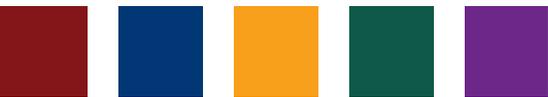


# MEL & ENID ZUCKERMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DEAN'S REPORT | VOLUME 4



The University of Arizona  
P.O. Box 245163  
Tucson, AZ 85724

All contents © 2011 Arizona Board of Regents. All Rights Reserved.  
The UA is a EEO/AA-M/W/D/V Employer

Editorial Staff

Gerri Kelly  
Associate Director of Marketing and Communications

Yvonne Price  
Graphic Design

Patrick O'Connor  
Graphic Design Intern

College Administration:

Iman Hakim, MBBCh, PhD, MPH  
Dean

Duane Sherrill, PhD  
Associate Dean, Research

Douglas Taren, PhD  
Associate Dean, Academic Affairs

Jill Guernsey de Zapien  
Associate Dean, Community Programs

Chris Tisch  
Assistant Dean, Student and Alumni Affairs

Linda Tumellie, Assistant Dean,  
Financial Affairs and Physical Resources

If you need this information in an accessible format (Braille, digital, tape or large print) please contact Gerri Kelly at gkelly@email.arizona.edu

# DEAN'S MESSAGE



It is hard to believe more than 10 years have passed since the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health was established. So much has happened and so much has been achieved. These successes would not have been possible if not for the exceptional work ethic of the faculty, staff and students. Their role is vital to the continued excellence and longevity of the college.

As we move into the next decade, we continue to grow and excel by bringing in outstanding new faculty and programs like the Center of Excellence

in Women's Health, whose mission is to improve the health and wellness of women throughout their lifecycle, with an emphasis on underserved girls and women.

As the state's first and only nationally accredited college of public health, the college fills a crucial role in assuring that our state's needs are met. We urgently need to build the pipeline of public health professionals now in order to ensure the future health and safety of our communities in Arizona. In response to the statewide need for public health education, the college is developing new technologies and retooling programs to expand outreach through online and service learning classes.

We have created a graduate certificate in public health that is delivered online for easy access and effectiveness. In response to the worldwide need for public health education and training, we have developed the Global Health Institute (GHI) to foster global partnerships with key universities and build innovative education and evidence-based research and community programs.

The success of our students will be enhanced further by improving and expanding our educational programs that respond to these trends. In August 2010, the college opened its doors in Phoenix to the first incoming class of public health graduate students. Refocusing our undergraduate education will provide an educated citizenry regarding public health issues. Our public health undergraduate degree will be an outstanding pre-professional degree that prepares students to enter graduate education in the fields of medicine, nursing, public health, pharmacy and other health related careers.

We will continue to grow our faculty in ways that will prepare our students to address the challenges facing public health today and in the future. Our highest priority is to recruit top-notch students.

Thank you for supporting us through the years and for helping us celebrate the many milestones thus far. I am certain that the UA Zuckerman College of Public Health will continue to play a fundamental role in the academic and developmental success of the students of Arizona, the nation, and the globe.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Iman Hakim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Iman Hakim, MBBCh, PhD, MPH  
Dean and Professor  
Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---



## COLLEGE NEWS

- 2–3 Grants and Research
- 4–6 Faculty News
- 6–8 Student News
- 9 Phoenix Campus
- 28–29 Alumni News



## DIVISION NEWS

- 10–11 Community, Environment, and Policy
- 12–13 Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- 14–15 Health Promotion Sciences



## TENTH ANNIVERSARY

- 16–21 10th Anniversary Gala



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 22–23 Public Health in Action



## DEVELOPMENT

- 24 Meet the Community Advisory Board
- 24–25 Development News
- 26–27 Student Scholarship Luncheon

# GRANTS and RESEARCH

## Center of Excellence in Women's Health

The Center of Excellence in Women's Health has moved to the Zuckerman College of Public Health to continue its mission to improve the health and wellness of women throughout the lifecycle, with an emphasis on underserved girls and women.

In 2003, the University of Arizona was awarded the prestigious designation as a National Women's Center of Excellence (WCOE) by the United States Department of Health & Human Services, Office on Women's Health. Along with the distinction, the UA joined the ranks of 20 other institutions such as, Harvard University and University of California, San Francisco, in offering national models of comprehensive and innovative health care solutions for women.

Currently the WCOE is operating under a \$2.5 million, five-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to prevent cervical cancer through partnership with schools, local government, and community-based organizations.

"The health and wellness of women and girls in Southwestern Arizona is dependent upon the WCOE. We provide information so they can

make informed health decisions," said Francisco A. Garcia, MD, MPH, director of the WCOE and professor of Family and Child Health.

"Some of our activities include training professional and non-professional health care workers on HPV and cervical cancer prevention. For example, bilingual health care workers go out into the community and teach women about the HPV vaccine, screening, early detection, and follow-up for abnormal pap results," said Dr. Garcia.

In addition, the WCOE is participating in a national study to improve the health and well-being of children.

The National Children's Study (NCS) is a multi-year research study to investigate the effects of environmental factors on the health and development of more than 100,000 children across the U.S. Participants in the study will be followed from pre-birth until age 21.



### Arizona's First

## Statewide Childcare Demand and Capacity Study

Childcare is an important component of early childhood development and the demand and type of childcare needs are not fully understood for Arizona along with the actual capacity to meet the need.

The College of Public Health in conjunction with the UA College of Education, received a \$1.2 million contract from Arizona's First Things First program to conduct a statewide childcare demand and capacity study.

"This will be the first statewide study to determine the difference in the type and cost of programs being provided to preschool children by different types of childcare providers," said Douglas Taren, PhD, associate dean for Academic Affairs and professor of public health.

Research will include interviewing parents who have children less than five years of age and obtaining information from all licensed and regu-

lated childcare providers in addition to as many unregulated providers as possible. The outcome of these studies will provide families, policy makers, and program directors with information that they can use to make better decisions about the optimal use of their resources within the state.

## **\$4.7 Million to Establish**

# **Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center**

The college received a \$4.7 million, five-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to establish a Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center. The funds will be used to improve the capacity of the public health workforce to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and terrorist incidents.

The Mountain West Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center will serve the states of Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Colo-

rado and the American Indian tribes of Montana.

“Disasters come in many forms, from infectious disease epidemics to wildfires to chemical attacks. Responding to threats and disasters requires a multi-disciplinary response effort, with public health playing a key role. The new center will work with health departments and other agencies to determine their public health preparedness training needs and provide targeted online and in-person training to help address these needs,” said Jeff Burgess, MD, MPH,

principal investigator of the Mountain West Center and director of the community, environment and policy division at the Zuckerman College of Public Health.

Brenda Granillo, MS, is director of the Mountain West Center and Ralph Renger, PhD, is co-principal investigator.

## **Continued New Funding for**

# **Maternal and Child Health Training Program**

The Maternal and Child Health Training Program received an additional \$1.7 million five-year grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to improve the health status of women, children, and families.

The program collaborates with a number of local and state governments, tribal entities, and community-based agencies to respond to the needs identified by those professionals in the public health field.

“Prevention has been identified by our partners as a top priority. In the field this translates to messages of family nutrition and physical activity when talking with the general public,” said Lynn Gerald, PhD, co-director of the training program and professor in the health promotion sciences division of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health.

The grant supports 12 graduate student scholarships. Current and future public health professionals are

trained for leadership roles through education that is evidence-based, community-orientated, culturally competent, and focused on experiential learning.

“We’re preparing them for leadership roles. Their education and experience make them top candidates for an active role working with maternal and child health issues, said Gerald.

Dr. Francisco Garcia is co-director and Velia Leybas Nuño is program manager.

## **Training the**

# **Public Health Workforce in Arizona**



The college was awarded a \$3.2 million, five-year grant from the Department of Health and Human Services to support a Public Health Training Center.

The new center will be known as the Arizona Public Health Training Center (AzPHTC) to address the workforce training needs with health and education partners throughout the state. The center will provide free or subsidized training to public health workers in state, county and tribal health departments, in addi-

tion to community-based organizations addressing health concerns.

“The fact that we received this funding indicates how the Department of Health and Human Services recognizes the expertise that we have within the College of Public Health and our established relationships with public health and health care professionals throughout Arizona,” said Douglas Taren, associate dean of Academic Affairs and professor of public health.

# FACULTY NEWS

## Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health Welcomes New Faculty



**Scott Carvajal**, PhD, MPH, is an associate professor of public health, Division of Health Promotion Sciences and chair of the Section of Health Behavior Health Promotion. He earned his PhD from the University of Houston in social psychology and MPH from the University of Texas School of Public Health.

**Francisco Garcia**, MD, MPH, is a professor of public health, Division of Health Promotion Sciences and chair of the Section of Family & Child Health. He received his medical training at the University of Arizona, where he also completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology. He is a fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and a diplomat of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Currently, Dr. Garcia serves as director of the Center of Excellence in Women's Health.



**Karen A. Heckert**, PhD, MPH, MSW, joins the Division of Health Promotion Sciences to teach and assist in the development of the postgraduate Global Health Certificate Course and the Global Health Institute. Prior to joining the UA, Dr. Heckert was assistant professor at the University of Hawaii in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. She has spent 18 years in international health development working in South Africa, South Asia, and the Western Pacific Region. She earned two masters degrees from the University of Michigan and a PhD from Walden University.



