

EMORY

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Public Health

Rollins School of Public Health

A photograph of two women in a garden. The woman on the left is wearing a brown hijab and a dark long-sleeved top. The woman on the right is wearing a bright blue tank top and denim shorts. They are both smiling and looking at a green vegetable, possibly a cucumber, that the woman in the blue top is holding. The garden is lush with green plants, and a chain-link fence is visible in the background.

Lessons in Public Health

Hands-on learning
prepares students for
real-world challenges
of the 21st century

Foege Fellows Turn 10 | Stan Foster: Epidemiologist Without Borders

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▲ A First for Rollins and Saudi Arabia

Fatima Al Slail made history during the RSPH diploma ceremony in May. Al Slail, a physician and surgeon, was among the first cohort of King Abdullah Fellows from Saudi Arabia to graduate from Rollins. Classmates honored Al Slail by choosing her as their student speaker. “We all came to this place with different stories and backgrounds, and we are all in public health because we refuse to accept the world as it is now,” she told graduates and guests.

LEARN MORE:

Watch King Abdullah Fellow Fatima Al Slail address the Class of 2013 at Rollins. Visit bit.ly/fatima-rollins.



EMORY
**ROLLINS
SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC
HEALTH**

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On the Cover Nadifa Mohammed and Rachael Kane harvest food from the Clarkston Community Center garden. Kane, a Rollins graduate, works to ensure food security for residents of Clarkston, a few miles from Emory. To learn more about Kane, see the story on page 8.





Students often choose Rollins because of the many strong ties it has with public health partners in Atlanta and around the world. These partners afford students opportunities for hands-on experience *before* they graduate to ready them for public health practice in the 21st century.

Public Health in the 21st Century

At Rollins, students immerse themselves in public health practice from day one. Before their classes begin, first-year students divide into teams and fan out across Atlanta to volunteer with more than 20 community organizations. These students are part of Rollinsteer Day, an annual tradition that brings them together to work collaboratively and learn about the needs of the local community.

Students often choose Rollins because of the many strong ties it has with public health partners in Atlanta and around the world. These partners afford students opportunities for hands-on experience *before* they graduate to ready them for public health practice in the 21st century.

Our faculty are vital to preparing students for entry into the public health workforce. Last spring, we celebrated the retirement of global health professor and former CDC epidemiologist Stan Foster, who helped lead the global effort to eradicate smallpox. We salute him in this issue, along with David Kleinbaum, an award-winning teacher who has created a gift to support faculty who teach advanced epidemiology.

This year also marks the 10th anniversary of the William H. Foege Fellowships in Global Health. To date, 24 fellows from 22 countries have benefitted from this program, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. All are mid-career professionals who share a passion for addressing the world's greatest health challenges, from improving nutrition for mothers and children to preventing chronic and infectious diseases. And, like their fellow students at Rollins, they are influential leaders in public health practice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. Curran". The signature is fluid and cursive.

James W. Curran, MD, MPH

James W. Curran Dean of Public Health



Eugene and Rose Gangarosa

The Heart of Public Health

Hatcher Award honors school pioneer Eugene Gangarosa

As Eugene Gangarosa tells it, he began his career in public health at age 10. He entered the field by reading books about microbes and related topics while convalescing from rheumatic fever.

Today, Gangarosa is considered a public health legend, both as an expert and educator in the prevention of enteric diseases and as a visionary who believed that a school of public health could thrive at Emory. For these achievements, Gangarosa received the 2013 Charles R. Hatcher Jr. MD Award for Excellence in Public Health.

Gangarosa is the 11th recipient of the award, established by the school in 1996 to honor Hatcher for his service to and support of public health. Hatcher, a longtime cardiac surgeon at Emory and the first recipient of the award, supported creation of the School of Public

Health in 1990 during his tenure as vice president for health affairs and director of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center.

“The school has grown enormously due to Gene’s vision and the support of Charles Hatcher,” noted Dean James Curran during the award celebration.

Gangarosa began his career in earnest by helping rebuild the water and sanitation systems in Naples, Italy, during World War II. Later, at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, he defined the pathogenesis of cholera by studying patients in Bangkok, Thailand. His work provided the foundation for studies by other investigators that led to the discovery of oral fluid therapy, which drastically reduced infant mortality.

He continued his research in intestinal pathophysiology in Lahore, Pakistan, as director of the

University of Maryland’s Pakistan Medical Research Center. In 1964, he joined the CDC, where he subsequently led the Epidemic Intelligence Service, the Enteric Diseases Branch, and the Bacterial Diseases Division. He retired from the CDC in 1978 to serve as dean at the American University of Beirut, where he transformed a graduate program into an independent school of public health. In 1982, he joined Emory to direct the struggling master of community health program. Working with William Foege, then director of the

CDC, and leaders at Emory, Gangarosa tripled enrollment by borrowing faculty from the CDC to teach and defining the curriculum more clearly by renaming it as the master of public health program.

Gangarosa, now professor emeritus of international health, and his wife, Rose, continue to play a role at the school through the Center for Global Safe Water at Emory. Together, they created two endowed professorships—the Eugene J. Gangarosa Chair in Safe Water, held by Christine Moe, and the complementary Rose Salamone Chair in Environmental Health, held by Thomas Clasen, who joined Rollins this fall after serving on the faculty at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

“The school would not be what it is today without Gene, and Gene would not be who he is without his wife, Rose,” said Curran. “They are a remarkable couple. I realize how important you are as a team. You accomplish much together.” ■

Tolbert Named Rollins Professor of Environmental Health

During the 20 years she has been at Rollins, Paige Tolbert has built a national reputation as an expert in environmental epidemiology. This fall, Tolbert was named a Rollins Professor to further her work in the field. She is now one of several faculty members who hold professorships, funded through the O. Wayne and Grace Crum Rollins Endowment Fund.

Tolbert has guided the Department of Environmental Health as its chair since 2007. Under her leadership, the department has doubled in size, adding new faculty in areas critical to tackling the environmental health challenges of the future. Among them are bench scientists conducting mechanistic work on pathogenesis of disease, exposure scientists developing cutting-edge biomarkers, public health ecologists using “big data” to study climate and other global change, and researchers focused on global safe water and sanitation. The department recently introduced a doctoral program in environmental health sciences and earlier this year was designated an Environmental Health Sciences Core Center by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

In recent years, Tolbert and her colleagues have led

a major study to examine the associations between air quality and emergency room visits to Atlanta hospitals for respiratory and heart problems. She currently codirects the Southeastern Center for Air Pollution and Epidemiology in partnership with Georgia Tech. Center researchers are using new approaches to characterize ambient air pollution mixtures and determine the risks they pose to human health. The results of such studies help shape new policies and laws to safeguard health.

Her new Rollins professorship will enable Tolbert to advance environmental health at the RSPH, Emory, and beyond. “Resources and time are always major constraints,” she says. “The Rollins professorship will give me the flexibility to foster new lines of research and pursue important departmental initiatives.” ■



Paige Tolbert

Rollins' first dean begins new health post in Texas

Raymond Greenberg, who served as the first dean of the RSPH, has joined the University of Texas System as executive vice chancellor for health affairs. Greenberg assumed his new position in September after serving as president of the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC).

Prior to becoming president of MUSC in 2000, Greenberg served as vice president for academic affairs. He joined MUSC in 1995 after serving as dean of Rollins for five years. During his tenure as RSPH dean, the school experienced rapid growth in enrollment, teaching, and research, leading to construction of a facility to house the school, the Grace Crum Rollins Building, which opened in 1995.

