

UB Health Impact

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

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FALL 2014



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PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDENTS AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR TAKE ON
CHALLENGE FOR CAUSE CLOSE TO THEIR HEART *Page 4*

Fall exciting time for school's students, faculty and alumni

We have had such an exciting start to the 2014-2015 academic year in the School of Public Health and Health Professions! Fall is a time when the hallways are always filled with students! We are excited to have them back and to welcome new students to our programs. We also welcome the new faculty who have joined our school this year.

Please take the opportunity to read their bios on page 11 to learn more about each of them and the exciting new expertise they bring to the school.



September marked the school's site visit for the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) re-accreditation process. The process allowed us to explore our strengths and those areas needing improvement. The self-study document allowed us to reflect on how far we have come since our last review five years ago; the progress realized is impressive! We received many positive remarks from the site visitors based on their extensive review of our school and programs. When the school receives the written report, we will use that information to guide us as we move forward. The final determination regarding re-accreditation will come in June of 2015, after the council meets. The preparation for this review was truly a team effort. I want to thank all of those who helped prepare the report and participated in the on-site visit, including the many faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners. I also want to thank university leadership for its support of this process. We should be very proud of our school and its accomplishments.

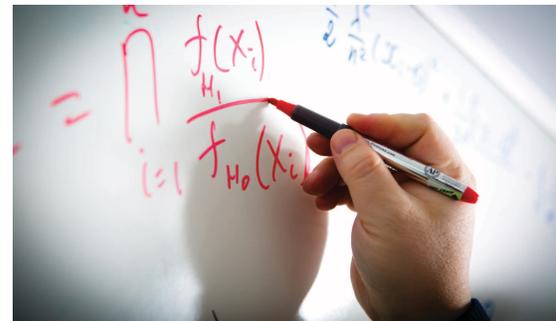
This also has been an active time for alumni events. Our school participated in the Buffalo and Rochester all-alumni receptions this fall. While Larkinville and Artisanworks provided beautiful venues to celebrate, the evenings also provided a time to reconnect with one another. Our school also hosted a tailgate party that included attendance at the UB Bulls homecoming football game, an occupational therapy continuing-education event, and an exercise-science speaker seminar series. I encourage all alumni to join us at upcoming events in the near future and take advantage of the networking and educational opportunities that they include. Look for upcoming UB alumni events this April in Washington, D.C. and June in New York City.

This is an incredibly exciting time in the school and at the university. Our student body is as large as it has been in years, our research portfolio is growing and UB continues to rise in the ranks across the nation. I hope you will enjoy reading about the many exciting things happening in the school in this issue. I look forward to updating you again this winter! Until then, let me wish you a healthy holiday season.

Jean Wactawski-Wende
Interim Dean
Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health

New Biostatistics Programs

The department of biostatistics is launching two new certificate programs—an advanced graduate certificate in applied biostatistics and an advanced graduate certificate in biostatistical informatics. The first program is designed to advance students' statistical knowledge and programming techniques to better analyze data from a variety of sources, including clinical trials, observational studies and laboratory research. In the biostatistical informatics program, students will gain an in-depth understanding of the statistical foundations and methods of analysis of genetic data, including genetic mapping, quantitative genetic analysis, and design and analysis of medical genetic studies, as well as data mining. Both programs are accepting applications for the fall of 2015. To learn more, visit sphhp.buffalo.edu/biostatistics



Professor Appointed to NIH Review Committee

Marianthi Markatou, professor of biostatistics, has been appointed to serve on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Biostatistics Methods and Research Design (BMRD) Study Section. The BMRD study section reviews applications that seek to advance statistical and mathematical techniques and technologies applicable to the experimental design and analysis of data in biomedical, behavioral and social science research. The appointment is effective July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2020. For the full story, visit <http://www.buffalo.edu/news/news-releases/health-and-medicine>



Marianthi Markatou



Congratulations to this year's inductees in the Tau Chapter, Pi Theta Epsilon Occupational Therapy Honor Society

The initiation ceremony took place on October 24. The student inductees included Lauren Aherns, Lee Aldrich, Shannon Callan, Margaret DiLella, Jacqueline Harkins, Ashley Johnson, Susannah King, Kendra Kramer, Roya Lackey, Erin Low, Frank Misiejuk, Ashley Parker, Michelle Reiner, Rachel Schraeder, Denis Tuttle, Evangelia Tzelios and Alexandra Young.