**Miranda Loh**, ScD, assistant professor of public health, Division of Community, Environment and Policy, earned her ScD in environmental health exposure assessment from Harvard School of Public Health. Prior to joining the UA College of Public Health, Dr. Loh was a research fellow at the National Institute for Health and Welfare in Finland, where she worked on exposure modeling for health impact assessments.



**Eric Lutz**, PhD, assistant professor of public health, Division of Community, Environment and Policy, earned his PhD in environmental health sciences from Ohio State University. He applies his experience in industrial hygiene and occupational safety to assess exposures in mining operations and adjacent communities. Prior to joining the UA, Dr. Lutz was Program Manager of Public Health Preparedness for the Infectious Diseases Program at OSU. He has also worked professionally for more than 15 years as an environmental health and occupational safety consultant, scientist, and entrepreneur.



**Sheila Parker**, DrPH, MPH, has returned to teaching as a lecturer in the Division of Health Promotion Sciences. She participated in the establishment of the UA College of Public Health. She is a former associate professor and taught in the MPH program until her retirement in 2006. Dr. Parker earned her DrPH in public health nutrition from the University of North Carolina.



## Faculty & Staff:

# Awards, Honors & Appointments

**Leslie Arendell**, senior research specialist in the Healthy Aging Lab, received the Arizona Health Sciences Center 2010 Staff Award for Excellence in Research. Arendell is also a PhD candidate in the Epidemiology program.

**Scott Carvajal**, PhD, MPH, was appointed principal investigator of the Canyon Ranch Center for Prevention and Health Promotion.

**Zhao Chen**, PhD, MPH, director of the epidemiology and biostatistics division and professor, is the recipient of the 2010 University of Arizona Alumnus of the Year Award.

**James E. Dalen**, MD, MPH, professor emeritus of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, received the 2010 Alumni Award of Merit from the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston. Dr. Dalen was recognized for his role in establishing an MPH program at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and for his role in establishing the UA College of Public Health.

**Merrill Eisenberg**, PhD, was elected to a four-year term as president of the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA). Eisenberg is an assistant professor in the community, environment and policy division.

The World Health Organization appointed **John Ehiri**, PhD, MPH, MSc, to the advisory group studying food-borne diseases where he will work to advance the translation of scientific evidence into policymaking. Ehiri is director of the health promotion sciences division and professor of public health.

**Francisco Garcia**, MD, MPH, professor of Family & Child Health in the health promotion sciences division, was appointed to the National Institutes of Health Advisory Committee on Research on Women's Health.

**Lynn Gerald**, PhD, MSPH, takes on dual appointments at the American Thoracic Society (ATS). She was elected to the Board of Directors and Chairperson of the Behavioral Science Assembly for the ATS. Gerald is a professor in the health promotion sciences division.

**Jill Guernsey de Zapien**, associate dean for Community Programs, was named Honorary Member of the Sonoran Public Health Association (El Colegio de Profesionales en Salud Pública del Estado de Sonora) at a ceremony in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico in September 2010.

**Alison Hughes**, MPA, and **Carmen Garcia-Downing**, MSC, received the Rosa Parks Living History Makers Award for improving the lives of others in the Tucson community. Hughes is interim director of the Rural Health Office. Garcia-Downing is a specialist in the community, environment and policy division.

**Elizabeth Jacobs**, PhD, was promoted to associate professor with tenure in the epidemiology and biostatistics division.

**Donna Knight** was promoted to assistant director of Development. She is also the recipient of the Arizona Health Sciences Center 2010 Staff Award for Excellence for Administration.

Regents' Professor **Mary Koss**, PhD, received the prestigious Visionary Award from the organization End Violence Against Women International.

**Bonnie LaFleur**, PhD, MPH, was elected to the board of directors for the American Statistical Association (ASA). LaFleur is an associate professor in the epidemiology and biostatistics division.

Epidemiologist and Professor M. **Elena Martínez**, PhD, MPH, was appointed to the National Cancer Institute's Board of Scientific Advisors. She was also appointed chairperson of the Minorities in Cancer Research Council, a membership group within the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR).

**Sheila Parker**, DrPH, MPH, received the 2010 Harriet Tubman Vanguard Award for her "outstanding and

## Distinguished Faculty Awards

The Community Engaged Scholarship and Practice Award is shared by two colleagues in the epidemiology and biostatistics division. Research Scientist **Sylvia Brown**, PhD, MPH, and Associate Professor **Robin Harris**, PhD, MPH, were honored for their outstanding work with the Hopi Women's Wellness Program.

**Jefferey Burgess**, MD, MPH, director of the community, environment and policy division and professor, received the Excellence in Research Award.

**Norma Gray**, PhD, assistant professor in the health promotion sciences division, received the Excellence in Teaching Award. She retired in June 2010 after 16 years teaching and conducting research at the UA Zuckerman College of Public Health.

# STUDENT NEWS

unwavering support of community health and wellness” as a Community Health Activist. Parker is a lecturer in the Division of Health Promotion Sciences.

**Yvonne Price**, manager of Academic Information Content was a recipient of the Tucson 40 under 40 award.

**Ralph Renger**, PhD, was promoted to professor in the community, environment and policy division.

**Cecilia Rosales**, MD, MS, was appointed director of Phoenix Programs. She is also a recipient of the 2010 Wavemaker Award for her collaborative and persistent disease control and prevention efforts. Dr. Rosales is an associate professor in the community, environment and policy division.

**Joe Tabor**, PhD, MPH, was promoted to assistant professor in the community, environment and policy division.

**Douglas L. Taren**, PhD, associate dean of Academic Affairs and professor of public health, joined the World Health Organization advisory group on nutrition guidance. He will serve as a resource to develop guidelines for the assessment of vitamin A and iron status in populations. Taren also joined the Board of Directors for the Tucson Community Food Bank.

**Nicolette I. Teufel-Shone**, PhD, associate professor of Family and Child Health, has received multiple honors for her work promoting healthy lifestyles among Native Americans. The Hualapai Healthy Heart Program, which operates as a collaborative effort between the Hualapai Tribe and the UA College of Public Health, was presented with the American Diabetes Association John Pipe Voices for Change Award in recognition for diabetes advocacy efforts in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

## PhD On Ice



PhD student **Laura Suppes** (standing, third person from left), with teammates from Milenyum at the 2010-2011 IIHF European Women's Champions Cup in Turkey.

St. Paul, Minnesota native and public health doctoral student **Laura Suppes** skated in the 2010-2011 International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) tournament held in Ankara, Turkey for the European Women's Champions Cup. “The team that I played for (Milenyum) won their division in Turkey for a spot in the tournament, and requested help from five foreign players. Four of us were from St. Paul, and one was from Montreal,” said Suppes.

A skater since the age of five, Suppes has been playing organized hockey since the second grade. “The toughest part about training in Tucson was the lack of ice. I do own a pair of Rollerblades, which helped me stay in skating shape. Running also helped. To avoid the afternoon heat, I would usually run or rollerblade in the mornings before class,” she said.

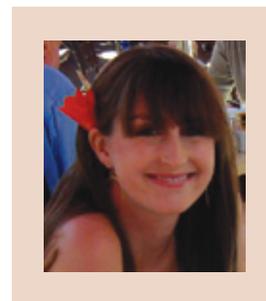
Although they lost all three games to France, Slovenia, and Kazakhstan, Suppes hopes to play again if the team makes it to the tournament again.

## Department of Homeland Security

## Career Development Grant



Kristen Pogreba-Brown



Saskia van Rijn

**Kristen Pogreba-Brown** and **Saskia van Rijn**, in the Epidemiology program were awarded graduate fellowships in food protection and defense through a Department of Homeland Security Career Development Grant. The grant is designed to attract public health graduate students to the interdisciplinary study of homeland security issues.

Pogreba-Brown, MPH, a doctoral student in epidemiology, was awarded a two-year, \$81,000 graduate fellowship to study food-borne infectious disease outbreaks. Saskia van Rijn, a master's student in epidemiology, received a \$50,000, one-year grant to research food terrorism, with a focus on the Southwest.



Jasmen Dorian with Gov. Jan Brewer.

## Fixing Arizona's Physician Shortage

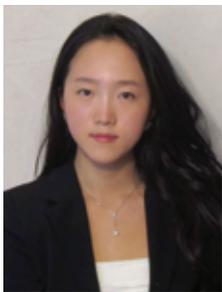
Finding solutions for the shortage of primary care physicians in rural Arizona is the focus of a report by **Jasmen Dorian**, a doctoral candidate at the Zuckerman College of Public Health.

As part of her practicum, Dorian worked with Beth Kohler Lazare, health and human services policy advisor to Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer, researching proven strategies to address the physician shortage with no additional funding. In her report, Dorian identified strategies that could assist in formulating policy to address the issue based on scientific research, subject-matter expert opinions, and successful policies adopted by other states.

Dorian's practicum was made possible by a grant from the Arizona Area Health Education Centers, which provides stipends for internships and practicum programs that focus on rural and underserved populations in Arizona.

