

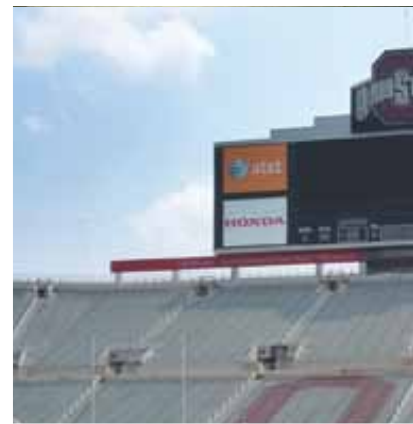


THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH | 2011

Annual Report

MAGAZINE

Global Significance. Local Impact.





Mission

We protect and improve the health of the people of Ohio, the nation and the world. Through interdisciplinary research, we seek to understand the forces that affect public health and the delivery of health services. We prepare the next generation of public health practitioners, health care managers and scholars. Collaborating with government agencies and other partners, we develop solutions to current and emerging public health problems.

Vision

We aspire to be a leader in public health research and education with local impact and global significance.

Values

Equity

We believe in the fundamental fairness of a healthy world. All people should have an environment that optimizes health, access to affordable and high-quality health care, awareness of personal choices for improving health, and opportunities to help improve the health of our communities.

Ethics

We maintain high levels of academic and scientific integrity, conduct research that protects the rights and welfare of all study participants, and create an inclusive environment that supports our faculty, staff, students and constituents.

Excellence

We pursue innovative research that is scientifically rigorous and relevant. We are committed to providing a high-quality learning experience and the tools to enable students to meet future challenges. We value dedicated service and leadership that helps individuals and communities live healthier lives.

Diversity

We celebrate the richness that diversity brings to our society and work to create a welcoming culture that respects all forms of diversity. We are committed to increasing the diversity of our students, faculty, and staff and to equipping all our graduates to contribute effectively to a diverse public health workforce.



2011 Selected Research Projects
<http://go.osu.edu/publichealthresearch>



Public Health Alumni Spotlights
<http://go.osu.edu/publichealthalumni>



Editorial Staff

Christine O'Malley, Executive Director
 Carrie Benseler, Communications
 Coordinator

Publication design by The Drawing Room

College of Public Health Home Page:
<http://cph.osu.edu>

"Global Significance. Local Impact."

Dean's Message	2
Progress Report	3
Research: Heart of the Matter	4
Research News	6
Teaching and Learning: Doctoral Collaboration	8
Teaching and Learning News	9
Engagement and Outreach News	11
Faculty News	13
New Faculty	14
Alumni News	16
By the Numbers	17

All photo credits are from University Photography or CPH Communications except: p. 6, Maggie Bornhorst; p. 10, Dalian Medical University; p.16, Stan Lemeshow.

The CPH Annual Report Magazine is published annually every fall by Ohio State's College of Public Health. This is the seventh issue. Copyright 2011. Permission to reprint any portion must be obtained from the college. Contact: College of Public Health Communications Office, 1841 Neil Ave., Cunz Hall 250, Columbus OH 43210. Phone: (614) 247-4325.

DEAN'S MESSAGE

**Message from the Dean**

What an exciting time for the College of Public Health! I am simultaneously thrilled and humbled with the success we have achieved together with our academic, research and community partners.

I am preparing this message for our Annual Report Magazine in Cunz Hall, our new home! For the first time in our history, the entire College of Public Health is under one roof.

We recently learned that our proposed Bachelor of Science in Public Health has passed through another hoop, moving us closer to providing a new undergraduate major in public health. The major will be a collaboration with the College of Arts and Sciences.

This fall, we welcome our first cohort of doctoral students in the joint Biostatistics PhD program presented in collaboration with the Department of Statistics in the College of Arts and Sciences.

This past spring, we hosted a public screening of the documentary film, “No Woman, No Cry” by film director and well-known fashion model Christy Turlington Burns. It’s a frank appraisal of the serious risks faced by women around the world who lack basic health care during pregnancy and childbirth. We brought together many people from our community to engage in a discussion about this critical issue.

It seems to me that we have all the ingredients necessary to make a big impact on the public’s health. We want partners to join us in expanding these efforts and leveraging what we bring to the table – enthusiastic students, successful faculty, passionate alumni, and engaged community leaders.

Please visit us in Cunz Hall anytime. We would love to show you around!

Sincerely ...

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stanley Lemeshow". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dean Stanley Lemeshow

PROGRESS REPORT

College moves to new home

Natural light and environmental sustainability are the hallmarks of the college's new home, the renovated Cunz Hall.

The building is expected to be the university's first LEED certified renovation. The college hopes to achieve Gold status. Several components of the building and the renovation process will help achieve LEED certification, including:

- 95 percent of construction waste recycled
- 50 percent estimated reduction in the amount of potable water used in the building
- 90 percent of walls, roof, floors reused

The move to Cunz Hall brings the entire college under one roof for the first time since the founding of the then-School of Public Health in 1995.

"This is a wonderful milestone for the college and an opportunity for Public Health to make a huge impact on the health of our communities and our world," said Dean Stan Lemeshow.

Some discoveries that will be made in Cunz Hall will include how berries prevent oral cancer, the link between animal health and human health, the impact of climate change on human health, and how air pollution affects cardiovascular health.



The "No Woman, No Cry" panel, from left, included: Walter Hull, MD; Columbus Health Commissioner Teresa Long; Andrea Cambern, 10TV HD news anchor; Christy Turlington Burns; Mark Landon, MD.