Nutrition Minor Created

Learn basic concepts of human nutrition and the relationships between nutrition, health, disease and the lifecycle in the nutrition minor. Courses are offered through multiple departments, including exercise and nutrition sciences, psychology, biology, chemistry and physiology. The coursework covers basic

chemistry of macro- and micro-nutrients and their roles in the human body, food sources and recommended intakes. Other topics addressed include nutritional requirements/challenges during pregnancy, lactation, infancy, childhood, adulthood and older adulthood; the relationship between nutritional deficiencies and specific chronic diseases throughout the lifespan; and the relationship between some public health issues and nutritional habits. Dietary assessment tools will be utilized to analyze individuals and populations. For more information, visit <http://sphhp.buffalo.edu/exercise-and-nutrition-sciences>



Four Decades of Teaching and Service at UB

Dale R. Fish is an established name within the UB community. After teaching gross anatomy to nearly 4,000 students and serving in various roles throughout his 40-year career, he has decided to retire when the fall semester comes to an end.



Fish began his journey at UB in 1974 as an assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy. Since then, he has served as chair of the Department of Physical Therapy and Exercise Science, associate dean of the School of Health Related Professions and, most recently, senior associate dean for academic and student affairs in the School of Public Health and Health Professions. All the while, Fish has mentored dozens of students and has been a selfless supporter of the school. His boundless energy, optimistic demeanor and willingness to serve will be greatly missed.

“I was 27 when I arrived as a new faculty member at UB—green, energized and motivated by a fear of failure. Forty years later, I’m seasoned, but still energized and now motivated by my love for God and family. I’m inexpressibly grateful to have had the privilege of working with so many fine UB faculty, staff and students. I’m also fully confident that the SPHHP will continue to mature and thrive as others play out their journeys through the school.”

—DALE R. FISH, PT, MS, PHD



ALS Ice Bucket Challenge

DPT student Laura DiPasquale gathered more than 30 fellow students and Kirk Personius in front of the School of Public Health and Health Professions' home base, Kimball Tower, earlier this semester to take on a challenge in honor of someone very special to the school, Alfred "Al" Caffiero.

Caffiero, a prominent physical therapist in Western New York, has displayed a caring attitude, altruism, creativity, clinical insight, dedication to the profession and an

inspiring degree of optimism throughout his distinguished career. With his incredible knowledge base and skillset, he also taught students in SPHHP for more than 30 years.

In the early 1990s he was diagnosed with ALS—a progressive neurodegenerative disease commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Typically, those who are diagnosed have a lifespan of between two and five years. Caffiero is an inspiring case as he has been battling the disease for nearly 20 years.

“Laura approached me to see what I thought of her idea. I told her it was a wonderful way for the Class of 2015 to show its appreciation for all that Al has done, and continues to do for students in the DPT program.”

—KIRK PERSONIUS, PT PROGRAM DIRECTOR

“ALS has taken my speech, but not my mind. Everyday I think about my life as a PT. I want to tell my future PTs it was ‘the greatest time of my life’.”

—ALFRED “AL” CAFFIERO



Ice Bucket Challenge photography by DOUGLAS LEVERE

is Personal for DPT Students

The ALS Ice Bucket challenge that took social media by storm, raising over \$100 million for the ALS Association, was personal for members of the doctor of physical therapy (DPT) Class of 2015 and physical therapy program director Kirk Personius.

All the while, he has displayed an immense amount of generosity to the school. He has been a mentor to students and a friend to many members of the UB community. Consistent with his vision for the profession and his caring attitude toward students, in 2001 he and his friends established a scholarship that is awarded to DPT students during their last year of study at UB. To date, 25 students have benefited from the Alfred T. Caffiero Scholarship Fund.

DiPasquale, the school’s challenge organizer, explains, “We wanted to be a part of the three million people worldwide taking on this ice bucket challenge to support ALS,

and more specifically to support Al. He is a part of the UB family and an inspiration to all of us here.”

To keep the ice bucket challenge going, the class issued challenges to Mark Sleeper, the DPT program’s newest faculty member, as well as the DPT classes of 2015 at Daemen and D’Youville colleges.

To view the video of our students and program director taking the challenge, visit the YouTube video at <http://bit.ly/1tEnc75>

If you’re interested in supporting or learning more about the Alfred T. Caffiero Scholarship, visit <http://sphhp.buffalo.edu/home/scholarships/caffiero>



Nicole Bachelet, Al Caffiero and Bryan Lopez. Nicole and Bryan are this year’s DPT student recipients of the Alfred T. Caffiero Scholarship.