Sophomore **Jean Chang** is co-author

of a guidebook for Korean nurses. The English translation of the title is *Korean Nursing to American Nursing: A Guide for Korean Nurses*. "The book serves as an introduction



to the differences and similarities between health care systems in the U.S. and Korea," said Chang. The book will be available in May 2011. Chang will be a guest speaker at several University hospitals and nursing schools in Korea in June.

**Amy Glick**, MPH, recruitment and admissions coordinator, was elected to the Schools of Public Health Application Service (SOPHAS) Advisory Council.

**Carrie Hardesty** is one of two



recipients of the 2010 Murray DeArmond Mind, Body, Spirit Award. The University of Arizona presents this award annually to one male and one female senior

who have demonstrated a sustained and continuous effort to improve the campus community through outstanding leadership, scholarship and volunteerism. Hardesty graduated from the UA in May with a bachelor of science degree in health education.

**Deanna Lewis**, a doctoral candidate in the Family and Child Health section of the health promotion sciences division, received an Alumni Achievement/Emerging Professional Award from the UA College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, John and Doris Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences, where she has a bachelor of science.

MPH student **Rachel Zenuk** received the Minority Scholar in Cancer Re-



(L to R) Rachel Zenuk accepting the Minority Scholar in Cancer Research Award presented by Sanya Springfield, director of the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities at the National Cancer Institute.

search Award from the American Association of Cancer Research. She is one of 25 early-career cancer researchers nationwide to receive the award.

### Zuckerman College of Public Health Student Awards

**Hannah Hafter** and **Rachel Zenuk** both received the Outstanding Master in Public Health Student Award.

A trio of students – **Scott Irwin**, **Frank Metzger**, and **Chad Waggoner** – received the Student Life Award, which honors a student or students who work to improve the culture of the college.

Graduate Assistant **Lauren Pring** was selected winner of the Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award in recognition for her contributions to the college's learning environment.

## Fulbright Scholar's Soap Business Seeks to Stabilize Afghanistan



Graduate student **Abdul Tawab Kawa Saljuqi** and a team of Fulbright Scholars have developed Soapeace, Inc., a company that seeks to reduce infection, mortality and unemployment in Afghanistan through the sustainable production, distribution and sale of affordable soap.

Saljuqi is a physician and Fulbright Scholar who is working on a master of public health in the Health Behavior and Health Promotion program. He is the former director of health promotion, a department within the Ministry of Health in Kabul, Afghanistan.

His unique background and knowledge of Afghanistan's resources and needs drive his educational goals and the socially enterprising business plan to combine health promotion and profit. The idea was so good it was named the winning project during the Social Entrepreneurial Workshop competition at the Nashville Fulbright Enrichment Seminar in February 2010.

## Tinker Award Winners

Graduate students **Gayle Bentley** and **Jill Verbeck** conducted research in Peru as recipients of the Tinker Summer Field Research Grant. The Tinker Foundation supports travel expenses for masters and pre-dissertation fieldwork in Latin America during the summer season.



Gayle Bentley

Bentley worked with the department of Parasitology at the Naval Medical Research Center Detachment in Lima and Iquitos. Her project was to determine the distribution, prevalence and clinical manifestations of the parasite *Mansonella ozzardi* (M. ozzardi).



Jill Verbeck

Verbeck conducted surveys on quality of health and access to health care in La Oroya, Peru, where she worked with a human rights group looking into contamination emitted by the local smelter.

## National Recognition for Abiero



Public health undergraduate student **Beatrice Abiero** received national recognition for her poster presentation at the annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in November 2010. Her research focused on physical activity among 7th and 8th grade students. She is in the process of developing a full manuscript on her research activities with the aim of getting it published.

## Graduate Fellowship for Victory

**Kerton Victory**, MS, is the recipient of a \$30,000 BioME Graduate Fellowship for the 2011-2012 academic year. He is a doctoral student in the Environmental Health Sciences program. BioME is a National Science Foundation-funded K-12 Education program that places graduate students in K-12 classrooms in order to excite younger students about the life sciences.



Find us on Facebook at  
uazpublichealth

# PHOENIX CAMPUS NEWS

---



Faculty and students participate in the first student orientation at the Phoenix Biomedical Campus.

## Expanding Public Health Academics in Phoenix

The college officially opened its doors in Phoenix to the first incoming class of public health graduate students in August 2010.

With the distinction of being the first in the Southwest and the only nationally accredited college of public health in the State of Arizona, the college is now located on the Phoenix Biomedical Campus.

Working closely with statewide organizations, the curriculum for the master of public health program in public health practice supports the major public health organizations in Arizona, including the Arizona Department of Health Services, Maricopa Health Department, providers of public health and health care services in the greater Phoenix metropolitan area and nearby county and tribal health programs.

“Half the population of Arizona lives in Maricopa County. Expanding

the reach of a nationally accredited public health program to Phoenix makes us much more accessible to potential students living and working in the surrounding area as well as the more remote areas of the state,” said Cecilia Rosales, MD, MS, director of Phoenix programs.

“Our proximity to the local and state health department is a great asset for our students in terms of internships and job opportunities, said Dr. Rosales.”

“We had a huge need for this for a long time,” said Dr. Bob England,

director of the Maricopa County Department of Public Health. “This is the largest community in the U.S. that has both a major local health department and the State health department in the same city. Finally adding academic education in public health to the mix will assist all of us in providing even better leadership for our community.”

*Cecilia Rosales, MD, MS,  
Director of Phoenix Programs*



# COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT AND POLICY

## Merrill Eisenberg helps Pima County get \$15.7 Million to Fight Obesity



Merrill Eisenberg, PhD

The Pima County Health Department was awarded \$15.7 million from the federal government to combat obesity with the help of Merrill Eisenberg, PhD, assistant

professor in the community, environment and policy division of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health.

Pima County was the only community in Arizona to receive the federal “Communities Putting Prevention to Work” grant in March 2010. The grant is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Working with Activate Tucson, a local coalition of organizations and individuals concerned with obesity prevention, Eisenberg designed a plan to create policy, systems and environmental changes that will remove barriers for Pima County residents to exercise and eat healthier, and she wrote the winning grant proposal for the health department.

Activate Tucson member organizations, including the YMCA, United Way, PRONeighborhoods, the Community Food Bank and Carondelet Health Network, will receive funding to conduct activities in child care settings, neighborhoods, worksites, and health care, social service and faith-based settings.

The Zuckerman College of Public Health will receive \$1.1 million of the grant to support the public policy and evaluation components of the program. Eisenberg will lead the policy

team, and Scott Carvajal, PhD, MPH, will lead the evaluation team.

Additional University entities that will be supported include the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture’s Drachman Institute, which will lead the effort to address environment issues and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ nutritional sciences department, which will lead school-based activities.

## Joe Gerald Evaluates Cost Effectiveness of Asthma Screening

Screening school children at high risk for asthma is a well intentioned effort that is more complex than it looks and not yet cost-effective.

Childhood asthma causes significant health problems and costs more than 2 billion dollars per year to treat. The disease is most prevalent among minority, low income, urban populations, the kids who are least likely to receive recommended asthma medications and consistent medical follow-up.

In the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* (March 2010), Joe K. Gerald, MD, PhD, assistant professor at the Mel and Enid Zuckerman

College of Public Health, evaluated the cost-effectiveness of four school-based asthma screening strategies in a population of urban, primarily black, elementary-age school children.

The results revealed that the most efficient strategy was to screen for previously diagnosed but not well-controlled asthma. The authors feel that stronger links should be built between asthma screening, providing treatment and improving patient adherence to medication use to produce more cost-effective outcomes for screening.

## \$1 Million for Firefighter Heart Disease Study

A \$1 million, three-year grant to the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health will fund research to determine whether medical treatment can help prevent the progression of early atherosclerotic disease in firefighters. Most firefighters who die of heart attacks have underlying heart disease, but in many cases the disease is not discovered early. Standard medical tests for firefighters do not detect early heart disease. The grant, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grants program, will fund the study to determine if statin drugs are effective in preventing increases in artery-lining thickness over time in firefighters who do not have high levels of total cholesterol. Jeff Burgess, MD, MPH, is the principal investigator on the study.

# National MRSA Training for Firefighters



Professor Kelly Reynolds and two graduate students are presented with the Tucson Fire Department's Award of Service at a ceremony in the Tucson Convention Center on Feb. 19, 2010. (L to R) Councilwoman Shirley Scott, Jonathan Sexton, Kelly Reynolds, Kelly Hager, Mayor Bob Walkup; and Fire Chief Patrick Kelly.

Graduate student Kelly Hager developed a national training program for firefighters and first responders to prevent contamination and reduce the spread of Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, also known as MRSA.

The idea to create the online training program was conceived after researchers at the Zuckerman College of Public Health found MRSA contamination on surfaces in Tucson fire stations, training sites and offices of emergency medical responders.

Microbiologist and Associate Professor Kelly Reynolds, PhD, MSPH, led the study with graduate students Kelly Hager and Jonathan Sexton. They collected 500 samples at nine fire-related facilities in Tucson and found the highest prevalence of MRSA bacteria on the couches, class desks and commonly touched office surfaces.

