

EMORY

Public Health

SPRING 2013

Rollins School of Public Health

Room to Grow

How Campaign Emory transformed a school

Global Impact | Wise Water | Preparing Engaged Leaders

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▲ Bridging Public Health

The glass bridge that connects the Claudia Nance Rollins Building (left) and the Grace Crum Rollins Building was designed with community in mind. It unites faculty, students, and staff who work daily in different disciplines to improve health locally and globally. It also symbolizes the Rollins family's long-held belief in improving the lives of others.

On the Cover Rollins students often gather on the bridge to study before and after class.



EMORY

**ROLLINS
SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC
HEALTH**

Emory Public Health is published by the Rollins School of Public Health, a component of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center of Emory University (emoryhealthsciences.org). Please send class notes, observations, letters to the editor, and other correspondence to Editor, *Emory Public Health*, 1762 Clifton Road, Suite 1000, Atlanta, GA 30322, call 404-712-9265, or email pam.auchmutey@emory.edu. To contact the Office of Development and External Relations, contact Kathryn Graves at 404-727-3352 or kgraves@emory.edu. The website of the Rollins School of Public Health is sph.emory.edu. To view past issues of the magazine, visit publichealthmagazine.emory.edu.



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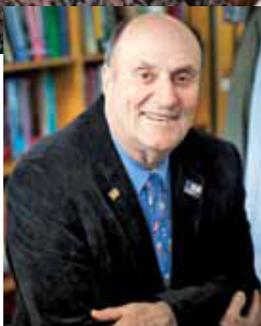
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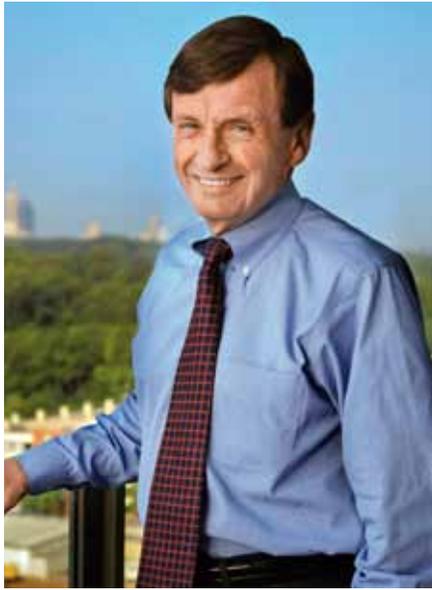
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Campaign Emory has generated record growth in student enrollment, faculty recruitment, and research. More important, Rollins faculty, students, and alumni are creating healthier societies and saving thousands of lives worldwide.

The Power of Philanthropy

The glass bridge that connects the Claudia Nance Rollins Building and the Grace Crum Rollins Building is a favorite place. Faculty, staff, and students cross it daily on their way to classes and meetings. It also links our past and future and the bonds that we share with friends and donors who supported our school through Campaign Emory.

We are especially grateful to the Rollins family, who provided the lead gift to construct the CNR Building and renovate the GCR Building. Their sustained generosity has enabled the Rollins School of Public Health to continue to advance its teaching and research mission.

The Hubert Department of Global Health has grown in size and stature with support from the Hubert Foundation. Former school director Eugene Gangarosa and his wife, Rose, strengthened the Center for Global Safe Water by endowing two faculty chairs. Faculty and staff created or continue to support programs and scholarships to honor and train leaders in public health. Alumni stepped forward to provide gifts for scholarships and other needs.

Several additional people played important roles in leading our campaign. Lawrence P. and Ann Estes Klamon 65C 76L guided our fundraising efforts as RSPH campaign co-chairs, as did Ginny Bales Harris 71C 77MPH, campaign chair for alumni, and global health professor Roger Rochat, chair of the faculty and staff campaign.

Foundations and corporations also contributed to our campaign success by providing major grants for faculty research.

All of these efforts truly were instrumental in helping raise \$170.7 million for Campaign Emory, which has generated record growth in student enrollment, faculty recruitment, and research. More important, Rollins faculty, students, and alumni are creating healthier societies and saving thousands of lives worldwide.

James W. Curran, MD, MPH

James W. Curran Dean of Public Health



Through his work in the classroom and the field, noted teacher Juan Leon (middle left), works to prevent parasitic and enteric viral diseases among vulnerable populations in the Americas. He is shown here surrounded by children in Bolivia.

A model mentor

Juan Leon, winner of the the ASPH/Pfizer Early Career in Public Health Teacher Award, puts students first

When he arrived at Rollins in 2004 as a postdoctoral fellow, assistant professor of global health Juan Leon was a freshly minted immunologist with degrees from Dartmouth and Northwestern, a prestigious postdoctoral fellowship from the Dana-Irvington Foundation, and a bright future in research. By his own admission, however, he was not a good teacher.

“I’d tried it in the past, and I thought, ‘It’s just not for me,’” he says. “The only way to get better, I decided, was to learn from faculty mentors like Christine Moe, Stan Foster, and David Kleinbaum, attend workshops, and ask the students directly. My past and current departmental chairs, Reynaldo Martorell and Carlos del Rio, were important in my growth.”

That strategy seems to have worked. Last fall, the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) and the pharmaceutical company Pfizer bestowed on Leon their 2012 Early Career in Public

Health Teaching Award in recognition of his teaching excellence.

In his decade at Emory, Leon has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the Outstanding Achievement and Mentoring by an Early Career State Life Scientist Award from the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology and two teaching awards from Emory. He is the author of 25 peer-reviewed publications and five book chapters, and his work, which focuses on interventions to prevent parasitic and enteric viral diseases in vulnerable populations in

the Americas, spans a range of interests.

For all of Leon’s professional success, his passion for “helping people reach their potential,” as he puts it, has made him a favorite among students and a standout among fellow faculty members. “I started working one-on-one with some students, advising them on their theses and helping them chart out their career goals, and I realized I really enjoyed it,” he says. “I liked helping them figure out their futures.”

Like any young faculty member, Leon was under pressure to publish, and every minute he spent advising his students was a minute he might have spent writing a paper or applying for a grant. He wanted to be available to everyone, but there was always so much to do.

“So I thought about how I could integrate the two activities,” he says. “And I said, ‘OK, I will make sure that every thesis I advise directly leads to a published paper.’ It might not happen by the end of the year or even the next year, but it will, eventually, lead to a published article.” While that meant he would have to be more selective about which students he took on—applicants undergo a rigorous interview

ASPH/Pfizer Prize Winners

Juan Leon joins a growing list of Rollins faculty honored for teaching by ASPH/Pfizer. They include Kathleen Miner, recipient of the 2009 Faculty Award for Excellence in Public Health Practice; Rob Stephenson, the first recipient of the Early Career in Public Health Teaching Award; and David Kleinbaum, recipient of the 2005 Award for Teaching Excellence. Michael Kutner is also a member of the ASPH/Pfizer Public Health Academy of Distinguished Teachers.

process—"I knew that if our goals aligned, both of us would benefit from the relationship."

The same went for his student research assistants. "One great thing about the RSPH is the Rollins Earn and Learn (REAL) program," he says. By subsidizing a portion of their salaries, REAL allows MPH and MSPH students to support their studies with applied public health experiences in government agencies, Atlanta-area nonprofits, and Emory-affiliated programs. Leon, for one, has taken full advantage of that fact in hiring students with an eye toward amplifying his own output. "I thought very carefully about their level of professional development," he says, "and then I formed a small program, so they could get everything they want out of the experience."

"He's really invested in his students' professional development," says Michael Garber, a second-year epidemiology student and leader of the Leon Research Group's rotavirus and nutrition team in Bolivia."

For Garber, Leon is nothing less than a life coach. "For all of his students, he holds an annual career planning meeting where he gets you to think about what you want out of life and how you're going to get it," he says.

His results speak for themselves: Since joining the faculty in 2008, Leon has mentored more than 70 undergraduate and graduate students, many of whom have gone on to produce award-winning research, lead public health teams, present papers at national and international conferences, and co-author peer-reviewed publications.

"Whenever we have a big decision to make, my team members and I have this kind of joke," says Garber. "You know WWJD—what would Jesus do? Well, for us, it's what would Juan do?"—*Patrick Adams*
09MPH ■

Sterk named provost



Noted RSPH researcher Claire Sterk was named chief academic officer at Emory. She is well prepared for her new role, having served as interim provost and senior vice provost for academic planning. Sterk is the former chair of behavioral sciences and health education and associate dean for research at Rollins. She continues to serve as Charles Howard Candler Professor of Public Health and is known for her studies of addiction, mental health, and HIV/AIDS.

Perfect score: CEPH board renews school accreditation

The RSPH received much-anticipated good news last fall when the Council of Education for Public Health (CEPH) Board of Councilors extended the school's accreditation through December 2019. Rollins met all 27 criteria evaluated, resulting in a perfect score.

"Meeting each criterion means that we successfully evaluated the quality and content of our instruction, research, and service programs," says Richard Levinson, executive associate dean for academic affairs and leader of an effort involving 175 participants in and outside of Rollins.

Reaccreditation concludes a rigorous process that began in fall 2010, when a steering committee comprised

of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community partners was formed to ensure broad representation in the self-assessment process. Supporting this committee was a seven-member working group that created a self-study report, submitted in final form to CEPH in March 2012.

A month later, a team of reviewers conducted an on-site visit at Rollins to validate the self-study findings. They interviewed a host of individuals in and outside of the Rollins community, inspected school facilities, examined documentation supporting the self-study, and prepared a report of its findings.

"The CEPH site visit team was very impressed by the quality of our self-study," says Laura Lloyd, who coordinated the RSPH self-assessment. "They recognized the tremendous effort invested in the process by the steering committee and all members of the Rollins community." ■

Research at Rollins



Michael Windle

Alcohol Abuse in Young Adults

The face of alcoholism has changed drastically. What was once viewed as a disease affecting middle-aged, blue-collar, white males now reflects

a diverse group of young adults, male and female.

Because binge drinking in young adults is such an important factor in the development of alcohol abuse and dependency, these disorders are more prevalent in young adulthood than in middle age or older adulthood. Although the rate of alcoholism begins to decrease around age 25, the damage from abuse can be long term.

Michael Windle, Rollins Professor and chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education, received an NIH Research Scientist Award (K05) of \$1.03 million to continue his 23 years of research examining the impact of alcohol abuse and disorders across the lifespan. He is the first researcher at Rollins and one of five at Emory to obtain a K05 award.

Over the next five years, Windle and his team will more closely study the implications of patterns of alcohol use and abuse on adulthood. They also will examine earlier predictors such as the social, genetic, and environmental contributors to alcohol-related behaviors.

“Waiting until someone has liver disease is too late,” says Windle. “If we look at how such behaviors fit into lifelong patterns, we can develop specifically targeted interventions that are more beneficial and yield positive results for health and well-being.”