Maternal health documentary explores risks of childbirth

The College of Public Health and the Wexner Center for the Arts presented a screening of the documentary "No Woman, No Cry" at the Mershon Auditorium last April.

The film, directed by model and public health advocate Christy Turlington Burns, explores the life-and-death risks of giving birth without access to basic health care. Turlington Burns follows the stories of women in four different countries: Tanzania, Bangladesh, Guatemala and the United States.

Approximately 600 people attended the event, which was co-sponsored by all seven health science colleges.

Turlington Burns joined the screening and participated in an audience Q&A, moderated by Andrea Cambern, 10TV HD news anchor. Three local health experts, Columbus Health Commissioner Teresa Long, Mark Landon, MD, and Walter Hull, MD, served on the panel.

For more about the film, visit <http://www.everymothercounts.org/film>.

Public Health major approved

The College of Public Health has received approval from the university's Council on Academic Affairs to offer an undergraduate major.

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health is planned to begin in fall 2012 as a collaboration between the college and the College of Arts and Sciences.

The major will offer two collaborative interdisciplinary specializations: public health sociology and environmental public health.

Graduates will be qualified for early career, entry-level positions in public health agencies and other organizations.

However, the primary desired outcome is to build a strong foundation at the undergraduate-level that will serve as a pipeline to advanced study via graduate and professional degree programs.

The next and final administrative steps are for approvals from the university Board of Trustees and the Ohio Board of Regents, which are anticipated this fall.

RESEARCH

Heart of the matter

Public health researchers study cardiovascular diseases

By Wendy Pramik,
CPH Communications

Randi Foraker, assistant professor in the Division of Epidemiology, examines data on the re-hospitalization of heart failure patients living in neighborhoods with socioeconomic disparities.

4

Cardiovascular diseases, such as heart attacks, strokes and hypertension, kill more people in the world than anything else, claiming 17.1 million lives a year.

“Cardiovascular diseases have a huge impact on human health and our economy,” said Qinghua Sun, associate professor in the Division of Environmental Health Sciences (EHS).

Sun studies the effects of particulate air pollution on human health, including the impact of air pollution on cardiovascular diseases. He is one of many in the College of Public Health who are exploring cardiovascular diseases from different perspectives, from prevention, to managing the disease, to reducing its economic burden on the country.

Professor Mary Ellen Wewers and other public health researchers are raising awareness of the ill effects of smoking and developing cessation methods in Appalachian Ohio, where tobacco rates are high among women. Women smokers are at a higher risk of heart disease than men, according to a recent study published in the

Lancet medical journal.

Other researchers, including Sarah Anderson, assistant professor in Epidemiology, want to know what’s causing so many young children to become overweight before they’re even in kindergarten, leading to cardiovascular diseases when they’re adults.

Randi Foraker, assistant professor in the Division of Epidemiology, is examining data on the re-hospitalization of heart failure patients living in neighborhoods with socioeconomic disparities.

“Cardiovascular disease is a growing public health concern due to an aging population and an increasing prevalence of overweight, obesity and physical inactivity among children and adults,” said Randi Foraker, assistant professor in the Division of Epidemiology.

Foraker says it’s likely that patients are returning to hospitals for care due to a lack of outpatient management of heart failure.

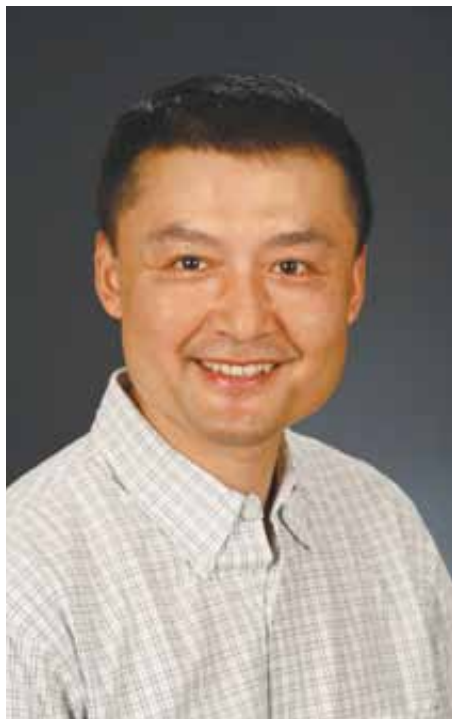
“Patients with limited neighborhood socioeconomic resources may not have

adequate social support or access to primary care facilities necessary to manage heart failure out of the hospital,” Foraker said. “Public health interventions on a neighborhood scale have the potential of reaching a large number of patients in need.”

Foraker was invited to serve on an Ohio State University Medical Center committee that aims to reduce the number of 30-day readmissions to the hospital.

Because of recent healthcare reform, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will soon stop paying reimbursements to hospitals that readmit patients within a 30-day window. CMS considers high readmission rates as a marker of lower quality care. In 2005, CMS paid \$15 billion in readmissions, \$12 billion of which are considered potentially preventable.

“Although cardiovascular disease remains the leading cause of death in the U.S., clinical treatments for the disease are improving, resulting in a larger number



*Qinghua Sun, associate professor,
Division of Environmental Health Sciences*

of people living with – and having to manage – their disease,” Foraker said.

The Ohio State Medical Center committee is researching ways to cut down on re-admittance of patients by teaching patients to manage their health conditions at home. Foraker is one of about two dozen people on the committee, which also includes doctors, nurse practitioners and pharmacists.