Arthur Michalek, director of the Division of Health Services Policy and Practice, and professor, Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health

New Division of Health Services Policy and Practice created in the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health

THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS has formally developed a new Division of Health Services Policy and Practice within the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health.

The division is headed by Arthur Michalek, PhD, professor of epidemiology and environmental health, who previously served as senior vice president at Roswell Park Cancer Institute for 34 years and dean of the RPCI Graduate Division at UB. He also recently led the doctoral program in health administration at D'Youville College.

The division will focus on education, teaching and community engagement, and direct the school's master's degree program in health services administration. The degree program is open to graduate students who want to study and conduct fieldwork in the health administration field and offers opportunities for students interested in health services research.

Michalek says, "The new division has a strong foundation here and recognizes the contributions of our faculty to this field. It will provide a home to a community of scholars within the broader university who want to collaborate on investigational and applied-research initiatives.

"As a division in a school of public health," Michalek says, "we

are concerned with bringing the best policies and practices to bear in the field of public health services and administration. We aim to develop administrators who are excellent critical thinkers and we promote and support the practice of evidence-based medicine and evidence-based delivery policies and practices.

"Today, it is essential that our students learn how to operate health services for diverse populations and in different settings, as well, particularly given the fact that the Affordable Care Act has made health care available to previously unserved groups," he says.

Michalek says that to do this, health service graduates must have the required depth and breadth of knowledge and the skill set necessary to analyze and evaluate critical information.

He says, "Our students acquire those skills and develop knowledge in all the core public health fields, including epidemiology, environmental health, health behavior and biostatistics, preparing them to make significant contributions to the health of different populations."

For more information on the division, visit <http://sphhp.buffalo.edu/epidemiology-and-environmental-health/education/division-of-health-services-policy-and-practice>

FBI-CDC workshop focuses on bioterrorism



Participants focused on dimensions of bioterrorism

WHEN IT COMES TO DEALING WITH BIOTERRORISM, it is essential that agencies like the police, county health officials and academic public-health experts work together and communicate clearly.

That was one of the key messages delivered when more than 75 students, faculty, law-enforcement and health officials, and epidemiologists participated in a staged bioterrorism event at a UB-hosted, two-day workshop presented by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



The “Regional Joint Criminal and Epidemiological Investigations Workshop” (Crim-Epi) took place Aug. 6 and 7 and was sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Health Sciences, the Office of the Vice President for University Life and Services, SPHHP and the FBI’s Buffalo Field Office.

The main purpose of the activities was to bring together professionals from a variety of backgrounds to learn techniques and protocols for collaborative engagement in emergency preparedness and epidemiological investigations related to bioterrorism.

Michael Cain, vice president for health sciences and dean of the UB medical school, opened the proceedings with a welcome address. “This symposium will allow us to develop roles, skills and expertise should such an event take place,” he said. “Through this workshop, we will use case studies and incorporate the precepts of interprofessional education (IPE) as we bring together our colleagues in community health and law enforcement, and the faculty and students at UB.”

Gale Burstein, Erie County health commissioner, said health and law enforcement officials must be prepared for the unknown and the unexpected. “This workshop is critical to building trust among agencies,” she said.

UB was selected to host the workshop, according to Brian P. Boetig, special agent in charge, FBI Buffalo, because FBI

headquarters’ WMD Division has a dedicated interest in solidifying a national, academia-based footprint. And UB was appealing, said Boetig, because of its expertise in epidemiology and public health. The FBI became aware of this after the Buffalo WMD coordinator recently gave a presentation at SPHHP.

“The WMD coordinator was confident that the FBI could integrate with UB’s established public health programming,” said Boetig. “This particular opportunity was the perfect fit on both local and national programming levels.”

The FBI’s objectives focus on identifying and establishing critical roles, responsibilities and authorities that responders must address during a biological incident. That includes the role of law enforcement as far as conducting investigations and threat assessments, with a focus on public health, epidemiological and medical investigations.

So what is bioterrorism? It was defined at the symposium as the intentional use or threatened use of viruses, bacteria, fungi and toxins from living organisms that produce death or disease in humans, animals and plants.

The presentation began with the CDC and FBI facilitators discussing why bioterrorism would be chosen, what would be the microorganisms most frequently chosen and what would make them attractive to terrorists. There was a short history lesson to demonstrate that bioterror is nothing new; in fact, it can be traced back to the Athenians who poisoned the wells of their enemies with skunk cabbage.

The purpose and instrument of terrorism is fear, feelings of helplessness and the “contagious nature” of fear. The presenters said fear is viral.

Boetig said this program was almost identical in scope and focus to other workshops that the FBI conducts.

