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Comparative effectiveness expert will boost GSPH's health-reform credentials. [PAGE 16](#)

2010 Dean's Day Winners

Student research shines in annual competition. [PAGE 15](#)

Foster Community Lecture

Annual Alzheimer's disease forum educates caregivers. [PAGE 19](#)

The University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health • **Summer 2010**

PhoQ

PUBLIC HEALTH QUARTERLY

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN DONALD S. BURKE, MD

Over my career I have had the privilege of working with an incredibly diverse set of communities, ranging from upcountry Thai rice farmers to East coast urban gay activists to Congo jungle dwelling bushmeat hunters to US Army battalion and brigade commanders. In every instance I have discovered that persons outside the health professions do genuinely care about health. Perhaps more importantly, in every instance I have met people who are thoughtful, helpful, and down-right amazingly smart! I have always come away with a deeper understanding of the issue, even on topics where I considered myself to be “the expert.” Community engagement isn’t just a box to check, nor a lip-service ritual. It is an essential step in problem definition and planning for all meaningful public health research.

So the theme of this issue, community outreach, is a natural for GSPH. Through our integrated programs in education, research, and service, GSPH generates the evidence-based knowledge that drives effective public health practice and improves the management of health interventions. Our school is home to centers and programs that reach out to the elderly, to school children, to those who care for the environment, and those who provide health care to people with HIV and AIDS. And by embracing community-based participatory research, we bring together scientists, community leaders, and citizens, all of whom benefit from the insights gained through the process.



This photo is one of my personal favorites and also represents community engagement. It was taken in a village in the West Province of Cameroon. I am dancing with the village women in a celebration to mark the beginning of a study of animal to human cross-species transmission of AIDS-like viruses.

In this all we have a very supportive partner at the University level. The Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) facilitates the translation of biomedical research advances into clinical and public health practice and policy—bridging the gap between research and community-based practice. Specific aims of CTSI’s Community PARTners Program are to:

- engage community members in clinical research studies and the development of clinical and translational research agendas.
- motivate health professionals to participate in evidence-based practice that fosters the translation of research findings, to aid in the recruitment of study participants, and to conduct clinical research.
- encourage investigators to advance clinical and translational research by participating in education and communications initiatives with community members and health professionals.

One of my key goals when I became dean was to strengthen the relationship between the Graduate School of Public Health, the School of Medicine, and other academic partners at Pitt, so I am extremely pleased

with the new partnerships between GSPH and CTSI. You can read about them on page 8.

Speaking of cross-school relationships, this issue also contains news about the appointment of Mark Roberts as chair of the Department of Health Policy & Management. Mark comes to us from the School of Medicine and is an expert in data-driven health care decision-making and modeling. Cost containment through smarter treatment is more vital than ever in this era of health care reform, and Mark’s expertise will position the department and the school as a leader in the kind of comparative effectiveness research that policy makers will rely on as we progress toward making sure more citizens have access to health care.

This issue portrays some of the novel approaches to community outreach being taken here at GSPH and Pitt more broadly. I think you will enjoy reading it.

Donald S. Burke

ANNUAL GSPH ALUMNI AWARDS

Each year, the GSPH Alumni Society bestows two awards upon deserving alumni. The Distinguished Alumni Award is given annually to alumni who have made a significant contribution to the field of public health. This year's awardees are:



Madalon Amenta accepts her Distinguished Alumni Award from GSPH Alumni Society president Eric Hulsey.

Madalon O'Rawe Amenta, DrPH '78, MPH '68

Health Services Administration/Public Health Nursing

Madalon O'Rawe Amenta dedicated her career to community nursing. She was most recently the executive director of the Hospice Nurses Association and the National Board for Certification of Hospice Nurses. She has also served as editor of *The Hospice Journal*, the scholarly publication of the National Hospice Organization. She has taught community health nursing at Penn State and the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

Amenta was the founder and chair of the executive steering committee of the Pennsylvania Hospice Network in 1979-80. She convened and set the agenda for the founding meeting and guided the organization through by-laws drafting and acceptance, membership development, incorporation, and election of the first board of directors. She was subsequently elected president of the network and served in that capacity until 1983.

Some of her many professional honors include the Heart of Hospice Award from the National Hospice Organization in 1998; National Hospice Organization President's Award of Excellence for a publication in the Hospice Staff Training and Development Category for the manual *Quality Assurance for Hospice Patient Care*, 1988; *American Journal of Nursing* Book of the Year in the Gerontologic Nursing Category for *Nursing Care of the Terminally Ill*, 1986; the Yale University School of Nursing Distinguished Alumna Award, 1982; and the Leading the Way Award from the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, 2005.

Ronald Kathren was unable to attend the Alumni Dinner, so his long-time friend and colleague Allen Brodsky '66 (and 2004 Distinguished Alumni Award Winner) accepted on his behalf. Brodsky brought a photo of Kathren to share with the assembled dinner guests.



Ronald Kathren, MSc '62
Radiation Health

Ronald L. Kathren is professor emeritus of pharmaceutical sciences at Washington State University and president of The Kathren Group, Inc., a safety and health physics consulting firm formed in 1999. He earned his undergraduate degree at the University of California, Los Angeles in 1957. His career has greatly influenced radiation management policies at the local and national levels.

Among his many honors are the Elda E. Anderson Award for outstanding contributions to health physics; the Health Physics Society Founders Award; the Arthur F. Humm, Jr. Award of the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists; the Herbert M. Parker Award from the Columbia Chapter of the Health Physics Society; and election to Delta Omega and the Society of Sigma Xi. In 1995, he was named Hartman Medalist and Orator by the Radiology Centennial and was the 2003 recipient of the Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award of the Health Physics Society.

Kathren has authored or co-authored more than 170 articles in the refereed scientific literature, numerous technical reports and book chapters, and three books and three curriculum texts for technicians. He has edited several books and compendia chronicling the history of radiation health. Niel Wald, MD, emeritus professor of environmental and occupational health at GSPH notes that Kathren co-edited the papers of Nobel Laureate Glenn Seaborg on his Manhattan Project work, including the discovery of plutonium. He was also director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Transuranium and Uranium Registries, which studies the donated tissues of workers contaminated by radioactive materials.

Clareann Bunker, PhD '84
Epidemiology

Clareann Bunker is an associate professor in the GSPH Department of Epidemiology. She joined GSPH in 1981 as a graduate student assistant after earning her MPH at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. She pursued her PhD, graduating in 1984. She was awarded her first research grant from the National Institutes of Health in 1985. Her honors include 1980 election to Delta Omega, the national public health honor society; and 1984 selection as a University Scholar at the University of Pittsburgh.

Bunker has published more than 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals. Her research has focused on global health and establishing epidemiologic studies in developing countries. Among her global

health studies are the establishment of a cohort of Nigerian civil servants in the early 1990's to study cardiovascular disease. The study has been expanded to study osteoporosis, and breast and prostate cancer. Bunker also established a population-based cohort of approximately 3,000 men from the island of Tobago to study prostate cancer. This cohort study was expanded by several additional research grants to study musculoskeletal disease with a particular focus on genetics, and to establish new cohorts including a family study and a study of older women.

More recently, the Tobago study has a new focus on cardiovascular disease. While in Tobago, she also developed a study of type 2 diabetes among Asian Indian men in central Trinidad. More recently, Bunker collaborated with colleagues to establish a birth cohort study in India, outside of Hyderabad. The design of this study is modeled after the US National Children's Study. Building on this, Bunker is also assisting in developing an aging study in the same location. In establishing these studies across the world, Bunker has provided opportunities for field placements for GSPH students in Nigeria, Trinidad and Tobago, and India.