As president of MUSC, Greenberg oversaw the physical expansion of the campus and doubling of annual funding for research and broadened statewide collaboration in research and patient care. In his new role, he oversees administrative and strategic operations for the six academic health science institutions within the University of Texas System. ■



Raymond Greenberg

Generating Social DNA

Graduates of the Foege Fellowship Program inherit a passion for tackling the world's greatest health challenges

By Pam Auchmutey



The Foege Fellows during their 10th anniversary reunion, their first meeting as a group.

Ayman El Sheikh's impact on health changed dramatically after studying at Rollins. Before he enrolled, he worked as an electronics engineer with IBM and as an IT manager for Save the Children in Sudan. After graduating from the RSPH, El Sheikh returned to his homeland, where he helped the Carter Center set up a database to better track progress toward guinea worm eradication and secured a \$15.8 million grant from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria to strengthen the nation's TB program. He now works in Namibia to ensure that 300,000 schoolchildren are receiving proper nutrition through the United Nations World Food Program.

El Sheikh O5MPH is among the first students to benefit from the William H. Foege Fellowships in Global Health at Rollins. Now in its 10th year, the program has enabled 24 mid-career professionals from 22 countries to become more effective leaders in global health. For the first time this fall, 21 alumni and current fellows met at Rollins to share their successes and challenges during their 10th anniversary reunion. Deborah McFarland, director of the Foege Fellows Program, has mentored all of the fellows since the initiative began in 2003.

"You are the ones on the frontlines of public health,"

McFarland told the fellows. “We want you to use this meeting time to share the skills, philosophy, and values that drive the health decisions you make to enhance training for future generations of Foege Fellows.”

Her comments echoed the sentiments of Bill Foege, the smallpox eradication pioneer and former CDC director for whom the fellowships are named. A decade ago, Melinda Gates was instrumental in creating the Foege fellowships by providing an endowment through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, where Foege serves as a senior fellow. In 2012, the foundation provided another grant to increase the number of fellowships and sponsor a workshop.

“Through the centuries, there have always been shining lights—people who keep us on the right path in this complex world,” said Foege, Presidential Distinguished Professor Emeritus of International Health at Rollins. “It’s gratifying to see how you have changed lives and how people treat one another.”

Also attending the workshop were top leaders from the CDC, the Carter Center, the Task Force for Global Health, CARE USA, and Emory, which nominate fellows for the program each year.

“A lot of what happens in public health happens because of the passion of a few people,” said Patricia Simone, deputy director of the Center for Global Health at the CDC. “The Foege Fellows are part of that. You are changing the culture to address public health problems in a scientific way.”

As the fellows well know, improving health in underserved countries is not an easy road. Sadi Moussa 05MPH, who comes from Niger and now serves in Mali, has worked with 18 different ministers of health in 20 years. Herty Herjati 12MPH manages efforts to eliminate lymphatic filariasis and control helminthiasis in Indonesia, where people often resist



Shown with William Foege (clockwise, top left) are Mark Rosenberg of the Task Force for Global Health, John Hardman of the Carter Center, Helene Gayle of CARE USA, and Patricia Simone of the CDC. Their partner agencies nominate candidates for Foege fellowships each year.

taking prophylactic drugs when they have no visible symptoms of disease.

Martin Swaka 05MPH of South Sudan is pushing to rebuild an effective health system following years of civil war. In the process, he has learned the value of engaging government and nongovernmental partners in creating a strategic development plan to achieve common goals. Such a plan, Swaka said, “allows us to stay focused on the noble public health goal of reducing morbidity and mortality.”

Other workshop participants changed career paths after completing their fellowships. Rose Wanjala 11MPH, once a laboratory scientist in Kenya, now coordinates a multi-site study there to determine the economic and health benefits of sweet potatoes for mothers and young children. Gilbert Boredison 11MPH transitioned to the private sector to advocate for health and community development with the

largest mining company in Madagascar. He oversees a \$24 million investment in projects to improve health, education, and the livelihoods of people who live along the company’s pipeline route.

After graduating from Rollins, Senkham Boutdara 08MPH planned to resume his career with CARE in Lao PDR. He opted instead to become the senior policy officer with the Western Australia Department of Health, where he is the first senior-level person to address the health of Aborigines in the region.

Boutdara often uses what he learned at Rollins to guide the region’s 43,000 health system workers in implementation of the 2011 National Health Reform Agreement. A primary goal of the law is to close the gap in health disparities in partnership with Aboriginal leaders and communities.

“To improve health, we have to learn more about Aboriginal people and involve them in helping us make better policy decisions,” Boutdara said.

Building capacity

Adrina Mwansambo is a physician in Malawi, where the nation's first case of AIDS was confirmed in 1985. When her brother died of AIDS in 1998, the drugs that could save him were unavailable in their country.

"I couldn't save my brother's life, but at least I could do something to make drugs accessible to other people," Mwansambo said. In 2001, she joined the National AIDS Commission, a newly restructured government program to address the health and social aspects of HIV/AIDS in Malawi. During the past 10 years, the commission has increased dramatically the numbers of HIV testing sites, people on antiretroviral therapy (ART), and women in programs to prevent disease transmission from mother to child.

In the course of her work, Mwansambo has formed networks to achieve common goals. She returned to Rollins to build more by connecting with other Foege Fellows. "This is continuous capacity building for us," she said of the reunion.

Like Mwansambo, Victor Akelo 14MPH has lost family members to AIDS. In Kenya, Akelo was a coinvestigator on HPTN 052, the groundbreaking clinical study which showed that ART dramatically reduces HIV transmission in heterosexual couples. When the successful results of the still ongoing study were first announced in 2011, Akelo faced his own "baptism by fire" in explaining the results to media and others outside the scientific community.



Senkham Boutdara



Martin Swaka



Shahed Rahman



Adrina Mwansambo



Victor Akelo

THE DEBORAH A. MCFARLAND GLOBAL FIELD EXPERIENCE FUND

The Deborah A. McFarland Global Field Experience Fund has been established by the generosity of an anonymous donor to honor her lifelong commitment to global health education. Gifts to the fund will support global field experiences, enabling students to conduct summer research worldwide. The donor has pledged to match gifts made before December 31, 2013. Gifts to date include generous support from the Foege Fellows honoring their mentor.

To learn more or make a gift, please contact Kathryn Graves, associate dean for development and external relations, at 404-727-3352 or kgraves@emory.edu.

When he completes his MPH degree next year, he will be more versed in communicating science to others. "I've gained added value from my courses by learning to translate science in ways that policy-makers and villagers can understand," Akelo said.

New Foege Fellow Shahed Rahman 15MPH arrived at Rollins this fall in search of the same skills and more. Rahman, who serves as the national nutrition coordinator of maternal and child health for CARE Bangladesh, wants to expand his ability to work in a more systematic way.

"I want to learn how to better navigate and improve health systems," he said. "My dream is to influence people and policies and translate knowledge more effectively for mass populations to protect their health."

Next steps

At the end of the workshop, McFarland asked the fellows to suggest ways to strengthen the fellowship program. They offered numerous ideas: Continuing education through distance learning. Adding courses in management and leadership to the fellowship. Serving as mentors to incoming fellows. Launching a collaborative research project. Connecting more with mentors at the CDC and other agencies. Helping fellows re-enter the workforce. And more.

