

The background image shows a man in a khaki uniform, Ali S. Khan, standing in the foreground of a control room. He is wearing glasses and a lanyard. Behind him, several women are standing near computer workstations. Large monitors in the background display various data, including maps and text. The overall setting is a professional, high-tech environment.

EMORY

FALL 2011

Public Health

Rollins School of Public Health

AT THE READY

SHAPING A NEW SCIENCE IN EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Ali S. Khan OOMPH in
the CDC's Emergency
Operations Center

The Right SORT of Help | Biosafety Net | Peace Corps Evolution

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Peace Be With You

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps to promote peace and friendship around the world. Fifty years later, Rollins' Master International (MI) Program, which prepares students for Peace Corps service, is the only program in the nation that matches MI students with Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) to work with refugee populations. Pictured above are several RPCVs, who comprise a sizable portion of the student body and exemplify the Peace Corps' goal to increase collaboration. Among the RPCVs are the Paul D. Coverdell Fellows, who manage the MI program. To learn more about Rollins and the Peace Corps, turn to page 18.

On the Cover Ali S. Khan 00MPH relies on Rollins students to help staff the CDC's Emergency Operations Center during disease outbreaks. The students are members of SORT—the Student Outbreak Response Team—a volunteer group trained to assist with local outbreak investigations and emergency preparedness at the CDC and in DeKalb County. To learn more about SORT, turn to page 11.

The iPad edition of *Emory Public Health* is available by downloading Emory Health Magazines in the App Store.



EMORY

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SCHOOL OF
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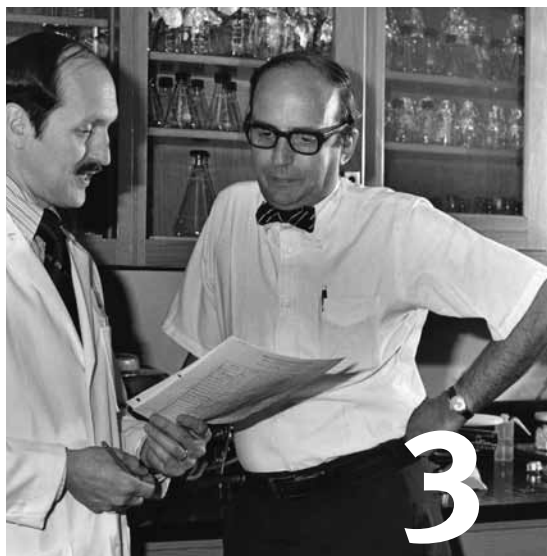
EMORY

Public Health

Rollins School of Public Health

FALL 2011

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This year, we set new records for enrollment totals, proving again that Rollins is a global destination for public health. Among our incoming class of 501 degree-seeking students are 114 international students—also a record.

Then and now in public health

We have much to reflect on this year. Ten years ago, following 9/11 and the intentional release of anthrax, the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation came forward with a major gift to coalesce our research and training in emergency preparedness and response. Through the foundation's generosity and support from the CDC and NIH, Rollins faculty and students are leading efforts to create a new science in emergency preparedness.

Fifty years ago, President John F. Kennedy created the Peace Corps. Today, our Master's International (MI) Program, which prepares students for Peace Corps service, is one of the largest MI public health programs in the nation. In September, Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams visited Rollins to formally establish the Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program for returned volunteers and recognize our students' commitment to serving Atlanta's growing refugee population.

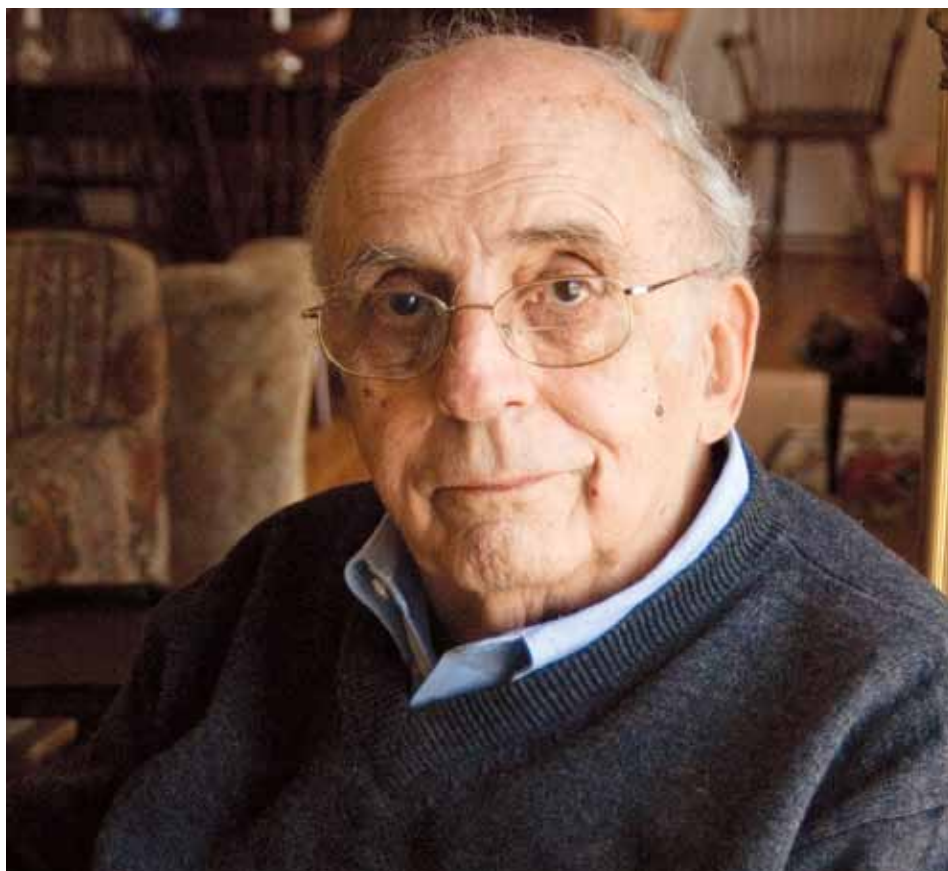
This year, we set new records for enrollment totals, proving again that Rollins is a global destination for public health. Among our incoming class of 501 degree-seeking students are 114 international students—also a record. They join our largest cohorts of 67 Career MPH students and 25 MD/MPH students. And the expanded research of our growing faculty led to an all-time high of more than \$62 million in sponsored research awards, up 28% from last year.

We also celebrated the remarkable life of David Sencer, the former CDC director and an RSPH founding father who passed away in May. Dr. Sencer took great pride in the accomplishments of our students and faculty and was a role model for all of us. He is greatly missed by his family, friends, and colleagues in public health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. Curran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" being more prominent.

James W. Curran, MD, MPH
James W. Curran Dean of Public Health



CDC Director David Sencer was instrumental in helping establish the master of community health program, which gave rise to the Rollins School of Public Health.

Remembering a health pioneer

For David Sencer, the well-being of others always came first

Former CDC director David Sencer used to rely on the point system to recruit students for Emory's master of community health program. He would point to a CDC staff member and say, "You are going."

Sencer, a founding father of the Rollins School of Public Health, died from complications of heart disease on May 2 at age 86.

As the longest-serving director of the CDC, Sencer oversaw a substantial expansion of the agency as it dealt for

the first time with malaria, nutrition, health education, and occupational safety. Its greatest success during his tenure was a program that eradicated smallpox, beginning in central Africa and eventually extending worldwide.

Sencer also was instrumental in partnering with Emory faculty to establish a master of community health program in 1974. By the 1990s, the program had evolved into the Rollins School of Public Health. Along with his leadership during the smallpox eradication campaign, he counted the program and school among his greatest contributions to public health.

When Sencer became CDC director, the agency was small enough for him to know almost everyone by name.

"David didn't supervise as much as he enabled. He prowled the building to find out what was going on," said William Foege, Emeritus Presidential Distinguished Professor of International Health. Foege, who worked on smallpox eradication in Africa, succeeded Sencer as CDC director.

As many attest, Sencer cared deeply about the health of populations, the well-being of staff, and educating future public leaders. "We all would have walked through fire for him," said Foege, who spoke during a June memorial service at Rollins.

Two incidents shaped Sencer's worldview and career path. In his 20s, he contracted tuberculosis, which required a long recovery. He later joined the U.S. Public Health Service, and one of his first assignments took to him Idaho, where he conducted a health survey of migrant laborers.

"It was then that I first began to see the rewards of dealing with groups of people rather than individual patients," Sencer told Emory students with REACH (Recognizing & Encouraging Aspirations in Community Health), which honored him with its first lifetime achievement award a few years ago.

For three years, Sencer led a community-based research program in tuberculosis control in Muscogee County, Georgia. In 1960, he transferred to Atlanta to serve as assistant director of the CDC—then known as the Communicable Disease Center. He was appointed director of the CDC in 1966.

Courage under fire

Under his leadership, the agency expanded dramatically by entering the global arena, adding domestic programs, and assuming responsibility for



Above: The family of David Sencer (second from right) provided support to create a scholarship named in his honor. They include son David, daughter Susan, wife Jane, and daughter Ann. Right: Sencer, shown here in his office at the CDC, led the agency from 1966 to 1977. He is pointing to a piece of artwork depicting the “kissing bugs” known to transmit Chagas disease.



vaccination programs against polio and childhood diseases and for surveillance and control of tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases. He helped focus efforts in chronic disease prevention and control—beginning with a national education campaign about the dangers of smoking. Sencer heeded his agency’s advice and quit smoking.

RSPH Dean James Curran first met Sencer in 1974 at Harvard, where the CDC director was a visiting fellow.

“Dr. Sencer was the epitome of public health,” said Curran during the memorial service. “He was fearless in its mission. It was never about him. It was about the people.”

Of all the challenges that Sencer faced at the CDC, the 1976 swine flu outbreak proved to be the most difficult. Concerned about a possible pandemic, Sencer’s team recommended that all Americans be immunized. In two months, 43 million people were vaccinated. But when more than 25 of them died of Guillain-Barré syndrome, the vaccination program was halted. In 1977, Sencer was dismissed by Washington officials.