As the lone epidemiologist on the committee, Foraker is providing guidance for evaluating the effectiveness the committee’s proposed programs, including offering mandatory education classes for patients before they’re discharged.

“Great public health opportunities exist for the prevention of morbidity and mortality associated with cardiovascular disease,” Foraker said.

Sun’s research is unconventional in that it includes the effects of particulate air pollution on human health and the mechanisms of air pollution induced cardiovascular diseases

“Air pollution affects everybody and most often individuals can’t do anything



*Mary Ellen Wewers, professor, Division of
Health Behavior and Health Promotion*

to prevent its adverse effects,” Sun said.

Sun is collaborating with EHS Professor Christopher Weghorst to study the impact of strawberries on cardiovascular diseases. Weghorst has found that natural food products, such as black raspberries and strawberries, can inhibit the growth of diseases, such as cancer, in humans.

Their proposal “Influence of Strawberries on Air Pollution-induced Cardiovascular Disease” was recently funded through the Food Innovation Center Seed Grant competition. A budget of \$24,944 supports their study from July 2011 through June 2012.

“I’m very excited to collaborate with Dr. Weghorst on this project, and hopefully diet intervention is effective so that individuals have some feasible options,” Sun said.

Exposure to the fine particles in ambient air increases one’s risk of developing of a waxy plaque on the inside of blood vessels due to increased inflammation in fat tissue. The study will look at the effects of eating strawberries, a fruit known to contain many chemicals with anti-



*Christopher Weghorst, professor,
Division of Environmental Health Sciences*

inflammation properties, on molecular markers of inflammation and plaques caused by air pollution. Mice will serve as models.

“It’s anticipated that strawberries will decrease the inflammation and reduce the numbers and size of the plaques,” Weghorst said. “These unique studies in mice may translate into a viable food-based prevention strategy aimed at reducing the risk of heart disease in humans living in areas where air pollution is a significant health problem.” ■

RESEARCH NEWS



The cage, shown in Ohio Stadium, houses equipment to measure carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, black carbon and particulate matter which are all indicators of car, bus and truck traffic. Multiple locations throughout campus were monitored for one full week.

Student research maps 'hotspots' of air pollution on campus

Maggie Bornhorst, a Master of Public Health student specializing in Environmental Health Sciences, did her summer practicum with Transportation and Parking Services at Ohio State monitoring traffic-related air pollution on campus.

Air monitoring instrumentation recorded carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, black carbon and particulate matter. Instruments were placed at ten locations around campus, including near high-traffic areas, in the Oval and even inside the Ohio Stadium.

At the same time, by affixing the instruments to a basket on her bike, Bornhorst recorded the same pollutants as a function of space and time while riding her bike over a one-hour prescribed route on campus.

The information will later be used to create a map of pollution "hotspots" on campus.

Bornhorst's academic advisor is EHS chair Tim Buckley. Both are working with Gulsah Akar in city and regional planning, Nicole Hernandez in transportation and parking services and Peter Craigmile in statistics on the project.

CPH expert part of \$25M grant for virus-related foodborne illness

Four Ohio State University scientists are part of a multi-state \$25 million effort to reduce the number of foodborne illnesses caused by viruses. Jianrong Li, assistant professor with a joint appointment in food science and technology and environmental health sciences (EHS), has been granted \$350,000 to work on several aspects of the project.

The five-year U.S. Department of Agriculture grant is the largest single food safety grant awarded by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Under the leadership of North Carolina State University, the grant allows the formation of the Food Virology Collaborative involving more than a dozen universities as well as food and health organizations including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

Lee-Ann Jaykus, professor in the

Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences at NC State, is the lead investigator.

Other Ohio State faculty involved are: Richard Linton, professor and chair of the Department of Food Science and Technology; Linda Saif, distinguished university professor in the Food Animal Health Research Program at Ohio State University's Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC); and Qihong Wang, a research scientist and adjunct assistant professor (Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine) in Saif's lab.

The project focuses on human noroviruses, which cause more than 21 million cases of foodborne illness each year and are the second-leading cause of gastroenteritis in children under 5 years old. More than half of all foodborne disease outbreaks are due to noroviruses, and they are also the second-leading cause of hospitalizations due to foodborne illness.

Noroviruses spread from person to person, through contaminated food or water, or by touching contaminated



Maggie Bornhorst, MPH student, rode around campus measuring pollutants as a function of space and time.

surfaces. Molluscan shellfish such as oysters, clams and mussels, fresh produce, and foods that are extensively handled just prior to consumption are at greatest risk for contamination. Symptoms mimic those of salmonella food poisoning, including diarrhea, nausea, abdominal pain and fever.

The College of Public Health's Li will test strategies for killing and inactivating the virus, study different strains of the virus, and test the virus' vulnerabilities using the monkey calicivirus.

"The human norovirus can't be grown in cell culture -- outside the human body -- so that's a real bottleneck in developing strategies to fight it," Li said. "Other scientists in this project are working on developing a way to grow the virus in cell culture, but until then we have to use surrogates to study the effectiveness of treatments against human norovirus."

For more on this story, visit <http://go.osu.edu/norovirus>.

Improving quality of care for diabetes with EHR data

Annemarie Hirsch, a College of Public

Health doctoral student in epidemiology, hopes that the findings from her research on the use of electronic health record (EHR) systems will revolutionize diabetes care.

Her research, conducted with data from the Geisinger Health System in Danville, Penn., a pioneer in EHR systems, has three objectives; 1) evaluate the validity of EHR criteria in identifying patients with diabetes, 2) determine the impact of using EHR criteria on measurement of diabetes quality of care; and 3) better understand how EHR data is entered and managed by physicians.

