

SPM NEWS

Department of Social & Preventive Medicine

School of Public Health and Health Professions (SPHHP)

State University of New York at Buffalo

<http://sphhp.buffalo.edu/spm>



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Marcia Wopperer, editor

The Director's Corner


Jerome Yates, M.D., M.P.H. has been appointed interim chair of the Department of SPM effective June 17. Dr. Yates received his M.D. from the University of Illinois and his M.P.H. from Harvard University. He has served as associate director for Centers and Community Oncology at NCI; senior vice president for Clinical Affairs at RPCI; senior vice president of Population Sciences and Health Services Research at RPCI; and national vice president of research at the American Cancer Society. Dr. Yates currently holds the positions of senior clinical research scientist at the National Institute on Aging, and adjunct professor of Medicine and Oncology at UB and RPCI. We welcome him to the department and look forward to working together as our search for a new chair continues.


Jo Freudenheim, Ph.D. will continue to serve as UB Distinguished Professor in the Department. Dr. Freudenheim joined the department in 1987 as a postdoctoral fellow and quickly distinguished herself both nationally and internationally in the field of nutritional and cancer epidemiology. She has been among UB's top 100 funded PI's earning her the honor of UB Distinguished Professor and also the SUNY Chancellor's Recognition Award for Research. Her tenure as chair from 2006, and interim chair from 2003-2006, occurred during the challenging time of the department's transition from the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences to the new School of Public Health and Health Related Professions. She has been instrumental in recruiting many dedicated and talented young faculty to the department.


The School of Public Health and Health Professions (SPHHP) Commencement was held on May 11 at the Center for the Arts. Pamela Hyde, J.D., Administrator of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services served as commencement speaker. Graduates from SPM included two Ph.D., seven M.S., and 10 M.P.H. graduates. Congratulations to the new graduates and best wishes on your future endeavors!


- Carl Li, M.D., M.P.H.


Honors and Awards


 **Imran Ahmad**, M.B.B.S., **Rashmi Bismark**, M.D., and **Tyler Evans**, M.D., received First Place Award for their poster, "Burnout and Health-Promoting Behavior Among New York State Resident Physicians," presented at UB's 2013 Scholarly Exchange Day held May 18 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Buffalo.

 **Sarah Ackroyd**, M.P.H., **Rashmi Bismark**, M.D., M.P.H., **Joan Dorn**, Ph.D., **Jo Freudenheim**, Ph.D., **Gary Giovino**, Ph.D., **Germaine Buck Lewis**, Ph.D., **Yanli Li**, Ph.D., **Karen Morris**, M.P.H., **Holger Schunemann**, M.D., Ph.D., **Maurizio Trevisan**, M.D., **Deirdre Wheat**, M.D., M.P.H., and **Amanda Ziegler**, M.P.H., were inducted into the Delta Omega Public Health Honor Society, Gamma Lambda Chapter, School of Public Health and Health Professions, University at Buffalo. They are among 21 other SPHHP graduating students, faculty or alumni included in this first year of our chapter which was activated following approval by the National Office.

 **Rashmi Bismark**, M.D., was awarded 2nd Place in the *UB Residents Committee Healthy Eating Holiday Challenge* sponsored by the UB Residents Committee.

 **Rikki Cannioto**, Ed.D, **Swapna Kumar**, **Albina Minlikeeva**, M.P.H., and **AnnaLynn Surace**, M.S., were elected to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* for 2013.

 **Andra Licht**, M.S., received a *Perry Poster Award* for her research entitled "Attitudes, Experiences, and Acceptance of Smoke-Free Policies in Multi-Unit Housing Establishments: A National Study of Multi-Housing Operators and Residents."

 **Michelle Sahli**, M.S., received the 2012-2013 *Saxon Graham Research Award* for her proposal entitled "Associations Between Dietary Factors and Diabetic Retinopathy and the Optometrists' Practices in Advising About Lifestyle Study." The award provides funds

to support research undertaken toward the completion of her doctoral dissertation.



