UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

21ST ANNUAL

MPH PRACTICUM SYMPOSIUM AND RECEPTION

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 3:00pm-5:00pm • HUB, South Ballroom 211B
Sponsored by School of Public Health
Welcome to the 21st Annual MPH Practicum Symposium! The practicum is an essential part of the MPH candidate experience because it enables our students to take what they’ve learned in the classroom and apply it to the real world of public health. The practicum also exemplifies our School’s commitment to community partnerships. SPH students work under the supervision of both academic and public health agency mentors to advance the work of public health agencies and contribute to our shared efforts to improve the health of communities.

Today we celebrate the meaningful work our MPH candidates do in the community through their MPH practicum projects, and we celebrate the public health practice agencies and organizations that provide our students with invaluable practice-based project opportunities. Our students are poised to become more effective public health professionals thanks to the willingness of public health agency mentors who guide them through their practicum experiences. We thank each and every mentor for their tireless work to improve the public’s health and also for their willingness to support our SPH students, the next generation of public health practitioners and leaders.

Janet Baseman, PhD, MPH
Professor, Department of Epidemiology
Associate Dean for Public Health Practice, School of Public Health
University of Washington
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ALESSANDRA ANGELINO  
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Celebrating Our Magic: Resources for American Indian/Alaska Native transgender and Two-Spirit youth, families, and their providers  
PRACTICUM SITE: Seattle Children's Hospital - Center for Diversity and Health Equity  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Julia Crouch  
DEPARTMENT: Global Health  
FACULTY ADVISER: Alison Roxby  
I am a fourth-year medical student attending Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey while also pursuing an MPH in Global Health at the UW. One of my passions is to improve children's access to quality and culturally appropriate care, especially among youth who identify as LGBTQ2S and American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN). For my practicum, I created a toolkit that provides resources for AI/AN youth who identify as transgender or Two-Spirit, along with their relatives and health providers who care for them. The toolkit will soon be disseminated to clinics in Washington State as a pilot and later across the U.S. through a partnership with the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and the Indian Health Service. I will also be applying for a residency in Pediatrics this fall and hope to continue working with AI/AN and gender-expansive youth in my future career. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family, cooking, and all water related activities—surfing, free diving, and kayaking to name a few!

BRANDIE BOCKWOLDT  
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Diversity In Addressing The Opioid Epidemic  
PRACTICUM SITE: Seattle & King County - Epidemiology/Prevention Division  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Julia Hood  
DEPARTMENT: Epidemiology  
FACULTY ADVISER: Christine Khosropour  
I am a second-year MPH candidate in Epidemiology. My primary interests include emerging and vaccines preventable infectious diseases, along with diseases associated with water quality and the opioid epidemic. For my practicum I analyzed naloxone distribution within King County along with providing qualitative analysis of drug users’ feedback from needle exchange programs. I also assisted in communicating warnings to the public, such as fentanyl laced counterfeit prescription opioids, and resources available for those who have witnessed an opioid related death. In the future I hope to work in public health practice working towards eliminating infectious diseases at the local and global level. In my free time I enjoy being outdoors, hiking, and spending time with friends.

ANDREW CARLO  
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Early Clinic Experiences with Collaborative Care Management (CoCM) Services Billing Codes  
PRACTICUM SITE: Washington State Healthcare Authority - Clinical Quality and Care Transformation Division  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Charissa Fotinos  
DEPARTMENT: Health Services  
FACULTY ADVISER: Michelle Garrison  
I am a practicing psychiatrist and senior research fellow in the UW department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences. My research focuses on access to high-quality behavioral health services for underserved populations and most specifically on integrated medical-psychiatric care. Although new billing codes for integrated care provide an opportunity for clinics and organizations to capture revenue for previously unreimbursed services, they require substantial billing workflow changes that can be challenging to implement. I was interested in studying the rollout of the new collaborative care billing codes to identify best-practices to assist other clinics and organizations statewide. Consequently, for my practicum, I used claims data from Washington Medicaid and qualitative methods to determine some of the experiences encountered, challenges faced, and barriers overcome by early code adopters. In the future, I hope to be a physician-scientist practicing in an academic medical center. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my wife Amanda and my family. I love reading, biking, hiking, music (particularly jazz) and musical theater.