According to Hirsch, EHR data is becoming the preferred source of data for quality improvement programs and diabetes is one of the diseases for which the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) permits the use of EHR data for its pay-for-performance program – providing physicians with incentives to provide high-quality care.

"Use of EHR data has the potential to improve clinical care by increasing efficiency and reducing errors," says Hirsch.

Hirsch's research will validate the use of EHR data to measure quality of diabetes care and improve diabetes treatment. Currently, she is in the process of analyzing the data and has conducted 17 physician interviews.

Professor Ann McAlearney, a member of Hirsch's dissertation committee, was immediately impressed with Hirsch's intellectual curiosity. McAlearney says Hirsch's study incorporates both epidemiologic and qualitative methods, enabling her to obtain new information about how doctors think about the data entry decisions they make.

"I have no doubt that her research findings will improve our understanding of these processes, and help inform clinical and management decisions about the use of clinical data to increase the quality of patient care," McAlearney said.

Hirsch's research will also be a resource in health services and for epidemiologists who are increasingly using EHR system data.

"I hope this project will provide guidance, currently lacking, in the use of EHR data to generate quality measures," Hirsch said.

~ By Wendy Pramik, Martha Filipic and Gail Dickson



Doctoral collaboration

Public Health, Arts and Sciences offer joint PhD program in biostatistics

By Wendy Pramik, CPH Communications

8

Public health thrives on collaboration.

So when biostatistician Stanley Lemeshow realized a decade ago that efforts at Ohio State were being duplicated in the teaching of biostatistics, he turned to academic collaboration as a solution.

Lemeshow, who became dean of the College of Public Health in 2003, recognized a need for the Department of Statistics and the then-School of Public Health to join forces in the teaching of biostatistics. Both entities were offering their own forms of doctorate degrees in the subject.

“Ohio State was unique in that students who wanted to pursue biostatistics at the PhD level could either study it in the Department of Statistics or in the School of Public Health,” said Lemeshow, who is an internationally known expert in biostatistics. “It seemed kind of crazy that the two units were competing within the same university.”

Today, thanks to collaboration, the two academic units now offer a joint PhD program in biostatistics.

The Department of Statistics was established in the College of Arts and Sciences in 1974, and the School of Public Health began in 1995 and became a college in 2007. The biostatistics program at Ohio State predates both, evolving out of the departments of Mathematics and Preventive Medicine in 1965.

Lemeshow collaborated with Doug Wolfe, chair of the Department of Statistics, and Haikady Nagaraja, a statistics professor in the department. Nagaraja transferred to the College of Public Health as chair of the Division of Biostatistics in 2010.

Students in the program can choose between a public health specialization that focuses on applying statistical methods to human and biological studies or a methodological specialization, which focuses on statistical theory.

The coursework in the applied track is primarily based in the College of Public Health, whereas the methodological track is based in the Department of Statistics. The first two years of coursework is similar, and students in both programs

are awarded a Master of Science in Statistics degree en route to their PhD.

“With the merging of faculty between the two programs, we’re now a very competitive place to get a PhD in biostatistics,” said Lemeshow. “That puts Ohio State in league with many of the established biostatistics programs in the United States.

“It’s a great thing for us and the students, because they can decide if they’re more suited for a theoretical kind of career or a more applied one.”

About 20 faculty members teach biostatistics at Ohio State, including Assistant Professor Rebecca Andridge in the College of Public Health. Beginning fall 2011, she and a statistics colleague will serve as co-chairs of the joint program.

The collaboration, Andridge says, was a natural fit.

“A lot of statistics and biostatistics methods are exactly the same,” she said. “It’s just that I might be analyzing data from a clinical trial, and my colleague in statistics might be analyzing data about how bytes of data move through the Internet.



*Rebecca Andridge,
Assistant Professor of Biostatistics*

“The difference is subtle. It’s more about what you apply your knowledge to.”

The alliance also has increased exposure to the field of public health, says Andridge.

“More people are moving toward the public health specialization because of the joint program,” she said. “We in public health are lucky to join statistics, because they have a strong department and a long history.”

The career outlook for biostatisticians is extremely good, Andridge says, especially in the biomedical field.

“The program appealed to me because it was more applied than typical statistics programs,” said Alice Hinton, a PhD student in the public health specialization.

Graduates typically go on to work in an academic setting; an industry, such as a pharmaceutical company; or a federal job, such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For more information about the program, visit <http://biostatprograms.osu.edu>. ■

College celebrates largest class at 2011 commencement luncheon

The College of Public Health hosted a luncheon for its largest-ever graduating class in June at the Fawcett Center in Columbus. About 70 students, faculty, staff and guests attended the luncheon and awards reception.

Nearly 80 students graduated this spring, including 46 Master of Public Health (MPH) students, 28 Master of Health Administration (MHA) students, two Master of Science (MS) students, and three doctoral students.

Katie Lewis, vice president of the College of Public Health Alumni Society, presented the 2011 Student Choice Awards to graduating students Jonathan Lutz, MS/PhD; Erica Fletcher, MPH; Joshua Nowack, MHA; and Matrona Mbugua, MPH Program for Experienced Professionals.

In addition, the Division of Health Services Management and Policy held a reception and awards presentation for the graduating MHA students.