As alumni fellows prepared to return home and current fellows began their RSPH classes, they did so armed with the support and advice of leaders from their nominating agencies. Helene Gayle, president and CEO of CARE USA, encouraged the fellows to spread their "social DNA"—a term often used by Bill Foege—throughout the world.

"How do we use our experience to address poverty, malaria, or polio?" she asked. "Each of us has a responsibility to use what we know and take it to the next level. It's like a relay race—taking the baton and moving forward. I find hope and inspiration from being here with you." ■



IN THE COMMUNITY... Alek Shybut found his niche at the RSPH after serving with Teach for America in Seattle. He is preparing for Peace Corps service as a student in the Master's International program. Here he assists new students preparing to take part in RollinSteer Day, the school's annual day of community service.

LESSONS

IN PUBLIC HEALTH

BY PAM AUCHMUTEY

Hands-on learning prepares students for real-world challenges of the 21st century



... OR IN THE CLASSROOM

Whichever department they may choose, Rollins students learn skills and methods in the classroom to solve real-world problems. Many gain practical experience by working with practitioners and scientists at the CDC and other public health partners throughout Atlanta and the state of Georgia.

In Atlanta today,

the average monthly food bill for a family of four is \$754. That's \$86 more than the \$668 maximum monthly benefit a family of four receives for food stamps. Georgia now ranks sixth nationally in the number of food stamp recipients, up considerably from 15th place in 2007 before the economic recession occurred late that year.

Such statistics hit close to home, not only for Georgia families but also for public health practitioner Rachael Kane 13MPH, who manages a weekly farmer's market for the refugee, immigrant, and American-born families in Clarkston, Georgia, just a few miles east of Emory. Her student experiences in and outside of the classroom at Rollins qualified her for the role.

While taking a directed study course on food policy and security, Kane and other students limited themselves to

\$200 a month for food—the same amount allotted to an individual for food stamps. “You realize firsthand that cheap food is not good food,” says Kane, who received a 2013 Humanitarian Award from Emory last spring.

During her first year at Rollins, she applied for a position through the school's Emory Public Health Training Center and began working with the Clarkston Community Center, where she developed a food cooperative involving local churches and organizations. That led to a summer internship in Clarkston, where she partnered with Global Growers Network, a project that teaches refugee farmers how to grow and market vegetables and fruits that thrive in the Georgia climate, and Burundian women who tend a local farm in Decatur, Georgia, to grow produce to feed their families and sell locally. She continued working in the Clarkston community during her

second year of study, this time through the Rollins Earn and Learn program, which provides students with paid work experiences in public health.

This past summer, Kane and Katie Clifford, a second-year MPH student and president of the Rollins Student Government Association (RSGA), began to assess the Clarkston Community Center's food security initiatives and other local food sources. They used skills they learned at Rollins to develop a survey and collect and analyze data. “We want to know more about how effective the programs are in eradicating hunger and food insecurity,” says Kane. “We also want to find ways to bring more refugees and nonrefugees together to further strengthen the community in Clarkston.”

Working with communities and populations is the bedrock of public health education at Rollins. The school grew up next to the CDC, regarded by

many as *the* mecca for applied public health.

“Our founding fathers came from the CDC, state government, DeKalb County, and the city of Atlanta,” says Kathy Miner 79MPH, associate dean for applied public health. “It was instrumental to have this nexus of people and agencies come together. Along the way, we formed new relationships with the Carter Center, CARE International, the American

Cancer Society, and other partners who were attracted by what Emory and Atlanta had to offer.”

A curriculum evolution

In recent years, some U.S. schools of public health have examined their curricula to rethink how to better prepare students for public health practice in the 21st century. Older schools like those at Johns Hopkins, Harvard, and Columbia universities evolved in a different era of public health in the early 20th century. They followed a model set forth in the Welch-Rose Report of 1915, which recommended public health education for professionals trained in medicine and hygiene. When Emory established the School of Public Health in 1990, the MPH degree

had become the avenue to public health practice for professionals with baccalaureate degrees.

Since 2011, Rollins has had the highest number of MPH applicants in the nation and also ranked first in the number of MPH applicants in global health, epidemiology, and environmental health. What then makes the RSPH stand out?

Like other schools accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health, Rollins requires its students to take core courses in five areas: behavioral sciences, biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health, and health policy. Two years ago, the RSPH added a sixth core course developed by faculty in the Hubert Department of Global Health.

“The course has been a tremendous

addition,” says Carlos del Rio, Hubert Professor and department chair. “The most important thing is that students learn to speak the language of global health. Global health is not a discipline. It’s an approach. It’s a way of thinking about and working on problems. Teaching students to think that way is important in this globalized world we live in.”

“The new world of public health is about cooperation and collaboration,” he adds. “It requires us to think horizontally across disciplines to provide measurable outcomes to improve health.”

Whether students choose to major in global health or another core area, all have multiple opportunities to gain practical experience in and outside of the classroom. As students, faculty, and alumni attest, hands-on learning is Rollins’ forte.

“You can learn about public health anywhere,” says Kristin Unzicker 02MPH, director of leadership and community engaged learning. “But if you want to *do* public health, you come to Rollins.”

Worlds of experience

After graduating from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Alek Shybut 14MPH did marketing for a small community bank and quickly learned the business world wasn’t for him. “I wanted to do something more service-based and look for a way to open up my soul,” he says.

His realization led him to Seattle, where he served two years with AmeriCorps as a counselor to middle school students. The experience immersed him in community service and piqued his interest in mental health and health education. While in Seattle, Shybut applied to the Peace Corps, following in the footsteps of his father, a former Peace Corps volunteer in Malaysia. He also applied to the RSPH Master’s International program, which prepares students for Peace Corps service.

Now a second-year student at Rollins and vice president of the RSGA, Shybut



“We want to know more about how effective the programs are in eradicating hunger and food insecurity”

—RACHAEL KANE 13MPH



More than 70 students conduct research in other countries each summer through the Global Field Experience program. Left: This year, Paula Strassle conducted a study on water quality and sanitation practices in Malawi. Below: Tori Cowger led the epidemiological investigation of a small outbreak of typhoid fever in American Samoa. Both of their projects helped address health issues that affect young children.



has spent numerous hours learning and working in the community. Last year, he volunteered with the Center for Pan Asian Community Services to tutor elementary school students in English. His students lived in a motel apartment complex in Clarkston. He also secured a field placement through the Emory Public Health Training Center to coordinate the Community Health Ambassador (CHA) program at Good Samaritan Health Center in West Atlanta. Founded by former Rollins student Julie Straw 12MPH, the CHA program helps teens learn to recognize and address health issues among their peers.

This past summer, Shybut completed a practicum in Orange County, California, at Grandma’s House of Hope, which provides services for youth and homeless women. His practical experiences and his coursework have proved invaluable. “I need that combination of classroom training and community interaction,” Shybut says. “It allows me to see the faces of those I am serving.”

Lessons in the field

Epidemiology major Tori Cowger 14MPH didn’t plan to make headlines

during her summer practicum in American Samoa. When the island experienced a small outbreak of typhoid fever, Cowger led the epidemiology investigation since the main surveillance officer was off-island at a conference. At the time, the outbreak was limited to three cases, and island health officials urged residents to take precautions in consuming food and water to prevent more cases of the disease, especially among young children.

“It felt like I was living a real-life case study like in EPI 540,” wrote Cowger in an email to her adviser, epidemiology professor John McGowan, from American Samoa. “We even made news in the local newspaper.”

