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**Student Objectives**

Graduates of the MSPH program are expected to be able to:

- Articulate the principles that are basic to public health, including methods for assessing the determinants of the population's health;
- Communicate effectively with colleagues, in and out of public health, and the lay public, about the scientific principles that form the basis of the discipline;
- Analyze published literature in public health, including the application of relevant aspects of epidemiology and biostatistics;
- Explain the variability in access to care and public health resources, including the workforce in the United States and abroad;
- Articulate the role of psychosocial factors as they relate to personal behavior, public health communications, education and impact;
- Describe the major environmental health hazards, their effects on individuals, their assessment and development of policies for protection of the public's health;
- Serve as a resource for information on health services, including aspects of healthcare financing and outcomes measurement;
- Delineate the legal and ethical principles that inform public health practice.

# Public Health Link

JEFFERSON COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
MASTERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH E-NEWS

## Faculty Spotlight

Mona Sarfaty, MD, recently joined the TJUMC faculty in the Department of Health Policy. She holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. She came to Jefferson from the George Washington University Medical Center where she was a faculty member for 13 years.

At GW, in the early 1990's, Dr. Sarfaty collaborated with other faculty to found a new service learning course for GW students in the medical, nursing, and public health programs. The students worked in teams with local clinics, maternal and child health programs, and infectious disease projects to expand or improve services. They presented their work to the entire medical school at the close of every term. This popular and innovative course continues to the present. A

short time later, Dr. Sarfaty chaired a faculty committee that founded a new concentration within the public health program called Community Oriented Primary Care. This program provided a population health perspective to clinicians including doctors, physician assistants, and

nurse practitioners.

Prior to employment at GW, Dr. Sarfaty worked in the U.S. Senate (Committee on Health, Education, Pensions) for the chairman, as a senior health policy advisor, and served for a while as the Associate Director for Health Policy. She initiated new programs in research and education, and for direct service that were established through legislation. She guided the Committee through high visibility hearings on the use and promotion of tobacco products.

Dr. Sarfaty's interest in the delivery of health services started while she was in college at Harvard University. After graduation, she went to Sweden to study their health system. She spent the next year working at a federal health planning agency on Long Island (L.I.). Her project focused on the expansion of emergency services into rural areas.

Dr. Sarfaty chose a Family Medicine residency when she completed medical school. During and after residency in San Francisco, she provided medical care in two distinct cultural neighborhoods, one Philippino and one Latino. This helped her to understand the impact of culture on health.



"Culture has profound impact on the efficacy of our practice" she explains. "If we ignore culture, we simply compromise our chances of succeeding."

Today, Dr. Sarfaty does research on health policy and programs, especially pertaining to cancer control. She believes that the transition from founding programs to studying them was a natural one. She is active in the American Public Health Association (APHA). She says, "Every public health student should join APHA." She is an elected member of the APHA Governing Council. "You will always know where APHA stands...Politics, partisanship, and proprietary interest will always be less important than the public's health," she says.

*"If we ignore culture, we simply compromise our chances of succeeding."*

### Graduation Reminder

You must turn in an Application for Degree/Certificate to the Registrar's by December 15, 2006 if you plan to graduate in June 2007. You can access this application on Pulse, in room M-46 JAH, or in the Registrar's.

Also, remember that you must finish all required course work in Spring I, if you plan to graduate in June 2007.



### HOLIDAY PARTY!

All JCGS students, faculty, and staff are invited the annual holiday party in JAH, Eakins Lounge on Tuesday, Dec. 19th from 4pm-7pm.

## Wender Becomes American Cancer Society President

On November 16th, Dr. Richard Wender, Co-Director of the Master of Science in Public Health program, was inducted as the President of the American Cancer Society. The American Cancer Society, the nation's largest voluntary health organization, elected 11 new officers to its volunteer 2006-2007 National Board of Directors during its annual meeting held this week in New York City. The organization's National Assembly and the National Board of Directors, the Society's governing bodies, have been comprised of locally elected volunteers since the organization's inception in 1913.

"The American Cancer Society's history of progress in the fight against cancer is unmatched, and its pursuit of its mission to eliminate cancer as a major health issue is as aggressive today as it has ever been. It is a great honor

and privilege to lead an organization that is making a significant difference in the lives of millions of Americans touched by cancer,



Dr. Richard Wender, Public Health Retreat

and working to ensure that fewer of them will ever hear the words 'You have cancer,'" said Wender, the Society's new president and the first primary care physician in the organization's nearly 100-year history to take on that role.

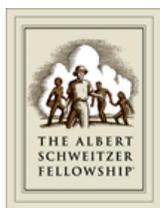
Wender, a practicing family physician, is alumni professor and chair of the department of family and community medicine at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University and Hospital. He serves as chair of the Society's Incidence and Mortality Committee, which he has been a member of for five years. He is a member

of the editorial advisory boards for the Society's journal *CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians* and *Patient Care*. In addition to being a practicing family doctor, Wender's major area of academic focus is cancer prevention and screening. Working with the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), he helped to develop A Call to Action, a national training program for clinicians about colorectal cancer prevention and screening. He is also a co-investigator of a National Cancer Institute-funded study of tailored interventions to increase colorectal cancer screening.