DuBois Bowman

Biomarkers of Parkinson's Disease

DuBois Bowman, associate professor of biostatistics and bioinformatics, is part of the national Parkinson's Disease Biomarkers

Program, a new NIH initiative. Through this program, researchers will develop new technologies and analysis tools for biomarker discovery, identify and validate biomarkers in patients, and share biomarker data and resources across the Parkinson's community.

Bowman's group is among nine U.S. research teams funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. Funded by a \$900,000 grant, his team will develop statistical tools to analyze data from brain imaging and genetic, molecular, and clinical tests to determine which combinations of biomarkers can better predict Parkinson's than a single biomarker. His project is associated with the Morris K. Udall Center of Excellence in Parkinson's Disease Research at Emory. Bowman also directs the Center for Biomedical Imaging Statistics at Rollins.



Jessica Sales

Better Sexual Health for Teens

The Jane Fonda Center for Adolescent Reproductive Health, part of Emory School of Medicine, is partnering with Rollins and the Grady Health

System Teen Services Clinic to improve

the use of “dual protection” in young African American females. By choosing dual protection, teens can prevent unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including HIV.

Melissa Kottke, director of the Jane Fonda Center, and Jessica Sales, research assistant professor of behavioral sciences and health education in the RSPH, are co-principal investigators of the project, funded by a five-year \$3.2 million grant from the CDC. Researchers plan to enroll at least 700 women, ages 15 to 19, and follow them for a year after they participate in a clinic-based intervention.

“One of the most exciting aspects of this project is that it merges the best of health behavior research and clinical services,” says Sales. “It will be rewarding to see the impact of providing cutting-edge clinical care coupled with what we've seen can work from behavior change models.”

Neglected Tropical Diseases

The Task Force for Global Health, a longtime partner of Rollins, received a five-year, \$28.8 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to establish the Neglected Tropical Diseases Support Center to close gaps in research to control and eliminate NTDs and quickly translate findings into policy.

News of the grant coincided with a vote by the WHO executive board to recommend that the World Health Assembly adopt a resolution at its May 2013 meeting to control or eliminate all 17 NTDs by 2020. ■



ROOM TO

grow

THE COMMITMENT OF THE ROLLINS FAMILY
AND MANY OTHERS
GIVES RISE TO A NEW ERA
IN PUBLIC HEALTH AT EMORY

Just over a century ago, O. Wayne Rollins was born in a simple two-bedroom house in rural Northwest Georgia. His mother, Claudia Nance Rollins, impressed upon him and his younger brother, John, that they could achieve anything through honesty, integrity, and hard work. Long after the brothers founded several companies and became Emory benefactors, they continued to heed their mother's advice.

"Giving to a living institution that goes on and affects people's lives—to me that's the best," Wayne once said. "That's the highest kind of giving when you invest in people."

His words ring especially true today, given the commitment of nearly 150,000 alumni, faculty, staff, students, friends, foundations, and others to Campaign Emory. When the seven-year campaign ended in late 2012, they had given a historic \$1.69 billion to the university, including a record \$170.7 million to the Rollins School of Public Health. The family of Wayne and Grace Crum Rollins played a key role in the RSPH campaign with a \$50 million lead gift to construct a second building for teaching and research.

Open since 2010, the Claudia Nance Rollins (CNR) Building more than doubles

BY PAM AUCHMUTEY

Left: The Claudia Nance Rollins Building provides ample and inviting space for students to meet and study. Far left, top: Students often gather on the glass bridge that joins the Claudia Nance Rollins and Grace Crum Rollins buildings. Center: Gary (left) and Randall Rollins talk with Rollins Professor Viola Vaccarino about her research in cardiovascular epidemiology. Bottom: Aiden Varan, a U.S. citizen from New Zealand, is majoring in global health epidemiology at Rollins.



“THE ROLLINS FAMILY CREATED THE FOOTPRINT AND THE FACILITY THAT ALLOWED US TO GROW INTO ONE OF THE NATION’S TOP SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH” —DEAN JAMES CURRAN

The buildings that comprise the RSPH are named to honor the Rollins family. They include Pam Rollins (front row, left), Randall Rollins, Gary Rollins, Amy Rollins Kreisler (back row, right), and Peggy Rollins. Henry Tippie (back row, left) is a trustee of the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation.



The Lawrence P. and Ann Estes Klamon Room, located in the Claudia Nance Rollins Building, is a popular venue for special events.



These students are seated in front of a 1990 photo of O. Wayne and Grace Crum Rollins taken at Emory. Following Mr. Rollins' death in 1991, Mrs. Rollins and her sons fulfilled his interest in constructing a building to house the school. The Grace Crum Rollins Building opened in 1994.

the size of the school and re-emphasizes the Rollins family's commitment to improving public health worldwide.

"The Claudia Nance Rollins Building signifies the importance of public health at Emory and our vision of the future for public health in the United States and throughout the world," says RSPH Dean James Curran. "It is also a tangible example of support for our vision by committed donors and a symbol of shared optimism and belief in our mission."

Gifts made to Rollins during Campaign Emory have transformed the school. A major commitment from the Hubert Foundation led to the naming of the Hubert Department of Global Health, the endowment of two faculty chairs, and increased student support for global field research. Eugene Gangarosa, professor emeritus, and his wife, Rose, funded two faculty chairs to strengthen the Center for Global Safe Water at Emory. Grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are funding

the center's work to reduce waterborne diseases in Ghana, expanding the William H. Foege Fellowships in Global Health, and reducing tobacco use in China through a partnership led by the Emory Global Health Institute.

In the CNR Building, the Lawrence P. and Ann Estes Klamon Room honors their leadership as RSPH co-chairs for Campaign Emory and celebrates their support of the first endowed chair at Emory named for a sitting dean. Curran and future deans will be known as the James W. Curran Dean of Public Health.

Donors also are funding new scholarships to support expanded enrollment made possible by the school's physical growth. Alumni have played a major role in this effort, including Elizabeth Camp 83MPH, who is creating a scholarship for nurses seeking an MPH degree, which represents the largest gift from a Rollins graduate.

The CNR Building personifies the commitment of the Rollins family, who share Wayne Rollins' belief in

improving the lives of people around the world. Claudia Nance Rollins instilled in him a strong belief in service to others. He came to serve as an Emory trustee and, together with his family, provided major gifts to Candler School of Theology and Emory School of Medicine.

After Emory established the School of Public Health in 1990, Rollins agreed that a building to house it was needed. Following his death in 1991, his wife Grace and their sons Randall and Gary, who also came to serve as Emory trustees, provided a major gift to construct a 10-story building. Prior to the opening of the Grace Crum Rollins Building in late 1994, Emory named the school for the Rollins family to honor their generosity to the university.

Like Rollins himself, the RSPH rose from humble beginnings to be ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as the No. 6 school of public health in the nation. Since 1975, the school has evolved from a community health

Four faculty members currently hold Rollins professorships, including Viola Vaccarino, chair of epidemiology (center), and Lance Waller, chair of biostatistics and bioinformatics (right). They met recently with Amy Rollins Kreisler and Gary and Randall Rollins when the family visited the school. Michael Windle, chair of behavioral sciences and health education, and Ruth Berkelman, a noted expert in emergency preparedness, also hold Rollins professorships.



program with 16 students, based in a small house on Clifton Road, into a spacious two-building complex with more than 1,100 MPH and PhD students. Both buildings are linked by a glass bridge.

“The Rollins family created the footprint and the facility that allowed us to grow into one of the nation’s top schools of public health,” says Curran.

A UNIFIED COMMUNITY

With the school’s expansion, the RSPH has become a desirable destination for people in and outside of Emory. On any given day, Rollins hosts one or more special events, many of them in the 250-seat Rollins Auditorium and the Lawrence P. and Ann Estes Klamon Room, which offers a view of the Atlanta skyline from the top floor of CNR. Students and faculty heading to classes on the first floor pass by rotating exhibitions of poster art on mental

health, obesity, and other public health topics. The Rollins Auditorium accommodates large classes and major events such as the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Awards, hosted alternately by the RSPH and Goizueta Business School; the 50th anniversary celebration of the Peace Corps; and training sessions for new officers with the CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service.

The Rollins Café in the GCR Building draws students, faculty, and staff from RSPH and along the Clifton Corridor. Groups from Emory and the Atlanta community hold events and meetings in the refurbished Rita Anne Rollins Room on the eighth floor of GCR.



Stacey Mason, a second-year student majoring in health education, uses the Reading Room, a quiet place for study in the Grace Crum Rollins Building.

Prior to the opening of the CNR Building, faculty, staff, and students were spread across nine locations. Now they are housed in one complex that includes expanded space and greatly enhanced IT capabilities for classrooms, administrative and faculty offices, laboratories, distance learning,

ROLLINS BY THE NUMBERS Faculty: 264 / Includes 100+ new tenure and tenure-track faculty . . . Research funding: \$73.9 million in 2012 . . .

admission and student services, and career services.

“We’re much more of a community,” says Dean Surbey, executive associate dean for administration and finance. “When the school was located in just one building, departments were siloed on different floors. Now people leave their offices for all kinds of reasons. They have to cross the bridge to teach, go to a lecture in the auditorium, or see people in other departments. Students have space of their own. They’re everywhere.”

LIVING PUBLIC HEALTH 24/7

Students have access to both buildings all day and night. They attend class, hold poster sessions on the bridge, meet in small rooms equipped with smart technology to collaborate on projects, work at the laboratory bench or in the computer lab, and study quietly in

the GCR Reading Room. Increasingly, students seek out Rollins to become leaders in public health.

In fall 2011, the school welcomed 530 new MPH students—its largest entering class ever. In 2012, the RSPH ranked first nationally in the number of applications to an MPH program, based on data collected by the Association of Schools of Public Health. It also received the most applications in epidemiology and global health.

The school’s facilities and reputation make Prudence Goss a popular figure at recruitment fairs, where prospective students often crowd her booth. She annually attends 10 or more exhibitions held locally and around the country.

“Telling the story of our growth directly impacts students’ interest in Rollins,” says Goss, director of recruitment and student life. “Knowing that we have one of the largest

infrastructures in the country—that encourages students to visualize that next step and see themselves at Rollins.”

The school’s proximity to CDC and the Rollins Earn and Learn program, which pairs students with Atlanta-area employers, figure prominently in students’ decision to apply. “We tell them, ‘You’re going to be making significant contributions to public health before you even enter the field,’ ” says Goss.

Stacey Mason, a second-year student majoring in health education, met Goss two years ago during a local health career fair. The school’s facilities and the prospect of gaining hands-on experience in HIV prevention impressed her. She has worked with researchers Hannah Cooper and Ralph DiClemente on two different studies. “I’m learning how people in public health can close the gap in health disparities and get people into the type of care they need,”

says Mason, who majored in English at Spelman College in Atlanta.

