University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health Seventieth Convocation

Saturday, May 9, 2020



Program

PROCESSIONAL

OPENING

Convocation Marshal Ryan Minster Associate professor, human genetics

WELCOME

JAMES L. CRAIG EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Presented by Lydia Tiguert Student Government Association, to John Shaffer Assistant professor, human genetics

CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Bernard D. Goldstein Dean emeritus, Graduate School of Public Health Professor emeritus of environmental and occupational health

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES

Martha A. Terry Associate professor, behavioral and community health sciences

RECOGNITION OF DELTA OMEGA HONOR SOCIETY OMICRON CHAPTER INDUCTEES

CLOSING

Ryan Minster

RECESSIONAL

DEPARTMENT CELEBRATIONS

James L. Craig Excellence in Teaching Award

Established by University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health alumnus James L. Craig (EOH '63), this award recognizes faculty who have excelled in the teaching and mentoring of students. Craig awardees are nominated annually by Pitt Public Health students and selected by a committee of Pitt Public Health students and past Craig awardees.



John R. Shaffer received his BS in biology from The Pennsylvania State University and his PhD in human genetics from the University of Pittsburgh. He then pursued postdoctoral studies in statistical genetics before joining the faculty of Pitt Public Health in 2011. He is currently an assistant professor in the departments of human genetics and oral biology and an affiliate faculty member in the Center for Craniofacial and Dental Genetics.

Shaffer teaches one of the core classes in HUGEN: Human Population Genetics, and in 2014 he was the recipient of a provost's Innovation in Education Award to build educational software simulating

human evolutionary forces and phenomena for this class.

In addition to classroom teaching, Shaffer has served as a research mentor to four post-doctoral trainees, ten graduate students, and nine undergraduate students; and has been active in Pitt's Training and Experimentation in Computational Biology summer research program. His research is focused on understanding the genetic architecture of complex human phenotypes, with particular interests in craniofacial and dental genetics, oral health disparities, and recovery from brain injury. His research has been funded by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research and the National Human Genome Research Institute. In recognition of his research accomplishments, Shaffer has been the recipient of a number of awards including the Herbet S. Rosenkranz Award for Public Health Research (Pitt Public Health), the William J. Gies Award for Biological Research (the International and American Associations for Dental Research), and the Giddon Award for Distinguished Research in the Behavioral Sciences (International Association for Dental Research).

Convocation Speaker



Bernard Goldstein is a physician and toxicologist who is emeritus dean and emeritus professor of environmental and occupational health at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. Before coming to Pittsburgh he was founding director of the Rutgers University Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute and chair of the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Department of Environmental and Community Medicine. At Rutgers he was also initial director of its National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Center of Excellence.

Goldstein has published over 200 papers related to environmental health. He is an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation and of the National Academy of Medicine. He has served on or chaired committees related to environmental health for the National Academies of Science, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Environmental Program, and the Paris-based Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment.

His experience includes appointment as assistant administrator for research and development of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1983–85, and election as president of the Society for Risk Analysis. International experience includes visiting professorships at Brunel University and the St. Thomas Medical School in England, the Universiti Putra Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur, the Harvard School of Public Health, and the University of Cologne, the last related to EU/U.S. differences in response to shale gas.

Goldstein is currently active on issues related to the interface between environmental science and public policy. This has led to his testifying twice in the past year to congressional committees looking at EPA issues and at global climate change, op eds in *The Washington Post* and *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, and various blogs and public presentations nationally and internationally.