Cowger is one of the many Rollins students who conduct research in other countries each summer through the Global Field Experience (GFE) program. Supported by three endowments—the Eugene J. Gangarosa Scholarship Fund, the Anne E. and William A. Foege Global Health Fund, and the O.C. Hubert Fellowships in International Health—the GFE program enables students to plan, develop, and implement research projects by working with health partners in different cultures and

resource settings. These experiences often form the basis of students’ MPH thesis or capstone project. They can also be life changing.

Upon graduating from Rollins, Lisa Ferland 07MPH served with the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists in Atlanta as a senior research analyst for surveillance and informatics. She now lives in Stockholm, Sweden, where she works as a public health consultant with Atlanta-based Public Health Practice LLC. She also collaborates on projects with the WHO, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, the CDC, and the African Field Epidemiology Network.

For her GFE project at Rollins, Ferland conducted a case control study of dengue fever in Brunei, located on the island of Borneo in Southeast Asia, and made recommendations for prevention and health education to the Ministry of Health. She collaborated with health workers in a remote jungle district, without the benefit of computers and Internet access and where health workers completed questionnaires verbally since most interviewees could not read.

“My experience in Brunei not only shaped the course of my public health

career, but also taught me a lot about myself as a person,” says Ferland. “Being isolated in a new country, surrounded by a foreign culture and language was instrumental in discovering myself as well as making a scientific impact in the community for future disease prevention and control.”

Students as stakeholders

Each year, students, faculty, alumni, and Atlanta-area policy-makers and practitioners attend a series of lectures known as the “Mental Health Concentration.” Two years ago, the concentration evolved into a certificate program that was “driven by what students want and need in addition to their traditional academic program,” says Benjamin Druss, health policy professor and Rosalynn Carter Chair of Mental Health.

Last year, Rollins students formed the complementary Emory Mental Health Initiative (EMHI) to foster networking and professionalism within the field of mental health. Among its goals, EMHI promotes volunteer and service

opportunities in the community, such as the National Alliance on Mental Health walk held last October at Turner Field and a local art show featuring works by people with mental illness during National Public Health Week last May. Such events call attention to “issues in mental health related to policy, global health, current events, and other areas of student interest,” says EMHI cofounder Danielle Kuykendall *ITN 13MPH*. “We want to foster a community engaged in the mental health public health field.”

Before graduating from Rollins in May, Kuykendall worked on the Health Access and Recovery Peer Project, a research study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. The project was designed to empower low-income and homeless people in Atlanta to self-manage their mental illness and chronic conditions. For her thesis, Kuykendall examined the association of stigma and depression in caregivers of children with cystic fibrosis, and, in the process, learned the value of building strong partnerships.

“I found it is important to build rapport with participants, collaborators, and stakeholders to avoid obstacles and have a successful project or research study,” says Kuykendall, now a study coordinator at the Brain Institute at the University of Utah.

Working collaboratively also was vital to Rhonda Tankersley *ITCMPH* in her efforts to build public health capacity for nutrition in Georgia. As a student in the Career Master of Public Health (CMPH) program, Rollins’ distance learning initiative for working professionals, she learned methods to improve diet and nutrition services in her state health district in Northwest Georgia. In 2012, she was named director of the Dietetic Internship Program in the Georgia Department of Public Health. The program places interns in clinical and community settings and prepares them for certification as registered dietitians.

To make the program curriculum more effective, Tankersley partnered with Dawn Comeau, assistant professor of behavioral sciences and health



Above: Rollins alumna Rhonda Tankersley leads the Dietetic Internship Program for the Georgia Department of Public Health. Left: Tankersley works with Dawn Comeau, assistant professor of behavioral sciences and health education, who is teaching the interns how to conduct a community needs assessment using a curriculum developed by a Rollins student.



education, through the Emory Public Health Training Center at Rollins. Last spring, Comeau taught 10 dietetic interns how to conduct a community needs assessment (CNA), a skill she also teaches to students at Rollins. This fall, Tankersley and Comeau are using a CNA curriculum developed by Lauren Bishop 13MPH, one of Comeau's students. The new curriculum will help dietetic interns make valid decisions about population health.

"To implement a program that's meaningful and valuable, you can't make assumptions," says Tankersley. "You have to assess the needs of the community and determine what's feasible based on funding and time."

When Tankersley and other students graduate from Rollins, they are well prepared for the workforce. According to the RSPH Office of Career Services, 86% of students found jobs 11 months

after graduating in 2012. This past May, Carrie Oliver 13MPH joined the workforce as special projects coordinator with the nonprofit Southwest Georgia Area Health Education Center (AHEC) in Albany, Georgia, where she interned last spring. The six staff members with AHEC provide training opportunities for high school and college health professions students to build the health care workforce in the rural 38-county region.

During the summer, Oliver supervised two interns from Rollins and helped with planning and logistics for an annual program that provides primary care services for seasonal farm workers and their families. Among her projects, she is developing a Rural Health Scholars Program for high school and college students interested in health careers. She also worked with a Rollins intern to prepare a white paper on workforce

While at Rollins, Carrie Oliver taught Atlanta high school students about the signs of mental illness. She joined the workforce this year as special projects coordinator with the Southwest Georgia Area Health Education Center in Albany.

shortages in mental and behavioral health professionals in South Georgia. The report is part of a five-year plan by AHEC to reduce the shortage.

In Pam Reynolds' view, Oliver brings a wealth of public health skills to the agency: organization, creativity, analytical thinking, an ability to work independently and collaboratively, knowledge about public health and the health industry, and a passion for being an agent of change.

"Carrie is a real asset to South Georgia," says Reynolds 72MN, executive director of the Southwest Georgia AHEC. "Over time, she is going to make some real inroads in helping address health issues in our region." ■



Students past and present attended the last lecture given by Stan Foster last spring.

EPIDEMIOLOGIST WITHOUT BORDERS

**AS *STAN FOSTER* RETIRES FROM FULL-TIME PROFESSORSHIP,
THE IMPACT OF THIS SMALLPOX ERADICATION PIONEER AND
GLOBAL HEALTH TEACHER EXTRAORDINAIRE GOES ON AND ON**

BY RHONDA MULLEN



NEVER ONE TO

shy away from a fashion statement, Stan Foster 82MPH swept into the Rollins Auditorium wearing a golden cap and ceremonial African robe shot through with gold threads worthy of the occasion. The global health professor worked his way through the room, shaking hands with the many friends who gathered at Rollins in April for his last lecture, marking his retirement at age 80. Here were many of the giants of public health with whom Foster had worked on smallpox eradication in Nigeria, Bangladesh, and Somalia, along with students, past and present, whom he had inspired.

On the front row was Dorothy “Dottie” Foster, Stan’s wife and collaborator of 57 years. Theirs has been a life of service, answering needs in communities in partnership with others. Their commitment was obvious as Foster took his audience on a PowerPoint tour of his 50-year career in public health. But those who heard his last lecture already knew that his impact reached far beyond the borders of the school.

LAGOS, NIGERIA, 1966-1970

When Foster was finishing a residency in pulmonary diseases at the University of California, San Francisco, a call came from the CDC. Would Foster like to go to Africa and get rid of smallpox? And could he decide by tomorrow?

