

## *Embrace Your Future*

### Notes from the Program Director

Charles Doarn

Welcome back to campus and to the MPH Program. While vaccinations are on the way, we will continue teaching in a virtual mode. If you are on campus, you must always wear a mask and social distance. The faculty and staff remain fully engaged, albeit from a distance, and we are all here to ensure your MPH experience is worthwhile and engaging. While you have no doubt received lots of messages about the current plans, please let Angie or me know if you have any challenges this semester. The semester will fly by so let us know of any challenges as soon as they arise.

We welcomed ten new students to our program this spring.



### Racism as Public Health Priority

The Department of Environmental and Public Health Sciences (DEPHS) and the MPH Program are keenly aware of the challenges that minorities face. We recognize the importance of this issue as public health priority. This awareness implores all of us to understand equity and inclusion; and most importantly do something about it. If you see something – say something! Gamma Rho is working with faculty and other DEPHS graduate students to conduct seminars. Additional information will follow.

### Congrats to FS20 Grads!

This Fall, 2020, the following students earned their MPH Degree:

#### FS2020

Megan Davish (HEHP)	Maida Tiwana (EPI)
Janie Hils (EPI)	Ariela Topper (EPI)
Nnenna Ifeanyi (BIO)	Bhargav Vemuri (BIO)
Mentalla Ismail (GH)	Stephanie Weber (HSM)
Deepa Manda (HEHP)	Binglun Yu (BIO)
Rebecca Sallade (HEHP)	

**Congratulations to these individuals!!**

### Student Advising

As a graduate student, you take on a lot of responsibility. Your concentration director is your PRIMARY point of contact for your journey. You each have a secondary advisor – Drs. Burbage or Nolan, and Professor Doarn. Programmatic questions can be addressed by Professor Doarn and/or our program staff. Ms. Angie Glankler and Ms. Rachel Myer. While Angie is the lead, they both can help you navigate the complexities of our graduate program. They can both be reached by e-mail. Ms. Glankler can also be reached by phone (513-558-5777). You can also visit the program website at <https://med.uc.edu/depart/eh/divisions/public-health/home>

### Semester Seminars

During each semester, MPH students who have not completed 21 credit hours, must attend the three MPH-focused departmental seminars on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. EST (USA). If you are enrolled in PH7001, you must attend all of the seminars. If you cannot attend due to a scheduling conflict, you must submit a 1-page summary to Professor Doarn. All seminars are via WebEx and are recorded.

### Practicum and Capstone Coordination

As the semester winds down, those students enrolled in their Practicum/Capstone/Thesis projects must present their final work. Required forms and dates can be found on Canvas for the appropriate course(s) you are enrolled in. This semester, we will conduct our traditional end of semester seminar via WebEx. Please review the instructions Professor Doarn provided. If you have any questions, please contact him directly.

### Gamma Rho – UC's Chapter of Delta Omega



Delta Omega is an honorary organization for MPH Students. UC's chapter is Gamma Rho, and is led by your fellow students. Gamma Rho activities are an excellent way to earn service credits, which are required for every MPH student. It is also a great way to meet and interact with other MPH students. Throughout the semester, Gamma Rho will conduct several volunteer activities and it is looking for new members and new officers

# MPH Program Newsletter

Current Gamma Rho officers include:

Arthur Cobb – President  
 Rachel Laxton – Community Chair  
 Molly Leshner – Secretary  
 Megan Meyers – Social Chair  
 Conniesha Oatts – Communication Chair  
 Abby Schieman – Treasurer

If you would like more information on Gamma Rho or would like to get involved, please contact [deltaomega.gammarho@gmail.com](mailto:deltaomega.gammarho@gmail.com).

## Upcoming Events and Important Dates

The following dates are important for the remainder of the semester (\*WebEx)

- Seminar – February 10 (Ashley Merianos)\*
- Seminar – April 7, (Public Health Week)\*
- Reading Days – Feb. 16, Mar. 24 – No Classes
- Mini Public Health Seminar – April 23\*
- Finals Week – April 22-27

## Scholarship Opportunities

There are two scholarship opportunities for MPH students. These include (1) the James O'Reilly International



Scholarship; and (2) the Dwight Tillery Fellowship Program. Please review these on the MPH website.

Menna Elkholi was awarded the \$5,000 O'Reilly International Scholarship for Spring Semester 2021. Upon graduation, she will return to Egypt and apply her knowledge in a public health setting.

In addition, there is an Academic Achievement Award presented by the Department of Environmental and Public Health Sciences Chair, Dr. Glenn Talaska. The awardees are chosen by the concentration directors based solely on academics. The recipients receive a certificate and \$500.

Spring Semester Awardees will be notified by April 16, 2021.

Fall Semester 2020 awardees were:

Bhargav Vemuri (BIO)	Erin Magleci (EPH)
Swairah Rehman (EPI)	Sydney Hinline (HSM)
Regina Bean (GH)	

Each semester awardees are recognized for their achievements with a certificate and their name affixed to a plaque on display in Kettering Complex.

## Alumni Corner

We are proud of our alumni and the accomplishments that they make after they graduate.

Priya Joshi, MPH (Epidemiology) is the Program Development and Evaluation Director at the Center for Closing the Health Gap.

Susan Sprigg, MPH (Leadership, Mgmt. & Policy) was recently named Director of Community and Population Health at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

## Faculty Corner

The MPH faculty bring a broad knowledge base to our curriculum. The faculty come from a wide background both intramurally and extramurally of UC. While there are concentration directors and a program director, there are also a wide variety of faculty that can be of service to each of you. Reach out to them if you have an interest in their work. Be mindful of their busy schedules.

Dr. Burbage was recently appointed to the Executive Office of the President's SPEC subcommittee of the esteemed President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.

Professor Doarn was recently appointed to the Center for Closing the Health Gap's Board of Directors for a term of 3 years.

## Publications

Our faculty and students are often involved in publishing peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters and books. There are currently several in review or in press.

1. *Book chapter - Nolan RD, Funk A, Agle J, Doarn CR. The Intersection of End of Life, Grief, and Technology. Social Determinants of Healthy Aging: A Public Health Perspective.* Eds: Jurkowski E. and Guest A. Dove Press 2021. In press.

## Fleece Pullovers

Fleece pullovers are available for sale for \$24.00. Please make your check out to the University of Cincinnati and in the memo line add 'MPH Fleece'. When the time is right, please see Professor Doarn.



The MPH newsletter is written and distributed twice a semester. If you have an interesting story to share or important news, please contact Professor Doarn.

