

Winter/Spring 2008

Campaign & Alumni News from the
University of Michigan
School of Public Health

Net:works ▶▶

Greetings

from the University of Michigan School of Public Health and welcome to the first edition of *Net:Works*, a twice-yearly publication from the Office of Development and Alumni Relations. This publication is our way of sharing the ways in which your gifts are making a difference, how alumni or enthusiasts of public health are offering their time, money, or creative ideas to support various public health initiatives, and the fascinating ways our students and graduates are improving our lives through their work in the field.

You can expect updates on the UM SPH campaign, event listings available for your participation, stories on special fundraising initiatives such as the recent President's Donor Challenge, individual profiles, pictures of school volunteers such as boards, mentors or important friends, practical information about programs such as the *Career Connection*, and stories about innovative partnerships.

We welcome your stories as well, and encourage you to email us at sph.alumni@umich.edu about any interesting projects with which you are involved; send us comments on *Net:Works* content, or just say hello.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Warner". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kenneth E. Warner, Dean
Avedis Donabedian University Distinguished Professor of Public Health



Quick web links to find out about events, faculty research, projects, *Findings* online, and more!

UM SPH Home Page	www.sph.umich.edu/
UM SPH Events Listings	www.sph.umich.edu/news_events/
UM SPH Publications	www.sph.umich.edu/news_events/publications.html
UM SPH Giving	www.sph.umich.edu/alumni/giving.html
UM SPH Alumni Page	www.sph.umich.edu/alumni/
UM SPH <i>Findings</i>	www.sph.umich.edu/news_events/findings

Innovation



A Lifetime Theme for Donor Bert Askwith

A dedicated Wolverine during his student years, the University's Michigan Difference Campaign Vice-Chair Bert Askwith (AB '31) is as committed as ever to Michigan.

Mr. Askwith, of Harrison, New York, has contributed significantly to a variety of university programs and projects. One of his most recent investments in the university increased the value of the *Askwith Fund for Innovation in Asthma and Allergy Management* in the School of Public Health's Center for Managing Chronic Disease. His daughters, Patti Kenner and Kathy Franklin, also are part of the fund's efforts, and Kathy's son, Max,

who lives with a severe food allergy, is their inspiration to support the center's efforts to improve patients' ability to manage their chronic conditions.

The *Askwith Fund* has provided Center Director Noreen Clark, PhD, and her colleagues with flexible resources to create and test innovative solutions to asthma and allergy management. Advances made in asthma and allergy management then have the capacity to be replicated for other chronic disease conditions. As Michigan researchers share their findings with physicians and patients throughout our communities and throughout the

world, the *Askwith Fund* is playing a role in changing policy and health practices for the most vulnerable populations and patients.

"Unless findings from research reach people in need, they have little impact," says Dr. Clark. "As a result, a dissemination team within the center focuses on getting effective interventions broadly used and findings widely accessible."

Mr. Askwith owns two travel agencies and is president of Campus Coach Lines, which he started as a Michigan student.

"Unless findings from research reach people in need, they have little impact." — Noreen Clark

The Center for Managing Chronic Disease can be contacted <http://cmcd.sph.umich.edu> or call 734-763-1457.

Alumni

A Scholarship Grounded in Values

When Rachel Ross (MPH '05) told her father she'd received a *Eugene Feingold Memorial Scholarship* to study at the University of Michigan School of Public Health, Bob Ross was profoundly moved. Feingold had been his mentor back in 1963 when Bob was a Michigan undergrad studying political science and Feingold was a member of the department.

Rachel herself had gotten to know Gene Feingold when she first came to Michigan as an undergrad in 1994. Feingold had long since moved from political science to SPH, where he taught about the politics of health care and labored tirelessly on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised. Like countless others who fell into his orbit, Rachel Ross soon found herself hoping to follow in Feingold's footsteps.

That she eventually received a scholarship bearing his name was a coincidence, Ross notes, but adds, "That scholarship was for somebody who shared his values, and it was not a coincidence that I shared his values. I really feel as though it was because of him that I was able to have such a wonderful education at Michigan, and that in a lot of ways it is in his honor that I'm doing the work I do."