HWAYOUNG CHAE  
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Culturally Focused Education and Outreach for Effective 9-1-1 EMS Utilization among Korean Immigrants with Limited English Proficiency  
PRACTICUM SITE: Chinese Information Service Center - VPSI Emergency Medical Services  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Mei-Po Yip  
DEPARTMENT: Health Services  
FACULTY ADVISER: Hendrika Meischke  
I am a second-year MPH candidate interested in sociocultural influences on health. Prior to moving to the U.S., I received a PhD in Family and Consumer Sciences at Seoul National University where my research focused on barriers and facilitators to fathers’ involvement in parenting and sociocultural contexts to increase the birth rates. For my practicum, I intended to tackle disparities in medical service access and delivery among vulnerable populations in King County, and subsequently developed culturally and linguistically relevant educational materials and workshops for Korean immigrants with Limited English Proficiency, increasing their knowledge and readiness to call 9-1-1.
KYLEROSE DELANEY
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ColdTech: Strengthening the Cold Chain in Malawi through Mobile Technology
PRACTICUM SITE: VillageReach
SITE SUPERVISOR: Jessica Crawford
DEPARTMENT: Health Services
FACULTY ADVISER: Aaron Katz

I am a second-year MPH candidate studying Health Services - Health Systems and Policy, also pursuing a certificate in Global Health. I am interested in working in health systems strengthening and sustainability as well as in government relations in global health. For my practicum, I worked on a mobile training application that focused on strengthening the cold chain in Malawi. The mobile app was created to help provide a medium for technicians to access training materials in real-time. In addition to the training materials, the mobile application helped provide a platform for cold chain equipment tracking. This application will help improve access to vaccines to improve health outcomes. Outside of school, I enjoy hiking around the PNW with my husband and trying new restaurants and cocktail bars.

ASHENAFI CHERKOS
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Association of Adverse Childhood Experiences and Household Food Insecurity in Washington State, USA
PRACTICUM SITE: Washington State Department of Health - Chronic Disease Prevention Unit
SITE SUPERVISOR: Jessica Marcinkevage, Susmitha Nambuthir
DEPARTMENT: Epidemiology
FACULTY ADVISER: Daniel Enquobahrie

I'm a second-year MPH-Maternal and Child Health fellow in the Department of Epidemiology. For my practicum, I researched the association of adverse childhood experiences and household food insecurity in the Washington State Department of Health in 2018 summer. I am currently working on determining the bi-directional causal association between depression and adolescent obesity for my thesis. For the future, I am planning to integrate early life growth, environmental, and psychosocial factors in relation to childhood and adolescent health, particularly neurodevelopmental and metabolic health.

BONNY CHAU
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Markov Monte Carlo Simulation of Breast Cancer Events in Breast Cancer Survivors
PRACTICUM SITE: University of Washington – Department of Radiology
DEPARTMENT: Health Services
SITE SUPERVISOR: Kathryn Lowry
FACULTY ADVISER: Paul Fisherman

I am a second-year MPH candidate in Health Services. My practicum project involved working on a preliminary Markov Monte Carlo microsimulation model of second breast cancer events in breast cancer survivors undergoing surveillance imaging. The model simulates individual hypothetical women through different health states over a lifetime horizon. Ultimately, the model will be used to compare the effectiveness of risk-tailored imaging surveillance strategies to current guidelines.

MIRANDA DELAWALLA
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An Evaluation of the Wisconsin EHDI – Tracking Referral and Coordination Data System
PRACTICUM SITE: Wisconsin Department of Health Services - Family Health Section, Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs
SITE SUPERVISOR: Elizabeth Seeliger
DEPARTMENT: Epidemiology
FACULTY ADVISER: Daniel Enquobahrie

I am driven by a desire to build a more equitable future and found public health to be a field where my interests in psychology, social determinants of health, and social justice converge. For my practicum, I worked with my fellow Title V Maternal and Child Health Interns on an evaluation of the Wisconsin Early Hearing Detection and Intervention program’s Tracking Referral and Coordination Data System (WE-TRAC). Specifically, we evaluated WE-TRAC’s accuracy, consistency, timeliness, usefulness, and user-friendliness based on the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In the future, I hope to pursue a career in research to improve prevention efforts and intervention methods for child and adolescent mental health. In my free time, I love to read, spend time with family and friends, and travel.
TIA DOSTAL  
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Malaria Prevention and Control in Mashonaland East, Zimbabwe: 2014-2017  
PRACTICUM SITE: University of Zimbabwe - Zimbabwe Field Epidemiology Training Program  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Gerald Shambira & Notion Gombe  
DEPARTMENT: Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences  
FACULTY ADVISER: Janet Baseman  

I am a second-year MPH candidate interested in examining the complex problems that occur at the intersection of human, animal, and the environmental health. For my practicum, I was selected to participate in a student exchange program between the University of Washington’s Student Epidemiology Action Leaders (SEAL) Team and the Zimbabwe Field Epidemiology Training Program. The exchange program provided me the opportunity to travel to Harare, Zimbabwe and co-design and facilitate an assessment of their malaria outbreak response system, including developing a project proposal, designing key informant interview questionnaires, and collecting data. In the future, I hope to pursue a career at public health agency focusing on infectious diseases and environmental health. Outside of work and school, I enjoy spending time hiking and camping with my husband Mark, and dog River.

