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WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY

M.P.H. CONNECTIONS

FALL 2017 ISSUE

CEPH Accreditation Update: Dr. Lynn Carson

CEPH REVISED ACCREDITATION CRITERIA ADDRESSES SKILLS NEEDED FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONAL UPDATE ON CEPH ACCREDITATION REVISION – FOCUS ON THE MPH CURRICULUM

The Council of Education for Public Health (CEPH) adopted revised accreditation criteria in October, 2016. These revised criteria introduces a new framework for assessing the quality of student learning with a greater emphasis of student acquisition of a set of professional skills needed for public health practice. The revised CEPH accreditation criteria document is the product of a process that spanned more than two years and built on the substantial work done by other organizations and work groups to reflect the current and future needs of the public health practice community.

Where are we in the revision process? Our MPH Program Committee is taking the lead in curriculum revisions. Currently all MPH core courses are being reviewed and revised to meet the revised competencies. There are eight domains that need to be included in the revised curriculum (Evidence Based Approaches to Public Health, Public Health and Health Care Systems, Planning and Management to Promote Health, Policy in Public Health, Leadership, Communication, Interprofessional Practice and Systems Thinking). Within the 8 domains there is a total of 22 competencies that will be added to the revised MPH curriculum. Also, all MPH Track Coordinators along with track faculty will be working on revisions of track competencies. Track courses will be revised to include these track competencies.

All of the curriculum changes will be reviewed by the Dean of College of Health Sciences, Chair of the Department of Health, the MPH Program Director, MPH Track Coordinators, the MPH Faculty and the MPH Student Advisory Board. The MPH Community Advisory Committee will review these changes during the next CAB meeting in May, 2018. All reviews, revisions and approvals should be completed by the end of spring semester, 2018. The final step is submission of the completed revision plan to CEPH in January, 2019. If all changes are approved by the MPH constituents and CEPH, implementation of the revised curriculum is planned for fall semester, 2019.

If you have any questions about the MPH curriculum revision process, please contact the MPH Program Director, Dr. Lynn Carson (email: lcarson@wcupa.edu).

2017 Civility Award Recipient: Dr. Tammy James



West Chester University 2017 Civility Award Recipient: Dr. Tammy James

The Civility Award: An Interview with Dr. James

What is your educational background?

"I have a bachelor's degree in School Health Education, a master's degree in Community Health, and a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus on Health Education, all from Kent State University."

What positions do you hold on campus? What classes do you teach?

"I am a faculty member in the Department of Health where I teach mostly at the undergraduate level. I teach a leadership and life-skills class for student athletes, as well as a health and physical education teacher certification at the undergraduate level (HEA 440) and at the master's level (HEA 620). I am also the Coordinator for Academic Support Services for Student Athletes. In this role, I oversee the Athletic Mentoring Program."

How do you come to be involved with student athletes on campus?

"I got involved with student athletes on campus as a result of creating the leadership and life-skills course more than 10 years ago. I was approached by the Athletic Department to develop this course from a curriculum developed by the NCAA. Developing this course revolved around something I was interested in, but it also allowed me to expand my knowledge of health education because it is really created around our life-skills that we talk about in health education."

2017 Civility Award Recipient: Dr. Tammy James

The Civility Award: An Interview with Dr. James (continued)

Tell me about your work with the Athletic Mentoring Program?

"I oversee the Athletic Mentoring Program, which has been around for over 10 years. This is my fourth year overseeing the program. We have primarily freshman and sophomore student athletes and we provide them with university resources to get them started off on the right foot with regard to student success here at West Chester University. The students are paired with a graduate assistant and meet weekly with them to monitor academic progress. The students also participate in a tutoring program, and mandatory study hall which is five nights a week for two hours each night. Two other components of the program include our communications with coaches, as well as the athletic mentor's communication with faculty during weekly check-ins. We are able to get a jump start on things before it becomes a problem or an issue. We help students with time management skills so that they have the ability to handle their busy schedules."

The Civility Award is annually presented to someone who reflects the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In what ways do you feel you bring civility to campus?

"I would say I bring civility to campus through collaboration and working with others, getting people to understand other's needs and differences, and ensuring we all contribute to the academic success of the students. It is really important for faculty and staff to understand the role that they play in student success. This award is about being at the forefront for social justice for students, and being an advocate for students and their needs."

What does achieving this award mean to you?

"Achieving this award has been amazing, and it is quite the honor. More than anything else, I feel humbled and blessed for being recognized for what I love to do. I think my passion is infectious. The students give me energy, focus and passion and I love doing this each and every day. I also love the new challenges that come with the job."

If you could give students one piece of advice in regards to civility on campus, what would you tell them?

"I would tell students to be an advocate and use your voice. I would tell them to speak up and speak out when you see social injustice on our campus and in our communities. Advocacy is really needed today with everything going on in society. It is a skill that can be taught from kindergarten to college and it is a skill we need to use more in our everyday lives."

What do you do for fun? What makes you happy?

"My husband is a high school basketball coach and we have two kids that are very involved in sports - so that is our weekend! We also enjoy supporting WCU sports and going to games on campus!"