Since 2005, Ross has been project manager for *Socios En Salud*, the Peruvian sister organization of Partners in Health, a health care outreach program founded by physician and anthropologist Paul Farmer. Ross puts in long days helping to bring shelter, food, and health care to the thousands of people who live in shantytowns around Lima.

"Leaving things on my desk at the end of the day matters in ways that it wouldn't somewhere else," she says. "There is a sense of urgency to it that is real."

Gene Feingold died in 2002, and Ross began her graduate studies at SPH in 2003. But others at the school had taken up Feingold's mantle, among them Associate Professor Richard Lichtenstein, who became "a wonderful mentor" to Ross.

Lichtenstein and Feingold exemplify Michigan's commitment to social justice, Ross says, and it's why she chose Michigan over peer institutions.

"Michigan had the strongest sense of connecting public health with social justice," she says. "It was a really important part of my decision to come and of my experience being there."

And because the Feingold scholarship freed her from burdensome postgraduate debt, Ross could follow her dreams wherever they led—in this case, Peru—and thus further the legacy of the scholarship's namesake, a gentle man and inspired teacher who possessed a noble and generous heart.

For information on the [UM SPH Axelrod/Feingold Scholarship Fund](#), other scholarship funds, or to make a contribution, visit www.sph.umich.edu/challenge

Interview and article written by Leslie Stainton, editor, *Findings* magazine

If you'd like to share your memories of an SPH mentor who made a difference in your life, send an e-mail to sph.alumni@umich.edu.

Like countless others who fell into his orbit, Rachel Ross (center in photo) soon found herself hoping to follow in Feingold's remarkable footsteps. "I really feel that it is in his honor in a lot of ways that I'm doing the work I do."





Campaign

A Deal Too Good to Refuse

A Challenge from President Mary Sue Coleman

Although long recognized as one of the top five schools of public health in the nation, the University of Michigan School of Public Health would attract even more promising public health scholars and practitioners if we could provide more financial support to our deserving graduate students. Through the President's Donor

Challenge, which began on September 1, 2007, UM will match gifts for student support on the basis of \$1 for every \$2 donated. This means that talented and enthusiastic public health students could become the next generation of public health managers and advocates—a step they might not be able to take without our monetary support.

Right now, you can bring the world's top students to the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

g n

UM SPH will be able to use your gifts and pledges to create even more valuable student scholarships, internships, or awards, thanks to the matching gift from the President's Donor Challenge. The challenge matching funds are available until December 31, 2008, or until the challenge fund is completely committed—whichever comes first.

Out of an average UM SPH class of 825, only a small fraction are supported by private funds. Since Michigan competes for talented students with universities around the world, being able to offer support to our future *leaders and best* is critical to our ability to stay in the forefront of public health innovation.

The field of public health has never been known as a path to riches—at least the monetary kind. So in order to send our devoted students out into the world ready to tackle the public health issues that threaten human life, social stability, and even individual happiness, it makes sense to ease their burden of educational debt. The President's Challenge for graduate student support gives our school the chance to partner with our alumni and friends so we can help talented and dedicated students make the decision to devote their careers to preventing disease, promoting healthy lifestyles, and advocating for access to quality health care.

What's next, you ask? Learn more and see what you can do in partnership with the president of the University of Michigan at www.sph.umich.edu/challenge or call 734-764-8093.

THE PRESIDENT'S DONOR CHALLENGE

Join Us! Dear UM SPH Alumni and Friends,

I am pleased to have the opportunity to communicate with you through this new publication especially designed to give all of us an inside look at the needs, resources, and results of the University of Michigan School of Public Health. I will share my thoughts from the perspective of the chair of the Campaign for UM SPH as we work with you on ways to strengthen the finances of the school.

At our fall Dean's Advisory Board we discussed the importance of scholarship support for our graduate and professional students. Never has the competition for the best and brightest students been more acute than today or the cost of an education more challenging.

I am teaching this semester at UM SPH, and I want you to know that I have the privilege of having exceptionally intelligent and articulate young people in my class. They are the future leaders of health care facilities, public health departments, toxicology and epidemiology laboratories, the health insurance industry, health corporations, non-governmental and governmental agencies. As alumni of this premier school (which is consistently ranked in the top five) please think about the education you received here and the role it played in your career.