Clareann Bunker is presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award by GSPH Alumni Society President Eric Hulsey.





Bill Haslam accepts the Margaret F. Gloninger Service Award on behalf of his late wife, Patsy Haslam, who dedicated her career to public health nursing and education.

Richard Lugg, MPH '66
Health Services Administration

Richard Lugg is a public health physician specializing in environmental health. Currently he is an adjunct professor, University of Western Australia, lecturing and supervising MSc and PhD students in public health and environmental health. He is also an environmental health consultant in private practice and a senior consultant to the Health Department of Western Australia. Among many honors, Lugg is a fellow of the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine, Royal Australian College of Physicians. The Environmental Health Association Australia, Inc. named an award for Lugg, and made him the initial recipient in 2009 of the Dr. Richard Lugg Award for Sustained Excellence in the Advancement of the Public Health and Environmental Health Professions.



Richard Lugg traveled to Pittsburgh from Australia to accept the Distinguished Alumni Award. He was also inducted into the Delta Omega public health honor society.

Lugg has chaired a World Health Organization expert consultation committee, and served on WHO advisory panels, committees of the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council, the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand, and the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council, as well as numerous state and local task forces and committees. He held the positions of director of environmental health and principal medical officer for Western Australia, before becoming the executive director of the Western Australian Public Health Department, which is equivalent to a state director of public health.

Lugg has served as a member of The Rotary Foundation's Humanitarian Grants Program Cadre of Technical Advisors since 2005. This team is a diverse group of Rotarians who volunteer to monitor and evaluate humanitarian projects all over the world. Cadre members travel to project sites and evaluate grant applications and project implementation, sharing feedback to improve technical feasibility, define plans and objectives, and establish effective management and financial controls. In this capacity, he has travelled to Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania, assessing environmental health grant applications. He attended GSPH on a Rotary Foundation Postgraduate Fellowship.

The **Margaret F. Gloninger Service Award** is given annually to alumni who have made a significant contribution to the school or community through volunteer service. This year's awardee is:

Patsy Hensen Haslam, MPH '69
Health Services Administration

Patsy Hensen Haslam dedicated her career to service as a public health nurse and educator. Early in her career, Haslam traveled throughout rural northwestern Monongalia County, W.V., working for the Monongalia County Health Department. She moved to the Pittsburgh area in 1966 when her husband accepted a position with Mellon Bank. He suggested that she obtain a master's degree and in December 1969 she graduated with an MPH from GSPH.

In the early 1970s, she worked as the in-house coordinator of education at the Lawrence General Hospital in Lawrence, Mass., and later at the Beckley Appalachian Regional Hospital in Beckley, W.V. For 10 years, Haslam taught nursing and served as coordinator for Bluefield State College's Nursing School at its Beckley campus. As she continued with her duties at Bluefield State College, she continued to pursue her formal education and in 1989 earned a doctor of higher education degree from West Virginia University. Shortly thereafter she began working for Beckley College—later renamed Mountain State University (MSU)—with the responsibility of starting a nursing school.

In 2008 she was honored with the Health Care Hero for Community Service Award from the *West Virginia State Journal*. Haslam retired from MSU as dean of the School of Health Sciences on June 30, 2008. She passed away on July 25, 2008. On August 27, 2008, the board of trustees of MSU named its School of Health Sciences the Patsy H. Haslam School of Health Sciences.

PIONEERING GSPH GRADUATE HONORED WITH DEAN'S AWARD

Lourdes E. Campos, MD, MPH '51, has been honored with the GSPH Dean's Lifetime Achievement Award. A native of Manila, Philippines, Campos was one of 29 students admitted to the MPH program in what was then the Department of Epidemiology and Microbiology in 1950. After graduation, she returned to Manila, published numerous studies in the field of virology, and eventually served as president of the Emilio Aguinaldo College, a position she is now retired from. Prior to that, she chaired the department of microbiology at the University of the Philippines and was the dean of that institution's College of Medicine.

Charles Rinaldo, PhD, chair of the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, recently traveled to the Philippines for a scientific meeting and visited with Campos and members of her family.

"She hosted me and Drs. Macatangay and Veldkamp from the Pitt School of Medicine in her home for a very pleasant lunch," Rinaldo said. "She discussed her medical education in occupied Manila during World War II, and her experiences at GSPH in 1950 and '51. She had an album of wonderful pictures of the first GSPH graduating class, with Parran, Hammon, et cetera, and some news clippings."

Lourdes Campos with IDM chairman Chuck Rinaldo



IN BRIEF

Evangeline Atienza-Del Rosario, MD, MSHyg '82, was installed as the third president of St. Jude College, Manila, Philippines, on April 21, 2010. She earned her medical degree at Far Eastern University in Manila. St. Jude College was established in as the St. Jude Maternity Clinic in 1950. It has since grown to offer bachelor's degrees in nutrition and dietetics, nursing, and physical therapy, and a master of health administration program.



Margaret (Peggy) Blackwood, MS '78, has been named system director for radiation physics and radiation safety for the West Penn Allegheny Health System (WPAHS). This is a new role responsible for all administrative and managerial aspects of radiation safety, imaging and diagnostic radiological physics, and imaging physics educational support. Blackwood serves as the radiation safety officer for all WPAHS entities, maintaining and supervising state radioactive materials and linear accelerator licenses, X-ray registrations, and regulatory records. She will also serve as the physicist of record and will establish and oversee the accreditation and testing of all diagnostic imaging equipment at WPAHS facilities. Blackwood is board-certified in diagnostic and therapeutic radiology physics from the American Board of Radiology.

IN MEMORIAM

Phillips Greer Davis, MPH '71, passed away April 24, 2010. He was born on February 12, 1922, in Uniontown, to the late Lawrence Augustus and Ruth Phillips Davis. He was a graduate of New Kensington High School, Lincoln University, and the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, where he received his master's degree in health administration. He served his country as a Marine in World War II and was a public health administrator for the Allegheny County Health Department, retiring in 1989. Mr. Davis was a deacon of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church and also belonged to the Prince Hall Masonic Lodge, both of New Kensington. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy Brown Davis and four children, two grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

Victor Nicholas Tucci, MD, MPH '85, passed away May 21, 2010. He was born May 4, 1950, the son of the late Nicholas and Josephine Cornetta Tucci. He was a graduate of Cushing Academy in Connecticut, with a bachelor's degree and a master's of educational psychology from Duquesne University, a medical degree from the University of the Northeast in Tampico, Mexico, and an MPH in health services administration from GSPH. Dr. Tucci was the president and CEO of Three Rivers Health and Safety, Inc., which he founded in 1986. The company provided education to the public, small businesses, industry, and health care facilities on a variety of topics related to maintaining a healthy work force. He was a member of many business organizations and was appointed bio-terrorism coordinator for the Allegheny County Health Department.

community outreach at gsph

“Public health is the science and art of protecting and improving the health of communities through education, promotion of healthy lifestyles, and research for disease and injury prevention.”

— FROM “WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?”
WWW.WHATISPUBLICHEALTH.ORG



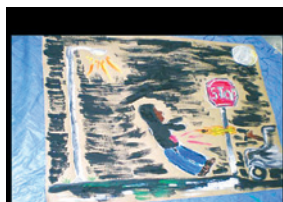
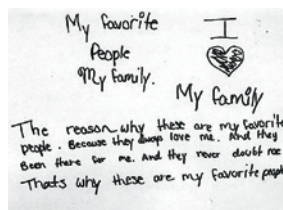
a picture is worth a thousand words

Program uses art to engage at-risk kids and identify needs

Identifying the public health and safety needs of children from low-income communities may be best accomplished through art, reported University of Pittsburgh researchers in an online issue of *Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education and Action*. In their paper*, researchers describe the success of Visual Voices, an arts-based program that engages community members as partners in research, a form of research known as community-based participatory research (see sidebar).