WCU Alumni Highlight

Allison Casola, MPH Community Health Track Alumna



Allison is officially a Ph.D. Candidate! She is set to become the next Chair-Elect of American Public Health Association's Student Assembly! This will be a 3-year term as Chair-Elect, Chair, and Immediate Past-Chair.

Allison is pursuing the Ph.D. program in Epidemiology at Temple University, where she is also a Research Assistant in the College of Public Health and an Instructor of Record in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Congratulations, Allison!

WCU Student Spotlight

A New Job Prior to Graduation– Congrats!

Adithi Asuri, MPH Candidate, Health Care Management track



Adithi was born and raised in York, PA. She graduated in May 2016 from East Stroudsburg University with a bachelor's degree in Public Health with a concentration in Health Services Administration. After graduating, she came to WCU to pursue her master's degree in Public Health and will be graduating this December from the program.

Adithi recently accepted a job as an IRB Project Coordinator in the Office of Research Administration at Drexel University. Some responsibilities for this position are processing and preparing research protocols and related actions in advance of initial and continuing reviews by the IRB. Other duties include creating meeting agendas, review of applications, preparation of reports when planning for the Fall convened meeting of the IRB, and correspondence with the investigator throughout the post review process. She will provide assistance to faculty, staff, and student researchers in preparation of applications. Adithi will also be responsible for conducting and/or contributing to the review and approval process in accordance with University policies for the protection of human research subjects. The scope of her responsibility as the IRB Coordinator will support Drexel University's commitment to the protection of human subjects participating in research and compliance with all institutional policies.

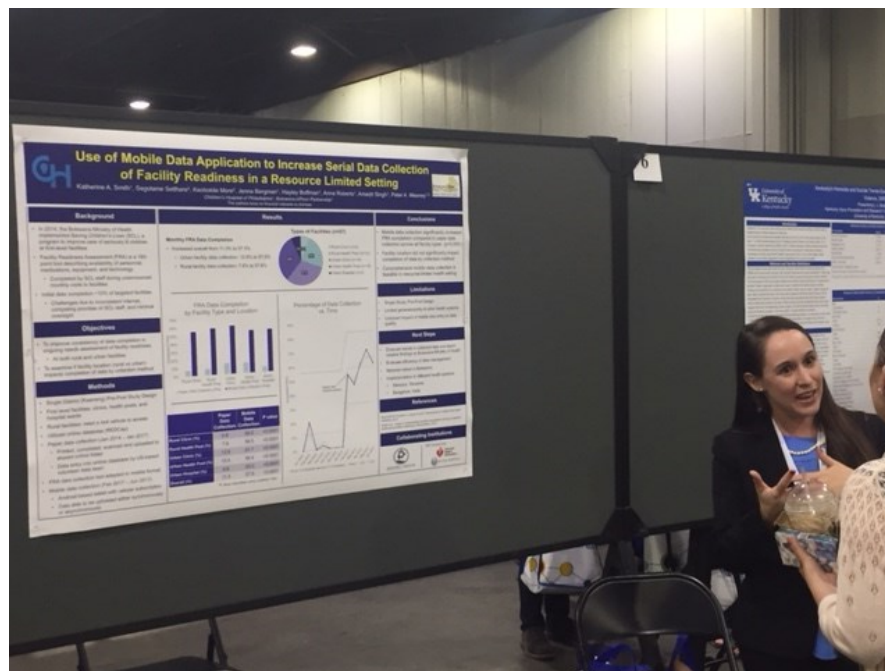
Adithi chose the Health Care Management track because she wanted a better understanding of how the healthcare system works and to expand her knowledge about how she could improve it. Adithi believes that WCU's MPH Program has prepared her well for this position and she will use the skills and concepts learned from her classes at her new job. Getting two degrees was a valuable experience for her, and she definitely recommends it for this industry.

In the future, Adithi's goal is to be in a leadership role such as a manager, director, or senior level consultant in a health care organization. She is interested in global health, healthcare policy making, and healthcare consulting. This job is a stepping stone to get into the healthcare industry that Adithi will use for the rest of her career.