There are many exciting things happening at UM SPH, from the groundbreaking research of Michael Boehnke, whose team identified two genetic variants for Type 2 diabetes, to Goncalo Abecasis's identification of an asthma gene, to Allison Aiello's study that proved that washing with antibacterial soap was no more effective in preventing infectious illness than plain soap. Your alma mater, its faculty, and its graduate and professional students are improving the quality of life we have today.

Please consider joining me and my wife Lois in providing scholarship support to ensure that deserving future students will have an opportunity to study at Michigan. There has never been a more advantageous time to provide support for students than during the President's Donor Challenge.

With sincere appreciation,

Gail Warden '62 MHA, Chair
Campaign Committee
UM SPH Dean's Advisory Board





Bob Linden lives in Las Vegas, but he doesn't gamble.

"Other than starting a business," quips the 1979 health management and policy graduate.

Linden isn't gambling with the future of his estate plans, either. Instead, he's made a sure bet by making a planned gift that will benefit University of Michigan School of Public Health students, faculty, and staff for years to come.

UM was one of the first places he thought of when he was making his estate plans.

"Michigan is a legend and always has been, in my mind," Linden says. "The school has such history, going back to people like Thomas Francis Jr., Avedis Donabedian, Sy Axelrod, and has such a profound impact on society in so many areas. The broader involvement in public health issues catches my fancy."

Linden's experience as a Michigan graduate student gave him the opportunity to see how broad the school's reach can be. After receiving his undergraduate business degree from Central Michigan University and doing a tour in Vietnam, the Detroit native joined the Henry Ford Health System's purchasing department.

Midway into his 16-year career at Henry Ford, Linden decided to pursue a master's degree in hospital administration (MHSA) at the UM SPH.

"It was 9,000 miles a year back and forth, but it was worth it," he says. "To have medical care organization classes with the guys who literally wrote the book was amazing. The exposure and dialogue was so enriching. It was fun to learn from such bright people."

Linden started giving back to Michigan while he was still in school, providing opportunities for SPH faculty and students to conduct research and carry out projects at Henry Ford.

One notable collaboration was with the late James P. Martin, who, along with his graduate students, helped Henry Ford Health System develop a patient information management system that helped the health system better plan for patient needs and refine utilization management.

The Big Payoff

“I’m interested in scholarships and achieving broader diversity of student populations.”

“In the late 70s, that was pretty leading edge stuff, and it was all because of the doctoral work that Jim Martin and his students did,” Linden says, noting that his role as both a student and collaborator enabled him to see the way interactions among SPH, business, and engineering benefit Michigan business and industry.

After rising to chief operating officer of Henry Ford’s hospital-based group practice, Linden sought out some new collaborations of his own. He provided consulting services to organizations dealing with health care facilities and staffing issues, he worked with Martin on a software development project, he ran the faculty practice at Georgetown University Medical Center, and was involved in a startup medical practice management group that was eventually bought out.

And now he’s shredding paper in the desert.

“I wanted to do my own thing,” explains Linden, who is now president of Shred-It Las Vegas, an on-site document destruction company. Having been a Shred-It client in the past, he was familiar with the company’s practices and great service.

But when Linden talks about the Shred-It franchise he opened in 1999, he doesn’t talk about profits and growth—he talks about being a good community citizen. Whether it’s participating in free community shredding days or seeing his small company being one

of the top participants in Nevada’s annual United Way campaign, Linden is using his new business venture as a way to get involved in his community in a new way.

“Whether with money or time, those who can give back, should,” he says. “I was just raised that way.”

Linden, who was honored as the 2007 United Way of Southern Nevada Volunteer of the Year, is currently leading an effort to enhance and evaluate early childhood education in southern Nevada. But at the same time as he’s looking at ways to evaluate preschools, he’s basking in utter confidence in the future of the UM SPH.

“I’d like to support things that can make a difference,” he says. “I’m interested in scholarships and achieving broader diversity of student populations. But I haven’t designated my gift for any specific purpose. I’m leaving it to the discretion of the dean’s office.

“I’ll leave the decisions on how to use my gift to those carrying on in the future. Everyone knows that Michigan stands for integrity and quality and I have every confidence that the positive forward momentum will be continued by Michigan people now and in the future.

“After all, they are Leaders and Best.”

That’s a sure bet.