The division named the following students Caswell Scholars, named after Emeritus Associate Professor Jeff Caswell, for students earning a 3.8 GPA or above: Emily Larson, Amelia Brown, Mitch Fair, Dan Hager, Jason Lovero, Joshua Nowack, Andrew Smith, Kevin Weber and Reem Aly.

The HSMP Alumni Society named Dan Hager its recipient of the Past President’s Leadership Prize. The recipient is chosen by faculty in the division including chair Allard Dembe.

Veterinary specialization first to earn ACVPM accreditation

Ohio State’s Veterinary Public Health (VPH) program was granted accreditation by the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (ACVPM), becoming the first VPH

specialization to earn this credential.

ACVPM is the specialty organization approved and recognized by the American Veterinary Medicine Association for veterinary preventive medicine, public health and production medicine.

“We’re the first specialization to receive this certification and only the second MPH program with a veterinary focus to become accredited by ACVPM,” said Armando Hoet, director of the Veterinary Public Health program. “This is a great accomplishment for our program, and a reassurance to our students of the quality of education that they’re receiving at Ohio State.”

The Veterinary Public Health specialization toward the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree is a partnership between the College of Public Health and the College of Veterinary Medicine. The specialization is already accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), and is the second largest in the United States.

In five years of the program, 63 MPH-VPH students have graduated with the degree, 21 of them veterinarians who went to work at multiple federal government agencies, including CDC, USDA, and the armed services.

AFHE students host symposium

The Association of Future Healthcare Executives (AFHE) held its eighth annual Leadership Development Symposium in April at the Ohio Union. The student-run event unites current and future healthcare leaders to share information and ideas.

William H. Considine, president of Akron Children’s Hospital, presented the keynote address. Considine received an MHA from Ohio State in 1971 and is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

The event was organized by MHA students Carla Hill, Mehul Naik, and Chris Baranek.

TEACHING & LEARNING NEWS

Climate change course unites students across the globe

Qinghua Sun, associate professor in the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, believes global climate change may have a direct impact on human health. That's why he launched a course last summer, Climate Change and Human Health, in collaboration with universities and institutions in China.

This year, the live video-equipped course matched a total of 70 Ohio State students with Chinese students at Hangzhou Normal University, Binzhou Medical College, Shandong University and the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC).

Available to both undergraduate and graduate students, the course helps students recognize issues about climate change, evaluate the impact of climate change on human health, identify human diseases associated with climate change and discuss and debate climate change as it relates to human health effects.

"I wanted to provide a platform for the students to share their opinions about climate change," said Sun.

The course teaches students to identify infections and non-infectious diseases associated with climate change and explores solutions to fight the adverse effects.

This summer, Dr. Sun gave students an opportunity to think about one thing that individuals, especially the students and employees at OSU can do about the activities that may be associated with climate change. The students in his class this year chose an "avoid the elevator, use the stairs" idea to limit use of elevators to decrease their global footprint.

"The class helped us understand that combating global warming needs to be addressed at every level – individual,

family, school and workplace," said Mohini Dutt, graduate student in engineering. "Our project benefitted the broader community by reducing energy use and encouraged a healthier, more active lifestyle."

Ohio State tobacco-free policy is focus of student practicum

Tobacco cessation and control is not new to Danielle Grospitch, a student in the college's Master of Public Health Program for Experienced Professionals. In fact, for the past four years she has worked as a tobacco cessation counselor and takes great pride in Ohio State, environmentally and socially. In short, she cares about her fellow students' health and wellness.

Last spring, Grospitch joined forces with the Student Wellness Center to launch a 100 percent tobacco-free campus campaign, Buckeyes Against Butts. While in its early stages, the campaign has the potential for making Ohio State's campus tobacco-free, indoors and outdoors.

Working with the Student Wellness Center, Grospitch wrote a tobacco-free policy; conducted research with other universities that are currently smoke and/or tobacco-free to understand their process; met with Columbus Public Health officials to review the policy draft; and developed a campaign plan including "social norming" advertisements, a national media relations campaign, and plans for permanent signage on campus.

Last July, she led a campus clean-up effort with 10 student volunteers. In four hours, the students filled five, one-gallon Ziplock bags with cigarette butts on campus.

Among Grospitch's recommendations for next year recently submitted in

her practicum are meetings with the Department of Athletics, Office of Human Resources, Office of Student Life and others; contacting the president's office; conducting focus groups, town hall meetings and surveys; and developing enforcement policies.

According to Grospitch, the soonest a policy could be adopted would be fall semester 2012.

"There is much left to do," she said. "The best thing I can do is to make sure we are as visible as possible."

Randi Love, clinical associate professor in the Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion, is Grospitch's advisor.

"Danielle brings passion and knowledge of best practices to her work," says Love. "She is well versed in tobacco cessation and advocacy, providing her with a holistic perspective which she applied to her practice placement. Assisting Student Wellness in developing a campus-wide tobacco prevention campaign was a win-win!"

~ By Wendy Pramik and Gail Dickson



MPH graduate Erica Fletcher is congratulated on receiving a Student Choice Award.



The 2011 Public Health Farmers' Market was kicked off by enthusiastic participants, left to right, Assistant Health Commissioner Dr. Mysheika LeMaile-Williams; farmer Howard Yoder of Plain City; Mayor Michael B. Coleman; City Councilman Hearcel Craig; and College of Public Health Dean Stan Lemeshow.

Public Health Farmers' Market serves thousands

The annual Public Health Farmers' Market, held over three days in July and August, served 7,664 people who purchased \$3,649 in fresh produce from 17 Ohio farmers.