Sexton oversaw the MRSA testing

aspect of the study. Hager developed the MRSA 101 online training course to help firefighters recognize the risk of exposure and contamination as well as provide them with knowledge on how to prevent its spread. The Western Fire Chiefs Association funded the online module.

"I get random calls from firefighters and EMS around the country thanking me for the tool. The last call came from Texas where they were experiencing a MRSA outbreak," said Reynolds.

"The UA has done a tremendous service for fire departments everywhere," said Ed Nied, a deputy chief with the Tucson Fire Department. "We'd like more people to know about the study and the training because they contain life-saving information that any first responder can use."

The training is available for free courtesy of the Global Health Institute, part of the College of Public

Health. Visit [www.ghi.arizona.edu](http://www.ghi.arizona.edu) for more information.

"Being able to provide the MRSA 101 Training Module at no cost to all public safety personnel is an important service to the profession. Through education and training we can improve the health and safety of first responders so they can better serve the community," said Reynolds.

## Meet the Students

- Kelly Hager is an MPH student in the community, environment and policy division.
- Jonathan Sexton is a PhD student in the department of Soil, Water and Environmental Science at the UA College of Agriculture and Life Sciences with a minor in public health.

# EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIostatISTICS



Faculty: Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

## Vitamin D and its Role in Colon Cancer

Associate Professor and Arizona Cancer Center scientist Elizabeth Jacobs, PhD, is co-principal investigator on a study of vitamin D and its relationship to colon cancer. The research is funded by a \$1.5 million, five-year grant from the National Cancer Institute.

Her research will help determine whether serum levels of vitamin D are related to colorectal adenoma recurrence and whether genetic variation in enzymes in the vitamin D pathway

effect colorectal cancer recurrence. The research will examine the functional effects of genetic variation in the cell, and will elucidate a potential mechanism of action of vitamin D within colon cancer cells.

“What we hope to find is that higher levels of vitamin D are associated with a reduced risk for colorectal adenomas. We also hope to both identify and mechanistically explain changes in genes which might be related to the amount of vitamin D available

to cells. These findings could help us understand whether supplementing with vitamin D could prevent the formation of colorectal adenomas, the precursors to colorectal cancer, and also if there are people who may need more vitamin D due to their genetic background,” said Jacobs.

## The Skin Cancer Institute



Robin Harris,  
Deputy Director  
of the Skin Cancer  
Institute.

As a sunbelt zone, Arizona has among the highest skin cancer incidence rates in the world. Furthermore, the rates of skin cancers are increasing, and skin cancers, particularly melanoma, can be devastating and lethal. While treatment

is effective for skin cancers detected in early stages, we need better prevention and early detection strategies and treatments for later stage tumors.

The Skin Cancer Institute (SCI)

is a unique partnership focused on finding these better prevention, detection and treatment strategies. The partnership includes faculty from the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health and the Arizona Cancer Center.

“The Skin Cancer Institute is seeking to become a national model for community-based skin cancer patient care, research and education. We are bringing together innovative research, visionary clinical care, and life-changing education and community outreach under the umbrella of SCI,” said Robin Harris, PhD, MPH, deputy director of the Skin Cancer Institute and associate professor of

public health.

Annual support for SCI comes from private donors, family foundations, and federal grants. One exciting project involves public health students. Project SASS (Students Are Sun Safe) trains UA students to teach local teenagers about skin cancer and sun protection. SCI staff created four multimedia training-modules to teach high school students with an interactive presentation. More than 50 UA students have completed the training and they have reached over 250 Tucson high school students.

## Studying Breast Cancers in

# Post-partum Hispanic Women

Epidemiologist and Professor M. Elena Martínez, PhD, MPH, is co-principal investigator of a new study looking into an aggressive form of breast cancer that strikes women after pregnancy. The National Cancer Institute awarded Arizona Cancer Center researchers more than \$1.7 million for the five-year study. Martínez holds dual positions at the Arizona Cancer Center as co-director of the Cancer Prevention and Control Program and director of the Cancer Health Disparities Institute.

“Risk of breast cancer increases immediately following pregnancy and breast cancers that occur in the post-partum period are more aggressive, more likely to metastasize and associated with worse patient outcomes,” said Martínez. “They also generally affect younger women and may represent a substantial proportion of early onset breast cancer, a phenomenon that disproportionately affects racial and ethnic minority populations.”

The new study, Epigenetic Features of Pregnancy-Associated Breast Cancer in Hispanic Women, will compare breast cancers in Hispanic women in the high-risk post-partum period with those diagnosed outside of this time period to try to define

the risk factors, tumor sub-types, and epigenetic characteristics associated with the aggressive post-partum cancer. The hypothesis is that changes within the breast tissue during pregnancy may increase the risk of carcinogenesis of some women and that these changes will be maintained and reflected in tumors arising after pregnancy.

Results of the study may further explain mechanisms that play a role in early onset breast cancer, particularly those related to a recent pregnancy. Demonstrating that post-partum cancers have specific shared gene expression would provide important clues about these tumors and possibly lead to the discovery of novel drug targets as an immediate translational outcome, Martínez said.

Martínez and Bernard W. Futscher, PhD, the Arizona Cancer Center’s Margaret E. and Fenton L. Maynard Chair in Breast Cancer Epigenomics, are the study’s co-principal investigators. The research is funded by the National Cancer Institute through a U01 grant, which is awarded to investigators conducting research into biological or genetic causes and mechanisms of cancer health disparities.

## Arizona Clinical Research Training Program Moves Online

The Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics received a \$30,000 grant from the University of Arizona’s Initiative for Development of Online Programs to convert three courses into online format. The courses are part of the Arizona Clinical Research Training Program (AzCRT) graduate certificate which prepare clinician scientists for the complexities of clinical research through high-quality didactic instruction and mentored research experiences.

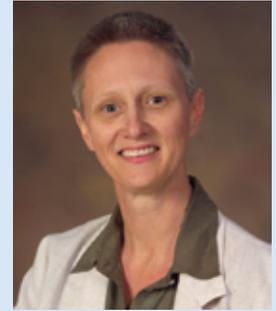
The move will significantly increase access to the AzCRT program for busy clinicians and scientists. AzCRT courses can also be applied towards graduate degree programs at

the College of Public Health.

“Offering the Arizona Clinical Research Training Program online will provide more course options for students who need flexible hours. That includes students from our Phoenix campus and other cities,” said Zhao Chen, division director and professor.

The initiative, which is supported by the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Outreach College, and the Office of Instruction & Assessment, is aimed at building online programs that minimize the challenges imposed by time or distance for UA students to complete, or make significant progress toward completing, their academic programs.

## Tracking Autism with Sydney Pettygrove



Epidemiologist and Assistant Professor Sydney Pettygrove is co-principal investigator on a study to track the prevalence of autism in Arizona. The “Arizona Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program” received a \$1.7 million grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to continue its work on the identification of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and intellectual disabilities (ID) in Maricopa County.

Pettygrove is working with principal investigator Christopher Cunniff, MD, professor with the UA department of pediatrics, and developmental and behavioral pediatrician Sydney Rice, MD, assistant professor with the UA department of pediatrics.

The team will review the records of more than 4,000 children within Maricopa County to determine the prevalence of ASD and intellectual disabilities in that region. The information will provide accurate data about the characteristics of children who have these developmental disabilities and document whether autism is increasing, decreasing, or staying the same.

The grant was awarded to the Steele Children’s Research Center at the UA College of Medicine. The Steele Research Center is one of 11 sites selected to receive a four-year Cooperative Agreement from the CDC for autism research.

# HEALTH PROMOTION SCIENCES

## Lynn Gerald named principal investigator of the Asthma Clinical Research Center

Lynn Gerald, PhD, professor in the health promotion sciences division is, principal investigator of the Asthma Clinical Research Center, a collaboration between the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health and the Arizona Respiratory Center.

The American Lung Association moved and opened the Asthma Clinical Research Center, known as ACRC, to the University of Arizona. The center, formerly located in Birmingham Ala., is part of the nation's largest not-for-profit network of clinical research centers dedicated to asthma treatment research and attracts some of the best asthma investigators worldwide.

The University of Arizona location is one of 18 ACRC's throughout the country where researchers are conducting large clinical trials that impact patient care and asthma re-

search.

Gerald joined the UA in 2009 from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she was director of the Lung Health Center and a professor of medicine. She was also principal investigator of the Asthma Clinical Research Center in Birmingham.

"I am very proud that I was able to transfer my center here to the University of Arizona to continue working with this strong network to improve asthma care through clinical research," said Gerald. "Asthma is a serious health problem. The good news is that it can be treated, and people with asthma can live normal, productive lives. But without proper treatment, asthma can be extremely dangerous, even fatal. The clinical research that we do at the ACRC is devoted to asthma treatment research."

The ACRC currently is working on two studies funded by the National Institutes of Health's National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. The first will examine whether a dietary supplement of soy isoflavones is an effective treatment in patients with poorly controlled asthma. The second study will examine whether treatment of sinusitis (chronic disease of the nose and sinuses) with nasal steroids will improve asthma control.

To inquire about participation in current research efforts or to obtain further information on current research, contact clinical research coordinator Monica Vasquez at [mvasquez@arc.arizona.edu](mailto:mvasquez@arc.arizona.edu) or 520-626-3907.