“He made the right call, even though the swine flu virus did not cause a pandemic,” said Foege. “He showed courage in doing what needed to be done to protect the public.”

Later, as health commissioner of New York City from 1982 to 1986, Sencer faced public and political pressure again during the early years of the AIDS epidemic. He established surveillance parameters and recommended the course of the city’s response to AIDS. He also convinced Mayor Ed Koch to start a clean needle program to prevent AIDS transmission among drug addicts.

Thomas Frieden served as New York City health commissioner before joining the CDC as director in 2009.

“One of the wonderful things about coming to the CDC was getting to know David Sencer,” said Frieden during the memorial service. “He was my compass for where we needed to go in public health.”

After leaving New York, Sencer served as an international public health consultant before retiring to Atlanta with his wife Jane. Not one to sit still, he taught public health and medical students at Emory and developed an archive on global disease eradication, assisted by the RSPH, Emory’s Woodruff Library and Global Health Institute, and the CDC. Launched in 2009, the Global Health Chronicles is an online resource on the eradication of smallpox and Guinea worm disease.

In 2008, the RSPH established the David J. Sencer MD, MPH, Scholarship Fund with support from his family. Scholarship recipients must be state and local public health professionals who exemplify leadership and service in the field—the same characteristics that Sencer demonstrated throughout his career.

Following his death, the federal agency he led renamed the David J. Sencer CDC Museum in his honor.

When Sencer first learned about the scholarship named for him, he summed up his career in his typical low-key fashion: “When you do good work, it’s fun.”

Surviving him are his wife Jane, a



Top: William Foege worked on smallpox eradication in Africa under Sencer's direction. Middle: Sencer with Virginia Bales Harris 71C 77MPH, whom he tapped to study community health at Emory. Bottom: James Curran and Sencer, shown here in 2008, first met in 1974 at Harvard.

son, two daughters, and six grandchildren. Stephen Sencer serves as general counsel of Emory. Susan Sencer-Mura is a pediatric oncologist in Minneapolis, and Ann Sencer is an oncology nurse practitioner at Emory University Hospital Midtown.—*Pam Auchmutey* ■

To make a memorial gift to the David J. Sencer MD, MPH, Scholarship Fund, please visit sph.emory.edu/alumni_gift.



Come January, Emory will become a 100% smoke-free campus. RSPH Dean James Curran is among the university leaders who support the new policy.

Emory resolves to be smoke-free

Beginning January 2012, Emory will join the more than 450 colleges and universities nationwide that are 100% smoke-free.

The new tobacco-free campus policy is based on the recommendations of a task force created by Emory President James Wagner last spring. Faculty, staff, and student groups have endorsed this policy, along with Emory leaders, including James Curran, dean of the RSPH, and Jeffrey Koplan, director of the Emory Global Health Institute.

In a message on Emory's YouTube channel, Curran advocates education to prevent tobacco use, cessation programs, and policies that are fair to smokers but also effective in reducing health risks in the community and society.

"Smoking is the leading cause of death that is preventable in the United States and soon in the world," he says. "It causes cancer, heart disease, and lung disease and makes asthma worse for children who are exposed to secondhand smoke. With patience and persistence, we can reduce this public health problem greatly."

Before joining Emory, Koplan spent his career at the CDC, where he oversaw tobacco control activities before becoming the agency's director.

"It's a tough thing to do and an important thing to do," says Koplan of the new tobacco-free policy in his video message. "Emory needs to set the bar on what constitutes good behavior on campus and make the environment a better place to work and live in."

Since 2001, the Rollins-based Tobacco Technical Assistance Consortium (TTAC) has worked with states and communities to protect the public from smoking. In 2009, the Global Health Institute and TTAC joined with health leaders and cities in China to develop strategies for tobacco control. The China project is supported by a major grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. ■

Web Connection: To hear James Curran and Jeffrey Koplan advocate for a tobacco-free Emory campus, visit bit.ly/emorytobaccofree.

Curran receives national AIDS award

RSPH Dean James Curran, a pioneer in HIV/AIDS prevention, is the recipient of the 2011 Ryan White Distinguished Leadership Award.

Curran was recently honored by the Rural Center for AIDS/STD

Prevention (RCAP), a joint project of Indiana University, the University of Colorado, and the University of Kentucky. He accepted the award at the RCAP conference last spring.

When the first cases of AIDS were reported in 1981, Curran led a CDC

task force to investigate the epidemic and worked with the CDC and NIH to understand the cause and epidemiology of the disease within a global context. He remains an internationally known leader in the field as a professor of epidemiology at Rollins and co-director of the Emory Center for AIDS Research.

Curran is the fourth recipient of the Ryan White Distinguished Leadership Award, established by RCAP in 2009 and named for the rural Indiana teenager who contracted HIV through a contaminated blood treatment for hemophilia in 1984. At that time, AIDS largely was perceived as a disease that affected homosexuals. White became a national spokesperson on AIDS and helped change public perception about the disease. Following his death at age 18 in 1990, the U.S. Congress passed legislation to create the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program. It remains the largest provider of services for low-income, uninsured, and underinsured patients and their families. ■



James Curran



Gary Rollins (left) and Charles Hatcher (right) congratulate Michael Kutner, recipient of the 2011 Charles R. Hatcher Jr. M.D. Award for Excellence in Public Health.

Biostatistician personifies public health excellence

Serving 35 years as an Emory

biostatistician easily qualifies Michael Kutner for a place in Rollins history. His career is intertwined with the founding of the school and the growth of biostatistics as an integral part of health sciences research.

For his accomplishments, the school presented Kutner with the Charles R. Hatcher Jr. M.D. Award for Excellence in Public Health. Kutner is the ninth recipient of the award, named in honor of Hatcher for his commitment to public health. Hatcher, the award's first recipient, was instrumental in the creation of the School of Public Health as Emory's vice president for health affairs.

During the mid-1980s, Kutner was part of a small working group that formulated a strategic plan for a school of public health. When Hatcher, Emory President James Laney, and the Board of Trustees approved formation

of the school in 1990, Kutner became the first associate dean for academic affairs. He played a major role in creating the organizational structure of the school and securing its initial accreditation. In 2004, he was named Rollins Professor and chair of what is now the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics. Although Kutner stepped down as chair in 2009, he continues to teach, write, and conduct research.

Last year, in return for his success after nearly 50 years of teaching, he established the Michael H. Kutner Award in Biostatistics, which recognizes distinguished RSPH graduates in the field, and the Michael H. Kutner Fund, which supports outstanding PhD candidates.

Just recently, Kutner added the 2011 W.J. Dixon Award for Excellence in Statistical Consulting, presented by the American Statistical Association, to his long list of honors. ■



The “Baloney” exhibit is on display in the Environs Gallery in the Department of Environmental Health. The photographs by Caroline Rumley depict the impact of additives on the safety of cereal, hot dogs, and other processed foods.

In Brief

Environs Gallery blends art and environmental science

A blank canvas. That’s what Karen Levy thought as she surveyed the ample wall space on the second floor of the Claudia Nance Rollins (CNR) Building. Levy is not an artist. She’s an environmental scientist assigned to enhance her department’s visual surroundings prior to moving into the new CNR Building last summer.

With the support of Department of Environmental Health Chair Paige Tolbert, Levy reached out to Emory’s Center for Creativity & Arts with a concept to bring the bare walls to life with artistic interpretations of environmental health topics.

Her efforts led her to Mark Wentzel, a professor in the sculpture department at the Savannah College of Art and Design. Last fall, they opened Four Fields, a pilot exhibit to connect environmental health themes with art. The exhibit featured the work of four Atlanta-based artists including Wentzel, Susan Krause, Steve Jarvis, and Allen Peterson. Their sculptures approached issues of science and environmental health from a creative point of view.

“The exhibits push our thoughts about the broader meaning of environmental health,” says Levy. “It’s interesting to read or hear about science, but to view science in an artistic manner has been useful in expanding the way that we think about these topics.”

Currently, the second exhibit, titled “Baloney,” features the photography of Caroline Rumley. The series of seven photographs illustrates basic food items such as cereal and bread to depict the impact of additives on the safety of processed foods. The exhibit’s title is a reference to the use of sodium nitrate to stabilize the red color in meats such as hot



Karen Levy collaborated with the Savannah College of Art and Design to develop rotating exhibits with an environmental health theme.

dogs and bologna. According to the exhibit description, the additive is exempt from the FDA’s regulation process, even though it has been linked to cancer.

Rumley’s photographs are displayed in the Environs Gallery, located in the department’s break room, where faculty, staff, and students gather. Future ideas for the initiative include additional rotating art pieces, panel discussions, student competitions, and student exchange programs to cross-pollinate ideas between artists and scientists in various fields of study throughout Rollins.

As Levy notes, “This is an opportunity to gain knowledge, expand thoughts about research, and scientifically and creatively interpret our surroundings.”—*Tarvis E. Thompson* ■

The rewards of community partnership

A few years ago, the Emory Prevention Research Center (EPRC) and the Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition joined forces to reduce cancer rates in 31 rural counties. Last spring, the EPRC was honored for engaging those communities in cancer prevention research.

The EPRC is one of 11 Prevention Research Centers (PRCs) to receive the inaugural Community-Based Participatory Research Best Practice Award, presented by the National Community Committee. The group represents community partners of the 37 PRCs funded by the CDC in the United States. It created the award to recognize the role of community partners in designing, implementing, and disseminating research.

“To be honored by community leaders demonstrates that our efforts to engage community members are meaningful,” says EPRC Director Michelle Kegler. “This award is a tribute to our



The Emory Prevention Research Center was honored for engaging communities in cancer prevention research. Sharing the honor are (L-R) Johanna Hinman 98MPH, EPRC associate director of operations; J.K. Veluswamy, program coordinator of the Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition; Sandra Daniel, vice chair, and Darrell Saabs, chair of the Community Advisory Board; and Michelle Kegler, EPRC director.

Community Advisory Board members, who have been so passionate about guiding us in designing research projects and programs that are relevant and address priority concerns in southwest Georgia.”