Aiden Varan is a U.S. citizen who grew up in New Zealand, studied genetics in Australia, and volunteered as a sexual health peer educator in Uganda. He learned about Rollins from a high school classmate who received his MPH in the United States. Rollins’ reputation in global health epidemiology and infectious disease piqued Varan’s interest in the school. Stan Foster, his global health mentor, and Anne Spaulding, his epidemiology mentor, provided valuable guidance. Thanks to Spaulding, Varan helped evaluate hepatitis C rates in U.S.



During the renovation of the Grace Crum Rollins Building, this classroom was updated with smart technology to enhance teaching for instructors like Paul Weiss, senior associate of biostatistics and bioinformatics.



prisons and worked with prison staff in Haiti to develop a bilingual tool for gathering and entering data on HIV, TB, and anemia.

“Even with a large student body, there’s a strong sense of unified community at Rollins,” says Varan. “The school has incredible facilities that house public health experts across disciplines. It has a built environment that creates a rich and engaging place to study.”

SEEING THE POSSIBILITIES

Before the CNR Building opened in July 2010, Dana Barr could see the potential it held for growing laboratory science. As director of the pesticide laboratory at CDC, where she worked for 22 years, she often collaborated with Emory researchers to perform exposure assessments for their studies. A desire to develop her own studies, coupled with Rollins’ need for laboratory support to expand research in the Department

of Environmental Health, made Barr’s decision to join Rollins as a research professor an easy one. She is one of 100-plus faculty members recruited to Rollins in recent years.

In addition to developing her own studies, Barr collaborates on several projects, including one led by toxicologist Michael Caudle—another new faculty member—to measure levels of brominated flame-retardants (BFRs) in the brain. Caudle believes BFRs may be associated with the development of Parkinson’s disease.

“The faculty here work well together,” says Barr. “We don’t distinguish our labs from one another, which promotes a collaborative attitude and teaches students how to interact with others when they leave here.”

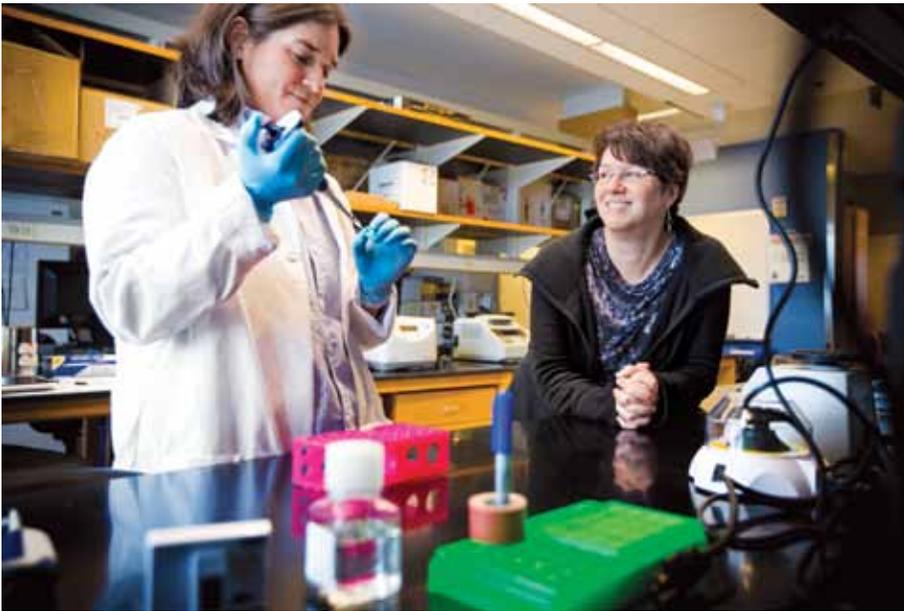
The Department of Epidemiology has added a number of faculty and students since Rollins Professor Viola Vaccarino became chair three years ago. MPH and

PHD enrollment increased steadily in 2010 and 2011.

“The school’s facilities are a plus in our recruitment efforts,” says Vaccarino. “We would not be able to accommodate new faculty and more students without the new building.”

Recruitment of junior faculty has broadened her department’s expertise in areas such as molecular epidemiology. Jennifer Mullé established a laboratory to study the genetic variants that contribute to schizophrenia. She measures these variants in DNA from saliva and blood and then analyzes the data using high-powered hardware and software. Rollins’ lab and IT capabilities make it possible for Mullé to process and store ever-growing volumes of scientific data.

“We’re moving toward more precise biological measures of the effect of environmental exposures on human genes,” says Mullé. “As we do that, we



Above: Jennifer Mullé (right), Rollins assistant professor of epidemiology, and Ann Dodd, research specialist, are studying the genetic variants that contribute to schizophrenia. Left: Economist Gail Wilensky gives the Michael M.E. Johns MD Lecture on Health Policy in the Rollins Auditorium.

need a place to measure these effects. Having that infrastructure in a school of public health is the future. It's forward thinking."

Mullé is among a cadre of faculty who serve as Rollins assistant professors. These professorships provide time and support that junior faculty need to launch their research careers.

"The Rollins assistant professorships help us recruit and retain the best people to build our research portfolio," says Lance Waller, Rollins Professor and chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics. His department includes one current and two former Rollins assistant professors, who were promoted to associate professor. "They are a great investment and show a commitment that junior faculty are part of the school and its reputation."

Endowed professorships make it possible for established faculty to grow

their research. Rollins Professor Ruth Berkelman continues to lead the Center for Public Health Preparedness and Research, established following 9/11. Michael Windle, Rollins Professor and chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education, recently received an NIH Research Scientist Award, a first for the RSPH and one of five at Emory. The grant will extend his research on alcohol abuse and alcohol disorders across the lifespan, an area he has studied for 23 years.

As Gary Miller, associate dean for research points out, the growth of the school brings new challenges. The school has 264 regular faculty members, and the large number makes it more difficult for faculty to know what other colleagues are doing. Their observation gave rise to the Public Health Sciences Grand Rounds, a monthly lecture series held in the Rollins Auditorium for faculty, staff, students, and the public. Lectures are videotaped and available on the school's website.

"It's been a very good way of fostering interaction among different programs in the school," says Miller.

Growth in the number of faculty has generated greater scientific momentum. Research funding now totals \$73.9 million and meets one of the school's

strategic goals. Laboratory space in the new building makes it possible for the school to secure more center grants, such as an \$8 million grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to establish the Southeastern Center for Air Pollution and Epidemiology in partnership with Georgia Tech. This fall, the third cohort of PhD students will enroll in the doctoral program in environmental health sciences. Today, 147 PhD students are training at Rollins—just shy of its strategic goal of 150 students. The three floors of laboratory space in the CNR Building have opened up new training opportunities for MPH and PhD students studying epidemiology, environmental health, global health, and infectious disease.

"We're still recruiting faculty to do more laboratory-based research," says Miller. "We built a substantial amount of laboratory space and currently lease a portion of it that we're not ready to occupy to the School of Medicine. This allows us to continue the growth of our laboratory research enterprise over the next several years."

MOVING FORWARD

With growth comes new aspirations. By surpassing its Campaign Emory goal of \$150 million, the RSPH carries momentum and energy into its future work. Funding priorities for 2013 include support for students, faculty, and programs. Curran has set a long-term goal of raising \$100 million for endowment to support new and ongoing initiatives. Current endowment stands at more than \$56 million.

"Growing endowment is our highest priority," says Curran. "As someone once said, the sign of the most civilized society is when old men and women plant seeds for trees under whose leaves they will never draw shade. That's the principle behind endowment—to ensure that future generations can be trained to work in the field and make discoveries that best benefit public health and the world." ■



global **IMPACT**

THE HUBERT FAMILY BELIEVES
THAT IMPROVING HEALTH WORLDWIDE
BEGINS AT ROLLINS

BY PAM AUCHMUTEY

Last year, faculty in the Hubert Department of Global Health logged enough miles to circle the world 80 times. The seventh floor of the Claudia Nance Rollins Building serves as their hub for improving the health of populations from Atlanta to Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

The department includes nearly 200 faculty with primary, joint, and adjunct appointments; more than \$16 million in research funding; and 181 MPH students. In 2011, the department had 192 students—its largest student body ever.

Students are drawn to global health at Rollins for a number of reasons—the school’s newly expanded facilities; its close ties to the CDC, CARE, the Task Force for Global Health, and other partners; opportunities to conduct hands-on research; and faculty who rank among the world’s leading experts in infectious diseases, diabetes, safe water and sanitation, nutrition, the health of women and children, and faith and health.

The Hubert Department of Global Health also stands out as the first named department of global health in the country. Its name honors the generosity of Atlanta attorney Richard “Dick” N. Hubert 60L through the Hubert Foundation, created to fulfill the wishes of his late father, O.C. Hubert, to prevent hunger and disease. After overcoming a series of legal hurdles to settle the estate, the Hubert Foundation was established, with Dick Hubert and William Foege, then executive director of the Carter Center, as trustees.

“The excellence of global health at Rollins could not have been achieved without the support of the Hubert family and a dean like Jim Curran, who has a deep interest in preparing the future guardians of the world’s health,” says Foege, now Presidential Distinguished Professor Emeritus of International Health. “It is impossible to define the impact on health in every country, now and in the future.”

Thanks to Foege’s guidance, Hubert found a way to honor his father’s wishes by helping Rollins fulfill its mission of improving health and preventing disease. “The school has the expertise and the sensitivity to deal with a global world,” says Hubert.

Through Campaign Emory, the Hubert Foundation provided major gifts and pledges to create two endowed professorships; double support for the O.C. Hubert Fellowships in International Health, enabling more students to conduct global field research; and establish the Richard N. Hubert Fund for Global Health Excellence in research and education.

“Mr. Hubert’s investment allows us to think outside the box to improve health outcomes and reduce disparities,” says Carlos del Rio, Hubert Professor and department chair. He is one of three faculty experts who have helped raise Rollins’ profile in prevention of pneumonia, diabetes, and HIV/AIDS, aided by the Hubert Foundation.

AN ALLY AGAINST CHILDHOOD PNEUMONIA

Since 2000, children born in the United States benefit from the research of Keith Klugman, who helped develop the pneumonia vaccine that is now part of their immunization regimen. As a result, invasive pneumococcal disease among young American children has decreased by nearly 80%.

Children are less fortunate in the developing world, where pneumonia claims 800,000 lives annually—more than any other childhood disease. Klugman has made it his life’s work to reverse that trend.

When the South African native joined Rollins in 2001, he was regarded as the world’s leading expert on antibiotic resistance in pneumonia. Four years later, Klugman was named the William H. Foege Chair of Global Health, funded by the Hubert Foundation in honor of Foege’s contributions to the field.

In 2003, the *New England Journal of Medicine* published the results of Klugman’s landmark study that proved overwhelmingly that the pneumococcal vaccine had the potential to save the lives of thousands of HIV-positive and HIV-negative children. Since then, Klugman has pushed to make the vaccine available to children in Africa and Southeast Asia.