Ohio State's College of Public Health is a co-sponsor of the market, held every year on the grounds of Columbus Public Health. Local farmers bring fresh fruits and vegetables to Columbus' downtown and East Side, areas known for having limited access to grocery stores.

This year, the college supported the event by providing water, T-shirts and volunteers who contributed a combined total of more than 140 hours.

Included in the thousands served over three market days were 236 Ohio Direction Card (food stamp) customers. In addition, more than 4,500 vouchers from the Women, Infants, and Children program were redeemed.

The market kicked off this year on July 28 with a welcome remarks and a

ribbon-cutting that included Mayor Mike Coleman; Mysheika LeMaile-Williams, MD, assistant health commissioner; Councilman Hearcel Craig; and Dean Stan Lemeshow.

"We are proud of our partnership with Columbus Public Health in this endeavor and many others as we work together to help people live healthier, more productive lives," said Dean Lemeshow.

View market photos here:

<http://go.osu.edu/2011farmmarket>



MHA students provide help at Ronald McDonald house

Master of Health Administration students volunteered at the Ronald McDonald house at Nationwide Children's Hospital as their spring service project.

Ronald McDonald houses provide lodging so families can be near a

hospitalized child, which can help the child cope better and heal faster.

"We prepared and served dinner for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House who had children in the inpatient unit of Nationwide Children's Hospital," said MHA student Carla Hill.

'Community Perspectives' video used nationally for training

Phyllis Pirie, chair and professor in the Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion, and Carol Smathers, program manager of the Ohio State Prevention Research Center, attended the Prevention Research Centers Annual Conference and unveiled the center's video project.

The video is a compilation of interviews with local community members and representatives from public health agencies, who share their thoughts about doing research within the community.

The video was received well at the conference and has been used by prevention research centers around the



MHA students serve dinner at Ronald McDonald House. (clockwise from upper left) Ryan Hackett, Justin Rubbo, Mitch Fair, Preethy Rangan, Sara Samson, Carla Hill and Naomi Makni

country for training in community-based participatory research projects.

View the video at

<http://go.osu.edu/communityresearch>



Students promote public health as part of national observance

Each year the American Public Health Association designates the first full week in April as National Public Health Week.

For 2011, members of college's Society of Public Health Students held activities for three days at the university's Recreation and Physical Activity Center to promote public health and answer questions. There was a different theme each day:

- Sexual Health
- Nutrition & Veterinary Public Health
- Cancer Prevention

The students also hosted a viewing of the PBS documentary "Unnatural Causes" that week. The film explores racial and socioeconomic inequities in health.

Training in comparative effectiveness research added

The college's Center for Health Outcomes, Policy and Evaluation Studies (HOPES) has received funding from the National Institutes of Health to offer training in the area of Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER).

HOPES will collaborate with Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus to offer a CER program .

CER is an area of research that compares existing healthcare treatments and interventions to determine which work best for which patients and under what circumstances.

Questions about the program should be addressed to Thomas Wickizer, Stephen F. Loeb's Professor in the Division of Health Services Management and Policy, at twickizer@cph.osu.edu.

CPHP offers policy workshops

In August, 50 public health practitioners representing local and state public health, mental health, business, and academia participated in the "Shaping Policy for Health: Introduction to the Policy Change Process" workshop

sponsored by the Ohio Public Health Training Center in the college's Center for Public Health Practice (CPHP).

Participants were introduced to the concepts of policy, systems and environmental change to encourage and sustain healthy behaviors.

The program also introduced five policy-related competency domains. The five domains are problem, identification, policy analysis, advocacy, administrative implementation, and evaluation.

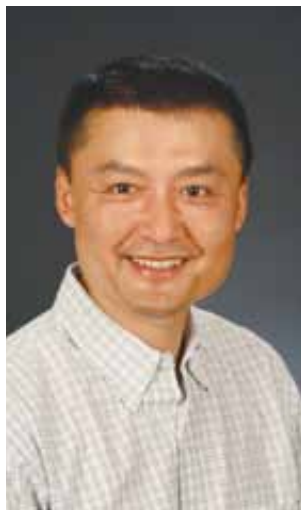
Subsequent workshops, each focusing on one of the competency domains, are being considered.

In addition, a three-hour, online Introduction to Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change course is being developed by subject matter experts from the Ohio Department of Health and the college's Prevention Research Center. Instructional design support is being provided by the CPHP. Target date for completion is the Fall of 2011.

FACULTY NEWS



Mary Ellen Wewers



Qinghua Sun



Rebecca Andridge, accepting the Excellence in Teaching Award.

Wewers presents tobacco research to Surgeon General

Mary Ellen Wewers, professor in the Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion, presented her tobacco research to U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Regina M. Benjamin in July in Washington, D.C.

The National Cancer Institute's Tobacco Control Research Branch invited Wewers to present her research on smokers in Appalachian Ohio to the Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health. The committee is chaired by the Surgeon General.

"The committee is examining innovative tobacco dependence treatment approaches to reach low-income and special vulnerable populations," Wewers said. "Many federal agencies also were invited to hear these presentations."

Sun honored by undergraduate forum as distinguished mentor

Qinghua Sun, associate professor in the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, was recognized as a Distinguished Undergraduate Mentor by the Undergraduate Research Office for his student leadership during the 2011 Denman Undergraduate Research Forum in May.

The award highlights Ohio State

faculty members who encourage and support undergraduate research. Mentors are nominated by students participating in the forum, and a student committee selects its winners each year.

Sun was one of five Ohio State faculty members to receive the award.