The study was based on Visual Voices programs conducted with 22 children ages 8 to 15 in two low-income and predominantly African-American communities in Baltimore and Pittsburgh. During the Visual Voices sessions, participants created paintings and drawings to share their perceptions, both positive and negative, of

community safety and violence, as well as their hopes for the future. Afterward, they combined their individual art projects into two “visual voice” exhibits that were publicly displayed in each city.



Michael A. Yonas, DrPH, Visual Voices creator and assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, along with Jessica G. Burke, PhD, MHS, assistant professor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, and other colleagues at Pitt and the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy, used qualitative research methods to review and code the participants' art projects for themes. Factors that participants identified as important to safety included school and social networks—family, friends, and the local community. Places that they identified as unsafe were corner stores, streets and alleys with poor lighting, and abandoned houses. Other contextual factors identified as unsafe were drugs, smoking, drinking, gambling, guns, and violence.

continued on next page

gsph in front in community-based participatory research

“Community members are experts in their own lives much more so than those who reside outside their communities,” said Yonas. “Visual Voices helps incorporate residents’ unique expertise into the research process in a non-intrusive and fun way, and creates valuable data about their life experiences.”

Visual Voices is different than surveys or focus groups because it uses tools—crayons, paint, and markers—that are familiar to children, and it can lead to in-depth discussions, encourage self-efficacy, and help build trusting relationships between academic researchers and the communities they serve, added Yonas. It also can help experts prioritize public health interventions.

In Pittsburgh, for example, findings were shared with the local police department to develop potential intervention opportunities and to increase law enforcement’s understanding of young peoples’ perceptions of safety.

“The heart of Visual Voices is to ask and listen,” said Burke. “You need to first ask what it is people care about in order to develop public health interventions that are appropriate for specific communities.”

As an artist who specializes in painting, Yonas created Visual Voices in 1993 to bring youth together in a common venue for artistic expression. He has conducted the program in nine cities across the United States.

The project was funded by grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the University of Pittsburgh Clinical and Translational Science Institute. Co-authors of the study include Kimberly Rak, University of Pittsburgh; Antoine Bennett, New Song Urban Ministries; Vera Kelly, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; and Andrea C. Gielen, ScD, ScM, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

*The paper can be read at www.upmc.com/MediaRelations/NewsReleases/2010/Documents/Yonas.pdf

According to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, community-based participatory research (CBPR) is an approach to research that combines methods of inquiry with community capacity-building strategies to bridge the gap between knowledge produced through research and what is practiced in communities to improve health. CBPR is a partnership approach to research that equitably involves community members, academic researchers, and others such as health care providers, in all phases of the research process; all partners contribute expertise and share decision making and ownership of the project.

CBPR is increasingly recognized as an ideal approach for partnering with communities to tackle complex health concerns and GSPH and Pitt researchers have embraced it. The Visual Voices project featured in this issue is one example of research that engages community partners in the design and implementation of the study and focuses on turning the results into real action to improve health of youth and communities.



Now GSPH and Pitt researchers are taking the lead in educating their academic colleagues and potential community partners about CBPR. Michael A. Yonas, DrPH, assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and Jessica G. Burke, PhD, MHS, assistant professor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, with their community research partner Adrienne Walnoha, MSW, LSW, and CEO of Community Human Services Corporation (CHSC), recently held a series of four workshops on CBPR that they hope will have an impact far beyond Pittsburgh.

This initiative is supported with supplemental American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding from the National Institutes of Health awarded to the University of Pittsburgh Clinical and Translational Science Institute's Community PARTners core. The "Utilization of Principles of Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) and Concept Mapping to Foster and Inform Community Engaged Research Project" or as it is called locally, "ONE: Pittsburgh-Oakland Neighbors Engaged," will further advance collaborations between academic and community partners.

The goal of this initiative is to cultivate academic-community partnership infrastructures among Clinical and Translational Science Award sites and community organizations at the University of Pittsburgh and Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Locally, Burke and Yonas have partnered with CHCS in the Oakland area. In Baltimore, they partnered with Johns

Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy and the House of Ruth Maryland, one of the nation's leading domestic violence centers. Activities related to the two year project include CPBR workshops, the development of an interactive DVD CBPR workshop toolkit, and health issue identification and prioritization workgroups with academics and community members.

Nationally recognized teams of academic and community partners were invited by the partnership to co-facilitate each of the four workshops. For example, Eugenia Eng of the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health and Melvin Jackson of Strengthening the Black Family Inc. facilitated the "Beginning of CBPR Partnership: To What End?" workshop. Other workshop topics included issues of trust and communication, dissemination of CBPR results, and understanding the community from the community. A total of 60 participants representing various research, practice-based, and organizational disciplines attended the workshops. "The workshops were an opportunity to pull together people across the university and engage the local community in this kind of work," said Burke.

These interactive and interdisciplinary workshops were video recorded and will be edited into a DVD that will eventually become a tool available to anyone interested in learning more about how to implement the principles of CBPR. "We will pilot the DVD in Baltimore with local academics and community members" said Burke. "We'll use it to facilitate conversations and see if and how it needs to be refined further."

In addition to this specific grant-funded project, GSPH offers a certificate in CBPR, open to students from any department who want training in this type of research. Further, Ron Stall, PhD, chair of the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, will soon become co-director of the University of Pittsburgh Clinical and Translational Science Institute's Community PARTners core, and Burke and Yonas will serve as assistant core directors.

"I can't stress enough how supportive the CTSI has been of this initiative," said Burke. "It would not have happened without them."

Community-based participatory research is an approach to research that combines methods of inquiry with community capacity-building strategies to bridge the gap between knowledge produced through research and what is practiced in communities to improve health



more community outreach

Community outreach has long been a cornerstone of GSPH. In fact, our mission statement reads in part, “The mission of the Graduate School of Public Health is to provide leadership in health promotion, disease prevention, and the elimination of health disparities in populations.” Following are brief overviews of some of the other community outreach programs at GSPH that accomplish these aims.

Allegheny County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey

The Allegheny County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) focuses on a range of health behaviors that are essential to the attainment and maintenance of positive health outcomes. The ACHD, in cooperation with GSPH’s Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, is conducting a survey modeled on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention BRFSS to determine how widespread certain health problems are in Allegheny County. The goal is to survey 5,000 county residents. At the time of this publication, the project team had completed more than 4,300 surveys. The data analysis and final report are expected to be complete in June 2011. A similar study, which surveyed 4,750 adult residents of Allegheny County, was conducted in 2002. Data from that survey will be compared to this most recent one to identify trends in public health behaviors, both positive and negative, which will inform the health department and other organizations that address public health concerns and provide services to citizens of the county.

Center for Healthy Aging

www.healthyaging.pitt.edu

Among the many outreach activities of the Center for Healthy Aging (CHA) is the Health Ambassador Program, which trains laypeople to teach others the 10 Keys to Healthy Aging, a trademarked program of the CHA. In March 2009, Constance Bayles, PhD, CHA program coordinator and clinical assistant professor of epidemiology, presented a study of the effectiveness of the Health Ambassador program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s 20th annual National Conference on Chronic Disease Prevention & Control in Washington, DC. The presentation discussed the data collected from 89 health ambassadors, which showed that the efforts of the health ambassadors helped people maintain or improve adherence to the 10 Keys after one year. Significant improvement was seen in LDL cholesterol levels and rate of colonoscopy exams.