Established in 2004, the EPRC works with families and communities to encourage healthy eating and physical activity to address health problems such as obesity and to prevent cancer. The Community Advisory Board guides the work of the EPRC and partners such as the Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition, based in Albany. ■



The Class of 2013 includes the first King Abdullah Fellows from the Kingdom of Saudia Arabia. Shown here are (standing L-R) Richard Levinson, Lea Matar, Roger Roach, Saud Hamed Alzahrani (fellow), Mohammed Osama Alwafi (fellow), Hisham Bashawri (fellow), Scott McNabb, Mohammed Jamal Alkhalawi (fellow), and Fawaz Saror Alrasheedi (fellow). Seated (L-R) are Anila Naz, James Curran, and Fatima Younis Al Slail (fellow).

Another record start for Rollins

For the third consecutive year, the RSPH has set a record for new enrollment. The incoming class includes approximately 501 degree-seeking students representing 43 states and 28 countries. Rollins also welcomed its largest group of

new international students. The 114 students, who represent 19% of the incoming class, speak 70 languages and dialects and include 40 students from China and the first eight King Abdullah Fellows from the Kingdom of

Saudi Arabia. Last year, Emory and the Saudi Ministry of Health signed an agreement to provide training and research opportunities for public health students and professionals. Adjunct professor Scott McNabb is their adviser.



Jeremy Sarnat uses equipment developed by Georgia Tech to measure the pollutants Atlanta commuters are exposed to inside their cars.

Is commuting harmful to your health?

Jeremy Sarnat has an ACE up his sleeve when it comes measuring how commuting affects the health of Atlanta drivers. It also helped him garner a major award for environmental health research.

Sarnat leads the EPA-funded Atlanta Commuters' Exposure (ACE) study. Using sophisticated air analyzers and other instrumentation developed at Georgia Tech, ACE measures what

pollutants drivers are exposed to inside their cars.

Participants go through a two-hour commute in the morning and again in the evening on two different days, driving along "scripted" routes provided by Rollins and Georgia Tech researchers. Most of the time, they drive Atlanta's busy interstates, although they also traverse some surface streets.

Each of the 100 study participants undergoes a battery of tests, including blood gas and other cardiovascular measurements, the day before their commute and again after finishing their afternoon drive. Half of those enrolled in the study have asthma.

The information gathered on how specific pollutants affect the drivers, and under what circumstances, can help inform discussions about traffic patterns, highway expansion, land use, and health, says Sarnat, associate professor of environmental health.

"Even the smallest changes in oxidative stress among the participants tells us something," he says. "We may be able to help individuals who are at greater risk so that they can make informed decisions about when, for instance, to start their commutes or which routes to take."

Sarnat received national attention this year when the International Society of Exposure Science (ISES) presented him with the 2011 Joan M. Daisey Outstanding Young Scientist Award for his work in human exposure analysis. The award honors the memory of Daisey, an ISES founder and nationally recognized expert on indoor air quality.—Mike King ■

Emory Public Health receives honors



Emory Public Health received a Grand Gold Award in the 2011 District III Awards Program sponsored by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). The magazine was honored for its 2010 issues on "Caring for Haiti" and "Rising to New Heights: 35 Years of Public Health at Emory" in the alumni magazine category.

CASE also recognized Bryan Meltz, the magazine's photography director, in its national award competition. Meltz earned

a Bronze Medal in the Photographer of the Year category for her photos of Haiti. Meltz visited the nation three times to document its recovery from the 2010 earthquake. She recently published a book, *After: Images from Haiti*, in collaboration with the Global Initiative for the Advancement of Nutritional Therapy, led by Alawode Oladele 93MPH.

To view the winning magazine issues and photos, visit publichealthmagazine.emory.edu.

THE SCIENCE OF BEING READY

by PAM AUCHMUTEY and ROBIN TRICOLES

IN THE EVENT OF A ZOMBIE EPIDEMIC, ALI S. KHAN OOMPH IS THE GO-TO EXPERT.

Last May, he wrote a CDC blog post playing off the popularity of *The Walking Dead* TV series filmed in Atlanta. But the message behind the blog was real: reminding the public to prepare at home for possible emergencies.

“The zombie blog was the best \$87 ever spent in the history of public health,” says Khan, director of the Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response at the CDC. “We reached 3.6 billion people, who read or heard about the blog. All fun aside, the zombies reminded people how public health protects them every day.”

No one would deny that protecting the public’s health has become an increasingly critical and complex endeavor. A decade ago, 9/11 and the anthrax attacks that followed altered the mindset of public health, law

enforcement, and other experts who play a role in emergency preparedness and response. “What changed,” says Khan, “was the recognition of how critical public health is to the security of our nation.”

“It’s not just about preparing for a large, unexplained, or unpredictable event,” he adds. “It’s also about responding to routine public health events every day.”

In the past 50 years, the potential and capacity of a few individuals to intentionally harm large populations—through infectious disease agents, chemical weapons, nuclear or radiologic devices, explosives, and tampering with food and water sources—has greatly intensified.

Compounding preparedness worries is the threat of natural disasters such

as Hurricane Katrina, wildfires, or the recent tsunami in Japan. The impact of these modern-day disasters has grown more extreme, driven by population density, dependence on goods and

Studies conducted by Rollins researchers provide much-needed scientific evidence to improve how experts and volunteers prepare for and respond to disasters.

services from other countries, climate change, and land-use patterns.

In light of today’s threats, RSPH researchers are growing the science to enhance how communities plan for and respond to disasters and thus strengthen the public health system and community preparedness.

“We have to consider all hazards,” says Ruth Berkelman, Rollins Professor and director of the Center for Public

THE RIGHT SORT OF HELP

STUDENTS PROVIDE EXTRA HANDS IN EMERGENCIES

In 1996, a disgruntled laboratory worker intentionally sickened several people at St. Paul Medical Center in Dallas. Twelve co-workers became ill after eating baked goods infected with a rare strain of *Shigella*, which causes dysentery.

Shauna Mettee '09 MSN/MPH, then an Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory Fellow at the CDC, accompanied the agency's investigative team to the scene. During that time, she gained experience and formed relationships that would later benefit her and other RSPH students.

More than 10 years later, she joined Rollins' Student Outbreak and Response Team (SORT), a volunteer group trained to assist with local outbreak investigations and emergency preparedness. Formed in 2002, SORT was the

Ali S. Khan leads the CDC's Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response and co-teaches the Emerging Infectious Diseases course with Ruth Berkelman at Rollins.

brainchild of Sara Forsting '01 MSPH, then an epidemiologist with the DeKalb County Board of Health Center for Public Preparedness. Rollins Professor Ruth Berkelman supported the idea. The program took off as students took the lead to improve community health in partnership with local and state experts.

In 2008, Mettee began thinking about how to broaden SORT's scope. With Berkelman's encouragement, Mettee and SORT co-leader Amy Williams '09 MPH reached out to the CDC. Ian Williams, chief of the Outbreak Response and Prevention Branch, advocated for the collaboration, which included obtaining CDC badges for the entire team—an essential asset when SORT's 40 members are asked to work at the agency during outbreak responses.

To date, 200 students have participated in SORT. All are trained in disaster preparedness through the National Incident Management Command System and are certified as Red

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13 ►





Ruth Berkelman, an expert on emerging infectious diseases, serves on the National Biodefense Science Board and the Homeland Security Review Committee.

“WE’RE STILL IN A NASCENT STAGE OF PREPAREDNESS RESEARCH. WE NEED TO KNOW HOW PEOPLE RESPOND. IF AN EVENT HAPPENS IN A COMMUNITY, WHAT WILL MAKE THAT COMMUNITY MORE RESILIENT?”—RUTH BERKELMAN

Health Preparedness and Research (CPHPR). “One way we are conducting research is by examining a number of recent disasters, finding ‘lessons learned,’ and sharing them with our partners in public health and the community.”

Before leading the center, Berkelman served as a senior public health official at the CDC and in 2000 became a consultant to the Nuclear Threat Initiative in the area of biologic weapons and disease surveillance, while also teaching a course on emerging infectious diseases at Rollins. Following 9/11, Dean James Curran recruited her to lead the CPHPR, established with a gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation and supported with funding from the CDC, NIH,

Ellen Whitney, who helped investigate the anthrax attacks in 2001, oversees Rollins’ research projects in emergency preparedness and response.



and other federal agencies.

Research and collaborations established by the CPHPR laid the groundwork for receiving a multi-year CDC grant to establish the Emory Preparedness and Emergency Response Research Center (PERRC), one of seven such centers funded in 2008 across the country. These centers were the result of the first federal funding to schools of public health to address the need for an evidence base for public health preparedness programs.

“We’re still in a nascent stage of preparedness and disaster research,” says Berkelman, who directs the Emory PERRC. “We need to know how people respond. If an event happens in a community, what will make that community more resilient? How can they rely on their public health department, and how can we make that public health department more potent working in collaboration with others?”

Ellen Whitney OIMPH, director of research projects for the CPHPR and associate director of the Emory PERRC,

concur. “We are building new areas of research that will supplement and improve the public health response,” says Whitney, a former CDC epidemiologist who assisted with the 2001 anthrax investigation.

CLOSING THE IMMUNIZATION LOOP

Four interdisciplinary PERRC projects are building that science. A project led by vaccine safety expert Saad Omer has yielded new best practices and policies, based on the *Haemophilus influenzae* Type b (*Hib*) vaccine shortages from 2007 to 2009 and the response to pandemic H1N1 influenza in 2009. To gather evidence, Omer’s team surveyed two groups—immunization program managers (IPMs) and health care providers with the goal of examining the U.S. immunization system and its capacity for effectively distributing vaccines and other countermeasures during an emergency.

Data collected from IPMs on the *Hib* vaccine shortage suggest that improving vaccine transfer between jurisdictions



Khan relies on Rollins students to help staff the CDC's Emergency Operations Center during disease outbreaks.

“IT’S NOT JUST ABOUT PREPARING FOR A LARGE, UNEXPLAINED, OR UNPREDICTABLE EVENT. IT’S ALSO ABOUT RESPONDING TO ROUTINE PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS EVERY DAY.”—ALI S. KHAN

and using immunization information systems to track compliance with shortage recommendations by providers could help the U.S. immunization system respond more effectively to future vaccine shortages and emergencies.