Abbreviations

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

CBPRP Community-Based Participatory Research and Practice

EHRA Environmental Health Risk Assessment
EPHPHE Evaluation of Public Health Promotion and

Health Education Programs

GLBHLT Global Health

HSEPH Health Care Systems Engineering

HE Health Equity

HSLM Health Systems Leadership and Management

LGBT Individuals' Health and Wellness

PHGEN Public Health Genetics

* Certified in Public Health

° Delta Omega Honor Society

DEPARTMENTS

BCHS Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

BIOST Biostatistics

EOH Environmental and Occupational Health

EPIDEM Epidemiology

HPM Health Policy and Management

HUGEN Human Genetics

IDM Infectious Diseases and Microbiology MULTI Multidisciplinary Master of Public Health

Graduates of the Class of 2019–20

BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES

Doctor of Philosophy

Sara Baumann °Cynthia L. Salter Jonathan Marc Raviotta

Master of Public Health

Lindsay F. Bell

Amanda Kim Carpenter, GLBHLT Jennifer Marie Enriquez

Adrianna T. Gradisek Jessica Renee Hessler

°Hannah Jo Kupets Lisa Guttentag Lederer Janke Bjorn Mains-Mason Zachary D. Michaels

Kaitlin Élizabeth Powers John W. Ries

Daniel I. Rzewnicki Kayla Ann Warren, HE Julie Ann Brewer Alison Paige Decker

Ashley Gallo

Caroline K. Harpel, EPHPHE

Emily Kuen Klawson Michael Kinne Latady

Alysse Delphia Littleberry, EPHPHE Hannah Lin Makarevich, GLBHLT Cassandra Elizabeth Nedley

Cassandra Elizabeth Nedley Carolyn Rose Prutting Lauren Renee Risser, CBPRP Nanina Oliverio Sexton, GLBHLT

BIOSTATISTICS

Doctor of Philosophy

Tianyu Ding Md Tanbin Rahman Zhe Sun Huang Lin °Tao Sun Jun Zhang

Master of Science

°Kayleigh Marie Adamson

Kristina L. Boyd

Chandler Strickland Capps Richard James Cuddy Jennifer M. Fedor

Jenniner W. Fedor Jinhong Li

Ruishen Lyu

Priyanka V. Setty Mengqi Wang lie Yao Kendra Jean Bobby

Kelly Cahill Shangzhen Chen

Graham Lucas Cummin

Anni Guo

Elijah Zachary Lovelace

Jason M. Mao Ruopu Song Yunfei Xie Jianhui Zhu

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Doctor of Public Health

Kristin L. Frawley

Doctor of Philosophy

Teresa Anguiano, EHRA Rahel L. Birru
Shuo Cao Travis Bradley Lear
Chia-Hsin Liu Antonella Marrocco
Amrita Sahu Cody Matthew Wolfe

Master of Public Health

Jessica Suzanne Albrecht, EHRA Mikayla Marie Kerr, EHRA Samantha Carpenter Totoni, CBPRP, EHRA

Master of Science

Devin A. Boyles, EHRA Yi Lu

Julia Jean Yudkovicz

Tengziyi Ge

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Doctor of Philosophy

Shalkar Adambekov

Chendi Cui

Guru Rajesh Jammy

Curtis Tilves, GLBHLT

Lingshu Xue

Tenley K. Brownwright

Kyle Evan Freese

Sharon Welburn Renner

Mary Elizabeth Winger

Lei Zhu

Master of Public Health

Guy Michael Agostinelli *Hannah Lee Allen Hiba Anwer Ashlyn Marie Bulas Kharlya Carpio *°Margaret Jillian Carr, EPHPHE Gabrielle Corona, HE Sarah Elizabeth DePerrior Walter Mark Greenhalgh lennifer Flil Brandon Matthew Herbert Arshad Thaagib Khalid Sarah Martin Madeline Mason Alexa Joyce Meinhardt Sejal Vijay Mistry, HE °Taylor Paglisotti Sarah M. Morgan, GLBHLT Kathleen Ann Shedlock Hinnah Siddigui

Master of Science

Michelle Jung Clifton Paris S. Ekeke
Michael Vincent Genuardi Allison Cathryn Koller
Gretchen M. Swabe

HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Doctor of Philosophy

Mara Alyse Greene Hollander Tumader Khouja Ilinca D. Metes Raymond G. Van Cleve

Master of Public Health

Morgan Isabel Benner, HSEPH
Jordan Kaye Bullock
Mary Kathleen Duncan
Jesse A. Helfer
Kiran A. Borkar
Kexin Chen, HSEPH
Krista Grobelny Ebbert
Troy Danean Lyons
Heather Elyse Tomko