## Native American Youth Launch Web-Based Radio Station



Nicolette Teufel-Shone, PhD

Live on the Web from the Hualapai Indian reservation in Peach Springs, Ariz., is a kid-run radio station that – in addition to music – promotes exercise and living a healthy lifestyle.

EPCH radio, also known as "The Peach," is made possible with a four-year, \$765,000 grant and a collaboration between the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health and the Hualapai tribe.

"The purpose of this program is to develop a health-promotion effort that teaches and mentors adolescents to be 'influencers' and promote healthy behaviors in their community," said Nicolette Teufel-Shone, PhD, associate professor in the health promotion sciences division.

The project is part of a study and effort to reduce cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes risk factors in community members 10 years and older.

Teufel-Shone worked with Sandra Irwin, director of the Hualapai Tribal Health Department, to write the grant-winning proposal, "Leveraging Social Influence to Increase Physical

Activity."

The funding is from the National Institutes of Health and Indian Health Service through a Native American Research Centers for Health award.

EPCH is a member of the Kidstar Radio Network, a children's educational charity that is developing a network of Web radio stations within schools and youth organizations throughout the U.S.

To listen live to "The Peach," go to the home page of [www.kidstar.org](http://www.kidstar.org) and click on the link to "EPCH".



Faculty and MPH students in the Family and Child Health section celebrate at Fall Convocation on Dec. 17, 2010. (L to R): Zaynah Chowdhury, Douglas Taren, Nataliya Korosteleva, Francisco Garcia, and Dean Iman Hakim.

## Introducing New Graduate Certificate in Global Health & Development

The Global Health Institute at the Zuckerman College of Public Health now offers a Graduate Certificate in Global Health and Development.

Growing awareness of the need to find shared solutions to shared global health and development challenges, has created an increase of jobs in the area of global health work.

The fact that more individuals are expressing an interest in careers in global health is reflected in the increase in the number of students applying to the college's Masters level global health program in recent years.

“Public Health professionals who desire to work in the field of global health and development require skills to identify and delineate critical health and human development issues that confront populations in the settings in which they work,” said John Ehiri, PhD, MPH, MSc, director of the health promotion sciences division and professor.

“They may be required to design and implement large or small-scale interventions to prevent disease and to protect or promote population health. They may be hired as consul-

tants to provide technical advice.”

The Certificate in Global Health & Development is designed to equip participants with the basic skills necessary to function effectively in global health and development policy and practice. The Internet-based program will be led by Professors John Ehiri, Doug Taren, Duke Duncan, and Kacey Ernst.

### Graduate Certificate Program

## Improving Maternal and Child Health in Rural Areas



Photo Courtesy of the Indian Health Service/U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Native American populations in rural and underserved regions and Appalachian counties have dispropor-

tionately worse maternal and child health (MCH) outcomes than national averages. Public health professionals serving these populations have identified the need for training in MCH epidemiology. To meet this need, the University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health in collaboration with the University of Kentucky College of Public Health, have developed a graduate certificate program in Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology.

Faculty from both Universities have worked with representatives from Indian Health Service, the United South and Eastern Tribes, and maternal and child health providers in rural, underserved counties of the

southeast and Appalachian Kentucky to develop a 15-credit graduate certificate in MCH Epidemiology that is offered entirely online. The program is designed to fill a gap in MCH epidemiology education of professionals who have limited resources and work in difficult settings with underprivileged communities.

The program is supported by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Department of Health and Human Services. Through a grant program, tuition scholarship is provided to support the participation of 10 students annually.

# 10th ANNIVERSARY GALA

## Event Raises \$264,000 for Student Scholarships

A virtual Who's Who of the Tucson business, academic, and philanthropic community turned out to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health on April 9, 2010. The event's nearly 450 guests generated more than \$264,000 for the college's student scholarship endowment.

The courtyard outside of Drachman Hall was transformed into a pavilion under the stars to celebrate the milestone. Festivities included a cocktail reception featuring the jazz band Über Jam, an exquisite dinner, a commissioned dance performance by the UA Dance Ensemble, and a silent auction.

"The funds we raised through the gala will offer more students the opportunity to become our ambassadors and future leaders in public health. The legacy of this college will continue to 'pay it forward' to our local, state, national and global communities," said Iman Hakim, dean and professor of the college.

Photos (left to right)

- 1: Under the big tent.
- 2: Enid and Mel Zuckerman, Iman Hakim.
- 3: Lynn and Joe Gerald.
- 4: Rick Meyers, Mercedes Sanchez, Iman Hakim.
- 5: Nicole Thurlow, Abraham Deng Ater, Richard Carmona.



“ It was a truly magical evening that transcended everything we'd hoped and planned for. This event established the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health as a premier educational force for public health in our community and in the world. Most importantly, it gave all our supporters and benefactors a moving and clear picture of the future – a future where, with our help, incredibly gifted students such as Nicole and Abraham will, quite literally, save the world. ”

— Mercedes Sanchez



“ The most outstanding part of the evening for me was hearing the students share their personal stories. They talked about how education changed their lives. Dreams really do come true. It is an honor to me when I think about the reality that one of the ‘Lost Boys’ of Sudan is now a second year graduate student in the college of public health.”

”

— Enid Zuckerman

## College of Public Health Snapshot

### Divisions

Community, Environment & Policy  
Epidemiology & Biostatistics  
Health Promotion Sciences

### Degree Programs

Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BS)  
Certificate in Public Health  
Master of Public Health (MPH)  
Master of Science in Epidemiology (MS)  
Master of Science in Environmental Health Sciences (MS)  
Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH)  
Doctorate in Biostatistics (PhD)  
Doctorate in Epidemiology (PhD)  
Doctorate in Environmental Health Sciences (PhD)

### Dual Degree Programs

JD/MPH  
MBA/MPH  
MD/MPH  
MPH/MA (Latin American Studies)  
MPH/MS (Mexican American Studies)

### Education Areas

Biostatistics  
Environmental and Occupational Health  
Epidemiology  
Family and Child Health  
Global Health  
Health Behavior Health Promotion  
Public Health Policy and Management  
Public Health Practice (Phoenix)

### Centers

Arizona Prevention Center  
Arizona Public Health Training Center  
Arizona Smokers' Helpline (ASHLine)  
Asthma Clinical Research Center in partnership with the Arizona Respiratory Center  
Canyon Ranch Center for Prevention and Health Promotion  
Global Health Institute  
Mountain West Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center  
Rural Health Office  
Women's Center of Excellence

### Community Engagement

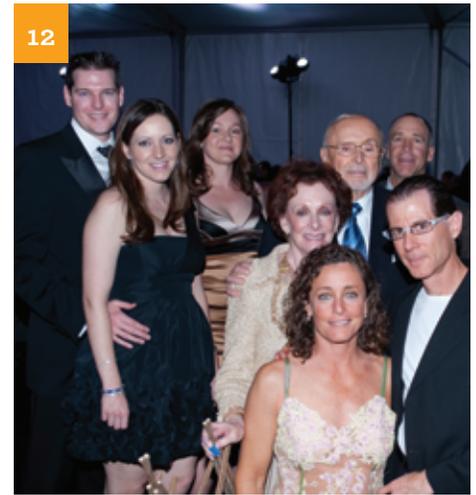
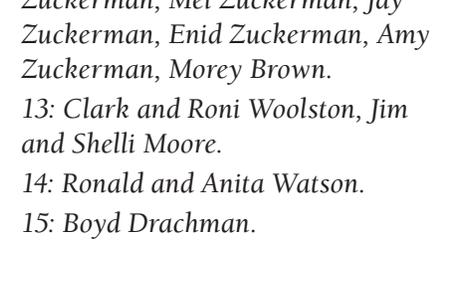
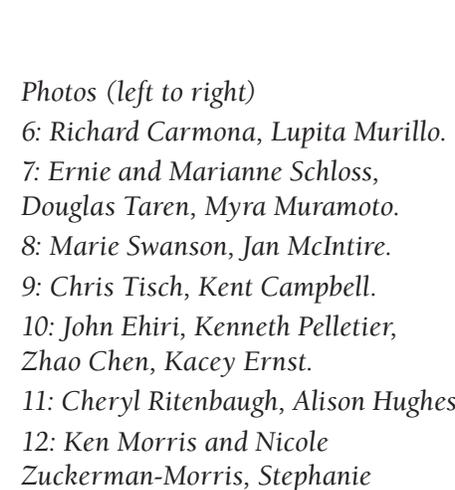
Border and Rural Health  
Free Health & Wellness Lecture Series  
Henkel Distinguished Speaker Series  
The James E. Dalen Distinguished Lecture for Health Policy  
Public Health Preparedness  
Rural Health  
Workforce Development and Leadership

### Research Priorities

The Zuckerman College of Public Health has gained national and international recognition for its research productivity and integration into communities across Arizona, the Southwest, Mexico and the globe. The faculty, alumni and students are consistently finding new approaches to chronic disease prevention, community public health preparedness, healthy aging, family wellness, and advocacy for public health policy.

