



# EMORY

FALL 2010

# Public Health

Rollins School of Public Health

## Rising to new heights

**35 Years of Public Health at Emory**

1518 Clifton Road | From the Ground Up | Public Health 24/7



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## Rising to New Heights

The Rollins School of Public Health has come a long way since Emory and Atlanta health leaders established the Masters of Community Health program in 1975. What began in a small white house at 1518 Clifton Road now occupies a two-building complex at the same address. The complex includes the Claudia Nance Rollins Building, open since summer, and the Grace Crum Rollins Building, which has housed faculty, staff, and students since 1994. To learn more about the the school's evolution, turn to page 6 or watch a video of Dean James Curran at [whsc.emory.edu/r\\_rollins2010.html](http://whsc.emory.edu/r_rollins2010.html).



**EMORY**  
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**On the Cover** Students already feel at home in the new Claudia Nance Rollins Building. The nine-story building houses the departments of environmental health, epidemiology, and global health; three floors of laboratory space; and a 250-seat auditorium. Designed by SLAM Collaborative and constructed by Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, the building is set to achieve silver status for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.





This fall, we dedicated the Claudia Nance Rollins Building, joined by a glass bridge with the Grace Crum Rollins Building. The bridge has become a favorite place, connecting students, faculty, and visitors in one of the most modern public health school complexes in the world.

## Room to grow

I have always admired people who build things. My father spent more than 40 years building homes in Detroit, where I was raised. He taught me the importance of vision, discipline, collaboration, specialized skills, and hard work. Those who have played a role in our history know these values well as we celebrate 35 years as a program and 20 years as a school. Neither milestone would be possible without the wisdom of early leaders who believed in promoting health locally and globally.

While our mission remains constant, the size and scope of our efforts continue to grow. This fall, we dedicated the Claudia Nance Rollins Building, joined by a glass bridge with the Grace Crum Rollins Building. The bridge has become a favorite place, connecting students, faculty, and visitors in one of the most modern public health school complexes in the world.

The addition of a second building helps us serve the largest class of students in our school's history and accommodate the expansion of our faculty and staff. Researchers who were spread out in eight locations now work together in our facilities. The school's expansion also broadens our collaborations in public health, medicine, and nursing in Atlanta and beyond.

This year marks my 15<sup>th</sup> year as dean, and the future of public health has never been brighter. For students embarking on new careers, the prospects are exciting and constantly changing. New horizons still beckon as we live and work longer. Yet our vision for public health is just what Rollins' pioneers intended—to extend the benefits of health to all.

Sincerely,

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

# New center expands diabetes prevention

Initiative creates training networks to promote lifestyle interventions in communities

According to the CDC, an estimated 23.6 million Americans live with diabetes. The Diabetes Training and Technical Assistance Center (DTTAC) aims to reduce that number.

Established with a \$2 million grant from the CDC's Division of Diabetes Translation, DTTAC is modeled after the Tobacco Technical Assistance Consortium. Based at Rollins, both programs provide training, expertise, and materials to state public health departments to strengthen leadership, organizational capacity, and partnerships in prevention and control. DTTAC also works with the CDC's National Diabetes Prevention Program, the framework for community-based lifestyle intervention to prevent type 2 diabetes among those at high risk of the disease.

"We need to act with urgency to reach individuals and their families early if we are to prevent and reduce suffering from diabetes," says Linelle Blais, DTTAC director. "By developing services that build capacity, our goal is to better equip local, state, and national partners to deliver evidence-based community interventions and effective diabetes programs."

DTTAC is helping spearhead the national rollout of a lifestyle intervention program modeled on research from the NIH's Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) clinical trial. Wendy Childers O4MPH is heading DTTAC's effort to develop curriculum and training networks for "master trainers" and "lifestyle coaches" who will lead the 16-session intervention

at various sites around the country. The program seeks to prevent diabetes by helping participants adopt healthy lifestyle habits such as being physically active at least 150 minutes per week and losing 7% of their body weight. In the DPP clinical trial, participants who made these changes saw their diabetes risk drop by 58%.

The success of diabetes prevention programs at Indiana University, the University of Pittsburgh, and YMCAs around the country will also shape DTTAC training. Experts regard these examples as cost-effective models.

"Having consistent, high standards for trainers and coaches is critical for the success of lifestyle intervention programs to prevent type 2 diabetes," says Ann Albright, director of the CDC's Division of Diabetes Translation.



Linelle Blais directs DTTAC, which works in partnership with the CDC and state health departments to prevent diabetes.

In October, DTTAC and its partners hosted a training program in Atlanta for more than 300 diabetes and tobacco control professionals from around the country. The program offered more than 20 courses for experts to enhance the training and technical services in diabetes and tobacco prevention that they provide for their communities.—Ashante Dobbs ■

## BOOKSHELF

### Heroes of the EIS

During orientation, new Rollins students discussed *Inside the Outbreaks: the Elite Medical Detectives of the Epidemic Intelligence Service*. Author Mark Pendergrast covers the history of the EIS, founded in 1951. Several Rollins faculty (current and former) who served with the EIS are included: John Boring, Philip Brachman, James Buehler, William Foege, Stanley Foster, Eugene Gangarosa, Jeffrey Koplan, John McGowan, Godfrey Oakley, Roger Roachat, and Mark Rosenberg. RSPH Dean James Curran, who is an honorary EIS officer, is cited for his leadership at the CDC during the early days of the AIDS epidemic. Daniel Blumenthal, Daniel Budnitz, Ali Khan, and other Rollins alumni also are mentioned.



## Researchers seek links between genes, social environment

**Public health experts and human geneticists** are coming together to better address the risky behaviors that so many children and families confront.

Behavioral sciences research professor Gene Brody leads the Center for Contextual Genetics and Prevention Science (CGAPS) at Emory and the University of Georgia (UGA). Funded by a five-year \$5.6 million



Gene Brody

grant, CGAPS is one of six Core Centers of Excellence supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Through CGAPS, researchers at Emory and UGA will undertake studies on genetics and the social determinants of health, particularly among African American children, youths, and families. CGAPS will fund pilot studies for start-up projects and train future investigators. It also will serve as a repository for genetic

and environmental data gathered from 4,000 African American families in Atlanta and rural Georgia. A laboratory at the University of Iowa will analyze the genetic and epigenetic (the nongenetic causes of gene expression) data provided by these families. Researchers then will tap into this data to analyze how the interplay of genetics and social determinants affect the health and well-being of children, adolescents, and young adults.

The idea for the center evolved from discussions among Brody's colleagues at Emory, UGA, the University of Iowa, and Washington University in St. Louis. Center researchers from Emory include behavioral scientists Michael Windle, Ralph DiClemente, Gina Wingood, and Jessica Sales in the



Emory and UGA researchers are looking to understand how genetics and social risk factors affect youths.

RSPH and geneticist Joe Cubells in the School of Medicine.

"There is abundant data on how families can prevent risky behaviors," says Brody. "Recent research by our team has shown that the protective family process can ameliorate genetic risks for youths' involvement in risky behavior. Our goal at CGAPS is to improve the quality of prevention programs to make them more effective." ■

## Education leaders share ties with Rollins

Former faculty lead schools of public health

**An alumnus and a former** department chair now lead two of the nation's 43 schools of public health.

Edwin Trevathan 82MD 82MPH is dean of the School of Public Health at St. Louis University, while Howard Frumkin, former chair of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, is dean of the University of Washington School of Public Health.

Trevathan is a two-time veteran of the CDC. During the 1980s, he worked with the agency's Epidemic Intelligence Service. For the past three years, he directed the CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and

Developmental Disabilities. Last year, he led CDC planning efforts to protect children from H1N1.

Before rejoining the CDC in 2007, Trevathan served on the faculty at Washington University School of Medicine. There he directed the division of pediatric and developmental neurology and was neurologist-in-chief at St. Louis Children's Hospital.

Frumkin joined the RSPH in 1990 to chair the division of environmental and occupational health. He quickly became a popular teacher and leading expert on urban sprawl and the built environment, air pollution, PCB toxicity, climate change,

and environmental and occupational health policy. Frumkin stepped down as chair in 2005 to direct the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. He most recently served as special assistant to the director for climate change and health.

"Our students have been the beneficiaries of Dr. Frumkin and Dr. Trevathan, who served our school as adjunct professors in recent years," says RSPH Dean James Curran. "We take pride in their accomplishments as they begin their new roles in public health education." ■



Edwin Trevathan is the first alumnus to become dean of a school of public health.



Howard Frumkin is former chair of environmental health.

## Saudi health leaders partner with Emory



**This summer, epidemiology major** Jessie Gleason became the first Rollins student to benefit from a new partnership with Saudi Arabia. The five-year agreement between Emory and the Saudi Ministry of Health (MOH) opens the door to collaborative training and research for public health students and professionals. Emory President James Wagner, RSPH Dean James Curran, and Saudi Minister of Health Abdullah

RSPH Dean James Curran accepts a gift from Saudi Minister of Health Abdullah Al Rabeeah after signing a partnership agreement.

Al Rabeeah signed the agreement last spring.

Gleason spent six weeks gathering data for her study on tuberculosis trends in Saudi Arabia by geographic region, age, nationality, and gender from 2005 to 2009. The study will form the basis of her master's thesis.

"I'm looking at each province's trends in notified TB cases, and more specifically by nationality," says Gleason. "By investigating these trends, we plan to better target high-risk groups and areas and recommend ways to improve case detection and programs to lower incidence rates."