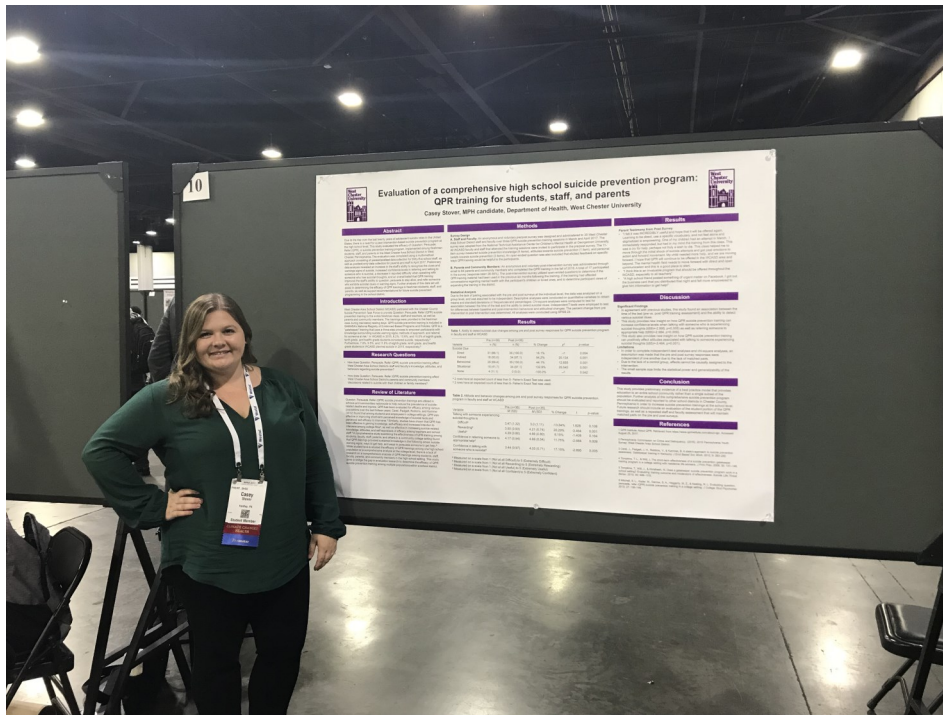
APHA Annual Conference 2017



Sunita Amin, Casey Stover, and Anne Frame attending the American Public Health Association Annual Conference in Atlanta, GA in November 2017



Katie Smith, MPH student (Community Health Track) presenting her poster titled "Use of Mobile Data Application to Increase Serial Data Collection of Facility Readiness in a Resource Limited Setting" at APHA 2017

APHA Annual Conference 2017

Casey Stover, MPH student
(Community Health Track)
presenting her
poster "Evaluation of a
comprehensive high school
suicide prevention program:
QPR training for students,
staff, and parents" at APHA
2017

Dr. Gopal Sankaran receiving a
Certificate of Recognition for his work
as Chair of the Awards Committee,
from Dr. Laura C. Altobelli, Chair,
International Health Section, at the
APHA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA in
November 2017.



Dr. Michael Markowski, New Faculty in Health Care Management

Welcome to West Chester: An Interview with Dr. Markowski

What drew you to West Chester?

"First, the prospect of full time work in my field. My field is health policy and administration, and I've always wanted to teach in my field. I have taught finance and economics and I have brought health administration into it. However, now I get to do the opposite by bringing finance and economics into health policy and administration. I was also drawn to West Chester because of the university's long tradition and the high regard it is held in for valuing teaching. If teaching is what you do, then this is the place to be."



Where did you complete your undergraduate program, and what is your degree in?

"I am an Honors graduate of Kings College with a degree in economics. It was here that I learned to value the quote "Not for the mind, but the heart as well"."

Where did you complete your Ph.D.? Why did you choose this program?

"I completed my master's degree at George Mason University in Economics, which gave me a good foundation for my career. After completing my master's degree, I was asked to teach a course for a friend and fell in love with teaching. I taught at Immaculata University, and I was told I would need my doctorate degree to teach full-time. From here, I attended The Pennsylvania State University to achieve my Ph.D. in Health Policy and Administration with attention to applications of health economics."

What are your research interests? Has any of your research been published?

"My dissertation focused on cancer survivors and the choices they make about work. I looked at work choices of cancer survivors while in treatment, their spouses' work choices, and work choices as they near retirement. Overall, my interests include population health, such as cancer survivor populations, as well as policy analysis and outcome evaluation."

Why did you want to become a professor? What is your favorite part about teaching?

"I love to teach, and I knew I wanted to teach at the college level. I like helping young adults transition into "what's next after school."

Did you have any mentors in your education or career?

"Yes, I have quite a few. Mary Monicelli was my high school forensics coach. She taught me to love debate and to see the other side of an argument. Thomas Arnold was the Chair of Undergraduate Economics department during my undergraduate career, and he taught me about the compassionate side of teaching- not just students but the community as well. Pamela Farley Short was my dissertation adviser, and she inspired me with her rigor, standards, and character. Rebecca Wells was my graduate organizational studies mentor, and she inspired me to reach out and seek the "voice" of people because "every voice matters." Here at West Chester, my department mentor is Merry Perry in the English Department, and the internal team is led by Dr. Caron and Dr. Bill. There is so much experience to learn from here at WCU."

What do you like to do for fun?

"My wife Pat and I enjoy watching movies. I also like to read history, especially European history. I enjoy hiking and playing with my grandchildren. I also love to coach and have enjoyed coaching soccer, basketball, and baseball."

What classes will you be teaching this semester?

"I will be teaching HEA 436: Health Care Delivery: Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities, HEA 434: Health Law, Economics, Ethics, and Policy, and HEA 613: Advocacy & Quality of Health Care Services in the MPH Program."

Dr. Ramona Stone, New Faculty in Community Health

Welcome to West Chester: An Interview With Dr. Stone

What drew you to West Chester?

"I applied for the job primarily because of the location and the quality of the public schools. We have a son in high school, and that was extremely important for us. I also applied because the position is in my field of interest, and I missed teaching; I wanted to come to a teaching institution. This was an opportunity to teach what I love the most, and to conduct research and engage in community service. Plus, I have heard only good things about West Chester University."

