



NewsCatcher

The latest news about our SPH community



Apr. 20, 2017

Got News?

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SPH in the News

[State should pass parental leave](#) - *The Olympian*; op-ed written by **Rachel Shaffer** (DEOHS) and **Manahil Siddiqi** (COPHP, Global WACH)

[Greatest rise in heroin use was among white people, study says](#) - *CNN*; quotes **Caleb Banta-Green** (HServ)

[Asthma study hopes to improve disease management among Valley children](#) - *Yakima Herald*; quotes **Catherine Karr** (DEOHS, Epi)

[For better school lunches, make them part of the lesson plan](#) - *The Christian Science Monitor*; cites a study by the Center for Public Health Nutrition

[Recently Awarded Grants & Contracts »](#)

[Foundation Funding Opportunities »](#)

Awards of Excellence

Please join us for the [2017 Awards of Excellence](#), an SPH community celebration to recognize students, faculty and staff for their outstanding achievement and contributions to the School. This year's event will take place on Friday, May 12, 3-6pm at the UW Center for Urban Horticulture.

On the Calendar

Apr. 21, 4-6pm
[MPH Practicum Symposium](#)

Apr. 27, 12:30-1:20pm
[Getting Research to the Policy Table with Jennifer Otten](#)

Apr. 27, 12-1pm
[Workers' Memorial Day](#)

Congrats!



SPH has some of the best research programs – and researchers – in the world, according to [a new global ranking of top universities](#). We're ranked No. 5 in public, occupational and environmental health, No. 6 in health policy and services and No. 8 in toxicology.



Husky 100 [tapped 10 students](#) from SPH: **Yasmin Ahmed** (PHM, pictured), **Isatou Jallow** (Global WACH), **Eric King** (HServ), **August Longino** (GH), **Daniele Meñez** (PHM), **Lauren Mittelman** (PHM), **Della Norton** (Nutr), **Jenna Traurig** (PHM), **Kate Turk** (Nutr) and alumna **Brianne Huffstetler Rowan** (MPH '16 GH).



Michael Yost (DEOHS), chair of the department, won the American Industrial Hygiene Association's 2017 [Rachel Carson Award](#). He will receive the award during the association's annual conference in June.



PhD student **Gillian Tarr** (Epi) received a predoctoral research grant (F31) from the NIH to investigate the relationship between Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* phylogenetics and its distribution and virulence.



PhD student **Jay Vornhagen** (Pathobiology) received the 2017 Graduate Discovery Fellowship from the UW School of Medicine in January. He recently returned from a four-month stint at the CDC, where he evaluated current and new syphilis diagnostic tools.

Making a Difference



On a recent Saturday morning, two dozen students from the School of Public Health repacked nearly 17,000 pounds of "rescued" food for hungry families in Washington state. The students were taking part in the SPH Spring Day of Service at Food Lifeline, a nonprofit food distribution center that donates nutritious food to low-income individuals. The organization collects millions of pounds of surplus food from farmers, manufacturers, grocery stores and restaurants, and then delivers healthy meals to 275 food banks, shelters and meal programs across western Washington. "It's amazing that four hours of volunteer work provided nearly 14,000 meals to people in need," says **Jennifer Marroquin** (PHM), president of the Student Public Health Association, which organized the service day.

Around the Water Cooler



Stephen Bezruchka and **Mary Anne Mercer** (both HServ, GH) have dedicated their careers to the study of the social determinants of health and to pursuing social justice. Now, a new professorship will help continue the couple's legacy and expand knowledge of population health. Read this story and others in the [winter](#)

Apr. 28, 9-10am
[Breakfast with Global WACH and Elizabeth Bukusi](#)

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

SPH Senior Class Gift

The first-ever SPH Senior Class Gift Council has [launched a campaign](#) to raise money for SPH student scholarships. "Now is the time to help secure positive experiences for current and future students," wrote **Daysha Gunther**, **Andy Taing** and **Paige Hulsey** (all PHM) in a joint letter online.

Jobs

[SPH job listings page](#) for national and local public health jobs and opportunities.

[NewsCatcher Archive](#)



[2017 issue](#) of *SPH Connect*.



Herbert Atienza is the [new marketing and communications manager](#) for the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice. He is armed with an MPH in health education and more than 10 years of experience as a journalist and storyteller.



Erica MacArthur (Epi) gave birth to a baby girl on Monday, March 27, at 2:44 am. Molly Renee weighed in at 9 lbs. 13 oz. Both mom and baby are doing great.



Sara Mackenzie (OD, PHM, HSErv) and her horse Hugo won first place among training-level competitors at the Aspen Farms Derby last month. [Watch the two in action](#).



Sen Zhao (Biostat) [recently completed his PhD](#) and joined Google Research to explore machine learning. Though not directly tied to public health, he says, "I hope my contribution could still benefit the lives of millions of people."



Alumnae **Tara Ness** and **Brianne Huffstetler Rowan** (both MPH '16 GH) [published an article](#) about the need for targeted lead poisoning screening in children, based on a policy brief they co-wrote in ENVH 511. The article, published in the *Harvard Public Health Review*,



"is a great example of how a real-world class assignment, like a policy brief, can be inspiring for students," says **Bill Daniell** (DEOHS).

Featured by the ASPPH

[Fruit juice not linked to obesity in children, Washington study finds;](#)

Brandon Auerbach (MPH '16 Epi)

[Washington celebrates National Public Health Week with community service](#)

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