While in Saudi Arabia, Gleason worked with several health experts,

including Ziad Memish, assistant deputy minister of health for preventive medicine. Memish is among the MOH officials who approached the RSPH about training public health students from his country. The first Saudi students will enroll at Rollins next fall, supported by MOH scholarships. Scott McNabb, an adjunct professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health, and Victoria Phillips, associate professor of health policy, traveled to Saudi Arabia this past summer, in part to support Gleason. McNabb will return there this fall to advise prospective students. Recently retired from the CDC, McNabb worked three years with Saudi public health

officials to develop an integrated disease surveillance system. Last year, he collaborated with the Saudi MOH to better prepare for a possible H1N1 outbreak during the Hajj, the annual pilgrimage of 2 million Muslims to Mecca. When Memish expressed a need to train public health students, McNabb referred him to the RSPH.

"Our partnership with Rollins is going to be an interesting endeavor," says Memish, an adjunct professor. "By involving experts and students from both countries, we can learn from each other and improve the quality of services we provide through the Ministry of Health."—*Pam Auchmutey* ■



# 1518 Clifton Road

BY PAM AUCHMUTEY | PHOTOS BY BRYAN MELTZ

Thirty-five years ago, few may have noticed the white, blue-shuttered house at 1518 Clifton Road. Inside the modest structure was a small and dedicated group of experts concerned about the health of communities. Like proud parents, the founders of Emory's public health program knew it was destined to succeed.

Today, the Rollins School of Public Health resides in two multi-level buildings in which the signs of success are apparent. "Emory strives to be a destination university, and the school's newly expanded complex is designed to be a destination for public health research and education," says President James Wagner.

Wright Caughman, interim executive vice president for health affairs, calls the school "an international force in serving the health needs of the planet."

For the past two years, construction of a second public health building created its share of inconvenience and interest. Amid the scaffolding, dust, and noise, applications and acceptances to the school rose by more than 10% after prospective students toured the school last spring.

"The building portrays optimism for the future," says Dean James Curran. "It shows that we're committed to public health and research at Emory."

Likewise, the building helped Paige Tolbert recruit seven new faculty

## A school rises to become a global destination for public health

The addition of the Claudia Nance Rollins Building (right) more than doubles the physical size of the school. The Rollins complex is designed to be open and welcoming to students, faculty, and community partners. It includes the newly renovated Grace Crum Rollins Building (not shown), completed in 1994.

members in environmental health during the past 18 months. She began touring the school's expansion to prospective faculty after becoming department chair in 2007, a year before construction began. The promise of new laboratory space aided her recruitment efforts and helped new and established faculty in their bids for new research funding. By fall 2011, the department expects to enroll its first PhD students. "This takes us to a new place," says Tolbert of her department's growth.





# FROM THE GROUND UP

35 years of public health at Emory

This year marks four milestones for the Rollins School of Public Health: 35 years as a program, 20 years as a school, James Curran's 15 years as dean, and the opening of the Claudia Nance Rollins Building. All reaffirm that Rollins' location in Atlanta—the epicenter for public health—and its partnerships with area institutions have provided a strong foundation for building a school from the ground up.

BY TARVIS E. THOMPSON

## 1972

Medical school faculty members Tom Sellers and Bill Marine discuss an idea to begin a community health training program with Dean Arthur Richardson.

**1974** Under the leadership of community medicine chair Tom Sellers, Bill Marine leads an executive planning group that includes David Sencer (CDC), George Wren (Georgia State University), Abbott Ferris (Emory sociology and anthropology), E.C. Hall (Emory biometry), and Sellers.

Bill Marine and Tom Sellers



Indeed, prospects are bright throughout the RSPH as it marks 35 years as a program, 20 years as a school, and 15 years of leadership under Curran. All of these milestones coincide with the opening of the Claudia Nance Rollins Building and the renovation of the Grace Crum Rollins Building. The addition of the second building more than doubles the physical size of the school to create a complex that firmly anchors Emory's health sciences corridor along Clifton Road and raises Rollins' visibility as one of the top schools in the field.

"What emanates from the school is as important as what comes into the school," says Michael Johns, university chancellor and former executive vice president for health affairs. "We want to be a place that attracts the very best students, staff, and faculty. We produce new knowledge. We educate students to become public health workers and leaders. It's the coming and going that makes this place special."

When Johns arrived at Emory in 1996, Curran had become dean of Rollins, a relatively new school, the year before. Despite the school's young age, it had already attracted a critical mass of teachers, researchers, and students. "The whole thing was primed to go," Johns recalls. "The stars were aligned."

### Laying the foundation

When Johns and Curran joined Emory, the RSPH had been a work in progress for two decades. The foundation was laid in the form of the Masters of Community Health (MCH) program that

## 1974

On September 19, Emory's Board of Trustees approves the Masters of Community Health (MCH) program and degree.



Dean James Curran chats with students on the bridge that connects the school's two buildings.

students, administrators moved their offices from Grady Memorial Hospital to the small house at 1518 Clifton Road, now the permanent address for the school. By the early 1980s, the program was accredited and had expanded into two additional houses and a trailer nearby. The program was growing but operating at a deficit. Then, in 1982, CDC veteran Eugene Gangarosa, who also founded the public health program at American University of Beirut, became director.

From the start, Gangarosa envisioned a public health school with its own building. He used Emory's proximity to the CDC to attract more

students, increasing enrollment from 16 to approximately 40 part-time students during his first year. He asked his CDC colleagues to teach as adjunct faculty, thus raising the number of courses from 12 to 55. The number of full- and part-time program faculty grew as well, providing expertise to establish tracks

and the Emory School of Business.

"From the beginning, they wanted the program to be a center of excellence for public health training and capitalize on the location of Emory, the CDC, and other partners in Atlanta," says 1977 graduate Virginia Bales Harris, who served with the CDC for 35 years.

The same year that the MCH program admitted its first

## 1974



Constance Conrad (School of Medicine) and Kathy Rufo (CDC) develop a curriculum. Roland "Knob" Knobel (Georgia State), David Sencer (CDC), Richard Levinson (Emory sociology), and Bill Marine teach core courses.

Constance Conrad and Kathy Rufo

## 1975

MCH program administrators move from Grady Memorial Hospital to a small house on campus at 1518 Clifton Road.

The first class of 16 students is admitted. Tuition is \$88 per quarter hour.

**1976** Connie Conrad becomes MCH program director. John Boring and John McGowan join the faculty to teach measurement science. Fred Kennedy joins the program in 1977 to teach management.



Faculty and students who launched the MCH program

MILESTONES IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
1977: Smallpox is eradicated.



in international health, environmental and occupational health, epidemiology, and health education.

In 1983, Emory changed the program's name from Masters of Community Health to Masters of Public Health to convey a larger worldview. This mindset reflected Gangarosa's own experiences working overseas and for which he would later provide scholarship support for students to work in other countries. "You can't teach public health entirely in the classroom," Gangarosa observed during the school's 10th anniversary in 2000.

Momentum to create a school began to build in 1987, when the School of Medicine appointed Ray Greenberg to oversee its new Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. A year later, the department and the MPH program moved to the new American Cancer Society (ACS) Building on Clifton Road. The move strengthened an already close working relationship among colleagues and propelled the program to become a division in 1989. In September 1990, Emory's Board of Trustees granted the division school status and appointed 35-year-old Greenberg as dean. It was the first new school of public health to be established at a private academic institution in 50 years and the first new school at Emory since 1919, when the business school was born.

### School on the rise

Greenberg had his work cut out as dean. "It was a double challenge," says Greenberg, now president of the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston. "Not only was



O. Wayne and Grace Crum Rollins shared a commitment to improving health. His mother, Claudia Nance Rollins, instilled in her family a strong belief in service to others.



the school getting established, but faculty were also getting established. Many of them were at the beginning their careers. If you were looking for an established place to start your career, this was not the place for you. If you were an individual looking for a place where you could make a significant impact, that was the kind of person who was coming to us."

Many of those faculty remain with the school today: Gangarosa, John Boring, Richard Levinson, Kathleen Miner, Nancy Thompson, Michael Kutner, and Roger Rochat, among others.

"A lot of people have made the school their life's work," says Kathryn Graves, who joined the MPH division in 1989 and now serves as associate dean for development and external relations. "They have shared their talents and wisdom from the beginning."

Graves was among those who helped Greenberg face another daunting task: raising funds for the new school. "Fortunately, we became very blessed very quickly," he says.

Under Greenberg's leadership, the number of faculty tripled, and student enrollment doubled. The Kellogg and Humphrey fellowship programs were established, raising the school's stature nationally and internationally. The school's research portfolio emerged second behind the School of Medicine. Partnerships flourished within the university and with the CDC, ACS, the Arthritis Foundation, the Carter Center, CARE, the Task Force for Child Survival and Development (today's Task Force for Global Health), and the state of Georgia. The school quickly outgrew its rented space in the ACS building.

Among the school's blessings was Atlanta businessman and Emory trustee O. Wayne Rollins. When the topic of a school of public health building was raised during a fund-raising meeting, Rollins expressed his support. He and his family were longtime supporters of Emory, with major gifts to Candler School of Theology and the O. Wayne Rollins Research Center in the School of Medicine. After

the philanthropist died unexpectedly in 1991, his wife Grace and their sons Randall and Gary provided a major gift to construct a 10-story building to house the School of Public Health. 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.

When Greenberg left Emory for MUSC in 1995, Emory chose James Curran as the school's next leader. "The fact that he is now the longest-serving public health dean in the country has been important to Rollins' success," says Greenberg.

### The next tier

Curran has followed two paths in public health. During his 24 years with the CDC, he spent 15 of those years leading the nation's efforts against the HIV/AIDS epidemic. While at the CDC, Curran had a front row seat to watch the growth of the RSPH.

