Welcome!

Picture yourself here in our building…
Agenda

• Introduction of Education Team
• Educational Mission
• Student Services and Student Life
• Faculty Panel
• Current Student/Alumni Panel
• Degree Programs with Q&A (Breakout Sessions)
Epidemiology Education Team

Vice Chair for Education
Samar R. El Khoudary, PhD, MPH, BPharm, Associate Professor
Cardiovascular & Diabetes Epidemiology; Clinical Trials & Methods; Obesity & Nutritional Epidemiology; Women’s Health Epidemiology

Director, Doctoral Degree Program
Tina Costacou, PhD, MSc, Associate Professor
Diabetes Epidemiology; Reproductive Health of Women with Diabetes; Nutrition Epidemiology

Director, Master’s Degree Programs
Nancy W. Glynn, PhD, MEd, Associate Professor
Aging Epidemiology; Prevention, Lifestyle & Physical Activity Epidemiology

Director, Bachelor Degree Program
Thomas J. Songer, PhD, MPH, MSc, Assistant Professor
Applied Public Health Epidemiology; Injury Prevention Epidemiology

Student Services Manager & Program Administrator
Lori S. Smith, BA

Student Services Specialists: Amy L. Rhodes, MEd and Gina Tagliaferri, MS
Research Assistant to Faculty: Wendy Frankle, MS
Educational Program

• Students:
  ➢ 144 Active Students (as of January 2022)
    • 75 MPH and 5 MS
    • 62 PhD and 2 DrPH

• Mission:
  Prepare the next generation of public health leaders through rigorous educational programs
Departmental Faculty

- Faculty
  - 42 primary faculty
  - 8 emeritus faculty
  - 33 secondary faculty
  - 12 adjunct faculty

- Grants
  - 113 active grants
  - 15 new grants, $108 million in FY 2021

- Manuscripts
  - 450-500 published annually
Major Research Areas

- Reproductive Health
  - Ideal weight gain in pregnancy
  - Causal inference methods in clinical trials
  - CVD risk and social determinants of birth outcomes
  - Pelvic Inflammatory disease – novel pathogens
- Cancer
  - Fatty liver and hepatocellular cancer
  - Microbiome and pancreatic cancer
  - Screening - lung and colon cancer
  - Diet and chemoprevention
- Cardiovascular Disease
  - Vascular contributions to dementia
  - Menopausal transition, lipids, and vascular disease
  - Transfusion after MI
  - Subclinical vascular disease
- Diabetes, Obesity
  - Pittsburgh Epidemiology of Diabetes Complications Study
  - Diabetes Complications Trial
  - Lifestyle – novel methods and community intervention
  - Bariatric surgery outcomes
- Injury
  - Trauma and emergency care
  - Head injury in kids
  - Trauma Coagulopathy
- Infectious Disease
  - Geotemporal and genetic monitoring
  - Hepatitis B Network
  - HIV/TB control in Africa
  - Infectious Disease Modeling
  - Flu and COVID-19 surveillance
- Neuroepidemiology
  - Dopamine signaling and mobility
  - Brain and environmental navigation
  - Alzheimer’s disease
- Environmental Health
  - Air Pollution and asthma
  - Environmental toxins in early pregnancy
  - PaDOH – fracking and childhood cancer
- Aging and Longevity
  - Menopause: long term impact
  - Family Study of Longevity: Multi-omics
  - Muscle aging, body composition and disability
  - Targeting Aging with Metformin (TAME) - clinical trial
**Student Services & Student Life**

**Mission:** Communications, connections, support

- Personalized, student-centered team approach
- Strategic operational process guidance enables students to focus on academics, career goals and enrichment activities

- EPI Gives Back
- Student Liaison Committee
- Fostering Opportunities to Recognize, Welcome, and Advance Racially Diverse Students (FORWARDS)
- Student Public Health Epidemic Response Effort (SPHERE)
- Global Health Student Association (GHSA)
- Doctoral Student Organization (DSO)
- School-wide and Departmental Committees
Faculty Panel

Ashley Hill, DrPH, MPH, Assistant Professor
Areas of Emphasis: Reproductive Epidemiology; Social Epidemiology

Jean Nachega, MD, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor
Areas of Emphasis: Infectious Disease Epidemiology

Adam Santanasto, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor
Areas of Emphasis: Aging; Molecular & Genetic Epidemiology

Beth Shaaban, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor
Areas of Emphasis: Neuroepidemiology; Population Neuroscience
Current Student/Alumni Panel

Ruel Beresford (December 2022, expected) – 1st year MPH student

Natalie Suder Egnot, DrPH, MPH (‘14 IDM; ‘17) – Senior Supervising Health Scientist, Stantec

Nathan Raabe (April 2022, expected) – 2nd year Accelerated 4+1 MPH; Matriculating into PhD program

Ashley Sier, MPH (‘18) – Epidemiologist, TTi Health Research & Economics

Ashley Simenson, MPH (‘19) – 2nd year Medical Student, University of Florida

Curtis Tilves, PhD, MS (‘17, ‘20) – Post-Doctoral Fellow, Molecular Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health

Mary Winger, PhD, MPH (‘14, ‘20) – Strategy Consultant, UPMC Insurance Services Division, Department of Health Economics
Why choose us....

• Student networks
  • Long-term connections with fellow classmates
  • Collegial student body
  • Community environment

• Quality of program
  • Instruction
  • Mentorship
  • Research Opportunities

• Jobs
  • Prepared for the workforce
  • Alumni connections
Master’s and Doctoral Degree Programs Breakout Sessions
Next Steps

• PhD Applicants
  • Proceed to Breakout Room #1 for your session with Dr. Costacou and Lori Smith

• Master’s Applicants
  • Stay in Main Room; will be directed to Breakouts with current students/alumni

All applicants can leave the meeting directly from a breakout room. You do not have to return to the main room unless you would like to ask us a question!

Next Main Session: 1:30pm – Connect with Students
Master’s Degree Programs

Curricula
- MPH – 45 credits
  21 PPH; 15-17 Epi Core; 9-11 Electives
  Internship (200 hrs) & Essay

- MS – 45 credits
  3 PPH; 28-32 Epi Core; 10-14 Electives
  Thesis – original research, 2 oral exams

Degree programs can be completed in 3 or more terms

Collaboration
- Faculty and Student Interaction - Departmental Seminar; Dean’s Day; Epi Gives Back
- Internships/Research - Domestic and International
- Student Jobs

Culmination
- Our students are difference makers and get top quality jobs
  - Recipients of Centers for Disease Control/CSTE and Presidential Management Fellows
  - Key positions in State and County Health Departments
  - Top researchers at NIH, CDC, FDA, American Red Cross, etc.
  - Analysts at influential public and private sector industries including pharma and health plans
  - Doctoral programs, medical school, dental school
Master’s Program Breakout Rooms

Room #2: Current Students
Ruel Beresford (1st year MPH); Harika Dyer (1st year MPH);
Nathan Raabe (2nd year MPH 4+1)

Room #3: Alumni
Alexa Meinhardt, MPH, CPH (’19, Epidemiologist, Delaware Department of Health);
Ashley Sier, MPH (’18, Epidemiologist, TTi Health Research & Economics)

Room #4: Alumni
Mya Brady, MPH (’21, UPMC Infection Prevention);
Amina Chtourou, MPH (’21, Presidential Management Fellow)

Room #5: Alumni
Erica Fan, MPH (’20, Research Analyst; Pitt MD/PhD program Fall 2022)
Ashley Simenson, MPH (’19, 2nd year medical student University of Florida)