### Contact Information

Phone: 520.626.9669  
Web site: [www.publichealth.arizona.edu](http://www.publichealth.arizona.edu)



Photos (left to right)  
 6: Richard Carmona, Lupita Murillo.  
 7: Ernie and Marianne Schloss, Douglas Taren, Myra Muramoto.  
 8: Marie Swanson, Jan McIntire.  
 9: Chris Tisch, Kent Campbell.  
 10: John Ehiri, Kenneth Pelletier, Zhao Chen, Kacey Ernst.  
 11: Cheryl Ritenbaugh, Alison Hughes.  
 12: Ken Morris and Nicole Zuckerman-Morris, Stephanie Zuckerman, Mel Zuckerman, Jay Zuckerman, Enid Zuckerman, Amy Zuckerman, Morey Brown.  
 13: Clark and Roni Woolston, Jim and Shelli Moore.  
 14: Ronald and Anita Watson.  
 15: Boyd Drachman.

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
**TIMELINE**

**1991**  
 • Epidemiology Program established- MS and PhD degrees; initiated as an interdisciplinary Program under the Graduate College.

**1993**  
 • Arizona Board of

Regents approves the establishment of the Arizona Graduate Program in Public Health (i.e., the MPH Program). The MPH program was first housed at the UA College of Medicine.

**1994**  
 • The Arizona Graduate Program in Public Health accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health.

**1997**  
 • Canyon Ranch founders Mel and Enid

Zuckerman announce that Canyon Ranch Inc. will donate \$10 million over 10 years to establish the Arizona Prevention Center.

**1998**  
 • The Canyon Ranch endowed Chair in

16



“ The 10th anniversary celebration for the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health was a powerful demonstration of how the faculty, students, and staff of this college are at the very center of society’s most important challenges. Moreover, the remarkable success of such a young college is a tribute to the many generous individuals who support the talent in the college. ”

— Robert Shelton

17



19



18



20



Photos (left to right)

16: Robert and Adrian Shelton.

17: Joan Shaver, Lyle Bootman, Meredith Hay, Iman Hakim.

18: Htay Hla, Justin Thomas, Fatme Al-Anouti.

19: Amelia Lobos, Traci Kodeck, Tara Radke.

20: Abraham Deng Ater, James Dalen, Tiffany Parms, Nicole Thurlow, Ada Dieke.

Lifestyle and Behavioral Health is established.

**2000**

• The Arizona Board of Regents votes in January to establish the College of Public Health at the University of Arizona.

• The Undergraduate program in health education is transferred to the college.

**2001**

• G. Marie Swanson, PhD, MPH, is appointed first dean of the College.

**2002**

• The college is officially named the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health.  
• The college receives a bequest of \$5 million for health

promotion programs.

**2003**

• In November, groundbreaking begins for the construction of Roy P. Drachman Hall, the future home for the college which

is spread among 22 sites throughout Tucson.

• The college receives accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health.



Photos (left to right)  
21: Beth Jacobs, Robin Harris, Jonathan Zink.

22: Christina Cutshaw, Mary Kay O'Rourke.

23: Richard Rohrdanz, Lynda Bergsma.

24: Renee Moussa, Halla Moussa, Gabrielle Moussa, Michelle Moussa.

25: Don and Kim Bourn.

26: Alayna Voutsas, Anita Foley.

27: Christie Hefner, Jerry Cohen, Shauna Cohen, Richard Carmona, Christine Sardo.

28: Crystal Kynard-Amerson, Teri Moore, Gael Sylvia and Mark Pullen, Jade Martin.

29: Cecilia Rosales, Linda Don, Jill Guernsey de Zapien, Kavita Patel.

30: Kelly Reynolds, Mel Zuckerman, Kurt Peterson.



## 2004

- Collaboration formed with El Colegio de Sonora (COLSON) to address the complex, social, educational and development issues facing the public health work forces in the border

regions of Arizona and Sonora.

- The college receives a five-year, \$3.75 million grant from the CDC to continue the efforts of the Southwest Center for Community Health Promotion.

## 2005

- The Arizona Center for Public Health Preparedness is started by a four-year CDC grant.
- The college receives a nationally funded Maternal and Child Health training grant.

## 2006

- Drachman Hall becomes the new home of the College of Public Health. Doors open to students in the spring semester.
- The Arizona Prevention Center is named the Canyon Ranch Center for

Prevention and Health Promotion.

## 2007

- Two new doctoral degree programs, the DrPH and the PhD in Biostatistics, are approved by the Arizona Board of Regents. The first



“ We were proud as a company to be the Platinum Sponsor. The event was a huge success. Thank you for allowing us to be part of such an important program. ”

— John P. Karolzak

*Photos (left to right)*

31: Southwest Ambulance Group, Platinum Sponsor of the 10th Anniversary Gala.

32: Lorraine Varela, Amelia Lobos.

33: Jared and Brooke Sherrill, Duane and Kathy Sherrill.

34: Howard Eng, Anoma Phanthanrath.

35: Gala Planning Committee: Donna Knight, Mercedes Sanchez, Kim Bourn, Kalyn Stith, Amy Zuckerman, Iman Hakim, Lupita Murillo.

36: Gala reception.



students are admitted to these programs for the fall semester.

**2008**

- Professor Iman Hakim, MBBCh, PhD, MPH, is named Dean of the college.
- The MD/MPH program

launches in Phoenix.

**2009**

- The undergraduate program is redesigned. The Arizona Board of Regents approves the establishment of the Bachelor of Science with a Major in Public Health.

**2010**

- The college expands public health academics in Phoenix with the new MPH program in Public Health Practice.
- The PhD in Environmental Health Sciences is approved by the

Arizona Board of Regents and the first students were admitted for the fall 2010 semester.

- The fall semester marks the highest incoming class of graduate students in the history of the college (108 master's students and 21 doctoral

students).

- The Arizona Public Health Training Center is established.
- The Mountain West Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center is established.

## Public Health in Action



Staff from the UA College of Public Health harvest vegetables at Marana Heritage Farm. The 10 acre no-spray vegetable farm provides food for The Community Food Bank.

(L to R) Kathleen Crist, Kathy Ott, Barbara Miller, Donna Knight, Judy Goosherst, Anita Foley, and farm worker.

### Standing Room Only for Dr. David Himmelstein

There wasn't an empty seat in the house when Harvard Medical School Professor David Himmelstein visited the college to talk about national health reform. The co-founder of Physicians for a National Health Program, Dr. Himmelstein presented "Health Reform 2.0: Reboot, Retry" to a full house on April 29, 2010.

Himmelstein is a primary care physician in Cambridge, Mass., associate professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and chief of the Division of Social and Community Medicine at Cambridge Hospital.

The event was possible thanks to **The James E. Dalen Distinguished Lecture for Health Policy**. The endowment supports a series of visiting professors in Health Policy. These distinguished scholars offer lectures and discussions to our campus community and to the public on local, state, national, and international health policy issues. The endowment was created in honor of James E. Dalen, MD, MPH, dean and professor emeritus of the UA College of Medicine and professor emeritus of the UA College of Public Health.



David U. Himmelstein, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School.

### Introduction to Web 2.0

Web 2.0 and Beyond is a new six week online course that provides an introduction to the latest tools and technologies for the Web. Instructor Htay Hla, director of Information Technology at the Zuckerman College of Public Health, teaches the basics of blogging, wikis, collaboration methods, and social networking. Students will also traverse virtual worlds, visualize data, communicate and conference with each other. The course is offered through the Global Health Institute multiple times throughout the year. Web 2.0 is open to students, faculty, staff and the general public. It is not available for credit.

## Health and Wellness Lecture Series



Zhao Chen, professor and director of the epidemiology and biostatistics division, presents “Bone Health: Prevention and Treatment Choices” in Green Valley, AZ (April 13, 2010).

The popular Health & Wellness Lecture Series expanded in 2010 from one location in Green Valley, Ariz. to five locations throughout Tucson and Phoenix metropolitan areas. Faculty from the College volunteered their time to help educate local community members on various public health concerns. Topics covered everything from the health benefits of drinking different teas and germ hot spots in the home to bone health and allergy causing flora in Southern Arizona.

“The lectures are free and open to the public. Being out in the community and sharing our knowledge, research, and translating scientific discoveries that improve health is an important part of our mission as a college,” said Dean Iman Hakim.

### Public Health Student Alliance Presents 4th Annual Social Justice Symposium

While Arizona Governor Jan Brewer was signing a controversial new immigration law on April 23, 2010, public health students at the University of Arizona held the 4th Annual Social Justice Symposium. The conference is designed to engage students, faculty, health professionals, and community members in an open dialogue about how social inequality harms the health of the public.

Pima County public defender Margo Cowan delivered the keynote address. Cowan is cofounder of the group No More Deaths, an organization with a mission to eliminate deaths on the border crossing from Mexico to the U.S. During her 24 years of practice, Cowan has gained substantial experience in the fields of border and immigration policy.

“Taking a Step Forward: Fostering Awareness and Action in the Area of Social Justice” was the theme of the conference with topics that included: *Social Justice in a Divided Democracy*, *Understanding Racial Microaggressions and Black Identity Development*, *Supporting LGBTQ People of Color*, *Sexual Social Justice for Women and Preventing Gender Violence*.