“We want it like that,” he said. “This way, whether you attend a criminal-epidemiological conference in San Jose, California, or Atlanta, Georgia, or Buffalo, New York, participants receive the same information. The slight difference this week is that more academics are participating compared with past workshops.”

Alumni Events



OT CEU Presenters, Melinda R. Saran and James Lenker

Occupational Therapy Continuing Education Event

Sept. 19 marked the first annual occupational therapy continuing education event for the Department of Rehabilitation Science. Nearly 50 alumni, faculty and occupational therapists gathered to learn more about the role of assistive technology in 21st-century occupational therapy practice. SPHHP faculty member James Lenker discussed “Reflecting on the Past and Assessing the Present to Anticipate the Future.” During the second portion of the event, Melinda R. Saran discussed “Legal Aspects for Therapists in a Technology-Driven World.”



At left: Janice Tona '03, Susan Braun '81, Michele Karnes '87, Tipa Prangrat '99 and Jean Wactawski-Wende '89 and '83 at Larkinville

UB all-alumni Larkinville event

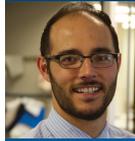
Larkinville was the setting for the third annual University at Buffalo all-alumni celebration in Western New York. Formerly the site of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Larkin Administration building and Larkin Soap Company warehouses, the historic venue is now a thriving business district and popular entertainment spot. On Sept. 19, nearly 500 UB alumni and friends gathered to celebrate the university, network, register to be a volunteer and listen to remarks from President Satish K. Tripathi and Alumni Association president, Carol A. Gloff, BS '75.



Above: Gene Elizabeth Verel '73, Jean Wactawski-Wende '89 and '83, and chair of the department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences David Hostler at Larkinville

Alumni News

DPT Alumnus Receives Award



Jake McPherson '11, was named this year's recipient of the 2014 American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Emerging Leader Award. The APTA award was established to honor annually individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary service to the profession and APTA early in their careers. McPherson is the NYPTA Western District Director and Chair of the Advisory Panel on Legislation.

Alumna Wins Business First 30 Under Thirty Award



Christine Kemp '12, was named to the Buffalo Business First "30 Under Thirty" list. Kemp is employed at the P2 Collaborative of WNY, Inc. She earned her MPH from the school with a concentration in community health and health behavior.

OT Alumnus Selected for Emerging Leaders Program



Tim Dionne '10, was selected for the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Emerging Leaders Development Program. The AOTA program targets individuals who are within five years of earning their entry-level degree. Those selected for the program must commit to a two-day training workshop in Bethesda, Md., 12 months of mentorship, completion of service-learning activities, and development of a plan for serving within AOTA leadership at the conclusion of the program. Tim has been working at RIC for four years and has distinguished himself there with his diversity of clinical skills and willingness to embrace leadership opportunities as they arise.



Buffalo Bills Training Camp

Alumni and friends gathered this summer at the Buffalo Bills training camp at St. John Fisher College in Rochester. SPHHP faculty members Andrew Ray '06 and Juli Wylegala '05 with UB director of athletics Danny White.

STAY CONNECTED!

Visit the UB Alumni Association's UB Connect page and let us know what you've been doing since graduation.



>> sphhp.buffalo.edu/alumni/connect

CAREER CONNECTORS

We are building a community for you—a global, career-focused community. Whether you're exploring a career, making a transition or just want to share advice and tips with fellow alumni and current students, we welcome you to become part of the success by joining the UB Career Community. For more information, visit <https://alumni.buffalo.edu/career>

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YouTube

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Air Pollution Workshop

INCREASING RESEARCH AWARENESS

The Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health hosted a daylong public workshop that aimed to increase awareness of air pollution-related research, marking one of the first initiatives funded by UB RENEW.

The workshop featured more than a dozen presenters from several fields, including several national figures in the field of public health. The presenters focused on research examining the relationship between exposure to environmental contaminants—including ambient pollution and that provoked by hydro-fracking—and asthma, allergies, conjunctivitis, complications of pregnancy and childbirth, breast cancer, cardiovascular diseases, genetic alterations and other health problems. They also discussed current research into the mediation of related health issues.

The workshop was held on Sept. 26 in UB's Clinical and Translational Center in downtown Buffalo. Workshop conveners were Lina Mu, associate professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, and James Olson, director of the Environmental Health Division in the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, and Distinguished Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. In addition to familiarizing the public with research in this field, Mu said the

workshop aimed to build connections among scientists in different disciplines, promote communication between scientists and communities, and generate ideas for possible collaborations in future multidisciplinary research.