“One challenge in particular is developing the evidence to show that the vaccine, when implemented in routine immunizations, reduces

Richard Hubert (left) endowed the three global health professorships held by Carlos del Rio, Venkat Narayan, and Keith Klugman.



Left: Keith Klugman (right) has been a mentor to MD/PhD student Joshua Shak, who is studying how pneumococcus biofilms, or aggregates of cells, form and reform to cause disease. Above: Venkat Narayan conducts a “lab” session on diabetes with several postdoctoral fellows from India.

 **WEB CONNECTION:** To learn about Keith Klugman’s efforts to sequence pneumococcal genomes, view the video at bit.ly/pneumoniagenome.

children’s deaths,” says Klugman. “That is largely the focus of our current research at Rollins.”

Klugman’s team has begun to evaluate vaccine effectiveness in rural South Africa by looking at the ecology of the pneumococcal bacteria pre- and post-vaccine. Ultimately, they expect their results to show that the vaccine protects children up to age 5 and interrupts disease transmission to unvaccinated children and adults.

Bacteria resistance to vaccines remains an ever-present threat, leading Klugman and several collaborators to embark on the largest project ever to sequence the 20,000 pneumococcal genomes. Researchers will collect strains of the bacteria before and after the vaccine is rolled out in four countries

in Africa and analyze existing strains in the United States, Asia, and South America. Through genetic sequencing of these strains, they hope to identify the genomic changes associated with bacterial escape from the vaccine.

Klugman is leading the five-year study, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in collaboration with the CDC, the University of Cambridge in England, the National Institute for Communicable Diseases at Wits University in South Africa, the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute unit in Malawi, the Medical Research Council in Gambia, and the Kenya Medical Research Institute.

Earlier this year, the Gates Foundation tapped Klugman to serve six months as its senior adviser on pneumonia

prevention. Students also benefit from his expertise. A conversation with Klugman led MD/PHD student Michael Mina to study how influenza vaccines may impact diseases caused by bacteria.

Mina remembers that first meeting. “Keith told me, ‘I’m fairly confident that the influenza virus is responsible for most pneumococcal disease during flu season.’ His comment stuck with me,” says Mina. “He has this wonderful ability to think broadly about the different aspects of human biology and disease.”

A NETWORK TO CURB DIABETES

One floor above the Klugman laboratory, diabetes expert K.M. Venkat Narayan runs a different sort of “lab” consisting of a round table, a few chairs, and a whiteboard.



“This is where we brainstorm and design studies,” says Narayan, the Ruth and O.C. Hubert Professor of Global Health.

The ideas generated at his small table touch people worldwide. Born and educated in India, Narayan has focused on prevention and control of diabetes for most of his career. In 2006, he left the CDC to build “something big and something global” at Rollins.

Today, he co-leads the Emory Global Diabetes Research Center in partnership with the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation in India, where he also runs a diabetes prevention study funded by the International Diabetes Federation with support from Lilly and Company. He is the principal U.S. investigator of the NIH-funded Global Center of Excellence for Prevention and Control of Cardiometabolic Diseases in South Asia, based at the Public Health Foundation of India in New Delhi. Center researchers in three cities in India and Pakistan follow 14,000 people to assess their risk of diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, chronic

pulmonary disease, and some cancers. The center plans to add another 14,000 people in 2014. Another trial involving 1,200 people at 10 sites in India and Pakistan will focus on better delivery of low-cost diabetes care and the impact of organized care on diabetes complications.

“We are growing a huge enterprise to better understand who develops disease and why and the associated risk factors, all of which spawns new avenues of research,” says Narayan. “Part of our mission is to assist countries in developing better systems of caring for those who require lifelong treatment for diabetes or cardiovascular disease.”

Mentoring young researchers is integral to that enterprise. During the past five years, Narayan and other global health faculty have garnered funding to train 42 junior investigators from low- and middle-income countries and the United States.

This network will grow stronger with the start-up of the Emory Public Health Leadership and Implementation Academy, led by Mohammad Ali,

Carlos del Rio teaches a seminar on HIV/AIDS for students and fellows at Rollins. Throughout his career, del Rio has dedicated significant time and resources to mentoring students and faculty as scientific leaders in global health.

assistant professor of global health, and funded by the Fogarty International Center at NIH. During the next five years, Rollins will train 60 professionals from India and Mexico to strengthen prevention of diabetes, cancer, mental illness, heart disease, and other noncommunicable diseases.

Shailendra Dandge, a pharmacologist from India, learned much at Rollins to develop his study on the effects of metformin, a drug used to treat diabetes, on vitamin B12 deficiency. Through his research, he will develop India’s first guidelines for early detection of B12 deficiency to prevent neuronal injury.

“I have found a strong network at Rollins,” say Dandge, one of six India Research Fellows in Noncommunicable Diseases who spent time in Narayan’s lab last fall. “One thing I’ve learned is how to look at a problem comprehensively and then narrow its focus. In

doing so, you realize you can work on different dimensions of a problem for 20 to 30 years.”

ADDRESSING HIV ON MULTIPLE FRONTS

Carlos del Rio has been at the forefront of preventing infectious diseases for nearly 30 years. A respected voice in HIV/AIDS research and training worldwide, he works equally hard to overcome barriers to prevention and treatment locally and nationally.

Earlier this year, del Rio and his collaborators published the results of the Women’s HIV SeroIncidence Study (ISIS), which showed that HIV rates for black women in Atlanta and five other U.S. cities are much higher than previously estimated by the CDC. The study is part of the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN), a global collaborative funded by NIH to test nonvaccine interventions to prevent HIV transmission. Study findings will lead to better interventions for women at risk of HIV and related problems of food insecurity, poverty, domestic violence, and crime.

“An important factor impeding design of HIV prevention trials for U.S. women is the inability to identify a definable group of women at high risk for HIV infection,” says del Rio, the Emory site leader for the HPTN. “ISIS used novel recruitment strategies and identified a population with significant risk of HIV infection.”

Training others is as important to del Rio as finding ways to prevent disease. Graduates of the Emory AIDS International Training and Research Program, which he has directed for 14 years, are helping control the global epidemic. A new consortium with Vanderbilt, Duke, and Cornell universities, led by del Rio and Narayan, is advancing global health training for early career health scientists from the United States. The Fogarty Global Health Program for Fellows and Scholars includes five university consortia that provide nearly a year of training in developing countries.

Timothy Love, a general surgery resident, and Ameeta Kalokhe, an infectious disease fellow, are the first participants from Emory. Love is in Ethiopia to help establish a registry to improve breast cancer screening, while Kalokhe is working with the National AIDS Research Institute in India to develop a scale for measuring domestic violence against married women.

and others in their development,” he says. “Mentoring is all about interacting and learning from others.”

A GROWING REPUTATION

Global health at Rollins is growing. In 2012, the school ranked first nationally in the number of MPH applicants in global health. Funding for faculty research increased by 27% between

“THE SCHOOL HAS THE EXPERTISE AND THE SENSITIVITY TO DEAL WITH A GLOBAL WORLD.”—RICHARD L. HUBERT



Linda and Richard Hubert are dedicated advocates of global health. She is a professor emerita of English at Agnes Scott College; he is an Atlanta trial attorney.

“The philosophy in training is not only to build skills, but also to expose people to other contexts,” says Narayan. “When a young U.S. investigator spends several months in a low- or middle-income country, it changes lives. They’re also able to touch a lot of lives here.”

Last fall, del Rio provided funding to support two doctoral students from his native Mexico to study at Rollins for six months. The Hubert professorship “allows me to support faculty, students,

2011 and 2012. Six of the 32 faculty with primary appointments hold endowed chairs, including former department chair Reynaldo Martorell, the Robert W. Woodruff Professor in International Nutrition. Future plans call for recruitment of more faculty specializing in chronic and communicable diseases.

“We would like to be the epicenter of global health at Emory and in Atlanta,” says del Rio. “The support of the Hubert Foundation gives us an edge.” ■

wise water

THE CENTER FOR GLOBAL SAFE WATER
IS HELPING MAKE AID SUSTAINABLE

BY KAY TORRANCE

Down a short dirt road on the outskirts of Accra, Ghana, sits an abandoned waste water treatment plant. A few bricks have crumbled. Greenery has overtaken its sides; the metal location sign is long rusted.

Some years ago, this facility was the pride of local residents and the European government that paid to build it. But just three years after it was completed, the main pump broke down. It was fixed using foreign aid money but then broke down again. And was fixed again. And broke down again. Today, it sits as a reminder that aid agencies and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), despite good intentions, may need more scientific information and guidance before rushing to complete the next big idea.

What agencies and NGOs need is a trusted adviser, and that's where the Center for Global Safe Water (CGSW) »



at Emory University comes in. Through its research, the CGSW helps governments and international donors make informed choices so their funding goes further and projects are sustainable. Recently, the center has helped focus attention on serious water and sanitation problems in urban areas in developing countries.

Its faculty and staff, which now number 45, want to take the lead in “figuring out which way to go,” says Christine Moe, director of CGSW and the Eugene J. Gangarosa Professor of Safe Water and Sanitation. “It may not always be the obvious choice”—like the wastewater treatment plant in Accra.

“I see us as adjudicators for what works or doesn’t,” says Matthew Freeman O5MPH, assistant professor of environmental health and the Rose Salomone Scholar in Sanitation and Safe Water. “Our role is to provide unbiased evidence on how water, sanitation, or hygiene improvements impact health and well-being. It’s not science for science sake—we want to inform policy and practice at the global level.”

To help determine what may work in Accra, Moe and Clair Null, assistant professor in global health and environmental health, are first identifying patterns in how residents are exposed to contamination in their environment. Their research team of Emory and Ghanaian collaborators is sampling water, surfaces, food, and soil around the city, including public latrines, schools, open drains, and the beach, all of which frequently are contaminated by excreta. Researchers also are studying people’s behavior. Where and what do they use as toilets? What are they touching? With the results, the team hopes to characterize exposure and risk.

Top: Christine Moe examines a toilet facility in Accra, Ghana, where she and Clair Null are assessing the disease risk of poor sanitation. **Right:** Moe works closely with her longtime mentor, Eugene Gangarosa. Once a year, they co-teach a course at Rollins on the control of foodborne and waterborne diseases.





“We are breaking new ground in urban, low-income communities,” Moe says. “Most NGOs have concentrated on bringing water access to rural areas. But the latest statistics from 2008 show that more people now live in cities. There are very few studies of water and sanitation problems in cities in the developing world.”

Study findings in Accra will help local policy-makers and international donors determine how to make the most effective investments in sanitation for this rapidly growing city of 4 million people, Moe says. The study is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

WHAT DO THE GIRLS SAY?

UNICEF’s “Toilet Team” is among the groups that have sought to partner with the CGSW. The agency wanted to understand better the challenges that girls in developing countries face with managing menstrual hygiene in schools and how access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at schools impacts girls’ education during menses.

