



HEALTHY CITIES IN A  
HEALTHY WORLD

# ANNUAL REPORT

2019



GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH POLICY



# *I* INTRODUCTION

DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

I am delighted to share with you our 2018-2019 Annual Report. It has been a year of exceptional growth and enhancement in our school, as will become evident in the pages that follow.

Our ranking among schools and programs of public health rose dramatically. Our research programs continued to flourish and expand, creating new public health knowledge as well as essential student employment and hands-on learning opportunities. Our deep commitment to social justice is evident in the work of our graduates, as seen in the profile on page 21.

We invigorated our faculty body with the addition of eight new scholars, each of whom is deeply invested in the health of populations worldwide, each with a social justice perspective. In keeping with our commitment to student success in a student-centric school, we launched a data-driven program to ensure that all students receive timely, comprehensive, and integrated services. As a result, we are already seeing increases both in the number of students taking advantage of these services and in their satisfaction with services across the board.

We also introduced several new degree programs this year, all with an eye towards meeting the interests of our students and making certain that they are fully prepared to face the evolving public health challenges of our time. We transitioned our existing DPH program to a PhD program and launched two new Master of Science degrees: the MS in Immigrant and Refugee Health Policy and the fully online Informatics in Population Health. Additional new programs are in development as I write.

We are deeply grateful for the dynamism of the SPH Foundation Board, and for the generous scholarship gifts we've received this year, all of which help make a graduate education possible for students who want to make a difference in public health.



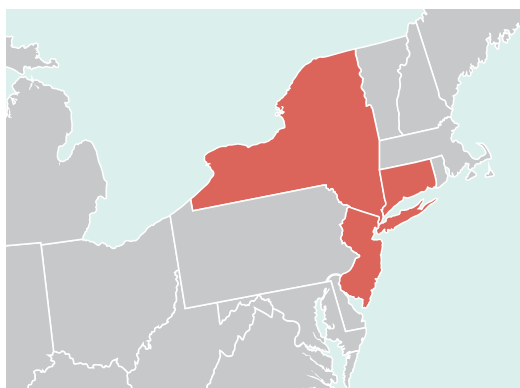
Ayman El-Mohandes,  
MBBCh, MD, MPH  
DEAN

## Contents

Introduction	1
Investing IN CUNY SPH AND ITS STUDENTS	4
Learning Environment	8
Our Students	20
Research	28
Finances	32
Appendix	35

# CUNY SPH by the numbers

2018 – 2019



## US News & World Report ranking

We are the **number one** ranked *public* school of public health in the tri-state area.

## Excellence in teaching

More than **90%** of students rate their professor as excellent, very good, or good.

More than **80%** of classes are taught by full-time faculty.

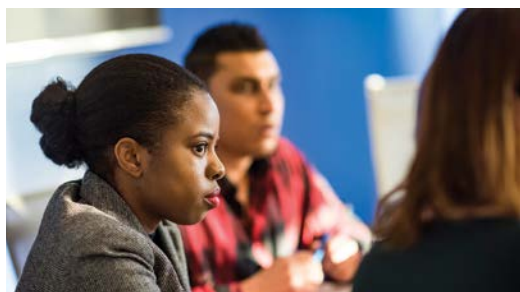


**7:1**

An exceptional student to faculty ratio.

## Broad selection of educational offerings

- 3 PhD programs
- 5 MPH programs
- 3 MS programs
- 3 certificate programs

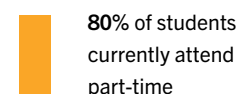
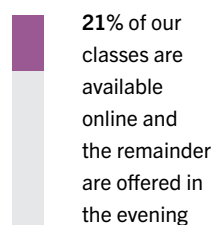
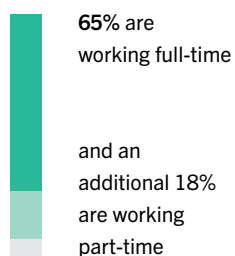


## Flexible program designed for adults with busy lives

The majority of our students are working professionals.

Evening and online classes.

Attend part-time or full-time, as your schedule permits.



## Exemplary outcomes



**97%**

of our graduates are employed or continuing their education one year after graduation.



**80%**

of those are engaged directly in their field of study.

## Exceptional, affordable education

The most cost-effective way to advance your public health career.

A range of financial assistance opportunities for graduate students.







# 2 INVESTING

IN CUNY SPH AND  
ITS STUDENTS

# The CUNY SPH Foundation Board

This year marked the first full year of operations for the CUNY SPH Foundation in support of the School, its students, and its mission.



We had three core priorities for this year: to create a culture of giving back to CUNY SPH, to introduce the School to the funding community and to expand the Board of Directors of the foundation. In support of these activities, the foundation expanded its staff to include a second full-time employee focused on development and operations.

Establishing a culture of giving is critical to fulfilling the School's mission. This year, our #CUNYTuesday campaign raised over \$20,000 in support of student scholarships and emergency funds. A remarkable matching gift challenge by the deans and chairs inspired faculty, staff, and alumni to give back—nearly doubling the prior year's results. Further, the foundation sponsored a series of activities on and off campus including this year's alumni holiday gathering. The Board demonstrated their deep commitment to the School by donating over \$185,000 collectively.

We introduced the School to over two dozen funders in New York City and across the country. As a direct result, we secured the School's first scholarship fund and in partnership with the Urban Food Policy Institute, the creation of a

new fellowship in the area of young adult food justice. New relationships have been established with for-profit and non-profit organizations to provide paid fieldwork opportunities for students. Private and public introductions were held in boardrooms, offices, and private homes to meet potential friends of the School concerned with improving public health.

From the beginning it was important that all members of the Board of Directors carry a personal passion for public health. Building upon the founding members of the board, we added four dynamic individuals from the Harlem community, the nonprofit world, and the business community to our ranks. Margaret Crotty (President and Executive Director, Partnership with Children), Dr. Ken Shubin Stein (Founder and Chairman, Spencer Capital Management), Dr. Destry Sulkes (Chief Experience Officer, Wunderman Thompson), and Pamela Wheeler (Former Executive Director, WNBA Players Association) were welcomed to the ranks of our Board to support the growth of the foundation and School.

In the year ahead, we'll focus on driving innovation, making connections, and raising funds to bolster the School's mission.

The CUNY SPH Foundation Board. Top from left: Adam M. Doyno, Margaret Crotty, Alfonso Chang, Destry Sulkes, and Gil Addo. Bottom from left: Ayman El-Mohandes, Lyndon Haviland, and Michael Meng. Not pictured: Leah Abraham, Yin Ho, Ken Shubin Stein, and Pamela Wheeler.

*Establishing a culture of giving is critical to fulfilling the School's mission.*



# New in 2019: The New York Community Trust Industrial Hygiene Scholarship

Beginning in the fall semester of 2019, a two-year grant from The New York Community Trust (The Trust) will allow CUNY SPH to offer ten scholarships of \$8,750 per year to aspiring women and minority graduate students who intend to pursue the Master of Science program in Environmental and Occupational Health for a career in industrial hygiene.

The CUNY SPH MS in Environmental and Occupational Health prepares students to assess and measure exposures to environmental and occupational hazards and develop control strategies to remediate these exposures. Program Director Brian Pavidonis notes that industrial hygienists are in demand in virtually every kind of workplace, from offices to hospitals to construction sites. Through these scholarships, CUNY SPH aims to infuse the industrial hygiene field with a group of diverse and talented CUNY-educated professionals.