Master of Science

Terri V Newman Alvaro San Juan Rodriguez

Master of Health Administration

Ilham A. Abdi, HSEPH °lennifer M. Andrews Kaleb Joseph Behanna Justin Benkovszky Elizabeth lane Born Chandler Collins Caufield Erika Simone Garrison Emily Joseph

Victoria Janna Cable Kulli *Terrence Michael Arañez Litam, HE

Sydney Elizabeth Pack Ritambhara Pathak William Patrick Powell Megan E. Preti, HSEPH Katherine Rvan Robertshaw Johnanne Ross

Katherina Shabalov Lydia Nada Tiguert, HSEPH Maira Undavalli, HSEPH °Michael Anthony Whalen Deborah Wokpetah Zack Strock Zambrano, HSEPH

HUMAN GENETICS

Doctor of Philosophy

lason Christopher Carson Megan Laura Gliozzi Bruce Chike Nmezi Kathyayini Parlakoti Gopalakrishna Nandini Ramesh Emily Marlene Russell

Andrew Guelde Sinsheimer

Master of Public Health

°Victoria Anne Bacon Stephanie Betts Sarah Elizabeth Brunker Megan F. Hoenig

Claire Elizabeth McDonald Iodi Ellen Kutzner

Prital Atul Patel °Marilyn H. Ngo, GLBHLT

Natasha K. Robin Berman Charlotte Ernst Skinner Pooia Solanki °lessica Claire Tiner Lauren Winter

Master of Science in Human Genetics

Annie Infancia Arockiaraj Lingling Chen Anushe Munir Morgan Sedorovitz Thanhlong Gilbert Tran Kelly Lynn Urbanek

Master of Science in Genetic Counseling

Alyssa Marie Azevedo °Victoria Anne Bacon

Stephanie Betts Kelsey Margaret Bohnert, LGBT Caroline Kathleen Bong Sarah Elizabeth Brunker

Alyson Eileen Evans Christine Marie Drogan Andrew C. Fazenbaker Megan F. Hoenig Ashlev E. Lahr Claire Elizabeth McDonald

Sarah Annette McGee Natasha K. Robin Berman

Charlotte Ernst Skinner Pooja Solanki

Kaitlin M. Sullivan Rosemarie Flizabeth Venier Lauren Winter

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND MICROBIOLOGY

Doctor of Philosophy

Henry Ma, GLBHLT

Jacob Patrick Richards

Master of Public Health

*Samira Gasanovna Amirova, PHGEN °Cheyenne Nicole Annarumo, GLBHLT

Megan Elizabeth Arden, GLBHLT Laura Susan Dytrt, GLBHLT Briana R. Edison Lauren Ann Fogelman, GLBHLT

Rachel L. Jaffe °Dzigbordi Kamasa-Quashie, GLBHLT Megan Nicole Kerbag Brian C. Kimball

Katherine Leigh Lyden Monica Kathleen Nelson, GLBHLT

Marianna Ortiz Inngide Elizabeth Osirus, GLBHLT

Elizabeth Marie Owens Omar Rahman

Abigail McGartland Rubio Saniya Sandeep Sabnis Jessica Elizabeth Salerno Rajeev K. Salunke

Sean Gregory Saul Victoria Lynn Schmalstieg Georgie L. Scott *Kelsey Ellen Simon, GLBHLT

Quinn Solomon Sarah Briana Sullivan Andrew Taylor Whaley

Master of Science

Byron Wang Chuan Victoria A. Gould
Gwenddolen Kettenburg Zachary Taylor Koenig
Emily L. Olsen, GLBHLT Karsen Ellery Shoger
Katrina M. Stephenson Subramanian Thothathri
Michael Brandon Yee °lason Alexander Yeung

MULTIDISCIPLINARY

Master of Public Health

Yamira Kechi Dwana Bell David Edward Gorski Marin Kheng, GLBHLT Jeremy Saed Landeo Gutierrez