### Visiting Scholar Seminar



Visiting Scholar Kavita Patel, MD, MSHS, spoke to students about the future of health reform at the College on April 7, 2010. At the time of her visit, she was director of Policy for the White House Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs. Dr. Patel is a board-certified internal medicine physician who has dedicated her life to bringing the stories and lessons learned from her clinical experiences to policymakers and the people working to shape the future of our health care system. Her expertise spans a number of sectors including delivery system reform and equipping clinical teams with the skills necessary to respond to our changing health care system.

# COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD



The Community Advisory Board members gather for a reception at the Arizona Inn, Sept. 16, 2010.  
 Front Row (L to R): Lupita Murillo, Marilyn Heins, Kim Bourn, Evelia Martinez, Mercedes Sanchez, Jay Stern, Wilma McHalfey.  
 Second Row (L to R): Lisa Hopper, Jan Konstanty, David McEvoy, Jonathon Rothschild, Robert Guerrero, Alberto Piña Moore.

## Arthur A. Chapa H. Pylori Awareness Fund

Attorney **Art Chapa**, a longtime lobbyist for Pima County and a former member of the Arizona Board of Regents, was diagnosed with stomach cancer early in November 2010, and sadly, died before the month was over. He was 69. The expected cause of Art's stomach cancer was a little known bacterium called *Helicobacter pylori*, or *H. pylori*. The Chapa family has established the Arthur A. Chapa H. Pylori Awareness Fund in the hopes that we can help others to understand the symptoms, risks, and treatment for this bacteria.



For the majority of people, *H. pylori* infection has no signs or symptoms and doesn't cause any complications. However, for others, *H. pylori* can cause stomach or duodenal ulcers and stomach cancer.

If you would like to make a gift in support of the Chapa Fund please contact Donna Knight at (520) 626-6459.

## Dr. Joel S. Meister, 1941 - 2010

**Dr. Joel S. Meister** made extraordinary contributions to the health of Arizona residents, particularly those living in rural areas, during his tenure at the University since the early 1980's. He was a public health practitioner par excellence, who honored those to whom he reached out with his respect, innovative ideas, leadership, and hard work. Joel cared about communities, and worked with communities on the principle that caring requires a special relationship of nurtured respect, trust, and partnership. He was totally dedicated to building community capacity to make and sustain beneficial change in policy and practice.



Dr. Meister ensured that his legacy would live on after his death through his generous bequest to the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. The Joel S. Meister Endowed Scholarship in Health Policy has been established and will provide students, for generations to come, with the opportunity to continue in his dedicated path.

If you would like to make a gift to support the Joel S. Meister Endowed Scholarship in Health Policy, please contact Donna Knight at (520) 626-6459.

## Employees Raise \$7,700 for Scholarships

This year, College of Public Health employees contributed more than \$7,700 to the UA Cares Community Campaign for Giving. The money will be used to fund student scholarships and critical University and non-profit programs.

"The UA Cares campaign signals a call to action for the College. Over the past seven years, we have joined together with our peers and retirees from every area of the UA, contributing nearly **\$3 million** to critical and far-reaching University and community programs that make a positive difference in the lives of others," said Donna Knight, assistant director of Development.

Special thanks to the UA Cares Coordinators for the college: Nancy Casady, Anita Foley, Annette Hillman, Donna Knight, Sonia Medina, Rebecca Ruiz, Sharon Van-Skiver, and Alayna Voutsas.

Message from Community  
Advisory Board Chair  
**David McEvoy**



As the chair of the Community Advisory Board of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona, I am privileged to report that we recently welcomed the following persons as new members of our Board: Lisa Hopper, Jan Konstanty, Wilma McHalfey, Alberto Peña Moore and Jonathan Rothschild. Each of these people brings valuable experience and energy and that will help our Board's mission, which is to advance the interests of the College in close coordination with Dean Hakim and her leadership team.

Currently, our student scholarship endowment campaign has raised approximately \$1.2 million dollars. We will continue to work to achieve the campaign goal of \$3 million. Given the reality of ever increasing tuition and other costs of attendance for college students, we recognize that a substantial scholarship endowment is and will continue to be necessary in order for the College to attract and retain qualified students.

On behalf of the Board, I wish to thank all of the volunteers that worked on the 10th Anniversary Gala celebration last April, which was a huge success in many ways, including raising substantial student scholarship money, raising the profile of the College within the University community and beyond and raising general awareness of the importance of public health.

The Board welcomes anyone who would like to work with us in support of the College. May you have a healthy and successful 2011.

Partners in Public Health Sponsors  
**Global Health Forum**

Public health experts from the nation's capitol gathered at the college to discuss the critical national and global health issues of the day, on Nov. 30, 2010.

From the Millennium Development Goals identified by the World Health Organization and "globesity" to terrorism and preparedness, members of the Tucson community and across the University campus were invited to join the conversation. Sponsored by Partners in Public Health, our distinguished guests included public health and policy insiders Dr. Kavita Patel and RADM David Rutstein.

Dr. Patel is director of health policy for the New America Foundation and the former director of policy for the White House Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs under President Barack Obama.

Dr. Rutstein is former Acting Deputy Surgeon General. He is a clinician, public health expert and senior health executive who has created and led innovative clinical, administrative, management, emergency response and executive level teams and organizations within the federal government.

The forum was moderated by Dr. Richard Carmona, 17th Surgeon General of the United States, and a distinguished professor at the Zuckerman College of Public Health.

Coming in Fall 2011

**Henkel Distinguished Speaker Series**



*Scott Moffitt, Senior Vice President and General Manager, Henkel.*

Thanks to a generous donation from Henkel, the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health will introduce the new Henkel Distinguished Speaker series beginning beginning in Fall 2011.

"Henkel is proud to collaborate with the University of Arizona on the new Henkel Distinguished Speaker series and support the College of Public Health and its commitment towards preparing students for professional and academic public-health careers," said Scott Moffitt senior vice president and general manager of Henkel.

"Through the Henkel Distinguished Speaker series, our goal is to educate, motivate and connect students with real life topics such as health and wellness, environmental health, and global health and development. Henkel realizes the importance of linking academics to real world experiences and we're certain that the Speaker series will provide an opportunity for students and others to promote and foster learning in an open environment."

Become a member of Partners in Public Health.  
Contact Donna Knight at (520) 626-6459,  
[dknight@email.arizona.edu](mailto:dknight@email.arizona.edu)

# SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

## Celebrating Our Students



2010 Scholarship Recipients.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Partners in Public Health, and Community Advisory Board members, the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health awarded scholarships to 49 students in the 2010-11 academic year.

Surrounded by the Southwestern elegance of the Arizona Inn, students and friends of the college were able to connect a face to the name and complete the circle of giving at the 4th Annual Student Scholarship Luncheon in Tucson (Oct. 15, 2010).

Dr. Iman Hakim, dean and professor, welcomed everyone to the event and acknowledged the difficult road some of our student's face and the sacrifices that were made to get here.

Five of the scholarship students shared their own remarkable and inspiring stories.

### Student Journeys...



Athena Childs, Mangotich Scholarship and Nichols Initiative Scholars Fund Award.

#### Improving nutrition in developing worlds

Her passion for public health was ignited while working as a Peace Corps volunteer in West Africa. Now a graduate student working on dual degrees (MPH/MBA), Athena has found her calling thanks to two courses in particular she was able to take with scholarship funds. "These experiences helped me determine that fighting malnutrition in the developing world is where I want to focus in my career."



Rachael Marin, Community Advisory Board Scholarship recipient.

#### Keeping her eye on the prize

Entering her senior year of college and faced with the increase in tuition, Rachael had a tough decision to make. "I considered taking a semester or a year off, to accumulate funds. I decided to attend as planned but pursue a third job, and if necessary, sell my car. Thanks to the scholarship, I didn't have to." Within the first week of school, Rachael received news that she had been awarded a scholarship. She will be the first in her family to receive a college degree.

### Keynote G. Marie Swanson



"I can't think of any better place to spend your money than for a scholarship for students here in the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health," said G. Marie Swanson.

Dr. Swanson funds the Russell H. Swanson Scholarship in memory of her husband. She ended her keynote address with a pledge to double her scholarship contribution every year and challenged everyone in the room to do the same.

Keynote Speaker G. Marie Swanson, associate vice chancellor for Public Health at Indiana University-Purdue, University of Indianapolis and founding dean emerita of the UA College of Public Health.

“One of the great things about this college is the diversity and the understanding of health literacy and cultural competence. Because no matter what area of public health you are in, you can’t be successful unless you understand how to translate that information to an end user to change behavior.”

– Dr. Richard Carmona, 17th Surgeon General of the U.S.



(L to R) Richard Carmona, G. Marie Swanson, Jerry Cohen, Morey Brown, Amy Zuckerman, Iman Hakim, Enid and Mel Zuckerman.



(L to R) Deanna Lewis and Therese Velasco Berg.



(L to R) Standing: Jill Guernsey de Zapien, Kyle Bohan, Denise Roe, Brian Wolfel, Zhao Chen. Seated: William Mason, Jennifer Bonnett, Julia Fine, Andriene Grant.

### Future public health lawyer

The possibility of attending graduate school out of state seemed unattainable to New York native Zoila Sanchez. Fast forward to present time and she is a first year MPH student with a concentration in Health Behavior and Health Promotion and a full-time Graduate Assistant. “I do not take the opportunity to become educated for granted. I see it as a way to uplift those that struggle to advance every day and I am proud to represent the under-represented.” Zoila plans to attend law school in the future and combine legal knowledge with public health to make significant change.