This project is part of an ongoing collaboration with UNICEF, led by

PhD student Bethany Caruso manages a study to help UNICEF understand the menstrual hygiene challenges that schoolgirls in developing countries face.

Freeman, to assess equity of access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) at schools in several countries.

“Most WASH research takes the environmental approach—change people’s environment and their behavior will change,” says Bethany Caruso, a PhD student in behavioral sciences who co-designed and manages the project. “We started at the societal level by looking at policies and cultural taboos and then looked to the facilities in the school environment and the girls themselves to gain insight on how they manage their period at school.”

Caruso and four research fellows, including three Rollins alumnae, worked in the Philippines, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Bolivia. In the Philippines, the latrine was in the corner of the classroom. It had no ceiling and no running water. Girls didn’t want to use it because of the lack of true privacy. A school in Rwanda had a washroom, but the teacher held the key, and girls were often too embarrassed to ask for

Rollins offers new WASH certificate for students

Safe water is so fundamental to public health, says CGSW director Christine Moe, that water-sanitation-hygiene (WASH) research and practice generates great interest. About 80 students showed up at the center’s open house last fall to learn about a new certificate in WASH methods, research, monitoring, and evaluation. The first students in the program will graduate in May.

“This has simply come from demand,” Moe says of the WASH certificate. “All of the students I know who have specialized in water have jobs. Certainly, WHO’s Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have also pushed interest.”

Although WHO met one of its MDGs—reducing by half the number of people without access to safe drinking water—in 2012, much work remains to improve access to safe water and sanitation worldwide.

it. In Bolivia, the researchers asked girls to draw the perfect setting for handling menstrual hygiene.

“A lot of them drew trees—private natural settings,” Caruso says. “Many of them didn’t know about latrines, or they didn’t see sanitation facilities being for them.”



The team is compiling information gleaned from interviews with girls, their mothers, teachers, and boys. “One main message we had is that each place is different, even within a country,” says Caruso, who is working with the fellows to tailor recommendations for each location.

MORE THAN CLEAN WATER

In Bolivia, hundreds of children die each year from diarrhea, thousands are hospitalized, and tens of thousands seek outpatient care. These cases occur despite a vaccine that protects against rotavirus, the most common cause of severe diarrhea in infants and young children. That’s far too many lives lost, says Juan Leon, a CGSW faculty member and author of a recent paper on the topic.

The Bolivian government blankets about 80% of the country with the vaccine, which has dramatically reduced rotavirus cases and deaths. But Leon believes there may be another piece to the puzzle.

He regards diarrheal disease as a “supposedly simple condition that isn’t.” The disease may be linked to the lack of clean water in many rural areas in Bolivia. But the rotavirus also causes diarrhea in the United States, which has clean water.

“Having repeated bouts of the disease during a child’s first two years can lead to stunted growth and cognitive impairment,” says Leon. “It can affect a kid’s entire life.”

What may affect Bolivia’s rotavirus rate is moderate to severe malnutrition. Leon is addressing the connection

The Center for Global Safe Water includes 45 faculty and staff members, some of whom are pictured here, from different departments at Rollins. Joanne McGriff (right), formerly executive director of ServeHAITI, joined the CGSW this year as associate director of programs.

between malnutrition and diminishment of the vaccine’s effectiveness. In April, his rotavirus research team, which includes eight RSPH students and Emory mentees, began a wide-scale study to collect blood samples from 350 to 400 vaccinated children and their mothers.

In the Mexican state of Nuevo León, just over the Texas border, Leon is working to reduce contaminants on farm crops. His team took samples from crop surfaces, soil, farmworkers’ hands, and water used to irrigate crops. They found high levels



Although his title is “emeritus professor,” Eugene Gangarosa continues to teach students like Katherine Roguski at Rollins. He is a renowned expert on waterborne diseases and a founding father of the school.

of contamination from the workers’ hands.

“Hands are a huge source of contamination because people pick up the harvested produce, sort it, and put it on a truck,” Leon says. “The produce is handled repeatedly. The more contaminated the hands become, the more contamination occurs on the produce.”

Now his team is testing “wash breaks.” The Clean Greens study, a collaboration with North Carolina State University and the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León in Mexico, is looking to make hand washing a routine practice in Mexico. Changing hand-washing behavior, coupled with language barriers among migrant farmworkers, will be difficult.

“Some farms in Mexico have hand-washing stations, but they are often miles away from the field, so we are using jugs of water to take to the field to implement wash breaks,” he says. “Other farms are interested in a gel-based hand sanitizer solution. We’d like to see which practice the workers like more and which is more effective.”

ATLANTA, THE NUCLEUS

Back in Atlanta, CGSW faculty member Clair Null recently worked with the Georgia Institute of Technology to

develop a latrine training “mat” for children in developing countries.

“Latrine holes often are too large for children,” she says. “They can’t squat or spread their legs far enough to use the latrine, so we looked at how to help them use the latrine with safety and comfort in mind. Children also are scared or intimidated to use the latrines, and moms often don’t want them to use them because children don’t have great aim.”

The first design by Null’s team was a square wooden mat with a small hole in the middle and a handle on each side

for picking up and placing it over the latrine. It won a \$100,000 Grand Challenges Explorations Grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. “It was the only idea that dealt with children’s sanitation needs,” Null says.

Her team then contacted Jonathan Colton, a mechanical engineering expert at Georgia Tech, who asked his

students to find a way to make the mats easy to manufacture and stack. They came up with two designs in plastic and put Null in contact with a plastics manufacturer in Nairobi.

Georgia Tech is one of a number of partners that make up the CGSW, along with the CDC, CARE, and the Carter Center. They were brought together nearly 10 years ago by professor emeritus Eugene Gangarosa, one of the school’s founding fathers and a waterborne disease expert who advocated for greater collaboration among Atlanta organizations working on WASH issues. Now these partner institutions regularly collaborate on research, just as Gangarosa envisioned.

He continues to influence the center. He and his wife, Rose, have endowed two academic chairs—the Eugene J. Gangarosa Chair in Safe Water and Sanitation, held by Moe, and the Rose Salamone Gangarosa Chair in Environmental Health, soon to be filled by a sanitation expert.

The Gangaros stay in close contact with faculty and students. “To have

“TO HAVE SOMEONE OF GENE’S STATURE TELL YOU THAT HE VALUES YOUR WORK AND YOU ARE DOING A GOOD JOB IS INCREDIBLE.”—SANITATION EXPERT CLAIR NULL

someone of Gene’s stature tell you that he values your work and you are doing a good job is incredible,” says Null.

As Gene says of the couple’s gifts, “These two endowments will be drops of water in an ocean of need. Water and sanitation go hand in hand.” The CGSW will continue to find ways to lessen that need. ■

PREPARING engaged LEADERS

SCHOLARSHIPS HELP STUDENTS
FOLLOW DIVERSE PATHS
TO IMPROVE HEALTH

BY SALLY WOLFF KING 79G 83PHD

DEAN'S COUNCIL SCHOLARS

Building on life experiences

Before enrolling at Rollins last fall, Dean's Council Scholar Jacqueline Cutts founded SAFE (Safe Mothers, Safe Babies), a nonprofit organization in Uganda. Her scholarship, supported by the RSPH Dean's Council—an advisory body of business and community leaders—to help cover tuition, has allowed her to continue studying the effect of electricity, especially the absence of it, on birth outcomes in Uganda. She installed "Solar Suitcases" in hospitals, including those with no electricity. Without the solar units, doctors often cannot see clearly enough to detect complications, perform urgent surgeries, identify and stop bleeding, and address other problems.

Cutts is now analyzing data from her experiment to gauge impact. Her preliminary findings suggest that the installation of solar electricity led to a 35% increase in monthly delivery of babies.

The Rollins School of Public Health prepares students to change lives through improved health. Students are attracted to Rollins by the promise of hands-on experience that is relevant to current problems and the opportunity to be part of a community that works together to create solutions. Scholarship gifts to Campaign Emory help students, like those featured on the following pages, pursue life-changing work locally and globally.



 **WEB CONNECTION:** Watch this video to learn how Jacqueline Cutts is making childbirth safer in Uganda by introducing solar light units in hospitals: bit.ly/safemothers-babies.

An Idaho native who majored in political science at Vassar College, Cutts worked for four years with SAFE before applying to the MPH program at Rollins. She chose the RSPH because of its strong sense of community and mentoring.

“Roger Rochat, professor of global health, reached out to me when I was in the deciding phase,” Cutts says. “I had the sense that he would provide professional mentoring. I would be more of a person here and part of a community and not just a number or a random face in a group of people. I also met students here who were interested in the same topics as I am. Rollins enables students to interact with professors as well as with students.”

The Dean’s Council Scholarship “has helped astronomically,” Cutts says, to realize her goal of assisting people in developing countries. “It has been important to me to learn a skill and have it be meaningful.”

Johanna Chapin, a fellow Dean’s Council Scholar, has conducted her share of meaningful work in the field of public health. Two weeks after receiving her undergraduate degree in public health at Johns Hopkins, Chapin departed for Honduras to work with Siempre Unidos, a group of medical providers, counselors, pastors, and business leaders who offer medical care and prevention services to contain the HIV/AIDS epidemic. She served as project manager and also trained people with HIV in jewelry making. Some of her students now own jewelry businesses and can pay for their medications and support their families.

Chapin also worked with Global Brigades, a student-led nonprofit that seeks to empower communities in developing countries to improve quality of life and environment. Through its work in Honduras, Global Brigades provides medical, dental, and public



Opposite page and above: In Uganda, Jacqueline Cutts founded a nonprofit to promote safe motherhood. Left: Johanna Chapin managed health-related projects for two organizations in Honduras.

health services as well as health education, sustainable safe water, and microfinance loans for agricultural projects. In her work with this group, Chapin created a research and evaluation program to measure the impact of its programs more accurately.

After her Honduran experiences, Chapin sought further education and training in quantitative methods in research and chose to enroll at Rollins. The Wisconsin native will receive her MPH in global epidemiology in May.

“The quality of the people and the projects here interested me,” she says. “The research on HIV and in methods training is what drew me here.”

Since coming to Rollins, she has participated in “Involvement” and “The Man Project,” two HIV studies that consider racial disparities among men who have sex with men and specifically ask why African Americans in this category are at higher risk for HIV than whites. She would like to begin a doctorate to continue researching HIV prevention for high-risk populations.

“The Dean’s Council Scholarship is wonderful recognition of the work that I had been doing and of the future public health work that I seek to do,” Chapin says. “Rollins provided the opportunity for me to get a quality education. I’ve gained strong quantitative methods training in epidemiology, and that has allowed me to apply the skills I’m learning in the classroom to the problems I have encountered in the field. The scholarship allowed me to engage specifically in the work that I wanted to do.” ■



LIVINGSTON FELLOWS

Advancing science in mental health and malaria

In 2011, the Livingston Foundation of Atlanta awarded its first scholarships for PhD students at Rollins. The foundation gave two new scholarships in 2012 to help Elizabeth Walker o8MPH and Joseph Njau advance their doctoral research.