AKI DOUTHAT  
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Hazard Vulnerability Project Profiles: Addressing Social Determinants of Health for a More Equitable Disaster Response  
PRACTICUM SITE: Washington State Department of Health - Office of Emergency Preparedness and Responses  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Mahlet Zeru  
DEPARTMENT: Epidemiology  
FACULTY ADVISER: Carey Farquhar  

I am an HIV educator at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and an MPH candidate in the UW department of epidemiology. My research focuses on maternal-child health and reproductive justice in Iraq after the 2003 invasion. Environmental racism, social determinants of health research, and disaster preparedness has always been an interest of mine. Consequently, for my practicum, I conducted reviews of the available literature and interviews of subject matter experts and stakeholders in order to determine the best ways to assist vulnerable populations in disasters. In the future, I hope to be involved as a public health physician assistant working for a local health jurisdiction or women’s health organization. Outside of work and school, I can be found spending time with my partners and family. I love reading, drawing, musical theater, attending rock concerts, and dancing ballet.

MIRIANA DURAN  
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Strengthening Human Milk Banking: A Guide for Developing a Communications Strategy  
PRACTICUM SITE: PATH - Maternal, Newborn, Child Health and Nutrition  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Kiersten Israel-Ballard  
DEPARTMENT: Global Health  
FACULTY ADVISER: Stephen Gloyd  

I began my career working as a general practitioner in private hospitals and public clinics in Mexico City where I experienced first-hand the deep-seated inequities and loopholes in health systems. My passion for improving health systems led me to the MPH program where I continue to expand my interests and skills in research and practice with a focus on maternal and child nutrition and chronic diseases. For my practicum, I designed a communications guide to help Human Milk Banks (HMBs) develop communications strategies to demystify breastfeeding and HMBs and to educate the public on a wide range of relevant topics such as donor recruitment and milk pasteurization. In the future, I hope to use my qualitative research skills to help Latino communities better understand their health needs and improve interventions to reduce health disparities for this population. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family, practicing yoga, reading, baking, traveling, and watching Game of Thrones.

GRACIOUS GAMIAO  
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Transportation as a Determinant of Health: Recommendations for Community Engagement  
PRACTICUM SITE: Transit Riders Union  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Beau Morton  
DEPARTMENT: Health Services  
FACULTY ADVISER: Amy Hagopian  

I am a second-year MPH candidate in Health Services concurrently obtaining a Certificate in Global Health. I am passionate about working with communities to achieve health equity by bridging the gap between research and practice. In Spring 2017, I worked on a group practicum project with two other MPH candidates to survey the attitudes, perceptions, and readiness of small businesses in Seattle to administer pre-tax commuter benefits. Subsequently I provided recommendations to the City of Seattle on how to engage community on transit-related efforts in Seattle, particularly a commuter benefits ordinance that was being considered in 2017. Ultimately, this project contributed to the passage of this ordinance, mandating businesses with 20 or more employees to offer their employees the option to use pre-tax income for commuter benefits. In the future, I hope to work with community-based organizations to address the determinants of health by developing, implementing, and evaluating public health programs. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my friends, family, and dogs.
SHIRA GRAYSON
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Implementing a Universal Informed Consent Process and Protocol for the Responsible Return of Genomic Results to Participants of the All Of Us Research Program (AoURP)

PRACTICUM SITE: Sage Bionetworks - Division of Governance & Ethics
SITE SUPERVISOR: Lara Mangravite
DEPARTMENT: Public Health Genetics
FACULTY ADVISER: Bruce Weir

I am a second-year MPH candidate studying Public Health Genetics (PHG) with a background in biology and global health. I chose PHG because I was eager to explore the many genetic, nutritional, behavioral, environmental, and socioeconomic factors that concurrently influence our health and disease risks. I am especially interested in the ethical, legal, and social implications (ELSI) of translating genomic research and new technologies into clinical practice to improve health and reduce disparities. For my practicum, I worked with Sage Bionetworks to conduct a regulatory analysis of relevant federal and jurisdiction-specific regulations that govern informed consent and the exchange of personal health information. I also examined the range of ethical considerations related to genomics research and the return of genomic results. Findings from my analysis were used to inform the design of a universal informed consent process and a protocol for the responsible return of genomic results for participants in the NIH-funded All of Us Research Program. I hope to remain engaged in similar interdisciplinary work in the future with the overall aim of improving health outcomes and reducing health disparities.