Workshop speakers included 10 noted UB epidemiologists, geographers, nurses, engineers, chemists and others involved in air-pollution research. They were joined by experts from Roswell Park Cancer Institute, the University of Rochester and the Clean Air Coalition of Western New York.

Featured speakers and panelists:

- **David O. Carpenter**, director, Institute for Health and the Environment, and professor of environmental health sciences, University at Albany School of Public Health.

Pictured above (clockwise from left): Air pollution workshop organizers and speakers. The workshop, held in the CTCR in downtown Buffalo, was a sustainable event with zero waste.

- **David Christiani**, professor of medicine, Harvard Medical School, and **Elkan Blout**, professor of Environmental Genetics, Harvard School of Public Health. Christiani directs the Environmental and Occupational Medicine and Epidemiology Program at Harvard.
- **David Diaz-Sanchez**, chief, Clinical Research Branch, Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA ORD). A former associate professor of medicine at UCLA, Diaz-Sanchez is the EPA ORD representative for the Intergovernmental Climate Change and Human Health Group.
- **Pauline Mendola**, investigator, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Epidemiology Branch. Mendola served as chief of the Infant, Child and Women's Health Statistics Branch, National Center for Health Statistics, and headed the Epidemiology and Biomarkers Branch of EPA's National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory.
- **Gregory Wellenius**, associate professor of epidemiology, Brown University School of Public Health, and associate director of Brown's Center for Environmental Health and Technology. Wellenius co-authored the EPA's 2009 Integrated Science Assessment for Particulate Matter and now focuses on the effects of multiple outdoor air pollutants on the risk of stroke.

UB presenters included Mu and Olson; Matthew Bonner and Pavani Ram, both associate professors in the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health; Joseph Gardella Jr., SUNY Distinguished Professor and John and Frances Larkin Professor, Department of Chemistry; Eun-Hye Yoo, associate professor, Department of Geography; Deborah Chung, Niagara Mohawk Chair Professor of Materials Research, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; John Atkinson, assistant professor, UB Department of Civil, Structural, and Environmental Engineering; and Jessica Castner, assistant professor, School of Nursing.

External presenters included David Q. Rich, associate professor, University of Rochester; Erin Heaney, director, Clean Air Coalition of Western New York; and Mark Travers, assistant professor, Department of Health Behavior and Aerosol Pollution Exposure Research Laboratory, Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

Various UB offices supported the workshop, including the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, School of Public Health and Health Professions, Office of Global Health Initiatives, Civic Engagement and Public Policy Research Initiative and the UB RENEW (Research and Education in eNergy, Environment and Water) initiative.

New faculty in SPHHP

BIostatISTICS



Jiwei Zhao, PhD, is an assistant professor of biostatistics. Before joining UB, he completed postdoc training at Yale University School of Public Health and at the University of Waterloo. His research interests in biostatistical methodology include semiparametric methods, nonregular likelihood methods, longitudinal data in observational studies, missing data and mismeasured data, and survival data analysis. He also has a broad interest in observational data in epidemiology, longitudinal studies, environmental health, genetic epidemiology, complex traits and substance abuse. He earned his PhD in statistics from University of Wisconsin-Madison.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HEALTH BEHAVIOR



Lucia Leone, PhD, is an assistant professor in the Department of Community Health and Health Behavior. Leone's research focuses on multi-level behavioral interventions designed to reduce health disparities by addressing the environmental, community, organization and individual-level influences on cancer and obesity-prevention behaviors. She is particularly interested in improving local food systems, increasing access to healthy food, encouraging physical activity and promoting appropriate cancer screening. Leone holds a PhD in Nutrition Intervention and Policy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

EPIDEMIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



Arthur M. Michalek, PhD, is the director of the Division of Health Services Policy and Practice. Michalek previously was at Roswell Park Cancer Institute for 34 years and is the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Cancer Education. His research interests include Native American health, cancer workforce development, epidemiology, health services and international health. Michalek holds a PhD in epidemiology from the University at Buffalo.

EXERCISE AND NUTRITION SCIENCES



Zachary Schlader, PhD, is an assistant professor in the Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences. Previously, Schlader was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Institute for Exercise and Environmental Medicine in Dallas. His research interests include environmental physiology, temperature regulation, exercise physiology, cardiovascular physiology, human behavior and aging. Schlader holds a PhD from Massey University in New Zealand.