Walker received a Livingston Fellowship and a C. Randolph Jones Award to support research and development activities related to her studies in behavioral science and health education. Her dissertation considers how family and social support alleviates depression and promotes self-management in people with epilepsy. Her awards helped her purchase a laptop computer with specialized software for data analysis and present her research

at the annual conference of the American Public Health Association in San Francisco last fall.

A native of Rochester, New York, Walker taught middle school in Baltimore, Maryland, with Teach for America before enrolling as an MPH student at Rollins in 2006. She plans to become a researcher and teacher after completing her PhD. Her goal: to teach public health courses related to mental health and research methods.

"I am grateful to both donors for supporting doctoral students at Rollins," says Walker. "It really means a lot to us and our research."

Livingston Fellow Joseph Njau of Tanzania agrees. His scholarship enabled him to purchase hardware

Elizabeth Walker aspires to teach mental health and research methods. Her dissertation focuses on the self-management of people with epilepsy. Joseph Njau came to Rollins from Tanzania. He plans to devote his career to reducing the burden of malaria and neglected tropical diseases worldwide.

and software for analyzing data on the economics of malaria. "The computer helped me analyze my data for my first paper, which I recently submitted for publication, and allowed me to begin work on the second and third papers," he says. "I could not have done so without it."

Njau came to the United States as a William H. Foege Fellow in Global Health at Rollins. Established in 2003 with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, these fellowships support students from developing countries who wish to study and network at Rollins. Njau, who will graduate in May with a PhD in health services research and policy, aspires to continue working with institutions and individuals committed to reducing the global burden of malaria and neglected tropical diseases worldwide. Through research and teaching, he plans to increase the number of health economists who focus on diseases of greatest burden in sub-Saharan Africa and Tanzania in particular.

"My experience at Emory couldn't have been better," he says. "I would not have learned this much if I had stayed in Africa, or even Europe, for that matter." Before studying at Rollins, "I could see no relationship between real-life challenges and what I was learning, but here the primary goal is to focus on the problems of today. Learning theory here is geared toward addressing real-life problems. That gives me the confidence to say, 'Yes, I can do this.' The program challenged me to think and be innovative in finding solutions to current public health problems." ■

A new way of learning

Dave Palmer ¹¹CMPH had been out of school for 28 years before enrolling in the Career Master of Public Health (CMPH) program at Rollins.

“I have three boys—college aged—and I could not have gone back to school without my scholarship,” says Palmer, who benefitted from a grant from the Georgia Health Foundation (GHF). Rollins matches the grant to provide full tuition for students in the CMPH program, the school’s distance learning program for working professionals.

Prior to enrolling in the program, Palmer worked for seven years as a state public health information officer. Today he serves in that role with the Emergency Preparedness and Response program in Northeast Georgia. He covers 13 counties in his health district, based in the Gainesville, Georgia, office where physician Dave Westfall ⁰⁹CMPH is the district health director with the Georgia Department of Health. Like Palmer, Westfall is a GHF scholarship recipient and now teaches health care management to CMPH students in the classroom and online.

“The online experience was new to me,” says Palmer, who earned an undergraduate degree in journalism at the University of Georgia in 1981. “I was a traditional student who attended school in the classroom. So online learning was different. It took me a while to understand the tools, but once I did, it was an easy path.”

His CMPH degree broadened his understanding of public health in general and his knowledge of policies, objectives, and initiatives in the



Dave Palmer, a state public health information officer in Northeast Georgia, went back to school 28 years after graduating from college.

community. “I learned how to communicate to the public and educate people about health conditions and about our mission to help people,” he says.

He also learned how to take a positive approach to improve their health through prevention and public preparedness. Tobacco cessation is one example. “We talk to people in communities to explain to them the medical and financial reasons for why it is best to stop smoking,” he says. “We tell them, ‘You will feel better, breathe

better, and spend a lot less money.’”

Palmer’s degree has enhanced his professional life in other ways. “I have a better understanding of policy,” he says. “Now I look at public health issues at the state and federal level as well as at the county and local level. I can better explain data to reporters and public health to others. From the courses I took at Rollins, I learned much that we can utilize in our current work to enhance the safety and well-being of citizens in Northeast Georgia.” ■

CONNECTIONS DO MATTER



The RSPH Alumni Campaign Committee helped raise more than \$537,000 in gifts from more than 1,000 alumni. Committee members include (L-R) Grant Baldwin, Laura Zauderer Baldwin, Ariela Freedman, Anne Farland Arwood, Daniel Thompson, Melissa Alperin, Mimi Kiser, and Lisa Carlson.

Alumni put their public health skills to work for Campaign Emory

BY MICHELLE HISKEY

To raise money for Campaign Emory from fellow graduates, a group of RSPH alumni tackled the challenge as they would a public health issue.

They relied on the skills they learned at Rollins, such as community building and networking. Most of all, they worked collaboratively and carried the message that today's actions—even a small donation of time or funds—ripple to future generations.

“It was interesting to see how our whole group became a team of teams who all reached out,” says RSPH Alumni Campaign chair Virginia “Ginny” Bales Harris 7IC 77MPH. “Public health teaches you to work this way and draw people in through a sense of community. It was true for this campaign as well.”

More than 1,000 alumni gave more than \$537,000, helping Rollins surpass its \$150 million campaign goal and push it to more than \$170 million. The result went beyond dollars to strengthen alumni ties expected to provide ongoing support for Rollins.

“Every donation is a connection, and every connection matters,” says Lisa Carlson 93MPH. “Even if you can't donate money, you can give time to mentor a student or help another alumnus. It's important that Rollins continues to help those connections grow over time.”

Carlson led the “Seating Our Future” drive to sell 134 commemorative plaques for auditorium seats in the Claudia Nance Rollins Building. Each plaque, in essence, represents a team. A married couple who met while studying



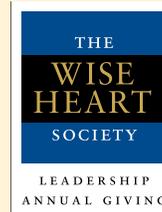
Virginia Bales Harris, RSPH Alumni Campaign chair, is matching the \$25,000 grant she received as the recipient of the J. Pollard Turman Alumni Service Award in 2012. Her \$50,000 gift will support scholarships.

INTRODUCING THE WISE HEART SOCIETY

If you graduated from the RSPH in the past decade, you can join Emory's leadership annual giving society by donating \$500. For all other graduates, the minimum entry point for the Wise Heart Society is \$1,000.

Leaders take action, create change, and inspire others. Members of the Wise Heart Society take the lead among Emory's most influential annual supporters with their generous gifts. "Wise Heart" comes from Emory's motto—*cor prudentis possidebit scientiam*, the wise heart seeks knowledge—which informs Emory's core missions of education, discovery, health care, and public service. Rollins' accomplishments would not be possible without the generosity of donors, whose support provides crucial resources that can change lives.

For information on how you can join the Wise Heart Society by making a leadership gift to Rollins, visit bit.ly/wise-rollins.



at Rollins marked their anniversary; an alumnus noted the influence of a public health pioneer; a group of students donated to honor a beloved professor.

Selling out the seat plaques, which raised \$33,500 for scholarships and other needs, required flexibility. The project began with the idea of offering engraved pavers near the new building, but production costs made Carlson's group change course. The ability to adapt also is ingrained in Rollins graduates, Harris says.

"One of the stimulating aspects of public health is that there are always new issues," she says. "Huge issues come up frequently, and a good public health education prepares Rollins students to be flexible and keep on learning, so they can be vigilant to identify the next problem early while that problem is still manageable."

Networking is powerful in public health because sharing knowledge across different fields can lead to unique solutions. It can change perceptions, which Carlson found true during Campaign Emory.

"Twenty years ago, my public health classes met on the fourth floor of the American Cancer Society building [now

1599 Clifton], and large meetings like orientation were held at the CDC auditorium," she says. "By spreading the word about seats in an auditorium that wasn't even there when I was a student, I've met many alumni who came after me whose experiences were different because of Rollins' growth.

"What was the same was that through public health, we all learned the importance of giving to generations who come after us."

The largest single gift from an alumnus was a \$100,000 bequest from Elizabeth Camp 83MPH to create a scholarship for nurses seeking an MPH degree. Scholarship funding is a school priority going forward from the campaign, and its visibility is greater through efforts such as that of Dennis Jarvis 88MPH, who is helping raise funds for the Dr. Kathleen R. Miner Scholarship Fund for Public Health Excellence.

His first obstacle was overcoming his mentor's initial reluctance. "But I'm not dead yet!" Miner protested, before agreeing to be honored. The scholarship has drawn significant donations, such as \$10,000 from Michelle Berrey 86OX 88C 92MPH, and remains only

\$10,000 short of full endowment.

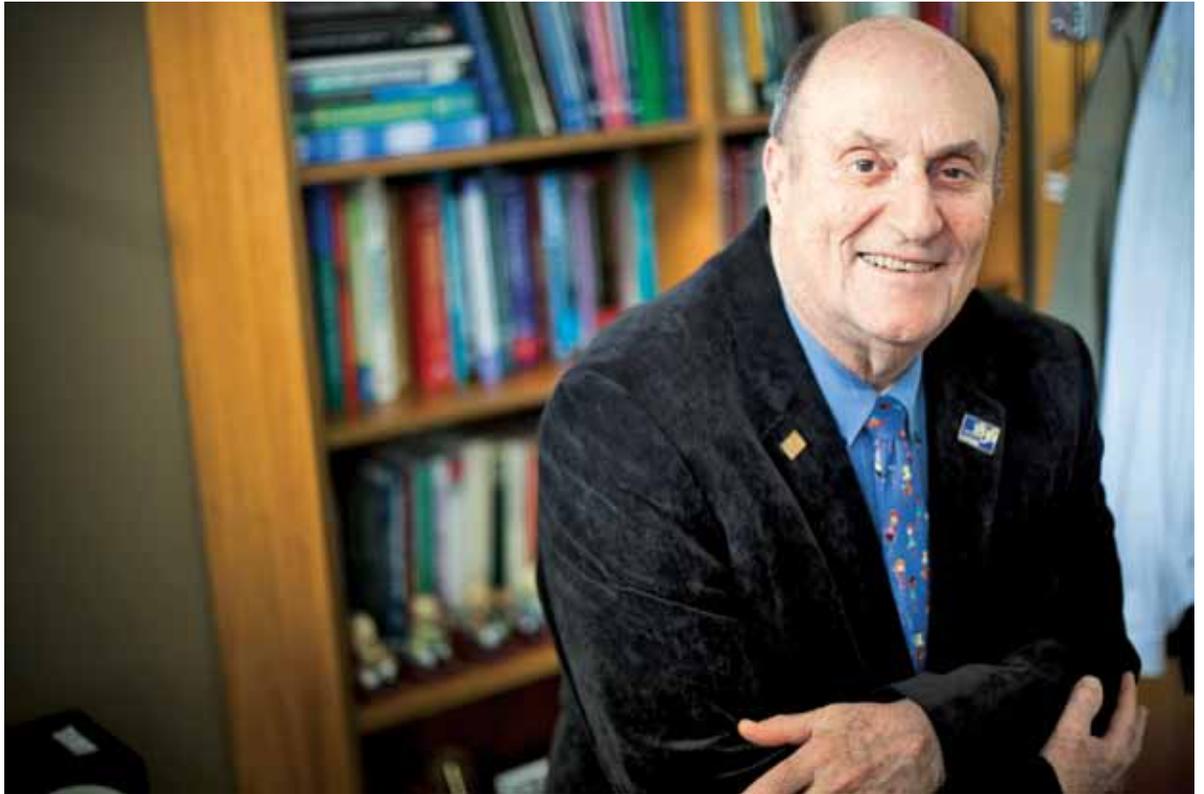
Jarvis is optimistic that former students and colleagues will help meet their \$100,000 goal as an opportune way to give back. As Miner's graduate assistant he learned that her favorite word is "opportunity."