MARISSA JACKSON
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Development of Health Communication Toolkit for the Hepatitis Education Project

PRACTICUM SITE: Hepatitis Education Project
SITE SUPERVISOR: Chelsey Porter
DEPARTMENT: Health Services
FACULTY ADVISER: Hendrika Meischke

I am a second-year MPH candidate in the Health Services program, and am pursuing a Certificate in Nonprofit Management. Prior to attending graduate school, I worked in Melbourne, Australia planning health and wellness programs for study abroad students, ran a food access program for the Pike Place Market Foundation, and coordinated communication efforts at an environmental NGO committed to creating a healthier built environment. I chose to pursue my MPH to better understand the upstream structural determinants of health outcomes and how to address them on a more impactful scale. For my practicum, I created communication materials for the Hepatitis Education Project, a nonprofit organization committed to providing support, education, and advocacy for underserved communities disproportionately impacted by viral hepatitis. In the future, I hope to use storytelling as a tool to influence policies addressing the social and economic conditions that impact health outcomes. In my free time, I enjoy traveling, thrifting, and spending as much time outside as possible!

KATHRYN KEMPER
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Cervical Cancer Screening in Khomas region of Windhoek, Namibia: Baseline Rates and Challenges to Monitoring

PRACTICUM SITE: International Training & Education Center for Health (I-TECH), Namibia
SITE SUPERVISOR: Norbert Forster & Laura Muzingwani
DEPARTMENT: Global Health
FACULTY ADVISER: Gabrielle O’Malley & Linda Eckert

I am a second-year MPH candidate in the Department of Global Health with an interest in cancer screening and treatment, reproductive health, and health system strengthening. For my practicum, I worked with the International Training and Education Center for Health (I-TECH) team in Namibia to collect and analyze cervical cancer screening data, conduct interviews with healthcare workers, and document challenges to monitoring and evaluation. I chose to pursue my MPH to further develop my analytical skills and explore how to bridge the gap between scientific health research and implementation. In the future I hope to pursue a career in public health research and join a team conducting research in collaboration with local government, either internationally or domestically. In my free time I enjoy hiking, reading, cooking, and spending as much time outside as possible!

BRENDKA KHARONO
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Hygiene and Sanitation at Unsanctioned Encampments in Seattle, WA

PRACTICUM SITE: City of Seattle Human Services Department - Homeless Strategy and Investment Division
SITE SUPERVISOR: Sola Plumacher
DEPARTMENT: Global Health
FACULTY ADVISER: William Daniell

I am a medical doctor and Master of Public Health-Global Health candidate. Currently, I am a Graduate Research Assistant with the Strategic Analysis Research and Training (START) center at the University of Washington contributing to global health research. Before the MPH, I worked as a research clinician in MNCH health and infectious diseases research at the Makerere University-John Hopkins University. Prior to joining MUJHU, I worked with the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI) after completing my medical training and internship. I expanded my interest in MNCH and Infectious diseases through my practicum and internship. I interned with PATH to develop a global Human Milk Bank Track and Trace toolkit with focus on Kenya and Uganda. For my practicum, I worked with the Seattle Human Services Department to assess how populations access sanitation facilities and measures to improve hygiene and sanitation in unsanctioned encampments. I hope to use my experiences working with vulnerable populations with infectious diseases to design health policies and program interventions.
AISHA KING
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Developing Standard Operating Procedures and Training Materials for a Contraceptive Clinical Trial
PRACTICUM SITE: Kenyatta National Hospital - Couples Counseling Center
SITE SUPERVISOR: John Kinuthia
DEPARTMENT: Global health
FACULTY ADVISER: Alison Roxby

I have always been passionate about reproductive health, both through a personal and human equity lens. I became interested in male contraception as an undergrad and later went on to conduct original studies on men’s attitudes towards a male contraceptive possibility. For my practicum, I facilitated the implementation of an international male contraceptive clinical trial in Nairobi (one of nine sites) through the development of standard operating procedures and training materials. Outside of my graduate studies, I enjoy hiking, meeting new people, and running. My future goals include working in the public health field and pursuing a PhD in Epidemiology.

SETH KRAMER
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“One hand alone does not clap”: Building a health justice movement in West Bank refugee camps
PRACTICUM SITE: 1 for 3
SITE SUPERVISOR: Bram Wispelwey
DEPARTMENT: Global Health
FACULTY ADVISER: Deepa Rao

I am a second-year MPH candidate in Global Health interested in the intersection between health, politics, and legacies of violence. For my practicum, I worked with the global steering team to create an evaluation and development plan for Health4Palestine’s community health worker program. The program, working in Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem, West Bank, Palestine, works to mitigate the effects of a fragmented health system by delivering community-based care for diabetes, hypertension, and mental wellness care to residents of the camps using evidence based and indigenous models of care. I intend to continue working with the organization in the future, specifically surrounding research and development of their mental health program.