"The founders of the school had a vision of global health while recognizing that most of the faculty and graduates would be working on health problems germane to the state of Georgia and the United States. Having that dual focus was important," says Curran.

"When I came to the school, I saw a place that, although it was new, was grounded in excellence in teaching and research," he adds. "The school was part of an excellent university in a city renowned worldwide for public health. And we were the first U.S. school of public health to be named after a supporter. I could see nothing but potential."

Curran has not been disappointed. In 1995, research funding totaled approximately \$13 million. Today it stands at more than \$64 million, supporting local, national, and global efforts in cancer epidemiology, nutrition, environmental health, HIV/AIDS education and prevention, addictive behaviors, youth violence, antibiotic resistance, diabetes and obesity, health policy, and health resource allocation.

More than 20 faculty members hold endowed chairs, including diabetes researcher K.M. Venkat Narayan (the Ruth and O.C. Hubert Professor in Global Health) and antibiotic resistance expert Keith Klugman (the William F. Foege Chair in Global Health). Both researchers are based in the Hubert Department of Global Health, the first solely named department on the Emory campus and the first such named department in a U.S. school of public health. Last year, Emory HIV specialist Carlos del Rio joined the department as Hubert Professor and chair. The Hubert Foundation, which funded all three professorships, has provided more than \$13 million to the RSPH, honoring the wishes of the late O.C. Hubert, a Cobb County landowner, to improve health.

The school has evolved in other directions. Curran co-directs the NIH-funded Center for AIDS Research, uniting the resources and expertise of more than 300 Emory scientists and clinicians to prevent and treat the disease. The CDC-funded Emory

Prevention Research Center works with community partners in rural Georgia to reduce cancer rates. Health policy professor Benjamin Druss holds the Rosalynn Carter Chair of Mental Health, the first joint appointment between the RSPH and the Carter Center.

Following 9/11, the Rollins family provided funding to establish the Center for Public Health Preparedness and Research, directed by Rollins Professor Ruth Berkelman. Christine Moe, the Eugene J. Gangarosa Chair in Safe Water, leads the Emory Center for Global Safe Water. Biostatistician DuBois Bowman directs the Center for Biomedical Imaging Statistics, the first such center in the nation. The Tobacco Technical Assistance Consortium, formed to prevent smoking in the United States, has spread its mission to China in partnership with the Emory Global Health Institute.

Faculty numbers behind these initiatives keep growing. During the past year, Rollins added 13 faculty members, raising the total to 180 regular faculty (in addition to more than 400 adjunct faculty). Enrollment too has climbed. In fall 2000, the school had 680 MPH and MSPH students. This fall, the school will have more than 1,000 students,



Ray Greenberg >>

### 1980

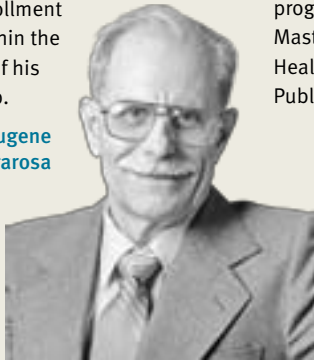
Emory's community health program receives accreditation along with two other programs in the nation.

MILESTONES IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
1981: A CDC report describes the first cases of AIDS.

### 1982

Eugene Gangarosa joins Emory to direct the community health program. Enrollment triples within the first year of his leadership.

>> Eugene Gangarosa



### 1983

Emory changes the program name from Masters of Community Health to Masters of Public Health (MPH).

### 1985

The late Virginia DeHaan, a 1977 graduate, writes the MPH program's second accreditation report. The program receives an overwhelming endorsement.

Roger Rochat and Mike Lane establish the international health track with assistance from Joan Herold. Clark Heath and John Richardson establish the environmental and occupational health track. Alumni Kathy Miner and Nancy Thompson return to Emory to establish the health education and epidemiology tracks.



Virginia DeHaan >

### 1987

The School of Medicine creates the Department of Epidemiology (led by John Boring) and Biostatistics (led by Michael Kutner). Physician Ray Greenberg oversees the department.

### 1988

With growth of the student body and faculty, the MPH program moves to the fourth floor of the newly constructed American Cancer Society headquarters on Clifton Road.

MILESTONES IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
1988: The American Cancer Society moves from New York City to Atlanta.

### 1989

The MPH program becomes a division of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center. Charles Hatcher, Emory's vice president for health affairs, advocates elevating the program to school status. Jeffrey Houpt, dean of the medical school, also supports the idea.

## 1990

On September 13, Emory's Board of Trustees grants school status to the MPH division, making it the first new school at Emory in 71 years. Ray Greenberg is named dean.

The number of MPH graduates climbs to more than 300.



including 461 new MPH students—the largest number of entering graduate students ever. The school's five doctoral programs have 130 students, nearly triple the 1997 level. Each fall, the school welcomes mid-career professionals from other countries for a year of study as Hubert H. Humphrey, Edmund S. Muskie, William F. Foege, J. William Fulbright, and NIH Fogarty International Center fellows.

A number of factors account for the increase in students: Expanded degree program offerings in global epidemiology, global environmental health, distance learning and accelerated programs; certificate programs in human rights, faith and health, and public health informatics; dual degrees in medicine, nursing, physical therapy, medical science, law, business, and theology; internships with partner agencies such as CARE and ACS; the Global Field Experience program, enabling more than 75 students to spend summers abroad; and a growing body of alumni and students whose skills and knowledge inform the choices of future students. According to the Association of Schools of Public Health, Rollins is No. 1 in the nation in the number of global health applications and No. 2 in applications overall.

"The Rollins name is global because of our students," says Kara Brown Robinson, associate dean for admissions and recruitment. "Faculty take



Viola Vaccarino (left) joined the school this year as Rollins Professor and chair of epidemiology to expand her research in cardiovascular epidemiology and help train more future scientists. "I see myself in the students around me—how I struggled initially to become established as a researcher," says Vaccarino.

time to work with students and help them develop their professional goals—word gets around. And we are located in the public health capital of the world. Our relationship with our partner agencies provides applied public health experiences for students while they are in school."

For the past 10 years, Viola Vaccarino served primarily in the School of Medicine with a joint appointment in the Department of Epidemiology. She now leads that department as Rollins Professor and chair. An expert in cardiovascular epidemiology, Vaccarino joined the school full time to stretch beyond her own research and immerse

herself more fully in training students.

"I see myself in the young people around me—how I struggled initially to become established as a researcher," she says. "They have the same questions and problems that I had. I want to do this for the next generation and share what I was fortunate to have."

### Designs on the future

Vaccarino became department chair last spring as the Claudia Nance Rollins Building moved closer to completion. At 190,000 square feet, the nine-story building provides much-needed elbowroom for teaching and research. After the Grace Crum Rollins Building



The Rollins Auditorium offers ample seating and high-tech teaching tools for large classes like the statistical methods course taught by Patrick Kilgo.

opened in 1994, faculty and staff who had worked in the ACS Building wondered how they would ever fill up 140,000 square feet of space. By 2000, the school had run out of room, with faculty and staff spread out in seven locations on or near campus. The Rollins family understood the need and in 2007 made a \$50 million commitment toward the \$90 million cost to

construct a second building and renovate the Grace Crum Rollins Building. Named for O. Wayne and John Rollins' mother, the Claudia Nance Rollins Building extends the family's ties with the RSPH to five generations. Fittingly, a glass-enclosed bridge connects the two buildings to form one complex where faculty and students mingle and flow back and forth.

"You can almost think of it as a family tree reflecting two different generations," says Claire Sterk, Emory senior vice provost and Charles Howard Candler Professor of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education in the RSPH. "The bridge symbolizes one family and one complex."

Those concepts were important to building planners from the beginning. "We're not replacing one building with another," says Dean Surbey, associate



« Fred Kennedy and Michael Kutner

**1990** Greenberg appoints Fred Kennedy as associate dean for management and planning and Michael Kutner as associate dean for academic affairs. The school has five divisions (behavioral sciences, biostatistics, environmental health, epidemiology, and health policy) and a Center for International Health.

**1991** Emory philanthropist O. Wayne Rollins dies unexpectedly. His wife Grace and sons Randall and Gary fulfill his interest in a building to house the school with a major gift. The school establishes the Center for Public Health Practice, led by Joyce Essien.

MILESTONES IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
1992: The CDC expands its name to become the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**1993** In April, Grace Crum Rollins breaks ground for the building that will bear her name.

Gene and Rose Gangarosa establish the Eugene J. Gangarosa Scholarship Fund to provide global research opportunities for students.



Carol Hogue joins the RSPH as the Jules and Uldeen Terry Chair in Maternal and Child Health (the school's first endowed chair) and establishes the Women's and Children's Center. Other faculty join the school, including Reynaldo Martorell, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of International Nutrition.

» Grace Crum Rollins

The Grace Crum Rollins Building »

**1993** Emergency medicine physician Arthur Kellermann establishes the Center for Injury Control.

Philip Brachman directs the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program for mid-career professionals from developing countries and Central and Eastern European nations.



During winter break, the school moves into the Grace Crum Rollins Building at 1518 Clifton Road.

MILESTONES IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
1993: CARE moves its headquarters from New York City to Atlanta.

**1994**

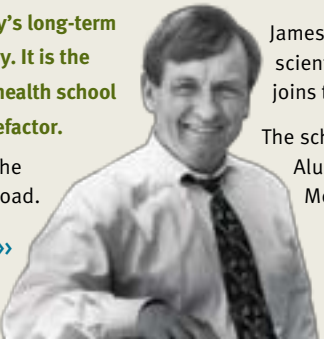
The school is named the Rollins School of Public Health to recognize the Rollins family's long-term support for Emory. It is the first U.S. public health school named for a benefactor.