During a crisis, state health departments turn to their IPMs and emergency preparedness (EP) program managers to respond. In 2010, Omer’s team studied how immunization programs and practices managed the response to H1N1 in 2009.

Researchers considered several factors: vaccine campaign management, collaborations between state immunization and emergency preparedness programs, the use of incident command and emergency operations centers, the use of immunization information systems, and communication with health providers. Based on the

results, the Association of Immunization Managers developed new national recommendations for working more closely with EP program managers to improve their response.

In Washington state, a survey of health providers showed that pharmacies could play a stronger role during public health emergencies by participating in disaster training, enhancing surge capacity, and improving communication and collaborations in public health.

“The pharmacies stood out as being a big provider in terms of their reach into communities,” says project coordinator Katy Seib 10MPH. “They indicated a desire for more outreach from their local health departments.”

During a vaccine shortage or crisis, providers depend on local and state health departments for

THE RIGHT SORT OF HELP (CONTINUED) ▼

Cross disaster volunteers. Students often take elective courses at Rollins, such as Public Health Preparedness and Bioterrorism, co-taught by Berkelman and global health

Professor Phil Brachman (who investigated inhalational anthrax during the 1950s), and Emerging Infectious Diseases, co-taught by Berkelman and Ali S. Khan



SHAUNA METTEE 09MSN/MPH

ooMPH. FBI instructors provide bioterrorism training, and Khan leads training in the CDC’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Last year, SORT members helped staff the EOC during outbreak investigations of cholera in Haiti and cases of *Salmonella* Montevideo traced to Italian meat spices. Locally, they assisted DeKalb County with a flu immunization clinic and a MARTA disaster drill. Students also attended a national summit on public health preparedness and sponsored activities at Rollins, including a tour of Emory’s mock BSL-4 laboratory. Daniel Brencic and Carrie McNeil, current co-presidents of SORT, plan to broaden its relationships further.

Students carry their SORT experiences with them after graduation. Heidi Moline 10MPH, an associate analyst with the Union of Concerned Scientists in Washington, D.C., leads a project looking at how science is maintained and used in decision-making during disasters. At the CDC, Williams helped create a toolkit that U.S. health departments use to assess the needs of reproductive-age women affected by disasters. Mettee served two years as a CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service officer and is now a CDC Preventive Medicine Fellow assigned to work with three local county health departments.

Her assignment, she says, “will be the perfect synergy of my experience with SORT—combining the federal and local county public health perspective and developing and applying more leadership skills.”—Pam Auchmutey ■



Drills are imperative to ensuring a coordinated and effective response to public health emergencies. For example, the RSPH played a leading role in a local drill to dispense medication to prevent anthrax. The drill involved health, emergency response, and other partners in five Atlanta metro-area counties.

Top left: Volunteers do intake in Fulton County.

Bottom left: Volunteers dispense medication in Clayton County.

Top right: Ellen Whitney interviews the incident commander in Gwinnett County.

Bottom right: Kathy Miner conducts a video interview in Clayton County. Data collected during drills such as this help participating agencies refine their collective response to a real emergency.

information. As Omer's team learned, providers prefer using email, phone, and fax instead of Twitter and text messaging for communication. Early findings regarding communication were quickly disseminated to Washington's local health departments, which used this information in allocating their increasingly scarce resources. Identifying such factors streamlines the public health response.

"We're learning valuable lessons that will raise the quality of evidence to influence policy at the national level and practice at the local level," says Omer.

A SAFETY NET FOR NURSING HOMES

When a disaster occurs, what happens to patients who are confined to nursing homes or depend on a home health provider? David Howard, a PERRC project leader and associate professor

of health policy and management, is looking at ways to improve disaster planning for both types of providers.

"There's a great deal of attention paid to hospitals in preparedness," says Howard. "This is a chance to focus on a segment of the provider community that has received little attention previously."

In San Diego, nursing homes have banded together to share resources and information during a disaster in order to know who has supplies and available beds.

"One of the real strengths of the model is that preparedness planners meet before a disaster occurs and build up a community of informal ties they can draw on when disaster strikes," says Howard. "We think this might be a good model for other jurisdictions to follow because it doesn't tax government resources."



Kathy Miner leads a research project examining the role of incident command systems and emergency operation centers during public health crises.



A biosafety expert is suited up to investigate the spread of anthrax bacteria (shown above) through the mail in Washington, D.C., in 2001.



“WHAT 9/11 AND ANTHRAX MADE CLEAR IS THAT PUBLIC HEALTH IS A PRIMARY RESPONSE AGENCY.”—KATHY MINER

Howard’s team has surveyed 296 nursing homes in California, Florida, and Georgia—all disaster-prone states—about their preparedness planning and capabilities. In coastal Georgia, many nursing homes rely on the same transportation providers for evacuation. In the event of a widespread disaster, bus and ambulance services would be overtaxed. And evacuating patients to a local hospital would be impossible because hospitals frequently discharge patients, often to nursing homes, in order to prepare for a surge.

“Doing a better job of system-wide planning is an important step going forward,” says Howard.

COMMANDING THE SITUATION

In 2009, San Diego became ground zero for H1N1 in the United States. The cases spread from neighboring Mexico, where H1N1 was first detected. San Diego County’s response to the potential pandemic makes for a compelling case study in an Emory PERRC project led by Professor Kathy Miner 79MPH, associate dean for applied public health.

“The H1N1 cases in San Diego marked the first time that public health assumed the lead emergency management role in a major event. We didn’t expect ‘ground zero’ in the U.S. to emerge in this way, and events didn’t

unfold as anticipated,” says Miner, whose project looks at how incident command systems (ICSS) and emergency operations centers (EOCs) are used in response to public health crises.

When the first case of H1N1 was identified, San Diego County public health officer Wilma Wooten stepped up to ensure coordination of activities in the county health department and with local hospitals and community providers. Wooten quickly established an EOC and organized county public health staff into an ICS structure to meet the epidemiologic and disease control challenges.

Through case studies of H1N1 in San Diego and the 2009 ice storm in

Kentucky, Miner's team is determining best practices in emergency planning and response. The investigators and the National Association of County and City Health Officials also are surveying state and local health departments to assess their use of ICSS and EOCS.

As Miner explains, "We're asking, 'Did you use incident command? Did you open an emergency operations center? And as a result of that, have you started to think about using those systems for other responses?' If their answer is 'yes,' that tells us that all of the training and preparation for one event may change the way they think about public health in the future."

Miner has done her own share of preparedness training. From 2002 to 2010, she and Melissa Alperin 91MPH led the Center for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP). The center excelled in using technology to train Georgia's

public health workforce via podcasts, CD-ROMS, web-based lectures, case studies, and other types of interactive training. Since its inception, CPHP distributed more than 57,000 copies of instructional materials to state and local public health workers in Georgia and the nation.

"What 9/11 and anthrax made clear is that public health is a primary response agency," says Miner. "When that awareness occurred, there was an understanding that we have to prepare the public health workforce on how to assume this role."

SCHOOLED IN DISASTERS

In August 2005, the massive flooding caused by Hurricane Katrina forced thousands of Gulf Coast evacuees into Georgia. The Emory community rallied to cushion the evacuees' arrival.

Emory's response led Alexander

"THE FACT THAT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ARE PART OF THE COMMUNITY AND DON'T TYPICALLY RELOCATE MAKE THEM AN IDEAL PARTNER TO PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES." —ALEXANDER ISAKOV

Isakov's team to undertake a PERRC project exploring how colleges and universities can collaborate with disaster response agencies to increase and sustain community readiness and response.

"Traditionally, academic institutions are viewed as providing education and training for preparedness," says Isakov, associate professor of



Sean Kaufman (seated) and his team have trained more than 2,000 researchers worldwide to minimize their risk of infection when handling pathogens in high-level biosafety laboratories.

Sean Kaufman's job takes him all over the country and around the world. Though it may sound glamorous, his job is vital to protecting researchers who work with deadly diseases in biosafety laboratories.

These high-tech, highly secure facilities handle viruses such as Ebola, Marburg Ebola, and Lassa fever. To minimize the risk of infection, researchers must master a multitude of safety measures and operating standards. There's no better way to learn than through a hands-on training course in a mock biosafety level-4 (BSL-4) laboratory, says Kaufman. Here he wants trainees to make mistakes because there is little room for error in a real laboratory.

"You can learn about BSL emergencies from textbooks," says Kaufman, "the same way you theoretically can learn

BIOSAFETY NET

SEAN KAUFMAN PROTECTS LABORATORY WORKERS WHO HANDLE THE MOST DANGEROUS PATHOGENS IN THE WORLD

emergency medicine and executive director of Emory's Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response. "But we believe they're an often-overlooked community partner when response agencies are seeking to solve their disaster response needs."

Those needs are vast and diverse: physical resources, such as shelter for evacuees; a solid public communications infrastructure; robust Internet technology resources; and subject matter expertise in public health, clinical and veterinary medicine, engineering, nursing, theological and pastoral care, and language translation.

Although an array of expertise is needed to effectively manage disaster response, all disasters have fundamental managerial elements that must be met. One is physical stability, a crucial aspect of disaster preparedness that is often overlooked.

"The fact that colleges and universities are part of the community and don't typically relocate make them an ideal partner to public health agencies," says Isakov.

Through PERRC, Isakov's team looked at several FEMA-declared disasters to compare academic institutions that partnered with public health response agencies and those that did not during specific events.

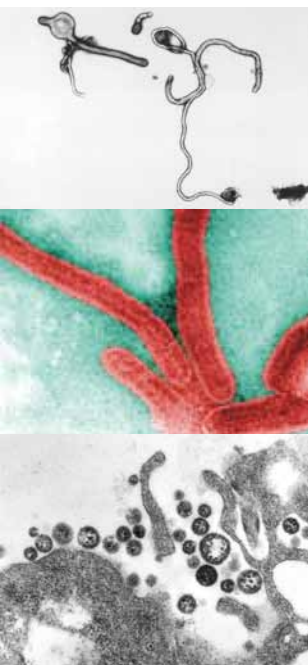
The researchers found that having a shared response plan and shared field training helps schools and agencies work together more effectively. They also found that central coordination of academic institutions' resources facilitates collaborative action with the public health response agency. For example, if a public health agency needs to distribute drugs for prophylaxis or post-exposure, schools could leverage their communications and

logistics infrastructure to distribute the drugs to the community, reaching tens of thousands of people in some cases.