Where did you complete your undergraduate program, and what is your degree in?

"I have a B.A in Sociology with a minor in Demography and sociology of communication from Babes-Bolyai University (BBU) in Romania."

Where did you complete your Ph.D.?

"I have a MS in Management from the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (TUCN) and a Ph.D. in Urban Affairs, with a focus in Program Evaluation and Policy Analysis, from the University of Louisville. In addition, I have recently completed a postdoctoral MPH in Quantitative Methods at the Harvard School of Public Health."

What are your research interests? Has any of your research been published?

"As a sociologist in public health, I am interested in the social determinants of health. That was the type of work I have done from the beginning of my career, as a sociologist for nonprofit organizations, and later as an evaluator for programs conducted by governmental agencies. As for publications: I published some of my research evaluation on public housing redevelopments and in child welfare. My papers were primarily on the research evaluation methods and framework; technical evaluation reports are not produced for publishing in peer-reviewed journals, they are developed for the benefit of the agencies that commissioned the report, which sometimes makes it difficult to release for publication. "

Why did you want to become a professor? What is your favorite part about teaching?

"As an undergraduate student in Romania, you are required to get a teaching certification. Coming from a large family, I have always tutored someone in my family in math, physics, chemistry, or languages. I have been the go-to person for homework help in my family, and they helped me figure out how to make learning fun. I think learning should be something you enjoy and not something you dread. Teaching comes natural to me if I know a topic well."

What are some jobs and careers you have had related to your work?

"For my first job I worked in a laboratory for seeds, with my mother as a supervisor; she was the toughest boss I have ever had. I think, in a way, this experience was the first "seed" put on for my career. My first job after college was as a sociologist for Doctors Without Borders, in Romania. I also worked as an adjunct in management at a local university, and as a director of social programs for World Vision International, just for a few months before I came to the US. After I completed my doctoral degree, I was an Assistant Professor of Research in Social Work at the University of Louisville, then an Associate Professor of Research in Public Health at the University of Kentucky."



Dr. Ramona Stone, Faculty in Community Health

Welcome to West Chester: An Interview with Dr. Stone Continued

Did you have any mentors in your education or career?

“Yes, as an undergraduate student I developed a connection with one of the professors, Dr. Vasile Dancu, hence my minor in Sociology of Communication. As a faculty in social work, I worked closely with Gerard (Rod) Barber, who has an MPH from Yale, and a Ph.D. in Social Welfare from Brandeis; he is very much public health oriented and his stories about his family’s life on the Northeast coast made me want to live here too. He hired me to work with him on the Kentucky Welfare evaluation project, my first project as a co-investigator. We worked on a lot of grants and projects together since 2001. We learned a lot from each other and we continue to work together even now, while he is retired.”

What do you like to do for fun?

“I love spending time with my son! We love to travel and we have gone to many places together, including Italy and of course, Romania. We could also be homebodies, stay home and just watch a good movie together. I like to do things that my son would enjoy, such as watching basketball, shopping with him or taking a walk in the park. If we have the time tough, traveling is our first choice... my husband joins when his job allows. I would love to share my native country’s beauty and welcoming atmosphere with fellow faculty and students; I am developing an applied course in public health that would allow us to take students to Romania, if there is any interest.”

What classes are you teaching this semester?

“I am currently teaching HEA 526: Biostatistics in Public Health for the MPH program in person and online. I am also teaching HEA 110: Transcultural Health: Principles and Practice, as well as HEA 419: Research Methods in Health at the undergraduate level.”

WCU MPH Student Profile

Daniella Pierre, MPH Candidate, Health Care Management Track

Where did you complete your undergraduate degree, and what is your degree in?

“I completed my undergraduate degree at Temple University with a Bachelor of Science in Therapeutic Recreation”.

Why did you choose public health as a career field? What sparked your interest?

“I took “HIV Around the World” as a winter course during my undergraduate career, and following the course I spoke with the professor about my interests and he explained that there were a lot of things I could do with public health. I always knew I was interested in public health, but public health is an umbrella with so many topics underneath it. I began researching disease prevention and that peaked my interest in health care management. Overall, I am interested in helping people on a larger scale rather than on a one-on-one level.”



WCU MPH Student Profile

Daniella Pierre, MPH Candidate, Health Care Management Track, *Continued*

Why did you decide to attend West Chester University for your MPH? What made you choose your specific track?

"I decided to attend West Chester University because of the opportunity I had to be a graduate assistant. I also came to West Chester because it was close to home and I could continue working in Philadelphia. I chose the Health Care Management Track because it aligned with my future career goals to become a CEO or COO of a hospital or a non-profit organization."

Have you had any work experiences related to public health?

"I volunteered with the organization ACT UP Philly which is an organization that spreads awareness of HIV and provides preventative measures to the community. They also do a lot of lobbying against various organizations and try to get the cost of HIV medications down. I assisted with these efforts for about six months prior to coming to West Chester for my master's degree."

What is your dream job?

"My dream job would be to work for the World Health Organization. It would be awesome to travel to different countries and make a difference on a large scale."