James Curran »

**1995** Ray Greenberg resigns as dean to become vice president for academic affairs and provost at the Medical University of South Carolina.

James Curran, an internationally recognized scientist who led the CDC's AIDS effort, joins the school as its second dean.

The school presents the first Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award to Marie McLeod 90MPH.





Right: Environmental health chair Paige Tolbert (right) recruited analytic chemist Dana Barr to help grow laboratory science. Far right: The open staircase in the Claudia Nance Rollins Building promotes a sense of movement and community.

dean for administration and finance and the school's construction project manager. "Both buildings are designed to be open and welcoming for faculty, students, and our community partners."

Departments occupying the new building—global health, epidemiology, and environmental health—will use the 20,000 square feet of laboratory space to full advantage, as will medical school researchers who occupy one of the three lab floors. On one level, disease ecologists Karen Levy and Justin Remais in environmental health will share lab space with safe water expert Christine Moe in global health. Keith Klugman, whose heart lies in preventing pneumonia in young African children, will share space with Moe and David Stephens, a School of Medicine infectious disease expert and Emory vice president for health sciences research.

"The labs help integrate interests across departments because they are



based on who can share ideas and equipment to generate more collaboration," says environmental health's Paige Tolbert.

That's one reason why Tolbert brought analytic chemist Dana Barr on board. Until last year, Barr directed the pesticide laboratory at the CDC, where she has worked for 22 years. Tolbert recruited her to tap her expertise in developing biomarkers of disease.



Barr's work overlaps with Gary Miller's work on environmental factors in Parkinson's disease and studies by Anne Riederer and Barry Ryan to improve measurement of pesticide exposure among infants in Thailand.

Over in the Grace Crum Rollins Building, the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics inhabits



Faculty can configure rooms in the Claudia Nance Rollins Building to suit their teaching styles. Juan Leon, assistant professor of global health (second from right), often teaches students in small groups.

screens in both buildings. Faculty can configure smaller classrooms to fit their teaching styles.

"In today's environment, a classroom no longer consists of four walls with chairs," says Carlos del Rio. "A lot of learning happens online and by using different forms of media. What's the point of my giving a talk on Zambia when I can push a button and someone in Zambia can give a talk?"

## View from the top

On the top floor of the new building, an outdoor terrace provides a stunning view of Emory, the CDC, and the city skyline. In several respects, the view embodies Rollins' rise to the top.

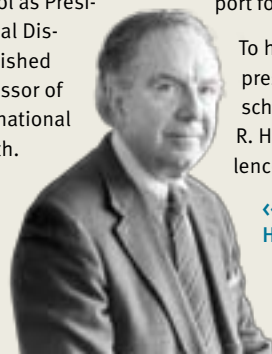
"Looking out from the balcony, it occurs to me that Atlanta is fortunate to have this jewel," says Lawrence Klamm, who co-chairs Campaign Emory for the RSPH with his wife Ann. "In the space of 20 years, the school has come from modest beginnings to become a world-class institution—one that faculty, students, Emory, and Atlanta can be proud of." ■

Online: To see a video of Dean James Curran discussing the Rollins School of Public Health, go to [whsc.emory.edu/r\\_rollins2010.html](http://whsc.emory.edu/r_rollins2010.html).

**1996** The Dean's Council, an outgrowth of the Founding Advisory and Community Advisory boards, is established.

The MD/MPH program is formed, one of several joint degree programs the school comes to offer in nursing, business, law, physical therapy, medical science, and theology.

**1997** William Foege joins the school as Presidential Distinguished Professor of International Health.



The O. Wayne and Grace Crum Rollins Endowment Fund is established to provide unrestricted support for academic needs.

To honor the former vice president for health affairs, the school establishes the Charles R. Hatcher Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Health.

<< Charles Hatcher

>> Linda, Richard, and Ruth Hubert

**1998** The Hubert family establishes the O.C. Hubert Fellowships for student research in other countries.



**1998** The Emory Woman's Club endows a scholarship, bolstering the school's effort to raise support for students. Other named scholarships honor Thomas F. Sellers, Sallie B. Lee, and Anne E. and William A. Foege.

The NIH designates Emory as a Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), with James Curran as principal investigator. Today, CFAR supports 320 researchers receiving more than \$41 million in NIH funding.

Ralph DiClemente joins the RSPH as Charles Howard Candler Professor and chair of behavioral sciences. DiClemente and his wife, Gina Wingood, the Agnes Moore Faculty in HIV Research, are known for their work in designing HIV/AIDS intervention programs for women and adolescents.

**1999** The school hosts its first Edmund S. Muskie fellows and establishes an international master's program with the Peace Corps.

U.S. health policy expert Ken Thorpe is appointed Robert W. Woodruff Professor and chair of health policy and management. He succeeds Richard Saltman as chair.



<< Ken Thorpe



Dean James Curran and Paula Morgan >>

**2000** The school graduates its 2,000th alumnus, Paula Morgan.



# PUBLIC HEALTH 24/7



Na'Taki Osborne Jelks teaches Atlanta high school students how to monitor water quality in neighborhood creeks and streams.

In June 1975, 16 students from the CDC and other Atlanta institutions enrolled in the master's program that would give rise to the Rollins School of Public Health. Today, more than 5,300 alumni work in more than 90 countries and nearly every U.S. state. Anytime, anywhere, Rollins graduates work with individuals and communities to improve health and prevent disease.

## Justice Matters

NA'TAKI OSBORNE JELKS  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

She was a teenager living in Louisiana's "cancer alley" when her mother came down with breast cancer.

"The smokestacks of chemical and petrol plants were right down the street," says environmental scientist Na'Taki Osborne Jelks O2MPH. "While there's no certainty my mother's cancer came from environmental pollution, the area has one of the highest rates of cancer in the country."

The experience set her on a mission to combat environmental health threats. Some of the dirtiest, most environmentally damaging industries are often located in impoverished communities of color, where enforcement of environmental regulations can be lax.

Jelks is now chair of the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance Board of Directors and manager for the National Wildlife Federation's (NWF) education and advocacy programs.

She runs NWF's Eco-Schools USA and Leave No Child Inside programs for the southeastern United States and coordinates Earth Tomorrow clubs for Atlanta high schools.

Her goal: educating teens and helping them raise awareness about environmental threats in their communities. An enormous tire dump in a north-east Atlanta neighborhood has become an important project for students.

"It is apparent that businesses from other parts of the city use this area as an illegal dumping zone," Jelks says. "It creates a chain reaction of health hazards. Tires notoriously hold rainwater and create breeding grounds for mosquitoes, which raise the community's risk of West Nile virus."

Jelks takes students on field studies to illegal dumping sites and malfunctioning sewage treatment plants that foul Atlanta's creeks and streams. Students clean up creeks clogged with refuse and learn how neighborhood water supplies become contaminated. They also educate their neighbors about energy conservation through door-to-door campaigns to distribute energy-saving fluorescent lightbulbs.

Her work as a Rollins student focused on Atlanta's wastewater infrastructure and its impact on low-income communities, largely African American, within the city. "Much of Atlanta's sewage and wastewater system dates to around 1910," she says.

All people, regardless of race and income, deserve safe, healthy living and working conditions as well as equal protection under environmental laws, says Jelks.

"Helping people who live in environmentally degraded areas find their voices and challenge polluters who impair their quality of life is the way toward lasting change."—Valerie Gregg



Community members inspect their water system in Ecuador.

## Advocating Self-Reliance



Stephanie Maurissen O6MPH dove into water management—sort of. She was interning in Ecuador at a not-for-profit and planning to go to medical school, but her experience there changed her career course. She enrolled at Rollins and began working part-time at CARE to help establish the Agua Clara Consortium to guide community water management boards in Latin America.

When the group received funding for advocacy work, Maurissen went full-time with CARE and is now based in Ecuador.

The consortium she leads helps local water boards in Paraguay, Ecuador, and El Salvador develop networks, build their capacity, and secure funding. She builds capacity by assisting people who have proven themselves by providing water and sanitation services to their neighbors and friends.

When the consortium was invited to an event held by the Inter-American Development Bank, she invited four

community leaders to make a presentation. "They were so proud of their presentation and of how everyone asked them questions—they had been afraid that no one would listen," Maurissen says. "When we said our good-byes at the airport, one of them told me, 'In all my 63 years, I have never done something that I feel so proud of.'"—Kay Torrance

STEPHANIE MAURISSEN  
QUITO, ECUADOR

**2001** A vaccine produced by a CFAR team led by Harriet Robinson is hailed as the "most promising AIDS vaccine yet" in the March issue of *Science* magazine.

The Tobacco and Technical Assistance Consortium (TTAC) is formed to provide blueprints for community tobacco control and prevention programs. TTAC funding is Emory's largest cancer research grant to date.

The Georgia Cancer Coalition (GCC) establishes the Distinguished Cancer Clinicians and Scientists program. Today, the school has six GCC scholars.

The Rollins family provides \$4.2 million to establish the Center for Public Health Preparedness and Research, led by Rollins Professor Ruth Berkelman. The center is created in the wake of 9/11 and the anthrax threat.



« Ruth Berkelman

**2002** The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation provides its first endowment gift ever of \$5 million to establish the William H. Foege Fellowships in Global Health. The fellowships bring mid-career professionals from developing countries to work at Atlanta public health agencies.



William Foege with the first Foege Fellows »

Health policy professor Benjamin Druss is named the Rosalynn Carter Chair of Mental Health, the first joint appointment between the RSPH and the Carter Center.