NUPOOR KULKARNI
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Reducing Noncommunicable Disease Risk Factors in Adolescents: An Investment Case for India, Kenya, and Indonesia
PRACTICUM SITE: Research Triangle Institute International
SITE SUPERVISOR: Rachel Nugent
DEPARTMENT: Health Services
FACULTY ADVISER: Clarence Spigner

I am a second-year MPH candidate studying Social and Behavioral Sciences. For my practicum with RTI International’s Global Non Communicable Diseases Division, I conducted literature reviews and economic analyses on the burden of chronic diseases on adolescents in India, Kenya, and Indonesia—culminating in three evidence-based policy briefs. Our findings were presented at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2018, raising international awareness and advancing dialogue on the gaps in chronic disease disparities globally. Looking ahead, I hope to work in the non-profit sector as a public health practitioner, engaging policymakers and stakeholders across sectors to ameliorate national health disparities. In my free time, I like to chase sunsets, sing to my house plants, and cook spicy food.

MARGARET MBURU
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Cost of Conducting Health Outreaches by Kenyatta National Hospital, Kenya
PRACTICUM SITE: Kenyatta National Hospital
SITE SUPERVISOR: Irene Inwani
DEPARTMENT: Epidemiology
FACULTY ADVISER: Carey Farquhar

I am a second-year MPH Candidate interested in effective data use in improving public health systems. I am particularly interested in cost-effective community health outreaches in improving healthcare—through education, case management, basic health screening, and zero-barrier access to services. My practicum project purposed to extract data from health outreaches and their corresponding costs from one of the largest public hospitals in Kenya. I identified and shared challenges and areas for improvement within the organization, and I am currently developing a standard data collection tool and planning and reporting tools for the organization to improve in data documentation in future health outreach activities. In the future, I plan to work in public health management in low and middle-income countries. Outside of work, I love my son David very much who is a teenager and rediscovering himself. I enjoy making new friends and playing games, and relaxing with family and friends.
HALEY MILLET

I am a second-year MPH candidate passionate about the decolonization of global health program and policy development. Over the last eight years I have engaged with a number of community based organizations in East Africa across program areas including food security, gender equity, reproductive and sexual health, and adolescent health. For my practicum I worked with an interfaith-government partnership in Dar es Salaam called Faith in Action, to adapt a program that addresses the HIV/AIDS behavioral risk factors of substance use and gender-based violence. Our participatory adaptation driven by staff, volunteers, community members, and recovering addicts transformed program elements into powerfully resonant tools in their local context. While I currently work as a measurement and evaluation consultant to philanthropic and impact investing organizations, I strive to become a leader in global health program development who collaborates with communities to blend evidence-based best practices with local skills, knowledge, and culture. When I’m not working or studying, I love cooking dinner for friends, live music, road trips, and hiking in the mountains.

CARMEN NG
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I am a second-year MPH candidate in Public Health Genetics, and my passion lies in the potential use of genetics to help prevent preventable diseases. For my practicum, I worked with the Washington State Department of Health, Screening and Genetics Unit. The goals of the project were to examine the justifications for adding Familial Hypercholesterolemia (FH) to the list of notifiable conditions in Washington State and propose a potential framework for reporting FH as a notifiable condition, utilizing cascade screening. During my practicum, I had to opportunity to attend a Notifiable Conditions Technical Advisory Committee Meeting and witness firsthand how public health policy is created in Washington State. I also had the opportunity to present my work at Genetic Counseling Student Presentation Day at Seattle Children’s Hospital and share my work in public health to clinicians. Moving forward, I hope to continue working in the field of chronic disease and cancer genetics to make a positive impact on public health. Outside of work, I enjoy reading, soccer and soaking up as much sunshine as I can.

RACHAEL NOCE
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I am a cardiac intensive care unit nurse pursuing my MPH. Through these experiences, I have become dedicated to promoting and advocating for the role of nursing, and the need for increased education and training, in global health. As the Nepal site coordinator for the International Nursing Program at UWMC, I have worked in Nepal and Cambodia helping to build global nursing partnerships targeted at bi-directional education, training, and mentorship exchange programs since 2015. For my practicum, I worked with the all-female nursing workforce of Dhulikhel Hospital (DH) in Nepal and conducted a needs assessment to provide a plan for on-the-job training to create a standardized level of bedside competency for DH nurses. The training program is an empowering opportunity for the nursing workforce to upgrade care delivery practices and expand the global perception of nursing capability- a mission I hope to continue to be a part of throughout my career. When I’m not at work or in school I love to practice yoga, travel, generally be outside, go dancing and see live music, and cook for friends.