Because funding and preparation for disasters are cyclical, establishing relationships and cooperative plans before a disaster is essential, especially when funding is tight.

"Relationships are key," says Berkelman. "Although we have different cultures, we've learned to understand each other and work together far better than 10 years ago."

Her observation is timely, given that federal funding for preparedness research and training at schools of public health has been targeted for elimination in 2012 because of budget cuts. But the need to secure the scientific evidence for preparedness programs remains. As RSPH Dean James Curran notes, "We must know what works in our communities to keep them safe." ■



BSL-4 LABORATORY PATHOGENS: EBOLA (TOP), MARBURG EBOLA, AND LASSA FEVER

to swim from a PowerPoint presentation. But the only real way to learn how to respond to BSL emergencies is by responding. Our program bridges the gap between knowing something and being able to do it quickly and with minimum risk."

Kaufman designed the biosafety training course seven years ago after Ruth Berkelman, director of the Center for Public Health Preparedness and Research, received an NIH grant to create such a program. Berkelman tapped him for his expertise in human behavior and his affinity for working on infectious disease issues.

"Previously, training was behavior-based with little or no simulation training," he says. "With hands-on training, we can move people from being novices, we can put them safely in settings of a laboratory emergency, and overall, we can begin to create experts."

Training scenarios are designed to induce frustration or panic. For example, learning how to move around in heavy protection gear is a feat in itself. Just squatting to pick up a dropped object is an exercise in strength and balance. Participants are tethered to air hoses and are yanked back

if they try to walk across the room. "Students realize they are thinking at the speed of light, but they are moving at the speed of a turtle," says Kaufman.

In another scenario, he tells a participant to pretend to collapse on the floor. Other participants are inclined to rush over to the person, but what if a second person goes down? How do you move an unconscious co-worker? (Answer: with plastic trays.) How does one get out of the laboratory if the power has gone out? (Form a conga line to exit.)

Since Kaufman designed the program, more than 2,000 participants have come through the doors of the mock laboratory on Emory's Briarcliff Campus, including those from as far away as Pakistan, India, Singapore, and the Philippines. In the past 12 months, he has traveled to Jordan, Switzerland, India, Mexico, and Honduras, in addition to traveling domestically to the University of Florida, George Mason University, and UCLA.

For Kaufman, the best part of the job "is when participants learn to do something they thought impossible that will protect them in a laboratory emergency."—*Kay Torrance* ■



Sherry Chen, a second-year student in the Master's International Program, picks vegetables at a community garden tended by women from Burundi.

peace be with you

ROLLINS RAMPS UP ITS PROGRAMS FOR ASPIRING
AND RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

by Patrick Adams 09MPH and Pam Auchmutey



It's been two years since the Our Community Farm Project took root on a converted playground in Decatur, Georgia. Every Saturday, refugee women from Burundi arrive early in the morning to tend the vegetables and fruits they produce to help feed their families and sell at a local farmer's market. Organized by Refugee Family Services, the successful project led to formation of the Global Growers Network of Georgia to expand urban

gardening, primarily among the large refugee population in DeKalb County. What the network needs most is more land.

Maggie Bale 12MPH has helped find it. Last spring, she applied her skills in Geographic Information Systems and mapping to pinpoint locations in nearby Clarkston, Georgia, that could be developed as urban gardens. While Bale's work not only benefits Clarkston's refugee committee, it also is preparing her for her next assignment after she graduates



Left: Kristin Unzicker (center) leads an exercise with the Paul D. Coverdell Fellows at the Clarkston Community Center. The fellows, all Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, manage the Master's International Program, which prepares Rollins students for Peace Corps service after they graduate. The fellows and students work with the refugee community in Clarkston, an experience that mimics Peace Corps service through community engagement.

next year. Bale is among a growing number of Rollins students enrolled in the Master's International (MI) Program, which prepares them for Peace Corps service overseas.

"I came to Emory with a strong knowledge of what it means to be a Peace Corps volunteer," says Bale, whose two older brothers are Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs). Her brother Jeff enrolled at Rollins this fall. "But what my brothers couldn't give me through their stories was real-world experience. The Master's International Program provides that experience by helping me work with refugees, one of the most underserved—and international—populations in Atlanta."

Real-world experience is exactly what Kristin Unzicker OZMPH had in mind when she joined Rollins five years ago to direct leadership and community-engaged learning in the Office of Admission and Student Services. While she spends much of her time helping students connect with the local Atlanta community, she has devoted the bulk of her energy to revamping the same MI program she went through as a Rollins student.

Like many earlier alumni of the program, Unzicker declined her Peace Corps assignment to pursue another opportunity after graduating from Rollins. In her case, she joined the Society for Public Health Education in Washington, D.C. Two years later, ready for a change and inspired by an



Master's International student Maggie Bale plans to join the Peace Corps after she graduates. Her brother Jeff, a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer from Namibia, enrolled at Rollins this fall.

article to combat HIV/AIDS in Africa, she called up her Peace Corps placement officer to reactivate her application. Within two months she was bound for Botswana, where she became a district AIDS coordinator in a small village in the middle of the Kalahari. Her volunteer and student experiences helped in reshaping Rollins' MI curriculum.

"I spent my Peace Corps experience trying to figure out how to be a better public health professional in the field—how to apply the things I learned in school at the community



"I spent my Peace Corps experience trying to figure out how to be a better public health professional in the field. And because I struggled with that at times, I wanted to help ease the process for others."

—KRISTIN UNZICKER, DIRECTOR, LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING

level in Botswana,” Unzicker says. “And because I struggled with that at times, I wanted to help ease that process for others.”

Subsequent research by Unzicker and others showed that MI students wanted more contact with one another and with the Peace Corps community. When the students began to meet, eight students were in the MI program. That was 2009.

A year later, eight had grown to 16, and the regular meetings had morphed into weekly seminars, many of them led by RPCVs, who could speak about using community needs assessment tools or the challenges of integrating into the local community. Those RPCVs also spearheaded the MI program’s new service-based learning component by establishing partnerships with local refugee settlement and service agencies in Clarkston. “The aim was to create something that mimics the Peace Corps experience,” says Unzicker.

Today, the MI program achieves that with its two-year service time frame and “global done local” approach to community development. Just as RPCVs are assigned to local organizations overseas, MI students are assigned to one of

several locally based organizations—Refugee Family Services, Lutheran Services of Georgia, Clarkston Development Foundation, the Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Fugees Family, the Global Village School, Jewish Family and Career Services, and Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services of Atlanta—for the whole of their Rollins experience. MI students have assisted their refugee partners—or “counterparts” in Peace Corps parlance—with literacy tutoring, the creation of health education curricula, and development of surveys to assess the impact of new programming.

“A lot of times, organizations don’t have enough staff to do the things they



want to do,” says Sumaya Karimi, a family advocate with the Clarkston Development Foundation who teaches a community transformation course at Rollins. “The students help fill that void.”

Sherry Chen, an MI student involved with the Our Community Farm Project, worked through a translator to help refugee women learn to navigate the bus system to travel to and from the garden site in Decatur. She also helped the women gain access to health care.

“The experience taught me how to be flexible and adapt to different circumstances, especially when there is a language barrier,” says Chen. “You learn how to overcome obstacles and keep going.”

A welcome change

Chen has a rich pool of expertise from which to draw. A pair of RPCVs—Deb McFarland, now associate professor of global health, and Jim Setzer, former program coordinator in international health—established Rollins’ MI program in 1999. Last year, the school’s 42 RPCVs accounted for more than 5% of the total student population. Up until two years ago, those RPCVs had never been tapped to mentor MI students. Getting the RPCVs involved was a welcome change.

“Mentoring lets me tell my stories to a captive audience that hasn’t heard them a thousand times,” says Lisandro Torre, who volunteered in Uganda before enrolling at Rollins to study global epidemiology. “It’s also a great way to stay connected to the Peace Corps after having been back for a year and a half.”



“Mentoring lets me tell my stories to a captive audience that hasn’t heard them a thousand times. It’s also a great way to stay connected to the Peace Corps after having been back for a year and a half.”

—LISANDRO TORRE, RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER, UGANDA



Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams met the Coverdell Fellows when he visited the school to formalize its fellowship program. Rollins currently has eight Coverdell Fellows. The first three fellows graduated last May.

“Public health remains an important part of our DNA. One thing that has not changed is the enthusiasm and commitment that is so palpable at a school that is at the center of public health leadership.”

—AARON WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE CORPS, ESTABLISHED IN 1961

Today, 33 Rollins students are enrolled in the MI program, and 11 students who graduated last May have accepted Peace Corps assignments. This year, more than 200 applicants to Rollins expressed interest in the program.

Unzicker attributes much of the MI program’s success to another initiative. Two years ago, Rollins began piloting the Peace Corps’ Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program, which offers financial assistance to returned volunteers, contingent upon their participation in underserved American communities. The RSPH now has eight Coverdell Fellows, who manage the MI program.

“It’s essentially an extension of their service in the U.S.,” says Unzicker. “We found in talking to recent graduates that the MI program was one of their favorite aspects of the Rollins experience. They forged strong ties with the refugee community in Clarkston and

gained a better understanding of the public health context after two years of assisting a single organization.”

For Coverdell Fellow Paul Fleming IIMPH, the program’s service learning component made the return home from Nicaragua all the more palatable. “To get involved right away at the community level—that’s something you really miss,” he says. “It’s much harder to find that in the U.S.”

What does the Peace Corps make of the new model? “Other schools have various iterations of preparing students for Peace Corps service, and Rollins is one that is truly outstanding,” says Eric Goldman, manager of Master’s International and the Office of Diversity and National Outreach at Peace Corps headquarters in Washington.

