Embrace Your Future

Notes from the Program Director
Charles Doarn

Welcome back to campus and to the MPH Program. This Fall Semester is like no other. The COVID-19 pandemic and the imposition of social distancing continue to be the new norm. 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 I know if you have any challenges this semester. There is a lot to do before December 8, so keep at it and best of luck.

Wearing masks and social distancing helps all of us stay safe! Our first ever virtual orientation

Racism as Public Health Priority

The Department of Environmental and Public Health Sciences and the MPH Program are keenly aware of the challenges that minorities face and the horrible events we have witnessed recently. 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!

Congrats to SS20 and SU20 Grads!

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

SS2020
- Sandra Amegbor (GH)
- Sarah Baker (EPI)
- Michael Binder (HSM)
- Kerrie Dailey (EPI)
- Brittany Hurst (EPH)
- Grace Lagasse (GH)
- David Lang (OCC)
- Irene Lim-Beutel (GH)
- Lisa Littner (HEHP)
- Neha Malhotra (EPI)
- Colleen O’Connor (EPH)
- Richa Patel (EPI)
- Tejeswini Siva Sathya (EPI)
- Shanna Stryker (GH)
- Lauren Thompson (HSM)
- Kelli Williams (EPI)
- Ronine Zamor (EPI)

SU2020
- Nouf Bindiran (EPI)
- Devin Knutson (EPI)
- Aaron Leadingham (EPI)
- Mariah Konrath (HEHP)
- Rohit Kalvakunta (HSM)

Congratulations to these individuals!!

Staff News

Our program is supported by outstanding graduate coordinators – 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).

Semester Seminars

During each semester, MPH students who have not completed 21 hours, must attend the 3 MPH-focused departmental seminars on Wednesdays at 10:00. If you are enrolled in PH-7001, you must attend all of the seminars. If you cannot attend due to scheduling conflict you must submit a short 1-page summary to Professor Doarn. All seminars are via WebEx.

Practicum and Capstone Coordination

As the semester winds down, those students enrolled in their Practicum/Capstone/Thesis projects must present their final work. A separate e-mail was sent out on September 7 highlighting ALL required tasks. This semester, we will conduct our traditional end of semester seminar via WebEx. Please review the instructions Professor Doarn sent on September 7. 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, which is led by your fellow students. Gamma Rho activities are an excellent way to earn service credits, which every MPH student must have! 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.

Current officers include:

Arthur Cobb – President
Rachel Laxton – Community Chair
Molly Leschner – Secretary
Megan Meyers – Social Chair
Conniesha Oatts – Communication Chair

If you would like more information on Gamma Rho or would like to get involved, please contact deltaomega.gammarho@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

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

- Seminar - October 14, (Sergey Grinshpun)*
- Seminar - October 21 (Odell Owens)*
- Practicum and Capstone Information Session – September 11*
- Holidays – November 11 and November 26-27
- All classes are online after November 25
- Mini Public Health Seminar – December 3*
- Finals Week – December 7-8

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.

In addition, the MPH Program has an Academic Achievement Award presented by the Department of Environmental and Public Health Sciences Chair, Dr. Glenn Talaska. The awardee is chosen by the concentration director based solely on academics. The recipients receive a certificate and $500.

Fall Semester Awardees will be notified by November 20, 2020.

Spring Semester 2020 awardees were:

Binglun Yu (Bio)       Maxwell Tallman (EPI)
Janie Hils (EPI)       Colleen O'Conn (EPH)
Rachel Laxton (GH)

Alumni Corner

We are proud of our alumni and the accomplishments that they make after they graduate. In the Spring of 2020, Brittany Hurst received her MPH with a concentration in Environmental Public Health. She was sworn in as a Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG) in the United States Navy.

LTJG Hurst will begin training in Rhode Island and will be stationed in Beaufort, South Carolina in October. Congratulations and well deserved!

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.

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 at charles.doarn@uc.edu.