Profile by Anne Remington



Risk Science Symposium a Success

The October 2007 Bernstein Symposium, “Nanotechnology and Health: Evidence and Impact,” attracted over 200 academic and industry scientists, lawyers, government scientists, and policymakers to the University of Michigan campus. Keynote speaker Governor Christine Todd Whitman, opened the proceedings by discussing risk from the policymaker’s viewpoint, including vignettes from her tenure as EPA director. Additional symposium sessions covered risk science, policy, and communications related to the emerging field of nanotechnology. Visit www.sph.umich.edu/riskcenter for a complete review of the proceedings.

“The Bernstein Symposium is remarkable not only for the subject it’s addressing— nanotechnology—but also for the breadth of disciplines represented by the speakers. The UM Risk Science Center resides at the intersection of environmental health and policies, and provides value to the university and to the community by providing a forum to address scientific and social issues, and to communicate evidence-based findings to a broad range of stakeholders.”
— Howard Hu, Chair, EHS Department, School of Public Health, University of Michigan



ENVIRONMENTAL-HEALTH

INDUSTRY NEEDS

PUBLIC HEALTH NEEDS

RESEARCH

EDUCATION

WORKSHOP
CLINIC

TESTING
LABORATORY
APPROVAL

It Began Back In

1944

**NATIONAL SANITATION
FOUNDATION**

FUNDS
INDUSTRIAL APPLICATION

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE
PUBLIC HEALTH APPLICATION

PROGRAM
*Monthly
Workshop*



PROGRAM

*Fundamental
Education*



PROGRAM


*Applied
Research*



PROGRAM


*Applied
Education*





The word “partnership” conjures up many interpretations.

In the case of NSF International and the University of Michigan School of Public Health, the partnership has been lengthy, positive, and a source of creative thinking.



Since the founding of NSF (then called the National Sanitation Foundation) in the basement of UM SPH in 1944, both organizations have worked toward the safety and health of individuals and communities. NSF has established national testing standards for products ranging from drinking water filters to food service equipment, while UM SPH has been training the professionals who help define such standards, test products, and support national health policies. A dedication to safer and healthier living defines both organizations’ missions and continues to inspire their collaboration.

Partnership is expressed in many forms at NSF and UM SPH. The School has offered some of its best academic minds to help guide NSF’s growth and professional standing. NSF in turn has hired our graduates in the areas of toxicology, risk assessment, and environmental health to help support food, water, air, supplements, and other product testing and evaluation. Together, these two organizations have made it safer for Americans to use or consume tens of thousands of products. And recently, both organizations expanded their focus on international health concerns.

NSF International donated \$1.5 million to establish the NSF International Department Chair in Environmental Health Sciences. NSF made this gift on the heels of another generous pledge of \$250,000 to establish an annual award for a graduate student pursuing a degree in environmental health, health management and policy, or epidemiology.

While financial gifts can be seen as the most tangible expression of NSF’s support for public health, both organizations have created many opportunities to interact in mutually beneficial ways. UM SPH faculty and NSF scientists have the opportunity to collaborate on research while students benefit from NSF internships that help bridge the gap between theoretical learning and real-world applications. And additional training for industry personnel at NSF through UM SPH courses or degrees supports professionalism in the field of public health and safety.

Like any good marriage of interests, NSF and UM SPH are taking the long view of what it means to be partners for world health. They expect to be working together for a healthier and safer world for years to come.



Partnership

What's New

Departmental Updates from the Chairs

Biostats

Roderick J.A. Little, PhD

Chair, Biostatistics
Richard D. Remington Collegiate
Professor of Biostatistics
Professor, Department of Statistics
Research Professor, Institute for Social Research

The Department of Biostatistics continues to grow in both numbers and stature. After five excellent years as chair, Jack Kalbfleisch stepped down and Rod Little became the new chair in January 2007. Department priorities target the recruitment of the best faculty, staff, and students. This year included the arrival of two new faculty members, Peter Song and Cathie Spino, and a sizeable cohort of excellent students. Highlights this year include PhD student Sijian Wang winning the Van Ryzin



Award for best student paper at the International Biometrics Society ENAR Meeting; a paper in *Science* by Laura Scott, Michael

Boehnke, and colleagues on the genetics of diabetes; and the American Statistical Association SPAIG award for outstanding statistical collaboration, won by Trivellore Raghunathan and colleagues.