At Goldman’s invitation, Unzicker presented on the Rollins model last year at the Peace Corps’ biennial conference for MI institutions in Washington, describing before an audience of 100 coordinators how the programs complement one another to benefit both students and refugees.

With sufficient funding, those programs will continue to expand. As recruiting tools go, there may be nothing more effective. Last May, Rollins’ first three Coverdell Fellows

graduated with the highest of service honors. Fleming and Jonathan Schultz received Rollins’ James W. Alley Award and Eugene J. Gangarosa Award, respectively. Rebecca Egner received Emory’s Humanitarian Award.

No less engaged are the school’s MI students, one of whom was among the record number of Emory graduates to receive a Fulbright Scholarship this year. Eric Harshfield IIMPH was awarded a Fulbright for a project in South Africa aimed at empowering communities to improve their health and well-being through improved access to water and sanitation facilities. But Harshfield turned down the Fulbright for a Peace Corps assignment as a public health coordinator in Cameroon. He chose the Peace Corps “because it is a two-year experience and involves close integration with the community,” he says.

50 years of peace and friendship

Fifty years ago this past March, President John F. Kennedy signed Executive Order 10924, establishing the Peace Corps to promote peace and friendship around the world. In September, Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams visited Rollins to formalize the Coverdell Fellows Program and commemorate the Peace Corps–public health partnership.

“Public health remains an important part of our DNA,” said Williams, who served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the late 1960s. “One thing that has not changed is the enthusiasm and commitment that is so palpable at a school that is at the center of leadership in public health.”

As Williams noted, more than 400 Emory alumni have joined the Peace Corps since its inception. Of the 30 alumni who currently serve, 16 are Rollins graduates.

“We’re going to double that number next year,” says Unzicker. “We’re preparing them to be the best volunteers they can be—adaptable, flexible, and patient people capable of listening, reflecting, and integrating into the community. Not only do they go as public health professionals, they go as representatives of Rollins.” ■



The Community Advisory Board in 1991. Members included (front L-R) Alicia Philipp, Betty Fuller, Leslie Graitcer, (middle) Ingrid Saunders Jones, Alexis Scott Reeves, Cathy Selig, Carlos Martel, (top) Cecil Phillips, Ray Greenberg, John Holder, and Bud Seretean.

Dean's Council marks 20 years of school advocacy

Several years ago, a conversation in Burma put Anne Kaiser on the path to becoming chair of the RSPH Dean's Council.

"I have had an interest in global nutrition and water quality for quite some time through travels with my husband around the world," says Kaiser. "During one of those trips to Burma, I talked with Jane Shivers about both topics. She shared stories about the Dean's Council and asked if I would be interested. The rest is personal history."

At the time, Shivers did what members of the Dean's Council are wont to do—raise awareness about Rollins.

"The Dean's Council supports the school by being the eyes, ears, voice, and ambassadors for the school," says Kaiser. "We also provide what

I call 'bookend support'—our group believes in who we are and what we do. Our members excel in providing that support to the school."

For the past 20 years, Dean's Council members have met regularly to learn about the RSPH from faculty, students, and alumni. In turn, council members share what they learn with other business, community, and philanthropic leaders. Now more than 50 members strong, the Dean's Council began in 1991 as the Founding Advisory Board and evolved into the Community Advisory Board. Renamed in 1995 as the Dean's Council, the group includes RSPH Dean James Curran and Kathryn Graves, associate dean for development and external relations.

While council members come from diverse



Three current members have chaired the Deans' Council. Shown with James Curran are (L-R) Cecil Phillips, Anne Kaiser, and Lawrence Klamon. "We are indebted to our Dean's Council members for their advocacy, counsel, and support," says Curran. "Many have served on the council for a number of years, and their collective knowledge and wisdom have helped guide Rollins' growth."



The RSPH Campaign Committee: Among its members are (L-R) Virginia Bales Harris, Lawrence Klamon, Ann Estes Klamon, James Curran, Walter Wildstein, Stanley Jones, and Richard Hubert.

backgrounds, they share Rollins' commitment to preventing disease and improving health. They also support the Dean's Council Scholarship, awarded annually to help cover tuition for an MPH or MSPH student.

Three current members have chaired the Dean's Council, including Cecil Phillips (1996 to 2001), Lawrence Klamon (2001 to 2010), and Kaiser. More than a dozen members serve on the RSPH Campaign Committee, chaired by Lawrence and Ann Estes Klamon. To date, the committee has helped raise more than \$148 million through Campaign Emory.

"We are indebted to our Dean's Council members for their advocacy, counsel, and support," says Curran. "Many have served on the council for a number of years, and their collective knowledge and wisdom have helped guide Rollins' growth. The school continues to benefit from their leadership and connections with potential collaborators and supporters throughout the world."

For Kaiser, serving on the Dean's Council stimulates her intellectual curiosity by exposing her to leading thinkers and practitioners in public health. "The school is deeply important to me," she adds, "because through my commitment, I can make a difference."—*Pam Auchmutey* ■



The Dean's Council in 1997: Standing (L-R) are Ruth Katz, Robert Freeman, Evonne Yancey, Cecil Phillips, James Curran, Kathy Ziegler, and Lawrence Klamon. Seated (L-R) are Shelby Wilkes, Amy Rollins Kreisler, Carlos Martel, Nancy Paris, and Alicia Philipp.

Rollins School of Public Health Dean's Council

Ms. Anne Kaiser, Chair

Ms. Yetty L. Arp	Mr. Phil Jacobs	Mr. Cecil M. Phillips
Mr. Chris Barker	Ms. Ellen Hale Jones	Mr. Glen A. Reed
Ms. Paula Lawton	Ms. Randy Jones	Ms. Teresa Maria Rivero
Bevington	Mr. Stanley S. Jones Jr.	Ms. Patricia B. Robinson
Ms. Connie Cousins-Baker	Mr. Mark A. Kaiser	Ms. Donna C. Rohling
Mr. Morgan Crafts Jr.	Ms. Ruth J. Katz	Dr. Nalini R. Saligram
Mr. Bradley N. Currey Jr.	Mr. Alfred D. Kennedy	Dr. Dirk Schroeder
Ms. Sally A. Dean	Dr. William Kenny	Dr. John R. Seffrin
Mr. René M. Diaz	Ms. Ann Estes Klamon	Mr. Lee M. Sessions Jr.
Ms. Beth Desportes Dreelin	Mr. Lawrence P. Klamon	Ms. Debbie Shelton
Dr. Walter C. Edwards	Ms. Amy Rollins Kreisler	Ms. Jane E. Shivers
Mr. Robert J. Freeman	Ms. Barbara W. Levy	Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
Dr. Helene D. Gayle	Ms. Beverly B. Long	Mr. William J. Todd
Mr. Jonathan Golden	Mr. Carlos Martel Jr.	Dr. Kathleen E. Toomey
Ms. Leslie J. Graitcer	Dr. Barbara L. Massoudi	Ms. Linda Torrence
Mr. Shelby R. Grubbs	Ms. Mary Lu Mitchell	Ms. Evelyn G. Ullman
Ms. Virginia Bales Harris	Mr. John S. Mori	Dr. Walter B. Wildstein
Ms. Valerie Hartman-Levy	Mr. Christopher Offen	Dr. Shelby R. Wilkes
Mr. Richard N. Hubert	Ms. Nancy McDonald Paris	Ms. Evonne H. Yancey

Dr. James W. Curran, *James W. Curran Dean of Public Health*

Ms. Kathryn H. Graves 93MPH, *Associate Dean for Development and External Relations*



Patrick Sullivan (left) and Rob Stephenson are using a grant from the MAC AIDS Fund to pilot Testing Together in Atlanta and Chicago.

Preventing HIV

Researchers target male couples

What do Rollins researchers and Lady Gaga have in common? They both want men and women to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS.

The entertainer is the spokesperson for the MAC Cosmetics VIVA GLAM campaign. All proceeds from purchasing VIVA GLAM lipstick or lipglass are donated to the MAC AIDS Fund, which to date has raised more than \$218 million to support HIV/AIDS programs globally. A project directed by Patrick Sullivan, associate professor of epidemiology, is among the beneficiaries of the MAC AIDS Fund this year.

Sullivan leads Testing Together, an HIV testing and counseling service that began in Atlanta and Chicago on September 1. Testing Together, which will target 200 male couples in each city over the next year, brings a previous study out of the research setting and into public health practice.

In their initial study, researchers conducted focus groups with male couples in Atlanta, Chicago, and Seattle to examine their attitudes toward couples-based voluntary counseling and testing (CVCT) for HIV.

“Although some were hesitant at first, the focus group participants indicated overwhelming support

from their main sex partner.

In another study, Sullivan analyzed CDC data to look at new HIV infections among men who have sex with men and how many of those occurred among casual sex partners. He found that two-thirds of new infections come from main sex partners. “That observation started us thinking about adapting Allen’s intervention and applying it for male couples,” says Sullivan.

During the next year, Sullivan and Stephenson will oversee testing and counseling among male

couples at AID Atlanta and AID Gwinnett, while the Howard Brown Health Center and Broadway Youth Center will offer testing and counseling in Chicago. When Testing Together concludes next year, researchers in both cities will use the results to develop best-practice guidelines for HIV prevention organizations desiring to provide the new service to male couples. To learn



Lady Gaga is the spokesperson for MAC Cosmetics VIVA GLAM lipstick products. Proceeds support HIV/AIDS programs worldwide.

more about the initiative, visit testingtogether.org.—Pam Auchmutey ■



Michael Johns (left) has endowed a lecture named in his honor and hosted by the Department of Health Policy and Management, chaired by Kenneth Thorpe.

Emory leader endows health policy lecture

This fall, the Department of Health Policy and Management hosted its second annual Michael M.E. Johns M.D. Lecture in Health Policy. Johns recently made a gift to endow the lecture, established in 2009 by Dean James Curran to honor Johns' leadership of Emory's Woodruff Health Sciences Center (WHSC).

"Dr. Johns has played an

important role in the growth of our school," says Curran. "His vision and support helped guide us to become one of the nation's top schools of public health."