The Trust derives funding for its competitive grants from hundreds of legacies left by philanthropically-minded people, many of which have specific instructions for their use. According to Irfan Hasan, Program Director of The Trust's Healthy Lives Program, the decision to fund the CUNY SPH Industrial Hygiene Scholarship program matches several legacy priorities, including improving public health and the environment, defraying costs of higher education, and supporting economic mobility for underrepresented populations.

"We are both institutions that make our city better in a number of ways," Hasan observes of CUNY SPH and The Trust. "And industrial hygiene is a public health-facing career that directly supports the health of New Yorkers, and at the same time advances the economic mobility of those who practice it." This is a win-win for CUNY SPH and The Trust.

## Major Gifts & Scholarships 2018-2019



### **The Lyndon Haviland Fellowship**

AMOUNT: \$625,000

OBJECTIVE: Provide one incoming doctoral student each year the opportunity to develop theoretical knowledge and practical skills in addressing migrant health through public health strategies and policies.



### **The New York Community Trust Scholarship in Industrial Hygiene**

AMOUNT: \$200,000

OBJECTIVE: To establish the school's first external scholarship fund to benefit the MS in Industrial Hygiene and support the diversification of the program by focusing on women and minority students.

### **Levitt Foundation**

### **The Levitt Foundation Young Adult Food Fellowship**

AMOUNT: \$270,000

OBJECTIVE: This fellowship will enable the CUNY Urban Food Policy Institute to train CUNY students on food-centered civic engagement and expose them to food justice career pathways.

### **Booth Ferris Foundation**

### **The Booth Ferris Foundation**

AMOUNT: \$250,000

OBJECTIVE: To launch a community health intervention initiative in our home neighborhood of Harlem to coordinate and improve health services offered by community-based organizations.









# 3 LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

# Mentoring is integral

## Helping students integrate their existing strengths with newly gained knowledge and skills to propel them to success

Dr. Ghada Soliman, associate professor of nutrition in the Department of Environmental, Occupational and Geospatial Health Sciences, has devoted her career to the study of dietary health. Since joining the CUNY SPH faculty in 2017, she has been instrumental in revising the MPH in Public Health Nutrition curriculum, expanding the nutrition academic agenda and lab-based nutrition research and educational opportunities for prospective doctoral students.

Soliman is similarly devoted to her students, serving as a faculty mentor for

many master's and doctoral candidates.

"Nutrition and food sciences encompass a wide range of disciplines, so students come from diverse educational backgrounds," Soliman says. "These students need tailored advice and support in order to excel and reach their full potential. It is important to have a mentor to help to combine the skills they arrived with when they entered the program with the public health nutrition education they acquire in the program, to propel them to the next step of their career."

For Harleigh Schumer, a young MPH

student who graduated from Tulane University in 2016, it was important to find a mentor who had been in her shoes, to help her navigate the intricacies of graduate student life. Her first class at CUNY SPH was Public Health Nutrition with Soliman.

"Dr. Soliman made becoming a master's student a very smooth transition," Schumer says. "She wanted to ensure that all students knew what was expected, and did her best to prepare us for each class, as well as help us to apply what we were learning to real-life and job applications."



Associate Professor Ghada Soliman leads a nutrition class at CUNY SPH.



Harleigh Schumer  
(left), Ghada  
Soliman (center),  
and Natasha Pitt-  
Joseph (right).

In the nutrition course, Soliman assigns students to limit themselves to a food budget mirroring that of someone receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for one week.

“This was a very interesting experience, and made a lot of students realize how difficult it is to live this way,” says Schumer. “It allowed us to understand as public health professionals what it is like to survive off of SNAP dollars, and to use this extremely limited amount of money to buy food for themselves and their families. It helped us to empathize with the experiences of the people we work with as public health professionals, and to know how to advise community members who rely on SNAP how to get the most out of their SNAP dollars, while also keeping nutrition and healthy food choices in mind.”

Effective mentors nurture the graduate student’s educational, academic, personal, and professional development. As an academician, Soliman strives to empower students with both skills and creativity to serve their communities, their nation, and their world.

“Dr. Soliman has provided me with invaluable guidance and useful advice about which electives would help me to enhance and expand my knowledge

of different areas in public health that I am not currently familiar with,” says Schumer. “She has also shared her own personal anecdotes with me about her research and how she got to where she is today. She has always made me feel welcome and comfortable speaking with her about any issues I may be dealing with, both personally and as a student. She is an exemplary professor and outstanding mentor.”

Natasha Pitt-Joseph entered CUNY SPH with a bachelor’s degree in health sciences with some classes in nutrition under her belt. She says that Soliman’s mentorship has kept her on track to completing her graduate studies in food and nutrition.

“Dr. Soliman is very professional and compassionate,” says Pitt-Joseph. “She cares about all her students, and not just academically. Her constant words of encouragement and wisdom make you want to reach your full potential in that moment and beyond.”

Pitt-Joseph says Soliman’s guidance helped her decide to pursue her degree in nutrition and to stay on track to graduation while balancing work and home life.

“Dr. Soliman was right there to listen, advise and comfort me,” she says. “Her office door is always open for students and she makes sure to tell

you so. I remember the first day I spoke with her, it was on the phone. I was driving and on my way from dropping my kids off to camp and was trying to get information about the food and nutrition program. Speaking with her made me feel relaxed and confident about the decision to pursue my degree in that field. She was very knowledgeable and made the process simple.”

“Mentorship is built on a foundation of mutual respect and trust,” says Soliman. “Trust that the mentor has the mentee’s best interest at heart and trust that the mentor will individualize the guidance and advice to meet their mentee’s specific education and career goals, aspirations, and ambitions.”

Soliman says mentoring CUNY SPH students is academically and personally rewarding, and not a responsibility she takes lightly.

“My role is to guide the next generation of public health leaders and equip them with skills to achieve their professional goals, and excel in their field of study and public health service,” she says. “It is a great honor for me to serve our graduate students in this capacity.”

# Expansion and innovation

Yesterday's public health curriculum won't always prepare students for the challenges of today, and a successful school of public health must be flexible, nimble, and ready to adapt. At CUNY SPH we continue to enhance existing degree programs and create new ones to ensure that our students are optimally equipped to enter today's public health workforce.

## Updating our doctoral degree programs

When our accrediting body introduced substantial changes to public health doctoral degree program requirements in 2016, CUNY SPH initiated a careful period of assessment. After a two-year review that involved well over a hundred meetings, faculty members and doctoral degree directors made the following recommendation: in order to preserve the existing Doctor of Public Health (DPH) program's curriculum, its mission and goals, student learning outcomes, and expected graduate outcomes, the program award must be updated to a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree. Application was made and approval from the New York State Education Department came through in January 2019.

### Preserving the integrity of an effective degree program

Existing core and concentration curricula from the DPH program have been largely preserved, although they have been streamlined and consolidated to eliminate overlap, and the practicum project has been replaced with a teaching experience.

Like the DPH degree, the PhD in Public Health will provide students with the skills and knowledge to identify public health needs and develop solutions in New York City and around the world. The program will prepare candidates as

researchers, academics, and practitioners. Graduates will complete public health core coursework, rigorous training in their concentration area, a dissertation, and a teaching experience. PhD students will focus their studies in one of three concentrations: Community Health and Health Policy (CHHP), Environmental and Planetary Health Sciences (EPHS), or Epidemiology (EPID).