Benjamin Druss »

Claire Sterk, chair of behavioral sciences, is named Charles Howard Candler Professor of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education. She steps down as chair in 2005 to become Emory senior vice provost.



« Claire Sterk



The Matthew Lee Girvin Award is established to honor young alumni who have made significant contributions to public health early in their careers. A 1994 alumnus, Girvin died in 2001 during a U.N. surveying mission in Mongolia.

**2003** MD/MPH students Jeremy Hess and Jill Jarrell are the first recipients of the O.C. Hubert EIS 50th Anniversary Fellowships, allowing them to participate in an applied epidemiology rotation at the CDC.

**2004** The RSPH ranks 10th among all U.S. schools of public health in attracting NIH funding.

MILESTONES IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
2001: The nation ramps up emergency preparedness following 9/11 and the anthrax threat.

MILESTONES IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
2002: China detects the first cases of SARS



# Global Grant Architect

HEATHER INGOLD  
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Heather Ingold MPH was a candy striper at her hometown hospital when she first stepped toward a public health career.

“That’s when it clicked for me to be in a helping profession,” she says. “I wanted a share in the staff’s enthusiasm for helping people in need and working to make the world a better place.”



Heather Ingold (center) with colleagues in Cambodia

Now a project management officer for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria in Geneva, Ingold works to ensure that funding and grant management processes are effective and efficient. The organization is a public-private partnership that raises money to support programs to fight these three pandemics. So far, it has committed \$19.3 million in 144 countries.

“I manage a team working to streamline grant processes, build in more accountability, and center our grant policies to better support a national

program approach, including alignment with in-country cycles,” she says.

The Global Fund channels funds from the private sector (the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, for example), NGOs (such as UNITAID), and governments (including the United States and Great Britain). A pressing challenge is to reconcile the needs of grantees and the organization’s board of directors, donors, and partners. “We manage our grants based on performance and accountability,” she says. “We work with countries to set goals and timetables for consistent progress updates.”

Ingold, a board member of the RSPH Alumni Association, maintains close ties with the school. Her school contacts and master’s work with Ken Thorpe, chair of health policy and management, have proven invaluable.

“Rollins gave me a big-picture view that’s been crucial for international work,” she says. “It’s important that I work well with people from different cultures who have different ways of getting things done. The school’s international flair and vibrant atmosphere integrates students from everywhere and prepared me well.”

While Ingold’s daily challenges involve implementing new policies for grant architecture, she is most gratified to see progress in the fight against AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis.

“Meeting people on country visits and seeing hard evidence in our annual reports that we are improving health is my best reward,” she says.—Valerie Gregg

## 2004

The school adds doctoral programs in behavioral sciences and health education and in health services research to existing PhD programs in biostatistics, epidemiology, and nutrition and health sciences.



The Department of Biostatistics establishes the annual Donna J. Brogan Lecture to honor Brogan’s 34 years of service on

the Emory faculty. Lecture topics focus on Brogan’s interests in sample surveys, breast cancer epidemiology, and statistical education.

Christine Moe >>

## 2005

The school forms the Emory Center for Global Safe Water with CARE, the CDC, and Population Services International. Eugene and Rose Gangarosa create endowments for the Eugene J. Gangarosa Chair in Safe Water, held by Christine Moe, and the Rose Salamone Gangarosa Chair in Environmental Health.



Keith Klugman is named the first William H. Foege Chair in Global Health, funded by the Hubert Foundation. The South Africa native is the world’s leading expert on antibiotic-resistant pneumonia.

Funded by the CDC, the Emory Prevention Research Center partners with the Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition to reduce cancer rates in 33 rural counties.

# Engaging Communities

THOMAS WELTY  
CAMEROON AND THE USA

Like many public health workers, Thomas Welty MPH may never truly retire.

A family practice physician and epidemiologist, he formally retired from the Indian Health Service (IHS) in 1997. Yet he continues to work on a landmark cohort study of cardiovascular disease among American Indians that he helped begin in 1988. The Strong Heart Study initially included 4,500 American Indians ages 45 to 74 from the Dakotas, Arizona, and Oklahoma and has yielded some of the most important information about chronic disease status and risk factors among this population.

“Unfortunately, study results show that heart disease, diabetes, and obesity have worsened significantly since we began following this cohort,” says Welty. “Indian communities are just a microcosm of the situation in the rest of the country.”

Welty and his wife, Edith, both worked as clinicians at the Public Health Service Indian Hospital in Tuba City, Arizona, from 1970 to 1982. Welty earned his MPH in epidemiology at the RSPH while serving as an Epidemic Intelligence Officer at the CDC. “The school’s ties to the CDC were invaluable,” he says. Since 1998, the Weltys have



Thomas Welty continues to work with Strong Heart Study investigators (above) to follow an original cohort of 4,500 American Indians. Welty helped begin the landmark study in 1988.

volunteered with the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board (CBCHB). The faith-based organization supports a comprehensive AIDS Care and Prevention Program that includes prevention of HIV transmission from mother to child, AIDS treatment, family care for AIDS orphans, a women’s health program, and one of the first partner notification programs for HIV in Africa.

Welty’s experiences with IHS and in Cameroon have shown that involving community members at every stage of epidemiologic studies and health intervention programs is key to success.



Michael Windle >>



## 2006

The school dedicates the Hubert Department of Global Health. It is the first solely named department on the Emory campus and the first such named department among the nation’s schools of public health.

K.M. Venkat Narayan joins the school as the Ruth and O.C. Hubert Professor in Global Health. Narayan co-leads the Global Diabetes Research Center with researchers in India.

O.C. Hubert and K.M. Venkat Narayan >

Michael Windle is named Rollins Professor and chair of behavioral sciences and health education. His research focuses on the mental health and related health risk behaviors of children and teens. Windle succeeds Claire Sterk as chair.

The Richard E. Letz Endowment Fund for Dissertation Research is established to honor Letz, who dies in April. Letz was professor and former chair of behavioral sciences.

The International AIDS Trust moves from Washington, D.C., to the RSPH. Sandra Thurman, former director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy, joins the faculty.

Sandra Thurman >>





## Awash in Commitment



**BOIKETHO MURIMA**  
HARARE, ZIMBABWE

Airport immigration officers often ask probing questions. An off-the-cuff inquiry at a London airport forced Boiketho Murima MPH to examine her life as never before.

"I was a global adviser with Oxfam, based in Oxford, providing support on hygiene promotion in emergencies in South Asia and West Africa, and I was returning to England after a support visit," she recalls. "The officer said, 'You're from Zimbabwe, right? So why are you not helping your own country?'"

Several months and a few hard decisions later, Murima began her new job as Oxfam's WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) adviser and co-leader of Zimbabwe's WASH cluster.

The nation's crippling economic recession, which reduced people's access to safe water supplies, sanitation, and hygiene, had allowed cholera to flourish, killing thousands during outbreaks in 2009. In time, though, Murima and her colleagues put an emergency preparedness system in place. And although outbreaks are still occurring, "They are now on a much smaller scale," she says. "We usually have teams in the village assessing the situation within 48 hours of an alert and providing a WASH response within 72 hours."

As a William H. Foege Fellow in Global Health at Rollins, Murima learned how to excel in the field—taking forward recommendations from a CDC WASH cluster response evaluation, for example, or making a draft water policy more relevant locally. "The experience of being a Foege Fellow and being a part of Dr. Foege's seminars—that was very inspiring."—Patrick Adams, MPH

## Changing the Status Quo

Ilze Jekabsone MPH has a big to-do list: break the cycle of drug use that fuels crime, prostitution, and HIV/AIDS. Jekabsone was an occupational health doctor in Latvia before deciding to complete an MPH at Rollins.

**ILZE JEKABSONE**  
MOSCOW, RUSSIAN  
FEDERATION

"I felt that I could make more positive changes if I worked not only with single patients but also with communities, especially employers," she says. "I could bring them a message that health is a social responsibility and not just a personal issue."

After returning to Latvia, she took a position with the United Nations Development Programme to help the nation's government scale up clean needle and syringe programs. Four years later, she became a UN regional project coordinator for Russia and Belarus on drugs and crime, based in Moscow.

"In the Russian Federation, injecting drugs, predominantly opiates, is fueling HIV/AIDS," she says. "Unfortunately, the Russian government is rather conservative and opposes needle and syringe programs and opiate substitution therapy. My job requires creative approaches to build relationships with national authorities. Together with my colleagues, many of whom are former



Ilze Jekabsone documents the collection of used drug needles in Bratsk, Siberia.

police officers, we propose pilot programs to reduce drug-related crime, such as arrest referrals and drug courts. We can prove that the programs also

can be effective in preventing HIV."

Jekabsone spends a lot of time convincing local and national leaders to get on board with clean needle programs. Three years ago in Bratsk, a city in the middle of Siberia, she launched outreach programs for sex workers. She ran up against a city administration that doubted such programs were needed, despite the used needles littering the city center.

"Now the deputy mayor has become a driving force behind the programs," she says. "Special services for sex workers have been developed, and several local government agencies have joined the project, but more important, we have not finished our work there yet."

"My work helps people decide to take a first step and change their lives," she adds. "By giving drug users clean needles and syringes, I am creating possibilities by giving access to services."—Kay Torrance

Ilze Jekabsone (right) with Russian outreach workers and addiction professionals on a study tour in Frankfurt



## Prepped to Serve

For Sarah Blanding MPH, as for few people in this world, the decision to work in Afghanistan came rather

naturally. Blanding, a U.S. Foreign Service Officer (FSO) based in Kabul—where she is the civilian-military coordinator for health and education programs with the U.S. Agency for International Development

(USAID)—prepped for the post for much of her life.