Gi Ppeum Lee Karen Lin

Roland Massaad *Sangki Oak, GLBHLT
Azadeh Rezaie Devin Emory Rogers

Azadeh Rezaie Devin Emory Rogers
Sara M. Safdari-Sadaloo "Ariel Karyn Snell
Erica Lynn Stevens *Emilie Transue

Kavita S. Vinekar Simon Paulos Yohannes

Kavita S. Vinekar Simon Paulos Yohanne Yang Yu

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Powers, Kaitlin (BCHS), "Uncovering the Blind Spot: How Ethnic Conflict Leads to Famine"

Preti, Megan (HPM), "Pennsylvania's Quality Incentive Program for Opioid Use Disorder: A Call To Action For Emergency Departments"

Prutting, Carolyn (BCHS), "Pediatric Kidney Transplantation: Identifying and Addressing Post-Transplant Barriers to Adherence Through an Integrated Healthcare Approach"

Rahman, Md Tanbin (BIOST), "Classification and clustering for RNA-seq data with variable selection"

Rahman, Omar (IDM), "Public health implications of an unfolding infectious disease crisis among Rohingya in Bangladesh"

Ramesh, Nandini (HUGEN), "Investigating the role of Matrin-3 in Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and distal myopathy"

Raviotta, Jonathan (BCHS), "The development testing and implementation of the 4 Pillars™ practice transformation program for immunization; achieving public health outcomes through primary care quality improvement"

Renner, Sharon (EPIDEM), "The effects of fatigue and fatigability on fall risk in older adults"

Rezaie, Azadeh (MULTI), "Association Between Autism Spectrum Disorder and Caregiver-reported Dental Caries in Children"

Richards, Jacob (IDM), "Adaptation of mycobacterium tuberculosis to biofilm growth is genetically linked to drug tolerance"

Ries, John (BCHS), "Describing Regional Trends in Childhood Obesity Indicators from 2007-2017 with Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data"

Risser, Lauren (BCHS), "The Intergenerational Healing Project: Community-

Academic Partnerships to Evaluate Trauma Interventions within the African American Community"

Robertshaw, Katherine (HPM), "Analysis of State Readiness for Physical Therapist and Occupational Therapist Shortages as Addressed by Expanded Telehealth Services"

Robin Berman, Natasha (HUGEN), "Telegenetic educational experiences in genetic counseling graduate programs"

Rogers, Devin (MULTI), "A System-Level Approach to Reducing Physician Propagation of the Opioid Crusis: A Review of ERAS Protocol Effects on Opioid Prescribing"

Ross, Johnanne (HPM), "Missing Doses: A Performance Improvement Project"

Rubio, Abigail (IDM), "In vitro susceptibility of multidrug-resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa following treatment-emergent resistance to ceftolozane-tazobactam"

Russell, Emily (HUGEN), "Discrepant effects of CREBRF on obesity and metabolic phenotypes, and signals of selection in Samoans"

Rzewnicki, Daniel (BCHS), "Computer-Mediated Social Support in the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study"

Saal-Ridpath, Kaitlyn (HPM), "400 Miles or Less: The Case for Local Food Procurement Policies in U.S. Schools"

Sabnis, Saniya (IDM), "Infection Prevention Measures to Reduce External Ventricular Device-Related Surgical Meningitis and Ventriculitis"

Safdari-Sadaloo, Sara (MULTI), "Child Dental Neglect Laws: Specification and Repercussions for Dentists in 51 Jurisdictions"

Sahu, Amrita (EOH), "Klotho: A Paracrine Mediator of Skeletal Muscle Regeneration"

Salerno, Jessica (IDM), "Factors Influencing Undervaccination Prior to Measles Outbreaks in the United Kingdom from 2010–2019"

Salter, Cynthia (BCHS), "Perceptions and Experiences of Patient Birth Trauma Among Maternity Healthcare Professionals: An Exploratory Study"