"Notably, the mission, goals, and graduate outcomes of the existing DPH were already representative of what would be expected from a PhD program," says Director of Academic Affairs Robyn Gertner Doyno. "The majority of our DPH graduates (66 percent) have gone on to careers in research, which is more typical of a PhD program than a DPH program."

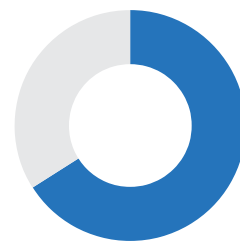
### Ensuring a smooth transition for current students

Students were given the opportunity to transition to the new PhD program, or to complete their studies at DPH graduates. Nearly 80 percent of equivalencies were identified between the existing DPH and the new PhD core and concentration requirements, which paved the way for a smooth transition to the PhD program. Of those DPH students eligible to make the transition, and thus far 81 percent have elected to do so. Thoughtful planning and flexibil-

ity among doctoral program directors ensured minimal impact on time to graduate for those students. The DPH program will sunset in 2026, allowing eight years' time to graduate for those students who entered in 2018 and chose not to transition to PhD.

### Off to a strong start

SPH began accepting applications to the PhD programs in spring 2019 for the fall 2019 semester. Applications exceeded those of the previous year's DPH program by more than 40 percent.



**66% of our DPH graduates have gone on to careers in research**



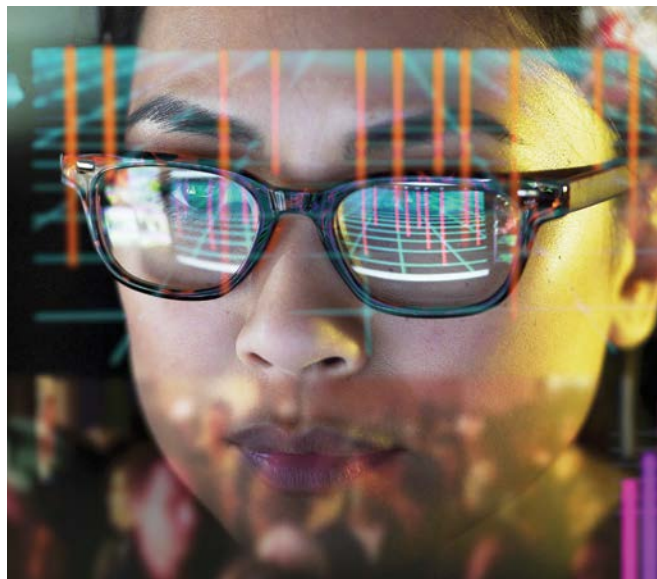


## Addressing a fast-growing population health problem: the new MS in Global and Migrant Health Policy

As globalization, migration, and urbanization continue to change the makeup of communities, cities, and countries, international organizations and domestic governmental and non-governmental organizations serving immigrant, refugee, and other vulnerable populations will require professionals with the skills and knowledge to identify health opportunities and threats in diverse settings and circumstances.

The MS in Global and Migrant Health Policy is designed to provide students with the opportunity to become change agents specifically in global health policy, promoting and practicing evidence-based decision-making.

Students in this degree program will acquire the content expertise and research methods required to evaluate, develop, and design global and migrant health policies. The program's core curriculum is rooted in public health competencies, while its content and context are framed with respect to global health policy development and national, state/provincial, and municipal policy, impacting migrant populations in urban settings. While the educational and career objectives of individual students may vary, the overall aim is to develop and strengthen the implementation science capacities required within the public health workforce to effectively address migrant and global health issues.



## Filling a gap in the public health workforce: The MS in Population Health Informatics

Population health informatics is the field in which today's information revolution meets the specific needs of public health. It is also defined as information, computer science, and technology systematically applied to public health practice, research, and learning. Computers and mobile devices, from cell phones to handheld personal digital assistants, are widely used by today's health workers and policy makers. These tools are essential to informatics, which has been defined as the science that studies the use and processing of data, information, and knowledge. And there is growing recognition worldwide that an essential component for the successful deployment of health information technology is a competent workforce.

The new MS in Population Health Informatics degree examines the role of technology in evidence-based solutions that improve population health outcomes. Students will acquire the skills necessary to apply technology at the intersection of clinical care and health sciences, strengthening preventive care at the population level. The program will offer practical coverage of critical topics including big data, cloud computing, mobile health, surveillance, and visualization from the perspective of the end user. Students will develop the expertise to design, develop, implement, and evaluate technology-enabled interventions and solutions.

This degree program is fully online, removing a critical barrier for the participation of students in other countries, and providing local students the opportunity to interact with others facing different public health questions around the world.

# Experiential learning: fieldwork

Fieldwork is an experiential learning experience that is planned, supervised, evaluated, and graded.

These critical experiences allow students to develop, manage, evaluate, or lead evidence-based public health projects, and in the process gain work experience, make professional contacts, and further their public health competencies outside the academic setting.

The CUNY SPH Office of Experiential Learning (OEL) works with students and community members to establish fieldwork opportunities and ensure that fieldwork projects fulfill the criteria of the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Students select their fieldwork placements from a list of over 150 approved non-profit, for-profit, government, clinical, and university settings. In these settings, the students address a broad range of health domains, applying in a practical setting the study design, literature review, data collection and data analysis skills they acquired in the classroom. The most common areas of focus in the past year were: non-communicable disease; infectious disease; environmental hazards; maternal, child, sexual and reproductive health (MCRSH); and food and nutrition.

“Each experience varies according to the student’s interests and professional development goals, as well as the needs of the fieldwork site,” says OEL Director Susanna Lynch. “My office plays the role of matchmaker, with the aim of ensuring that both the student and their preceptor have an optimal applied public health experience.”

Indeed, students are overall very satisfied with their fieldwork sites, this year giving them an average rating of 6.3 out of 7 points. The vast majority of students (87.5 percent) would recommend their site to future fieldwork students.

“My preceptor was an excellent mentor to work with and supported me with everything I needed for the project,” said

one Fall 2018 fieldwork student. “It was really fun and challenging figuring out problems with the project and how to adjust our approach to make it work. I feel like I gained valuable practical experience I can apply in my future professional career.”

Preceptors also rate their students high in terms of their collaboration and work ethic (4.5/5.0 average rating), and 80 percent are willing to host another fieldwork student.

“This is my second experience hosting a CUNY MPH student,” said one Fall 2018 fieldwork preceptor. “I am extremely impressed with your students. Their work ethic is notable; both students I’ve hosted had full-time jobs in health care in addition to their coursework and fieldwork and were well organized and took a professional approach to their fieldwork tasks.”

In a recent paper<sup>1</sup> in the journal *Pedagogy and Health Promotion*, a CUNY SPH team including Human Subjects Protection Program (HRPP) Liaison Kristen Cribbs, OEL Director Susanna Lynch, and Senior Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs Ashish Joshi highlighted the importance of coordinating services to ensure the success of student fieldwork.

The team practices what it preaches: CUNY SPH HRPP works very closely with OEL to evaluate student fieldwork proposals and issue prompt Human Subjects Research (HSR) determinations as to whether formal CUNY IRB approval

is required. This level of coordination is essential to ensuring that students complete their requirements on time and graduate on schedule. OEL also works very closely with the Office of Career Services, sharing work opportunities that might serve as fieldwork projects, and encouraging students to take advantage of Career Services workshops on resume writing, interview skills and job search skills, all of which can enhance the likelihood of the success of their chosen fieldwork projects.