Zoila Sanchez, General Public Health Scholarship recipient.

### Role model for next generation of Navajo youth

Gerilene Tsosie is a first generation college graduate who grew up on the Navajo Reservation in Tuba City, Arizona in a traditional Hogan without electricity or running water. Navajo was her first language. When her eldest brother left for school, she was chosen to translate for her parents and siblings. Today, Gerilene is a first year MPH student with a concentration in Family and Child Health. “With this funding, I will continue with my educational goals in order to help my people on the Navajo reservation move toward living a healthier lifestyle.” After graduate school, she plans to enter medical school to accomplish her ultimate goal in life and become a Navajo speaking health care provider available to her people.



Gerilene Tsosie, Jane and Bruce Ash Scholarship recipient.

### Passion for science

Kerton Victory was born in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, a small island in the eastern Caribbean. The first member of his family to attend college, today Kerton is a PhD candidate in the Environmental Health Sciences program. He also holds a masters degree in Nutrition from the University of Arizona. His research focuses on how certain environmental contaminants affect human health. “The scholarship has allowed me to devote more time to my research and has assisted me with other academic related expenses incurred from an increase in tuition.”



Kerton Victory, Community Advisory Board Scholarship recipient.



(L to R) Seated: Zaynah Chowdry, Grace Rice, Sofia Grigera. Standing: Cécile Billionnet, Kathy Sherrill, Duane Sherrill, Alex Gutierrez, Wilma McHalfey, Cynthia Ramirez.



(L to R) Halla Moussa, Iman Hakim, Neelam Sethi.

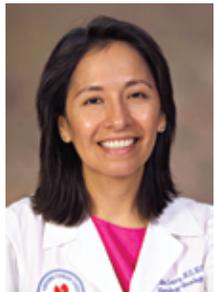
The average annual tuition for College of Public Health students who are Arizona residents is \$10,000. For out of state students tuition is \$26,000. The average amount of UA College of Public Health scholarships is \$5,000 or less.

To find out how you can contribute to a Student Scholarship, contact Donna Knight at (520) 626-6459, [dknight@email.arizona.edu](mailto:dknight@email.arizona.edu)

# ALUMNI NEWS

## 1994

**Ana Maria López, MD (MPH/GEN)**



is a tenured professor of medicine and pathology at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. She has received numerous honors recently including the Arizona Medical Association Distinguished Service Award, the Tucson Area Indian Health Service Merit Award, and she was named Woman of the Year by the Hispanic Professional Action Committee.

## 1996

**Maximillian de Courten (MPH/GEN)** is professor of Global Public Health at the University of Copenhagen School of Global Health.

## 1998

**Heather Chalon (MPH/INTL)** founded Move Into Well-Being in Tucson, which features a personal transfor-



mation program incorporating modalities of T'ai Chi, Qigong, and Chinese Yoga.

**Sherry Daniels (MPH/NURS)** is director of the Pima County Health Department.

## 1999

**Jennifer Wessel, PhD (MPH/EPI)** is an assistant professor in cardiovascular genetic epidemiology at Indiana University School of Medicine, De-

partment of Public Health.

## 2000

**Darin Evans (MPH/INTL)** is finishing a DrPH degree in international health at Boston University. He just returned from Nigeria where he collected the last of his dissertation data and is working on a group of six neglected tropical diseases at the Carter Center in Atlanta.



**Dale Goss (MPH/EOH)** is a principal consultant for Environmental and Occupational Risk Management (EORM) headquartered in San Jose, Calif. EORM is a global consulting firm and Dale is working with corporations on regulatory compliance, enterprise risk, and sustainability consulting. Dale and his wife, Kathleen, reside in the Bay Area and just celebrated the birth of their daughter, Alexis, on 9/16/10.

**Kristin Wennerstrom Guilonard, DO (MPH/EOH)** moved back to Arizona this summer to be a private practice pediatrician in Cottonwood after completing a two-year primary care research fellowship at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

**Art Martin (MPH/AD&POL)** is chief executive officer at Handmaker Jewish Services for the Aging in Tucson.

## 2001

**Karen Bachar, MA (MPH/HEBS)** is program manager in the Child Protection Division Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. She was recently appointed the human subjects protection coordinator within the same department.

**Howard Pitluk, MD (MPH/CHP)** is vice president and chief medical officer for Health Services Advisory

Group, Inc., the quality improvement organization contracted by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the state of Arizona.



## 2002

**Carmon Greene, MPH (BSHS)** is a nutrition network epidemiologist in the Bureau of Nutrition and Physical Activity at the Arizona Department of Health Services.

**Melissa Hale Rossetti, DrPH (BSHS, MPH/HEBS)** is Health Promotion Manager for the Wellness Institute of Providence Hospital in Washington, D.C. Melissa and husband Tom welcomed their daughter Anna in June.

**Debra Pinkney, MPH (HEBS)** is a program specialist for the Peace Corps in Washington, D.C. She works in the Office of AIDS Relief, one of the implementing Federal agencies for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

## 2004



**Deepti Deshpande, MD (MPH/EPI)** joined the UA College of Medicine Department of Pediatrics as an assistant professor.

**Kelli Donley (MPH/CHP)** has recently published her first novel, *Under the Same Moon*. Set in Mozambique, the story involves many of the community health issues Kelli observed while working there. She is already working on a second novel.



## 2006

**Jo Jean Elenes (MPH/AD&POL)** is a



health officer with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) working for the East Africa Mission based out of Nairobi Kenya.

**Jessica Surdam** (MPH/FCH) is the Study Coordinator for the Cuyahoga County Location of the National Children's Study at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, OH.

**Terence Marsh** (MPH/PHPM) is a research coordinator with Rand Corporation. He is temporarily assigned to Mexico City to help open Rand's new office there.

## 2007

**Amal Saeed** (MPH/FCH) is a senior consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton in Washington, DC. She married Mohamed Ali in Sacramento, California in October 2010.

## 2008

**Samantha Banark** (BSHS) is director of Home Care for Beatitudes, one of Phoenix's largest, most stable continuing care retirement communities.

**Kim Fielding Barnes** (MPH/HBHP) is the coordinator of the UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health Phoenix Program.

**Eileen Lukes** (PhD/EPI) is health services manager, Southern Region, at the Boeing Company in Mesa, AZ. She finished her first marathon in October at the Chicago Marathon.

## 2009

**Mary Clouser** (PhD/EPI) married Michael Meisinger in July on the hottest day of the year in Andechs, Germany.

**Allison Jacobs** (MPH/HBHP) is a prevention fellow at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention at the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) in Alexandria, Virginia.



Alumni gather for a picture at the wedding of fellow classmate Amal Saeed (Class of 2007) who married Mohamed Ali at a ceremony in Sacramento, Calif. in October 2010. (L to R) Jessica Sandahl, Ada Dieke, Heidi Reukauf, Agnes Handzel, Ashley Wennerstrom, Amal Saeed, Lori Van Buggenum, Kristine Tiu, and Amal's sister Ambar Saeed.

**Brian Kamer** (MPH/PHPM) is in his second year of medical school at A.T. Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona. He is doing his rotations with El Rio Community Health Center. Brian is engaged to be married in January 2012 to fellow medical student Krystel Sharpe.

**Terry Nordbrock**, MLS (MPH/EOH) is executive director of the National Disease Clusters Alliance, the only non-profit organization focused on identifying and responding to emerging disease clusters.

**Erin Suelmann**, MA (MPH/FCH) was elected to the Colorado Public Health Association Board in September and serves as the Membership Committee Chair. Erin is a program manager at Colorado Children's Immunization Coalition.

**Sereti Fifield Venzin** (MPH/HBHP) is working with the Tucson Postpartum Depression Coalition to develop a Postpartum Wellness Center in Pima County. She is also employed as Development Director at Tucson Waldorf School where her two children attend kindergarten and second grade.

**Miriam Zmiewski** (MPH/HBHP) is the owner of Zmiewski Consulting and provides skills training in suicide awareness, communication, and performing an intervention at the immediate risk of suicide.

## 2010

**Carrie Hardesty** (BSHS) is a health educator for Health Promotion and Preventive Services at the University of Arizona Campus Health. She earned her BS in Health Education from the UA.

**Nicole Wright** (PhD, MPH/EPI) obtained a PhD in Epidemiology in August. Her dissertation titled "The Association between Rheumatoid Arthritis, Bone Strength, and Body Composition within the Women's Health Initiative," examined predictors and outcomes of osteoporosis in women with Rheumatoid Arthritis. She is continuing her research as a post-doctoral employee in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

## Definition of Degrees and Areas of Specialization

**Degrees:** BSHS—Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences; MPH—Master of Public Health; MS—Master of Science; PhD—Doctor of Philosophy

**Areas of Specialization:** AD&POL—Administration and Policy; BIOS—Biostatistics; CHP—Community Health Practice; EPI—Epidemiology; EOH—Environmental and Occupational Health; FCH—Family and Child Health; GEN—Generalist; HBHP—Health Behavior Health Promotion; HEBS—Health Education Behavioral Science; INTL—International; PHPM—Public Health Policy and Management.



---

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA.