



# NewsCatcher

The latest news about our SPH community



March 19, 2015

## Got News?

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

## SPH in the News

[Rural, urban suicide gap widening among youth](#) - Fox News/Reuters; cites editorial by **Fred Rivara** (Epi)

[Children's lung health improves as air pollution is reduced](#) - New York Times; quotes **Joel Kaufman** (DEOHS, Epi)

[Cancer's heterogeneity: Modeling tumor's diversity](#) - Biomedical Computation Review; quotes **Daniela Witten** (Biostat)

[The spread of western disease: The poor are dying more and more like the rich](#) - The Guardian; cites research by **Rachel Nugent** (GH)

[Recently Awarded Grants & Contracts](#) »

[Foundation Funding Opportunities](#) »

## Who Knew??



[Kim Kummer \(Epi\) competes](#) in traditional northwest

coastal war canoe races. The MPH student and Makah native typically races 8-10 times a summer with a team of 10 other women in a 50-foot-long cedar canoe. "It's very competitive," she says. "It's great to stay fit and participate in a unique sport that is so culturally connected to my community and the region."

## On the Calendar

**March 19, 4-5:30pm**  
[Global Relevance of Built Environments for Health](#)

**March 23, 5:30-8pm**  
[World TB Day Forum](#)

**April 9, 10-10:50am**  
[Stress and Productivity in Small Workplaces](#)

**April 17, 6-9pm**  
[All-SPH Alumni Reunion](#)

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

## Gloyd Lecture

## Congrats!



SPH continues to be ranked among the top public health grad schools in the nation. [US News & World Report's latest rankings](#) lists SPH #6. Biostatistics was tied with Harvard as best biostatistics program while the MHA program ranked #10 in health administration.



PhD student **Laura Fraade-Blanar** (HServ) won an Academic Pediatric Association Research Award for best abstract by a student. She researched the link between crash risk and distracted driving citations among youth.



Grad student **Biraj Karmacharya** (Epi, GH) was appointed co-director of the new [Nepal Studies Initiative](#) at the Jackson School. He hopes the program will advance collaboration between UW and Nepal in different fields, including public health.



**Elise Sarvas** (MPH student, HServ) and **Sylvia Badon** (PhD student, Epi) were chosen to attend the Making Lifelong Connections networking event next month in San Antonio, held by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. Sarvas is a pediatric dental grad student and resident concentrating on MCH issues. Badon recently completed the MCH certificate program.



**King Holmes** (GH, Epi) is the new director of research and faculty development for the Department of Global Health. **Jared Baeten** (Epi, GH) will work closely with him. Holmes continues to direct the Center for AIDS Research and the Center for AIDS and STD.



## Making a Difference



A group of MPH students is working to "undo racism" across the School and community. CORE - the Committee on Oppression, Racism, and Education - was formed in fall 2013 by CPHP

students. They've held workshops and trainings across campus with The People's Institute, and mostly recently worked with Health Alliance International, an NGO affiliated with the Department of Global Health. CORE also supports local youth groups addressing issues of racism. "Some believe we're in a post-race society, but people of color still have poor health outcomes," says **Ariel Hart**, one of CORE's leaders. **Jenn Hagedorn**, another student leader, says race is embedded in public health institutions and "infused into our classroom culture." Pictured top, from left: Hart, Hagedorn, **Afomeia Tesfai**. Bottom: **Tara Bostock, Anne Althaus, Heather McGuinness**.

## Around the Water Cooler



**Scott Davis** (Epi) is taking his first sabbatical in more than 35 years - and it will be a combo of research papers, grant-writing, boating, putting in a rose garden, and improving his bowling score, he says.

Mary T. Bassett, the School's Distinguished Alumna, will deliver the 2015 Gloyd Lecture, "[Public Health as Social Justice: Lessons from Harlem to Harare](#)." The talk is from 6:30-8 pm April 3 in Hogness Auditorium in the Health Sciences Building.

### 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).*



START members [contributed research](#) for a report on gender inequality promoted by Melinda Gates and Hillary and Chelsea Clinton. Faculty and students included **Emily Deischel** (Epi), **Pamela Kohler** (GH, Nursing), **Erica Lokken** (Epi), **Lisa Manhart** (Epi, GH) and **Jonathan Muir** (Sociology).



**Christie Santos-Livengood** (MPH student, HServ) spoke at a [forum on LGBTQ hate crimes](#) in the Capitol Hill neighborhood organized by Kshama Sawant of the Seattle City Council. She shared findings from her LGBTQ Street Safety Project for Seattle Neighborhood Greenways.



**Noah Simon** (Biostat) uses big data to better understand diseases. Find out how he is developing open-source software that could lead to better personalized medicine in [this month's Close Up](#).



The Northwest Center for Public Health Practice is creating a database and map to better track the School's community engagement. Faculty and staff soon will be emailed a link to a survey led by eMPH student **Michelle Edwards**.



**Kirk Van Ness** (DEOHS) has joined the Institute of Risk Analysis and Risk Communication, directed by **Elaine Faustman**. He earned his PhD here in 1995, and returns to us after a career as a toxicologist for local biotech companies.

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