Foster had joined the Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) at the CDC in 1962 and completed a two-year assignment that took him to Arizona to work with the Indian Health Service on trachoma, which affected 25% of schoolchildren. He investigated other infectious diseases, including a severe outbreak of diarrhea affecting all age groups in the Truk Islands in the South Pacific. Twelve years later, the Truk epidemic was identified as rotavirus.

The Nigeria assignment was tailor-made for Foster. By 1966, the smallpox burden had reached 20 million cases and 3 million deaths worldwide. But hope grew, thanks to an increased supply of a new freeze-dried heat stable vaccine, the introduction of bifurcated needles, and use of jet injectors. On one memorable day, Foster and his

colleagues vaccinated 14,000 people who queued in four lines. Surveillance and containment replaced mass vaccination as the African and global smallpox eradication strategy.

As the USAID CDC team leader for smallpox eradication and measles control in Nigeria, Foster was often out in the field, where 65 Nigerian teams supported by eight CDC colleagues were hard at work. The Foster home in Lagos served as a respite for exhausted team members.

“Our lives were smallpox,” remembers Dottie Foster. “Every single meal, we talked smallpox. We even had smallpox scabs in the refrigerator, waiting to be transferred back to the CDC.”

They also immersed themselves in the fabric of their community. “Dad always has believed in the power of individuals and wanted us to be connected with the community,” says his son, Andrew, now director of the Population Studies and Training Center at Brown University.

Dottie, for example, jumped in to help a local midwife support a displaced community. She managed to find a local supplier for powdered milk for the children, convince a local chief to donate land for a nursery school, apply for a grant from USAID for building materials, and recruit young people from Crossroads Africa (a forerunner of the Peace Corps) to build the school.

Along with successes came some scary moments. A late-night phone call from the wife of a Nigerian health official brought Stan quickly to her husband’s aid. He found his friend bleeding profusely from a machete cut across the neck, and although he tried to save him, the injury was too severe.

The next day, armed policemen showed up at the Foster house to arrest Stan for the murder. Six hours of a terrifying standoff passed before the American Embassy was able to intervene. For several years, Foster was *persona non grata* in Nigeria.

DHAKA, BANGLADESH, 1972-1976

His next assignment to Bangladesh brought a new set of challenges. Civil war had destroyed the nation’s infrastructure. Only 10% of 80,000 smallpox cases were reported in 1972. Hindus and Muslims believed that the pox was sacred. Gradually, the smallpox team of Bangladeshi and WHO staff expanded, though they faced increased transmission during the dry and wet seasons.

Political unrest challenged program operations. When

fighting broke out in the Fosters’ neighborhood, Dottie gathered their children to “play house” in a closet to keep them safe and unafraid.

Among those dispatched by the CDC for



LEARN MORE

To watch a video tribute to Stan Foster, visit bit.ly/foster-video.
To watch his last lecture, visit bit.ly/foster-lecture.



Emmanuel Smith, chief of the Nigerian Smallpox Eradication Program, and Stan Foster were close partners in preventing smallpox and measles. They are shown here with their families in 1968.

field work in Bangladesh was Jeffrey Koplan, who lived with the Fosters for three months. (Koplan served as director of the CDC from 1998 to 2002 and today is vice president of global health at Emory.) He learned Bengali with Dottie Foster at the kitchen table, and from Stan Foster, he gained the practical skills that he would use the rest of his life.

Koplan also saw firsthand how to lead. “Stan Foster has zero ego and is selfless in what he does,” he says.

Within two years, the eradication team had reduced the number of infected villages to 89. Foster predicted eradication by the end of 1974, but then came the worst floods in Bangladeshi history. By the next spring, smallpox had infected 1,410 villages.

As used in India, Foster introduced a reward for reporting a new smallpox case. Six months later, only 35% of the public knew about the reward. Only then did his team discover their mistake. Health

workers were keeping the reward quiet to keep the public from claiming the money. Foster had a fix for that: he doubled the reward to pay both the health worker and the public. Within five months, 80% of 60 million Bangladeshis knew about the reward. That, coupled with eradication teams who searched 1,200 houses every six days, turned back transmission of the disease.

On November 14, 1975, WHO announced the eradication of variola major, the severe form of smallpox. But then came the report of another case. Three-year-old Rahima Banu, found under a burlap sack and covered with painful pox, was vaccinated in 1975. Hers marked the last case of variola major in the world, and luckily she survived.

ATLANTA, 1994-2013

Stan Foster entered the MPH program at Emory in 1976, but it took him six years to finish his degree. He kept getting called back to the Middle East and to Africa, where he led CDC efforts to combat childhood communicable diseases in 13 countries.

In 1994, Foster returned to the RSPH to put down roots as a faculty member. He since has shared three decades of field experience with students, whom he prefers to call “learners.”

His classes have been popular. He regularly showed up dressed in character to deliver a lecture. His stories are legend. But behind those entertaining stories were valuable lessons.

“Stan’s stories get people thinking,” says Aisha Stewart 13MPH. Like dozens of other students, Stewart decided to attend the RSPH because of Foster’s recruiting. When she attended Visit Emory, the annual spring event for prospective students, he took out an index card from a stack that he had made that contained excerpts from her CV and personal statement. “I was astonished at the personal attention,” Stewart says. “I didn’t find that anywhere else, so I decided to come to Rollins.”

THE STAN AND DOTTIE FOSTER FUND

The Fosters have created the Stan and Dottie Foster Fund for learners who are engaged in global field experiences. Please join the Fosters in helping students conduct research and gain practical experience in communities around the world.

For more information, please contact Kathleen Presswala at 404-712-8687 or kathleen.presswala@emory.edu. To make a gift to the Foster Fund, visit bit.ly/give-rollins.



Left: Stan Foster has influenced the lives of countless students, whom he prefers to call “learners,” during his 20-year career at Rollins. Below left: Dottie Foster has been his wife and collaborator for 57 years. One of their collaborations has spawned more than 300 microfinance projects for women in Guatemala. They are shown here at Rollins last fall, when Stan received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the RSPH Alumni Association.



SAUTEE, GEORGIA, THE PRESENT

Among those lined up to make a comment at the end of Foster’s last lecture was the man who sat beside him on the first day of their EIS class in 1962. William Foege, who would go on to lead the worldwide smallpox eradication campaign, knows the Fosters well. “Stan and Dottie epitomize the phrase from the book *Cutting for Stone*,” Foege said. “Home is not where you are from. It is where you are needed.”

Home these days for the Fosters is a cabin in Sautee, Georgia, that overlooks a portion of the Appalachian Trail. Their presence here continues to draw public health stewards, colleagues, students, and fellows from around the world to enjoy the Foster hospitality.

Just weeks after retiring from the RSPH, Stan and Dottie returned to the Guatemalan village where she was born, as they have done for dozens of years, to conduct training and workshops with the native Mam women. The collaboration has spawned more than 300 microfinance projects.

The Fosters’ impact has been far and wide, says Jean Roy, whom Stan mentored at CDC. “He’s a giant in public health. I believe that along with D.A. Henderson and Bill Foege, he’s one of the top three epidemiologists ever.”

One of the biggest measures of Foster’s career is that smallpox is eradicated from the earth. And there are Foster’s learners, many of whom stay in regular touch. As Rebecca Vander Meulen O3MPH writes from Mozambique, “Stan helps people dream about what could be, and challenges them to make it happen.” ■

Given his stories, openness, and availability, Foster became a favorite teacher, receiving the Public Health Professor of the Year award from the RSPH in 1996 and the Emory Williams Teaching Award from the university in 2010.