Wender began his volunteer work with the Society in the early 1980s. He received the Society's St. George Medal, and the National Divisional Award. He was previously president of the Society's Philadelphia Division, the first president of the Pennsylvania Division, and an at-large member of the Society's National Board of Directors.

Source: Press Release ACS

### Opportunity: The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship



Schweitzer Fellows are graduate students in the health disciplines who participate in a year-long, stipend-supported, community service project, and then join the ranks of a national network of Fellowship Program graduates who continue to seek opportunities to serve the community. With guidance from the National Program Office in Boston, a Delaware Valley Schweitzer Fellows Program is now being launched under the leadership of Dr. David B. Nash. Recruitment of Fellowship applicants will take place in the fall of 2006, with the goal of getting underway with the first cohort of Fellows in the late spring of 2007. For further information on the program, including opportunities to

sponsor a Fellow, please contact the Program Coordinator, **Nicole Cobb**, MAOM, at 215-955-9995, or [Nicole.Cobb@Jefferson.edu](mailto:Nicole.Cobb@Jefferson.edu).

Source: Health Policy Newsletter

### POPULATION HEALTH FORUM

Dec. 20th, 12-1pm,

218 Curtis, 1015 Walnut:

**Nationalities Service Center**—

Nan Feyler JD, MPH—Director

Jan. 17th, 12-1pm,

218 Curtis, 1015 Walnut:

**Center for Applied Research for Aging & Health**—

Laura Gitlin PhD, Nancy Chernett MPH

All are welcome. Light Refreshments Served.

James.Plumb@Jefferson.edu for questions.

### Health Policy Forum

January 10th, 2007

218 Curtis, 8:30am-9:30am

**Update in Healthcare Governance**

Charles Elson, JD

Chair, Corporate Governance Director, John L. Weinberg Center for Corporate Governance University of Delaware

## American Public Health Association Presenters

*(The names in bold belong to members of our own TJU community.  
The underlined names are Public Health students)*

**James Plumb MD, MPH, Vanessa Briggs MBA, RD, LDN, Michael Rosenthal MD, Ronald Meyers PhD, Rickie Brawer MPH, Tinesha Peterson MPH** - SHAPE IT (Stroke, Hypertension and Prostate Education Intervention Team) Project – targeting African American men at risk for stroke and prostate cancer

**James Plumb MD, MPH, Rickie Brawer MPH, Kimberly Pringle MSIII, Leah Muhm MSIII, Neena Desai MSIII, Arunjot Singh MSI** - Diabetes self management program in a male homeless sheltered population

**Laurence Crossan MD, MSPH, Jennifer Lofland PharmD, MPH, Jessica Robbins PhD, James Plumb MD, MPH** – At risk and overweight adolescents in the Philadelphia health Care centers: prevalence, risk factors, and co-morbidities

**Rickie Brawer MPH, Leah Beck MS, James Plumb MD, MPH** – Using participatory research methods to develop a low literacy breast health website tailored to the needs of sheltered women

**Mona Sarfaty MD, Shibao Feng PhD** – Addressing disparities in colorectal cancer screening

**Mona Sarfaty MD – Presider** – Quality care in Cardiac Care, Cancer, Gout and Long Term Care

**Laura Gitlin PhD, Nancy Chernett MPH** – Treatment fidelity of Harvest Health: A translated chronic disease self-management program for African American older adults.

**Nancy Chernett MPH, Laura Gitlin PhD, Marie Dennis PhD** – Evidence of the effectiveness of the Harvest Health program: A translated chronic disease self-management program for African American older adults

**Molly Rose PhD, Jean Goeppinger PhD, Laura Gitlin PhD, Nancy Chernett MPH, Christine Arenson MD** - Chronic disease self-management program for urban and rural African American elders; Translation and outcomes.

Julie Becker PhD, MPH, **Abbie Shlener**, Andrea Crivelli-Kovach PhD, Elyse Caplan –More than just cancer: Piloting a self management program as an innovative potential prevention strategy for breast cancer survivors

### New Public Health Courses

For the Spring terms, students will be able to register for:

- PH 508: Health Policy: An International Perspective
- PH 606: Qualitative Research Methods

More information, including course descriptions, are on our course listings located on the JCGS homepage:

<http://www.jefferson.edu/jcgs>.

### SPRING REGISTRATION

Online Registration for Spring I and II ends December 20th. Paper Registration will still be accepted.

**Congratulations to Elisa Moll for presenting her Thesis this past November.**



Happy Holidays and  
Enjoy the New Year!



Edited By: Lisa Chosed, Comments & Suggestions: [Lisa.Chosed@Jefferson.edu](mailto:Lisa.Chosed@Jefferson.edu) or 3-0154.

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