Blair Johnson, PhD, is an assistant professor in the Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences. Previously, Johnson was a senior research fellow at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. His research interests include exercise physiology; interactions among autonomic, cardiovascular, and respiratory systems; and environmental physiology. Johnson holds a PhD from Indiana University.

REHABILITATION SCIENCE



Mark D. Sleeper, PT, MS, DPT, PhD, OCS, is a clinical associate professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Science and comes to us from the Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. His research interests include functional assessment of athletic physical abilities, the relationship between physical abilities and injury in gymnastics, and athletic injury and dance mechanics. Sleeper is an APTA board certified orthopedic clinical specialist and holds a physical therapy degree and earned a PhD and DPT from Nova Southeastern University.

A snapshot of SPHHP research projects



Xuefeng Ren, assistant professor of epidemiology and environmental health, has received a \$1.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to investigate the mechanisms of arsenic carcinogenesis—the process by which exposure to arsenic transforms normal cells into cancer cells. Chronic exposure to arsenic, an element

widely distributed in the natural environment, affects up to 100 million people in 70 countries, including the United States. It can lead to increased morbidity and mortality from both non-cancerous and cancerous effects, including diabetes, peripheral neuropathy, cardiovascular diseases and cancers of the bladder, lung, kidney and skin.



Marc Kiviniemi, assistant professor of community health and health behavior, was the lead author on a study published in the *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*. The study found that fear and worry about skin cancer had a bigger influence on people's use of sunscreen than information about the statistical likelihood of developing the disease.

Dr. Kiviniemi's co-author on the study was Dr. Erin Ellis, a 2014 graduate from the PhD program in Community Health and Health Behavior.



Randolph L. Carter, professor in the Department of Biostatistics, will evaluate the New York State Early Intervention Program (EIP) for children through 2016. The EIP is a federal- and state-funded program that provides evaluation and a wide range of intervention services to children ages 0-3 years with, or at high risk for,

developmental delays or disabilities. Federal funds are provided through the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). Carter's co-investigators on this project are Donna Noyes, PhD, co-director, New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Early Intervention; Raymond Romanczyk, PhD, director, Institute for Child Development, Binghamton University, and Batya Elbaum, PhD, professor of special education research and policy, University of Miami.



Gregory Homish, associate professor, **R. Lorraine Collins**, professor, and **Gary Giovino**, professor and chair, all of the Department of Community Health and Health Behavior, were co-authors on a study that appeared in the online edition of *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors* in August. The research findings from the study of 634 couples found that the more often they smoked marijuana, the less likely they were to engage in domestic violence. The study's lead author is Philip H. Smith, PhD, a recent doctoral graduate of the UB School of



Public Health and Health Professions and now associate research scientist in the Department of Psychiatry at Yale University.



Jean Wactawski-Wende, interim dean and professor of epidemiology and environmental health in SPHHP, is the principal investigator on the study, *Oral Microbiome and Periodontitis: A Prospective Study in Postmenopausal Women*. This study proposes to conduct a 15-year post baseline clinical examination in a defined cohort of older post-menopausal women, who already completed baseline and five-year examinations, to examine prospective associations among subgingival microbiota, personal characteristics, and periodontal disease presence, severity and progression over time. The study is sponsored by the NIH, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research for a total of \$3,823,211. The project period ends July 31, 2019.



Jennifer Temple, associate professor, Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences and Department of Community Health and Health Behavior, was co-author on a study that found short-term aerobic exercise alters the reinforcing value of food in inactive adults. The purpose of the study was to test the hypothesis that short-term, moderate-vigorous intensity aerobic exercise would alter the reinforcing value of high (HED) and low (LED) energy density foods in inactive adults. The reinforcing value of HED and LED food was measured at baseline and again after two weeks of aerobic exercise. The study's lead author is Leah Panek, a graduate student in the department of Exercise and Nutrition Science.

New funded research awards total over \$10 million

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

Acronym key for "SPHHP" department column:

CAT: Center for Assistive Technology
 CHHB: Community Health and Health Behavior
 Bio: Biostatistics
 EEH: Epidemiology and Environmental Health
 ENS: Exercise and Nutrition Sciences
 RS: Rehabilitation Science