Of the courses that he has taught, Foster’s favorite is “Strategies,” which the students dubbed “Tragedies.” The class worked in small groups, each led by a teaching assistant, to take on a different health issue in Ethiopia drawn from 10 data sets. On topics ranging from family planning to sanitation, each learner developed a plan and

budget to address the challenge.

Another hallmark Foster class is “Community Transformations,” which he will continue to coteach for learners from Emory and the refugee community in Clarkston, Georgia. The goal of the course—to strengthen communities to identify and solve their own problems—emphasizes Foster’s trademark style of working in partnership with communities.

“He hates the idea of top down,” says Micah Hahn O8MPH, who participated in the class. “He taught us that we are not here to tell anyone what to do.”



The Rollins family recently celebrated the appointment of Viola Vaccarino as the Wilton Looney Chair of Cardiovascular Research. Pictured are Amy Rollins Kreisler (left), Pam Rollins, Gary Rollins, Vaccarino, Looney, RSPH Dean James Curran, and Randall Rollins.

Rollins family creates Wilton Looney chair to advance cardiovascular research

As Viola Vaccarino well knows, getting closer to the truth about cardiovascular disease takes funding for research. Earlier this year, Vaccarino was appointed as the Wilton Looney Chair of Cardiovascular Research to advance her work. Her new chair is funded by a \$2 million gift from the Rollins family to honor Looney for his efforts to advance the study of cardiovascular disease.

Looney serves as the honorary chair of Genuine Parts Company and as a board director of Rollins Inc. He was a guiding force in the establishment of the Carlyle Fraser Heart Center in 1976 at what is now Emory University Hospital Midtown. Fraser founded the Genuine Parts Company, and Looney succeeded him as CEO.

The gift for the Looney chair is the most recent expression of the Rollins family's investment in the school that bears their name. In 2007, the family pledged the lead gift for the new Claudia Nance Rollins Building, which more

than doubled the physical size of the school.

"This recognition by the Rollins family will allow me to continue and expand my research and teaching activities in cardiovascular epidemiology and prevention," says Vaccarino, who is also chair of the Department of Epidemiology. "Their generous endowment motivates me and my students to continue striving toward advancing knowledge for better cardiovascular health."

In a recent study led by Vaccarino, researchers aimed to clarify the relationship between post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and coronary heart disease among middle-aged male twins who served in the Vietnam War.

The NIH-funded study of 562 twin brothers (281 pairs) looked at whether those with PTSD had a higher occurrence of heart disease.

Researchers indeed found that veterans with PTSD were more than twice as likely as those without the disorder to develop heart

disease. The incidence of heart disease among veterans with PTSD was 23% and without PTSD was 9%, even after accounting for smoking, drinking, and obesity as risk factors.

The study helped solidify the correlation between PTSD and heart disease, Vaccarino says, because researchers also used cardiac imaging techniques to assess heart disease even in the absence of clinical history. Past studies have relied on self-reporting.

"There were suggestions that this link may be true, but it was not clear," she says. "In addition to using objective measures of heart disease, the use of twins allows us to come closer to the truth because we were able to control for the influences of genetic and early environmental factors."

Leonard Zaffarano and his twin brother Frank were among those who took part in the study. "We both suffer from hypertension and a lack of ability to sleep," says Leonard. "We volunteered [for the study] because we want [researchers] to find cures for other soldiers suffering from the same thing." —*Kay Torrance*

A Gift for Teaching

Kleinbaum perpetuates innovation in the classroom and beyond

For as long as he can remember, David Kleinbaum has been teaching. “Even as a kid, I stepped into that role of explaining things to people,” he says. He taught his friends—and his mother—card games such as Hearts and chess. His mother told him he had a knack for teaching, planting the seed that blossomed into a lifelong passion.

A professor of epidemiology at Rollins since 1993 and a faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for 23 years, Kleinbaum is the author of five foundational textbooks in epidemiology and biostatistical methods. He is renowned for his innovative approaches in the classroom and in writing. In 2005, he was the first to receive the Association of Schools of Public Health/Pfizer Award for Teaching Excellence, one of his many honors for teaching.

Kleinbaum is perpetuating teaching innovation by making a gift to provide salary support for faculty who teach advanced epidemiological methods at Rollins. Though he earned his PhD in mathematical statistics, Kleinbaum became an epidemiologist to do work grounded in the real world. “I wanted to use statistics to help people, which is what the public health field is all about,” he says.

The final exam for Kleinbaum’s epidemiological modeling course reflects this focus. In the take-home component, students must analyze and write up a realistic data set. Working in teams—as they will in their careers—students gain practical experience in analyzing a data set in depth.

In Kleinbaum’s advanced graduate course on the analysis of correlative data—multiple measurements over time on each of several study subjects—teams of up to four students create their own semester-long projects, locating a research data set and developing a core question. They analyze the data, answer their question, and write and present the results. Students have taken on HIV, cancer, and other diseases and published their reports in scientific journals.

“A project like this gives them the opportunity to figure out how to perform complicated data analyses,” says Kleinbaum. “The key to teaching is to speak as if you are explaining an idea directly to a single person.”

This approach—presenting information as clearly as possible—also shapes how he writes and designs his textbooks. For *Logistic Regression: A Self-Learning Text*, first published in 1994, he created a textbook format that anticipated PowerPoint. Each page of the book presents two columns: While one column reads like a lecture, the other presents mathematical “slides” that illustrate and explain the lecture. Now



David Kleinbaum is making a gift to support teaching at Rollins. His gift will support a faculty member who, like himself, teaches advanced epidemiological methods.

Philanthropy

in its third edition, the textbook was translated into Japanese last year. Chinese and Korean translations are in the works.

Kleinbaum distilled nearly 50 years of teaching expertise into *ActivEpi*, an interactive introductory epidemiology textbook on CD-ROM. *ActivEpi* was translated into Spanish this year, and Kleinbaum gave free distribution rights for the Spanish CD-ROM and companion textbook to the Pan American Health Organization, which plans to use them to teach epidemiological methods throughout Latin America.

“The best reward for teaching,” he says, “is communicating with people and teaching them how to do a good job.”—Yael D Sherman o8PhD

THE DAVID G. KLEINBAUM FUND

An exemplary teacher, David Kleinbaum has created a fund to perpetuate innovative instruction in advanced epidemiology. To learn more or make a gift, please contact Kathryn Graves, associate dean for development and external relations, at 404-727-3352 or kgraves@emory.edu.

A Fine Education

Scholarship targets student committed to public service

Education and service have been the fabric of Virginia Bales Harris's family for as long as she can remember. Her mother taught elementary school, and her father was a World War II veteran and

career officer in the U.S. Air Force. Their beliefs guided their careers and how they cared for family, friends, and community.

Harris 71C 77MPH attributes her own success as an Emory graduate and CDC leader to the values held by her parents. While she and her brother were growing up, they learned about the world around them by visiting museums, churches, and historic sites where her father was stationed in the United States and Europe. When the family relocated to the suburbs of Washington, D.C., her parents bought a house sight unseen so their children could attend top-rated schools.

"That was how they made decisions," Harris says. "They wanted what was best for us."

David Sencer, who was director of the CDC when Harris first joined the agency, also knew what was best for her when he tapped her to enroll in Emory's new community health program—the forerunner of



Rollins' MPH program. Her degree formed the foundation of her 35-year career at the CDC, where she led programs focused on chronic disease prevention and oversaw the CDC Master Plan, a massive construction program.

