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Student Objectives

Graduates of the MPH 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
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH E-NEWS

MPH Spotlight

Jefferson's MPH Program Active at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Jefferson MPH program had a strong presence at the 135th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA) on Nov. 4-7 in Washington, D.C. Approximately 14,000 public health professionals, students, academic institutions and private vendors attended the meeting. This year's theme



“Politics, Policy and Public Health” explored the critical role that the political process plays in public health issues, ranging from injury and disease prevention to health care reform. Public health professionals, who understand the political dimensions of health policy can conduct better research and evaluation and design more effective policies and programs.

The Jefferson MPH program was represented by:

- Dr. Rob Simmons, Program Director
- Ms. Lisa Chosed, Program Coordinator
- Dr. Mona Sarfaty, Chair of MPH Curriculum Committee
- Dr. Jim Plumb, MPH Faculty and Director of MPH Clerkship and Capstone projects
- Dr. Rickie Brawer, MPH Faculty and Chair of MPH Accreditation Committee
- Ms. Erin Whitesell, Research Analyst, MPH competencies and accreditation
- Ms. Nicole Cobb, Project Manager, Albert Schweitzer Fellowship
- Valerie Pracilio, CTPH student

MPH current and graduate student presenters included:

- Graduate, Francine Hanley, MSPH and current student, Carla Thomas, *et al.* *Policy vs practice: Inconsistencies in medication storage and administration in child care centers in Philadelphia.* Board and *Miscommunication between parents and child care providers: Examining medication administration in child care centers in Philadelphia.*
- Current student, Abbie Schlener, *et al.* *Pilot*

Study of two health education sessions using health icons for African-American older adults who completed the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program.

- Current student, Melissa DiCarlo, *et al.* *Move4Health: A Feasibility Study of a Student-run Type 2 Diabetes Intervention.*

Our APHA exhibit highlighted the themes of interdisciplinary teamwork, community-based practice, our diverse students, international practice opportunities, our new dual degree programs in public health law with Widener University (JD/MPH, MJ/MPH), our future dual degree program with the medical school (MD/MPH), and of course the opportunity to study, work and live in Philadelphia. New MPH materials were presented including our new Program Brochure, a Jefferson MPH magnet with core Public Health services, and a Jefferson MPH hand sanitizer. We had the opportunity to interact with hundreds of public health professionals, as well as current and prospective public health students and share with them what Jefferson has to offer.

Presentations offered by Jefferson faculty and students were highlighted along with other information about health-related programs and services available at Jefferson. Next year, the APHA meeting will be held in San Diego, CA. The 2009 meeting will be in Philadelphia, so we expect to have a strong presence since the city's public health programs will host the meeting.



MPH Exhibit. Clockwise: Lisa Chosed, Dr. Rob Simmons, Erin Whitesell, Valerie Pracilio

For highlights from the APHA annual meeting and additional information on the American Public Health Association and its services, go to www.apha.org.

Health Policy Forum

December 12th,
8:30 AM—9:30 AM
218 Curtis
1015 Walnut St.

PA Budget and
Healthcare

Lawrence M. Clark;
Esq, *Director of Legislative Affairs Governor's Office of Healthcare Reform Commonwealth of PA*

Light Breakfast
Available

PULSE

Please note that all MPH and CTPH students, as well as MPH Faculty are members of the Master of Public Health (MPH) Program Organization on Pulse. You can find pertinent information about the program and upcoming events.



Homelessness—Care, Prevention and Public Policy

Three recent articles shine a light on the magnitude and the complexity of homelessness in America and in Philadelphia. Approximately 40% of homeless men are veterans, although veterans comprise only



34% of the general adult male population. The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans estimates that on any given night, 200,000

veterans are homeless (National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, 2006). An article in the New York Times (Nov 11, 2007) reports on a trial in Seattle of providing shelter to men and allowing them to continue drinking. The Philadelphia Inquirer (Oct 28, 2007) reports that the number of homeless people in Center City is the highest in 10 years, and that last Winter, city shelters were running at 115 percent capacity

At a recent Homeless Healthcare Initiative Symposium at the University of Pennsylvania, several speakers called for greater collaboration between shelter providers, emergency rooms and shelter clinics. Homeless Respite Services for a growing frail elderly homeless population, who do not need to be hospitalized, but cannot live in traditional shelters, because of a lack of medical supervision, are a growing national response. However no such facility exists in Philadelphia. Several organizations, including Jefferson, are working on a proposal to develop such a facility for the most vulnerable of the homeless.