PATRICK OWITI
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I am a physician and Chief Executive Officer of Health Innovations Kenya working towards an MPH in Epidemiology. For my practicum, I am interested in the role of Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) in increasing access to skilled and safe delivery and reducing maternal and child morbidity and mortality in western Kenya. I analyzed data from the Demographic Health Information Systems (DHIS) to assess the current state of skilled delivery in Kisumu County, and identified gaps in skilled delivery practices by conducting one-on-one interviews and convening local health officials, Community Health Workers (CHWs), TBAs, and women who failed to deliver in the hospital. Of the areas for improvement identified, one stood out as being critically important and urgent: multi-stakeholder engagement at all levels. I plan to dedicate the next five years fostering dialog and collaboration among stakeholders and working towards the goal that no mother or child dies of preventable childbirth-related issues, and will continue to enjoy volunteering for charities and making music for health advocacy and activism.
CAMILLE PURONEN
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Implementing Breast Cancer Patient Navigation Models in LMICs
PRACTICUM SITE: Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (Project Location: Johannesburg, South Africa)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Allison Dvaladez
DEPARTMENT: Global Health
FACULTY ADVISER: Julie Gralow

I am a third-year Hematology-Oncology fellow interested in capacity building and implementation in global oncology. For my practicum, I researched and presented recommendations on implementation of patient navigation for breast cancer patients in low and middle income countries at the WE CAN Annual African Conference in Johannesburg in March, and moderated a discussion on topic. Looking ahead, I hope to continue to work to improve outcomes in cancer globally, with a focus on sub-Saharan Africa. Outside of work and school, I spend most of my time chasing my two little boys.

MAHIKA RANGNEKAR
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Evaluating Incentives for Community Health Workers in Ollantaytambo, Peru
PRACTICUM SITE: Sacred Valley Health - Cusco, Peru site
SITE SUPERVISOR: Beleny Reese
DEPARTMENT: Global Health
FACULTY ADVISER: Virginia Gonzales

I began my career in a local county government in the San Francisco Bay Area assessing individuals and families’ qualifications for public assistance benefits such as Medicaid and food stamps. My direct-service experience and frustrations over ineffective policies that failed to address vulnerable people’s needs led me to the MPH/MPA dual degree program to gain training in both public health and public policy. For my practicum, I worked with Sacred Valley Health, a nonprofit organization promoting health in the rural communities of Peru to develop an incentive model to improve the recruitment and retention of Community Health Workers (CHWs). In the absence of medical services, CHWs play a critical role ensuring the safety and well-being of local residents, and I hope to continue this line of work with NGOs in Central or South America after graduate school. In my spare time I enjoy practicing Aikido, reading, playing D&D and board/video games, and traveling.

EMMANUEL RODRIGUEZ
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PreP Navigation Programming: Does the Yakima Valley Landscape of Sexual Healthcare Support PreP Navigation Programming?
PRACTICUM SITE: Washington State Department of Health - Yakima Valley Health District
SITE SUPERVISOR: Mike Barnes
DEPARTMENT: Epidemiology
FACULTY ADVISER: Christine Khosropour

I am a second-year MPH candidate in Epidemiology interested in HIV socio-behavioral and prevention research. For my practicum, I worked with Yakima Health District field staff and a Washington DOH Community Engagement Coordinator to assess the current infrastructure of the Yakima Valley sexual health system and presented recommendations for how to better support PreP Navigation programming particularly for LatinX MSM in this low resourced, rural, immigrant setting. The project coincided with the Yakima Health District’s development of a Community Advisory Board (CAB) which seeks to engage the local consumers and recipients of sexual health services in the research and practice of PreP programming. In the future, I would like to pursue a hybrid public health research and practice career aimed at addressing health disparities in LGBTQ LatinX populations. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family, hosting dinner parties, fitness, and supporting local LatinX business through food and art.
AMY ROLL
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Clean Cooking for Forests, Nutrition and Health Literature Review and Analysis
PRACTICUM SITE: PATH - Nutrition Innovation
SITE SUPERVISOR: Katharine Kreis
DEPARTMENT: Global Health
FACULTY ADVISER: Ann Downer

I am passionate about strengthening health systems and breaking down barriers to healthcare access in low-income communities around the world. For my practicum, I worked with the Bridge Collaborative, a partnership spearheaded by PATH, The Nature Conservancy, International Food Policy Research Institute, and Duke University that identifies clean cooking stoves and fuels as a cross-cutting intervention to improve low-birth weight, anemia, stunting, and burn outcomes as well time and economic costs and diet diversity among children. In the future, I hope to work with Ministries of Health and civil society organizations at the intersection of public health and conservation, and to use human-centered approaches to tackle public health challenges. Outside of work I am an amateur bread baker, soccer player, and most recently am dabbling in backcountry skiing.