William Scheider, Ph.D., was awarded a UB 2012-2013 Civic Engagement Grant Development Fellowship for his project entitled "A Community-University Research Partnership to Reduce Air Pollution and Its Health Effects in Northwest Erie County." The project examines sources and distribution of environmental exposures and exposure-health relationships within the communities of northwest Erie County.



Bi Tadzong, M.D., M.P.H., has been inducted into the Gold Humanism in Medicine Society (GHHS). GHHA honors medical students, residents, role-model physician teachers and other exemplars for their demonstrated excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion and dedication to service.



Jean Wactawski-Wende, Ph.D., is the 2013 Stockton-Kimball Awardee from the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (SMBS). The award recognizes her academic accomplishments, internationally recognized research and service to the school.

American Public Health Association

Mark your calendars! The American Public Health Association (APHA) 141 Annual Meeting will be held in Boston, MA, November 2-6. The theme of this year's meeting is *Think Global, Act Local*. Information regarding registration can be found online at <http://www.apha.org/meetings/registration>. Take advantage of the early-bird discount and register by August 22. SPHHP will sponsor a graduate student recruitment booth at the annual meeting. The Department will be asking for student volunteers to attend the meeting to help with our graduate student recruitment efforts. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Carl Li.

J. Warren Perry Poster Day

The SPHHP 2013 J. Warren Perry Poster Day was held April 19 in Allen Hall. The following posters were presented by SPM students/residents:

Imran Ahmad, M.B.B.S., "*Burnout and Health-Promoting Behavior Among Resident Physicians in Buffalo, NY*"

Katharine Dobson Amato, M.P.H., "*Pilot Evaluation of a Dedicated Institutional Tobacco Cessation Service for Thoracic Clinic Cancer Patients*"

Rashmi Bismark, M.D., "*Complementary and Alternative Medicine Utilization Among Patients With Lung Cancer at a Comprehensive Cancer Center in Western New York*"

Christina Crabtree-Ide, M.P.H., "*Validation of an Index of Proxy Measures and Self-Reported Handwashing Behavior in Dhaka, Bangladesh*"

Margaret DiVita, M.S., "*Admission FIM Total is a Significant Predictor of Developing a New or Worsened Pressure Ulcer Among Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Patients Seen in Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities*"

Tyler Evans, M.D., "*TB Misclassifications Among Resettled Refugees in Buffalo, NY from 2005-2012*"

Mark Glasgow, M.P.H., "*Early Life Exposures and Breast Cancer Risk Among African-American and European-American Women*"

Andrea Licht, M.S., "*Attitudes, Experiences, and Acceptance of Smoke-Free Policies in Multi-Unit Housing Establishments: A National Study of Multi-Housing Operators and Residents*"

Xiaodan Mai, M.B.B.S., "*Periodontal Disease and Lung Cancer Incidence in the Women's Health Initiative Observational Study (WHIOS)*"

Ajay Myneni, M.B.B.S., "*Genetic Polymorphisms of TERT and CLPTM1L and Risk of Lung Cancer – A Case-Control Study in a Chinese Population*"

Anushree Sharma, M.P.H., "*Impact of Advertising on Beverage Demand Curves and Break Points*"

Caila Vaughn, M.P.H., "*Insulin-Like Growth Factor Biomarkers and Genetic Polymorphisms are Associated With Adenomatous Poly Risk*"

Faculty/Student Presentations

Imran Ahmad, M.B.B.S., **Rashmi Bismark**, M.D., and **Tyler Evans**, M.D., presented a poster entitled "*Burnout and Health-Promoting Behavior Among New York State Resident Physicians*" at the American Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Annual Educational Conference. The conference was held in Orlando, FL, February 18-March 3. Imran also presented a poster, "*Determinants of Hookah Use Among Women in the Rural Kashmir Valley*," at the Preventive Medicine 2013 conference held in Phoenix, AZ, February 20-23.