"I moved around a lot while growing up," she says. "My parents were teachers at international schools." Blanding was in junior high when they moved to Liberia. There, surrounded by the devastation of dictatorship and civil war, her interest in public health was first sparked.

Her initial foray into the health sector was as a hospital dietician, first as a civilian and then as an Air Force officer. After fulfilling her military commitment, Blanding enrolled in the RSPH to earn her MPH in global health. She then worked for the CDC before accepting an FSO position with USAID. Her first diplomatic post: a two-year stint as deputy chief of USAID's Health Office in Lima, Peru, where an 8.0 earthquake leveled homes and buildings, including a health clinic that USAID helped rebuild.

Afghanistan has been no less challenging—or rewarding. Hours are long, and conditions can be harsh, as evidenced by her living quarters: a 10-foot shipping container called a "hooch." Yet progress has been good, she says. "Since 2002, access to health care has increased from 9% to 68%, infant mortality has dropped by 22%, and school enrollment has increased from 900,000 boys under the Taliban to more than 6 million boys and girls today."—Patrick Adams MPH



# 2007

The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation and the Rollins family pledge \$50 million to construct the Claudia Nance Rollins Building and renovate the Grace Crum Rollins Building.

Family members establish the David J. Sencer MD, MPH Scholarship Fund for local and state public health professionals. A "founding father" of the RSPH, Sencer directed the CDC from 1966 to 1977.

The school ranks 7th among its peers in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2008 edition of "America's Best Graduate Schools."

Air quality expert Paige Tolbert succeeds Howard Frumkin as chair of environmental and occupational health (known today as environmental health).

The Center for Biomedical Imaging Statistics, serving Emory researchers and clinicians, is established. Led by DuBois Bowman, the center is the first of its kind in the nation.

« The Sencer family

Incoming students prepare meals for AIDS patients, beautify homes for senior citizens, and clean up community parks during the first annual RollinSteer Day of community service.

The first annual RollinSteer Day »



# 2008

TTAC and the Emory Global Health Institute begin to work in China to help curb tobacco use among the nation's 400 million smokers.

Toxicologist Gary Miller leads the new Parkinson's Disease Collaborative Environmental Research Center, involving researchers from Emory and Georgia Tech. Miller is named associate dean for research in 2009.

Gary Rollins (left), Fred Sanfilippo, James Wagner, Ben Johnson, James Curran, Amy Rollins Kreisler, Randall Rollins, and Michael Johns at the Claudia Nance Rollins Building groundbreaking »

In May, the Rollins family and the Emory community break ground on the Claudia Nance Rollins Building, next to the Grace Crum Rollins Building. Construction begins in June.







# Growing Leadership

ANDREW TAULI  
SUBIC BAY, PHILIPPINES

Andrew Tauli 94MPH has journeyed far as one of Rollins’ first Hubert H. Humphrey Fellows. He began his studies in fall 1993 to broaden his skills as a hospital administrator in the Philippines.

For 19 years, he was the resident physician and medical director of St. Theodore’s, a 25-bed rural mission hospital operated by the Episcopal Diocese of the Northern Philippines. At the same time, he coordinated the diocese’s medical missions and outreach program, supervising health workers at mission clinics and providing health care and health



Andrew Tauli has served as a hospital administrator and leader with the Episcopal Church in the Philippines. Photos by Nancy Dinsmore.

education services to remote communities in Mountain Province.

aids street children, child laborers, and child soldiers, among others.

Earlier this year, Tauli took on a new challenge as hospital administrator for the George Dewey Medical and Wellness Center, a new multi-specialty tertiary hospital in Subic Bay. The facility opened in 2009 in buildings that once housed the U.S. Navy Hospital during the Vietnam War. Tauli’s main priority: ensuring that the new hospital becomes fully operational this year.

“My experience at Rollins served me well,” he says, “by making me a physician-manager who is efficient—doing things right—and effective—doing the right things—in whatever way I can.”—*Pam Auchmuty*



James Curran becomes the first sitting dean at Emory to hold an endowed chair named in his honor. The James W. Curran Dean of Public Health chair is made possible by gifts from Emory and Lawrence P. and Ann Estes Klamon.

Ben Johnson (left), Ann Klamon, James Curran, and Lawrence Klamon »

**2009** Carlos del Rio, an internationally known expert in HIV/AIDS, is named Hubert Professor and chair of the Hubert Department of Global Health. He succeeds Reynaldo Martorell as chair.

Lance Waller succeeds Michael Kutner as Rollins Professor and chair of biostatistics and bioinformatics. The department added “biostatistics” to its name in 2008 to reflect the growing need for computational and statistical expertise in public health, medicine, and nursing.



« Carlos del Rio

# Human Rights by the Numbers

A self-proclaimed nerd, Megan Price 09G may work with spreadsheets, but she knows the far-reaching effect that numbers can have on real people in the world arena. Price, who holds a doctorate in biostatistics,

MEGAN PRICE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

applies her analytical skills on projects related to large-scale human rights violations for Benetech, a California not-for-profit.

One of her current projects is estimating the number of people who disappeared or were killed in the Casanare region of Colombia, where thousands of people have been victims of violence at the hands of paramilitaries, guerillas, and the Colombian military for decades. Without Benetech’s work, the total number of deaths and disappearances would not be recorded or brought to public attention.

For this project, Price applies a technique called Multiple Systems Estimation, or Capture-Recapture, which is commonly used to count animal populations. “Imagine going out into a lake, catching 100 fish in a net, and tagging and releasing them,” she says. “A week later, you catch another 100 fish in your net, 20 of which already have tags. By knowing the size of your two samples (100 fish each) and the size of the overlap (20 fish), it is possible to estimate the total number of fish in the lake.”

Benetech uses lists of names from 15 local government agencies and not-for-profits and cross-references them to weed out duplicates. The capture-recapture method allows Price to estimate how many homicides and disappearances occurred with no existing records. She and her colleagues recently published papers on their findings.



Megan Price

“I don’t want to imply that I view my work through a spreadsheet—I am acutely aware of the personal context of my work,” Price says. “But the analytical pieces of my work, the challenges of incredibly complicated data, are fascinating. I never see the same problem twice.”

“I’m not tracking disease outbreaks or researching best public health practices,” she adds. “In fact, most of my research involves individuals who have already died. By studying human rights violations, I hope to ameliorate such crises—specifically by identifying areas where aid is most needed, by improving our historical understanding of conflict so that one day such crises will happen less often, and by helping bring perpetrators to justice.”—*Kay Torrance*

**2009** Grace Crum Rollins dies on August 8 at age 98.

John McGowan and his wife Linda Kay establish the John E. and Doris W. McGowan Scholarship to provide tuition support for an MD/MPH student during the MPH year. McGowan directs the MD/MPH program, which graduates its 100th student in 2010.

« John McGowan



**2010**

Viola Vaccarino is appointed Rollins Professor and chair of epidemiology, broadening the school’s collaborations in cardiovascular disease. She succeeds cancer epidemiologist Jack Mandel as chair.

The school dedicates the Claudia Nance Rollins Building in October. The building more than doubles the physical size of the RSPH complex to accelerate teaching, collaborative research, and recruitment of faculty and students.

Total Rollins alumni top 5,300 in more than 90 countries.



MILESTONES IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
2009: The H1N1 outbreak begins in Mexico





Leah and Ray Greenberg

## Founding dean values opportunities given to him

The former dean of Rollins School of Public Health is honoring the school and his family. A bequest from Ray and Leah Greenberg will establish the Dr. Bernard and Ruth Greenberg Fund for Biostatistics and Epidemiology faculty and students.

Ray Greenberg was the founding dean of the RSPH, serving in that capacity from 1990 until 1995, when he was appointed vice president of academic affairs and provost at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. He now serves as its president.

The fund, created in recognition of Greenberg's parents, acknowledges their contributions to social justice and Bernard Greenberg's legendary leadership in the fields of biostatistics and public health.

"I am where I am today in large part because of opportunities I received at Emory, and I was in a position to take advantage of those opportunities because of the background my parents gave to me," Greenberg says. "This is a perfect way to express my appreciation to both my parents and to a university that, as long as I live, will hold a very special place in my heart."

The Greenbergs' gift will provide unrestricted support to the departments of biostatistics and bioinformatics and epidemiology, including but not limited to support for faculty, scholarships for master's degree students, or doctoral students.

Greenberg's parents demonstrated by example what academics could accomplish, he says. "Growing up, I knew that my parents were terrific role models for my

siblings and me, but I didn't have a sense of how many other people they had influenced. It was only later that I learned how my father had helped shape and advance the careers of many people in public health, medicine, nursing, and dentistry."

Greenberg's mother, Ruth, also served as an important academic role model. She earned her master's degree in biochemistry from Yale during World War II.

"She was a pioneer," her son says. "My parents married just after my father got out of the Army. He went to graduate school at North Carolina State, and she taught there while he was a grad

student. She was the first academic employed in our family. My father would not have gotten his degree if it had not been for my mother's work at NC State."



Ruth and Bernard Greenberg demonstrated what academics could accomplish, says their son, Ray, now president of the Medical University of South Carolina.

After earning his PhD in 1949, the elder Greenberg was appointed chair of the newly created Department of Biostatistics at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. During his more than two-decade tenure as chair, his work had profound national and global impact. In 1972, he was named dean of UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Public Health. A strong advocate for social justice, he championed national and international health causes, including access to health care, population growth, the environment, mental illness, substance abuse, and injury prevention. He died of cancer in 1985. After his death, Ruth remained active with the UNC School of Public Health until she moved from Chapel Hill a couple of years ago.

