Notes from the Program Director
Charles Doarn

It is hard to believe the semester is winding down. It has certainly been an interesting fall. Thankfully, the election is finally over! Hopefully, the government will remain engaged with the fight on COVID-19 and the skills and competencies you are gaining in this program will be of service to you and the community. Please be mindful of ALWAYS wearing masks and social distancing at all times while in the building and on campus! Be safe and best of luck with your assignments and final exams.

COVID-19 Updates
As faculty, staff and students, we have kept COVID-19 out of this building. This is due in large part to each of you. Remain vigilant while in our building, Kettering Complex, and on campus.

Racism as Public Health Priority
The Department of Environmental and Public Health Sciences (DEPHS) will be rolling out the ‘Social Justice and Determinants of Health Journal Club’ in partnership with Gamma Rho and the DEPHS MS and PhD students. Details will follow from Dr. Michelle Burbage.

The department’s working group on racism is led by Drs. Ardythe Morrow and Angelico Mendy.

Job Opportunities
While our program does not have a listing of job opportunities for our graduates, we often are made aware openings that may be of interest. In addition, there are job postings at Ohio Society of Public Health Education [https://www.ohiosophe.org/jobs](https://www.ohiosophe.org/jobs). As we hear of opportunities, we will pass them along.

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 by contacting ehgrad@ucmail.uc.edu. Ms. Glankler can also be reached by phone (513-558-5777).

Student Advising
When you enter our program in the concentration of your choice, you are automatically assigned an academic advisor. You should make every effort to meet with that faculty member at least once during each semester. In addition, you also have a core faculty member as your secondary advisor. These are Drs. Burbage and Nolan, and Professor Doarn. These faculty are available to answer questions about your MPH journey.

Keep in mind, Practicum and Culminating Experiences (capstone or thesis) must be coordinated with Professor Doarn when you are ready.

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 the week of November 2, highlighting ALL required tasks and the schedule. If you have any questions, please contact Professor Doarn.

Semester Seminars
During each semester, MPH students who have not completed 21 hours, must attend the three 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. Make sure you submit your summaries to Professor Doarn.

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 are mandatory for all MPH students. 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. The inset photo is from Cleaning Up Cincinnati.
Current Gamma Rho officers include:

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

Recent inductees include – Justin Chon, Sydney Hineline, Christopher Johnson and Abby Schieman. If you would like more information on Gamma Rho or would like to get involved, please contact deltaomega.gammarho@gmail.com.

There will be a call for new officers soon.

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

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

- Holidays – November 11 and November 26-27
- All classes are online after November 25
- Mini Public Health Seminar – December 4*
  - Three Groups (9:00-11:30)
  - MPH Recognition Ceremony (11:30 – 12:00)
- Finals Week – December 3-8

Scholarship Awardees

Mentalla Ismail received a Dwight Tillery Fellowship Award for her FS2020 work at the Center for Closing the Health Gap.

Fall Semester Awardees, including the Academic Achievement Awards, will be recognized on December 4 at the conclusion of the MPH Mini Public Health Seminar.

There are three new plaques in the hall leading to the MPH Faculty Offices and MPH Library. These plaques will forever recognize those individuals who have received one of the following: Dwight Tillery Fellowship, O’Reilly Scholarship, and the Academic Achievement Award.

Alumni Corner

We are proud of our alumni and the accomplishments that they make after they graduate. Recently, we learned that Priya Joshi was promoted to Program Development & Evaluation Director at the Center for Closing the Health Gap. Ms. Joshi was also a recipient of the Dwight Tillery Fellowship in 2019.

Keeping Up with Times

Each of you must complete a practicum or capstone. Dr. Burbage and I are assembling a comprehensive list. Dr. Nolan and Professor Ingram will also contribute to this list. This list will eventually be available using a QR code. Additional capabilities will be added next semester. All MPH information can be found on our website or in your student handbook.

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.

Our faculty have been busy publishing manuscripts, book chapters and books during these past few months. Check with each of them to find out more.

MPH Library

The MPH Library and meeting space has been set up in G06. There are lots of text books and all capstone and theses from the beginning of our program available review.

Fleece Pullovers

Fleece pullovers are available for sale for $24.00. Please make your check out to the University of Cincinnati and on 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.