SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

HONORS CONVOCATION

May 3, 2017 | 6:00pm

Adele H. Stamp Student Union,
Colony Ballroom
Convocation Ceremony

The University of Maryland School of Public Health is pleased to host the 2017 Honors Convocation, to recognize outstanding students and highlight their accomplishments in academics and service activities.

Welcome
Boris D. Lushniak, MD, MPH, dean and professor, School of Public Health

Delta Omega Honorary Society Recognition
Dean Boris D. Lushniak
Graciela Jaschek, PhD, MPH, assistant research professor, president of Delta Omega

Jerry P. Wrenn Scholarship Award Recognition
Ron Padron, advisor, chair of the SPH Scholarship Committee

TerpStart Scholarship Award Recognition
Ron Padron

Departmental Award Recognition
Presented by distinguished faculty members from
Behavioral and Community Health
Family Science
Health Services Administration
Kinesiology

Dean’s Scholar Graduate Award Recognition
Stephen M. Roth, PhD, associate dean for Academic Affairs

Graduate Scholars
Laura B. Wilson Leadership Award

Dean’s Scholar Undergraduate Award Recognition
Colleen (Coke) Farmer, PhD, Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education

Undergraduate Scholars
Senior Scholars
Fraley Award

Closing
Dean Boris D. Lushniak

Key to program abbreviations:
BCH – Behavioral and Community Health, EPIB – Epidemiology and Biostatistics, FMSC – Family Science, HLSA – Health Services Administration, MIES – Kinesiology, MIAEH – Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health, PHSC – Public Health Science

DELTA OMEGA HONORARY SOCIETY RECOGNITION

Delta Omega is the honorary society in public health. The Gamma Zeta chapter of Delta Omega was established at the University of Maryland School of Public Health in 2011 to honor our distinguished students, alumni, faculty, and honorary members. The mission of the society is to encourage and recognize excellence in practice, research, education and academic achievement in the field of public health.

Behavioral & Community Health
MIN QI WANG, professor
HANNAH ALLEN, PhD candidate ’18
RENÉE NICOLAS, MPH ’17
DEBORAH WU, BS ’17
LIZ LACSON, BS ’17
JENNIFER HODGSON, BS ’05, MPH ’08
ANNE ANDERSON-SAWYER, MA ’00

Epidemiology and Biostatistics
TYPHANYE DYER, assistant professor
XIAOXIA LU, PhD ’17
SOO PARK, MPH BIOS ’17
CELENA KINSEY, MPH ’17
DAVID A. WOODWELL, MPH BIOS ’10

Family Science
EDMOND SHENASSA, associate professor
DEIRDRE A. QUINN, PhD ’17
REBECCA ELLEN GIBSON, BS ’17
JENNY MELENDEZ, BS ’13

Health Services Administration
MICHÉL BOUDREAXS, assistant professor
RAPHÈL GAÈTA, PhD ’17
SAMAR HAÈKÈM, MHA ’17
MAYA MACÔN, BS ’14 MHA ’16

Kinesiology
MARVIN W. SCOTT, senior lecturer
LINDSEY RODKEY, MPH ’17
SARA OLSÈN, MPH ’17
TARA SAIDEMAN, BS ’17
ANDREA B. ROMÈO, MPH ’16

Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health
DEVON PAYNE-STURGES, assistant professor
MELEAH BOYLE, MPH ’14, PhD candidate

Honorary
MAURA DWYER, DrPH
Senior Health Policy Advisor, MD Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Jerry P. Wrenn Scholarship Award
Established in honor of Dr. Jerry P. Wrenn, who was a faculty member, student advisor, associate dean of student services, and finally dean of the College of Health and Human Performance (which became the School of Public Health), this scholarship supports outstanding students on track to fulfill graduation requirements within the next year and demonstrate experience and leadership in their field of study.

JAMAL ANAELE
Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science
Jamal is a certified geriatric nursing aide and certified medical technician with international experience working with USAID and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. At UMD, Jamal is the co-vice-president of the Pre-Physician Assistant Club, with hopes to attend physician assistant school following graduation.

ERIKA CAPINGUIAN
Bachelor of Science, Community Health
Erika is a fellow and the president of RESULTS UMD, an internal grassroots advocacy organization that promotes policies to alleviate poverty. She is also a mentor for fourth grade students in Title I schools in Prince George’s County through America Reads*Amercia Counts and has volunteered at hospitals during the summer. Erika hopes to pursue an MPH degree or become a physician assistant.
LOURDES CELIUS  
**Bachelor of Science '16, Community Health**  
Lourdes is a Fall '16 graduate who was in the Academic Achievement Program and worked as a peer leader in the School of Public Health's Center for Academic Success and Achievement. She has experience in global health from studying abroad in Thailand and aspires to work internationally as a nurse.

JENNIFER CURTIS  
**Bachelor of Science, Family Science**  
Jennifer is a student in Family Science and a member of Phi Alpha Epsilon, the School of Public Health's honor society. Jennifer has interned at the Conflict Resolution Center in Montgomery County, where she interacted with school-aged children to prevent and resolve conflicts. She hopes to apply her passion and skills to the conflict resolution field in the future.

NICOLE HAGGERTY  
**Bachelor of Science, Community Health**  
Nicole has research experience through an internship at the National Institute on Drug Abuse. She has also participated in community service projects with focuses on LGBTQ youth, healthcare, and homelessness. Following graduation, she plans to pursue a MPH degree with a focus in epidemiology.

ADAUGO IWUALA  
**Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology**  
Adaugo is a member of the Charles R. Drew Pre-Health Society and the secretary of UMD's Pre-Physician Assistant Club. She has volunteered with Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and is the former vice president of Afrochique, UMD's African dance team. After completing the Kinesiology program, she plans to apply to physician assistant programs.

SASHA LEDESMA  
**Bachelor of Science, Family Science**  
Sasha is a member of the Gamma Lambda Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society. She has experience working with elementary and middle school students, providing individualized academic, social, and emotional assistance to help them function independently. Sasha's passion is mental health and she aspires to become a licensed clinical social worker and continue her work with children and adolescents.