Katharine Dobson Amato, M.P.H., presented the following posters: "*Pilot Evaluation of a Unique Tobacco Cessation Service for Lung Cancer Patients*" at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) meeting held in Boston, MA, March 13-16; and "*Evaluation of a Dedicated Institutional Tobacco Cessation Service for Thoracic Clinic Cancer Patients*" at the American Society of Clinical Oncology meeting held in Chicago, IL, May 31-June 4.

Margaret DiVita, M.S., presented a poster, “*Admission FIM Total is a Significant Predictor of Developing a New or Worsened Pressure Ulcer Among Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Patients Seen in Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities*” at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Academic Physiatrists held March 6-10 in New Orleans, LA.

Mark Glasgow, M.P.H., presented a poster at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting held in Washington, DC, April 6-10. His poster was entitled “*Early Life Exposures and Breast Cancer Risk Among African-American and European-American Women.*”

Andrea Licht, M.S., presented a poster at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) meeting held March 13-16 in Boston, MA. The title of her poster was “*Secondhand Smoke Exposure Levels in Outdoor Hospitality Venues: A Qualitative and Quantitative Review of the Research Literature.*”

Xiaodan Mai, M.B.B.S., will present a poster entitled “*Periodontal Disease and Lung Cancer Incidence in the Women’s Health Initiative Observational Study*” at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER). The meeting will be held in Boston, MA, June 18-21.

Amy Millen, Ph.D., presented a paper, “*Association Between Vitamin D Status and Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) by Complement Factor H (CFH) Y402H Genotype,*” at the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Annual Meeting held in Seattle, WA, May 5-9. She also presented her work as a poster at the Annual Women’s Health Initiative Study Investigators Meeting, May 2-3 in Seattle, WA.

Rachel Rizzo, M.S., M.P.H., presented a paper entitled “*Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid-Dependent Pregnant Women and Child Welfare Challenges*” at the 14th Annual Alcohol and Substance Abuse Providers, New York State Conference (ASAP) held May 5-8 in Buffalo, NY.

John Violanti, Ph.D., presented a workshop entitled “*The Enemy Within: Police Suicide*” at the American Association of Suicidology held April 24 in Austin, TX.

News and Notes

Arthur Michalek, Ph.D., has been named editor-in-chief of the Journal of Cancer Education.

Andrea Licht and **Michelle Sahli**, have successfully passed their preliminary exam and defended their dissertation proposals.

Alumni News

Harvey Arbesman, M.D., M.S. ('95), was a winner of the *Beyond Polio and InnoCentive Challenge to Help Eradicate Polio Globally*. The Challenge attempts to identify ways to reduce the cost and facilitate the use of the inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) in low- and middle-income countries.

Vera Dovirak, M.P.H. ('11), successfully passed the February 2013 Certified in Public Health Exam administered by the National Board of Public Health Examiners.

Preventive Medicine Residency Program

Erin Campbell, M.D., has been named chief resident for Preventive Medicine for 2013-2014.

Aparanjita Kolluru, M.B.B.S., will begin her PGY II in the Preventive Medicine Residency Program on July 1. Dr. Kolluru received a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering from Rutgers University, and an M.B.B.S. from Kasturba Medical College Manipal. She completed her PGY I in Medicine at New York Medical College. **Zubair Butt**, M.B.B.S., and **Wudeneh Mulugeta**, M.D., will begin their PGY III in the Combined Internal Medicine/Preventive Medicine on July 1. Dr. Butt received his M.B.B.S. from Government Medical College, Kashmir University. Dr. Mulugeta received a B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of Washington, Seattle; an M.D. from St. George’s University, Grenada; and an M.P.H. from SUNY Downstate Brooklyn.