Salunke, Rajeev (IDM), "PrEP Usage Demographics Among Participants who were Surveyed Using Convenience Sampling at Two LGBTQ Focused Events in Pittsburgh"

San Juan Rodriguez, Alvaro (HPM), "Impact of Generic Competition on Prices of Brand Self-administered Disease-Modifying Therapies for Multiple Sclerosis"

Saul, Sean (IDM), "The Relationship Between the Ordering of a Respiratory Viral Panel and the Presence of Acute Respiratory Illness and Influenza-like Illness Symptoms Reported in the Electronic Medical Record"

Schmalstieg, Victoria (IDM), "Clostridioides difficile Prevention in Health Care Settings and Future Improvement"

Scott, Georgie (IDM), "Evaluation of Pennsylvania's Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Program and Futur Directions"

Sedorovitz, Morgan (HUGEN), "Transcriptional regulation of angiotensinogen

by oncogenic K-Ras"

Setty, Priyanka (BIOST), "A comparative analysis to predict p53 activity using classification models"

Sexton, Nanina (BCHS), "Physical Education in Pennsylvania Public Schools: Stricter Policy To Reduce Child and Adult Overweight and Obesity"

Shabalov, Katherina (HPM), "Optimizing the Post-Operative Patient Transition from Anesthesia to the Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit: A Handout Improvement Initiative"

Shedlock, Kathleen (EPIDEM), "Environmental Justice Metrics Contextualize the Preterm Birth Disparity in Allegheny County"

Shoger, Karsen (IDM), "Tissue Specific Cish Expression Supports Alveolar Macrophage Homeostatic Function"

Siddiqui, Hinnah (EPIDEM), "Functional Outcomes and Mortality Rates for Ischemic Stroke Patients Presenting in Rural Hospitals or Urban Hospitals in Pennsylvania"

Simon, Kelsey (IDM), "Allegheny Country Health Department's Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Program 2019 Program Summary and Development Plan"

Sinsheimer, Andrew (HUGEN), "Understanding ACAD9 function and the physiologic consequences of its deficiency"

Skinner, Charlotte (HUGEN), "Evaluating proposed phenotypic predictors of recurrence risk in unaffected individuals with a family history of isolated cleft lip with or without cleft palate"

Snell, Ariel (MULTI), "Association Between a Child's Caries Experience and the Mother's Perception of Her Child's Oral Health Status"

Solanki, Pooja (HUGEN), "Patient Experience in Medical Care with Cutis Laxa"

Solomon, Quinn (IDM), "An Epidemiological Analysis of MDRO Acquisition in Critically III Burn Patients in Western Pennsylvania"

Song, Ruopu (BIOST), "Prediction of Some Health Outcomes among Advanced Cancer Patient Caregivers Using Gut Microbiome"

Stephenson, Katrina (IDM), "Identification of Circulating Biomarkers of HIV Disease Progression"

Stevens, Erica (MULTI), "Can the effects of outdoor air pollution on asthma be mitigated?"

Sullivan, Kaitlin (HUGEN), "Addressing psychiatric disorders in genetic counseling"

Sullivan, Sarah (IDM), "Effect of Asbestos Fibers and the Association with Pneumonia Mortality"

Sun, Tao (BIOST), "New Statistical Methods for Complex Survival Data with High-Dimensional Covariates"

Sun, Zhe (BIOST), "Novel statistical methods in analyzing single cell sequencing data"

Swabe, Gretchen (EPIDEM), "HDL-C and Menopause in Women: The Contribution of Estradiol and Inflammation"

Thothathri, Subramanian (IDM), "Transfer of DC instruction to T cells via extracellular vesicles"

Tiguert, Lydia (HPM), "An evaluation of healthcare appointment scheduling: the effects on quality, access, and efficiency"

Tilves, Curtis (EPIDEM), "The Impacts of Adipose Tissue and the Gut Microbiome on Diabetes Risk among African-Caribbean Men"

Tiner, Jessica (HUGEN), "Utility of CREBRF Genotype with BMI in Prediction of Type 2 Diabetes"