EHS

Howard Hu, MD, MPH, ScD

Chair, Environmental Health Sciences
Professor of Environmental Health, Epidemiology, and Medicine

The Department of Environmental Health Sciences enters its second year of rebuilding under the leadership of the new chair, Howard Hu, who brought with him a portfolio of NIEHS-supported projects on



the impact of toxic metals on adult chronic disease and child development with study sites in the U.S., Mexico, and India. EHS has

undertaken initiatives designed to ramp up faculty research, retain its long-running NIOSH Education and Research Center grant and NIEHS Toxicology Training grant, re-build human nutrition, recruit the nation's best graduate students, and streamline the curriculum. EHS completed the recruitment of Nil Basu, a stellar new scientist from the University of Ottawa who specializes in water, risk, and the study of marine mammals as sentinel species for neurotoxic water pollutants. EHS is searching for two new faculty in nutrition (one senior) and a third new faculty member in gene-environment research. Research is expanding on the impacts of metals, particles, and organics. EHS recently collaborated with the School of Natural Resources and Environment

to mount the first National Summit on Coping with Climate Change with an EHS-organized focus on public health. EHS is proud to be the home of the new NSF International Department Chair in Environmental Health Sciences.

Epid

Hal Morgenstern, PhD

Chair, Epidemiology
Professor, Epidemiology and Environmental
Health Sciences

The Department of Epidemiology has more than 60 faculty and 200 graduate students. In 2006–07, the faculty generated \$18 million in extramural support for their research and training programs. Faculty honored this past year for their professional contributions include



Adjunct Associate Professor Ron Davis, who was elected president of the American Medical Association; Professor Emeritus

David Schottenfeld, who received the John Snow Award from the American Public Health Association; Brian Burt, Professor Emeritus of Dental Public Health who received the 2007 John W. Knutson Distinguished Service Award in Dental Public Health from the Oral Health Section of the American Public Health Association; and the Preventive Medicine Residency Program, directed by Associate Professor

Matthew Boulton, which received the Outstanding Educational Program of the Year award from the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research. Several students also received awards, including two predoctoral fellowships and seven merit fellowships from Rackham Graduate School. Although these awards are an important source of financial aid, they are not nearly enough to support the range of student activities and training opportunities required for a large, diverse, and high-quality graduate program.

Thus, the department's fundraising priority continues to be its scholarship and gift funds.

HBHE

Marc A. Zimmerman, PhD

Professor and Chair, Health Behavior and Health
Education
Professor, Psychology
Research Scientist, Center for Human Growth
and Development

The Department of Health Behavior and Health Education has experienced several changes over the last year. HBHE has welcomed four new assistant professors. Scott Roberts, from Boston University, teaches and studies issues in public health genetics and decision-making. Mark Padilla,



from Columbia University, studies HIV/AIDS and the tourism industry in the Caribbean basin. Melissa Valerio, who

recently completed her PhD in HBHE, focuses on disease management and teaches Materials and Methods and Needs Assessment. Derek Griffith, who completed a Kellogg Fellowship in community-based research and was the associate director of evaluation for our Prevention Research Center, is interested in cancer prevention and the role that discrimination plays in contributing to health disparities.

HMP

Paula M. Lantz, PhD, MS

Professor and Chair, Department of Health Management
and Policy
Director, RWJ Scholars in Health Policy Research Program
Research Professor, Institute for Social Research

Current research of faculty in the Department of Health Management and Policy is focusing on many of the critical issues facing the delivery of health care



and public health services today. These issues include quality of care, the health needs of low-income and uninsured

populations, health care financing challenges in the U.S. and other countries, and policy issues related to long-term care, tobacco control, mental health, and children's health. Recent faculty additions include Kai Zheng, PhD, who specializes in health informatics, and Margaret Kruk, MD, MPH, who specializes in research on the financing and delivery of health services in developing countries. With a talented and energetic faculty and a continuing commitment to teaching excellence, HMP was again awarded the number 1 ranking for graduate programs in health services administration by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Certificate Program Announced

Next fall, the School of Public Health will launch its first-ever online certificate program in the foundations of public health. The interdepartmental program will offer coursework in each of the five major disciplines of public health and is designed for students wishing to earn graduate credit—including working professionals who want to take the first step toward an MPH, health-sciences students who'd like to enhance their public health knowledge, public- and private-sector employees who deal with the public health system, and lifelong learners. UM SPH faculty will teach certificate courses via distance learning, and coursework may be transferable to a degree program within UM SPH or to other schools or programs of public health. For details visit www.sph.umich.edu/distance.