Center for Healthy Environments and Communities

www.chec.pitt.edu

The Center for Healthy Environments and Communities (CHEC), founded with initial funding by the Heinz Endowments in 2004, conducts research on the relationship between the ecosystem and human health and to serve as a resource for data, educational materials, and general information on conservation and healthy and sustainable living. CHEC employs a participatory research model based on an equal partnership between traditionally trained experts and local residents. CHEC initiatives include the Allegheny River Stewardship Project; identifying environmental risk factors for high preterm delivery rates, low birth-weight rates and high asthma rates in the Braddock-Rankin area of Pittsburgh; working with Pittsburgh Public Schools to improve health and nutrition of students; and conducting training with physicians on environmental health issues.

Health Policy Institute

www.healthpolicyinstitute.pitt.edu

The mission of the Health Policy Institute (HPI) is to enhance health in the Pittsburgh region by improving the policies and other decisions that influence health. Local healthcare executives and board members, as well as public policymakers, recognize HPI as a reliable regional resource dedicated to improved healthcare decision making. Founded in 1980 through a collaboration of the University of Pittsburgh, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, and six Pittsburgh-based foundations, HPI founders concluded that healthcare was not only vital to the health status of the Pittsburgh region’s population, but increasingly important to the region’s continued economic development. HPI’s Governance Briefings, educational activities, and publications and presentations support healthcare decision makers in the region.

Pennsylvania/MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center

www.pamaaetc.org

The Pennsylvania/MidAtlantic AETC provides education and training on HIV disease to primary care health care professionals in the states of Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. The project increases providers' capacities to provide high quality HIV/AIDS care within the region's health care systems by providing custom-designed programs, taking into account the providers' rural or urban settings, experience, and volume of HIV patients, and assists the entire health care team, including physicians, nurses, dentists, advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, and pharmacists. Principal investigator Linda Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, has directed, managed, and monitored this program since initial funding in 1988. GSPH's Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology is the center headquarters for this project and provides programmatic, fiscal, and evaluation services.

Pittsburgh Influenza Prevention Project

www.pipp.pitt.edu

The Pittsburgh Influenza Prevention Project (PIPP) was a three year partnership between the Center for Public Health Practice (CPHP) and 10 Pittsburgh public schools to determine if non-pharmaceutical interventions were effective in reducing influenza in school children grades K-5. Of the 10 participating schools, five received intervention in the form of an education program called WHACK the Flu, and five did not. The five intervention schools showed a 53 percent reduction in laboratory-confirmed influenza A infections and 26 percent fewer absences. During the flu season, children in intervention schools had 752 fewer absent days, or 50 percent fewer absent days per student, than in the control schools. Children had 0.86 fewer absent days over the entire school year. CPHP is spreading this message presentations and scholarly publications.

School Preparedness

www.prepare.pitt.edu/schoolprep.htm

The Center for Public Health Preparedness, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the National Association of School Nurses, provides training to key school personnel in planning for and responding to emergencies in schools. To date, approximately 810 school nurses in Pennsylvania have completed a day-long training specific to their role in disasters. In addition, 150 K-12 school personnel, such as administrators, security directors, counselors, and transportation directors, have been trained to the National Incident Management System standards established by Homeland Security Presidential Directive #5. Team training is also provided in "Responding to Public Health Emergencies in Schools."

Take a Health Professional to the People Day

www.cmh.pitt.edu/coid.asp

The Center for Minority Health (CMH) has held annual Take a Health Professional to the People Days since 2002. Regular visits to the doctor's office are an important part of staying healthy, yet many people do not have a primary care physician with whom they can schedule routine checkups.

To reach people who might not otherwise have routine access to health care providers, CMH brought physicians, nurses, public health educators, dentists, and pharmacists from Pitt's schools of the health sciences and Duquesne University School of Nursing, as well as health advocates from across the city, to nine local barbershops and beauty salons to perform health screenings. Health professionals from other locations, such as the Mayo Clinic, have participated in this program so they can implement it in their own communities.



GSPH STUDENTS AWARDED GLOBAL TRAVEL GRANTS

The Center for Global Health at the University of Pittsburgh has awarded nine advanced degree students grants to improve health around the world as part of the Student Global Travel Program. The program, founded by Donald S. Burke, MD, associate vice chancellor for global health, University of Pittsburgh, and GSPH dean, supports travel expenses for students pursuing international health research at the University of Pittsburgh schools of the health sciences, the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, and the School of Law.

“By awarding these grants, we are able to give students an opportunity to apply what they have learned to communities overseas. This gives them a much greater understanding of not only the populations they are serving, but also the complexities involved in conducting research in the developing world,” said Burke.

The Center for Global Health serves as the unifying framework for global health activities at the University of Pittsburgh. The mission of the Center is to effectively address health issues that affect populations around the globe through programs that support and expand multidisciplinary collaborations in the areas of research, scholarship, service, and policy. For more information, visit www.globalhealth.pitt.edu.



GSPH GRADUATE **ANNIE NAGY** IS NAMED SCHWEITZER FELLOW



GSPH students who were awarded travel grants are:

Alexandre Bhatti, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology: Molecular Diagnosis of Bacteremia and Sepsis, Pune, India

Alana DeLoge, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences: Investigation of Childhood Injuries, Bolivia

Sara Marshall, Department of Epidemiology: An Evaluation of the Life for a Child Program, Kigali, Rwanda

Carly Switalski, Department of Epidemiology: Mobility and Independent Living in Elders Study (MILES) and Longitudinal Indian Family Health (LIFE) Study, Hyderabad, India

Allison Walker, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences: Stress and Burden of Cancer Caregivers, Abuja, Nigeria

Other Pitt students receiving grants this year are:

Jason Huang, School of Medicine: Malaria Risk Assessment, Mityana, Uganda

Zach Landis Lewis, School of Medicine: Automating Audit and Feedback for Clinical Practice in Low-Resource Settings, Lilongwe, Malawi

Yajuan Lu, School of Law: Influence of Health Insurance Policies on Beijing Migrant Workers' Health Care Seeking Behavior, Beijing, China

Megan Quimper, School of Medicine: Antibiotics in Community Based Treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition in Malawian Children, Blantyre, Malawi

Annie Nagy, who received her master of public health degree from the Graduate School of Public Health in May, has been selected as one of six 2010 Lambaréné Schweitzer Fellows by The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship (ASF). She is the first Lambaréné Schweitzer Fellow ever selected from GSPH.

Nagy joins the more than 100 senior medical and public health students who have been competitively selected as Lambaréné Schweitzer Fellows since 1979. She will travel to the Schweitzer Hospital in Lambaréné, Gabon, Africa, where she will work with an international staff of the hospital's Gabonese and expatriate professionals, supporting the hospital's Community Health Outreach Program in providing village-based health care, including maternal/child health, HIV/AIDS education and prevention, TB education and follow-up, and malaria prevention and treatment). When she returns to the United States, Nagy will be Schweitzer Fellow for Life, committed to working with vulnerable populations throughout her professional career.

Nagy was named an Outstanding Student in the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology for the 2009-10 academic year. She was also presented with a Dean's Service Award for service to the school and community. In 2009, she was awarded a Student Global Travel Grant through the University of Pittsburgh Center for Global Health. The grant funded her travel to Cameroon to conduct research on a project titled, "Socio-Demographic Predictive Factors for Condom Use in the Cameroon Military."