Their son Ray joined Emory at age 28 to direct Emory School of Medicine's cancer surveillance program. Four years later, he was named chair of the school's newly merged Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and in 1990 was appointed dean of Emory's new School of Public Health.

"Twenty years later, as I select people for leadership roles, I wonder if I have the courage that Charles Hatcher, Emory's vice president for health affairs, and Emory President James Laney demonstrated in selecting me as dean at such an early stage of my career," Greenberg says. "I became dean of the School of Public Health at age 35, but from the day I was first recruited to Emory, I was given amazing opportunities. People were willing to take a chance on me, and for that I will be grateful always."—*Maria Lameiras*

## Martorell scholarship will aid Hispanic students

Carlos del Rio, chair of the Hubert Department of Global Health, is leading an effort to establish a scholarship honoring former chair Reynaldo Martorell. When fully funded, the Martorell scholarship fund will support Hispanic students who want to study public health at Rollins.

Martorell, who joined the school as Robert W. Woodruff Professor of International Nutrition in 1993, served 12 years as department chair until 2009. Under his leadership, the department evolved from a Center for International Health to become an endowed department of global health named for the Hubert family. Still a full-time faculty member in global health, Martorell is a key collaborator on a landmark longitudinal study in Guatemala to assess how childhood nutrition affects health and quality of life in adulthood. He also leads studies to examine the effects of the 1959 to 1961 famine in China on adult health and to analyze maternal nutrition intervention programs in Ethiopia, Nigeria, and India.

When del Rio joined the Emory medical faculty in 1996, he also held a joint appointment in Martorell's department in the RSPH. Both share professional and personal ties with Latin America—Martorell was born in Honduras, while del Rio was born in Mexico. After Martorell stepped down as chair, del Rio was



Rey Martorell (right) has been a friend, colleague, and mentor to Carlos del Rio for several years.

appointed Hubert Professor and department chair last year.

"I've known Rey for many years as a friend, colleague, and mentor. I truly have a lot of respect and admiration for him," says del Rio. "And there is a great need for scholarships at Rollins, especially for students of Hispanic origin."

Del Rio and his wife, Jeannette Guarner, associate professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, are jump-starting the scholarship fund by making a gift to MyEmory, the faculty, staff, and retiree component of Campaign Emory.

"We're just getting the scholarship going," del Rio says. "We see it as an opportunity to support MyEmory and encourage others to honor Rey in this special way."—*Pam Auchmutey*



# Levinson honors exceptional teachers



Richard Levinson

Richard Levinson can remember the history of the Rollins School of Public Health before it carried the Rollins name and before it was a school or even a program.

As executive associate dean for academic affairs, Levinson marvels at the progress that Rollins has made since it evolved from a master's program in 1975 into a full-fledged school in 1990. A key contributor to that success as a founding member, professor, administrator, and supporter of the school, Levinson has spent more than 30 years in public health at Emory. Now, at a new milestone in the school's history, Levinson has made a gift to the new Claudia Nance Rollins Building through "Seating Our Future," a program to dedicate

seats in the building's 250-seat Rollins Auditorium.

A respected teacher himself—he won the Thomas Jefferson Award, the university's highest faculty honor, in 2005—Levinson decided to recognize exceptional teachers at Rollins through his gift of six seats dedicated to each Emory Williams Teaching Award winner.

"What happens in the classroom matters," Levinson says. "One of the big challenges of a major research university is incentivizing teaching. Anything I can do to encourage and reward teachers is worth doing. That is why students come here, and

*"Anything I can do to encourage and reward teachers is worth doing. That is why students come here, and that is why they tell other students to come here."—Richard Levinson, executive associate dean for academic affairs*

that is why they tell other students to come here."

Levinson's gift honors Emory Williams award winners Kathleen Miner (1994), David Kleinbaum (2000), Nancy Thompson (2007), Steven Culler (2008), Deborah McFarland (2009), and Stanley Foster (2010). Presented during commencement, the annual award is the university's highest honor for teaching excellence.

"This is a very meaningful gift honoring teaching, and it means even more because it is given by one of Emory's finest teachers," says RSPH Dean James Curran. "Over the past decades, Dick has been a distinguished teacher of undergraduates in sociology as well as graduate students at Rollins."

In addition to recognizing Rollins teachers, Levinson's gift counts toward MyEmory, the employee and retiree component of Campaign Emory. Contributions from faculty and staff will help the school reach its \$150 million campaign goal.

Supporting Rollins is part of his responsibility as an educator and administrator, Levinson says. "We derive our livelihood from the school, and we should try to nurture it. It is an investment that pays back in a variety of ways, including enhancing the institution we are a part of and enhancing the experience of students who will think well of us in the future."—*Maria Lameiras*

Online: To learn more about the Seating Our Future campaign, visit [sph.emory.edu/cms/alumni\\_friends/campaign/seat.html](http://sph.emory.edu/cms/alumni_friends/campaign/seat.html).



Dennis Jarvis and Moose Alperin are among the many public health practitioners whom Kathy Miner (center) has mentored for more than 30 years.

Public Health Preparedness. "She constantly thinks about what's right for them and encourages them to continue their own development and education."

Hunt met Miner more than 20 years ago during a visit to learn about the MPH program. "She is my teacher, mentor, and friend," says Hunt, who manages consulting, learning, and talent development for Deloitte Services LLP. "I don't know of any mentor who has stayed in my life as much as Kathy has over the years. She is a constant."

When Jarvis was an MPH student, Miner involved him in a project on HIV prevention that led to a job in the same specialty at the CDC. He now works to strengthen health systems for the CDC's Center for Global Health.

"Kathy's real quick to get a bead on somebody and help guide them," says Jarvis. "She helped so many of us launch our careers. The scholarship is our way of thanking her for all she has done for us."—*Pam Auchmuty*

## Miner scholarship pays it forward

Dennis Jarvis 88MPH owes much of his career to the lessons in applied public health that he learned from Rollins professor Kathy Miner 79MPH. So do Nancy Hunt 87MPH, Martha Alexander 86MPH, Moose Alperin 91MPH, and the many public health alumni whom Miner has mentored for more than 30 years.

Jarvis and his colleagues are reciprocating by establishing the Dr. Kathleen R. Miner Scholarship Fund for Public Health Excellence. The scholarship will support a first- or second-year master's degree student who exemplifies Miner's dedication to public health education and practice.

As professor of behavioral sciences and health education and associate dean for applied public health, Miner has developed training and educational programs for Georgia's public health workforce. She also has led tobacco prevention training efforts in the United States, public health preparedness training in Georgia, and

web-based evaluation training for screening and diagnostic services for women. In the process, she has connected with students and colleagues around the world.

"She is very much an advocate for students and young professionals," says Alperin, who works with Miner as director of the Emory Center for



## RSPH campaign support tops \$135 million

To date, the RSPH has raised more than \$135 million—90% of its \$150 million goal—for Campaign Emory. Gifts to the RSPH help build endowments for teaching and research, scholarships, programs, and facilities. As of September, the university had raised \$1.1 billion toward its \$1.6 billion goal.

To learn more, visit [campaign.emory.edu](http://campaign.emory.edu). To discuss a gift, please contact Kathryn Graves, Associate Dean for Development and External Relations, at 404-727-3352 or [kgraves@emory.edu](mailto:kgraves@emory.edu).



## Biggerstaff leads alumni board

Epidemiologist Matthew Biggerstaff o6MPH is president of the RSPH Alumni Association Board for 2010-2011. He serves on the CDC's Surveillance Outbreak Response Team in the Influenza Division, where much of his work focuses on H1N1. Currently, he is the lead analyst on a project that monitors influenza-like illness among the U.S. population.

Why did Biggerstaff choose to serve on the RSPH Alumni Board? "Emory and Rollins have shaped my career, giving me the scholarship assistance, the network, and the technical skills that I needed to become an epidemiologist in a job that I love," he says. "The least I can do in return is to offer my time to help the school, whether by making a gift, mentoring a current student, or serving on a panel before prospective students."



Matthew Biggerstaff 06MPH

## Service learning Rollins-style



New students have embraced Rollinsteer Day since it began in 2007. This year, 461 new MPH students—the largest entering class ever—began the school year by volunteering at 19 sites in the Atlanta area. Students spruced up the grounds at Jerusalem House (top center and right), assisted clients at the International Refugee Center (right), and painted homes for senior citizens (far right). Students often continue their volunteer efforts throughout the year.



## RSPH Alumni Association Board Members

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Matthew Biggerstaff o6MPH

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### RSPH Leadership

Lisa Carlson 93MPH, CHES

Amri Johnson o5MPH

## Upcoming Events

### Dean's Reception

American Public Health Association

Monday, November 8, 2010

Hyatt Regency Denver

### Student & Alumni Networking Nights

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Monday, March 21, 2011

Emory Conference Center

### Public Health Career Fair

Friday, February 4, 2011

Emory Conference Center

### Public Health in Action Awards

Thursday, April 21, 2011

Miller-Ward Alumni House

### Spring Diploma Ceremony

Monday, May 19, 2011

Rollins School of Public Health

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



Michael Dirks 10MPH samples surface oil in the Gulf of Mexico.

## Testing the Gulf Waters

It's not easy to get in touch with Michael Dirks 10MPH these days. He spends 10 to 12 hours at a time on a boat in the Gulf of Mexico. Back on land, he's in Venice, Louisiana, at the bottom of the Mississippi Delta, where Internet service is hard to come by.

Dirks is one of the thousands of people working on the BP oil spill. He was deployed in June by a private consulting firm to assist with the Natural Resource Damage Assessment involving federal and private agencies. BP subcontracted with Dirks' firm to gather field data and carry out environmental impact assessments on the oil spill with a focus on restoration.