For more information about the CUNY SPH fieldwork experience, visit [sph.cuny.edu/academics/fieldwork](http://sph.cuny.edu/academics/fieldwork).

## A few examples from this year’s list of fieldwork assignments

- NYU Langone Health, Department of Infection Prevention and Control
- NYU School of Medicine
- NYC Department of Environmental Protection
- International Rescue Committee
- CUNY Graduate School of Public Health & Health Policy
- Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology
- Caribbean Women’s Health Association

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1 Cribbs, K., Lynch, S., LaMonica, M., Amadi, C., & Joshi, A. (2019). Enhancing Graduate Practicum Project Development and Selection at Schools of Public Health: A Case Study. *Pedagogy in Health Promotion*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2373379919842232>

# Our faculty

## Denis Nash and Luisa N. Borrell named Distinguished Professors

The CUNY Board of Trustees voted unanimously in 2018 to appoint two faculty members to the role of Distinguished Professor. Drs. Denis Nash and Luisa N. Borrell were given the distinction, joining Distinguished Professor Nicholas Freudenberg.



Distinguished Professor of  
Public Health Denis Nash

As a scholar, mentor, instructor, and practitioner, Dr. Nash embodies our School's most closely held values. His research and programmatic work exemplifies our commitment to improving the health of populations and advancing social justice in New York City and beyond, and his deep generosity and effectiveness as a teacher and mentor advances our mission of excellence in education.

Dr. Nash is widely recognized as an international leader in the global fight against HIV/AIDS. Three years ago, he launched the CUNY-wide Institute for Implementation Science in Public Health, which has already made dramatic contributions to disease prevention around the globe. He has built a rich collection of research and programmatic partnerships with government, NGOs, and other academic institutions, in the process creating numerous research roles for the CUNY SPH academic community. He is a profoundly generous mentor of junior scholars and is recognized as a "career launcher" in his area of study.

Dr. Borrell is an eminent leader in the social determinants of health and the role of race/ethnicity, socioeconomic indicators, and neighborhood conditions as factors that shape disease and health in populations. Her experience as a dentist, coupled with her training as an epidemiologist, have paved the way for truly novel work in the area of oral health and health disparities.



Distinguished Professor of  
Public Health Luisa N. Borrell

Through her excellence in research and outstanding academic leadership, Dr. Borrell has been raising the national profile of the School and of CUNY. In addition to over 100 peer-reviewed journal articles, many in top journals in the fields of epidemiology and public health, and significant recognition by her peers as measured by the thousands of citations her work has received, Professor Borrell has received over \$7 million in external grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Robert Wood Johnson and R.W. Kellogg foundations.

As a faculty member and as chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Dr. Borrell has mentored many graduate students and sponsored six doctoral students including the first DPH graduate from CUNY SPH. She also works very closely with junior faculty throughout their non-tenured years to help them develop the portfolio needed for a successful tenure application.

Their glowing success clearly qualifies them to the highest level of recognition our University is able to provide. CUNY SPH is privileged to have two of the world's leading public health scholars as part of its exceptional faculty.





Dr. Lynn Roberts was recently appointed Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Alumni Relations, having served for a year as Interim Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Alumni Relations. In her new, permanent role, Dr. Roberts will continue to foster student engagement and provide vision for the programs that enhance the overall student experience at the School, building partnerships, setting benchmarks, developing best practices, and leading collaborative efforts.



As part of the ongoing expansion and enhancement of our educational offerings and research enterprises, CUNY SPH is honored to present eight new additions to our faculty.



**Bruce Lee**  
Professor, Health Policy  
and Management

Dr. Lee has two decades of experience in industry and academia in systems science, digital health, and developing and implementing methods, models, and tools to assist decision making in public health, health, and medicine. He has been the Principal Investigator for projects supported by a variety of organizations including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



**Pedro Mateu-Gelabert**  
Associate Professor,  
Community Health and  
Social Sciences/Institute  
for Implementation Science  
in Population Health

Dr. Mateu-Gelabert is a sociologist with over 20 years of research experience in New York City and internationally. His numerous research publications span the epidemiology of drug use, urban studies, immigration, social networks, and HIV/Hepatitis C prevention. A national expert on opioid use among youth, he has collaborated with various interdisciplinary research teams and has worked on international projects in multiple countries including Colombia, Spain, and Ukraine.



**Honoria Guarino**  
Research Associate  
Professor, Institute for  
Implementation Science  
in Population Health

Dr. Guarino is an anthropologist who specializes in mixed-methods research on drug use and HIV/HCV infection. She has expertise in the development and evaluation of behavioral interventions, especially technology-based interventions, for drug users in urban settings. Her work examines how contextual factors influence the uptake and effectiveness of evidence-based interventions and how these factors can be leveraged to improve interventions to reduce the negative health impacts of drug use.



**Kathleen Cravero  
Kristofferson**  
Senior Scholar, Health  
Policy and Management/  
Center for Immigrant,  
Refugee and Global Health

Before joining CUNY, Dr. Cravero enjoyed a successful career in international development and philanthropy. She spent 25 years working for the United Nations as Assistant Secretary General for Conflict Prevention and Recovery, Deputy Executive Director for UNAIDS, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Burundi, and UNICEF Representative in Uganda. After leaving the UN, she served for ten years as President of Oak Foundation, a private grant-making foundation based in Geneva.

We are proud and deeply gratified to be able to recruit this cohort of outstanding scholars, each of whom will bring new perspectives and fresh energy to our school. Please join me in welcoming these faculty to their new home at CUNY SPH.

– Dean Ayman El-Mohandes



**Adriane Martin Hilber**  
Distinguished Scholar,  
Health Policy and  
Management/Center  
for Immigrant, Refugee  
and Global Health

Dr. Hilber has worked for over 20 years in the field of sexual, reproductive, maternal, child and adolescent health, health systems, social inclusion and equity, accountability and human rights as an advocate, program manager, evaluator, implementation scientist and researcher. Throughout her career, she has focused her work on equity, policy, and implementation science to increase access and reduce barriers to sexual and reproductive health, especially for marginalized or stigmatized populations.



**Chloe Teasdale**  
Assistant Professor,  
Epidemiology and  
Biostatistics

Dr. Teasdale's professional and academic work is focused on evaluating the implementation of HIV care and treatment programs with a specific interest in assessing the outcomes of children, adolescents and pregnant women living with HIV in resource-limited settings. She has designed and led studies examining the impact of targeted service interventions for children, adolescents and pregnant women. She has (co)authored 21 scientific papers and is as an academic reviewer for several HIV and infectious disease focused journals.



**Nasim Sabounchi**  
Research Associate  
Professor, Center  
for Systems and  
Community Design

Dr. Sabounchi contributes to the advancement of system dynamics modeling and computer simulation for studying complex health and social systems through her established Systems Science and Simulation Lab (S3L) and leads various projects in the domain of public health and health policy analysis.



**Naomi Zewde**  
Assistant Professor,  
Health Policy and  
Management

Dr. Zewde's research focuses on the role of public policy in reducing economic inequality. Her recent article on the anti-poverty impacts of public healthcare coverage via Medicaid expansion was published in the journal *Health Affairs*. Her forthcoming academic study of universal trust funds, or "Baby Bonds," has been covered widely by popular press outlets including the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*.