"These opportunities were connections that she would make for her students and often were introductions that could turn into a job," says Jarvis, a public health adviser in the CDC's Center for Global Health. "I am not from Atlanta, and through her I met a lot of people who gave me a chance to work and led me to the job I have now."

The connections fostered through Campaign Emory must continue to deepen for the school to thrive for future generations of students.

"Rollins still needs its alumni's help year after year; we need them to be involved in what is happening here that touches the world," Harris says. "As good as this campaign was, if Rollins is to continue as a high-achieving school of public health, we are not close to meeting the needs, particularly for scholarships and strengthening the endowment. Continued support from alumni will make a difference." ■

Rollins Professor emeritus Michael Kutner is creating an endowment to support an outstanding junior faculty member in the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, which he led as chair for several years.



Professor's gifts recognize top talent in biostatistics

A natural leader, statistician Michael Kutner likes a challenge and has a powerful drive to make the world a better place. These traits have shaped his career and inspired him to become a philanthropist.

In addition to establishing two funds that bear his name, he is making a bequest to his home department—biostatistics and bioinformatics at Rollins—to create an endowment to support an outstanding junior faculty member.

“I’m doing this because I feel committed to building what I think is a worthy cause and that our department is worth investing in,” he says.

For more than 35 years, he has

invested in his department and the future of public health and health care by teaching, determining the best treatments for disease, and building the RSPH. Now the retired department chair is taking on a final challenge: “I’m working hard to get Emory to invest in multicenter clinical trials by recruiting people who can lead them,” he says. “It’s my swan song.”

Kutner began his career by teaching math at a Virginia liberal arts college. Although he loved teaching, he soon decided that he wanted to undertake research and develop new techniques for solving problems. He was recruited to the doctoral program at Texas A&M University and received a faculty fellowship from the National Science

Foundation. Though the level of mathematics was higher than anything he had attempted, he rose to the challenge.

Discovering a passion for biostatistics, Kutner took as many classes as he could. Biostatistics offered him the opportunity to apply his statistical skills to real-world problems—and help solve them. While physicians understood biology, disease, and medical treatment, they needed help to design experiments and analyze the results. By collaborating with physicians, Kutner could improve medical practice and help patients.

Kutner joined Emory’s fledgling Department of Biometry and Statistics in the School of Medicine in 1971 because it offered a perfect balance of teaching, collaborative work, and research, as well as the chance to develop the department. Ever attracted to a challenge and the opportunity to contribute, he played a key role in establishing the school of public health.

When Emory approved its formation in 1990, he became director of the new biostatistics division and the first associate dean for academic affairs. He helped form the organizational structure of the school and secure its initial accreditation.

After his successes at Emory, Kutner took on another challenge and left to

"I FEEL COMMITTED TO BUILDING WHAT I THINK IS A WORTHY CAUSE."—MICHAEL KUTNER

build the biostatistics and epidemiology department at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in 1994. He tripled the number of faculty members and secured the department's academic reputation. In 2000, he returned to Rollins and subsequently served as Rollins Professor and chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics from 2004 to 2009.

Honored with many awards himself—most recently, the Charles R. Hatcher Jr. M.D. Award for Excellence in Public Health—he previously endowed the Michael H. Kutner Fund to support outstanding doctoral students and the Michael H. Kutner Award in Biostatistics to recognize distinguished RSPH graduates. His most recent gift—the endowed fund—is the culmination of his life's work.

Knowing the importance of endowed funds for attracting and retaining top talent, Kutner hopes once again to lead the way.

"If enough people are willing to support Emory," he says, "it can really make a difference."—*Yael D Sherman o8PhD* ■



Vicki Hertzberg has supported Rollins since joining the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics in 1995.

Faculty and staff ensure the future of Rollins through MyEmory

Vicki Hertzberg contributes to the future of public health in more ways than one. The associate professor of biostatistics and bioinformatics devotes her time and talents to teaching students in the classroom. She also supports Rollins through MyEmory, the employee and retiree component of Campaign Emory.

Hertzberg is among the 166 RSPH faculty and staff members whose gifts totaled more than \$7.3 million, the second highest level of giving among all schools and units at Emory.

MyEmory extends Hertzberg's longtime support for Rollins, which she began during her tenure as biostatistics chair from 1995 to 2001. Through MyEmory, she designated her gifts for RSPH Scholarships and the Donna J.



Brogan Lecture in Biostatistics, which honors Brogan as professor emerita and former department chair. Faculty, staff, and students established the annual lecture when Brogan retired in 2004.

"Like many others, I admire Donna greatly for her professional accomplishments and contributions to the RSPH," says Hertzberg. "I wanted to honor her in this way."

The lectureship, which Brogan endowed during Campaign Emory, brings well-known statisticians to Rollins like Roderick



Little, a University of Michigan biostatistician who presented “The Prevention and Treatment of Missing Data in Clinical Trials” in April.

“Students have the opportunity to meet in person these impressive scholars whose work they have studied,” Hertzberg points out. “That was important to me as a graduate student at the University of Washington in Seattle. That’s why I give.”

Supporting students through MyEmory was an easy choice for Kara Robinson, associate dean for admission and student affairs.

“There is no loftier kind of work than what they do,” says Robinson, who joined the school in 2001. “They create their own sense of community and feel connected through their good work. It’s a privilege to support them in their career paths.”

Once students enroll, they quickly

become involved in various organizations and form community connections through the disciplines in which they choose to study and work. “The depth and breadth of research here is impressive,” says Robinson. “Students can find their niche here.”

Robinson assists them through MyEmory in three ways: RSPH Scholarships, the Dr. Kathleen R. Miner Scholarship Fund for Public Health Excellence, and the Global Elimination of Maternal Mortality Due to Abortion (GEMMA) Fund. RSPH Scholarships make it possible for students to attend Rollins who otherwise could not afford to do so. When fully endowed, the Miner Scholarship, established by alumni whom Miner mentored, will support students who exemplify her dedication to public health education and practice. The GEMMA Fund, created by global health professor Roger

Kara Robinson (left) supports students in three different ways through MyEmory. “They create their own sense of community and feel connected through their good work,” says Robinson. “It’s a privilege to support them in their career paths.”

Rochat and his wife, Susan, supports student research to prevent maternal deaths caused by abortion.

“Every year, I want to give a little bit more,” says Robinson. “We want all students who are able to meet the high standards for admission to be able to afford a Rollins education. Anything we can contribute to that is worthwhile.”

Rochat, chair of MyEmory at Rollins, concurs. “The passion, past experience, and intellectual and practical capacity of our students enrich us as faculty and staff and move us to support them the best way we can.”—*Sally Wolff King 79G 83PhD and Pam Auchmutey* ■

Top Honors

The RSPH Alumni Association recognizes a popular global health teacher and a rising star in epilepsy self-management

Stanley O. Foster

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Stanley Foster 82MPH has worn his share of colorful shirts and comfortable sneakers during his 50-plus years in global health. They are familiar trademarks to the legions of Rollins students whom he has taught for nearly 20 years.

Those who take his courses on global health and community building often come away transformed. In his classes, Foster encourages

students to think about where they are going and the challenges ahead. One of his students lost five family members during the 1994 genocide in his native Rwanda. Foster's class helped the young man right himself and prepare for the new life chapter before him.

"The thing I've enjoyed most is counseling students," said Foster last fall upon receiving the school's

2012 Distinguished Achievement Award—one of several honors he has received for public health practice and teaching. "The students here are fantastic. I tell them, 'If you want to make a difference in the world, come to Rollins.'"

Foster too has made a difference. As a young Epidemic Intelligence Service officer at the CDC, he examined thousands of schoolchildren



Rosemarie Kobau

MATTHEW LEE GIRVIN AWARD

Rosemarie Kobau 860X 88C 00MPH regards Atticus Haygood as a source of inspiration. Haygood, who served as president of Emory from 1875 to 1884, had epilepsy as a child.

At the CDC, Kobau works to make life better for the 2 million Americans who have epilepsy, efforts for which she received the 2012 Matthew Lee Girvin Award for outstanding young professionals. Girvin, a 1994 alumnus, died in a helicopter crash in 2001 while on a U.N. surveying mission in Mongolia.

When Kobau joined the CDC as a research fellow in 2000, she worked on quality of life research and the agency's new epilepsy program. Two years later, she became a public health adviser and acting team lead of the Health-Related Quality of Life Program. She then set to work on broadening epilepsy research to understand how people with epilepsy cope with the disorder in their daily lives.

in Arizona for trachoma and investigated other health emergencies, including plague, measles, shigella, kerato conjunctivitis, and rotavirus on behalf of the Indian Health Service. In 1966, Foster was invited to join the CDC's new Smallpox Eradication Program and spent eight years partnering with national health workers in Nigeria, Bangladesh, and Somalia. His efforts helped make history in 1980 by officially eradicating smallpox from the world.

For the next 14 years, Foster worked to improve the health and survival of children in more than a dozen African countries with the International Health Program Office at the CDC. Through his work with the Combating Childhood Communicable Disease Project, he focused on prevention;

Drawing on the success of programs to improve quality of life for people with chronic diseases, Kobau lobbied for the CDC Epilepsy Program to fund research related to epilepsy self-management. Today, the federal agency funds three national self-management programs, and three more are being tested.

Kobau also created the Managing Epilepsy Well (MEW) Network to bring researchers, community groups, and others together to explore ways to help people with epilepsy live well. Emory and five other universities belong to the network. The Emory Research Prevention Center at Rollins coordinates MEW and involves

case management of priority illnesses such as malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhea; and strengthening preventive and curative systems.

In 1994, after serving more than 30 years at the CDC, Foster began his second career at Rollins, where he has taught and mentored students in the classroom and community health workers around the world. Each summer, Foster and his wife, Dottie, travel to the highlands of Guatemala to lead an empowerment workshop for women.