Mayor-elect Michael Nutter has promised to more effectively implement provisions of Philadelphia's *Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness* (October 2005), which has several objectives related to

homeless care and policy, including:

- Eliminate barriers to accessing community-based resources, services and public benefits
- Design, fund and implement strategies to better assist at-risk populations (domestic violence victims, individuals who have aged out of foster care and delinquency system, recent discharges from prison, veterans, alcohol/drug problems, mental illness, linguistic minorities, L/G/B/T, immigrants and seniors)
- Expand street outreach services beyond the Central City by developing community partnerships in areas of the city where street homelessness exists
- Expand street outreach services to currently underserved populations
- Eliminate fragmentation in health and social service delivery, including physical, mental and substance abuse treatment
- Make shelters safe and accessible for all, regardless of physical disability, gender identity, or status as a couple
- Improve effectiveness of initial assessments and ensure families and individuals receive case management immediately, as well as on-going, high quality care
- Improve the range of quality of services, and access to healthful alternatives offered at emergency and transitional shelter facilities, and at supportive service sites

For further information, or ideas of ways to become involved in homeless care prevention and policy development, contact James Plumb MD, MPH – james.plumb@jefferson.edu

If you are interested in sharing your Public Health Perspective on an important issue in the field, please e-mail James.Plumb@Jefferson.edu



Amy Marshall defending her thesis

Congratulations, Thesis Presenters!

James Fink—Use of Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP) at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital (TJUH)

Amy Marshall—The HPV Vaccine: A Policy Analysis of a State-Mandated Vaccination Program in Pennsylvania

Jefferson MPH Program Director Elected President of the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE)



The Director of Thomas Jefferson University's Master of Public Health Program, Rob Simmons, DrPH, MPH, CHES, has been elected to serve as President of the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE). Named president-elect of SOPHE last year, Dr. Simmons took office as president of SOPHE at its 58th Annual Meeting on November 2nd prior to the American Public Health Association meeting.

SOPHE is an independent, international professional association made up of a diverse membership of health education pro-

fessionals and students. The Society promotes healthy behaviors, healthy communities, and healthy environments through its membership, its network of local chapters, and its numerous partnerships with national and regional private and public health organizations.

"Rob has made the program an ideal educational tool to prepare graduates to assume professional and leadership roles as public health practitioners in the challenging health-care environment," said David Nash, MD, MBA, chair and the Dr. Raymond C. and Doris N. Grandon Professor of Health Policy, Jefferson.

"His extensive community health program planning, implementation and evaluation experience will aid SOPHE in developing new public health education programs."

New MPH Program Coordinator

Lisa Chosed has been appointed the Program Coordinator for Master of Public Health (MPH) program in the College of Graduate Studies. For the past two years, Lisa has served as the Administrative Assistant in the College of Graduate Studies providing support for the College's masters programs including the MPH program and has been the editor of the MPH monthly newsletter, the Public Health Link. Lisa is a native Philadelphian who attended Arcadia University for her undergraduate education with a major in Visual & Written Communications and a minor in English. At Arcadia, Lisa worked in the Health and Wellness Center helping with health education programming and editing their health newsletter. Lisa is currently working on her master's degree in English & Publishing with a concentration in Digital Design. Her career goals include work in

health education and particularly health communications and publications in a higher education setting. Lisa will be providing overall coordination of the MPH program working with our faculty, students, and the College of Graduate Studies as well as the Department of Health Policy at the Jefferson Medical College to help the MPH program grow.



Lisa Chosed at work in the MPH program office

Lisa can be reached at the MPH Program Office at 503-0174 and at lisa.chosed@jefferson.edu.

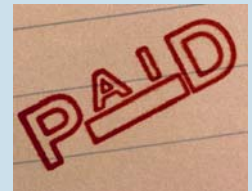
Please Note:
Payment
Information
for
Spring I and II
2008

Monday, Dec. 3rd:

Spring Charges will be posted to student accounts

Monday, Dec. 31st:

Last date that Spring Tuition payments can be made. Students registering from this point forward must satisfy tuition immediately.



MSPH vs. MPH

Students currently in the MSPH program who are interested in earning an MPH instead as part of our new program will have options to do so. A policy including these options will be sent out soon and posted on Pulse.