What do you like to do in your free time?

"I like to read and I just finished all twelve books on my summer book list. I also like to hangout with my family and friends, and play/watch sports, such as volleyball."

If you could give one piece of advice to students entering the program, what would it be?

"I would tell incoming students to touch base with advisors beforehand, and make sure they are taking the proper classes to graduate on time. I would also recommend that students seek advice of second year students to see how they are surviving, and to see if they can provide any useful information. Lastly, I would tell students to get involved and join the MPH Student Advisory Board!"

Are you involved in any activities on campus?

"Yes, I am the graduate assistant for the Twardowski Career Development Center. In this position I coordinate the Career Ambassador Program and work as the digital media coordinator. I am also the Health Care Management Representative to the MPH Student Advisory Board. I am also working to bring the National Black Graduate Student Association to campus this spring!"

What are your plans for the immediate future?

"I have just finished applying for Administrative Fellowships for post-graduation and I am waiting to hear back to see if I was accepted!"

WCU MPH Student Profile

Ifeoma (Ify) Chikelu, MPH Candidate, Environmental Health Track

Where did you complete your undergraduate degree, and what is your degree in?

"I completed my undergraduate degree in Dentistry at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria."

Why did you choose public health as a career field? What sparked your interest?

"I am looking at a career in preventive dentistry and public health allows me to go to the root cause of problems and solve the problems from there. My interest in public health was sparked during a surgery rotation in my undergraduate career. The rotation was focused on the sequelae of dental diseases, surgical interventions and research on etiology and exposure to diseases which paved the way for public health. I became very interested in how public health and dentistry work together."

Why did you decide to attend West Chester University for your MPH? What made you choose your specific track?

"First, coming from a science background, I wanted a science related field and I noticed West Chester offers an environmental health track which is not offered in many schools. I like the research-oriented career path of environmental health and my interest in environmental health keeps building. Now, it's exciting to know I have a career as a dentist and growing career as an environmental health specialist. West Chester is also affordable, which is a second reason I chose this school."

Have you had any work experiences related to public health?

"Yes, I have organized seminars, conducted health outreaches, and I have completed dental procedures for communities and rural areas back home."

What is your dream job?

"I would still love to practice dentistry, and I am currently exploring opportunities to work with the EPA or USDA as an occupational health worker/industrial hygienist."

What do you like to do in your free time?

"I love to watch tennis and I love to dance! I also read books, articles, blogs, and the news."

If you could give one piece of advice to students entering the program, what would it be?

"I would recommend to students entering the program to have time to study and time to relax. It is important to put in your best, interact with your peers and professors. Networking is also very important because you never know whom you meet and who shares the same interest with you. This program teaches you how to write papers, conduct research, and practical skills. I am way better and know a lot more now than I did before I entered the program."

Are you involved in anything on campus?

"Yes, I am a graduate assistant in the Environmental Health Department. I work with Dr. Sunger and Dr. Cena. I also work with the Office of Wellness Promotion on Campus. Currently, I am the Environmental Health Track Representative to the MPH Student Advisory Board."



WCU MPH Student Profile

Ralph Aurora, MPH Candidate, Community Health Track

Where did you complete your undergraduate degree, and what is your degree in?

"I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science from Ursinus College."

Why did you choose public health as a career field? What sparked your interest?

"I decided on getting a Master of Public Health degree because exercise science focuses on nutrition and exercise and I was interested in learning about other aspects of health and wellness. My interests in public health include surveying underprivileged populations."

Why did you decide to attend West Chester University for your MPH? What made you choose your specific track?

"First, I live and work nearby, which made applying to West Chester an easy decision. I was also accepted to the program on my first try and was able to matriculate into the program right away. I chose the Community Health Track because I am interested in underserved communities and bringing different types of health care that isn't easily accessible to those communities."

Have you had any work experiences related to public health? If not, do you have any work experiences that you enjoyed and learned something from?

"Yes, I have had two opportunities related to public health. First, I work for Eagles Eye Mobile where we perform eye exams for underprivileged students in the Philly school districts. For students who do not pass their eye exam, we make eye glasses on the spot for the students. Next, I work for AreUFit which is a corporate health and wellness organization that performs biometric screenings in the greater Philadelphia area."

What is your dream job?

"My dream job would be getting the opportunity to be the head of a health department."

What do you like to do in your free time?

"In my free time I like to exercise and I enjoy playing golf. I am also a beer-connoisseur, and I enjoy trying different types of beer!"

If you could give one piece of advice to students entering the program, what would it be?

"I would tell incoming students to try to relate your classes to your work if you are working in the public field. When you can do this, it is not only helpful to your schooling but it can better your work and help you reach your organization's goals."



Upcoming MPH Student Advisory Board Events



Department of Health Bulletin Board: Third Floor Hallway

This Fall, the Executive Board of the MPH Student Advisory Board has been extremely busy organizing a collaborative student public health conference with MPH students in the greater Philadelphia region. To keep up to date on the conference (coming Spring 2018) and for any additional information see below for contact information.