"Everyone wants to have a career like Stan Foster," noted his friend and colleague, former CDC director William Foege, during the RSPH Alumni Awards ceremony. "His family is the world."—*Pam Auchmutey* ■

researchers Nancy Thompson, Cam Escoffery, and Colleen DiIorio, professor emeritus and mentor to Kobau.

"Rosemarie has worked tirelessly to broaden epilepsy research beyond cause and cures," said DiIorio during the alumni award ceremony. "There is growing interest in behavioral research and epilepsy because of her efforts."

As Kobau recounted, Atticus Haygood prayed as a child that his epileptic seizures would stop. They did so when he was a teenager.

"He would be proud to know that Emory is at the forefront of improving quality of life for people with epilepsy," she said.—*Pam Auchmutey* ■

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community of the Emory Alumni Association. Also visit "Alumni and Friends" at sph.emory.edu.



Michael Ugwueke 86MPH



John Robitscher 92MPH



Sandra Van Sant 02MPH



Eric Hunt and Keisha Edwards 03MPH



Daughter of Jennifer Blakley 990X 01C 03MPH

1980s

MICHAEL UGWUEKE 86MPH is chief operating officer and executive vice president of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare in Memphis, Tenn. He joined the health care system in 2007 as administrator of Methodist South Hospital and subsequently served as senior vice president of Methodist North and South Hospitals.

1990s

VIRGIL W. FANCHER 92MPH is a program consultant II in the environmental health branch of the Georgia Department of Community Health.

DR. KRISTIN G. HOLT 92MPH was named the 2012 Food Safety Veterinarian of the Year by the American Association of Food Safety Veterinarians, a partner of the American Veterinary Medical Association. She was honored for superior service in preventing foodborne illness as the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service liaison to the CDC.

JOHN ROBITSCHER 92MPH served on the judicators panel of the National Healthcare Providers Network competition. This panel selects winners for the Care Continuum Alliance awards for outstanding leadership in population health. Robitscher is CEO of the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors.

LISA M. CARLSON 93MPH was promoted to director of academic affairs for Emory's Department of Surgery. She also was elected vice chair of the American Public Health Association's executive board.

JAY R. WOLITZ 93MPH is the administrator for professional services at the new Nemours Children's Hospital in Lake Nona Medical City near Orlando, Fla. He provides health services administrative support to the chief medical officer and department chairs.

LISA BLOOM 99MBA 99MPH was named senior vice president of The Leadership Development (TLD) Group. Her responsibilities include new business development, marketing, client relationship and project management, research

and development, and partner outreach.

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

2000s

ANDREA NELSON 02MPH is the administrator of the Kittitas County Public Health Department in Ellensburg, Wash. She began her new role in January.

SANDRA SEGREST VAN SANT 02MPH published "Impacts of Climate Change on a Local Public Health System" in the *NACCHO Exchange* (Summer 2012). Van Sant works at Monmouth County Regional Health in Ocean Township, N.J. She and her husband, Mark, live nearby.

BORN: To **JENNIFER S. BLAKELY 990X 01C 03MPH** and her husband, Michael Jr. 000X 02C, a daughter, Blythe Catherine, on Dec. 9, 2012.

MARRIED: **KEISHA EDWARDS 03MPH** and Eric Hunt on Sept. 23, 2012.

DR. VICTORIA ELIZABETH (LIBBY) MYERS 03MPH was named Teacher of the Year at the College and Career Preparatory Academy in Winder, Ga. Raised in a family of teachers, she realized that teaching was her calling and the best way to improve children's lives. Myers and her husband, Chris, live in Statham, Ga., with their daughter, Lily.

HASSANATU BIH BLAKE 05MPH was named one of the 99 most influential foreign policy leaders under age 33 by the *Diplomatic Courier* and the *Young Professionals in Foreign Policy*. Established in 2011, the "99 under 33" list recognizes the impact of diverse Millennials on international affairs.

BLAINE W. LINDSEY 05L/MPH founded Capra Health, a comprehensive health care/life sciences reimbursement, regulatory, and compliance consulting firm with offices in New Orleans and Atlanta. His firm serves hospitals, high-volume practices, and other health care industry stakeholders across the country. Lindsey remains in close



Blaine Lindsey 05L/MPH



Heidi Soeters 06C 09MPH and Eric Hamm 08MPH



Susan Schayes 10MPH



Kimberly Brinker 12MN/MPH

contact with Rollins and is an Alumni Ambassador.

KAREN FOSTER WRIGHT 06MPH serves with the Office of Policy Coordination, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration in Washington, D.C. She previously worked on Capitol Hill and with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

ANITA OKOH BRAKO 08MPH received an MBA from Johns Hopkins in 2012.

LAUREN N. GASE 08MPH is pursuing a doctorate in health services research at UCLA.

MARRIED: ERIC M. HAMM 08MPH and **HEIDI M. SOETERS 06C 09MPH** on June 16, 2012, at Rock Quarry Farm in Chapel Hill, N.C. They honeymooned in Iceland. Soeters is completing her PhD in infectious disease epidemiology at UNC Chapel Hill, and Hamm is a medical student at the University of Arizona. They live in Tucson.

DR. SUSAN C. SCHAYES 10MPH received the 2012 Family Medicine Educator

of the Year Award from the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians. Schayes directs the Family Medicine Residency Program at Emory. She previously served as division chief and chief of service for family medicine at Emory University Hospital Midtown.

JONATHAN MATTHEWS 11MPH is a data manager at UNC Chapel Hill.

ADEDAPO ODETOYINBO 11MPH received the 2012 Outstanding Clinician Award from Emory's Department of Medicine. He was nominated by nursing leadership and hospital administration at Emory Johns Creek Hospital. "We affectionately call him 'Dr. O'," says nurse Lori Hinton. "For us, it means 'Dr. Outstanding.'"

HALEY ANNE RENZ STOLP 11MPH is a research fellow at the CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention. She will complete her fellowship in September.

LINDA VO 11MPH is a program evaluation fellow at the CDC. Previously, she was a program evaluator fellow with

the U.S. Army Public Health Command. Vo will marry Anthony Green on May 18, 2013, in Smoke Rise, Ga.

CHENJIE ZENG 11MPH is a doctoral student in epidemiology at Vanderbilt University.

NIHARIKA BHATTARAI 12MPH is pursuing a doctorate in public health at George Washington University.

KIMBERLY ANN BRINKER 04N 12MN/MPH is an EIS officer and nurse epidemiologist at the CDC.

ELIZABETH ANN BURKHARDT 12MPH is an associate principal bassoon player with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

BAEVIN CARBERY 12MPH is a data coordinator for a large CA-MRSA study at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston.

SHANARI JOSHEY CARTER 12MPH is an environmental health and safety specialist with Huber Engineered Materials in Atlanta.

MYDUNG CHU 12MPH is a CDC/CSTE applied epidemiology fellow in the Occupational Health Surveillance Program of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

NANCY CZAICKI 12MPH is pursuing a PhD in epidemiology at University of California, Berkeley.

LAUREN DANIELS 09C 12MPH is a senior research project coordinator with Emory School of Medicine at Grady Memorial Hospital.

HUI-YI (AMY) HSU 12MPH is a strategic planner for the Human and Community Development Department of DeKalb County.

BRADLEY KLOS 12MPH is a Peace Corps volunteer in Zambia.

ELLYN MARDER 12MPH is a CDC/CSTE applied epidemiology fellow in communicable and environmental diseases and emergency preparedness at the Tennessee Department of Health in Nashville.

MOLLY PILLOTON 12MPH joined the University of



Nancy Czaicki 12MPH



Amy Hsu 12MPH



Ellyn Marder 12MPH



Katharina Van Santen 12MPH

Chicago Department of Medicine, where she is the research coordinator for a study to improve retention in care among young men who are HIV-positive.

SOGOL SHOHOUDY 12MPH is a project manager in implementation services at Epic. The Wisconsin-based company develops integrated health care and EMR software.

CHRISTOPHER SIMPSON 12MPH is a doctoral student in environmental and occupational health sciences at the University of Washington.

KATHARINA VAN SANTEN 12MPH holds a contractor position as a data analyst with the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases at the CDC. She is engaged to Matt Robinson.

Alumni Deaths

SUSAN P. AYERS 01MPH of LaGrange, Ga., on July 23, 2012, at West Georgia Hospice. She was 58. Ayers retired in 2011 as director of nursing services for Georgia's District Four Health Services. She served on the Georgia Board of Registered Professional Nurses and the Community Advisory Board at Rollins.

DR. GARY MELINKOVICH 03MPH of Cheyenne, Wyo., on Sept. 5, 2012, at home with his family by his side. He was 58. Before studying at Rollins, he practiced pediatrics and later worked for the Wyoming Department of Health and as medical director for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming.

DR. MELISSA MARGARET DOWD 08MPH, age 30, on Nov. 16, 2012, in Fresno, Calif., in a pedestrian accident. She was a first-year resident in emergency medicine at UCSF Fresno Community Hospital.

DR. ASHLEY LOUISE HILLIARD 08MD/MPH of Washington, D.C. on Feb. 25, 2013. She was a physician at Georgetown Hospital and NIH.

Faculty Deaths



DR. STEPHEN THACKER, 65, a respected scientist and mentor at the CDC and an adjunct professor of epidemiology at Rollins, died from complications of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease at his Atlanta home on Feb. 15. In 1976, on his second day as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer, he traveled to Philadelphia to investigate what came to be known as Legionnaire's disease.

Thacker subsequently held several leadership roles at the CDC in epidemiology, environmental health, injury prevention and control, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, workforce and career development, and the director's office. He was known for scientific excellence, honesty, fairness, and his advocacy for women and social justice.

Throughout his career, Thacker received a number of awards, most recently the Surgeon General's Medallion, presented to him on Feb. 1 by Regina Benjamin for his contributions to the U.S. Public Health Service, the CDC, and the science and practice of public health. It is the highest award given by the Surgeon General to an individual or organization.

On Feb. 5, colleagues and friends held an appreciation ceremony for him at the CDC and created two awards in his honor for social justice and mentoring. Several of his colleagues are featured in a video tribute, including Rollins alumna Virginia Bales Harris; Philip Brachman, professor of global health; Ruth Berkelman, Rollins professor of epidemiology; and William Foege, Presidential Distinguished Professor Emeritus of International Health.

Thacker is survived by his wife, Luz; two daughters; and a grandson.

To view the tribute video and the CDC appreciation ceremony for Stephen Thacker, visit teamthacker.com/videos/.

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Family Portrait

Like their parents, O. Wayne and Grace Crum Rollins, Gary and Randall Rollins believe that investing in people is the highest form of giving. The school would not be where it is today without the generosity of the Rollins family and many others who supported Campaign Emory. To learn more about the impact of the campaign on the school, see page 6.