As head of the WHSC from 1996 to 2007, Johns implemented a comprehensive strategy that positioned Emory as one of the nation's pre-eminent academic health centers in education,

research, and patient care. He is widely renowned as a catalyst of new thinking in many areas of health policy and health professions education.

"Inviting distinguished people to exchange ideas and debate points of view is important for the intellectual growth of our faculty, students, and staff," says Johns, who is now university chancellor. "It also familiarizes everyone with what is special about Rollins."

Kenneth Thorpe, Woodruff Professor and chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, sees the lecture as a way to address key health issues that affect Americans.

"This is a challenging time as we face a variety of complex issues, such as environmental hazards, access to health care, and the re-emergence of infectious diseases," he says. "We hope this annual lecture serves as a catalyst for dialogue with respected thought leaders and helps prepare our students, researchers, and policy-makers to meet these challenges."

The inaugural Johns lecture, which focused on health care reform, featured Robert J. Blendon from the Harvard School of Public Health. This year's headliner was Karen Ignagni, president and chief executive officer of America's Health Insurance Plans, who spoke in September.—*Jennifer Johnson* ■



RSPH campaign support tops \$148 million

To date, the RSPH has raised more than \$148 million—98.9% of its \$150 million goal—for Campaign Emory. Gifts to the RSPH help build endowments for teaching and research, scholarships, programs, and facilities. As of September, the university had raised \$1.3 billion, 82.5% of its \$1.6 billion goal.

To learn more about Campaign Emory and Rollins, visit campaign.emory.edu. To make a gift, contact Kathryn Graves, Associate Dean for Development and External Relations, at 404-727-3352 or kgraves@emory.edu.



Creating Connections that Last

Alumni Association Flourishes

Nancy Hunt 87MPH can't imagine her life without the professional and personal connections she has made through the RSPH. "They've kept me engaged with the school since I graduated," says Hunt.

Twenty years ago, shortly after Rollins became a school, Hunt helped formalize the alumni association and served as the first alumni board president.

"We spent the first year figuring out where we wanted to go," Hunt recalls. "The challenge was how to engage alumni to strengthen the school."

As the school grew in size and reputation, the RSPH Alumni Board stepped up where needed. Board members worked with admissions staff to hold open houses for prospective students. Before



the Office of Career Services was formed, alumni leaders created a mentoring program for students. Today, board members assist with admissions, career, and other events and lead several alumni committees. Rollins Alumni Ambassadors welcome and support new students and invite alumni to participate in school events.

Lisa Carlson 93MPH and Amri Johnson 96MPH, past board presidents, represent Rollins on the Association of Emory Alumni Board, strengthening the school's ties with the university.

When the 25th anniversary of the MPH program approached in 1995, Carlson chaired a committee to mark the occasion that included presentation of

Above: Alumni leaders Anne Farland Arwood (left) and Nancy Hunt have much in common. Arwood is the current president of the RSPH Alumni Board, while Hunt was the first president in 1992. Arwood is a strategic planning manager with Emory's Woodruff Health Sciences Center. Hunt is a consulting, learning, and talent development manager with Deloitte Services LLP and now lives in Massachusetts.

Left: Alumni leaders in 1993 included (back row, L-R) Emy Lou Faber, Susan Richardson, Michelle Yaeger, and Warren Williams. Seated in the front row are (L-R) Jane Trowbridge, President-elect Dennis Jarvis, President Martha Alexander, and Past President Nancy Hunt.

RSPH Alumni Association Board Members

President

Anne Farland Arwood 06MPH

Past President

Matthew Biggerstaff 06MPH

Members

Monica Chopra Gobely 05MPH

Chanda Holsey DRPH 96MPH

Takeia Horton 09 MPH

Heather Ingold 00MPH

Alyssa Lederer 08MPH

Kaitlin Porter 08MPH

Paige Rohe 05MPH

J. Daniel Thompson 08MPH

Hilarie Schubert Warren 05MPH

RSPH Leadership on the Association of Emory Alumni Board

Lisa Carlson 93MPH

Amri Johnson 96MPH

Upcoming Events

Destination Public Health/ Open House

Saturday, October 15

Rollins School of Public Health

Dean's Reception

American Public Health Association

Monday, October 31

Washington, D.C.

For information: alumni@sph.emory.edu or 404-727-4740.

the first Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award. In 2002, the RSPH Alumni Board established the Matthew Lee Girvin Award to recognize outstanding young professionals in honor of Girvin, a 1994 alumnus who died on a U.N. surveying mission in Mongolia. Both awards are presented each fall during the RSPH Alumni Reunion.

For Hunt, serving the school has enriched her life and provided a lasting network of colleagues and friends. "Those connections are invaluable," she says. ■

RSPH Alumni Board Presidents

1992-1993

Nancy Hunt 87MPH

2002-2003

Joel London 98MPH

1993-1994

Martha Alexander 86MPH

2003-2004

Amri Johnson 96MPH

1994-1995

Dennis Jarvis 88MPH

2004-2005

Gena Lee Hill 99MPH

1995-1996

Patricia Sweeney 88MPH

2005-2006

Ali S. Khan 00MPH

1996-1997

Georgia Jackson 95C 97MPH

2006-2007

Johanna Hinman 98MPH

1997-1998

David Williamson 87G

2007-2008

Angela K. McGowan 98MPH

1998-1999

Jim Dunn Jr. 92MPH 98G

2008-2009

Jean O'Connor 01MPH

1999-2000

Lisa Carlson 93MPH

2009-2010

Chad VanDenBerg 06MPH

2000-2001

Sarah Landis 97MPH

2010-2011

Matthew Biggerstaff 06MPH

2001-2002

John Robitscher 810X 83C 92MPH

2011-2012

Anne Farland Arwood 06MPH



The RSPH Alumni Association fosters longtime connections for its members, including Matthew Biggerstaff, Lisa Carlson, and Johanna Hinman. All are past presidents of the RSPH Alumni Association Board.

Common Cause

From Georgia to Geneva to North Carolina, five classmates share a mission to prevent injuries and violence

“Injuries are the leading cause of death for Americans aged 1 to 44 and the fifth leading cause of death overall.”

—GRANT BALDWIN,
DIVISION OF
UNINTENTIONAL
INJURY PREVENTION,
CDC

Grant Baldwin 96MPH and Andrés Villaveces 96MPH first met when they were young children and their fathers worked together in Colombia. Today, their lives still converge, along with those of three Rollins classmates who are experts in injury and violence prevention and control.

In the early 1990s, Villaveces was a physician in Colombia, where the incidence of trauma caused by traffic injuries and violence was high. He began to understand and explore the public health consequences of such injuries through courses led by professors at Rollins.

“Their classes were key to my understanding of the public health implications of injuries,” says Villaveces.

Since then, he has worked in more than 10 countries and with WHO, the Pan American Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, and organizations such as Amnesty International. Today, he serves on the faculty of the Injury Prevention Research Center (IPRC) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he studies pedestrian injuries in the built environment and leads a project on injury and violence prevention in Colombia.

For a time, Villaveces worked with Kidist Bartolomeos 96MPH at WHO headquarters in Geneva, where she is a technical officer in the Department of Violence, Injury Prevention, and Disability. She

began her injury prevention work as a fellow at the CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control and the Emory Center for Injury Control. She has coordinated projects in several African countries and currently leads a five-year pilot project, Road Safety in 10 Countries (RS10), to help governments implement sound road safety practices. In addition to leading RS10 projects in Kenya and Egypt, she collaborates on global health issues related to injury surveillance with Villaveces at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Villaveces’ work overlaps with that of other classmates, including Scott Proescholdbell 96MPH, a state injury epidemiologist in the North Carolina Division of Public Health. Proescholdbell also is principal investigator of the Violent Death Reporting System, which provides a comprehensive picture of all violent deaths in the state to examine their causes and circumstances.

“In the past 25 years, we’ve come to see that injuries and violence aren’t just accidents, as many people believe,” Proescholdbell says. “When you examine the data, you see very predictable patterns of risk factors and human behavior. By applying public health approaches strategically, and changing social norms and behavior, we can help prevent millions of fatal and nonfatal injuries.”

Proescholdbell and Villaveces frequently cross



Scott Proescholdbell



Grant Baldwin



Shane Diekman



Andrés Villaveces



Kidist Bartolomeos

paths as members of the State Advisory Council on Injury & Violence and through their respective projects at UNC and with the state.

“The Injury Prevention Research Center where Andrés works has been a mover and shaker in our field for the state,” says Proescholdbell. “Currently, the IPRC helps evaluate a suicide prevention grant that we have. In the near future, the IPRC will work with us on a quality coding improvement project using North Carolina emergency room visit data.”

Proescholdbell considers himself a relative newcomer to the field. His previous work with the state focused on tobacco control and HIV/AIDS. He credits Villaveces and Baldwin with helping him make the transition to injury prevention and control.

Like Proescholdbell, Baldwin transitioned from one specialty to another. He began his career at the CDC with the National Center for Environmental Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. When the CDC was reorganized in 2005, the agency’s activities in environmental health and injury and violence prevention became part of the same umbrella organization. The exposure to injury prevention ignited Baldwin’s interest and became a calling.

“Injuries are the leading cause of death for Americans aged 1 to 44 and the fifth leading cause of death overall,” he notes. “They represent a significant and preventable public health problem.”

Today, Baldwin serves as director of the CDC’s Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention. Priority topics include prevention of motor vehicle injuries, prescription drug overdoses, older adult falls, and child injuries. He collaborates with Kidist on international activities regarding road safety and other unintentional injuries and

connects regularly with Proescholdbell at conferences and CDC events.

“Grant does a great job of connecting people and projects and has worked hard around unintentional injuries so that states can be a part of that process,” says Proescholdbell. “He has been instrumental in focusing states’ attention on evidence-based prevention strategies and trying to fund them at reasonable levels.”

Shane Diekman 96MPH joined the CDC as a behavioral scientist in the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control after completing his doctorate at UNC-Chapel Hill. For several years, he led research and activities in the Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention. He is now acting leader of the division’s Home and Recreation Team, which regards the emerging epidemic of deaths from prescription drug overdoses as a national public health priority.