Nagy served in the Peace Corps in Guinea, West Africa, from 1999-2001, where she trained

student health workers in HIV/AIDS education and prevention; taught health education to primary and secondary school students; and provided information to community members on prenatal care, child nutrition, family planning, and STI/AIDS prevention. Later, she moved to a second village and focused on issues related to malnutrition and aided in the execution of a malnutrition clinic. She also taught health education in an all girls' technical school. Upon returning from Peace Corps service, Nagy enrolled in the joint MPH/PhD program with GSPH and the anthropology department in the School of Arts and Sciences. She also served as the University of Pittsburgh Peace Corps Campus Recruiter.

Founded in 1913 by Nobel Peace Laureate Albert Schweitzer, the Schweitzer Hospital has served as the surrounding region's primary source of health care for nearly 100 years; today, it provides skilled care through more than 35,000 outpatient visits and more than 6,000 hospitalizations annually for patients from all parts of Gabon.

TWO GSPH STUDENTS CHOSEN AS PITTSBURGH SCHWEITZER FELLOWS

Two current GSPH students have been selected as 2010-11 Pittsburgh Schweitzer Fellows by the Albert Schweitzer Foundation. Over the next year, these two emerging professionals will join approximately 200 other 2010-11 Schweitzer Fellows across the country in conceptualizing and carrying out service projects that address the unmet health-related needs of underserved individuals and communities.

Dacia Beard, who is in her second year in the MPH program of the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences (BCHS), plans to address the well-being of incarcerated women by empowering them to make better decisions in their lives. Beard will meet with women at the Allegheny County Jail in groups and individually and will address topics such as identifying personal standards; setting goals; and acknowledging risks, rewards, and outcomes.

“Housing individuals in correctional institutions is an ineffective response to the social issues acting as the driving force behind crime,” Beard says of the impetus behind her project. “Due to stricter, mandatory drug sentencing, we have largely noticed a greater number of women residing in correctional facilities. Due to the unique life experiences of women, where many juggle various familial and societal roles while being under more strenuous financial constraints than men, the existence of gender-specific criminal justice programs provides the necessary support for female offenders and creates a wave of benefits for children, families, and communities directly affected by the transient circumstances of jail and imprisonment.”

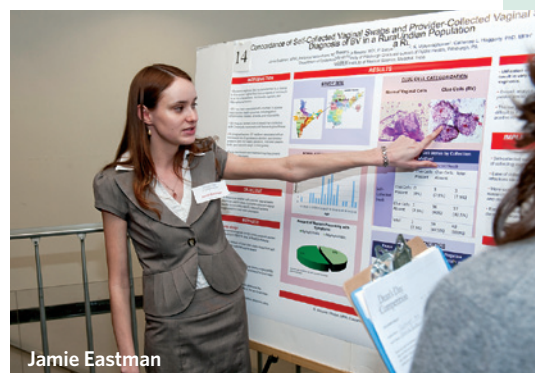
Jamie Eastman, who earned an MPH from BCHS in 2009 and is now in her second year of the PhD program in the Department of Epidemiology, aims to address the health

of visually impaired children of varying ages by developing a curriculum and delivering classes in health and sex education. She will work in cooperating with the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children.

“The program will specifically focus on age appropriate sexuality education,” Eastman says of her project. “In addition, parents and guardians will be involved in evening sessions covering topics like dental hygiene. I hope to be able to leave the school with a binder that makes it easy for others to step in and fill my position when I am gone.”

Upon completion of their initial Fellowship year, Beard and Eastman will become Schweitzer Fellows for Life and join a network of more than 2,000 individuals who are skilled in, and committed to, addressing the health needs of underserved people throughout their careers as professionals.

Since 1997, the Pittsburgh Schweitzer Fellows Program has supported graduate students in translating their passion and idealism into action. Graduate students partner with community-based organizations to develop and implement year-long service projects that meet the health needs of Pittsburgh’s most underserved populations. Pittsburgh is one of 11 Schweitzer sites across the United States. Since the Pittsburgh program’s inception, it has supported nearly 200 fellows in providing more than 35,000 hours of health-related community service.



Jamie Eastman

IN BRIEF

Nabanita Biswas, a PhD candidate in the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, received a Young Investigator Award to attend the 17th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI 2010), held February 16-19, 2010, in San Francisco. Her abstract, “Adenosine Deaminase 1(ADAR1) Is a Novel Anti HIV-1 Cellular Factor,” was listed in the conference program and abstracts book. The award included the conference registration fee and round-trip transportation to San Francisco.

Drew Michanowicz, MPH '09 and current DrPH candidate in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, was awarded a full scholarship to attend the Vespucci Initiative’s Summer Institute on Geographic Information Science (GIS) in Florence, Italy, which took place June 13-18, 2010. The Vespucci Initiative brings together senior scientists and promising young researchers from around the world who have an interest in how location affects societal challenges such as immigration, poverty and starvation, environmental degradation, crime and security, and natural hazards and disasters. Michanowicz is also a research assistant and GIS specialist in GSPH’s Center for Healthy Environments and Communities.



Dacia Beard

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2010 DEAN'S DAY AWARD WINNERS

GSPH's annual Dean's Day student research competition was founded in 1999 by Dean Herbert Rosenkranz as a vehicle for students to share their research, and as a GSPH community event to recognize and award superior research and practice. The 12th annual Dean's Day was held on April 9, 2010. Following are the prize-winning students and the titles of their presentations.

Doctoral Category

1ST PRIZE

Rachel Bailey, PhD candidate in the Department of Epidemiology

Poster presentation: "Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza Vaccination of Pregnant Women: An Economic Simulation Model"

2ND PRIZE

Donna Doebler Almario, DrPH candidate in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Poster presentation: "Understanding Racial Disparities in Low Birthweight in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: The Role of Area-Level Socioeconomic Position and Individual-Level Factors"

3RD PRIZE

Ashley Felix, PhD candidate in the Department of Epidemiology

Poster presentation: "Factors Associated with Type I and Type II Endometrial Cancer in a Large Cohort of Cases"

Master's Category

1ST PRIZE

Collette Ncube, MPH candidate in the Department of Health Policy & Management

Oral presentation: "Assessment of Infant Sleep Position and Environment Data Routinely Collected by Home Visiting Agencies in Allegheny County"

2ND PRIZE

Meghan Byrne, MPH candidate in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Oral presentation: "The Subjection of Women to a Patriarchal Society in Mexico and Its Effect on Cervical Cancer Screening Behavior"

3RD PRIZE

Harrison Brand, MPH candidate in the Department of Epidemiology

Oral presentation "Common Variation in Inflammation-Related Genes and Mammographic Density in Postmenopausal Women"

Keleti Award for Excellence in Environmental Health

Pornsri Khlangwiset, PhD candidate in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

Oral presentation: "Cost-Effectiveness of Aflatoxin Control Interventions: Case Studies in Biocontrol and the Postharvest Intervention Package"

Rosenkranz Prize, for the presentation with the greatest public health significance

Yan Liu, PhD candidate in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

Poster presentation: "Estimating the Global Burden of Aflatoxin-Attributed Hepatocellular Carcinoma-A Risk Assessment"

Delta Omega Omicron Chapter Poster Contest Award

Rachel Bailey, PhD candidate in the Department of Epidemiology

Poster presentation: "Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza Vaccination of Pregnant Women: An Economic Simulation Model"

Nabanita Biswas with her advisor, Phalguni Gupta, PhD, professor of infectious diseases and microbiology.



Drew Michanowicz with Dean Donald Burke at the 2009 Dean's Day student research competition award ceremony.



ROBERTS APPOINTED HPM CHAIR

Mark S. Roberts, MD, MPP, has been appointed chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management. Roberts' areas of expertise are decision analyses and the mathematical modeling of diseases and their treatments. He uses a variety of methods from cost-effectiveness analysis to simulation modeling to examine costs and policies related to transplantation, vaccination, surgery and the use of medications.

