Embrace Your Future

Notes from the Program Director
Charles Doarn

Welcome to Fall Semester 2021 and to our MPH Program. We are delighted you have chosen to pursue your MPH degree with us here at UC. We are committed to providing you a worthwhile and engaging experience. This fall semester marks the largest number of incoming students (52) in our program’s history. As part of our growing program (n=115), you will enjoy time in the classroom, albeit in masks and social distancing. I cannot stress enough the importance of public health and the growing evidence base we have at our disposal! The faculty and staff remain fully engaged to prepare you for careers in public health. Please let Rachel Meyer or I know if you have any challenges this semester. There is a lot to do before December rolls around, so keep at it and best of luck.

Congrats to SS21 and SU21 Grads!

This past Spring and Summer semester the following students earned their MPH Degree:

SS2021
Joshua Becasen (HEHP)       Megan Meyers (EPI)
Arthur Cobb (EPI)            Ayanna Morgan (HEHP)
Mohammed Fadlalla (GH)      Conniesha Oatts (EPI)
Kathryn Gieselman (GH)      Swairah Rehman (EPI)
Fatima Hussain (BIO)       Jessie Richardson (HSM)
Rachel Laxton (GH)         Andrew Strine (BIO)
Molly Leshner (EPI)         Sydney Taylor (HEHP)

SU2021
McKenzie Ackemyer (GH)      Anudeep Kapalavay (BIO)
Elizabeth Bunse (GH)        Pratima Shanbhag (HEHP)
David Cady (BIO)            Abby Schieman (HEHP)
Raghu Deep Darisi (EPI)

Congratulations to these individuals!!

Racism as a Public Health Priority

The Department of Environmental and Public Health Sciences (DEPHS) will be rolling out the ‘Social Justice & Public Health Special Interest Group’ this fall. Previously called ‘Social Justice and Determinants of Health Journal Club’, this Special Interest Group will meet once a month to discuss topics related to social justice, equity, and diversity in public health. Meetings will consist of guest speakers, movies, articles, and discussions on current events. Details will follow from Dr. Michelle Burbage. Email Dr. Burbage at burbagml@ucmail.uc.edu if you have any questions.

Dr. Nolan is teaching a class on racism as a public health concern (PH7003). This course is designed to promote an understanding of the factors related to racism and their impact on public health.

Awards

The MPH Program has several awards each semester. These include scholarships, fellowships, academic achievement awards, and best presenter awards. The awardees for SS21, SU21, and FS21 are

Best presenters at the Mini Public Health Seminars
SS21 -         SU21
Raghu Deep Darisi Sydney Hineline
Swairah Rehman   Holly Wanek
Ayanna Morgan

Academic Achievement Awards
SS21 –
Anudeep Kapalavay (BIO)
Francisco de la Garza Iga (EHP)
Raghu Deep Darisi (EPI)
Christopher Johnson (GH)
Sanya Gupta (HSM)
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James O’Reilly Scholarships
Menna Elkholi SS21 / SU21
Rachel Kombo – FS21

Dwight Tillery Training Fellowship
Danya Shah – SU21 / FS21
Maame-Saa Arko – FS21

Student Advising
If you are having issues or challenges with course work, please reach out to your concentration director or secondary advisor – Drs. Burbage or Nolan, and Professor Doarn. As always, programmatic questions can be addressed by Professor Doarn and/or our program coordinator, Ms. Rachel Meyer.

Semester Seminars
If you are enrolled in PH7001, you must attend all DEPHS Wednesday seminars (at 10:00 am in Kehoe). If you cannot attend, please follow the directions as outlined in Canvas for the course. All students, who have not started their Applied Practical Experience (APE) or Practicum, you must attend the 3 Public Health-focused seminars. If you cannot attend due to a scheduling conflict, you must submit a 1-page summary to Professor Doarn for these 3 seminars only. All seminars are in person and are recorded. MPH Fall Semester 2021 required Wednesday Seminars:
- September 15 – Ellen Hahn, PhD
- October 6 – Shanna Stryker, MD, MPH
- October 20 – Michael Binder, MD, MPH

Practicum and Capstone Coordination
On December 3, those students enrolled in their Practicum/Capstone/Thesis projects will 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 in person. Please review the instructions Professor Doarn provided. If you have any questions, please contact him directly.

Gamma Rho – UC’s Chapter of Delta Omega
Election of new officers for 2021-2022 will be occurring soon.
If you would like more information on Gamma Rho or would like to get involved, please contact deltaomega.gammarho@gmail.com.

Access to Information!
All the information and forms you need to successfully complete your MPH degree can be found on our program website - https://med.uc.edu/depart/eh/divisions/public-health/home

Upcoming Events and Important Dates
The following dates are important for the remainder of the semester
- Reading Days – Oct 11-12 – No Classes
- Veterans Day – Nov 11 – No Classes
- Thanksgiving Holiday - Nov 25-26 – No Classes
- Mini Public Health Seminar – December 3
- Finals Week – Dec 6-9

International Experience Opportunities
If you have an interest in an international experience, UC has several opportunities. Dr. Christine O’Dea leads groups to Guatemala and often MPH students join these trips. A separate flier was sent out to all students. A second opportunity is with Village Life Outreach. Under the direction of Dr. Christopher Lewis, students have the opportunity to travel to Tanzania. For additional information on Tanzania, please contact Professor Doarn.

Publications
Our faculty and students are often involved in publishing papers. Here are a couple of recent publications
*UC MPH graduate.

Fleece Pullovers
Fleece pullovers are available for sale for $25.00. 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.