Award Amount	SPHHP Department	Sponsor Name	Principal Investigator	Award Name	Award Start Date	Award End Date
\$183,558.00	CHHB	Health Research Inc.	Kiviniemi, Dr. Marc T	CRC Screening Thoughts and Feelings: Increasing Engagement of African Americans	01-Jul-2013	30-Apr-2015
\$14,975.00	RS	New York Physical Therapy Association	Ray, Dr. Andrew D	Respiratory Muscle Training to Improve Dyspnea and Quality of Life in Cancer Survivors	01-Jul-2013	30-Jun-2015
\$185,000.00	Bio	National Science Foundation	Hageman Blair, Dr. Rachael	Integrated Bayesian Deterministic and Probabilistic Modeling of Phenotype-Genotype Networks in the Metabolic System	01-Aug-2013	31-Jul-2016
\$424,792.00	EEH	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	Ren, Dr. Xuefeng	Human N6AMT1 and Its Regulation of Arsenic Biomethylation and Toxicity	24-Jul-2013	30-Jun-2015
\$635,805.00	ENS	Natl Ctr for Complementary & Alternative Medicine	Rideout, Dr. Todd C	Cardiovascular Protection by Phytosterols in Dyslipidemic Mother and Progeny	01-Sep-2013	31-Aug-2018
\$4,622,657.00	CAT	U.S. Department of Education	Lane, Dr. Joseph P	Center of Knowledge Translation of Technology Transfer	01-Oct-2013	30-Sep-2018
\$12,113.00	ENS	University of Pittsburgh	Hostler, Dr. David P	Does Teamwork Mediate Relationship Between Familiarity and EMT Injuries	01-Sep-2013	30-Jun-2015
\$799,209.00	ENS	Federal Emergency Management Agency	Hostler, Dr. David P	Impact of Work: Rest and Fitness on Performance and CV Recovery	27-Aug-2013	21-Aug-2015
\$13,000.00	ENS	University of Pittsburgh	Hostler, Dr. David P	Emergency Responder Human Performance Lab Fire Service Research Program	01-Sep-2013	31-Dec-2014
\$44,754.00	CHHB	Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania	Kozlowski, Dr. Lynn T	Pharmacogenetics of Nicotine Addiction Treatment	01-Jul-2013	30-Jun-2015
\$40,055.00	Bio	Health Research Inc.	Carter, Dr. Randolph	GOG Statistical and Data Group CCOP	01-Jun-2013	31-Jul-2014
\$8,000.00	CAT	SEDL	Leahy, Mr. James A	Center on Knowledge Translation for Disability and Rehabilitation Research	01-Oct-2013	30-Sep-2014
\$731,584.40	EEH	Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development	Wang, Dr. Youfa	Causes and Interventions for Childhood Obesity: Innovative Systems Analysis	01-Dec-2013	30-Jun-2015
\$219,543.31	CAT	NYS Office of Children and Family Services	Oddo, Ms. Christine R	Buffalo Assistive Technology Center	01-Jan-2014	31-Dec-2014
\$415,723.35	ENS	U.S. Navy Experimental Diving Unit	Hostler, Dr. David P	IPA for Barbara Shykoff	01-Jan-2014	30-Jun-2016
\$415,724.00	ENS	U.S. Navy Experimental Diving Unit	Hostler, Dr. David P	IPA for Dan E Warkander	01-Jan-2014	30-Jun-2016
\$181,311.00	RS	University of Pittsburgh	Ray, Dr. Andrew D	SPORE in Lung Cancer	01-Sep-2013	31-Aug-2014
\$20,254.00	CAT	NYS Education Department	Oddo, Ms. Christine R	2014-2018 Core Rehabilitation Services	01-Jan-2014	31-Dec-2014
\$404,158.34	ENS	U.S. Navy Experimental Diving Unit	Hostler, Dr. David P	IPA for Keith A Gault	01-Jan-2014	30-Jun-2016
\$375,000.00	Bio	NYS Department of Health	Carter, Dr. Randolph	Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Data System Development	01-Jan-2014	31-Dec-2014
\$37,691.00	Bio	Health Research Inc.	Hutson, Dr. Alan D.	Spore Core C: Biostatistics and Medical Bioinformatics	18-Sep-2013	30-Jun-2014
\$33,942.00	CHHB	Washington University	Kiviniemi, Dr. Marc T	Don't Know Responses to Perceived Risk Items: Implication for Health Behavior	01-Jan-2014	31-Dec-2014
\$395,337.00	EEH	Johns Hopkins University	Wang, Dr. Youfa	Johns Hopkins Pediatric Obesity Research and Training Center	01-Dec-2013	31-Dec-2014
\$15,000.00	EEH	Save The Children Federation Inc.	Ram, Dr. Pavani K.	Synthesis of Data on Barriers and Motivators to Handwashing in Perinatal Period	03-Feb-2014	07-Apr-2014
\$76,000.41	Bio	DARTNet Institute	Carter, Dr. Randolph	Collaborative National Network Examining Comparative Effectiveness Trials (CONNECT)	01-Aug-2013	28-Feb-2014
\$45,358.00	EEH	Trustees of Boston University	Freudenheim, Dr. Jo L	A follow-up Study for Causes of Illness in Black Women	01-Jun-2013	31-May-2014
\$41,025.00	RS	Health Research Inc.	Ray, Dr. Andrew D	A Pilot Exercise Intervention to Enhance Fitness and QoL Among African American and White Colorectal Cancer Survivors	01-Sep-2013	31-Aug-2014
\$35,202.00	RS	Health Research Inc.	Ray, Dr. Andrew D	Vitamin D3 and Lung Cancer Risk in Humans	01-Sep-2013	31-Aug-2014