# Enriching the learning environment

A selection of this year's scholarly events featuring thought leaders in public health

9/13/18

Nutrition Translation,  
From Farm to Fork



9/20/18

Consequences of  
War: A Refugee and  
Immigrant Mental  
Health Crisis in  
the Middle East



11/29/18

Food Policy and  
the 2020 Elections

2/6/19

Dining at the Coon  
Chicken Inn: Why do  
racist restaurants  
matter for public health?



2/11/19

Film Screening: The Power to Heal—  
Medicare and the Civil Rights Revolution



2/14/19

Green space, health  
and gentrification:  
For whom is the green  
and healthful city?

3/27/19

From Ambient Ultrafine  
Particles to Engineered  
Nanomaterials



4/1/19

NYC Health  
Commissioner Oxiris  
Barbot: A Vision for the  
Health of New Yorkers



4/17/19

Designing the Mental  
Health Continuum:  
NYS Mental Health  
Commissioner Ann  
Marie T. Sullivan



5/6/19

Back to the  
Future: Regulating  
Reproduction from  
Surrogacy to Abortion  
to Child Exclusion



# Data-driven decision making for student success

Ashish Joshi centers his work on data, and as Senior Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs, he has turned his focus toward enhancing student success through services such as advising, writing and quantitative support, Library, IT, and fieldwork support.

“We are taking the first steps toward creating a digitally driven campus,” he says, “and one of these steps is building a predictive model for the use of student services.”

One of the earliest trends Joshi’s team spotted was a need for enhanced student advising. In response, the School created an administrative office dedicated to student advisement to augment the services already provided by faculty advisors. In its first year, 2017-2018, that office scheduled 206 advising sessions with students; in the past year 2018-2019, that number more than doubled to 448. There were also substantial increases in the uptake of such services as writing and quantitative support.

Notably, in the last year, student satisfaction with all services, from advising to IT to career services and communications, increased across the board by an average of 20 percent.

Joshi and his team want to take this improvement much further. They have developed an entirely new data infrastructure to track trends in student services usage. This system detects patterns in service usage to predict the need for additional, related services and ensure that every office is prepared for potential surges and can respond pre-emptively.

When students are able to access the

services they need readily, on time, they are much more likely to maintain good academic standing, meet their goals, and graduate on schedule. “We are aiming for 100 percent of students to take advantage of the services we offer through the coordination of linked services such as IT and Library, or Fieldwork and Human Subjects Protections. Moreover, this same toolkit gives us the ability to detect when a student may be at risk for academic probation and set in motion interventions to prevent it.”

*When students are able to access the services they need readily, on time, they are much more likely to maintain good academic standing, meet their goals, and graduate on schedule.*

”







# 4 OUR STUDENTS

# Practicing what we teach

Annie Sumberg began her career in public health on the front lines of the battle for sexual and reproductive justice.

Annie Sumberg, MPH 2018



After graduating from Brooklyn College in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in women's and gender studies, she trained as an abortion doula with the Doula Project and volunteered at a number of New York City clinics, providing emotional and physical support for people before, during, and after their abortion procedures. She previously worked at a Volunteers of Legal Service (VOLS) where, through her work with clients, she was exposed to the myriad ways in which public policy can impact a person's ability to make decisions about their own body, their life, and the lives of their children. It was her time at VOLS that inspired her to work directly with patients in support of their sexual and reproductive choices.

Sumberg's volunteer work in city clinics gave way to a job at Planned Parenthood of New York City (PPNYC) where, as a counselor, she continued to work with patients one-on-one.

"I believe in PPNYC's mission with every fiber of my being and to be a part of that felt necessary," she said.

Eventually, seeking to improve health outcomes for PPNYC patients, Sumberg ascended to a role in clinical administration, where she collaborated with clinic staff to pilot new workflows and strategize ways to improve services. She helped launch pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) services at all five of PPNYC's health centers and designed and conducted trainings for staff and community stakeholders around topics including birth control, HIV, and abortion. She also managed the cultural humility and language access initiative to ensure that PPNYC services remained accessible to all New Yorkers.

Once Sumberg decided to pursue her master's degree in public health, she knew that CUNY SPH was the place for her. The school prioritizes adult learners and those already working in the public health arena, offering many classes online and at night. She elected to get her MPH in Community Health and Social Sciences, with a specialization in Maternal, Child, Reproductive, and Sexual Health.

"CUNY SPH operates through a social justice lens and values a diversity of thought, background, and identity," Sumberg said. "Also, sexual and reproductive justice was at the center of most classroom conversations rather than treated as an afterthought."

For her master's project, Sumberg led a mixed-methods study with Associate Professor Diana Romero, seeking to develop a deeper understanding of stakeholder attitudes, including New York State sexual and reproductive health policy professionals, healthcare administrators, physicians, and advanced practice clinicians (APCS), as they relate to three methods of abortion provision: medication abortion via telemedicine, abortion by APCs, and self-managed abortion via behind-the-counter Mifepristone.

After working as a research assistant with Romero and Assistant Professor Meredith Manze and completing her master's thesis, Sumberg became increasingly interested in qualitative research. She currently works at the Center for Healthcare Innovation, Implementation and Policy at the US Department of Veterans Affairs in Los Angeles, where she is involved in a number of qualitative and mixed-methods studies, all related to access to and quality of healthcare for women veterans.

"CUNY SPH provided me with research and community organizing tools and strategies that have helped me advance in my career while remaining committed to the defense of reproductive autonomy and health equity," Sumberg says.

*CUNY SPH provided me with research and community organizing tools and strategies that have helped me advance in my career while remaining committed to the defense of reproductive autonomy and health equity.*

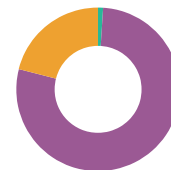
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## A snapshot of our matriculants

FALL 2018 – SPRING 2019

### Gender

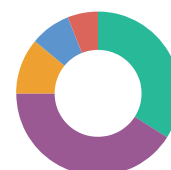
Female 78%  
Male 21%  
TGNC/Declined to State < 1%



*CUNY SPH is committed to ensuring an inclusive and supportive environment for all students regardless of gender identity.*

### Age

< 25 34%  
25-30 41%  
31-35 11%  
36-40 8%  
> 40 6%



*While most students are 30 or under, there is a fairly large age spread.*

### Ethnicity

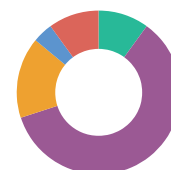
White 22%  
Unspecified 18%  
Hispanic/Latino 7%  
Asian 18%  
Black 23%  
2 or more races 12%



*Fully 60% of our students represented racial and ethnic minorities.*

### Previous Degree

Social Sciences 10%  
Health Sciences 60%  
Natural Sciences 16%  
Business 4%  
Other 10%



*The majority of the year's new matriculants had undergraduate degrees related to the health sciences.*



# CUNY SPH funding opportunities

CUNY SPH and the Office of the Dean offer scholarships, fellowships, and grants to help master's and doctoral students reach their full potential during their time at the School.

## Dean's Scholarship

**WHO FOR?** Full-time first-year MPH students. **HOW MUCH?** 100 percent in-state tuition for the first year of study. **DESCRIPTION:** CUNY SPH awards several Dean's Scholarships to MPH students based on a demonstrated history of academic excellence.

## The Mayor's Graduate Scholarship

**WHO FOR?** Full-time first-year MPH students. **HOW MUCH?** \$4,000. **DESCRIPTION:** The Mayor's Graduate Scholarship is a NYC initiative seeking to enable local government employees to study at accredited colleges and universities in the metropolitan area.