Throughout her career, Harris held many volunteer leadership positions at Rollins, most recently as alumni chair of Campaign Emory. In 2012, the Emory Alumni Association honored Harris with the J. Pollard Turman Alumni Service Award, which included a \$25,000 grant from the Tull Charitable Foundation. She matched the grant to create an endowment fund for scholarships at Rollins.

Since then, Harris has considered making a bequest to create a scholarship named for her



Virginia Bales Harris (above left) and her brother learned much from their parents, Virginia Bunch Shankle, a school teacher, and Willard Mayes Shankle, a career Air Force officer. Harris is creating a scholarship named for her parents, a decision backed by her husband, Dick (shown left with Harris), and her son, Chip.

parents. Her son, Chip, and her husband, Dick, encouraged her not to wait. "Chip told me, 'Do it now while you can enjoy it,'" Harris says.

Thus she made an additional gift to establish the Virginia Bunch Shankle and Willard Mayes Shankle Scholarship, which will target an outstanding student planning a career in public service.

"My parents made enormous sacrifices so that I could have the benefits of a fine university education," says Harris. "Creating this scholarship is a tribute to my parents by paying it forward so that other aspiring young people can enjoy the same benefits."—*Pam Auchmutey*

THE VIRGINIA BUNCH SHANKLE AND WILLARD MAYES SHANKLE SCHOLARSHIP

Increasing scholarship support is a high priority at Rollins. Please join Virginia Bales Harris in helping reach this goal by making a gift to the Shankle Scholarship. To learn more, contact Michelle James, director of alumni and constituent relations, at 404-727-4740 or mjames4@emory.edu.

Network of Success

Porter cultivates ties between alumni and students as board president

Kaitlin Porter '08 MPH is a go-to expert on Rollins for students and alumni. She plans to cultivate those connections further as the new president of the RSPH Alumni Association Board.

“Rollins made a huge impact on my life. It gave me the tools and the opportunities to flourish and sharpen my leadership skills,” says Porter, a senior consultant with Deloitte and Touche LLP in Atlanta. “I want every student and alumnus to have the same experience—to take advantage of everything that Rollins has to offer them.”

Porter began building networks as a global health major and student leader at Rollins. As the social chair of the Student Government Association, she worked with the Office of Admission and Student Affairs to cofound the Rollins Student Ambassadors, a group of 50-plus members who work to increase school visibility, promote the public health field, and recruit students. She also wrote a blog called “Ask Porter” so that incoming students could ask questions about classes, internships, and life in Atlanta. Since graduating, she has guided and stayed in touch with students through the mentoring program in Rollins’ Office of Career Services.

At Deloitte, Porter addresses complex global health management issues in collaboration with the Division of Global HIV/AIDS at the CDC. “Our focus has been on helping our clients refine processes and systems to afford better monitoring and evaluation of HIV programs and research sponsored by the CDC across the world,” she says. Porter also provides publication support and training for CDC field office staff. In this role, she has conducted training in Botswana, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Thailand, and Vietnam, resulting in improved program performance and knowledge management.

Porter’s education and service at Rollins have shaped her career path at Deloitte. “My training in global health policy and management provided me with a solid foundation to support global health programs,” she says. “I now have the vernacular and the lens through which I can better understand my clients’ needs.” She is keenly aware of the ubiquitous presence of Rollins. “Every time I visit a field office, I run into Rollins alumni—our global presence as an alumni network is astounding.”



Kaitlin Porter

RSPH has one of the most active alumni boards at Emory, and board members are deeply invested in the success of students, faculty, and alumni. “We now have more than 7,200 alumni living in 109 countries, including the United States,” says Porter. “As our alumni network continues to grow, it is critical that we keep these alumni engaged to each other and the school. When you feel connected to something, you are more likely to give your time, energy, and resources.”

Porter joined the RSPH Alumni Board in 2010 and helped create the Rollins alumni Facebook page, which now has close to 800 fans. Last year, she chaired the alumni board Admissions Committee to help connect alumni to prospective students. She also copiloted the “Rollins at Work” program to engage alumni at their workplace, strengthen their connection with the RSPH, and provide a setting to network with other alumni.

As board president, she plans to focus on programming in other key cities such as New York, Washington, D.C., and San Francisco. Says Porter, “It’s important for alumni who leave Atlanta to know they have a local network to connect with around public health opportunities.”—*Sally Wolff King '79G '83PhD*



Shyam Reddy 96C 97MPH



Heather Marlow 05MPH



Dan Karen 98L and Elizabeth Levy 06MPH



Inuka Midha 06MPH

1980s

SUZANNE CHUNGAON HUGHES 87MPH is a research investigator and associate director of the Center for Behavioral Epidemiology and Community Health at San Diego State University.

1990s

JULIE BETH FRIEDMAN 91MPH is associate director of project and life cycle management at Medivation in San Francisco.

BORN: To **DR. CHANDA NICOLE HOLSEY 96MPH** and her husband, Eric, a daughter, Erin Morgan, on Feb. 22, 2013, at the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla.

SHYAMSUNDAR (SHYAM) K. REDDY 96C 97MPH is senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary at Euramax International Inc. in Norcross, Ga.

DR. JONATHAN MERMIN 98MPH is director of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB

Prevention at the CDC. With the CDC since 1995, Mermin was named country director for Kenya in 2006. He returned to Atlanta in 2009 to lead the CDC's domestic HIV prevention activities.

NAHAD SADR-AZODI 99MPH is a public health adviser at the CDC.

2000s

DR. JEAN O'CONNOR 98C 01L/MPH was elected to the board of directors of Public Health Foundation Enterprises.

JENNIFER S. GREENWALD 02MPH is a senior manager of business operations in intramural research at the American Cancer Society in Atlanta.

MARCY GOLDSTONE OPSTAL 01C 02MPH and her husband, Dan 01C, live in the Washington, D.C., area with their two children, Juliana and Alexander. Marcy works for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

WHITNEY PYLES ADAMS 03MPH is a senior business

development specialist for global health at CARE USA.

DR. KAREN SCHROEDER CARD 92OX 94C 03MPH is an epidemiologist with the Tuberculosis Control Program in the Florida Department of Health.

JILL EDEN CLARK 03MPH is assistant director of family planning at the Massachusetts State Department of Health in Boston.

ROBYN KAY 03MPH is a clinical epidemiologist at Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville, Fla.

MELISSA S. CREARY 00C 04MPH, a doctoral candidate in the Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts at Emory, was awarded a 2013-2014 Boren Fellowship for up to a year of study in Brazil to further her research on sickle cell disease.

DR. HEATHER M. MARLOW 05MPH is a senior associate of research and evaluation at Ipas. She holds a PhD in maternal and child health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

LARA HENDY QUINLIVAN 05MPH works at Planned Parenthood Health Systems in Winston-Salem, N.C.

AARATI N. RAO 05MPH is a clinical pharmacist at Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake City, Utah.

JENNIFER E. ROBERTSON 05MPH is an epidemiologist at the Salt Lake Valley Health Department.

DR. LEISA M. ROSSELLO 05MPH is practicing emergency medicine at Portsmouth Naval Hospital in Virginia.

MARRIED: **ELIZABETH LEVY 06MPH** and Dan Karen 98L, on Nov. 10, 2012, in Savannah, Ga. Liz works in medical education for Given Imaging, and Dan is executive director of the National Tax Program at Ernst & Young. They live in Atlanta.