Tomko, Heather (HPM), "Cost-effectiveness analysis of prophylaxis duration following lung transplantation for CMV mismatch and non-mismatch recipients"

Totoni, Samantha (EOH), "Under the Radar: Lead Exposure via Hunted Meat"

Tran, Thanhlong (HUGEN), "Advances in understanding the regulation of acvr11 gene expression"

Transue, Emilie (MULTI), "Healthcare threat assessment: classifying attacks, developing a team, and managing threats"

Undavalli, Maira (HPM), "A Case Study: The Implementation of the Meds to Beds Program on the Gynecology/Oncology Unit at UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital"

Urbanek, Kelly (HUGEN), "A CRISPR screen using BV2 cells identifies sialic acid synthesis genes as required for reovirus attachment and infection"

Van Cleve, Raymond (HPM), "Home and community based services: who is using them and can they prevent hospital admission?"

Venier, Rosemarie (HUGEN), "Evaluation of Barriers to Genetics Referrals in Pediatric Oncology"

Vinekar, Kavita (MULTI), "Early pregnancy services at crisis pregnancy centers and abortion facilities in the United States: a mystery caller study"

Wang, Mengqi (BIOST), "Compare the Effectiveness of SLKT and LTA by the Instrumental Variable Method"

Warren, Kayla (BCHS), "Perceptions of Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive Among Black Women: Barriers to Reproductive Health and Wellness"

Whalen, Michael (HPM), "Ensuring Meaningful Health Care Access for Persons with Limited English Proficiency: A Policy Brief and Future Directions"

Whaley, Andrew (IDM), "Carbapenem Resistance: A Retrospective Review of the Literature and Clinical Data"

Winger, Mary (EPIDEM), "The associations between muscle function, physical performance, and falls and fall injuries in older adults"

Winter, Lauren (HUGEN), "Pregnancy Body Mass Index and its Relationship with Maternal and Fetal Health Outcomes in Rural Appalachia"

Wokpetah, Deborah (HPM), "A Business Plan for Health Insurers: How to Tackle Fraud and Insurance Claims with Technology"

Wolfe, Cody (EOH), "The Role of APOE Isoform and TREM2 Deficiency in Alzheimer's Disease Progression"

Xie, Yunfei (BIOST), "Assessing risk factors and predicting sepsis mortality

using logistic and survival methods"

Xue, Lingshu (EPIDEM), "Long-term effects of diabetes pharmacotherapy and multiple medication use on clinical and economic outcomes from claims datasets"

Yao, Jie (BIOST), "Modelling stillbirths with natural cubic splines"

Yee, Michael (IDM), "Identifying Varicella-Zoster Virus Latent Genomes in an Alternative Neuronal Latency Model"

Yeung, Jason (IDM), "Zika Virus Infection Modulates Expression of Regulatory Complement Factors in SH-SY5Y Cells"

Yohannes, Simon (MULTI), "Association Between Psychiatric Symptoms and Sexual Risk Behaviors in Immigrants and Refugees from Africa Living in Sweden"

Yu, Yang (MULTI), "Associations among Problem-solving, Adherence to Diet and Physical Activity Goals, and Weight Loss among Individuals Participating in Weight Loss Study"

Yudkovicz, Julia (EPIDEM), "The Genetic Correlation Between Cardiometabolic Disease and Functional Status in Long-Lived Adults"

Zambrano, Zack (HPM), "A Case Study: Patient Satisfaction Intervention in Acute Care Settings and their Impact on HCAHPS Scores"

Zhang, Jun (BIOST), "Interpretable Analysis of Multivariate Functional Data"

Zhu, Jianhui (BIOST), "Statistical learning for the analysis of multimodal sleep in older men"

Zhu, Lei (EPIDEM), "Association between Long-term PM2.5 Exposure and Subclinical Atherosclerosis: Are midlife women a potential "at risk" population?"

Pitt Public Health congratulates all our graduates and honorees!

About the cover image: The laurel leaf has long been a symbol of success and an emblem of prosperity and fame. It is said to communicate the powers of peace and immortality.



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