Calendar

January 31, 2008

Environmental Health Sciences Alumni Network Reception

4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

NSF International
World Headquarters
789 N. Dixboro Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Contact sph.reception@umich.edu or
(734) 764-8093

Registration Required

The University of Michigan School of Public Health, in partnership with NSF International, will host a special reception for environmental health sciences alumni.

March 7, 2008

Women in Health Care and Bioscience Leadership: State of the Knowledge Symposium

7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Biomedical Science Research Building
Auditorium
109 Zina Pitcher Place
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Contact information: Linda Grosh at
lgrosh@umich.edu

Registration Required

The Griffith Leadership Center at UM SPH joins forces with the Women's Health Program at the UM Health System and Catalyst, a nonprofit organization focused

on opportunities for women in business, to present this event devoted to women's career trajectories in the health care profession, with particular focus on leadership positions. Speakers will address the current landscape, will critically consider diversity issues in executive leadership, and will attempt to set an agenda for future research and policy. The morning sessions are open to the public, starting with a Mentoring Breakfast for current UM students in health-related graduate programs. UM SPH alumna Marianne Udow-Phillips, MHSA '78, will be the keynote speaker.

March 28, 2008 Save the Date!

Environment and Environmental Health in Minority Communities

22nd Annual Minority Health Conference

For 22 years, the Public Health Students of African Descent have made this annual conference one of the school's premier events. This year's session brings together leading scientists, health professionals, and policymakers to examine an issue of growing concern. For more information visit www.sph.umich.edu/phsad.

April 4, 2008 Save the Date!

Epidemiology Alumni Reception

MSU Union
Michigan State University
Save the date for an alumni reception during the (State of) Michigan Epidemiology Conference.

July 6–25, 2008

43rd Graduate Summer Session in Epidemiology

This summer program offers instruction in the principles, methods and applications of epidemiology. Distinguished faculty from academic centers and governmental agencies throughout the United States and other countries will be responsible for introductory and advanced courses in epidemiology, biostatistics, and data management. Curriculum options include one-week and three-week courses. Special evening lectures by guest speakers and weekly social events complement the classroom sessions. Contact: Jody Gray at umichgss@sph.umich.edu or (734) 764-5454.

October 3–5, 2008 Save the Date!

University of Michigan 50th Reunion

Save the dates for 50th-Reunion events including the Go Blue Homecoming Tailgate, the Michigan/Illinois football game, and the Reunion Gala dinner with emeritus pin presentation.

October 3, 2008 Save the Date!

UM SPH Open House

University of Michigan School of Public Health
109 S. Observatory
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Visit and tour the newly built and renovated School of Public Health.

October 27, 2008 Save the Date!

Keep In Touch Reception

San Diego, California
Save the date for this annual alumni reception during the APHA Annual Meeting and Expo.

Dear SPH Alumni,

It is hard to assign a value to the pride we share as alumni of the University of Michigan School of Public Health. The respect and recognition we receive from colleagues based on the school's renowned reputation helps advance our careers, and our Michigan connections open doors wherever we travel. No matter how far away from Ann Arbor life takes us, UM SPH can be found in graduates around the world who are dedicating their lives work to promoting health, protecting communities, and preventing illness.

Thank you for your leadership and ongoing participation at the school through your time, your connections, and your financial support. If you have been out of touch, I hope you will take time to rediscover the wonderful things happening at UM SPH, and I encourage you to get involved. To learn more, visit www.sph.umich.edu/alumni/associations.html or contact sph.alumni@umich.edu.

Best wishes for a prosperous new year!