Silis Jiang, a psychology major and researcher in Sun's lab, placed second in the research forum in the category of Environmental Sciences.

Andridge receives 2011 award for excellence in teaching

Rebecca Andridge, assistant professor in the Division of Biostatistics, received the college's 2011 Excellence in Teaching Award.

Paige Young, who graduated in June with a Master of Public Health degree in Health Behavior and Health Promotion, presented the Award to Andridge at the commencement luncheon in June.

"Dr. Andridge's nominators were unanimous in stating that she was one of the best instructors they ever had and one who goes above and beyond the norm," Young said.

Nominations for the award are submitted by students, faculty and alumni of the college, and the recipient is selected by a committee of past award winners and students from each division.

EHS professor promoted

J. Mac Crawford was promoted this year to associate professor of clinical public health in the Division of Environmental Health Sciences.

Crawford's areas of expertise include occupational health, public health preparedness, and environmental exposure assessment. He has done research on the health of Ohio police and firefighters to assess the degree to which they are at risk for cancer in relation to other occupations, along with ergonomic research attempting to interest EMTs and paramedics in adopting devices aimed at preventing musculoskeletal injuries.

He has also worked with colleagues developing preparedness training programs and exercise simulations using gaming-environment technology and is leading a project aimed at engaging the public health workforce in helping to reduce society's use of fossil fuels.

Crawford teaches a freshman seminar on preparedness issues beyond bioterrorism and teaches graduate courses in occupational health, exposure assessment and the principles of environmental health sciences.

Crawford earned an MS and a PhD in Preventive Medicine from Ohio State. He belongs to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Public Health Association, and the Ohio Public Health Association.

FACULTY NEWS



Dean Lemeshow, center, at the Pudong Institute for Health Development in Shanghai.

Lemeshow's China trip included teaching, possible collaborations

College of Public Health Dean Stanley Lemeshow traveled to China earlier this month to teach a short course in Beijing to 60 epidemiologists who worked for the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention and to present two seminars at Fudan University in Shanghai and the Shanghai Municipal Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Lemeshow also met with leaders in public health and higher education to discuss possible collaborations with Ohio State in the future.

While there, Lemeshow met with alumnus Desmond Thio, who received a Master of Science in Preventive Medicine from Ohio State in 1992.

Thio is the chief executive officer of Philips Healthcare in Greater China, a healthcare supplier that has recently supplied ultrasonic devices and training to a grass-roots screening program launched around China.

Thio is interested in partnering with the College of Public Health and other leading public health institutions in China, including the Peking Union Medical College and Fudan University, to advance public health related research, particularly in the areas of disease prevention.

"There are a lot of opportunities to collaborate with these respected Chinese

institutions through teaching and research," Lemeshow said.

Thio was the featured speaker at the College of Public Health Alumni Society dinner during Ohio State Reunion Weekend in September.

CPH faculty, staff receive first MCHES certification credential

Three individuals from the College of Public were among the first to receive the new Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) certification from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC).

Randi Love, clinical associate professor in the Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion, and two staff from the Center for Public Health Practice, Associate Director Joanne Pearsol and Senior Program Manager Melissa Sever, were among 812 health education specialists to receive the credential, which was offered for the first time this year.

"NCHEC developed the advanced-level certification in response to recommendations from the profession that is supported by research indicating the presence of distinct levels of practice in the health education work setting," said William Chen, chair of NCHEC's Board of Commissioners. "Congratulations to this very first MCHES class."

~ By Wendy Pramik

NEW FACULTY

Division of Epidemiology

Alison H. Norris, MD, PhD, joined the Division of Epidemiology as assistant professor.

Norris earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Department of Biology, Yale University, a PhD in Epidemiology from Yale School of Epidemiology and Public Health and an MD from Yale School of Medicine.

At Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where Norris was an Ellertson Social Science Postdoctoral Fellow in Reproductive Health, she carried out a research project entitled, "Contraception and The Consequences of Unwanted Pregnancy In Zanzibar, Tanzania."

Her research and teaching fields include reproductive health and international health with a special focus in East Africa and she has published articles in leading publications including Women's Health Issues, American Ethnologist and Social Science and Medicine and World Development.

"Through my research and teaching, I seek to improve the well-being of underserved people, both in the United States and internationally, by reducing the risk of sexually transmitted infections and

NEW FACULTY



Alison Norris



Gail Kaye



Brian Hilligoss

creating opportunities for better reproductive health.”

She has received numerous awards and fellowships, including the Fulbright Hays for Doctoral Research in Tanzania. She has lectured extensively on poverty, sexual and reproductive health and infectious diseases in Tanzania.

Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion

Gail L. Kaye, PhD, joined the Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion as assistant professor of clinical public health. She will also serve as the director of the college’s undergraduate education program.

Kaye received her Doctor of Philosophy from The Ohio State University Department of Educational Services and Research in 1989. Most recently, she was a faculty lecturer with the Department of Human Nutrition and program director for the Department of Extension, College of Education and Human Ecology.

A registered dietitian, her work focuses on nutrition and obesity. She is the recipient of a United States Patent for the “New Direction OUTLOOK Program,” awarded in 1994 and has been recognized with the Ohio State University’s Outstanding Teacher Award, Outstanding

Outreach and Engagement Award and in “Who’s Who in Medicine and Healthcare” and “Who’s Who of American Women.”

“Since education alone is often insufficient to produce behavior change, my research program focuses on programmatic and policy efforts aimed at fostering healthier eating behaviors and environments for children and their families,” Kaye said.