When Diekman visits Proescholdbell in North Carolina, they converse about public health and longtime interests such as soccer. “Shane was the fastest forward the Rollins intramural soccer team ever had,” says Proescholdbell.

Diekman begs to differ. “Scott’s the most skilled soccer player I’ve played with,” he says. “The other teams devoted all their attention to chasing him down and whacking him.”

While the five Rollins classmates are separated by geography and the focus of their work varies, they share a common passion for their chosen field.

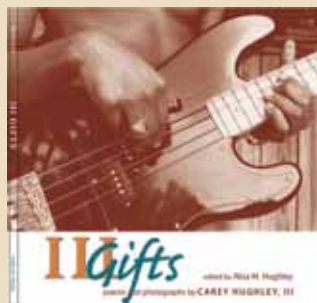
“Our professional activities address the biggest global public health problem affecting young populations,” says Villaveces. “From our perspectives, we will continue promoting policy, research, capacity-building, and practice interventions aimed at reducing injuries, locally, nationally, and at a global level.”—Carol Pinto and Pam Auchmuty ■

“We’ve come to see that injuries and violence aren’t just accidents. When you examine the data, you see very predictable patterns of human behavior.”

—SCOTT PROESCHOLDBELL, NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH



James T. Cooper 87MPH



Book edited by Alisa Hughley
97MPH



Meredith Rentz 97MPH 97MBA



Yelena Khromova 00MPH and
Matthias Duensing

Graduation Honors

During the spring diploma ceremony, Rollins awarded 414 MPH or MSPH degrees and 25 dual degrees, while the Laney Graduate School awarded 14 PhD degrees, raising the total number of alumni to 5,760 in more than 90 countries.

Among those honored at the ceremony this year was John McGowan, professor of epidemiology and recipient of the Emory Williams Teaching Award, the university's highest award for teaching excellence.



John McGowan

Students tapped Michael Goodman, associate professor of epidemiology, as the Student Government Professor of the Year. Kathleen Adams, professor of health policy and management, received the Thomas F. Sellers Jr. Award. Named after the former chairman of community health at Emory, the award recognizes a faculty member for collegiality and serving as a role model and mentor to colleagues.

Ali S. Khan ooMPH, assistant surgeon general with the U.S. Public Health Service and director of the CDC's Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, gave the keynote address. To hear his remarks, please visit bit.ly/phgrad2011.

1980s

DR. JAMES T. (TOM) COOPER 57C 62M 87MPH co-authored the textbook *Obesity and Treatment Essentials*, a publication of Informa Healthcare. He and 15 other bariatric physicians each contributed a chapter in the book. Cooper has practiced bariatric medicine since 1967. He currently practices in Marietta, Ga., and serves as a brigadier general with the Georgia State Defense Force.

1990s

ALISA HUGHLEY 97MPH published her first book, *III Gifts: poems and photographs*, in which she curates the poetry of her late brother, Carey Hughley III, and tells the story of his life and gifts. As editor, Alisa collected poems conveying themes of romantic, fraternal, and spiritual love. She also draws on her own experiences to recount her brother's decision to become an organ donor and his tragic death. The book has been accepted into selected high

Stay Connected



Link up with fellow RSPH alumni through Facebook, LinkedIn, or E-Connection, the online community of the Emory Alumni Association. Add your photos to Rollins' Facebook page in honor of the 35th anniversary of the public health program. To make a connection, visit "Alumni and Friends" at sph.emory.edu.



Tolton Pace 00C 02MPH and family



Gwen Ewald 05MPH and Matthew Biggerstaff 01OX 03C 06MPH



Jennifer Higgins 05MPH 05G



Kate Bowler 04C 06MPH and Oliver Sabot

school libraries with a companion cross-curricular lesson plan to educate youth about organ donation.

“Although he lived just 21 short years, I hope this book is a way to give voice to the voiceless and carry forth his timeless message of altruism,” says Hughley. She currently uses her training in public health to teach, consult, and maintain the websites enBloommedia.com and iigifts.com.

MERIDITH RENTZ 97MPH 97MBA became CEO of MedShare in Decatur, Ga., effective Sept. 1. Prior to joining MedShare, Rentz was COO of the Points of Life Institute, which has offices in New York, Washington, D.C., and Atlanta. She is the former vice chair of administration for Emory’s Department of Medicine.

BORN: To **MICHELLE MCALLISTER 98MPH** and her husband, Thomas, their first child, Sophia Anne, on Oct. 18, 2010. Michelle is a client services manager for Thomson Reuters in Ann Arbor, Mich. The family lives in nearby Ypsilanti.

2000s

MARRIED: **DR. YELENA KHROMOVA 00MPH** and Matthias Duensing on June 9, 2011. The couple lives in Toronto. Yelena is director of pharmacoepidemiology and risk management at Sanofi Pasteur, where she provides support for post-licensure monitoring of vaccine safety.

STEPHANIE (WONG) VENN-WATSON 00MPH was profiled in *Tufts Veterinary Medicine* magazine on her “one health” research on dolphins and diabetes. Venn-Watson is a veterinary epidemiologist who heads the clinical research enterprise at the National Marine Mammal Foundation in San Diego. The foundation provides medical care for 120 dolphins

and sea lions who make up the U.S. Navy’s Marine Mammal Program. Since the late 1950s, the Navy has studied how dolphins whip through water, with the goal of improving torpedo, ship, and submarine design. Today, the Navy trains dolphins and sea lions to help guard ports, personnel, and military vessels around the world. These marine animals have served in Vietnam and Iraq.

Venn-Watson says that the dolphins receive daily health inspections, provide routine blood samples, and are given numerous diagnostic tests for 30 to 40 years. The data generated has many applications to human medicine. Venn-Watson’s current investigation has implications for new strategies to treat type 2 diabetes, which affects 23.6 million Americans. Read more

at now.tufts.edu/articles/learning-flipper-navy-mammals.

BORN: To **TOLTON R. PACE 00C 02MPH** and his wife, Khristal, a son, Roman Gabriel, on Jan. 24, 2011, in Atlanta. Pace writes that Roman is their first child and that both families are overjoyed. “I’m already making plans for Roman to attend Emory in the fall of 2029,” he writes.

Pace recently was named to the board of directors for the Villages of Carver YMCA in Atlanta. He currently is the coordinator for college readiness and multicultural initiatives at the Agape Community Center. Pace notes, “I’m excited to work in the nonprofit community-based arena again to prepare students for post-secondary options and to serve the growing Latino/Hispanic population in Atlanta.”

MARRIED: **GWEN EWALD 05MPH** and **MATTHEW BIGGERSTAFF 01OX 03C 06MPH** on April 16, 2011.

JENNIFER HIGGINS 05MPH 05G received the Early Career Teaching Award from the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University.



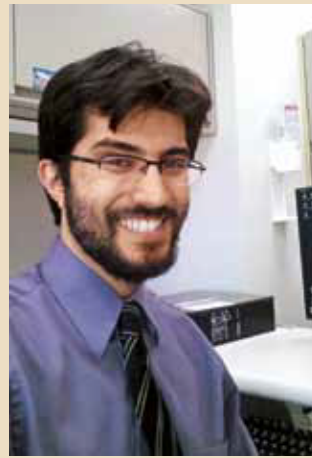
Michelle McAllister 98MPH and Sophia Anne



Nia Bodrick 07MPH



Phoebe Alleman 07C 10MPH and Kevin Janflone 06B



Sani Haider Kizilbash 11MPH

The award recognizes a young faculty member who best represents the school's commitment to student learning and educational excellence. An assistant professor of population and family health, Higgins is a sexual health advocate who studies the relationship between sexuality, gender, and the use of contraceptive methods.

MARRIED: HILARY TURNER 05MPH and Bret Kricun on April 30, 2011, in Philadelphia, where they currently live.

MARRIED: KATE BOWLER 04C 06MPH and Oliver Sabot in August 2009. Kate is a research associate for monitoring and evaluation with the Clinton Health Access Initiative in Boston. She writes that hers was the "first Clinton Health Access Initiative wedding!" The couple lives in nearby Cambridge, Mass.

DR. NIA BODRICK 07MPH graduated from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn., in May. She began her pediatric training in July at Orlando Health, which serves Central Florida.

MARRIED: PHOEBE ALLEMAN 07C 10MPH and **KEVIN JANFLONE 06B** on March 19, 2011, in Homestead, Fla. Phoebe is a research coordinator for KDH Research & Communication in Atlanta.

MARRIED: DR. MICHELLE LYNN BUELOW 11MPH and Dr. Benjamin Weston on March 21, 2011, in Roatan, Honduras. The couple lives in Brookfield, Wis. Buelow is a family medicine resident with United Allina, and Weston is an emergency medicine resident at Hennepin County Medical Center.

DR. SANI HAIDER KIZILBASH 11MPH began a hematology/oncology fellowship in July at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. He previously was a hospitalist at William Beaumont Hospital in Troy, Mich.

Alumni Deaths

CAROLYN (CARRIE) GALE MILES 84MPH of Glen Mills, N.C., on March 31, 2011, at home of pancreatic cancer. She was 64. For the past six years, Miles was the principal pro-

grammer for customized improvement strategies at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals in Wilmington, N.C. She previously was a programmer in epidemiology research at two other pharmaceutical companies and at the University of Pennsylvania.



Carolyn Gale Miles 84MPH

A native of Blue Point, N.Y., Miles met her husband, Rich Aldred, at a Quaker conference in North Carolina, and they married in 1990. When Miles lived in Atlanta during the late 1960s, she fought against housing discrimina-

tion for families with children, Aldred says. More recently, Miles was vice chair of the Thornbury Township Democratic Party. She was an avid sailor, quilter, gardener, contra dancer, songwriter, and flute player. In addition to her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Alice Reid; two sisters; a brother; and her former husband, Joseph Reid.



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A Place in History

Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams recounted stories about the agency's early days when he visited Rollins recently. Now 50 years old, the Peace Corps includes the Paul D.

Coverdell Fellows Program for returned volunteers like those pictured here. To learn more about Rollins' Peace Corps programs, see page 18.

