



# NewsCatcher

The latest news about our SPH community



Feb. 2, 2017

## Got News?

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[sphnews@uw.edu](mailto:sphnews@uw.edu)

to submit your news!

## SPH in the News

[Women took path through UW to lead nations' efforts on health](#) - *NewsBeat*; profiles **Bernice Dahn** (MPH '05 HServ) & **Patricia Garcia** (GH, MPH '98 Epi)

[2017's most and least recession-recovered cities](#) - *WalletHub*; includes Q&A with **Marilyn Watkins** (HServ)

[Cancer down nationwide, but 'hot spots' persist](#) - *CNN*; quotes **Ali Mokdad** (GH, Epi, HServ)

[Gun research will get even more difficult under NRA-friendly Trump](#) - *WIRED*; quotes **Frederick Rivara** (Epi)

[Recently Awarded Grants & Contracts](#) »

[Foundation Funding Opportunities](#) »

## Who Knew??



**Anne McTiernan's (Epi, PhD '82 Epi)**

**memoir made** *Medscape's* list of the Top 2016 Books Written by Doctors. She shares why she wrote *Starved* and how overcoming adversity and obesity impacted her as a researcher in [January's Close Up](#).

## On the Calendar

**Feb. 3, 2:30-3:30 pm**  
["Impacts in Food and Human Nutrition from Global Wildlife and Fisheries Decline"](#) with [Chris Golden](#)

**Feb. 7, 7:30-9 pm**  
["Leading the Health of a Nation: The Impact of a Public Health Education"](#) with [Bernice Dahn](#) and

## Congrats!



PhD student **Allison Meisner** (Biostat) placed first in a [student paper competition](#) sponsored by the American Statistical Association's Medical Devices and Diagnostics Section. She'll present her winning paper at the 2017 Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore this summer.



Health Alliance International has received an award from USAID to help establish a national tuberculosis program in Mozambique. The two-year project, called Vital Strategies, is headed by **James Cowan** (GH).



The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation received a historic \$279 million gift from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Director **Christopher Murray** (GH, HServ) recently discussed the gift and presented an IHME tool to track world health data via [Facebook Live](#).



PhD student **Brittany Weldon** (DEOHS) [received an honorable mention](#) during the 2016 Epidemiology in Occupational Health Conference in Barcelona. Her abstract on urinary microRNA profiles as biomarkers of occupational pesticide exposure was a finalist for the Best Abstract Student/New Researcher award.



MPH student **Gabriel Cortez** (COPHP) is the 2016-17 Rattlinggourd Scholar. Cortez, a descendent of the Navajo tribe, is interested in evaluating public health interventions within Native American communities.

## Making a Difference



Seattle and King County leaders accepted the recommendations of a local opioid task force, which includes opening the nation's first safe injection sites. People from SPH have supported the effort on the frontlines. **Joel Kaufman** (OD, DEOHS, Epi) endorsed the recommendations in a Jan. 17 letter to the county Board of Health, saying, "In King County alone, more than 200 people lost their lives in 2015 to heroin or prescription opioid abuse - creating a serious public health issue." Undergrad **Courtney Large** (PHM), a needle exchange volunteer, spoke in person before a Jan. 19 board meeting. "We give people clean needles and then send them into alleyways to overdose," she said. The board later voted unanimously to endorse the task force's recommendations. **Caleb Banta-Green** (HServ) is a member of the task force and **Jeffrey Duchin** (Epi) is chair. Still, this week, COPHP students testified in front of the Senate Health Care Committee against a bill that would ban safe injection sites by removing local authority to establish them. [Read more.](#)

## Around the Water Cooler

SPH [teamed with Al Gore](#), the APHA, Harvard and others to revive a climate change summit

[Patricia Garcia](#)

**Feb. 16, 12-1 pm**  
["Navigating the Complexity of Weight and Health" with The Whole U](#)

**Feb. 21, 3:30-5 pm**  
["Social Capital and Disaster Resilience: Lessons from the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami" with Ichiro Kawachi](#)

**Feb. 22, 10:30 am-1 pm**  
[Roundtable Discussion of Income Inequality in Washington State](#)

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

### DGH Livestream

If you missed an opportunity to RSVP for the Department of Global Health's 10-year anniversary symposium, don't fret! [The event will be livestreamed](#), while more than 800 people are scheduled to attend in person at the Husky Union Building.

### Jobs

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

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cancelled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. **Howard Frumkin** (DEOHS) and CHanGE are key players in the one-day event in Atlanta on Feb. 16.



A [new group of student councilors](#) will be advising the Dean on budgetary priorities for the School. Co-chaired by **Rachel Rinehart** (PHM) and **Alice Popejoy** (PHG), the Dean's Advisory Council for Students (DACS), including graduate students and undergraduates, advocates on behalf of a positive educational experience for all students at SPH.



PhD student **Rachel Shaffer** (DEOHS) is [leading an effort](#) to support a detailed policy plan for paid parental and medical leave in Washington state.



About 60 people gathered last week for a daylong workshop on health equity and social justice, co-sponsored by SPH. [See photos](#) from the event on Facebook.



[Three recent Epi graduates](#) have joined the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service, a two-year postdoctoral training program for "disease detectives." **Gloria Chi** is using electronic health records to study lead testing and diabetes surveillance in California. **Emily Mosites** is hot on the trail of infectious diseases in the arctic. And **Leora Feldstein** will be matched with an assignment this spring. [Learn more about Mosites' work](#) to reduce the global burden of disease among Alaska Natives.



## Featured by the ASPPH

[State DOH/SPH report: No unusual cancer rate among WA soccer players;](#)

**Cathy Wasserman** (Epi), **Tania Busch Isaksen** (DEOHS)

[Hypertension a hidden chronic condition among adults in suburban Nepal;](#)

**Biraj Karmacharya** (GH, PhD '15 Epi)

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