Imran Ahmad, M.B.B.S., will complete the Combined Internal Medicine/Preventive Medicine Residency Program on August 25; **Rashmi Bismark**, M.D., and **Bi Tadzong**, M.D., will complete the Preventive Medicine Residency Program on June 30.

SPM Graduates: 2013

The following students successfully completed all degree requirements established by the Department of SPM and the University at Buffalo for February 1 and June 1, 2013 degree conferral. Congratulations to our graduates!

Ph.D. Epidemiology

Yanli Li, B.Med., “*Responses of Serum Chemokines to Dramatic Changes of Air Pollution.*” Committee members include Drs. Lina Mu (major), Richard Browne, Matthew

Bonner and Lili Tian. Yanli has accepted a position as epidemiologist at Amgen in Thousand Oaks, CA.

M.S. Epidemiology

Rajprakash Chennamaneni, M.B.B.S., “DNA Methylation, Physical Activity and Breast Cancer: The Western New York Exposures and Breast Cancer (WEB) Study,” Committee members include Drs. Jo Freudenheim (major), Michael LaMonte and Heather Ochs-Balcom.

John Heberger, M.A., “A Case-Case Comparison of Ergonomic Exposures Associated with Musculoskeletal Injuries in Maintenance Workers of Mineral Processing Mills and Coal Preparation Plants.” Committee members include Drs. Matthew Bonner (major), Michael LaMonte and Victor Paquet. John is currently a behavioral scientist at CDC/NIOSH/MOSHR in Pittsburgh, PA.

AnnaLynn Surace, “Dietary Lignan Intake and Androgen Receptor Expression in Breast Tumors.” Committee members include Drs. Susan McCann (major), Matthew Bonner and Heather Ochs-Balcom. AnnaLynn will begin the doctoral program in epidemiology at the University of Rochester.

M.P.H. Epidemiology

Ahmad Imran, M.B.B.S., “Burnout Among Resident Physicians at the University at Buffalo.” Committee members include Drs. Carl Li (major) and Chester Fox. Imran has accepted a position as assistant professor of oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

Richard Davies, “Does Reactivity Decrease During the Course of a Lengthy Direct Observation of Handwashing Behavior.” Committee members include Drs. Pavani Ram (major) and Heather Lindstrom.

Lamya Hamad, “Determinants of Unawareness of Diabetic Retinopathy Status.” Committee members include Drs. Amy Millen (major) and Michael LaMonte.

Elizabeth Mills, “Descriptive Epidemiologic Investigation of Lung Cancer and Leukemia Using Geographical Information System (GIS) in Northwest Erie County.” Committee members include Drs. William Scheider (major) and Lina Mu.

Diana Schubauer, “Demographic Factors Associated with Multiple STIs Among Residents of Erie County, NY 2006-2011.” Committee members include Drs. Pavani Ram (major) and Heather Lindstrom.

M.P.H. Health Services

Sarah Moravan, “Understanding the Reciprocity of Youth in Erie County’s Family Voices Network.” Committee members include Dr. Carl Li (major) and Kristina Young.

Robert Reed, “Comparing Cost of Tobacco Cessation in a Clinical vs Ancillary Environment.” Committee members include Drs. Carl Li (major) and Graham Warren. Robert is a senior quality analyst at Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

Rachel Rizzo, M.S., “Physical Activity as a Potential Innovative Treatment Modality for Opioid-Dependent Pregnant Women.” Committee members include Drs. Carl Li (major) and Michael LaMonte.

Bi Tadzong, M.D., “Applying Animal Assisted Activities in Helping Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Transition or Adjustment Issues in Erie County.” Committee members include Dr. Carl Li (major) and Kristina Young.

Amanda Ziegler, “Assessing Clinical Workflow for Integration into Meaningful Use of Electronic Health Records.” Committee members include Dr. Carl Li (major) and Kristina Young. Amanda is a project coordinator in the Department of Nutrition and Exercise Science.