STEPHANIE STOVER
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Health Coalition for Children and Youth: Identifying Successes and Strategizing for Growth
PRACTICUM SITE: Seattle Children’s Hospital - Health Coalition for Children and Youth
SITE SUPERVISOR: Hugh Ewart
DEPARTMENT: Health Services
FACULTY ADVISER: Anne Turner

I am a second-year MPH candidate studying Health Services – Maternal and Child Health. My direct service experience working with high-risk and underserved populations sparked my interest in furthering my education in public health, with a focus on health equity as well as health service administration and development. For my practicum, I worked with the Health Coalition for Children and Youth (HCCY), an advocacy organization dedicated to promoting the health, well-being, and long-term thriving of young people in Washington State. I evaluated program successes and areas for improvement in light of existing community resources, and subsequently identified and recommended new advocacy opportunities and refined our communication strategies to support the coalition’s priorities. Outside of school I am a fitness enthusiast and frequent concertgoer, and my future goals include working in maternal and child health development, policy and advocacy, and systems leadership.

CHRISTINA Á. SUN (KANAKA MAOLI, COU)
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Advancing a Tacoma Eastside Food Innovation District
PRACTICUM SITE: Livable City Year - City of Tacoma, Community & Economic Development Department
SITE SUPERVISOR: Richard Conlin
DEPARTMENT: Epidemiology
FACULTY ADVISER: Brandon Guthrie

I am a second-year MPH candidate interested in food sovereignty, nutritional and water security, and emergency management in post-disaster recovery. As a student advocate for Aloha ‘Āina, #MMIW, and the Food Justice Movement, I aim to center Indigenous communities in health research using small sample methods and robust data infrastructure to address colonial depopulation and the Digital Divide. For my practicum, I conducted a feasibility study to support the implementation of a self-sustaining, cross-cultural, and cross-generational Food Innovation District for Eastside residents of Tacoma, WA, where limited or lack of access to nutritious, healthy foods was identified as a primary socioeconomic determinant of this disparity for school-aged children. In addition to working towards food justice, I feel equally compelled to work towards climate justice after witnessing the ecological destruction and trauma experienced by family and relatives who have survived various earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, volcanic eruptions, wildfire seasons, and continual droughts. In my spare time, I enjoy biking and learning ‘ōlelo, hoe he’e nalu, and lauhala weaving.

RUCHI TIWARI
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PRACTICUM SITE: Washington State Department of Health - Office of Family & Community Health Improvement
SITE SUPERVISOR: Anar Shah
DEPARTMENT: Epidemiology
FACULTY ADVISER: Daniel Enquobahrie

I am a second-year MPH candidate studying Epidemiology - Maternal and Child Health. For my practicum, I worked with Washington State Birth Defects Surveillance System (BDSS) housed in the State Department of Health to explore case ascertainment using Death Certificate data and updated the facility reporting template using the most recent BDSS data for each facility reporting to WA BDSS. During my work in a family planning project, I learned about the disparities that existed even in the primary healthcare services for women and children in resource-limited settings, which motivated me to work for them and voice for their health. In the future, I hope to continue working to improve the health and wellbeing of the maternal and child health population. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family and watching movies and videos.
GREG WISONT

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Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Incentive Structures and Purchasing Patterns at Farmers Markets (FM)

PRACTICUM SITE: Washington State Department of Health - Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Team, Tumwater, WA

SITE SUPERVISOR: Amy Ellings & Alyssa Auvinen

DEPARTMENT: Nutrition

FACULTY ADVISER: Anne Lund

I studied nutrition and its application to public health during my combined Graduate Coordinated Program in Dietetics and MPH in Nutritional Sciences. My experience working with school-based nutrition programs and serving on a public health advisory board allowed me to experience first-hand, and through others, the limitation of personal choices and the prevalence of racial, economic, and geographic disparities. For my practicum, I worked with the Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) team at the Department of Health in Tumwater which advocates for policy and environmental changes that make it easier for people to eat healthy and be active. My project helped evaluate the effectiveness of an ongoing partnership between HEAL and local community groups to promote increased intake of fruits and vegetables through farmers markets. In my career, I would like to help address nutritional disparity and lessen its impact on health. In my free time, I enjoy rock climbing and traveling.