INUKA MIDHA 06MPH received the 2013 Open Society Award from the Society for Public Health Education at its 64th annual meeting in Orlando, Fla.



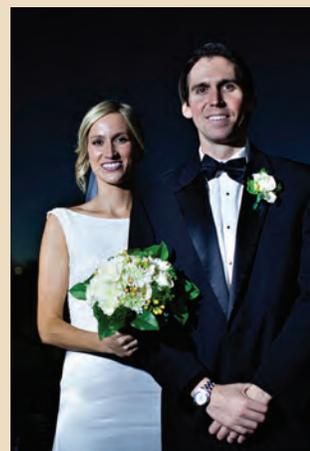
Rachel Tyree 06MPH



Marie Manteuffel 08MPH



Babatunde Balogun 09MPH



Laura McAllister 09MPH and Andrew Hollod

MELODY MOEZZI 06L/MPH published *Haldol and Hyacinths: A Bipolar Life* (August 2013). Her memoir chronicles her battle with mental illness using the healing power of hope and humor.

RACHEL A. TYREE 06MPH was promoted to communications director for the Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health.

REBECCA L. MORGAN 05C 07MPH is a health scientist with the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention at the CDC.

DR. MARIE G. MANTEUFFEL 08MPH is a lieutenant in the U.S. Public Health Service. She is serving as a pharmacist on assignment in the Division of Part D Policy at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in Baltimore, Md.

BABATUNDE O. BALOGUN 09MPH is a budget analyst in research and development with the VA Boston Healthcare System.

JESSICA D. HARRIS 09MPH is a development specialist with the Atlanta nonprofit Year Up.

LAUREN M. HILL 09MPH works at Planned Parenthood in Pasadena, Calif.

MARRIED: LAURA MCALLISTER 09MPH and Andrew Hollod on Nov. 10, 2012. Laura is an epidemiologist at the New York City Department of Public Health, and Andrew is a financial associate with the TZP Group in New York City.

MICHELLE D. PUTNAM 09MPH is the associate director of research and advocacy at Hemophilia of Georgia.

MEGAN WALL 09MPH is an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer with the California Department of Public Health.

NICOLE M. KOSACZ 10MPH is an epidemiologist in the Maternal and Child Health Program at the Georgia Department of Public Health.

MEGHAN K. MILLER 10MPH is a health volunteer with the Peace Corps.

TOSHIKO DIGNAM 11MPH works at Planned Parenthood Rocky Mountain in Denver, Colo.

TED S. GANSLER 11MPH is director of medical content at the American Cancer Society.

JAMES D. GOOCH 11MPH is coordinator for the Collegiate Leaders in Environmental Health Internship Program with the National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. He previously was an emergency responder with the EPA.

DR. MATTHEW E. OSTER 10MR 11MPH received an *Atlanta Business Chronicle* 2013 Health Care Hero Award in the innovation category. He won for creation of the Pulse Ox Tool, a free website and smartphone app to better interpret the results of Pulse Oximetry Screening, used to detect critical congenital cardiac defects in newborns. Oster is a pediatric cardiologist with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

ANDREA L. STOKFISZ 11MPH is a health educator

at the DeKalb County Board of Health.

DR. CYNTHIA JEMENSO YOHANNA 11MPH is a state technical adviser with Save the Children USA in Georgia.

RUTH W. DAWSON 12L/MPH is a Reproductive Justice Fellow at the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California in Los Angeles.

ANNA NEWTON-LEVINSON 12MPH is a Sexual Health Fellow at the CDC.

PRIYANKA PATHAK 12MPH is a health scientist in the Office of Policy, Planning, and Evaluation in the National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

CHARLOTTE SIBLEY PERLOWSKI 12MPH is a research assistant in the Global Health, Population, and Nutrition Science Facilitation Department with the nonprofit FHI 360 in Durham, N.C.

CATHERINE PLUMLEE 12MPH is a project manager



Alvin Tran 12MPH



Brestor Bardales and Johanna Chapin 13MPH



Sheena Simmons 13MPH and family



Aisha Stewart 13MPH

at Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition in Omaha, Neb.

KRISTEN BELL SANDERSON 12MPH is a program coordinator for Safe Kids Georgia with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

TU MY TO 12MPH is an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer with the California Department of Public Health.

ALVIN TRAN 12MPH completed a fellowship in health policy reporting for *Kaiser Health News*. His stories appeared in *The Washington Post* and aired on NPR and the PBS NewsHour. This fall, he began doctoral studies in nutrition and social/behavioral sciences at Harvard School of Public Health.

DR. FAWAZ S. ALRASHEEDI 13MPH is a public health specialist with the Ministry of Health in Buriadah, Saudi Arabia.

KARI A. BANNON 13MPH is a corps member with Teach for America.

KIRSTEN S. BONDALAPATI 13MPH is an intern at Truven

Health Analytics in Ann Arbor, Mich.

JACQUELINE YOI YAN CHAN 13MPH is a communicable disease investigator with the San Mateo County Public Health Department in California.

MARRIED: JOHANNA R. CHAPIN 13MPH and Brestor Bardales on May 25, 2013, in Atlanta. They live in Decatur, Ga.

DR. KIERSTEN S. DERBY 13M/MPH is a pediatric resident at the University of Washington.

DR. DAIICHI MORII 13MPH is an associate professor at Osaka University Hospital in Osaka, Japan.

MARISSA K. PERSON 13MPH is a statistician at the CDC.

LUKE A. PUTNAM 13MPH is an administrative intern at the Palmetto Health Council in Palmetto, Ga.

SHWETA M. SHAH 13MPH is a VA National Quality Scholars Fellowship Fellow at the White River Junction VA Medical Center in White River Junction, Vt.

BORN: To **SHEENA SIMMONS 13MPH** and her husband, Rashad, a son, Daniel, on Feb. 1, 2013.

DR. CHRISTINA SOUTHER 13M/MPH is a general surgery resident at the University of Hawaii.

AISHA E.P. STEWART 13MPH is a technical adviser with the Trachoma Control Program at the Carter Center.

AIDEN K. VARAN 13MPH is an applied epidemiology fellow with the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists in San Diego, Calif.

ALEXANDER (SASHA) ZAHAROFF 13MPH is an environmental epidemiologist with the Utah Department of Health in Salt Lake City.

Alumni Deaths

MILDRED R. (MING) MORGAN 83MPH of Lexington, Ky., on March 19, 2013, at age 67.

LARISA A. SLAUGHTER 01MPH of Atlanta on March 1, 2013. She is survived by mother Lena Slaughter, fiancé J.P. Leonard, and sister Lynne Padgett.

DR. ASHLEY L. HILLIARD 08M/MPH of Washington D.C., on Feb. 23, 2013. Formerly of Snellville, Ga., she was a physician at Georgetown Hospital and the National Institutes of Health.

DR. ERICA S. THOMPSON 12MPH of Orlando, Fla., on June 21, 2013, from complications caused by lupus. She was 43. Thompson was a pharmacist at various Walgreens and Winn-Dixie stores throughout Orlando. She also founded Orlando Road Runners, a track team for children ages 4–18.

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Public Health 101

Misha Bascombe (left), Nikita Malcolm, and Janae' Roberts joined more than 500 students for RollinSteer Day. The annual day of service launches the school year and exposes new MPH students to the needs of the local community. See page 8 to learn how Rollins is preparing students as future leaders in public health practice.