In upcoming spring, we are excited to announce the collaborative students public health conference, 4th annual Alumni Panel, group volunteering with SpeakUp!, an educational film at the theatre, promotion of National Public Health Week, and much more! Come to meetings and events as much as your schedule allows! Meetings are held bi-weekly on Thursdays from 3:00pm-4:00pm in Sturzebecker Health Sciences Center building room 301B. Light refreshments are provided! It is an excellent opportunity to network with students and alumni, promote public health news, get involved with service, and explore career development opportunities!

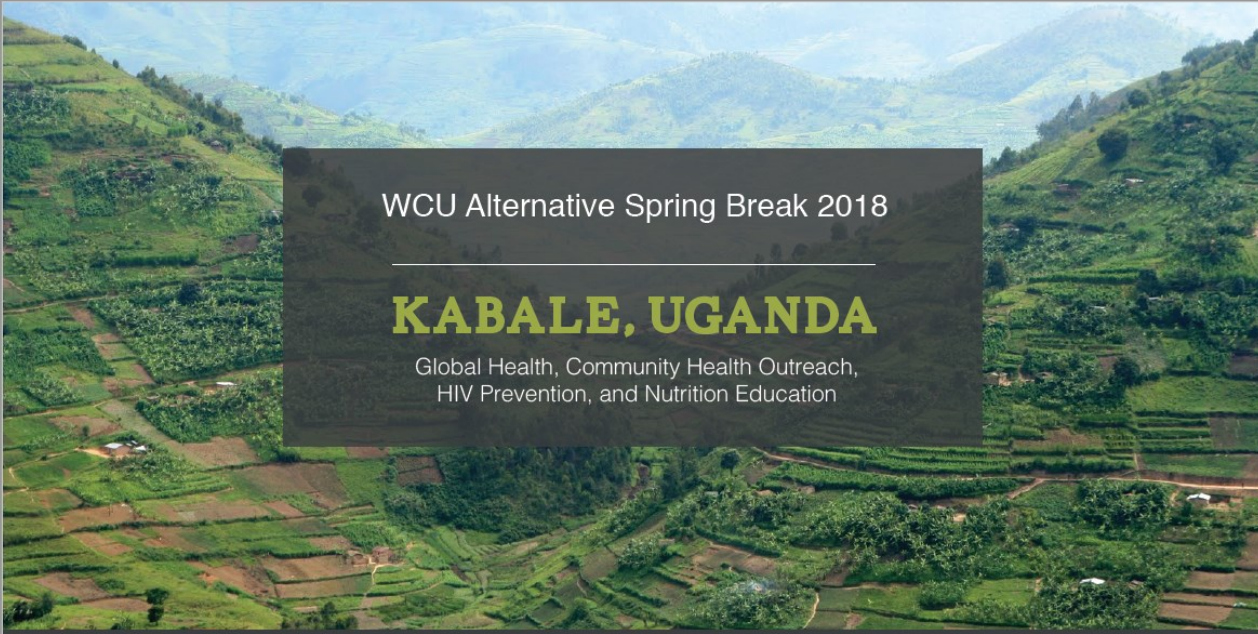
Have you checked out the MPH Bulletin board? It is located on the 3rd floor of the Sturzebecker Health Sciences Center. You will find health promotion flyers, degree information, career resources, and various service learning projects in the community. The health promotion flyers are created by graduate students who are passionate about spreading awareness on health topics each month.

Don't forget to like our Facebook page, "Masters of Public Health Program - West Chester University" and follow our Instagram (@wcumphsab) and Twitter Account (@MPHWCU). Our social media accounts are filled with ALE sites, job and internships postings, service learning projects, current health news/research, meetings/events information, conference dates, and much more!

For questions please contact Annie Frame at AF875954@wcupa.edu

WCU Alternative Spring Break 2018

Uganda Alternate Spring Break 2018 Service-Learning Trip: Global Health, Community Health Outreach, HIV, and Nutrition



WCU Alternative Spring Break 2018

KABALE, UGANDA

Global Health, Community Health Outreach,
HIV Prevention, and Nutrition Education

Dates MARCH 9–18, 2018 WCU's Spring Break	Price \$2,125 (PLUS AIRFARE, VACCINATIONS, AND VISA/PASSPORT FEES) Scholarships Available	Application Deadline NOVEMBER 15, 2017 https://tinyurl.com/ABUganda
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Dr. Chiwoneso Tinago will be co-directing an international service-learning trip with Ms. Sherry Mendez, Director of Wellness Promotion, where they will take 10 students to Kabale, Uganda during spring break 2018 (March 9-18, 2018).