KORI VANDERGEEST

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Designing a Citizen Science App for Canal Water Sampling

PRACTICUM SITE: Comite Civico Del Valle

SITE SUPERVISOR: Luis Olmedo

DEPARTMENT: Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences

FACULTY ADVISER: Vanessa Galaviz

I study environmental health with the goal of combining my interests in science, the environment, and social justice into an interdisciplinary career. I am particularly drawn to citizen science for its potential to disrupt the existing community-academic power structure by shifting the production of scientific knowledge to community members. For my practicum, I worked with Comité Civico Del Valle, Inc. (CCV) to develop a citizen science program, using an app to help citizen scientists collect water samples from canals in communities in Imperial County, California, where households rely on untreated water from irrigation canals for domestic uses. In the future, I hope to work in a state or local health department for communities experiencing environmental injustice. Outside of school, I enjoy bike riding along the Burke-Gilman trail and attending Duolingo meetups to practice my Spanish.

RABI YUNUSA

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PRACTICUM SITE: Nigeria Centre for Disease Control

SITE SUPERVISOR: Olaolu Aderinola

DEPARTMENT: Global Health

FACULTY ADVISER: Sarah Benki-Nugent

I am a second-year MPH candidate in Global Health and also a practicing physician in Nigeria. I am interested in reducing the morbidity and mortality associated with preventable diseases, as well as improving health and life outcomes for women and children suffering from diseases such as HIV in low resource settings which is also the focus of my thesis. For my practicum, I worked with the Nigeria Centres for Disease Control (NCDC) on efforts to reduce morbidity and mortality from the annual CSM outbreak through harmonizing standards of care and sharing lessons learned from past outbreaks to all competing health aid agencies with the aim to strengthen future responses towards a more favorable outcome. Outside of academia, I work with other like minds at the non-profit- TAWA Health Services to help empower women and girls surviving violence in Nigeria rebuild and improve their lives in a sustainable way.

TANIA C. VASQUEZ-LOARTE

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Expanding the Spectrum of Urea Cycle Disorders as Candidates for Newborn Screening in Washington State

PRACTICUM SITE: Seattle Childrens Hospital - Division of Medical Genetics

SITE SUPERVISOR: Lawrence Merritt

DEPARTMENT: Public Health Genetics

FACULTY ADVISER: Deborah Bowen

I am a second-year MPH candidate studying Public Health Genetics with a background in epidemiology and I am also a physician. My research interests include the improvement and delivery of health services for genetic conditions in pediatric populations, such as program evaluation, prevention of birth defects, developmental delay, newborn screening and ethics. For my practicum, I focused on newborn screening and highlighted whether the current literature about proximal urea cycle disorders and arginase deficiency met the inclusion criteria of the Newborn Screening Panel in Washington State. In the long-term, I would like to improve the implementation of newborn screening in Peru.

RABI YUNUSA

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PRACTICUM SITE: Nigeria Centre for Disease Control

SITE SUPERVISOR: Olaolu Aderinola

DEPARTMENT: Global Health

FACULTY ADVISER: Sarah Benki-Nugent

I am a second-year MPH candidate in Global Health and also a practicing physician in Nigeria. I am interested in reducing the morbidity and mortality associated with preventable diseases, as well as improving health and life outcomes for women and children suffering from diseases such as HIV in low resource settings which is also the focus of my thesis. For my practicum, I worked with the Nigeria Centres for Disease Control (NCDC) on efforts to reduce morbidity and mortality from the annual CSM outbreak through harmonizing standards of care and sharing lessons learned from past outbreaks to all competing health aid agencies with the aim to strengthen future responses towards a more favorable outcome. Outside of academia, I work with other like minds at the non-profit- TAWA Health Services to help empower women and girls surviving violence in Nigeria rebuild and improve their lives in a sustainable way.
YINGXI ZHAO
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Health Workforce Job Satisfaction and Retention in Northeastern Myanmar Post-conflict Ethnic Region: a Mixed-methods Study

PRACTICUM SITE: Health Poverty Action - East Asia Regional Office
SITE SUPERVISOR: Li Jiayin
DEPARTMENT: Global Health
FACULTY ADVISER: Amy Hagopian

I have a great passion for strengthening health systems, especially human resources for health, global health governance, and China’s engagement in global health. I have worked in several post-conflict regions in Myanmar. My practicum project focused on ethnic health workforce in Northeastern Myanmar, especially Kachin State Special Region 2. Using a mixed-methods approach, I investigated the current status of job satisfaction and turnover of health workforce in this post-conflict region, and proposed potential interventions to improve health workers’ job performance and retention in a five-year health workforce plan. Outside of school, I enjoy exploring the city for foods and desserts, and attempting Chinese dishes at home. After finishing my MPH, I am going to continue for a doctoral degree at Oxford University focusing on health workforce in Kenya.