity: Is that a problem?](#)

**Jan. 22, 12:30-1:20pm**  
[Does Diesel Cause Lung Cancer? Recent Evidence and Implications](#)

**Jan. 22, 5-7pm**

## Congrats!



**Doug Conrad** (HServ) and **Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett** (HServ) will lead an evaluation of the state's *Healthier Washington* project, which was recently awarded a four-year \$65 million grant from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. Among its strategic areas are paying for value over volume in health care. [Read more.](#)



**Saloni Parikh** (Public Health) [was a finalist](#) for the Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award from the Computing Research Association. The honor recognizes her work with **Carey Farquhar** (Epi, GH) to track HIV discordant couples in Kenya.



**Trung Vo**, a student in the Health Informatics and Health Information Management Program (HIHIM), won the Ruth Wyeth Spears Scholarship from the American Health Information Management Association.



**Susanne May** (Biostat) was named president-elect for 2015 for the Western North American Region of the International Biometric Society.



**Jeff Duchin** (Epi) was [appointed interim local health officer](#) for Public Health - Seattle and King County.

## Making a Difference



A group of first-year COPHP students (pictured) worked with the city council in Hoquiam (Grays Harbor County) to analyze ways to convert a former section of rail line into a bicycle path. The eight students, mentored by **Sharon Bogan** (HServ), interviewed residents, looked up property records, and called potential donor organizations. Students offered a plan to seek sponsorships and business partnerships for the quarter-mile trail. The goal was to get people out and active, which builds community solidarity while reducing obesity, student representatives said. Bogan's team was one section of a public health community organizing class. Another section of the class was led by **Peter House** (HServ), whose team conducted an inventory of sexual health education programs in Okanogan County. A third section, led by **Brett Niessen** (HServ), surveyed residents of Lake Stevens (Snohomish County) on how the state's new marijuana laws may affect the health of minors.

## Around the Water Cooler



Our latest video, [Staying healthy while raising urban chickens](#), features PhD student **Heather Fowler** (DEOHS) and the One Health approach to animal, human and environmental health.



Heather is also the School's recipient of the 2015 Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Award and will be honored Jan. 15. A veterinarian, she donates her time and skills to a clinic for pets run by the Union Gospel Mission.

A memorial celebration for **Roger Rosenblatt**

[Plague, SARS and Influenza: What Have We Learned?](#)

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

### Global Nutrition series

Nutritional Sciences will kick off a new winter seminar, [Global Nutrition and Food Justice](#), Jan. 8. Topics range from New Trends in the Global Diet to "Will an Increase in Seattle's Minimum Wage Improve Public Health?"

### 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).



(HServ, GH) will be held at 6 pm Jan. 14 in Foege Auditorium. He will also be remembered during a walk at 2:30 pm Jan. 15 at the Union Bay Natural Area, followed by a sharing of memories at the Center for Urban Horticulture. Read [a tribute to him](#).



**Kate O'Brien** (Epi), Manager of Student Services for the Epidemiology Program Office, retired Dec. 31 after nearly two decades with the department.



**Jennae Saito** (OD) is the new Student Affairs Assistant. She's a recent grad of UW Bothell, where she helped with a study abroad program to Japan and served as an International Student Facilitator Lead.



[A series of events](#) for the Health Sciences Common Book, "Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies," kicks off Jan. 22 with a panel of healthcare professionals and outreach workers who support farmworkers. Author Seth Holmes will visit UW Feb. 9-10.



Proposed new graduate tuition rates beginning in fall 2015 have been announced and are now [posted on the SPH website](#). Questions can be sent to [sphtuitg@uw.edu](mailto:sphtuitg@uw.edu) and meetings for students and faculty will be scheduled.

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

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