Faculty Scholarly Achievements

Publications

- Bill, D.** (2017) Book review: by Horton, Sarah Browen. They leave their kidneys in the fields: illness, injury, and illegality among U.S. farmworkers. California, *CHOICE Book Reviews: American Library Association*. pub. 2016. 250p bibl Issue 3, Volume 55-1095.
- Giorgino, V. & **McCown, D.** (2017). Life skills for peer production. *Journal of Peer Production* (special issue: "City").
- Ingram, L. A., **Tinago, C.**, Cai, B., Sanders, L. W., Bevington, T., Wilson, S., Magruder, K., Svendsen, (2017). Examining Long-term mental health in a rural community post-disaster: A mixed methods approach. Accepted: *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*.
- Mamberg, M.H. & **McCown, D.** (in press). Mindfulness-based programs de-reify self: DST clarifies a new therapeutic voice. In A. Konopka, H Hermans, & M. Gonçalves (eds.) *The Dialogical Self in Psychotherapy: Across Schools and Cultures*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- McCown, D.** (2017). Introduction: A new hope. In L. Monteiro, J. Compson, & F. Musten (eds.), *Practitioner's Guide to Ethics and Mindfulness-Based Interventions*. New York: Springer.
- Micozzi, M.S., **McCown, D.**, & Dibra, S. (in press) *CAM in Community*. New York: Springer.

Presentations

- Bill, D.**, & **Katirai, K.** *Creating Service Learning Opportunities for Graduate Public Health Students in a Latino Community: Strengthening Campus-Community Collaborations*, 9th Annual Latino Communities Conference, West Chester University, West Chester, PA. September 29, 2017.
- Laurenzi, M. & **McCown, D.** (2017). *Mindfulness Training Opportunities for Students in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education*. WCU Research Day, November 8.
- McCown, D.** (2017). Keynote: *Atmospherics: Reaching another level in mindfulness-based teaching*, Growing Edges: Summer School for Mindfulness Trainers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, August 21-23.
- McCown, D.** & Reibel, D. (2017). Daylong workshop: *Pedagogy in the MBIs: An international exploration*, Centre for Mindfulness Research and Practice Conference, Chester, UK, July 6-11.
- McCown, D.**, Weiner, K., Moriconi, C., & Laurenzi, M. (2017). *Diversity and Consensus: Engaging First Generation Students in Contemplative Practices*, 10th Annual Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education Conference, Scotts Valley, CA, October 27-29.

Faculty Scholarly Achievements

Presentations (continued)

- Sankaran, G.** (2017). Oral presentation, *Human rights in the Global South: Role of Technology – a miracle or a curse?*, at the XXVI Annual International Conference of the Global Awareness Society International at Heredia, Costa Rica on Saturday, May 27th.
- Sankaran, G.** (2017). Oral presentation, *Climate change, human rights and impact on children's health*, at the 145th Annual Meeting of American Public Health Association in Atlanta, Georgia on Monday, November 6th.
- Sankaran, G.** (2017). *Foundations of Epidemiology*. A two hour guest lecture to Physician Assistant and Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences students enrolled in PHYA 542: Research Methods in Health and Disease course at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine on Wednesday, August 16th.
- Sankaran, G.** (2017). *Descriptive Epidemiology*. A two hour guest lecture to Physician Assistant and Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences students enrolled in PHYA 542: Research Methods in Health and Disease course at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine on Thursday, August 17th.
- Sankaran, G.** (2017). *Community Responsive Medicine and COPC*. A two hour guest lecture to Physician Assistant and Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences students enrolled in PHYA 542: Research Methods in Health and Disease course at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine on Thursday, August 24th.
- Sankaran, G.** (2017). *Responsibility I: Assessing Individual and Community Needs and Assets for Health Education*. Three hour workshop conducted as part of CHES Test Preparation Course at Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia on Saturday, October 7th.
- Sankaran, G.** (2017). *Responsibility IV: Conducting Evaluation and Research Related to Health Education*. Three hour workshop conducted as part of CHES Test Preparation Course at Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia on Saturday, October 7th.
- Sunger, N., Morgan, PM, and Haas, CN.** *Comparison of pathogen derived 'Total Risk' with indicator based correlations for recreational (swimming) exposure*, at the 3rd International Conference on Water Resource and Environment (WRE), Qingdao, China, June 2017.
- Tinago C.B.** (2017). *Carrying someone in your tummy is kinda hectic: Conceptualizations of Pregnancy and Planning for Pregnancy among Adolescent Girls and Young Women in Harare, Zimbabwe*. Research and oral presentation at Research Day Fall 2017, West Chester University of Pennsylvania, West Chester, PA, November 8, 2017.
- Tinago C. B.** (2017). Program Planning from a Global Health Perspective. Guest Lecture in MSGH 427: Grant Writing, Development, and Fundraising (online), Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, October 23, 2017.

Faculty Scholarly Achievements

Professional Development

McCown, D. (2017). Participant in Contemplative Studies Think Tank, sponsored by Mind & Life Institute, at Brown University; dialogue with representatives from 15 universities across the US who are developing academic programs in contemplative studies. September 22-24.

Sankaran, G. (2017). Participated in the RECAP (Resources for the Electronic Classroom: A Faculty Student Partnership) conference at West Chester University, West Chester, Pennsylvania on Thursday, May 18th.

Sankaran, G. (2017). Participated in the *END AIDS Annual Conference*, organized by Philadelphia FIGHT at the Convention Center, Philadelphia and earned 4.5 CECH Category I for recertification as Certified Health Education Specialist on Wednesday, June 7th.