Kaye is widely published in leading academic journals including the *Journal of Clinical Medicine Research*, the *California Journal of Health Promotion* and the *American Journal of Public Health*.

Division of Health Services Management and Policy

Brian Hilligoss, PhD, joined the Division of Health Services Management and Policy as assistant professor.

Hilligoss received a Master of Science degree in Information Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a PhD in Information from the University of Michigan.

His research explores the processes of communicating and coordinating in complex health care organizations, the ways that information technology and organizational divisions of labor influence these processes and how health care organizations learn and change.

“At Ohio State, my work will address how information systems and organizational structures affect the delivery of health care services. How we organize health care systems and make information available within those systems are two key aspects to enabling health care providers to deliver safe, high quality care to populations of patients,” Hilligoss said.

He has published research in *Quality & Safety in Health Care*, *Advances in Health Care Management Information Processing* and *Information Processing and Management*.

He received a highly competitive health services research dissertation grant from the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and a dissertation writing award from ProQuest. He has also taught as a graduate student instructor at the University of Michigan where he received an outstanding instructor award.

~ By Gail Dickson

ALUMNI NEWS

MHA alumni host spring events

The Health Services Management and Policy Alumni Society held its annual Alumni Dinner in March at the Riva Restaurant in Chicago. Forty alumni, students and friends attended.

The dinner coincided with the 2011 American College of Healthcare Executives Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago.

The event highlighted the fundraising campaign for the William O. Cleverley Scholarship. Nearly \$600,000 has been raised toward the \$1 million goal. The scholarship is named in honor of Professor Emeritus William Cleverley.

Later in the spring, the alumni society held its third annual MHA Cup at the Glenross Golf Club in Delaware, Ohio.

The golf outing and cookout drew more than two dozen participants, including faculty, students and alumni.

This year's winning team was comprised of alumni Chris Baranek (MHA, 2011), Chris Bowers (MHA, 2010), Aaron Fields (MHA, 2010), and Craig McMillen (MHA, 2011).

CPH Alumni Society provided quarterly lunch seminars

The CPH Alumni Society hosted quarterly Lunch'n'Learn events during the 2010-11 academic year. The three lunch seminars were Bridges Out of Poverty, women's health prevention guidelines,

and LiFE Sports tales from the field.

The Bridges Out of Poverty session explored the hidden rules that govern many aspects of the life of the poor and the unseen barriers to escaping poverty.

The women's health prevention session reviewed new guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which recommend that women get regular preventative testing including mammograms, Pap smears, bone-density tests, colonoscopies and flu shots. Females ages 9-26 also are recommended to have immunizations for HPV to prevent cervical cancer and genital warts.

The LiFE Sports program at Ohio State provides activities to enrich the lives of youth through sports and afterschool programs.

Alumni on the move

Christopher Bell, who received a combined MPH from the College of Public Health and an MA in Public Policy and Management from the John Glenn School of Public Affairs in 2009, recently accepted the position as director of Public Health Preparedness and Emergency Medical Services for the Vermont Department of Health.

Ray Grady, who received an MS in Health Administration in 1974, was named chief administrative officer of Milwaukee-based Aurora Health Care. Grady previously served as chief executive



Alumnus Desmond Thio, CEO of Philips Healthcare China, was the keynote speaker at the Kickoff Dinner on Reunion Weekend.

an MPH from the College of Public Health in 2004, was one of seven Ohio State alumni to receive a 2010 African American Alumni Society award at a ceremony in May at the Ohio Union. Moon was honored with the Larry Williamson Distinguished Service Award for her exemplary service to minority students at Ohio State.

As a CPH student, Moon was instrumental in organizing the annual Minority Fitness and Health Professional Career Fair, which attracted more than 500 attendees each year for four years.

Moon currently serves as the project director of Georgia's Comprehensive Cancer Control Program.

Two Master of Health Administration alumni were named among "Hospital and Healthcare Industry Leaders to Know," a list compiled by Becker's Hospital Review.

Mark Neaman was recognized for his role as president and chief executive officer of North Shore University Health System in Evanston, Ill.

Joseph G. Felkner was recognized for his role as chief financial officer of Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, Pa.

CPH BY THE NUMBERS

352, total number of **graduate students** in CPH programs for the past academic year

34 percent, **increase** in the number of students during the past five years

53 percent, increase in the number of **applicants** during the past five years

66 percent, percentage of **female graduate students** in the college

71 percent, of female students enrolled in **all accredited schools** of public health

2,992, **number of participants** attending workshops and programs offered by the Center for Public Health Practice from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011

154, number of professionals attending the **2011 Summer Program**

\$15.4 million, **CPH Annual budget** for 12 months ending June 30, 2011

\$9.9 million, **grants awarded** to CPH faculty in FY2011

\$8.1 million, **research expenditures** in FY11

20th, rank of Ohio State's **College of Public Health**, according to *U.S. News & World Report*

14th, rank of Ohio State's **MHA program**, according to *U.S. News & World Report*

17th, rank of The Ohio State University, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* list of the **best public universities**



COLLEGE OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

*College of Public Health
The Ohio State University
1841 Neil Ave.
Cunz Hall 250
Columbus OH 43210*

The College of Public Health joined with the College of Optometry to host an alumni tailgate during Reunion Weekend before the home game against Toledo. Special guest Archie Griffin, two-time Heisman trophy winner and CEO of The Ohio State University Alumni Association, stopped by. From left, Jeremy McKinney, Griffin, and alumna Katie Lewis. Lewis is the current president of the CPH Alumni Society.