STEFANIE MAMO  
**Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science**  
Stefan is a student in Public Health Science and a member of the Charles R. Drew Pre-Health Society. She has volunteered with Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and the Healthy Futures Program, where she worked to promote healthy behaviors in children. She hopes to pursue a career as a physician assistant.

*CHRISTINA MEMMOTT  
**Bachelor of Science '16, Public Health Science**  
(Also recognized on pg. 21, see bio there)*

SARAH OBEN  
**Bachelor of Science, Family Science**  
Sarah is a member of the honor society in Family and Consumer Sciences, Phi Upsilon Omicron, and treasurer of the UMD Community Learning Garden. She has worked at the UMD Campus Pantry in the Health Center to help provide emergency food to students and faculty. She also works as a direct support staff member for a patient with cerebral palsy, and has enjoyed this opportunity so much that she hopes to go into the field of physical therapy or occupational therapy following graduation.

KARLA PANDURO  
**Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology**  
Karla has interned at Washington Adventist Hospital, which has helped develop interpersonal and professional skills. She also led a group to create an organization, Project Criança, which worked with an orphanage in Brazil to raise money for medical expenses for children with microcephaly. She has also volunteered in Belize to help build a dining area for an underprivileged school and aspires to become a physician assistant.

SARA SPEAKMAN  
**Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology**  
Sara is a member of the School of Public Health's honor society, Phi Alpha Epsilon, and a research assistant in the Comprehensive Assessment and Intervention Program, a psychology lab on campus. Sara has also volunteered at a retirement home, where she worked alongside the Employee Health and Wellness Committee to provide employees with education and motivation to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Sara aspires to become a doctor following graduation.

JILL SUTTON  
**Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science**  
Jill has experience working in global health as a clinical medicine and health promotion intern in Peru and on mission trips in Honduras. In Peru, Jill worked on parasite-prevention campaigns, health education events, assistance in health clinics, and taught English to children. Through her three mission trips in Honduras she worked to help improve the quality of life for teenage boys at an agricultural school and plans on utilizing her educational and field experiences to improve global health and global learning.

AIMEE TANDOI  
**Bachelor of Science, Community Health**  
Aimee has volunteered abroad with Public Health Without Borders, developed a culturally competent nutrition curriculum and is conducting research on food security. Recently, she interned with the UMD Center for Substance Abuse Research analyzing emerging drug abuse trends that threaten public health. Aimee plans to pursue an MPH degree and study infectious disease epidemiology.

FAITH WASHINGTON-LAW  
**Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology and Public Health Science**  
Faith is a certified nursing assistant and the community research director for Minority Outreach & Technical Assistance, a minority health initiative program in Prince George's County. Her passion is community health promotion and she hopes to earn an MPH degree or become a physician assistant to promote health and wellbeing for low socioeconomic status community members.

**Right Page:** Aimee Tandoi, right, at the SPH Fall 2016 Student and Alumni Night of Networking
TerpStart
The new TerpStart Matching Scholarship Program gives donors the power to change an untold number of students’ lives. Donors establish an endowed scholarship, and the university doubles the awards granted from the endowment’s income forever. To qualify for a TerpStart Scholarship, students must meet any restrictions associated with the award and maintain satisfactory progress towards a degree in the SPH.

BETSY LOPEZ, Alving TerpStart
Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science
Betsy is a member of Students Engaged in Public Health, an organization that connects public health students and puts ideas and theories learned in coursework into action while serving the greater College Park community. She is passionate about involving and engaging with other students in the field of public health and promoting healthy lifestyles.

DEPARTMENTAL AWARD RECOGNITIONS
Behavioral and Community Health

Beck-Feldman Research Award
This award honors Drs. Kenneth Beck and Robert Feldman, both of whom serve as BCH professors, for their more than 30-year commitment to public health research. Each spring, BCH presents this award to an undergraduate who has demonstrated involvement in health research projects.

CHRISTINA PARISI
Christina is part of the BCH Undergraduate Honors Program and a researcher with the biology department, with research projects including effective interventions to reduce alcohol use for college athletes, health literacy in patients receiving colonoscopies and tissue regeneration. She is an alumnus of the Honors Humanities program in the University’s Honors College, member of the Mortar Board Senior Honor Society, and a member of the Phi Alpha Epsilon, the School of Public Health’s honorary society. As a peer educator and teaching assistant, Christina has given presentations on safe and responsible alcohol use for students as well as designed lesson plans and workshops for freshman students needing academic support.

David H. Hyde Award
This award honors Dr. David Hyde’s involvement of more than 20 years with BCH, including serving as undergraduate program director, prior to his retirement in 2010. Each spring, BCH presents this award to an undergraduate who has demonstrated strength in the face of adversity.

TAYLOR JORDAN
Taylor is Federal Fellow through the completion of the Federal Semester Program, a role where she completed the fall semester seminar for the Public Health Policy track and completed a full-time internship with the District of Columbia Department of Health working on the D.C. Healthy People 2020 initiative. She served as a volunteer mentor with America Reads*America Counts. Taylor also served as a peer health educator with the University Health Center delivering to classrooms on bystander intervention, mental health, wellness, and stress management.

DANIEL CHU, Hatfield TerpStart
Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology
Daniel hopes to pursue a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. He believes in the importance of public service and giving back to the community and has been working as a physical therapist technician to gain experience for his future aspirations.

KRISTYN PIERCE
Kristyn has worked as a research assistant at the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy and the Safe Start Study to help reduce the prevalence of infant sleep-related deaths in Baltimore. She has performed a needs and strengths assessment in University Park, to help older residents age comfortably in their own homes. Kristyn has been accepted to the New York University College of Global Public Health Master of Public Health program with a concentration in biostatistics for Fall of 2017.

THOMAS ANDREW MILLER
Thomas Andrew Miller is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Delaware, Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. He recently completed an internship at the National Cancer Institute’s Clinical Genetics Branch to analyze interview data collected on a study titled “Caregiver Factors Related to Emergency Department Utilization for Sickle Cell Disease Youth.” He accepted a Summer 2017 internship at the National Cancer Institute’s Clinical Genetics Branch to analyze interview data collected on sickle cell disease youth.

Sharon M. Desmond Community Service Award
This award honors Dr. Sharon Desmond’s more than 20-year involvement and commitment to improving health within the local community. Each spring, the Department of Behavioral and Community Health presents this award to an undergraduate who has demonstrated dedication to his or her community in a health-related capacity.

ASHLEY PANTALEAO
PhD, Family Science
Ashley recently submitted a first author publication to the journal *Families, Systems, & Health* based on her Master’s thesis work titled “Caregiver Factors Related to Emergency Department Utilization for Sickle Cell Disease Youth.” She accepted a Summer 2017 internship at the National Cancer Institute’s Clinical Genetics Branch to analyze interview data collected on sickle cell disease youth.

Robin Sawyer Health Teaching/Communication Award
This award honors Dr. Robin Sawyer’s more than 30-year commitment to a high standard of teaching excellence and health communication. Each spring, BCH presents this award to an undergraduate who demonstrates promise and involvement in public/community health presentations and teaching.

*LIZ LACSON*
(Also recognized on pg. 21, see bio there)
ASHLEY PANTALEAO, continued
families that have multiple family members with Li-Fraumeni syndrome. Ashley is the community service chair of the Maryland Council of Family Relations (MCFR) on campus.

Edlavitch Family Science Fund
Selma Tyser Edlavitch was a distinguished community volunteer whose generosity had a tremendous impact on Washington area families. Her sponsorship of the Edlavitch-Tyser Family Relations Forum of the Washington Hebrew Congregation benefited family members of every age, including young children, adolescents, single adults, married couples, and the elderly. This fund provides an annual scholarship to an outstanding student or students in Family Science.

MARSHÉ JONES
Bachelor of Science
Marshé graduated from Prince George’s Community College in 2016 before pursuing her bachelor’s degree at UMD. She has volunteered for Anne Arundel Medical Center and assisted with clerical work, maintained sanitary conditions, and monitored patients. Marshé also volunteered for the Central High School guidance office.

WENDY PINTADO
PhD, Maternal and Child Health
Wendy volunteered for Buck Lodge Middle School’s mentoring program last year where she held workshops for young girls on the importance of education, self-love, professionalism, and empowerment. She currently volunteers for the Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES) program and the George B. Thomas Sr. Learning Academy. These programs help students who come from disadvantaged backgrounds to apply for college and scholarships, and to offer tutoring in different subjects.

DOREEN ROZARIO
Bachelor of Science
Doreen has volunteered as a research assistant at the College of Education’s Social and Moral Development Lab for three semesters and has learned the different aspects of conducting a research study. As a research assistant, she interviewed children, coded data, and interacted with other lab members on various projects. This semester, Doreen has made the Dean’s List for her academic achievements. Doreen won first place in the poster session for her project in her Research Methods course where she and her group studied the immigrant generation’s influence on attitudes toward seeking mental health care.

Jeanette Spier Beavers Memorial Scholarship
A dedicated therapist, political activist, and mother, Jeanette Spier Beavers cared deeply about the rights of the underprivileged and issues affecting families throughout the world. Ms. Spier was a clinical social worker whose professional work included an individuals and couples therapy practice, adoption counseling, assistance for the mentally ill, and extensive writing about families with disabled children. This fund provides annual scholarship support for graduate students enrolled in the Couple and Family Therapy masters program who share her commitment to providing therapy for economically disadvantaged families.

*ROLONDA WILLIAMS (also recognized on pg. 9)*
Rolonda has conducted research on the relationship between racial attitudes and abnormal behavior during undergraduate years designing a study and collecting and analyzing data. She has been inducted into many honor societies including the Who's Who Award, Ida B. Wells Honor Society, Global Honors Scholar Honor Society, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Psi Chi Honor Society and Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society. During her graduate studies, Rolonda has been a part of the Research and Advocacy Committee of the Maryland Council on Family Relations, and hopes to expand her leadership positions at the University of Maryland.

Ned Gaylin Endowed Scholarship
This fund recognizes Dr. Ned Gaylin’s outstanding career, which included creation of the Couple and Family Therapy master’s program and tenure as the first chair of the department. Gaylin’s commitment to improving the welfare of students continues through this scholarship fund, which provides financial assistance to Couple and Family Therapy students.

LIZA HARBISON
Master of Science
Liza Harbison, a graduate assistant in the Department of Family Science, was awarded the John F. Oberlin merit-based scholarship for her academic achievements at Oberlin College. She was the winner of the Nonprofit Roundtable’s 10th Anniversary Video Contest for a video she created on the Young Playwright’s Theater. Liza volunteered at the College Success Foundation, where she worked to reduce the mental health stigma on her campus. Jordan is currently an intern at the Center for Healthy Families, where she provides therapeutic services for UMD students as well as members of the surrounding community.

*ROLONDA WILLIAMS
Please refer to description on pg. 8

Noel Myricks Endowed Scholarship
Upon Dr. Noel Myricks’ retirement from the Family Science faculty and appointment to Emeritus status in summer 2004, the department established an endowed scholarship honoring this distinguished educator. Dr. Myricks was an outstanding teacher and nationally recognized family scholar specializing on the intersection of families and the law. This scholarship is awarded to a first-generation college student in family science.

JORDAN MADISON
Bachelor of Science
Jordan is an alumna of Spelman College where she was a member of the Ethel Wadell Gilhi Honors Program and the Psi Chi International Honors Society. As a Howard Hughes Medical

JIHYE MILLER
Bachelor of Science
JiHye has achieved a 3.4 GPA this year, a meaningful accomplishment because she takes care of her two year old daughter, has a part-time job as a dental assistant, is a full-time student, and is currently pregnant.

Public Health to meet the requirements of the
and implemented this department in 2007,
School of Public Health. Dr. Wilson created
the Department of Health Services
leadership in envisioning and designing
perpetuates her legacy, and recognizes her
This award honors Laura B. Wilson, PhD,
Laura B. Wilson Service Award
that served the most vulnerable populations in
a D.C.-based public health company, where he
also an operations consultant for Defining Image,
of the public by participating in the health
Association, seeking to improve health
also a student member of the American Public
for Clinical and Translational Science. He is
the Georgetown-Howard Universities Center
Internship Award
JONATHAN R. MCKINNEY
Jonathan is a program participant in the
Community Scholars Program, hosted by
Center of Excellence for Health Disparities and
the Georgetown-Howard Universities Center
for Clinical and Translational Science. He is
also a student member of the American Public
Health Association, seeking to improve health
of the public by participating in the health
administration and law communities. Jonathan is
also an operations consultant for Defining Image,
a D.C.-based public health company, where he
helps plan grassroots community health events that
served the most vulnerable populations in
the Washington, DC area.

Laura B. Wilson Service Award
This award honors Laura B. Wilson, PhD, perpetuates her legacy, and recognizes her leadership in envisioning and designing the Department of Health Services Administration in the University of Maryland School of Public Health. Dr. Wilson created and implemented this department in 2007, which enabled the then-nascent School of Public Health to meet the requirements of the Council on Education for Public Health.

SARA SISSELMAN
Master of Health Administration
Sara is a member of the School of Public Health’s research committee where she has been involved with planning its annual Public Health Research @ Maryland day. She has worked to showcase faculty and student research as well as provide informational sessions and roundtable networking for researchers across the campus and beyond. Sara is the president of the Health Services Administration Student Association, where she worked to partner with a professional healthcare association for a regional conference at the University of Maryland.

Kinesiology
David H. and Louise B. Clarke Scholarship in Kinesiology
Professor Emeritus David H. Clarke, who was a leader in the area of exercise physiology, established this award to support students in the Department of Kinesiology. Recipients are selected based on outstanding academic achievement and financial need.

EVAINE TAYLOR CLAY
Bachelor of Science
Evanie has been a volunteer for the Military Warriors Support Foundation where she worked with Purple Heart Veterans who have experienced PTSD and other combat-related injuries. She is also an intern rehabilitation technician at Maximum Performance Physical Therapy. Evanie completed her undergraduate degree in kinesiology two semesters early to pursue a post-graduate degree in the medical field.

MIKE DE LUISE
Bachelor of Science
Mike has been recognized for making the Dean’s List and was invited to join two honor societies. He is a full-time student, but considers his greatest accomplishment to be operating his own personal training business during his time at UMD.

KATIE DRUMMOND
Bachelor of Science
Katie is a member of Phi Alpha Epsilon, the School of Public Health’s honorary society. She is also a volunteer with the Mid-Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue as well as the Days End Farm Horse Rescue.

MARIE GABRIELLE DY COK
Bachelor of Science
Gabrielle is a volunteer at St. Thomas More Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. She has participated in research at the United States Department of Agriculture. Gabrielle is part of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and was in the STEM Collegian and Honors Programs during her studies at Prince George’s Community College. Gabrielle has volunteered her time at the So Others Might Eat soup kitchen in Washington, D.C.

STEVE EZEANI
Bachelor of Science
Steve is a member of the UMD Hip Hop Fest student organization. He has also volunteered with the nonprofit organization Future Leaders and Young Entrepreneurs (FLYE) who work with high school student-athletes in Prince George’s County, exposing them to diverse avenues of success and assisting with skills development. Steve has maintained at least a 3.0 GPA throughout his academic career. He plans to pursue a doctorate in physical therapy.

ALEXA MARTINI
Bachelor of Science
Alexa is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She has volunteered in Dr. Rodolphe Gentili’s Neuromotor Control and Learning Laboratory, where she learned about cognitive-motor processes during motor adaptation and motor learning of new skills. Alexa is the external philanthropy chair of her sorority Alpha Xi Delta. Alexa’s passion is working with individuals with learning disabilities and will pursue a career in occupational therapy to continue working with this population.

MAYA SCHWARTZ
Bachelor of Science
Maya has been able to maintain a GPA above a 3.0 her entire college career as well as earning a 4.0 her freshman year at Arizona State University. She is an active volunteer of Meals on Wheels. Through her involvement, Maya is able to deliver meals and engage in conversations with low-income individuals, elderly couples, and families.

JULIA SERRAO
Bachelor of Science
Julia is a member of Phi Alpha Epsilon, the School of Public Health’s honorary society. She is also part of the University Honors program in the Honors College. Julia has been a member of the student dance club Revolutions Dance Ensemble since Fall 2014 and president since Fall 2015. Julia is a member of Terps for Change where she works with Seabury Resources for Aging, helping elderly residents in the D.C. community.

NHI TRAN
Bachelor of Science
Nhi is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and was inducted for academic excellence while at Carroll Community College. Nhi has an interest in volunteering in her greater community, serving two Christian service mission trips in Buffalo, New York and Rutland, Vermont.

CRAIG WASSERMAN
Bachelor of Science
Craig’s pursuit of a double degree in dietetics and kinesiology has helped him towards his aspiration of working in the field of athletic performance science. Craig is an intern with the Washington Wizards membership services department. Craig also was a resident assistant for two years, where he was instrumental in building relationships among the student community.
Elaine Henson Memorial Travel Award
This is a one-time award provided to a doctoral student traveling to present a paper at a scholarly conference or to conduct research in another laboratory, with special consideration for those traveling internationally. The award is named in memory of Elaine Henson, a former kinesiology graduate student. Elaine was a PhD student in the cognitive motor neuroscience area. She was tragically killed in an auto accident during her graduate program.

James H. Humphrey Graduate Student Published Research Award
This award is named in honor of Professor Emeritus James H. Humphrey who was a prolific scholar in the field, publishing over a hundred books. The award is deemed to have the best journal article, one which will have a high impact, published in a peer-reviewed publication in the previous year.

SAMUEL M. CLEVINGER
PhD, Kinesiology
Sam has been involved with multiple research projects that have resulted in publications in internationally-recognized journals such as Rethinking History and Sport, and Education and Society. His dissertation researched the role of, and understanding of nature in the history of international garden city communities. While studying in the Department of Kinesiology, Sam has served as a mentor for incoming graduate students in the Physical Cultural Studies program.

Gebhardt-Phillips Kinesiology Graduate Student Fund Award
This award is named after an alumna (Dr. Deborah Gebhardt) and former faculty member (Dr. Sally Phillips) with specializations in occupational health and biomechanics, respectively. The award provides financial support for committee-selected Kinesiology doctoral students for fellowships or research support including equipment, labor, subjects and scholarly travel.

JOHN (JACK) SKELTON
Master of Arts, Kinesiology
Jack is investigating the effects of physical activity status on circulating angiogenic stem cells and their paracrine influence upon endothelial cell function. Jack is a member of the American Alpine Club where he and other members complete stewardship projects to clean and maintain outdoor parks in the D.C. area.

DEAN’S SCHOLAR AWARDS
The Dean’s scholars are students who have first and foremost excelled academically in the classroom. In addition, these are well-rounded students who have contributed to the greater SPH community through campus activities, community service and volunteering. These students are engaged citizens of the school and have made notable impressions on their department, faculty and peers through their academic and co-curricular achievements.

Outstanding Graduate Scholars

ALFONSO J. ALFINI
Doctor of Philosophy, Kinesiology
Alfonso has served as a teaching assistant and member of the Exercise for Brain Health Laboratory. He has been involved in several neuroimaging studies aimed to determine the effects of exercise and physical inactivity on the aging brain. Alfonso has traveled to the University of British Columbia as a Whitlark Fellow and has also presented his research during a highlight symposium at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine. Alfonso is a former member of the Dean’s Student Advisory Committee, acting as a liaison between the public health student community and the administration to help facilitate cross-departmental collaboration and communication.

MELISSA DESANTIAGO
Master of Public Health, Environmental Health Sciences
Melissa has participated in research conference publications, including the Building for Health and Well-Being conference and the 56th Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology. She serves as the graduate student ambassador for the Public Health Without Borders Peru team, where she has used her combined environmental health science and bilingual skills to translate scientific information into culturally appropriate efforts. Melissa serves as an executive board member for the newly reinitiated Latino Graduate Student Association.
JOHN HART
Doctor of Philosophy, Family Science
John recently published a book chapter as a first author on clinical interventions with families dealing with incarceration. He was the keynote speaker at the DisManTling Poverty: Policy on Action at the University of Maryland, College Park in 2016, an event sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. He was a member of the search committee for the School of Public Health Dean between 2015 and 2016. John was the president of the Maryland Council on Family Relations from 2013 to 2014.

THERESA Y. KIM
Doctor of Philosophy, Health Services Administration
Theresa has research interests focusing on maternal global health, specifically negative pregnancy-related outcomes, maternal health care utilization, and US/global population health. She has first-author publications in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine as well as Health Affairs. Theresa worked as a United States delegate for the Women in Public Service Project, an international NGO founded by Former US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, the Wilson Center for International Scholars, and the five remaining Seven Sister Colleges. Theresa has been awarded the Graduate Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship.

BRITTANY MCCULLOUGH
Master of Health Administration
Brittany recently interned at the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) where she collaborated with the public policy workers to create a report to assess the enforcement of federal parity legislation. This report will be nationally published by NAMI and disseminated by the American Psychiatric Association. She previously served as the vice president of marketing for a student-led health leadership organization. Brittany currently volunteers at the suicide prevention help line at NAMI.

JESSICA MONTRESOR-LOPEZ
Doctor of Philosophy, Toxicology and Environmental Health
Jessica is a member of the Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health. She has been an active researcher in Dr. Robin Puetz’s research laboratory for since 2011, with responsibilities including data analysis, grant writing, and publication and presentation of research results. Jessica is a peer mentor for the fellow graduate students in her program. She recently started working with undergraduate students as a mentor and offers advice on courses to take, continuing education, and how to gain research experience.

RENEE NICOLAS
Master of Public Health, Community Health
Renée has spent the greater part of the last five years dedicating her time to her community by volunteering. This work includes providing social services to sex workers and drug users through mobile outreach, tutoring adolescents and young parents in math and biology, taking phone calls for a rape crisis hotline, testing folks for HIV, organizing fundraiser happy hours and more. She believes that meeting community members where they are at, with high expectations and no judgment, are the only ways to promote healthy living.

SHAKIBA RAFIEE
Master of Arts, Kinesiology
Shakiba pursued a masters project with her team to better understand the control strategies of walking. They designed a novel method to mechanically perturb walking. Upon comparison, Shakiba and her team discovered a general control strategy that the nervous system uses in early stance to ensure stable gait.

ANAGHA SRIDHARA
Master of Public Health, Community Health
Anagha’s research achievements include her capstone project studying South Asian health behaviors and concerns and assets of this population. Anagha’s research aims to reduce health disparities among the South Asian population. Anagha was part of the Dean’s Student Advisory Committee, acting as a liaison between the public health student community and the administration.

CHRISTINA STENNETT
Master of Public Health, Epidemiology
Christina has worked as a research assistant for BCH acting as a data collector, conductor of study protocols, and enrollment of patients to participate in studies focused on colonoscopies. She is also a Graduate Assistant for EPIB where she wrote promotional and informational content for the department’s website. Christina also participated in the student panel for the 2016 EPIB Accepted Applicant Day.

MAGDALENA STRAUB
Master of Science, Couple and Family Therapy
Magdalena is a second-year international student from Chile studying marriage and family therapy. She will defend her thesis research that investigates the associations between therapist in-session common factors, behaviors, and changes in client anger control in the context of couple therapy. She is a therapist intern at the Center for Healthy Families. She has provided therapy to families, couples, and individuals from the community, both in English and Spanish.

Laura B. Wilson Leadership Award
Established to honor Laura B. Wilson, PhD, founding chair of the Department of Health Services Administration, in recognition of her many leadership roles and strategic contributions to the School of Public Health. For Dr. Wilson, “leadership” includes a focus on actions that benefit the entire community, on results that make a difference for populations in need, and on proactive, innovative, interdisciplinary team efforts. The graduate student recipient of this award exemplifies elements of Dr. Wilson’s outstanding attributes and has demonstrated strong promise for a career dedicated to excellence and innovation through leadership.

*JENNIFER GUIDA
Doctor of Philosophy, Epidemiology
(Also recognized on pg. 13, see bio there)
Maria is a primary undergraduate research assistant in the Neuromotor Control and Learning Laboratory under the advisement of Dr. Rodolphe Gentili. She is also a member of two academic honors societies: The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, and the School of Public Health Honors Society, Phi Alpha Epsilon. Maria serves as a volunteer in the Children’s Developmental Clinic, where she works one-on-one with children with autism and orthopedic disabilities. She also serves as the National Residence Hall honorary director of administration.

FRANCINE BAKER

Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science

Francine has been on the Dean’s List for two years and was the recipient of the 2017 Academy of Academic Excellence Award from the Office of Multi-Ethnic Student Education. She was recently elected to membership in the University of Maryland-College Park Chapter of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. Francine is currently the vice president of Students Engaged in Public Health, a service-based club dedicated to improving the lives of members of the Shady Grove community and Montgomery County. Francine has gained leadership experience in and out of the classroom via The Universities at Shady Grove Student Leadership Program as well as several leadership workshops conducted by the Office of Student Success.

BENJAMIN BRYER

Bachelor of Science, Community Health

Benjamin has achieved the Dean’s List every semester since entering college. He co-led an Alternative Break trip to Las Vegas during Winter Break 2017, learning more about the city’s education system. He spent the week with his group volunteering in a public charter school, as well as going to meetings with important figures including the superintendent and school principals. Benjamin is a campus ambassador for the Gift of Life, which is a public, not-for-profit marrow and blood stem cell donor registry whose mission is to find a match for every single person battling blood cancer.

DANIEL CALLOW

Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology

Daniel has worked in Dr. J. Carson Smith’s Exercise for Brain Health Laboratory researching the functional effects that exercise has on the brain. Over the summer, he will be part of a summer research program at the University of Maryland School of Medicine to study the effects of hypothermia rehabilitation on neurodegeneration post-cardiac arrest and brain ischemia. Daniel is a member of the Kinesiology Honors Program and Phi Alpha Epsilon, the School of Public Health’s honorary society.

RACHEL CERMAK

Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science

Rachel has worked as a laboratory research assistant for the Comprehensive Assessment and Intervention Program through the UMD Department of Psychology, where she conducted clinic-based research on the treatment of behavioral and emotional problems in children and adolescents. She is a clinical research assistant at Johns Hopkins Hospital through the Maryland Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Network (MD-SPIN) Pediatric Emergency Department Screenig Study where she is learning recruitment protocol and predictive values of a suicide screen tool. She is an active member of the National Service Organization of Alpha Phi Omega, which provides countless opportunities to develop leadership, promote friendship, and provide service to others. Rachel also volunteers at the Pediatric Emergency Department of Johns Hopkins Hospital.

CLAUDIA DAMICO

Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology

Claudia is a member of the Phi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society, the Kinesiology Honors Program, and was recently invited to join the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. She has been involved in Martha’s Table, a volunteer organization that provides meals and clothes for individuals and families in need. Claudia volunteers with Last Chance Animal Rescue, giving animals in high-kill shelters a second chance to find a loving home.

SARAH HOLLY

Bachelor of Science, Community Health

Sarah was on the Dean’s List for three consecutive semesters. She has served as the vice president for the University of Maryland’s Pre-Nursing Society. Sarah has also served as the Vice President for the HeForShe Organization, an international organization striving to promote gender equality.
FIONA WHITEFIELD  
*Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science*  
Fiona is a research assistant in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, conducting research with Dr. Natalie Slopen on the relationship between neighborhood safety and childhood depression. She is a student researcher at the First Year Innovation and Research Experience Program START (National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism) where she collaborates with researchers investigating the media and public’s perception of targeted drone killings. Fiona is the fundraising chair of Public Health Without Borders. Fiona is a participant of Alternative Breaks Spring Break Program and has traveled to Chicago to study socioeconomic equality.

BENJAMIN WHONG  
*Bachelor of Science, Community Health*  
Benjamin is a member of the Federal Fellows Program in the Health Policy Concentration and an intern at the Department of Energy. He has studied abroad in India and conducted community diagnoses in the surrounding areas. As part of a member of the professional pre-health fraternity Delta Epsilon Mu, Benjamin volunteers with the Arlington Free Clinic, Project Linus, and the University of Maryland Arboretum. Benjamin is also a volunteer campus tour guide with Maryland Images.

Outstanding Senior Scholars

NICHOLAS ALBAUGH  
*Bachelor of Science, Community Health*  
Nicholas has worked with the BCH honors program for his thesis project that examined young adult gender disparities on HPV vaccination education programs. He has also had partnerships with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Nicholas has presented research projects at the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine annual conference as well as the American Public Health Association annual conference. He has served as the India project leader in Public Health Without Borders as well as a patient care Volunteer at the Children’s National Medical Center.

ELANA BACHRACH  
*Bachelor of Science, Community Health*  
Elana is a participant in the BCH Honors Program where she developed a project that evaluated the impact of conducting peer health education on peer educators. She is currently the event coordinator for the women’s health and fitness club, Chaarg. Elana was also the coordinator for Terp Service, a community service organization, where she led volunteer groups to tutor at the education non-profit Little Lights in Washington, D.C.

RYAN DAIGLE  
*Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology*  
Ryan is a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society and the former president of the Student Health Advisory Committee, and has been recognized for his work in campus leadership roles. He is a research assistant at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, part of the Department of Military and Emergency Medicine. Ryan currently volunteers as an EMT at Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department.

ELIZABETH GARCIA LOZANO  
*Bachelor of Science, Community Health*  
Elizabeth has been a member of Phi Alpha Epsilon, the School of Public Health’s honorary society, since Spring 2015. She received an Honors Citation from the University Honors College Program in the Fall 2016. She is the president of the Coalition of Latinx Student Organizations, an organization to unite the Latinx community and promote cultural awareness by providing educational, cultural, and social events and activities to the campus community. Elizabeth also volunteers as a mentor and logistics coordinator for the Hispanic College Institute (HCI), Youth Leadership Institute (YLI), and Hispanic Youth with Power and Education (HYPE) Conference, which are programs that empower Latino youth to achieve higher education.

REBECCA ELLEN GIBSON  
*Bachelor of Science, Family Science*  
Rebecca is a member of Tau Sigma National Honor Society. In the fall, she was a research assistant for the Comprehensive Assessment and Intervention Program (CAIP), where she helped conduct research to understand the best ways to assess and treat behavioral and emotional problems in children and adolescents. As treasurer and one of the founding members of Terps for Recovery, Rebecca helped create a safe space for students in recovery and struggling with addiction. Rebecca was instrumental in UMD’s decision to implement substance-free housing options beginning in Fall 2017. Rebecca volunteers at One World Center for Autism, where she provides respite services for caregivers of children with autism spectrum disorder.

EVA GONZALEZ  
*Bachelor of Science, Family Science*  
Eva is a member of Phi Alpha Epsilon, Delta Chi Xi, and Tau Sigma. She has completed a cross-curricular internship at Dance Place in Washington D.C. As a Youth Programs intern, she assisted with the Kids on the Move Program administratively and by teaching dance classes. She has been the secretary of Delta Chi Xi since 2015, an honorary dance fraternity serving the dance community on campus. Delta Chi Xi created a partnership with High Point High School where Eva worked with high schoolers to provide feedback on dances, provided dance classes in genres of interest, and invited them to perform at the New Dances showcase at the University of Maryland.
**KURT HUFKER**  
*Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology*  
Kurt received an honors citation from the Honors Humanities program after the completion of coursework and an independent creative research project. He is a member of Phi Alpha Epsilon, the School of Public Health honors society. Kurt has volunteered at the emergency room of Anne Arundel Medical Center, assisting with patient intake as well as interacting with friends and families of the patients.

**CATHERINE PEREZ**  
*Bachelor of Science, Family Science*  
Catherine was a research assistant for a study on preschool-aged participants to better understand their concept of time through their language skills. She has been volunteering for the Focus Foundation, an organization that helps children with special needs, since 2008. She assists with research papers, transfers data from tests to reports, and assists in planning, organizing and executing conferences and child care.

**BIANCA PEREZ-AYALDE**  
*Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology*  
Bianca has been working in the Exercise for Brain Health Laboratory under the supervision of Dr. J. Carson Smith, using her research findings to inform her undergraduate thesis project. Her thesis examines the effects of high-intensity acute exercise on the long-term memory of emotionally arousing images. Bianca is the co-president of Kinesiology Student Organization, helping to organize various fundraisers to help fund educational and service events for UMD and the Prince George’s community.

**EMILIO RIVERA**  
*Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science*  
Emilio worked at the UMD Center for Substance Abuse Research. As a Columbia University Public Health Scholar, Emilio developed bilingual workshops on maternal and child health topics that aimed to improve health literacy among Latina mothers. He was a project leader in the Public Health Without Borders Peru Project and helped to develop health materials and workshops related to road safety prevention, and planned a community needs assessment trip. Emilio is an education intern for Care to Stop Violence, facilitating bystander intervention workshops to student groups to help combat the rise in campus sexual assaults.

**EYVONNKA E. RIZKALLAH**  
*Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science*  
Eyvonnka is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success, the nation’s largest leadership honor society. Eyvonnka is also a member of Tau Sigma National Honor Society. She is the treasurer of Students Engaged in Public Health for Universities at Shady Grove. Eyvonnka has volunteered with the Orthodox Christian Fellowship and Habitat for Humanity, helping families rebuild homes after Hurricane Katrina.

**TALIA SHEPHEARD**  
*Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science*  
Talia graduated Cum Laude and completed her capstone research paper on the negative health effects on the cardiovascular and respiratory system associated with the use of hookah and e-cigarettes. Talia is part of the Student Ambassadors of the Universities at Shady Grove. Talia's internship at HRSA in the Bureau of Primary Health Care in the Office of Policy and Program Development converted into a full time public health analyst position.

**FRALEY AWARD**  
The undergraduate student in the senior class from each department who most completely exemplifies the qualities of a Dean’s Scholar is bestowed with the Fraley Award, the highest undergraduate honor offered by the School of Public Health.

**CARLY HANFT**  
*Bachelor of Science, Family Science*  
Carly has been on the Dean’s List every semester of her academic career and is also an Undergraduate Dean’s Scholar. She has worked as a research assistant for Dr. Kerry Tripp, helping to research new cases for the Family Law textbook and editing the newest edition of the textbook. Carly has been a teacher’s assistant for two Family Science courses where she helped with study hours, met with students in need of academic assistance, and taught about technology and law. Carly is the student ambassador for the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, representing the center in conferences addressing social issues, writing commentary for newsletters on current issues, and is a trained museum docent.

***LIZ LACSON***  
(also recognized on pg. 7)  
*Bachelor of Science, Community Health*  
Liz was accepted in the first cohort of the BCH Undergraduate Honors Program where she received leadership and innovation training and completed an independent honors project evaluating a positive youth development program in Anne Arundel County. She is a young adult leader at the Filipino-American Capital SDA Church where used her bilingual skills on a mission trip to Luzon, Philippines to help those in need. Liz currently serves as the president of Phi Alpha Epsilon, the School of Public Health honor society, where she works with local organizations such as So Others Might Eat, Potomac Conservancy, and Martha’s Table.

***CHRISTINA MEMMOTT***  
(also recognized on pg. 5)  
*Bachelor of Science, Public Health Science*  
Christina is a Fall 2016 Public Health Science graduate. She has been accepted into the Global Health Corps as a Social Protection and Health Fellow. Her work will be based in Washington, DC at the Inter-American Development Bank, with opportunities to travel to Latin America. The position begins in June with a leadership training at Yale University and will last for one year, ending with a retreat in East Africa. Christina has been accepted to and plans to attend the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in the 2018-2019 school year.

**COREY MICHELSON**  
*Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology*  
Corey is a member of the Kinesiology Honors Program as well as an undergraduate research assistant for the Exercise for Brain Health Laboratory under the supervision of Dr. J. Carson Smith. Corey has an interest in research and his senior defense thesis is on the protective effects of exercise on the cognition and executive functioning of older adults. Corey served two terms as secretary and recruitment chairman for the Alpha Tau Omega Leadership Fraternity, Epsilon Gamma Chapter. He is also a student clinician at the Children’s Development Clinic at the School of Public Health.

*Left Page:* Christina Memmott, left, at Maryland Day 2016  
*Right Page:* Dean Boris Lushniak with Corey Michelson, 1st place undergraduate poster winner at Public Health Research @ Maryland 2017
School of Public Health Delta Omega Gamma Zeta Chapter
Student Research Poster Competition Student Awardees

Behavioiral and Community Health:
  LUCIANA ASSINIMETIN (PhD, 1st) Racial differences in teenage fathers’ characteristics over the life course
  ZAHRA SABOORI (PhD, 2nd) An assessment of attitudes and beliefs towards community health worker intervention models
  NICK ALBAUGH (UG) Factors that determine perceived concern and knowledge about colorectal cancer

Epidemiology and Biostatistics:
  DINA HUANG (PhD, 1st) The patient voice in cultural diversity training for patient centered outcomes researchers
  JARED FISHER (PhD, 2nd) Particulate matter air pollution exposures and adult-onset asthma and COPD in the Nurses’ Health Study

Family Science:
  KECIA ELLICK (PhD, 1st) Teen mother parenting stress
  ASHLEY PANTALEAO (PhD, 2nd) Couples’ shared risk factors of intimate partner violence and sexual health outcomes: abused women’s perspectives
  SAMANTHA GONZALEZ (UG) El Salvador epidemic

Health Services Administration:
  NICOLE FILION (MPH, 1st) Comparing the mental health of adolescent citizens and immigrants using a nationally representative survey
  PRISCILLA NOVAK (PhD, 2nd) Antidepressant use and costs among low-education and low income people with serious psychological distress: evidence from MEPS data, 2008-2014
  EBONY TOUSSAINT (PhD, 3rd) Characteristics of churches

Kinesiology
  JESSICA HUNTER (PhD, 1st) Accuracy of a shoe-worn device
  EMMA SHAW (PhD, 2nd) Assessment of cognitive workload under various task demands during walking
  COREY MICHELSON (UG) The effects of acute exercise on executive function in older adults

Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health
  MELISSA DESANTIAGO (MPH, 1st) Bridging the gap: raising environmental health awareness among Spanish-speaking childcare providers to reduce children's exposures to indoor environmental contaminants in child care settings
  WINNIE MUTUNGA (MPH, 2nd) Potential health risks associated with the use of malachite green in imported aquacultured catfish
  KATIE LINDSEY (UG) Providing health education to the community of Calaba Town, Sierra Leone

School Leadership
  Dean, Boris D. Lushniak, MD, MPH
  Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Stephen M. Roth, PhD
  Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs, Bradley D. Hatfield, PhD
  Associate Dean, Research, Dushanka V. Kleinman, DDS, MScD
  Associate Dean, Diversity and Inclusion, Olivia Carter-Pokras, PhD
  Assistant Dean, Undergraduate Affairs, Coke Farmer, PhD
  Assistant Dean, Development, Eleanor (Elly) Brtva, MPH
  Department Chair, Behavioral and Community Health, Barbara A. Curbow, PhD
  Department Chair, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Robert S. Gold, PhD
  Department Chair, Family Science, Elaine A. Anderson, PhD
  Department Chair, Health Services Administration, Luisa Franzini, PhD
  Department Chair, Kinesiology, Bradley D. Hatfield, PhD
  Interim Director, MD Institute for Applied Environmental Health, Stephen M. Roth, PhD
  Director, Public Health Science, Stephen M. Roth, PhD

Acknowledgements
We would like to thank all the School of Public Health faculty members for their dedication and commitment to mentoring the students honored today and for recognizing their exceptional achievements and potential.

We would also like to recognize the following SPH staff and faculty for their time and effort in planning and coordinating our third annual honors convocation:

Kelly Blake, Dean’s Office, SPH Communications
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Nacie Grigsby, FMSC
Kim Kash, Dean’s Office, SPH Communications
Hope Llanso, Dean’s Office, SPH Communications
Erin McClure, Dean’s Office
Minda Polser, Dean’s Office
Maurice Rocque, MIAEH
Brit Saksvig, EPIB
Jaimeleigh Salazar, Center for Academic Success and Achievement
Katherine Sharp, BCH
Polly Sebastian Schurer, KNES
Nancy Smith, BCH

Last, but not least, we thank our wonderful students for their commitment to excellence and their citizenship and engagement in the University of Maryland School of Public Health community. The SPH can be proud that these students are the future of public health.
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