Sankaran, G. (2017). Participated in *Beyond the Walls: Prison Healthcare and Reentry Summit*, organized by Philadelphia Fight at the Convention Center, Philadelphia and earned 4.5 CECH Category I for recertification as Certified Health Education Specialist on Wednesday, June 28th.

Tinago, C.B. (2017). Faculty Advisor Participant at the American Mock World Health Organization Conference (AMWHO) Conference at Emory University in Atlanta, GA.

Teaching and Fulfillment of Professional Responsibilities

Sankaran, G. (2017). Facilitated West Chester University College of Health Sciences' reaccreditation by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to offer Continuing Medical Education. Wrote and submitted the Self-Study Report in fall 2016 and participated in the Site Visit (by phone) in spring 2017. Outcome: West Chester University College of Health Sciences reaccredited to offer Continuing Medical Education until July 31, 2021.

Sankaran, G. (2017). Prepared and submitted a proposal to Curriculum and Academic Policies Council (CAPC) at West Chester University to offer HEA 520: Public Health Epidemiology as an online course option beginning spring 2018. Proposal approved by CAPC.

Service

Sankaran, G. (2017). Participated in the 2017 U. S. Global Leadership Coalition State Leaders Summit in Washington, D.C., on June 13 & 14. Visited Capitol Hill and met with Pennsylvania Senators and Representatives and/or their executive staff and advocated for funding for global humanitarian activities including health programs.

Sankaran, G. (2017). Planned and emceed the International Health Section Awards Ceremony and Reception at the Annual Meeting of American Public Health Association in Atlanta, Georgia on Tuesday, November 7th.

Faculty Scholarly Achievements

Service (continued)

- Sunger, N.** (2017). Lead the food drive event on campus in support of Diwali Food Drive and represented the Department at the final food drive event in Chester County on October 21.
- Sunger, N.** (2017). Chaired Women's Networking Group event for ISES annual meeting on October 18 at Durham, NC. Lead the planning of the entire event, which was a huge success with around 110 participants and a panel of 4 keynote speakers.
- Sunger, N.** (2017). Organized field trip for EH students to waste management facility – Lanchester landfill in Narvon, PA. Bob Watts, Executive Director of Chester County Solid Waste Authority, provided the guided tour to the students to educate them on waste management challenges and successes.

Awards/Honors/Recognitions

- Bill, D., & Katirai, K.** West Chester University Service-Learning Teaching Excellence Award (Honorable Mention, 2017)
- Sankaran, G.** (2017). Nominated and reappointed by the American Public Health Association Executive Board to serve on the Editorial Board of the *American Journal of Public Health* (AJPH), for a three-year term, beginning November, 2017, through November, 2020.
- Sankaran, G.** (2017). Certificate of Recognition Awarded for Dedicated Service as Chair of the Awards Committee of the APHA International Health Section at the Annual Meeting of American Public Health Association on Tuesday, November 7th.
- Sunger, N., Morgan, PM, and Haas, CN.** (2017). Best Oral Presentation Award for “Comparison of pathogen derived ‘Total Risk’ with indicator based correlations for recreational (swimming) exposure”, at the 3rd International Conference on Water Resource and Environment (WRE), Qingdao, China, in June.

Future Conferences/Opportunities

- Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientist (NEAFS) – ANNUAL MEETING coming up on November 7-10, 2017 in Pocono Manor, PA - <http://www.neafs.org/index.php/annual-meeting/annual-meeting>
- Global Water Alliance (GWA) – 11th annual conference focusing on groundwater on April 5th 2018 at Villanova University, Deadline for Abstract — January 10, 2018 <http://www.globalwateralliance.net/>
- AEHAP Student Research Competition Scholarships - Applications due February, 28, 2018
<http://www.aehap.org/internships.html>

Student Scholarly Achievements

Presentations (Student presenters identified by an *)

- ***Laurenzi, M.** (MPH Student), & McCown, D. (2017). *Mindfulness Training Opportunities for Students in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education*. WCU Research Day, November 8.
- McCown, D., Weiner, K., Moriconi, C., & ***Laurenzi, M.** (2017). *Diversity and Consensus: Engaging First Generation Students in Contemplative Practices*, 10th Annual Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education Conference, Scotts Valley, CA, October 27-29.
- ***Owen, B.M.** and Sunger, N. (2017). *Exploratory risk assessment for private wells and recreational water exposures to children in the State of New Jersey* at Mid Atlantic Society of Toxicology (MASOT), NJ, in October.
- ***Smith, K.** (2017). *Use of Mobile Data Application to Increase Serial Data Collection of Facility Readiness in a Resource Limited Setting*. American Public Health Association (APHA), Atlanta, GA, November 2017.
- ***Stover, C.S.** (2017). *Evaluation of a comprehensive suicide prevention program: QPR training for students, staff, and parents*. American Public Health Association (APHA), Atlanta, GA, November 2017.
- Sunger, N., Prasad, B., ***Morgan, PM**, Lennon, E. and Haas, CN. (2017). *A Quantitative Risk Assessment for Stachybotrys chartarum Toxic Mold* at the International Society of Exposure Science (ISES), Durham, NC, in October.

Happy Thanksgiving

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Happy Holidays!