Greater Philadelphia Area Schweitzer Fellows Held Symposia on Health Care Access and Homelessness

Betty Chung, Ivania Quesada, and Shelia Salvant-Valentine, Greater Philadelphia Area Schweitzer Fellows, held a symposium on "health Care Access: Ethical and Cultural Issues on Nov. 8th. They welcomed Elaine Yuen, PhD, of Jefferson University and Caryl E. Carpenter, MPH, PhD, of Widener University.

Dr. Carpenter discussed disparities in Access to Health Care and Health Status Among Minorities. Dr. Yuen spoke about cultural diversity and health policy.

On Nov. 12th, fellows Gillian Farrelly, Rachel Kadakia, Michael Rovito, and Melissa Yee held a symposium titled "Serving the Underserved: Perspectives on Improving Access to Healthcare for the Homeless." Their invited speakers were James Plumb, MD, MPH, of Jefferson University and Jefferson Medical College, Roosevelt Darby, Deputy Director Philadelphia Committee to End Homelessness, and Stephen Métraux, PhD, of University of Sciences in Philadelphia.

The mission of The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship is to reduce disparities in health and healthcare by developing "leaders in service" - individuals who are dedicated and skilled in helping under-

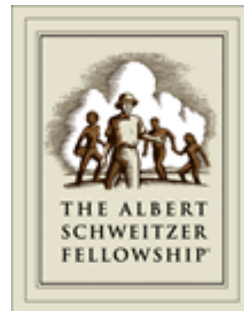
served communities, and whose example influences and inspires others.

The Greater Philadelphia Area Schweitzer Fellows Program is a one-year interdisciplinary fellowship program focused on community service and leadership development. Students from schools in the Delaware Valley who are obtaining professional degrees in health-related fields may apply. **The next application deadline is Feb. 1st, 2008.**

This is a unique opportunity and only a few students are selected each year to participate. Hopefully, this year we will have at least one TJU student in the 2008-2009 Fellowship year.

For more information about Dr. Albert Schweitzer, the Greater Philadelphia Area Fellows and current projects, or application guidelines, please visit our website:

<http://www.schweitzerfellowship.org/features/us/del> or contact Nicole M. Cobb at Nicole.Cobb@Jefferson.edu.

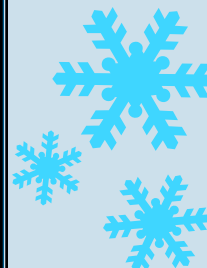


JCGS Holiday Party

**Tuesday,
Dec. 18th
4-7 PM
Eakins
Lounge,
Jefferson
Alumni Hall**

**All Students
Welcome!**

*The MPH
Program
would like
to wish you
and yours a
safe and
happy
holiday
and new
year's!*



First MPH Faculty and Community Advisory Board Dinner

On Tuesday, November 27th, members of the Master of Public Health program faculty and Community Advisory Board came together to enjoy a dinner and discuss the program and its changes



Members of the Community Advisory Board, MPH faculty, and Dept of Health Policy

over the year. To start off the night, Judy Bachman, Senior Vice-President of Strategic Initiatives, provided a summary of the Jefferson Strategic Initiatives and their potential impact on Population and Community Health.

Dr. Rob Simmons, MPH Program Director, chaired the event and highlighted our participation at the recent APHA Annual Meeting, our new exhibit and marketing materials, our growing MPH student body, our new dual-degree JD/MPH and MJ/MPH program with Widener University, and mentioned the development of a strong student public health organiza-

tion beginning this year. Dr. Mona Sarfaty, Chair of the MPH Curriculum Committee, updated the group on changes in the program such as the name change to Master of Public Health and full-time and part-time degree options. Dr. Jim Plumb, Director of the MPH Clerkship and Capstone projects, discussed next year's MD/MPH dual degree program and linkages to the Jefferson Medical College community medicine initiatives. Following this, Dr. Rickie Brawer, Chair of the MPH Accreditation Committee, described our current timeline for the CEPH (Council on Education for Public Health) re-accreditation process in 2008. Nicole Cobb, Program Coordinator for the Greater Philadelphia Area Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Program, provided information about the scholarship program open to all students in the region and distributed application materials for the Feb. 1 student application deadline.

The meeting ended with a brief presentation by Dr. Walter Tsou, Professor at University of Pennsylvania and former President of the American Public Health Association and Director of the Philadelphia Health Department, regarding the new Public Health Credential and Exam that will be held next August.

Edited By: Lisa Chosed, Comments & Suggestions: Lisa.Chosed@Jefferson.edu or 3-0154.