As part of a rapid response team, Dirks collects samples of surface oil on the water. Samples are sent to a lab to determine if the oil is from the BP spill or one of thousands of other oil rigs in the Gulf. Their findings will be used in legal proceedings and will only be available when the study is completed. No end date has been set.

Dirks prepared for deployment by poring over various websites and contacting experts recommended by the RSPH Department of Environmental Health. A number of courses he took as a student prepared him for his assignment, including hazard assessment, risk assessment, and toxicology. The Geographic Information System skills that he learned helped him understand the sampling plan and boat navigation systems.

He was surprised and impressed at how organized the operation has been, even from the outset. Crews go out every morning, as long as the weather permits. "If the swells are larger than four feet, the boat captains usually decide it's unsafe for sampling," he says. "In that case, we go on standby to catch up on paperwork or purchase materials. When the weather is good, we're out on the water from sun-up to sundown. Our crew is awesome. There are people from all over the U.S., including geologists, ecologists, and technical field experts."

After less than a month on the job, Dirks was named a team leader. His new duties include briefing the command center on their daily progress and training new crew as they come aboard.

"That's something I learned at Rollins too," he says. The lesson: "Step up to the plate as soon as you become part of a new team to make suggestions and improvements to the research process."—Carol Pinto



Michael Dirks





Anita Renahan-White 93MPH



Grant Baldwin 96MPH and Laura Zauderer 01MPH



Dabney Evans 98MPH and fiancé David de Lima



Ali Khan 00MPH



Brett Hicks 01MPH (center) in Kenya



Brittany Newberry 03MPH and husband Wayne



Anne Farland 06MPH and husband Daniel Arwood

## 1990s

**ANITA RENAHAN-WHITE 93MPH** has worked with the Task Force for Global Health in Atlanta for eight years. She currently is deputy director for management and operations within the Public Health Informatics Institute. “I work for Dave Ross, and Alan Hinman is also on our team—a couple of familiar names to those at RSPH,” she writes. Her project management team consists of three project managers, a business analyst, a project management coordinator, and an accountant. The team

develops information system requirements to ensure that the systems support users’ needs. The team recently completed a project to support supply chain management in Kenya, Vietnam, Senegal, and Rwanda. Renahan-White’s group has also worked with the CDC on requirements around Counter Inventory Tracking with the CDC’s Influenza Division. Before joining the institute, she was an IT director at McKesson Corporation in Alpharetta, Ga.

**MARRIED: GRANT BALDWIN 96MPH and LAURA ZAUDERER 01MPH** on May

2, 2010, at Frogtown Cellars in Dahlenega, Ga. He is director of the CDC’s Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention and an adjunct faculty member at the RSPH. She is the team lead for communications and partnerships with the CDC’s Division of Diabetes Translation.

**DABNEY EVANS 98MPH** is engaged to David de Lima, whom she will marry this fall in Hawaii. Evans serves as a senior associate in the Hubert Department of Global Health and as executive director of Emory’s Institute of Human Rights. De Lima, a native of Sao Paulo, Brazil, teaches capoeira, a Brazilian martial art.

**LYNNE FELDMAN 99GCP 01MPH** was appointed by Governor Sonny Perdue to the Georgia Public Health Commission. Feldman is south region district health director for the Georgia Department of Human Resources, based in Valdosta. She is medical director for the Partnership Health Center and chairs the quality and safety committee for the South Georgia Medical Center Hospital Authority. She also chairs the public health committee for the Georgia chapter

of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

## 2000s

**ALI KHAN 00MPH** now serves as director of the CDC’s Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response. Prior to his appointment in August, Khan was deputy director of the National Center of Zoonotic, Vector-Borne, and Enteric Diseases. An assistant surgeon general and rear admiral with the U.S. Public Health Service, Khan joined the CDC in 1991 as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer. He is a past president of the RSPH Alumni Association Board.

**BRETT HICKS 01MPH** is a Navy lieutenant and a professor of emergency and disaster management under Homeland Security and Public Health at the American Military University. He recently co-lead a training program with the United States Army Africa. The program trained Kenyan military forces in emergency management and disaster response, both theory and application. The training is part of a multinational effort to develop disaster preparedness

plans and build sustainable communities in Africa.

**MARRIED: LAURIE MIGNONE 03MPH** and Joel Parriott in April 2009 at the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Both are program examiners at the Office of Management and Budget in Washington, D.C. Mignone is responsible for oversight for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and Parriott for the National Science Foundation.

**BRITTANY NEWBERRY 03MPH** and her husband Wayne live in Blue Ridge, Ga. She writes, “We realized that this place needs a little dragging (kicking and screaming of course) toward a greener future!” So they started the Blue Ridge Area Environmental Action (BRAEA) group to help the town adopt more sustainable practices. They are working to start a citywide recycling program, ban trash burning, and organize local land and

river cleanups. For more information, visit braea.org.

**EDGAR SIMARD 04MPH** received a PhD in epidemiology from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Public Health in May. In February, he received a Young Investigator Award for his research on cancers among people with HIV/AIDS at the 2010 Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in San Francisco. Simard currently is

a postdoctoral research fellow in cancer epidemiology at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health in New York City.

**MARRIED: ANNE FARLAND 06MPH** and Daniel Arwood on July 3, 2010, in Bluffton, S.C. She is a health care consultant in the Atlanta office of PricewaterhouseCoopers. He is CEO and vice president of Ace Industries in Norcross, Ga., a family business. The couple lives in Atlanta.

## Stay Connected



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



### IT’S TIME TO TAKE YOUR SEAT!

Celebrate 35 years of public health at Emory and the opening of the Claudia Nance Rollins Building by purchasing a seat in our new auditorium! With a one-time gift of \$250, your name—or that of a colleague, loved one, or mentor—will be inscribed on a 5" x 1" plaque in the building’s auditorium. Hurry! Seats are limited and selling fast. Don’t miss your chance to be part of our history and leave a lasting legacy for future Rollins students.



Funds generated through the Seating Our Future Campaign support student scholarships, unless otherwise designated. Visit [www.sph.emory.edu](http://www.sph.emory.edu) or call 404-727-4740 to learn more.





Margaret (Maggie) Gatti 07MPH and Darren Mays 06MPH 09G



Lindsay Kim 07M, Sallyann Coleman King 06M, John McGowan, and Ali Reiss Goodman and Sarah Bennett, both 07MD/MPH



Emily McCormick 08MPH

**MARRIED: MARGARET GATTI 07MPH and DARREN MAYS 06MPH 09G** on April 10, 2010, in Haddonfield, N.J. Margaret (Maggie) is a medical student at Georgetown University School of Medicine, and Darren is a research faculty member in the Department of Oncology at Georgetown University Medical Center.

**SARAH BENNETT and ALI REISS GOODMAN**, both 07MD/MPH, are new officers in the Epidemic Intelligence Service at CDC. They are fellow officers with Emory medical school graduates Sallyann Coleman King 06M and Lindsay Kim 07M.

**EMILY MCCORMICK 08MPH** works on Denver's In-School Immunization Project, which she writes about on the CDC blog "*Public Health Matters*." McCormick is part of a group at the Denver Health and Hospital Authority that investigates the feasibility of giving flu shots to children where they spend most of their time—at school. To read more, visit [blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/authors/emily-mccormick](http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/authors/emily-mccormick).

**MARRIED: KIRA MCGROARTY 08MPH** and Christopher Koon on May 30, 2010, in Pasadena, Md. She works at Johns Hopkins as a project director for a childhood injury prevention program. The couple lives in Baltimore.

**JAMES B. WEAVER III 08MPH** received the "Outstanding Health Marketing Scientist of the Year Award" in September 2009. He and his wife, **STEPHANIE SARGENT WEAVER 08MPH**, who both work at the CDC, recently published three papers on profiling characteristics of Internet medical information users, health-risk correlates of video-game playing among adults, and health care nonadherence decisions and Internet health information.

**NICOLE DIONNE 10MPH** moved to Costa Rica in June. She conducts monitoring and evaluation and program development for a Costa Rican consulting company that conducts health and development projects in Central America, the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe.

## Faculty Deaths



The RSPH lost a pioneer when Roland "Knob" Knobel, 87, died of natural causes at his Atlanta home on August 16.

Knobel was one of the first teachers in the Masters of Community Health (MCH) program, established in 1975 and which led to Rollins' formation in 1990. The program included a core course on public policy and health resource allocation, taught by Knobel, professor of health administration at Georgia State University (GSU), and David Sencer, director of the CDC.

"The students began their very first class with Knob on a Monday morning," recalls Sencer. "He was instrumental in planning the curriculum for the first year of the course."

Global health professor Stan Foster 82MPH was working for the CDC when Knobel asked him to co-teach a class. "I would not be at Rollins today if it weren't for Knob," says Foster, a former student and tennis partner. "He was my friend and mentor. He always listened and supported you."

Knobel served more than 20 years with the U.S. Navy before joining GSU in 1970 and developing graduate programs in health administration, health ethics and economics, and international health management. Although Knobel retired from GSU in 1985, he continued to teach courses in health policy and global health at Rollins. Among other activities, he served as president of the Memorial Society of Georgia, which educates families about advanced directives.

"Knob was a health activist who advocated to reduce health disparities and promote end-of-life care," says Allan Goldman 76MCH, who works with Georgia's Division of Aging Services. "His heart was always in there for causes and students."

## Rollins School of Public Health Dean's Council

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## Public Health 24/7

Na'Taki Osborne Jelks  
02MPH teaches Atlanta  
teens how to monitor  
water quality in local  
streams. To learn how  
other Rollins alumni  
are working around  
the world to improve  
health, see page 16 or  
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