## The New York Community Trust Industrial Hygiene Scholarship

**WHO FOR?** Full-time MS students in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences. **HOW MUCH?** \$8750 for first year of study. **DESCRIPTION:** The New York Community Trust Scholarship offers ten scholarships annually of \$8,750 to aspiring women or minority graduate students who intend to pursue the Master of Science program in Environmental and Occupational Health.

## Doctoral Fellowship in Migrant Health

**WHO FOR?** One full-time doctoral student. **HOW MUCH?** Full in-state tuition and a \$35,000 annual stipend. **DESCRIPTION:** Provided by a generous grant from Dr. M. Lyndon Haviland and CUNY SPH, the doctoral fellowship in migrant health provides one doctoral student with the opportunity to develop their theoretical knowledge and practical skills in using policy and public health strategies to address issues related to migrant health.

## Dean's Fellowship

**WHO FOR?** Incoming full-time doctoral students. **HOW MUCH?** Full in-state tuition and salary ranging from \$5,000-\$26,000 for the first year of study. Renewable subject to funding sources. **DESCRIPTION:** CUNY SPH awards graduate fellowships to incoming PhD students each academic year, based on a demonstrated history of academic excellence. Recipients are given the opportunity to work as research assistants and/or teaching assistants on faculty scholarship projects.

## Dean's Dissertation Grant

**WHO FOR?** Doctoral students. **HOW MUCH?** Varies depending on proposals. **DESCRIPTION:** The Dean's Dissertation Grant is available to PhD students who are actively enrolled and in good academic standing, have successfully defended their dissertation proposal, and have received Institutional Review Board approval for their dissertation proposal.

## Dean's APHA funding

Free APHA membership. **WHO FOR?** All active students. **HOW MUCH?** Saves each student \$85 per year. **DESCRIPTION:** The American Public Health Association is a critical organization for public health students to be involved in. It offers invaluable opportunities to participate in research and service groups, present and share findings, and network with peers across the US to enhance future professional and scholarly opportunities.

## APHA travel award

**WHO FOR?** Any CUNY SPH student with an accepted poster or oral presentation at the annual American Public Health Association conference. **HOW MUCH?** \$1,000. **DESCRIPTION:** The opportunity to present one's research at the annual APHA conference gives CUNY SPH students the opportunity to share their work, learn from others, and build relationships that will serve them throughout their future careers. The Dean's APHA travel award is intended to encourage the widest possible student participation at APHA.

## GSGA

### Workshop/Conference Award

**WHO FOR?** CUNY SPH students and recent alumni (within one year of graduation). **HOW MUCH?** Varies. **DESCRIPTION:** To support students and alumni in their academic and professional growth, the GSGA will provide monetary awards to those attending and/or presenting at workshops or conferences relevant to public health.

### Manuscript Publication Award

**WHO FOR?** CUNY SPH students and recent alumni (within two years of graduation). **HOW MUCH?** Up to \$1000. **DESCRIPTION:** To support students and alumni in their academic and professional growth, the GSGA will provide monetary awards to those that publish first or second author peer-reviewed manuscripts related to public health in open-access journals, publication fees for which typically range from \$750-\$2000.

### Professional Growth Award (Spring 2019 only)

**WHO FOR?** Matriculated CUNY SPH students. **HOW MUCH?** Up to \$1500. **DESCRIPTION:** This award is to support the professional growth of current CUNY SPH students in pursuit of their graduate degree.



# The Graduate Student Government Association (GSGA)

The official governing body of our master's, doctoral, and certificate students.

## Executive council, 2018-2019

### PRESIDENT

Ijeoma Onyejiukwa

### VICE PRESIDENT

Leandra Ureña

### TREASURER

Richa Patel

### COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Fariha Hossain

### SENATORS

Caeyenne Brown, Jenny Leung, William Robinson, Taksh Shah, Katrina F. Mateo, Kathleen Delgado

### CUNY UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE DELEGATES

Jenny Leung and Taksh Shah

## Mission

Prioritizing student interests by advocating for campus changes, facilitating academic enrichment workshops, and organizing events for student enjoyment, fundraising, and networking.

## 2018-2019 Achievements

- Had gender-neutral bathrooms designated on most floors at CUNY SPH
- Held well-attended grant writing and mental health first aid workshops
- Raised over \$30,000 to fund student workshop and conference attendance
- Funded departmental banners for commencement
- Purchased and distributed customized CUNY SPH swag

## GSGA Clubs, enhancing campus life

- The Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights and Justice Club
- The Root Cause Collective
- The International Students Club

## GSGA Awards

- The Workshop/Conference Award
- The Manuscript Publication Award
- The Professional Growth Award

## Contact the GSGA

- [GSGA@sphmail.cuny.edu](mailto:GSGA@sphmail.cuny.edu)
- [sphgsga.commons.gc.cuny.edu](http://sphgsga.commons.gc.cuny.edu)



# Student achievements

## 2019 GRADUATE HONORS

**Valedictorian and Dean's Merit Award for Scholarship**  
Masura Tidjani

**Dean's Merit Award for Research**  
Alexa D'Angelo  
Michael Johnson  
Fatima Zohra

**Dean's Merit Award for Service**  
Jennifer Leimert  
Allison Sosna

**Dean's Merit Award for Commitment**  
Nisha Content  
Shaimaa Elsafoury

**Dean's Merit Award to the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health & Health Policy**  
William Robinson

**Dean's Dissertation Award**  
Amanda Kong

**Dean's Departmental Award in Community Health and Social Sciences**  
Annell Ovalles

**Dean's Departmental Award in Environmental, Occupational, and Geospatial Health Sciences**  
Patricia Pabon

**Dean's Departmental Award in Epidemiology and Biostatistics**  
Amanda Berry

**Dean's Departmental Award in Health Policy and Management**  
Hannah Elizabeth Sevcik

**Award for Outstanding Community-Clinical Scholar, Department of Community Health and Social Sciences**  
Sandhya Kumar

**Award for Outstanding Contribution to Community Health and Social Justice, Department of Community Health and Social Sciences**  
Neal Blangiardo

**Epidemiology and Biostatistics Departmental Scholar Award**  
Migdalia Morel

**Health Policy and Management Departmental Scholar Award**  
Kebera Leach

## SELECTED EXTERNAL STUDENT PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, AND AWARDS

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**Elle Anastasiou**  
*Examination of Marijuana Second-hand Smoke Exposure in Two New York City (NYC) Subsidized Housing Settings: NYC Housing Authority and Private Sector Low Income Housing*, New York City Epidemiology Forum 2019

**Carrie Mills**  
*Extreme obesity among adults in the United States: incorporating small area estimation and spatial clustering techniques, and An ecological study of the association and spatially varying relationship between extreme obesity and mortality rates among adults in the United States* Society for Epidemiologic Research

**Jennifer Carmona**  
*New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Engages with Community Stakeholders to Identify Opportunities for Intervention in Addressing Root Causes of Disparities in HIV-Related Mortality*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Ashley Chastain**  
*Navigating Sexual History Taking: Perspectives from Family Medicine Providers at Urban Federally-Qualified Health Centers, and Shame, Stigma and Healthcare-Seeking Experiences of Female Patients Receiving Gynecological Care at Federally-Qualified Health Centers in New York City*, Women's Health 2019

**Christine M Constantino**  
*Assessing Airborne Hazards in New York City Nail Salons*, American Industrial Hygiene Conference & Exposition

*Motivations for Seeking Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare at Urban Federally Qualified Health Centers: Perspectives from Female Patients*, 2019 Academy Health Annual Research Meeting

**Alexa D'Angelo**  
*What motivates gay and bisexual men to participate in PrEP behavioral research? Implications for engaging key populations in biomedical HIV prevention*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Weanne Estrada**  
*Big Tobacco and Small Businesses: Investigating the Incentives Provided by*

*the Cigarette Industry to Retail Store Owners in the Philippines*, Global Health and Innovation Conference

**Michael Johnson**  
*Comparison of Methods to Estimate Outdoor Air Make-up Rates to Indoor Spaces and their Ease of Implementation*, American Industrial Hygiene Conference & Exposition

**Jennifer Lee**  
*A Qualitative Study of Leadership Practices Among the House Ballroom Community (Poster)*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Priscilla Lopez**  
*Multi-Level Analysis of the Impact of Community Factors on Geographic Disparities in Diabetes and Obesity Nationwide and among U.S. Veterans, 2008-2017*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Javier Lopez-Rios**  
*Knowledge and Awareness of Acute HIV Infection Among Patients of Primary Care Clinics in High HIV Prevalence Neighborhoods of New York City*, HIV Research for Prevention (R4P)

*Engagement of young men who have sex with men (YMSM) in HIV care in New York City (NYC) Results from a qualitative study*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Katrina Mateo**  
*Access and interoperability in a usability and feasibility study utilizing a mobile application, actigraphy wearable, and Bluetooth scale*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Lillian Mehran**

*Latino Outreach: Workshops on End-of-life Options & Rights*, The Hospice and Palliative Care Association of New York State 39th Annual Interdisciplinary Seminar and Meeting

*End of Life Medical Utilization and the Palliative Care Information Act*, The Hospice and Palliative Care Association of New York State 39th Annual Interdisciplinary Seminar and Meeting

*End of Life Medical Utilization and the Palliative Care Information Act (Poster)*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Amanda Nace**

*Cost Analysis of Protected Bike Lanes in NYC (Poster)*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Annell Ovalles**

*Disparities in the use of specialty mental health services between Latinos, African-Americans and non-Latino Whites in New York City in 2013-2014 (Poster)*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Patricia Pabon**

*The New York State Safe Patient Handling Law and Nursing Musculoskeletal Injuries A Retrospective Study*, American Industrial Hygiene Association Conference and Expo

**Joseph Rapp**

*Disparities in Refusal of Surgical Resection for Early Stage Cancers*, Academy Health Annual Research Meeting

**Brooke Prashker**

*Mapping Abortion Access for Kentucky Women (Poster)*, 2018 American Public Health Association annual conference

**Taksh Shah**

*Prevalence of percutaneous injuries among health professionals*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Nandini Shroff**

*PurpLE Clinic: Creating a Primary Care Medical Home for Sexual Violence Survivors in a Federally Qualified Health Center*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Madeline Travers**

*Sexual Health and Risk-Taking Behaviors among New York City High School Students: Variation by Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Status*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Felix M. Olaya Uribe**

*Nativity, social support, and health among Latinos in New York City, 2013-14 (Poster)* New York City Epidemiology Forum

**Emma Vignola**

*Advocating for collective action to increase food security among immigrants an online training for the public health workforce*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Dana Watnick**

*Pregnancy and HIV prevention for women: Acceptability of a vaginal ring for multi-purpose prevention*, 2018 American Public Health Association Conference

**Joshua Yap**

*The role of family physicians in self-managed abortions*, Society of Teachers of Family Medicine conference

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS****Rajani Bharati**

Acharya, P., Upadhyay, L., Qavi, A., Naaraayan, A., Jesmajian, S., Acharya, S., & Bharati, R. (2019). The paradox prevails: Outcomes are better in critically ill obese patients regardless of the comorbidity burden. *Journal of Critical Care*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrc.2019.05.004>

Acharya Prakash, Poudel Dilli R, Bharati Rajani, Acharya Sabita, Gitler Bernard, & Jesmajian Stephen. (2018). Abstract 15322: Risk of Atrial Fibrillation in Critically Ill Septic Patients Varies According to the Microbiological Etiology. *Circulation*, 138(Suppl\_1), A15322–A15322. [https://doi.org/10.1161/circ.138.suppl\\_1.15322](https://doi.org/10.1161/circ.138.suppl_1.15322)

**Lauren Porsch**

Porsch LM, Zhang H, Dayananda I, Dean G. Comparing Receipt of Cervical Cancer Screening and Completion of Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Using a New Construct of Sexual Orientation: A Serial Cross-Sectional Study. *LGBT Health*. May 2019. doi:10.1089/lgbt.2018.0196

**John Wetmore**

Wetmore JB, Arbelo JM, Catalan MJ, et al. Psychometric properties of the Apathy Scale in advanced Parkinson's disease. *Parkinsons dis*, 2019; 2019: 1-8.

**SELECTED AWARDS****James D'Addio**

Dr. Morton Lippmann Scholarship, American Industrial Hygiene Foundation

**Shaimaa Elsafoury**

Fulbright student program, The Binational Fulbright Commission in Egypt, <https://fulbright-egypt.org/program/student>

**Diane Kolack**

Public Health Innovation Award for New York State's Health Across All Policies/ Age Friendly New York initiative, National Network of Public Health Institutes.

**Jennifer Lee**

Minority Leadership Fellow, National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)

**Chloe Mirzayi**

University of Washington Summer Institute in Statistical Genetics Scholarship, University of Washington

**Pamela Vossen**

2019 Worker Health & Safety Heroes, UNITE HERE Hotel Housekeeper Injury Prevention Campaign, (on behalf of the UNITE HERE International Union) the Worksafe, 37th Anniversary Celebration, Oakland CA <https://worksafe.org/2019-anniversary-event/page.html>



# The CUNY SPH Alumni Network

**Established**  
August 2018

**372 official members**  
Alumni from Fall 2016  
through Fall 2018

## **The Alumni Network Core Group**

Six recent alumni dedicated to engaging the CUNY SPH alumni community. This group organizes events throughout the academic year to bring the alumni together to keep them connected to the school as well as with each other.

- AJ Brown
- Rodrigo Arce
- Juan Gago
- Margrethe Horlyck-Romanovsky
- Ritu Jain
- Ephraim Tropp

## **Sponsored events**

### **The Alumni Holiday Gathering**

At our first annual Alumni Holiday Gathering, CUNY SPH alumni came together to celebrate the holiday season on December 3rd, 2018 at 3 Columbus Circle, hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations and the Alumni Network Core Group. A special thanks to the CUNY SPH Foundation for their support in making this event happen!

### **Black History Month Documentary screening**

*Power to Heal*, directed by Associate Professor Barbara Berney. In partnership with the Health Policy and Management department.

### **Public Health Week Panel: Queens Community College**

Presented prospective students with info on degrees and career options

### **Community Service event: Hike the Heights**

Alumni-led hike from Harlem to Washington Heights

**Happy hour for  
graduating class**  
Date TBD

## **Engagement**

### **Admissions Events**

Alumni often join admissions events to talk to prospective students about CUNY SPH public health programs and public health careers.

### **Social Media**

Facebook group and LinkedIn group pages launched specifically for alumni. Engagement is low, but the groups are (relatively) new having just been launched in the last year. Also recently launched an Instagram account. Very new, not a lot of posts or engagement yet.

### **Communications**

There is no dedicated newsletter for the Alumni Network yet, as they are not yet active enough. But they do receive weekly job opportunities, weekly Events Roundups, and monthly Updates. They also get the occasional dedicated email with info of interest to them.



Dr. Lynn Roberts, Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Alumni Relations, (bottom right) with students and their family members at the annual Hike the Heights event.



Associate Professor Barbara Berney (center) at a screening of her documentary film *Power to Heal* with members of the Alumni Network.



Dean Ayman El-Mohandes greets former students at the Alumni Holiday Gathering.



# 5 RESEARCH



# Centers and institutes

## The CUNY Urban Food Policy Institute

The CUNY Urban Food Policy Institute provides evidence to inform urban and municipal food policies that make equitable access to healthy, affordable food a priority and promote intersectoral perspectives that link nutrition, health, and sustainable community and workforce development. The Institute engages CUNY faculty and students in food policy research and action.

## The CUNY Institute for Implementation Science in Population Health

The CUNY Institute for Implementation Science in Population Health (ISPH) translates research into sustainable, cost-effective population-level interventions, strategies, initiatives, and policies with the potential to improve health and reduce health disparities at scale around the world.

## The Center for Immigrant, Refugee, and Global Health

The Center for Immigrant, Refugee, and Global Health (CIRGH) serves as a hub for implementation science and innovation development in the field of immigrant, refugee, and global health with the goal of advancing scholarship, practice, and understanding of the transnational policies, programs, institutions, and ethos that influence global health.

## The Healthy CUNY Initiative

Healthy CUNY is a university-wide initiative that seeks to reduce health-related barriers to academic success to ensure that all CUNY students can reach their full health and academic potential.

## The Center for Innovation in Mental Health

The Center for Innovation in Mental Health (CIMH) engages in national and international efforts to advance mental health training, research and evaluation.

## The CUNY Center for Systems and Community Design

The CUNY Center for Systems and Community Design seeks to develop and test innovative strategies for effective, sustainable systems and community change to transform health and improve health equity in New York City and beyond.

## The NYU-CUNY Prevention Research Center

The NYU-CUNY Prevention Research Center (PRC), as part of a national network of such centers, serves as a resource for prevention science throughout NYC. The center has a strong record on implementing, evaluating, and disseminating community-clinical linkage interventions to reduce health disparities in ethnically diverse communities in NYC.

CUNY SPH conducts research and implementation through its centers and institutes, many of which are affiliated with institutions both within and outside of the CUNY network.





# Research numbers

CUNY SPH faculty research advances the science of public health, builds evidence for social justice policy, and introduces new methodological tools useful to the field.

Faculty research also generates invaluable employment and learning opportunities for our students, who practice hands-on public health through data collection, instrument development, data analysis, and manuscript preparation. ***This year fully 42 percent of CUNY SPH research employees were our own students.***

Research grant funds are administered through the CUNY Research Foundation, entirely separate from the tax levy and tuition funds that support our teaching and infrastructure.

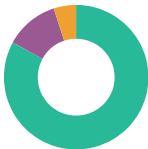
Total research expenditures continued their upward trend this fiscal year, rising almost 10 percent over the previous year.

Total research expenditures: \$9.1M

Our faculty published 285 peer-reviewed articles this year

Breakdown of research expenditures by faculty rank

Professor	83%
Associate Professor	12%
Assistant Professor	5%



Breakdown by faculty rank

Professor	50%
Associate Professor	36%
Assistant Professor	14%



Check out our *City Health* magazine for more in-depth coverage of CUNY SPH research.

[sph.cuny.edu/news/cityhealth-magazine/](https://sph.cuny.edu/news/cityhealth-magazine/)







# 6 FINANCES

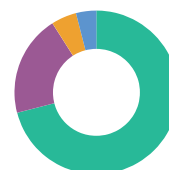


Our total tax levy budget for 2018-2019 was \$23,777,076. These funds are entirely separate from grant funds, which are administered through the CUNY Research Foundation.

## Where did our tax levy funding come from?

### Sources of tax levy administered funds

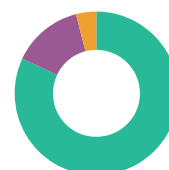
State Allocation	71%
Tuition & Fees	20%
Pledges & Donations	5%
Prior Year Reserves	4%



## How did we spend it?

### Expenditure breakdown

Personnel	82%
Rent	14%
OTPS	4%



### Personnel breakdown

FT Faculty	44%
PT Adjuncts/Instructional Support	4%
Academic and Student Affairs	14%
Executives	15%
Staff	23%









# Appendix

## CUNY SPH Foundation Board of Directors

### CHAIR

**Lyndon Haviland**  
President, Lyndon Haviland and Co. LLC

### VICE CHAIR

**Alfonso Chang**  
Co-founder and Managing Director,  
AC3 Group, Managing Director,  
Relativity Healthcare Partners, CEO  
and President, Purdue GMP Center

### SECRETARY

**Margaret Crotty**  
Executive Director and CEO,  
Partnership with Children

### TREASURER

**Michael Meng**  
President and Chief Financial Officer,  
Stellar Health

### VOTING MEMBER EX-OFFICIO

**Ayman El-Mohandes**  
Dean, CUNY SPH

### NON-VOTING MEMBER, EX-OFFICIO

**Adam M. Doyno**  
Executive Director,  
CUNY SPH Foundation,  
Director of Development,  
CUNY SPH

**Leah Abraham**  
Owner and President, Settepani

**Gil Addo**  
Co-Founder and CEO, RubiconMD

**Yin Ho**  
Chief Strategy Officer, Aetion  
Co-Founder and Advisory Board Chair,  
New York City Health Business Leaders

**Ken Shubin Stein**  
Founder and Chair,  
Spencer Capital Holdings

**Destry Sulkes**  
Chief Experience Officer, Wunderman

**Pamela Wheeler**  
Lecturer, Master of Science, Sports  
Management, Columbia University

## CUNY SPH Dean's Advisory Council

### COUNCIL CHAIR

**Freida D. Foster**  
Vice Chair, NYS Workers'  
Compensation Board

### COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

**Curtis Archer**  
President, Harlem Community  
Development Corporation

**Oxiris Barbot**  
Commissioner, NYC Department  
of Health and Mental Hygiene

**Susan J. Beane**  
Vice President and Executive  
Medical Director, Healthfirst

**Deneane Brown-Blackmon**  
Director, NYS Homes and  
Community Renewal, Upper  
Manhattan Borough Office

**Wellington Chen**  
Executive Director,  
Chinatown Partnership

**Andrea G. Cohen**  
Senior Vice President of Legal  
Affairs and General Counsel,  
NYC Health + Hospitals

**Dr. Maximo Gomez**  
Medical Journalist

**Lyndon Haviland**  
President, Lyndon Haviland & Co LLC

**Khary Lazarre-White**  
Executive Director & Co-Founder,  
The Brotherhood/Sister Sol

**Fred Rich**  
Author; Of Counsel,  
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

**Mitchell J. Silver**  
Commissioner, NYC Parks

**Pat Wang**  
Chief Executive Officer, Health First NY

**Jennifer Walden Weprin**  
Executive Director,  
Queens County Farm Museum

### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

**Duffie Cohen**  
University Executive Director  
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