UB breaks into 'top 50' among top public universities

TOP-NOTCH ACADEMICS and the lowest possible debt: That's the win-win value offered to students by the University at Buffalo, according U.S. News and World Report. The magazine recently released its popular annual ranking of the best colleges and universities in America for undergraduate students.

This year, UB for the first time cracked the top 50 among the best public "national universities" in the country—ranking No. 48, up three spots from last year's No. 51 ranking. U.S. News bases its rankings on an assessment of 1,400 of the country's four-year colleges and universities.

Among both public and private national universities, UB is ranked No. 103, up 6 spots from last year and an improvement of 17 spots over the past 5 years.

And UB continues to outperform its peers on value. UB is ranked No. 1 among public colleges and universities nationwide for graduating students with the least amount of debt. Among both public and private schools, UB is ranked No. 8 for the least debt.

"As a major public research university, UB delivers an exceptional education by providing students with opportunities to learn from top scholars and participate in stimulating research projects and cultural activities," said UB Provost and Executive Vice President Charles F. Zukoski. "We are committed to offering excellent and distinctive educational programs, while also improving graduation rates and keeping student and family debt low."

According to U.S. News, for those UB students who graduate with debt (55 percent of students don't have any debt upon graduation), the average debt amount is \$17,455. At national universities with the "most debt," students graduate with average debt of \$35,902 to \$41,060, according to U.S. News, and as many as 87 percent of students graduate in debt.

Also earning a top ranking with U.S. News was UB's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, ranked No. 65 among the

nation's best undergraduate engineering programs at schools whose highest degree is a doctorate. UB's School of Management is again ranked as one of the best undergraduate business programs with a ranking of No. 79, an improvement of seven spots, out of more than 700 accredited schools, higher than any other business school in the State University of New York system.

UB was ranked one of the best colleges for veterans, at No. 23. This category, introduced last year by U.S. News, lists top-ranked schools that participate in federal initiatives to help veterans and active service members apply, pay for and complete their degrees.

Over the past few years, UB has made significant investments in its academic programming and facilities, adding new course sections and new "Undergraduate Academies" in Entrepreneurship, Sustainability and Global Perspectives to connect communities of students with similar interests and provide them with access to faculty expertise and real-world learning experiences.

New residence halls, academic buildings and dining halls also enhance the UB undergraduate experience. A new "Finish in 4" program pledges to provide entering UB freshmen with the academic resources they need to graduate in four years, thereby keeping student debt low and improving the university's graduation rate.

To aid its student veterans, UB last fall opened a new Veteran Services Office to celebrate the accomplishments of student veterans and provide access to the services they need to help them succeed.

"Again this year, we are proud to see so many of our SUNY campuses recognized as being among the best nationally by U.S. News and World Report," said SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher. "In every community across New York State, SUNY colleges and universities like UB offer students top-quality degree programs and applied learning opportunities that prepare them for success in today's 21-century global economy. Congratulations to each of the SUNY campuses making the list for 2015."



I'm thankful.



Conor Bennett used funds from his Outstanding Senior Award—given to him by the School of Public Health and Health Professions—to spend the summer at UB helping teach anatomy to exercise science and occupational therapy students. A hospital volunteer, research assistant and Exercise Science Club president, Conor plans to enter medical school after completing the BS/MS program in exercise and nutrition. He intends to become a doctor who treats patients clinically and from a wellness point of view. He is grateful for the private scholarship that has given him a healthy start toward that goal.

The **best public universities** have the strongest private support.

UB Health Impact

The University at Buffalo is a premier research-intensive public university, the largest and most comprehensive campus in the State University of New York system. The School of Public Health and Health Professions is one of 12 schools that make UB New York's leading public center for graduate and professional education and one of five schools that constitute UB's Academic Health Center.

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