Most recently, Roberts served as a Pitt professor of medicine, health policy and management, industrial engineering, and clinical and translational science, and as chief of the section of decision sciences and clinical systems modeling in the School of Medicine's Division of General Internal Medicine.

"Throughout his career, Mark has blended clinical and research work in the decision sciences to advise health care providers and individuals," said Arthur S. Levine, MD, senior vice chancellor, health sciences, and dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. "He has

the academic credentials, scientific creativity and the 'reality testing' of many years on the front lines as a clinical decision-maker to further bridge the study of medicine to the development of public policies at this potential turning point in history."

"Health policy is more important than ever as we enter a new era of health care reform," added Donald S. Burke, MD, GSPH dean. "We anticipate that Mark will use his expertise in evidence-based decision-making to train tomorrow's health care administrators and to advise the nation's leaders on the best approaches to providing health care for Americans."

Roberts has published 115 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals and is the immediate past president of the Society for Medical Decision Making. He received a medical degree from Tufts University and a master's degree in public policy and health policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School. He was raised in Carson City, Nevada, and is an avid hiker and skier. He and his wife, Eileen, live in O'Hara Township and have three adult children.

Immediate past HPM chair Judith Lave, PhD, who held the position since 2002, will continue to serve as director of the Pennsylvania Medicaid Policy Center and pursue research interests as a professor of health policy and management at GSPH.



GSPH Dean Donald Burke, left, and Mark Roberts, HPM chair, share a laugh as Roberts is presented with a welcome gift from the school: a caricature of himself with the caption, "Why did Mark Roberts cross the road?" The caption is a reference to the fact that Roberts came to GSPH from the School of Medicine, which is across DeSoto Street from the GSPH buildings.

FORMER GSPH DEAN HERSCHEL GRIFFIN PASSES AWAY

Herschel E. Griffin, MD, who served as dean of the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health from 1969–1980, passed away in San Diego, Calif., on March 29, 2010. He was 91.

Dr. Griffin earned his undergraduate degree from Stanford University in 1939 and his medical degree from the University of California Berkeley Medical School in 1943. According to the US Army Medical Division Office of Medical History, “[h]e entered the Army Medical Corps in 1950 and was soon appointed regimental surgeon; later, in Korea, he was promoted to division surgeon. His record in the Department of the Army was distinguished, and from 1966 to 1969 he was chief of the Preventive Medicine Division in the Office of the Surgeon General. ...

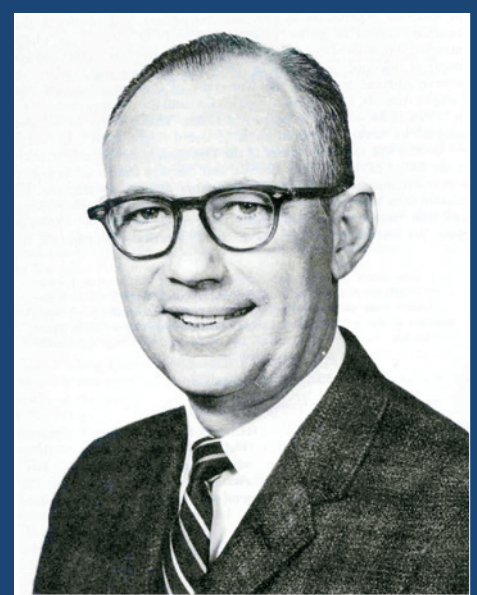
“While in the military, Dr. Griffin participated actively in the activities of the AFEB [Armed Forces Epidemiological Board] and its commissions. Dr. Edwin H. Lennette, who was the board president at that time, appointed him chairman of the ad hoc Study Team on Procurement Standards, which was charged to review and make recommendations regarding the military services’ physical standards. From 1978 to 1980, while he was also dean at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Griffin was President of the AFEB. This was a critical time for the AFEB, when it reassessed its role and responsibilities as an advisory board to the military services.” He also organized an ad hoc subcommittee to evaluate and coordinate all ongoing and proposed epidemiological studies of

asbestos-related health problems. In addition to his continued service to the military, from 1977–80 he also served as secretary treasurer of the American Board of Preventive Medicine.

After his military service, Dr. Griffin became the third dean of GSPH. Bernard Goldstein, MD, GSPH dean from 2001–05 and current professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, recalls, “I greatly benefited from his example and his precepts while serving with him on a variety of national committees evaluating environmental health issues. He was usually the senior leader providing public health depth and perspective, often with highly pertinent anecdotes from his military experience.”

In 1969, when Dr. Griffin became dean, Crabtree Hall, a new addition to the GSPH facilities, was dedicated. This addition allowed for a period of rapid growth at the school. In the 1966–67 academic year, GSPH had 148 full- and part-time students; in 1969–70, there were 275; and by 1978–79, there were 462 students at the school.

“Dr. Griffin played a key role as dean of the Graduate School of Public Health in transforming the school into a major research and doctoral/postdoctoral training institution,” recalls Lewis Kuller, PhD, distinguished university professor of public health. “In 1971, he and Dr. Monto Ho took the Epidemiology Summer Institute at the University of Minnesota where I was teaching cardiovascular epidemiology and subsequently recruited me to chair the Department of Epidemiology. I joined



Dean Herschel Griffin circa 1968

the faculty at GSPH in 1973. Hersch had a very strong commitment to the school at a time when funding sources were rapidly changing from the Mellon Endowment to external, mostly federal, funding. He encouraged the career development of junior faculty members and especially the expansion of teaching and research programs in GSPH. The research portfolio and extramural funding grew substantially during his tenure as dean. He also enjoyed working with the graduate students and nurturing their careers. He was an excellent teacher. The University of Pittsburgh consistently ranked as one of the top public health schools during his tenure as dean.”

After retiring from GSPH, Dr. Griffin helped establish the Graduate School of Public Health at San Diego State University. According to an obituary published in the San Diego Union-Tribune, during his 30 years in San Diego, he also served as a consultant in epidemiology to the County Health Department, as a member of the United States Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board, and on the California Governor’s Science Advisory Committee.

EVENTS

ANNUAL C.C. LI LECTURE HONORS MEMORY OF RENOWNED GENETICIST

The seventh annual C.C. Li Memorial Lecture took place on April 23. The featured speaker was Daniel E. Weeks, PhD, professor in the Department of Human Genetics and Department of Biostatistics, who spoke on the topic, “Genetic Variants and Personalized Medicine.”

Ching Chun (C.C.) Li was born in Tianjin, China, in 1912. He received his bachelor’s degree in agronomy from the University of Nanking before coming to the United States for a doctorate in plant breeding and genetics at Cornell University. He returned to China and, in 1946, joined National Beijing University where he later served as chair of the agronomy department and wrote his first book, *Population Genetics*, at age 34. Li joined GSPH’s faculty in 1951, served as chair of the biostatistics department from 1969 to 1975, and officially retired in 1982 (though he would publish another 25 papers and continue to come to his GSPH office every day until a

few months before his death). Li’s textbooks, including *First Course in Population Genetics*, are considered classics in the field and have been translated into several languages. Li died on October 20, 2003, just seven days shy of his 91st birthday.

Weeks received his PhD in biomathematics from the University of California Los Angeles and did post-doctoral training at Columbia University. In 1990 he joined the Department of Human Genetics as an assistant professor. He is internationally recognized as a researcher and teacher in human statistical genetics. His research focuses on the development of statistical tools for the analysis of human population genetics and applying these tools to the mapping and identification of genes that determine susceptibility to rare and common human diseases. These include diseases of public health importance such as age-related macular degeneration, obesity, otitis media, dental caries, and pre-term birth. He was a friend and colleague of C.C. Li.

The C.C. Li Endowed Research and Education Fund provides permanent funding for human genetics education and research at GSPH. The fund was established in 2001 through generous gifts from C.C. and Clara Li, and friends.



FROM LEFT:

Carol Li, daughter of C.C. Li; Dan Weeks; Steven Li, son of C.C. Li; Angela Ciocco Obringer, whose father, Antonio Ciocco, was the chair of the Department of Biostatistics when C.C. Li came to GSPH; and Robert Ferrell, PhD, professor in the Department of Human Genetics

LATEST FOSTER COMMUNITY LECTURE FEATURED BEST-SELLING AUTHOR

The 2010 Jay L. Foster Memorial Community Lecture in Alzheimer's Disease took place on April 23 and featured Peter Rabins, MD, MPH, who presented, "Care of Dementia Patients with Late-Stage Disease." Rabins is the Richman Family Professor in Alzheimer's and Related Disease and co-director of the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neuropsychiatry at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. His research focuses on the effectiveness of current therapies for Alzheimer's disease, the development of measures of quality of life in persons with Alzheimer's disease, and the care of patients with late-stage dementia. He is author of *Getting Old Without Getting Anxious* and co-author of *The 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for People with Alzheimer Disease, Other Dementias, and Memory Loss in Later Life*, first published in 1981 and currently in its fourth edition with more than 2 million copies sold. Rabins received his medical degree from Tulane University in New Orleans and finished his residency at the University of Oregon in Portland. He completed fellowships in consultation/liason psychiatry and neuropsychiatry at Johns Hopkins.

The Foster lecture series was established by the family of the late Jay L. Foster in response to the family's own experience and frustration watching their father decline and not knowing what to do to help him. They designed the lectures to provide expert information to help individuals better recognize the early symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, understand the disease progression, and provide the best care possible for people suffering with the disease. Each spring, a lecture is presented to educate families, other caregivers, and associated professionals about what to do when a loved one or patient is diagnosed with dementia and how to best

care for that person and themselves. Each fall, a lecture is presented to the scientific community in an effort to expand knowledge of these diseases and to encourage young researchers to pursue careers advancing the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of dementias. Through these lectures, the Foster family hopes to provide a valuable source of knowledge, education, and comfort.

At the conclusion of Rabins' lecture, a panel discussion allowed audience members to ask questions. The panel consisted of Rabins; Thomas Baumgartner Jr. MPH, MSW, LSW, psychiatric social worker, University of Pittsburgh Alzheimer Disease Research Center; Jennifer Lingler, PhD, RN, assistant professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Department of Health and Community Systems; and Lois Lutz, MS, education and outreach coordinator, Alzheimer's Association, Greater Pennsylvania Chapter; and was moderated by Steven Albert, PhD, professor, GSPH Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences; co-principal Investigator, Center for Healthy Aging; and chair, Foster Lecture Committee.

FROM LEFT:
Donald S. Burke, MD, GSPH dean; Steven Albert, PhD, co-principal Investigator, GSPH Center for Healthy Aging; Lee Foster, son of the late Jay L. Foster and trustee of the Foster Charitable Trust; lecturer Peter Rabins, MD; Penny Foster, daughter of Jay L. Foster; and Apryl Eshelman, GSPH director of development.



The lecture can be viewed online at
www.publichealth.pitt.edu/lecturearchive

EVENTS

GSPH CELEBRATES 60TH CONVOCATION

The 60th Annual GSPH Convocation took place on Sunday, May 2, 2010, at the Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland. A total of 203 degrees were awarded:

- 14 master of health administration
- 115 master of public health
- 32 master of science
- 35 doctor of philosophy
- 7 doctor of public health

In addition, 30 certificates were awarded:

- 6 Environmental Health Risk Assessment
- 3 Evaluation of Public Health Promotion and Health Education Programs
- 5 Global Health
- 2 LGBT Individuals Health and Wellness
- 2 Minority Health and Health Disparities
- 1 Public Health Genetics
- 11 Public Health Preparedness and Disaster Response

This year's convocation address, "Unnatural Disasters: Pandemics, Hurricanes, Politics, and the Individual," was presented by John M. Barry, a prize-winning and New York Times best-selling author whose books have won more than 20 awards. The National Academy of Sciences named his 2004 book, *The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Pandemic in History*, winner of the Keck Award for the year's best book on medicine or science. He has advised the Bush and Obama administrations, as well as other federal, state, and World Health Organization officials on influenza pandemic preparedness and response and risk communication. Currently distinguished scholar at the Center for Bioenvironmental Research of Tulane and Xavier Universities, he lives in New Orleans.



Abdus Wahed, PhD, associate professor of biostatistics, was chosen by student ballots as this year's recipient of the 2010 James L. Craig Award for Teaching Excellence. He was presented with the award at GSPH Convocation by Jason Flatt, a representative of the Student Government Association. Among the comments submitted by students who nominated Wahed was this one: "He exemplifies the mission of GSPH to provide leadership in health promotion and disease prevention and contributes new knowledge (to his students) that is crucial in moving public health practice forward."

The previous evening, at the annual Alumni Dinner, students, faculty, and alumni were honored with various awards. For a description of the 2010 Distinguished Alumni and Margaret F. Gloninger Award winners for 2010, see the Alumni News section of this issue.

The Omicron Chapter of Delta Omega, the public health honor society, annually inducts new chapter members at the alumni dinner. New inductees for this year are:

Students

Kristina Bacon, Infectious Diseases and Microbiology (IDM)

Clayton Bornemann, Biostatistics (BIOS)

Elizabeth Cole, Multidisciplinary Master of Public Health (MMPH)

Lauren Hudak, Human Genetics (HUGEN)

Allison Longenberger, Epidemiology (EPI)

Meredith Lotz, BIOS

Jennifer Meyer, EPI

Sara Miller, IDM

Smita Naidoo, MMPH

Mari Vandenburg, Health Policy & Management (HPM)

Renee Walker, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences (BCHS)

Ann Wiringa, EPI

Genevieve Woodard, EPI

Alumni

Nathalie Folch, MPH '05

Joan (Kip) Beyer Goldberg, MPH '73

Richard Lugg, MPH '66

Faculty

Todd Reinhart, IDM

In addition, the Omicron Chapter presents annual awards for the best essay, thesis, or dissertation among graduating students. This year's awards went to:

Master's Level

Jason Carson, HUGEN

Donna Almario Doebler, BIOS

Gary Kohanbash, IDM

Tony Realini, MMPH

Susan White, BCHS

Ann Wiringa, EPI

Doctoral Level

Toni Nemeč, Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH)

John O'Donnell, EPI

Kusum Pandit, HUGEN

Daniel Swayze, BCHS

Narasimhan Jayanth Venkatachari, IDM

Xing Yuan, BIOS

Each year, several awards are presented to graduating students at the Alumni Dinner.

This year's awardees are:

Catherine Cartier-Ulrich Memorial Award for Service to the Underserved

Jing Wang, MMPH

Outstanding Student Awards, chosen by the departments for academic excellence

Master's Level

Jia-Yuh Chen, BIOS

Amber Chevalier, HUGEN

Kyle Ferrar, EOH

Christina Kratz, HPM

Michelle Menser, BCHS

Jennifer Meyer, EPI

Annie Nagy, IDM

Collette Ncube, HPM

Todd Otteson, MMPH

Doctoral Level

Eileen Bauer, EOH

Nikhil Bhagwat, HUGEN

Chongyi Wei, BCHS

Genevieve Woodard, EPI

Dean's Service Awards, for service to the school and community

Tara Capece, HUGEN

Barbara Folb, BCHS

Annie Nagy, IDM

Nora Watson, EPI

Hui Xu, BIOS

Student Leadership Certificates, for leadership that exceeds expectations, such as innovative responses to challenges or creation of new initiatives

Harrison Brand, EPI

Kimberly Butler, BCHS

Ryan Button, BCHS

Theresa Fanelli, EPI

Kyle Ferrar, EOH

Shannon Kearney, EOH

Scott Langevin, EPI

Anna Mamo, IDM

Elizabeth Rodgers, EPI

EVENTS

PARRAN LECTURE FEATURED TOBACCO CONTROL EXPERT

GSPH's 2009 Thomas Parran Lecture was delivered by Kenneth Warner, PhD, dean of the University of Michigan School of Public Health and founding director of the University of Michigan's Tobacco Research Network, and was titled, "Tobacco Control: Looking Back, Looking Forward."

Tobacco control is arguably the greatest public health success story of the past half century in the US and in other developed nations. Warner described the dimensions of this success and discussed what has produced it. He then looked at where tobacco control is headed in the future in the US, considering why the next period may be one of slow going, reflecting the nature of remaining smokers and the weight of the demographics of smokers over time. He suggested a few novel approaches for consideration. The entire lecture can be viewed at www.publichealth.pitt.edu/lecturearchive.

The Parran Lecture is named in honor of Thomas Parran, MD, who was surgeon general of the United States under Presidents Roosevelt and Truman before becoming the first dean of the Graduate School of Public Health. He drafted the constitution for what would become the World Health Organization in 1946 and helped shape the modern Public Health Service and expand the activities of the National Institutes of Health. This lecture series, established in 1963, honors Dr. Parran's many accomplishments by inviting a distinguished speaker to advance the discussion on a timely public health issue.



FROM LEFT:

Stephanie Land, PhD, director of the University of Pittsburgh Reduce Smoking and Exposure to Tobacco Center; GSPH Dean Donald S. Burke, MD; University of Michigan School of Public Health Dean Kenneth Warner, PhD; Mary Parran; and Theodore Parran, MD, son of Thomas Parran. In the background is a Time magazine cover from October 26, 1936, depicting Surgeon General Thomas Parran.

GSPH SAYS "THANK YOU" TO PAST HPM CHAIR JUDY LAVE

As the Department of Health Policy & Management transitioned to the tenure of incoming chair Mark Roberts, GSPH held a reception to thank outgoing chair Judy Lave, PhD. Lave started with GSPH as a professor of health economics in 1982. In addition to serving as the HPM department chair since 2002, she has served as the director of the Center for Research on Health Care, the director of the Health Administration Program, and the director of the Pennsylvania Medicaid Policy Center.

During her tenure as HPM chair, student enrollment increased by more than 450 percent. In the past decade under her leadership, the MHA program was fully re-accredited; the department added two degree programs: the master of public health and the PhD in health services research and policy; and a cohort of research-productive faculty members were recruited. Lave will continue to serve as director of the Pennsylvania Medicaid Policy Center and pursue research interests as a professor of health policy and management.

Among the tokens of appreciation presented to her at the reception were a plaque that read, "Donald S. Burke, MD, dean, and the faculty, staff, students, and alumni of the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health express their deep appreciation to Judith R. Lave, PhD, for her leadership as chair of the Department of Health Policy & Management (2002-10) and her past and continuing contributions to the department and the field through research, teaching, mentoring, and service. Gratefully presented February 1, 2010."



UPCOMING GSPH EVENTS

Reunion for HPM Graduates of the 2000s

Saturday, July 24, 2010

For details, visit www.publichealth.pitt.edu/hpmreunions

Ladies Hospital Aid Society Gala

Saturday, August 28, 2010

Proceeds from the gala will benefit aging research at GSPH

First Day of Classes and Picnic

Monday, August 30, 2010

Reunion for HPM Graduates of the 1980s

September 10-12, 2010

For details, visit www.publichealth.pitt.edu/hpmreunions

Reunion for HPM Graduates of the 1970s

October 15-17, 2010

For details, visit www.publichealth.pitt.edu/hpmreunions

Open House for Prospective Students

Friday, October 29, 2010

APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition

November 6-10, 2010, Denver

The GSPH alumni reception will take place on Monday, November 8, 2010, 6:30-8 p.m., at the Colorado Convention Center, Room 101



Past HPM chair Judy Lave laughs as she discovers a lottery ticket hidden in one of her thank-you gifts. Sadly, the ticket was not a winner, but HPM has been thanks to Lave's leadership.

DEVELOPMENT

DEAR ALUMNI AND OTHER FRIENDS OF GSPH,

You have been reading in this issue of Public Health Quarterly about the impact GSPH is having on Pittsburgh and other communities. Indeed the school was founded by a grant from Paul Mellon through the A.W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust to address the “most urgent and long-range needs” of Allegheny County. Mellon explained in his letter dated September 15, 1948, notifying the University of the \$13 million gift to establish a public health school, “The object in so doing was to determine upon some major project which would result in the greatest ultimate good to the people of that area and which would at the same time be of benefit to the country at large and mankind in general.”

Indeed, the purpose of this grant has been and continues to be fulfilled. GSPH’s tradition of translating important findings into groundbreaking public health advances has done more than nearly any other entity to improve the lives of people living in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Our influence on public health extends across the country and around the globe.

Carol and Monto Ho



You have read about the creativity of Jessica Burke’s research to address violence and safety among at-risk children; the practicality of The Center for Public Health Preparedness to provide training to school personnel across Pennsylvania in planning for and responding to emergencies in schools and their communities; the grassroots efforts of volunteer ambassadors at the Center for Healthy Aging to teach the Ten Keys to Healthy Aging to area residents; and the broad impact of the Center for Healthy Environments and Communities in identifying health risks in our air and water.

Through your gifts this year, you demonstrate these same qualities. Monto and Carol Ho creatively used an insurance policy to endow the Monto and Carol Ho Chair in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology. This gift was completed in April and represents the single largest gift by a family in the history of GSPH. Many of you have invested in charitable gift annuities to provide an income stream to you for the rest of your lives while providing for future support to GSPH, a practical way to address your financial and philanthropic needs. In addition, the number of gifts from you has grown 7 percent, funding scholarships, research and the operation of the school.

The continued growth of GSPH’s community outreach is a testament to you, your passion for public health and your generosity. Thank you for contributing to, in the words of Paul Mellon, “the greatest ultimate good to ...people...the country at large and mankind in general.”

With much appreciation,

Apryl Eshelman
Director of Development
eshelman@pitt.edu
412-624-5639

PHOTO OF THE QUARTER

Pictured are Kaimin Chen; GSPH Dean Donald S. Burke, MD; and Chen's son, Chongyi Wei, who graduated this spring with his doctor of public health degree from the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, and received an outstanding student award from the department. Chen traveled to Pittsburgh from China, her first trip outside her home country, to see her son graduate and accept his award. She was recognized by Burke during the GSPH Alumni Dinner, who asked that she stand and accept the applause of the assembled guests. He thanked her for her dedication to her son, for sharing him with the GSPH community, and for supporting him on his way to what is sure to be a very successful career in public health.





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Aging Research at GSPH: Helping Seniors Live Longer and Stronger

Researchers at GSPH are actively engaged in initiatives such as basic research to understand the aging process to policy changes that specifically affect elders. Research conducted here includes such topics as aging in place, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, Medicare and Medicaid policy, and long-term care. Find out more in the next issue of PHQ.