Sincerely,



M. Elaine Auld, MPH '78
Chair
Alumni Society Board of Governors

For up-to-date calendar information, visit
http://www.sph.umich.edu/news_events/

Meet the SPH Alumni Board of Governors

Elaine Auld, MPH '78 (chair)
Society for Public Health Education
Washington, DC

Marsha Broussard, MPH '83 (vice-chair)
Louisiana Public Health Institute
New Orleans, Louisiana

Nicole Adelman, MPH '95
Planned Parenthood Mid-Michigan Alliance
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Laura Bauman, MPH '99
Washtenaw County Public Health Department
Ypsilanti, Michigan

Diane Bechel-Marriott, MHSA '89
Ford Motor Company
Dearborn, Michigan

Molly Brennan, MPH '94
North Carolina Institute for Public Health
Durham, North Carolina

Neysa Dillon Brown, MHSA '83
Desir Group Executive Search
Atlanta, Georgia

Robyn Lee, MPH '02
Advocate Health Centers
Chicago, Illinois

Mark Legnini, MPH '74
The Healthcare Decisions Group
Washington, DC

Brian Meyer, MPH '95
Temple University School of Medicine
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Anand K. Parekh, MD, MPH '02
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Washington, DC

Sandra White, MPH '73
Retired, Michigan Department of
Community Health
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Back Row (left to right): Mark Legnini, Diane Bechel-Marriott, Neysa Dillon Brown, Sandra White, Brian Meyer, Elaine Auld (chair). Front Row (left to right): Laura Bauman, Marsha Broussard (vice chair), Anand Parekh, Robyn Lee. Not shown: Nicole Adelman, Molly Brennan



The University of Michigan School of Public Health Alumni Society Board of Governors works for the school in many ways to stimulate interest in and connections with the school. It acts as the governing body for the UM SPH Alumni Society. All UM SPH alumni and faculty are considered members of the UM SPH Alumni Society.

A Few Good Candidates

The Alumni Society Board of Governors is always looking for society members interested in serving on the board. Alumni Board members have unique opportunities to partner with the alumni, students, and faculty in meaningful ways to advance the prominence of the school. Please provide your suggestions for board nominees through the contact information below.

Current Projects

Student Recruitment: Alumni Board members will soon be featured on a new web site where they will interact with prospective UM SPH students and assist in the recruitment process. If you are interested in being contacted by students or prospective students, please let us know by using the contact information below.

Internships: An SPH intern could be a beneficial addition to your organization this summer! The Alumni Board is collaborating with the UM SPH Office of Public Health Practice to generate paid internships for UM SPH students. A typical internship extends twelve weeks (480 hours) over the summer months and costs as little as \$12.50 per hour. Contact us for more information on how you can provide a summer internship.

Amendment to the Constitution

Introduction

The University of Michigan School of Public Health Alumni Society exists to facilitate life-long relationships among the school, alumni, and students. The UM SPH Alumni Society is a school-wide entity, with no particular departmental affiliation. The society is governed by a board of twelve elected members of the society and three ex-officio members.

The Alumni Society Board of Governors acts as a liaison to the school for the greater Alumni Society, however for many years the Board has not sustained representation from each of the School of Public Health's five academic departments. This lack of representation creates a gap in the knowledge of the Board and the relationships it is able to build.

Existing Constitution

The following is an excerpt from *Article IV-Governing Board and Officers of the School of Public Health Alumni Society Constitution*, which details the structure of the Board of Governors.

The governing body of the Society shall consist of a Board of Governors of fifteen members. The Dean of the School of Public Health, the designee of the Dean for Alumni Relations and the Executive Director of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Governors without vote. Twelve members of the Society shall be elected to the Board. Each elected member of the Board shall serve three years. Four members shall be elected each year. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the Board each year and will submit a slate of at least four eligible candidates for election by a mail ballot. Candidates having the highest number of votes shall be elected.

Approved Amendment

On October 12, 2007, the University of Michigan School of Public Health Alumni Society Board of Governors voted to approve an amendment to Article IV of the Constitution in order to assure the representation of each of the five academic departments in the School of Public Health. The Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan also approved this change to the constitution. The amendment, which follows, will establish one departmental position for each of the five academic departments. The objective is to guarantee each academic department at least one representative on the Board of Governors.

The twelve elected members of the Board of Governors shall be comprised of one position for each current School of Public Health academic department. The additional Board positions shall remain at-large positions, open to any eligible Society candidate. The nominating committee shall establish a slate of candidates that will satisfy the departmental positions where representation is deficient. Where more than one representative from an academic department exists on the Board of Governors, the Chairperson shall appoint a Board member to a departmental position. The election ballot shall be structured to provide Society members the ability to vote for both departmental and at-large positions, when required.

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